

# The Messenger

May 2008

News for Candler Park

Your In Town Hometown

## Meetings and Events

### CPNO Meeting May 19<sup>th</sup> 7:00PM Social Period @ 6:30PM

CPNO general meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Dr.; CPNO committee meetings are held at Epworth United Methodist Church, 1561 McLendon

**All are welcome** - Only registered members are eligible to vote on issues at the monthly meeting. Membership applications must be received by the first of the month.

### May General Meeting Agenda:

- Welcoming Remarks, approval of agenda and April minutes
- Officer and Committee Reports
- Land Use Matters – Rezoning of 1240 Euclid Ave
- New Business –
  - ◆ Vote to authorize \$1,000 payment for Directors and Officers Insurance
  - ◆ Vote to authorize \$750 for pool party
- Announcements and Open Forum

To submit agenda items, contact any CPNO officer. June agenda deadline is May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008

### Events Calendar

**All items listed below are open to all**

#### Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 8:30 am

Friends of Candler Park – Park cleanup (meet at basketball courts; refreshments provided; bring gloves)

#### Wednesday May 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm

CPNO Zoning Committee - Epworth United Methodist Church, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

#### Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm

CPNO Board of Directors - Epworth United Methodist Church, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

#### Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm

CPNO Regular Meeting - First Existentialist Congregation

#### Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm

Fall Fest Committee - Epworth United Methodist Church, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

#### Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 7pm

NPU-N - L5P Community Center

#### Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm

CPNO Historic District Committee - Epworth United Methodist, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

#### Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm

CPNO Zoning Committee - Epworth

## Lining Up For Their Kids

By Donna Palmer

For the past few years, dozens of frustrated parents have slept on the streets in an effort to make sure that their youngsters are enrolled in pre-k at Mary Lin school. There was quite a bit of contention among the campers this year. Lin Principal Brian Mitchell had asked parents to postpone the lining up process until after his students completed CRCT testing around noon on Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. But, according to one parent, some people jumped the gun and moved in at midnight. In addition, the school superintendent's office published a letter stating that the campers "line" would not be given preference since it is illegal to camp in the city and others may not have lifestyles that enable them to take time to wait on line.

As someone who has no children (that I know of), I was curious about what drives these people to go to such extremes. Turns out that most of the parents live in Candler Park, and just want their kids to attend the neighborhood school. One camper Dad noted that it's a matter of logistics. "I already have one child at Lin and don't have the time or with these gas prices, the money, to take the other one over to a different school district. And besides, I pay higher property taxes to live in Candler Park and I want my children to go to school here."

With only 20 slots available for pre-k wannabes, the Atlanta schools decided that parents would be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. So, remembering their efforts in college to get first-row concert tickets, these parents braved the elements and poorly hit golf balls to be one of the first twenty in line. "I didn't like the lottery system" said a mother from Iverson. "That's just a matter of luck. With this system, you have to *earn* it. You're really doing something for your kids."

Neighbors who live on the Mary Lin side of Candler Park Drive are taking it all in stride. "I don't have a problem with these folks out here," said one long-time resident. "As a matter of fact, I feel safer! If they see anybody moving around, they all jump up thinking someone's gotten out of line. No ones going to be doing any breaking in around here for a few days."

Hopefully next year, the powers that be will find a better way to fill the coveted pre-k slots at Lin, but until then, let's hope everyone will remember that the children are learning how to play well with others by watching us.

## Belly Dancers Give Candler Park an Edge

By Jo Jo Ross and Janea Boyles

This year, Candler Park was awarded the \$10,000 first prize in the ING Marathon neighborhood cheering competition. What a win! It's no wonder...Participants gathered in the midst of wind and rain at 6:00 AM with their cowbells, noise makers, orange hats, balloons, tree wraps, t-shirts, shoes, and a cheery banner encouraging the runners on past mile number 8. And, let's not forget the biggest surprise hit of the cheering section; our own crew of belly dancers clad in orange! Thank you, ladies!

The planning committee for the cheering section included Mary Alice Bray, JoJo Ross, Carla Key, Crystal Budd, and Janea Boyles. Also, a great crew of enthusiastic neighbors joined us to make it a robust crowd. The runners really seemed to love it and we can only imagine what momentum Candler Park can ride on for next year's contest.

Continued on page 3.

# The Messenger

The Messenger is published monthly by Candler Park Neighborhood Organization, Inc. Articles should be signed and submitted by layout deadline (26th of the month prior to publication) via email to editor at: [cpmessenger@candlerpark.org](mailto:cpmessenger@candlerpark.org). Articles published reflect opinions of authors, not necessarily CPNO or The Messenger.

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## CPNO Officers 2008

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[akstout@emory.edu](mailto:akstout@emory.edu)

### Vice-President

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### Environmental Officer

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### Public Safety Officer

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### Membership Secretary

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## It's All In the Journey

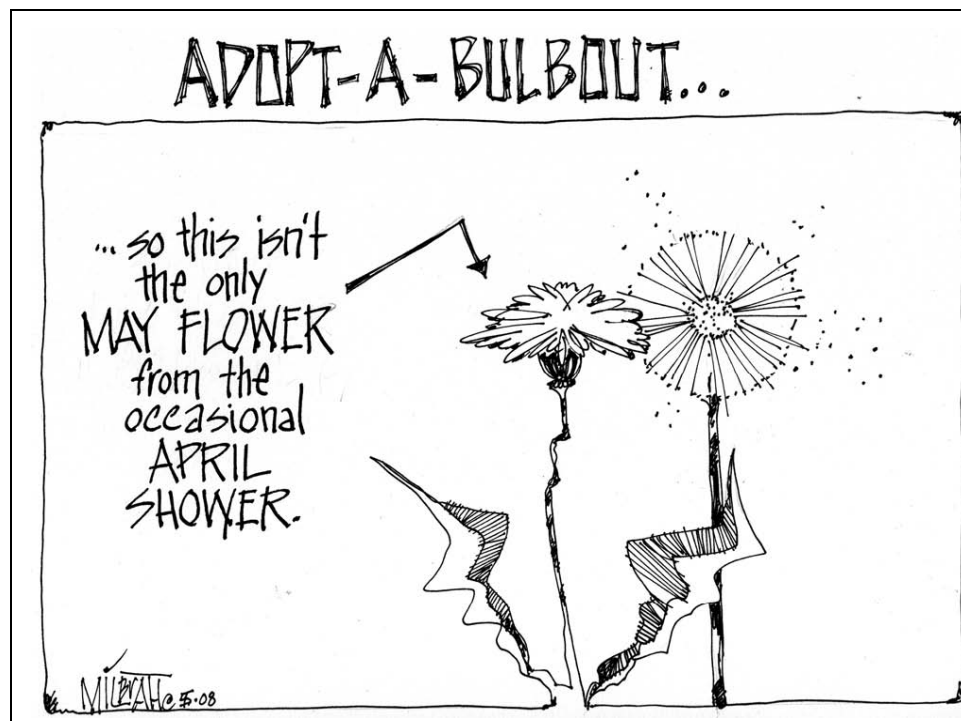
By Donna Palmer

I don't know about you, but this spring's season of the perpetual festival is about to wear me out. What with canine parades, giant corporate marathons, beer festivals, music festivals and soon more music festivals in our beloved park I'm beginning to feel my age. No longer can I dance on concrete for 3 to 4 hours and then get up the next day and party again. Those days belong in my (*recent*) past.

Don't get me wrong...I'm not complaining about the festivals in Candler Park. That would make about as much sense as moving to the airport and complaining about the noise. If you choose to live near a city park, you must learn to live with the occasional tourist invasion. My woes have to do with my inability to keep up! The spirit is certainly willing, but the flesh...eh, not so much.

We are so very, very lucky to have this beautiful resource to enjoy for ourselves and to share with what, at times, seems like the rest of the world. One of my favorite moments was during the ING Marathon. As we stood in front of our house drinking hot adult beverages and watching the corporate-types running by, we were joined by local tai chi instructors extraordinaire Cate and Harvey. I noticed that when someone with plenty of bounce in their step ran by that Harvey would shout "Way to go! You're looking strong!" But, when someone who was clearly struggling hobbled past Cate would gently raise her voice and say "It's all in the journey!" Wise words from a very wise woman.

I hope we can keep these sentiments in mind as the spring and summer progress and we are provided with more opportunities to share our lifestyle with those who are not fortunate enough to live here. There are many reasons we choose to live in Candler Park. The birds, bees, pool and golf course are part of it, but I think having encouraging neighbors such as Cate and Harvey are more of what it's really all about. I'm grateful that they are part of my journey.



Laughter in the Park

by Deb Milbrath

## Belly Dancer Edge

Continued from page 1

When applying for the funds, we designated that any potential winnings would go toward improvements for the park and for a walking trail or a possible track. Our application to the ING Marathon was based on the park usage survey distributed a few months ago in which respondents told us that they used the park mostly for walking and running.

We hope to work with a local landscape architect and Park Pride to create a vision for the direction of our park as well as the use of the \$10,000. Working in tandem with Park Pride provides several advantages. This 501c3 organization has the ability to take tax deductible donations online and their close relationship with the parks department assists in expediting projects smoothly. Working with Park Pride will also help ensure accountability in making sure funds are spent in their designated fashion as required by the grant.



For more about the Candler Park ING cheering section check out the following links:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/TheMercAtl/TheMercantileCandlerParkEvents> and [www.themercantileatl.blogspot.com](http://www.themercantileatl.blogspot.com).

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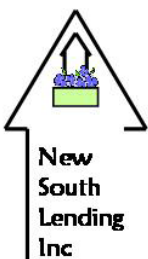
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## Blues Travelers and Drivin N Cryin to Headline the Mid Summer Music Fest

By Mark Clement

I, your ever industrious "Special Projects Officer", in an effort to make Candler Park the coolest neighborhood on the planet, am working with radio station 790 the Zone to create the first Mid Summer Music Fest. This year we'll be featuring the soulful sounds of two major acts: Drivin N Cryin and Blues Traveler.

The festival is scheduled for Saturday, June 21st. And, tickets will go on sale soon...\$10 in advance and \$15 the day of the show.

The set up will be much the same as the 420 fest with the stage at the bottom of the hill in the cul de sac. 790 the zone is making a nice donation to the CPNO as well as the Clifton's Men's shelter.

Since the 420 5K went so well we are also planning a road race for this event. You can check for emerging details at [www.cprunningclub.com](http://www.cprunningclub.com).

So mark it on your calendar and plan on bringing your folding chair for a great night of entertainment in the coolest park in the coolest neighborhood on the planet.

## Sweetwater 420 Wrap-Up

By Mark Clement

The rain storms broke a few hours before the morning of April 19th creating a spectacular week end for the Sweetwater 420 Fest. This is the second year in a row that Candler Park has been the host. The festival was kicked off by the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization's very own 420 5K race. For a first year event we were planning on around 350 runners. We got more that 700! And, we raised between \$6,000 and \$10,000. (Bean counters are still working as of the date this article was submitted for publication.) Those that finished the race were awarded the official high-quality pre-shrunk sage green Sweetwater 420 Fest 5K t-shirt that they will, I am sure, treasure for a life time. I know I will.

The headliners of the festival were Outformation on Saturday and Grace Potter and the Nocturnals on Sunday. There were also over a dozen environmental organizations on site to help educate festival attendees on how to make the planet a better place. For each wrist band sold, 25¢ will be donated straight to the CPNO. I feel that this event was a perfect showcase for our neighborhood and was proud to be a part of it. And once again, many thanks to the folks at Sweetwater for putting on a good show.

[Editor's note: See page 19 for photos from the 420 Fest.]

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## Infill Development in Candler Park: How is it Affecting our Neighborhoods?

By Tom Painter

In the March *Messenger*, Lauren Norton Welsh provided information from the public meeting on infill development in Candler Park hosted by the CPNO Infill/Historic District Committee on February 28. Her article described the four options for addressing demolitions and infill development that were considered by the Committee and the Committee's recommendation that a Historic District Designation offers the greatest promise for addressing these issues. The article briefly described the discussion that followed the Committee's presentation, and noted that while diverse viewpoints were expressed, the majority of those present supported the Committee's efforts to prepare an application package for Historic District Designation for consideration by the community.

Since the February meeting and the last *Messenger* article, the Committee has been soliciting and receiving feedback from neighbors, developing a basic communications infrastructure (a bit of an overstatement), and identifying next steps with which Candler Park neighbors can potentially help. Look for future updates on these and other topics. In the meantime, we wanted to provide some additional information from the Committee's February 28 presentation on how demolition and infill development have affected Candler Park.

*How long has infill development been going on?* While it is true that existing homes in Candler Park have been demolished from time to time over a period of years, the pace of infill development has accelerated. Based on informal drive-by surveys that I conducted during 2006 and 2007, I estimate that as of this January, 17 Candler Park homes have been demolished. While this number may seem small relative to the estimated 1600 households in Candler Park, it appears that more than 90% of these demolitions have occurred since 2005.

*Where is infill development happening?* Most demolition and infill development to date have occurred on streets to the west and southwest of Candler Park. Homes have been demolished on Iverson (5 homes), Euclid (3), McLendon (2), Hooper (2), Candler St., Candler Park Dr., Oakdale, Sterling, and Terrace (1 each).

Continued on page 7.

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## Infill Development

Continued from page 6

*How do the new homes differ from those that were demolished?* They are much larger. Based on my surveys and my admittedly subjective judgment, nearly 90% of the finished replacement homes are outsized relative to other homes on the street. Replacement homes are also considerably more expensive. Here are three examples for which roughly comparable information could be obtained about conditions prior to demolition and after infill replacement.

Street	Demolished home	Replacement home
Sterling	1960s brick duplex 1248 Sq. ft. Sold 7/2005 for \$250,000	2784 Sq. ft. (123% increase) 3 Bdr. / 4 Bath Sold 8/2006 for \$849,900
Oakdale	1940 frame house 910 Sq. ft. 2 Bdr. / 1 Bath Sold 6/2005 for \$194,400	2460 Sq. ft. (170% increase) 4 Bdr. / 2.5 Bath Sold 8/2007 for \$785,000
Iverson	1925 brick single-family home 3 Bdr. / 1 Bath Sold 5/2005 for \$280,000	2957 Sq. ft. 4 Bdr. / 2.5 Bath Sold 2006 for \$815,000

We hope this information will make infill development in Candler Park a bit less abstract to *Messenger* readers. The Committee will continue to track and clarify the effects of infill development in Candler Park and share information as we can. We invite readers to do the same.

We welcome your feedback on the issues and the Committee's work. Please send your comments (positive or negative) to Tom Painter ([tcp2@cdc.gov](mailto:tcp2@cdc.gov) and [tompainter2007@yahoo.com](mailto:tompainter2007@yahoo.com)) and Walt Weimar ([Walt.T.Weimar@sprint.com](mailto:Walt.T.Weimar@sprint.com)), let us know if you would like to receive e-mail updates, and come to our monthly meetings, which tend to be small, intimate gatherings. They are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the upstairs room of the Epworth United Methodist Church.

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## Something Fishy in the Hood

By the Food Freak

Once upon a time, before they became international showbiz stars, Big Mike Geier and his lovely love Shannon Newton spread their joy by cooking some tasty fair at the Gato Bizco. One of my all time favorite dishes was the fish tacos. Comfort food for the new millennium consisting of fresh grilled tilapia rolled in a soft flour tortilla along with just the right amount of crunchy cabbage and a killer chipotle sauce. Yum.

Even though Mike and Shannon are now singing and shaking their groove thing instead of rattling pots and pans, we can still get delicious fish tacos in our hood. How do I know? Cause I hauled myself to three local eateries and conducted a good old fashioned taste test.


This particular culinary journey started at the **Euclid Avenue Yacht Club** where I had heard that Hippie had added fish tacos to the menu, but alas, I was misinformed. However, there *is* an offering of tasty Mahi Mahi. Our friendly server brought a generous serving of piping hot hunks of battered fish along with plenty of those world-famous yacht fries. And, since my baboo ordered the brisket tacos I was able to steal one of his tortillas to fashion my own treat. Yummy, but I missed the chipotle sauce.

My next stop was **Sabrosa** where the fish tacos are made with tender slices of Yellowfin tuna. Fresh wedges of jicama added a pleasant crunch and a dollop of chipotle sauce kicked things up a bit. The tacos here are served with refried pinto beans and rice, plus a small tortilla bowl chock full of fresh lettuce, onions and pico sauce.

My last port of call was **LaFonda** on McClendon. These folks offer two types of fish: tilapia or salmon. I prefer the tilapia for tacos, but others in our group rooted for the salmon. Expect plenty of fish, fresh cabbage and a chipotle sauce with just the right amount of sting. They also include a large helping of black beans and yellow rice to round out your meal.

Cruising through Candler Park and sampling local culinary offerings is one of the best ways to spend time and money. If you would like to share your foodie travel logs with me, sing out...[foodfreak@visionforge.org](mailto:foodfreak@visionforge.org). Oh, and visit [www.kingsized.biz](http://www.kingsized.biz) for information on Big Mike's band Kingsized and [www.damesaflame.com](http://www.damesaflame.com) for Shannon's beautiful Dames a Flame.

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## What You Don't Know about Georgia's Electronic Voting Could Hurt You

By Garland Favorito, Founder VOTERGA

As you think about casting your vote in the upcoming elections on Georgia's electronic voting system please take a few minutes to reflect on some very important points:

- Did you know that not one of the 100 million or so votes cast on about 10 million ballots since 2002 have ever been audited for accuracy and correctness?
- Did you know that it is technically impossible to conduct any kind of audit to ensure that any of the votes cast on Election Day are recorded accurately and tabulated correctly as cast on the touchscreen?
- Did you know the county and state servers that tabulate both the electronic and optically scanned absentee ballots have no means to prevent a non-technical person from manipulating the votes without detection?

As remarkable as all this sounds it is true. Since the 2002 implementation of the type of electronic voting used in Georgia, election results can no longer be verified, audited or recounted properly. Specifically this means that:

- You as a voter have no way to verify that the choices you made on the touchscreen are actually recorded inside the machine or on the smart cards used to tabulate the vote, nor can you even be sure that your ballot was really cast as the touchscreen claims.
- No election official can audit any of the actual election results tabulated on Election Day to ensure that the votes were counted correctly by the machines.
- Since no ballot with directly created physical evidence of voter intent is retained, recounts of electronic votes can only re-accumulate previous results that were never verified by the voter.

Georgia relies exclusively on testing performed before and after elections with dummy data. No auditing of actual votes is ever performed. That is because the machines have no independent audit trail of each vote cast as the law required in 2001 when they were procured for testing. In spite of this law, the office of the former Secretary of State procured the illegal equipment for testing, certified the illegal equipment and entered into a contract to purchase 54 million dollars of equipment that was illegal at the time the contract was signed.

As a long time computer professional, I can tell you that it is highly possible for voting machines to record and tabulate results differently in an election than they did during testing. In fact, I even warned the Secretary of State's Office (S.O.S.) in writing before the machines were purchased and suggested they consider a machine that has a voter verified paper audit trail (VVPAT). If you have seen HBO's Hacking Democracy you may have already witnessed how easy it is to tamper with equipment like that used in Georgia to change election results.

If you are concerned about this serious threat to our democracy, you can and must do something. In 2006, we filed suit to restore the integrity, legality and constitutionality of Georgia elections. We are now on the verge of getting a favorable ruling but we need your help to continue the fight. Visit our web site at [www.voterga.org](http://www.voterga.org) for more information or to make a donation. All contributions are fully tax deductible and virtually all funds received go to offset the legal expenses we have already incurred.

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Yogathon - May 10 in Candler Park



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## This Just Burns Me Up

By Ian Allum

Fire Station #12 located at 1288 Dekalb Ave still needs the help of our community. The City of Atlanta does not have enough funds in the budget to repair crumbling firehouses. And, with the current budget in such disarray, it looks as if nothing will be done in 2008 either. Back in November of 2007, I sent a letter to local businesses and home owners describing the condition of the fire station. The station needs new ceiling tiles, paint, a new kitchen, a kitchen table, bathroom fixtures, etc. So, I started a campaign called "Adopt a Ceiling Tile for \$2.00 each" hoping to bring in the needed funds to restore the station. Unfortunately I was not allowed to do this at that time. But, now I can.

Station #12 is 50 years old this year and it has not had a major face lift in all that time. I'm asking our community to come together like never before and help raise the needed money to get things started.

I have also designed a new 50th anniversary t-shirt for the station. These will be available for sale by mid May, or the first of June. Just go by the station and purchase one from the guys. Each shirt will cost approx. \$22.00 - \$25.00. The extra money collected will be used for the station.

The other big problem at Station #12 is the rat or squirrel problem they have above the ceiling tiles in the kitchen. This is extremely unsanitary, and the city has done nothing about it. The story was even covered in a Channel 46 News story that showed video of the unsanitary conditions, and all the things needing to be repaired...including the ceiling tiles. To this day (4/26/2008) not one major thing has been fixed by the City. Paint was supplied, but only if the firefighters did all the work.

When I originally asked for your help back in November, the fire department did not have an official mail box to receive donations. Money that was delivered or sent to the station was either returned to the original sender, or put in a general fund. I could not believe it. Donations that would complete the needed repairs were refused, or returned. Now with the help of Jim Daws (construction project manager with the fire department and President of their union), they now have a mail box.

PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF DONATIONS AT THE STATION. They have to be mailed to the following address. ATLANTA FIRE FOUNDATION, P.O. BOX 8465, ATLANTA, GA 31106. In the comments part of the check you MUST write STATION #12. If not, the money will go into a general fund for all fire stations in Atlanta to use.

Please! Please! Remember what these great firefighters do for us. They are always there when we need them. So now it's time for us to be there for them. Thanks for your continued support in this matter.

[Editor's Note: Ian Allum is a veteran member of the Atlanta Fire Department.]

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A small 3D model of the proposed permanent public art work for **Candler Park** will be on display at the L5P Community Center for community feedback. Members of the community are encouraged to view the proposal and give us your opinion so that we can incorporate your thoughts for the proposed art work in your community.

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**As you look at the design consider the visual impact of the artwork and its appropriateness for the site. Comments on all artworks are appreciated.**



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## Candler Park Zoning Matters

By James Johnson

The Candler Park Zoning Committee met Wednesday 2 April and reviewed two variance applications and the update on the rezoning of 1240 Euclid Avenue. The first variance reviewed was for 451 Page Avenue, a reduction in the sideyard setback from 7' to 2' to allow for the construction of an addition to an existing single family residence. The committee deferred the vote in order to allow the applicant additional time to address issues expressed by an adjacent neighbor. By the time of the CPNO General Meeting the applicant had not met with the neighbor regarding the issues and was advised that the committee would recommend denial of the application to the CPNO members. The applicant was again encouraged to take a deferral in order to address the issue. Initially the applicant agreed to the deferral however prior to the completion of the meeting the applicant decided to not accept the deferral and not present to the CPNO membership. The variance was then voted on and denied by the CPNO members.

The second variance was for 492 Clifton Road, a reduction in the sideyard setback from 17.5' to 5' for the construction of a two story screened porch to the rear of the existing house. The Zoning Committee recommended approval of this variance and the item were approved at the April CPNO General Meeting.

The May Candler Park Zoning Committee meeting will be held Wednesday 7 May 2008 at the Epworth United Methodist Church at 7:00 pm. Currently there are no variance items on the agenda. We will be discussing the proposed conditions for the rezoning of 1240 Euclid Avenue. The zoning committee meets regularly the first Wednesday of every month. Meetings are open to the public and neighbors are encouraged to attend to voice their opinion regarding zoning issues.

## Norwood May Throw Her Hat in the Ring

By Amy Stout

I was asked to serve on the "Mary Norwood for Mayor Exploratory Committee". As such, I am tasked with collecting information from my friends and neighbors to share with Councilmember Norwood to aid her in making a decision about whether or not to run for Mayor next year.

To fulfill my duties, I have created a very brief survey to help collect information to share with Ms. Norwood. To provide your opinion, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/6rp6zu>

Please note that my membership on this Committee does not imply an endorsement by the CPNO.



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## A Tree Falls in Candler Park

By George Watts

Oh yeah! I heard it! It was a lazy Saturday morning after a long, tiring Friday night at the office. Still, like most days my body clock went off around 7:30am. I stretched my limbs, acknowledged the time and without a second thought, happily closed my eyes to allow my consciousness another leave of absence. I don't recall any foreboding dreams overnight but it seems I hadn't drifted off long when, without warning, my consciousness was shaken by the sound of a low but steady rumble followed in quick succession by lots of loud crunching, and a big old "boom"!

Initially I thought perhaps I was dreaming, but then I decided to branch out and see what was what. After climbing out of out my head I first noticed that the view from my room was somehow...different. WELL, YEAH! THERE'S A WHOLE BIG FREAKIN OAK TREE MISSING, FOR CHRISSAKE!!!

I quickly rushed to the kitchen to see if we were still cookin'. By the grace of whatever god or gods influence the universe the missing oak tree took a good chunk of the new-ish deck with it but barely grazed the corner edge of our roof. It did topple with full force on the adjacent house that is currently, and thankfully, unoccupied.

I am always amazed at the force of nature especially when it does damage. When nature has had enough it's had enough. I don't think I'd be going out on a limb to say that our recent years of drought is the likely culprit. The base of the uprooted tree shows little evidence of any roots at all.

I am really gonna miss that old oak tree and am sad for all the birds, squirrels and other critters that will no longer play and live on it. I will certainly get a lot more sun in the morning from now on, but the view just won't be the same and suddenly I've developed an unusual bark! Woof! I wish you all Peace and Roots.

Treefall - The Post-Apocalyptic Movie <http://www.mindspring.com/~riverofsouls/Treefall%20A%20040508..MOV>

[Editor's Note: George Watts lives on Sterling Street.]

## SFY 2009 Georgia Heritage Grant Applications

From Yet Another Press Release

The SFY 2009 cycle for the Georgia Heritage Grant Program is just beginning. Eligible applicants include local governments and non-profit organizations (excluding church/sectarian organizations) for historic properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the Georgia Register of Historic Places. Eligible activities include predevelopment projects such as preservation plans, feasibility studies or historic structure reports and development projects for actual "bricks and mortar" work. The amount appropriated this year for the 60%/40% reimbursable grant program is expected to be approximately \$100,000, with the addition of funds from the sale of preservation license plates. Applications are available on HPD's Web site at <http://hpd.dnr.state.ga.us/content/displaycontent.asp?txtDocument=38>. If you would like to receive a paper application in the mail or have questions, please contact Grants Coordinator Carole Moore at 404-463-8434 or [carole.moore@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:carole.moore@dnr.state.ga.us). Applications must be postmarked on or before July 13, 2008.

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## Pooling our Dreams

By Donna Palmer

Did anybody else notice those magnificent workers slaving away on our beloved swimming pool during the hustle and bustle of the 420 fest? It gives me hope that the pool will indeed be operational in time for the Memorial Day weekend. El Presidente Amy Stout attended the last quarterly meeting with the Atlanta Parks Commissioner and was told that our pool is one of 3 that they are prioritizing and pushing hard to open as scheduled. And, to show you how much we believe in this dream, we're planning a grand opening pool party sponsored by the CPNO and possibly even featuring the world famous Candler Park Water Ballet Company.

Details are as murky as last year's pool water, but if you'd like to help, come to the May CPNO General Meeting and let your voice be heard. We'll need to vote on allocating about \$500 to rent the pool and a couple hundred more for snacks. Join us!

## Beating a Path

By Doug Denton

Supervisor DeKalb County  
Soil & Water Conservation District

The DeKalb County CEO and Board of Commissioners (BOC) have awarded millions of dollars to a concrete contractor to build concrete trails on public land. (Editor's note: These are the controversial PATH projects for Mason Mill, Medlock, and Melton Parks.) These contracts are illegal because they have been awarded without a competitive bidding process.

We, the DeKalb Community At-Large, should be interested in the latest no bid contract because \$1,000,000 of our money was given to the contractor without BOC approval. The silence exhibited by elected officials in effect is a mark of complicity in these transgressions.

We should be concerned because the county-wide multi-use trail plan calls for approximately 100 miles of concrete footpaths to be constructed in the coming years using the same contractor, without a competitive bidding process.

We should be concerned because the contractor has broken environmental regulations. The contractor's current DeKalb project is under a stop work order at the request of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division.

We should be concerned because the County has not required the concrete trail builder to incorporate long term stormwater control measures, the lack of which can lead to increased soil erosion.

Please join the Three Forks Heritage Alliance and other concerned citizens in creating a grassroots movement that holds elected officials accountable for their actions and, most importantly, one that supports civic engagement in sound public policy decision. To learn more, please visit [www.3forksalliance.org](http://www.3forksalliance.org), email [marilyhugheslpc@aol.com](mailto:marilyhugheslpc@aol.com), or call 404-324-1842.



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## Grounds for Growing

By the Grateful Gardener, Silvia Edelstein

Did you know you can go to a coffee shop and ask for their used coffee grounds for gardening and composting? Some coffee shops even save them for you in their original bags. They make handy garden gifts. I give my favorite coffee shop a clean plastic bin and ask them to throw in the used filters as well as the grounds since the filters decompose pretty quickly.

Here are a few ways to use coffee grounds:

1. Mixed in your compost in a ratio of 25:1.
2. Spread thinly as mulch around acid-loving plants.
3. Dug directly into the dirt to aerate soil for all types of new plantings--making them more drought resistant.
4. Sprinkled around plants before rain or watering for a slow-released nitrogen fertilizer.

You can mix them in your compost: spent coffee grounds aerate our compact clay soil and improve its texture, structure and ability to hold water. This improves soil fertility and stimulates healthy root development since roots don't have to dig through rock hard clay to reach water.

After brewing, coffee grounds contain up to 2% nitrogen purportedly not high enough to burn plants. Coffee grounds, grass clippings, egg shells and other non-meat kitchen scraps are "green" or nitrogen rich. Dried leaves and wood chips are considered "brown" or carbon rich. The ideal ratio is 25 parts "brown" to 1 part "green" organic material. Without the "brown material", large quantities of "green" matter may develop a fungal layer, attracting fruit flies, or worse, rats. (Who would want those pests on caffeine?)

According to Atlanta gardening expert, Walter Reeves, you can use the coffee grounds in your garden or in your compost equally well. To cut down on the acidity, he recommends mixing a tablespoon of garden lime into a five-pound bag of grounds before you dig them into your garden or put them on the compost pile. In the garden, mix at a rate of five pounds per three square feet. For composting, mix at a ratio of five pounds per three cubic feet of yard waste.

Interestingly, according to another source, microbes that do the composting will turn the coffee from acidic to a neutral pH. So coffee does not make *compost* acidic.

Finally, not only is composting coffee great for our clay soil but, ah, the aroma!

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## Budget Committee Volunteers Still Needed

By Walt Weimar

The newly-formed Candler Park Neighborhood Organization budget committee chaired by treasurer Alonzo Church was discussed briefly at CPNO's general meeting in April, and volunteers are still needed from outside the current board to help identify and prioritize a "wish list" of neighborhood initiatives for 2009.

CPNO VP Walt Weimar, former CPNO treasurer Mike Brandt and CPNO member Janea Boyles have so far indicated interest in the committee's goal of meeting two or three times during this spring and summer in order to refine a projected spending plan for next year, based on anticipated year-end revenue from newsletter/website ads, special events and the sales of CPNO banners, hats and mugs.

At least 5 additional volunteers who can help articulate views of different stakeholders in our Candler Park community are being sought to consider issues like pedestrian and bicycle safety; public art; crime prevention; fire station improvements; park facilities maintenance; greenspace acquisition; tree and water conservation assistance; graffiti or weed abatement; social outreach, or support of local cultural studies, among others. New investments in CPNO's own operations, such as enhanced online or newsletter communications; membership development and hospitality; compilation of an updated neighborhood directory; recognition for volunteers; meeting signage or presentation tools; and even establishment of a separate 501(c)3 foundation might all be worthwhile possibilities for committee review and assessment.

Budget committee members may also consider and recommend CPNO bylaw changes needed to implement a fiscal plan, obviating need for formal notice and member approval of most routine expenditures (meeting space; insurance; NPU-N or Freedom Park Conservancy dues; L5P mini-precinct funding) while developing a practical and consistent means for review of *ad hoc* and special funding requests. If reserve requirements are recommended within the budget, then special rules for restricting future overspending or consistently maintaining available funds also need to be developed.

As with the many generous donations CPNO members and supporters have provided, by investing time and ideas in CPNO's fiscal planning the budget committee hopes to balance both routine expenditures and discretionary initiatives to help realize as many goals as may be envisioned for our neighborhood by Candler Park residents and visitors as a whole. Those interested in joining, or with input the committee should consider, should contact Alonzo Church or a committee member by May 25<sup>th</sup>, so that initial meetings can be tentatively scheduled in June. See page 2 of the Messenger for contact information.

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## Are Your Pets Itchy and Scratchy?

By Will Draper, DVM

Spring brings with it the magnification of one of the most frustrating medical problems for both vets and pet owners: allergies. The most common are what we call the "Big Three": *flea allergy dermatitis*, *atopic dermatitis*, and *food allergies*.

### Flea Allergy Dermatitis

Signs of *flea (or flea-bite) allergy dermatitis* result from hypersensitivity (allergy) to flea saliva. In an allergic dog, the bite of a single flea may cause a serious problem. Extensive skin damage may result from the pet's biting, licking, and scratching. Although flea-bite allergy can be treated, it often recurs because flea eggs may hatch up to 1 year after being deposited in the environment. Most of the flea's life cycle occurs off the pet. Your pet's environment may be contaminated with fleas, and even an occasional flea bite can trigger the allergic reaction.

#### Important Points in Treatment:

1. Flea allergies usually worsen as animals age. Signs may begin earlier in the flea season and last longer. Also skin reactions generally become more severe.
2. Treatment includes flea control on the pet and in the environment and suppression of the allergic reaction. Occasionally desensitization of the dog is attempted.
3. Desensitization ("allergy shots") to flea saliva is controversial. In some cases, good results are achieved, while other dogs fail to respond. The doctor will discuss the advisability of desensitization for your dog.

### Atopic Dermatitis (also called Allergic Inhalant Dermatitis, or Atopy)

*Atopy* is an intensely itchy skin condition caused primarily by inhaled allergens, such as molds, pollens, and dust. Occasionally atopy results from allergens that are absorbed through the skin or eaten. Dogs with atopy are genetically predisposed to the condition, and certain breeds, such as Schnauzers, Irish Setters, Boston Terriers, Scottish Terriers, West Highland White Terriers, Cairn Terriers, and Wire-Haired Terriers, are more commonly affected than other breeds. Female dogs are more likely to be affected than males. Atopy usually first occurs at 1 to 3 years of age.

Continued on page 18.



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## Itchy and Scratchy

Continued from page 17

### Important Points in Treatment:

1. Skin and blood tests may be recommended to assist in identifying the cause of the allergy. The doctor will advise you if either of these types of tests are necessary.
2. Keeping your dog away from the cause of the allergy is not always practical or possible. When the cause is known and avoidance is possible, this is the best means of control.
3. Treatment with antihistamines and/or anti-inflammatory drugs is often the most effective means of controlling atopy. In some dogs, however, these drugs become less effective as time passes, and may cause undesirable side effects.
4. Desensitizing injections ("allergy shots") may help if avoidance or drug therapy is ineffective. Desensitization, however, is not always effective, and continued treatment is usually necessary.
5. Regular bathing and grooming frequently help control atopy.
6. Most dogs respond very well to fatty acid supplements that contain Eicosapentanoic Acid (EPA), which is found to be deficient in most atopic dogs.

### Food Allergy (or Food Hypersensitivity)

*Food hypersensitivity* is a skin disorder of dogs and cats caused by an allergic reaction to food. The condition can occur at any time of the year, and the reaction can be immediate (within minutes to a few hours after eating) or delayed (within several hours to days). Most affected pets have eaten the offending material for over 2 years.

Skin reactions include redness, crustiness, and pustules (pimples). Many cases are complicated by bacterial infection and other skin disorders. In some cases, digestive disturbances also accompany the skin condition.

Diagnosis of food hypersensitivity is difficult and requires feeding a hypo-allergenic diet and gradually adding and deleting foods suspected of causing a reaction.

### Important Points in Treatment:

1. When the offending material can be identified, the outlook for control is excellent.
2. When the causative material is not known or a non-allergenic diet cannot be fed, anti-inflammatory drugs are the best treatment. Usually this type of therapy is life-long.

[Editor's Note: Dr. Draper is a colleague of Candler Park neighbor Dr. Laura Edison. [www.thevillagevets.com](http://www.thevillagevets.com) ]

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## Photos from the recent Sweetwater 420 Festival





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## Neighborhood Planning Unit-N Report

By Amy Stout

The following items from the April 24, 2008 meeting of NPU-N are those most likely to be of interest to Candler Park residents.

My motion to recommend denial for a CP variance application (451 Page) did not pass (2-3-1). My motion was consistent with CPNO's unanimous vote against this request at our April 21<sup>st</sup> meeting where the CPNO Zoning Committee recommended denial because the applicants chose not to alter their building plans in response to an adjacent neighbors' concerns. The NPU-N had trouble supporting CPNO's position because some felt the objections were not relevant to the request. (The variance was for the north side yard setback, and it was the neighbors on the south side that raised concerns about aspects of the construction project that did not require a variance.) Ultimately a motion to forward this application to the Board of Zoning Adjustment without any NPU recommendation was approved 5-0-1.

The NPU-N board voted to recommend approval for a second CP variance application (492 Clifton Rd), consistent with the prior approval by the CPNO membership.

The application for an alcohol license for Kejo's restaurant at 299 Moreland Ave was again on our agenda. However, according to the meeting minutes from April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the License Review Board, this applicant withdrew the application. The NPU-N board unanimously approved a motion to deny without prejudice.

We approved a request by Front Page News to hold their Atlanta Summer Beer Fest in their parking garage on Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> from 1-6 pm. This will be a ticketed event with live music and an estimated attendance of 1,000. We also approved a request by AM 790 The Zone to hold their Smirnoff Ice Beer Fest in Candler Park on Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> from 1-11 pm. This will also be a ticketed event with live music by Blues Traveler, Drivin N Cryin and others with an expected attendance between 5,000 and 9,000 people. We discussed ways for the festival organizer to address parking and traffic concerns to help minimize the impact on the neighborhood.

We voted to again defer consideration of an application to rezone the property at 1240 Euclid Avenue from R-4 (Single-Family Residential) to MR-4A (Multi-Family Residential) because the applicant was not present and because the neighborhood has not yet voted on this request. I anticipate there will be a vote next month though.



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For every home sold in Candler Park, Maya donates 2% of her net commission to the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization. For a very referral you send Maya, she will donate \$40 to CPNO or, if you prefer, to Mary Lin Elementary School PTA.



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## Candler Park Neighborhood Organization Meeting Minutes for 04.21.08

Compiled by Randy Pimsler

The regular monthly meeting of the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization, Inc. was held on Monday, April 21, 2008 in the fellowship hall of the First Existentialist Church, 470 Candler Park Church, with president Amy Stout in the chair. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Approximately twenty-five people were present at the start of the meeting.

The proposed agenda was adopted along with the minutes from last month.

Lieutenant Pautsch was present from the Atlanta Police Department. The lieutenant handed out crime prevention tip sheets to the group along with maps identifying crime activity in this area, dating back from the first of March through the current date. Folks walking through the neighborhood, going door to door, require both a business license and a permit to move onto neighbors' properties.

No representatives were present from council person Anne Favre's office at this meeting.

A treasurer's report was not provided by Alonzo Church at this meeting.

### Committee Reports

Mark Clements reported on the 420 Festival, which began with a road race this weekend. Seven hundred runners participated and there are some profits forthcoming from the festival. Thanks were provided to many supporters including the Mercantile and Front Page News. Some traffic / safety issues were identified and the length of the event, on Sunday evening were identified as issues.

Mark Clements presented an opportunity with 790 - The Zone for a festival in Candler Park. John Sanders is coordinating the one-day event on June 21, 2008. Two national bands will be highlighted in the festival, with food, some additional tents, etc. Tickets will be ten dollars in advance and fifteen dollars at the gate. Alcohol sales and the limit on coolers / beverages was discussed. A five K race is also planned for this event. A plan to address some of the issues identified at the 420 Festival will be developed. Concerns and / or comments need to be forwarded to Mark Clements, for follow up. A motion was made and seconded to support the application for a special event, as noted above. The motion carried by a vote of twenty in support and two in opposition.

Continued on page 22.



Inman Park Tree Watch  
presents

Master Arborist Chris Hastings  
Trolley Barn Tree Talk

Tuesday, June 3, 2008, 7:00 p.m.  
963 Edgewood Avenue

Free and Open to the Public

## Join CPNO in 2008

It's a great way to get involved in the neighborhood and keep up with what's happening in Candler Park, and allows you to fully participate by voting in CPNO's monthly meetings. Provide your e-mail address on the membership form, and receive e-mails with timely, important news from in and around Candler Park, and reminders of our upcoming meetings.

*- Mary Alice Bray, Membership Secretary*

### CPNO Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Minor Children (names and ages) \_\_\_\_\_

Any information NOT to be published in CP neighborhood directory? \_\_\_\_\_

Business applicants list name, address, and phone # of designated agent:

Name of business: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of business: \_\_\_\_\_

### Optional Contribution

If you wish to make a donation to help CPNO continue serving the neighborhood, please take this opportunity to make a contribution.

Please indicate either: New Enrollment \_\_\_\_\_ or Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

I elect to contribute \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Involvement and Interests

<input type="checkbox"/> New neighbor welcome	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter/Messenger
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Candler Park/Environment
<input type="checkbox"/> 5K/Road Races	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Zoning
<input type="checkbox"/> Tour of Homes	<input type="checkbox"/> Flyer Distribution
<input type="checkbox"/> Fall Fest	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent/child groups
<input type="checkbox"/> Social events	Other (specify) _____

Please mail application and enclose any optional contribution to  
CPNO Membership, P.O. Box 5418, Atlanta GA 31107

## CPNO Minutes

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The Front Page News has applied for a special event application for a beer tasting festival and outdoor music on June 14, 2008. Ticket prices are twenty-five dollars in advance and thirty-five dollars the day of the event. Music will stop at five pm in the afternoon. A motion was made and seconded to support the application for the special event and carried unanimously.

A tent will be purchased for festivals to house CPNO merchandise. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to purchase the tent for a cost of one hundred twenty five dollars.

Mary Alice Bray noted that the Tour of Homes would take place once again this year. The committee is looking for lofts, condos, living spaces, and homes to be placed on the tour. A shuttle is being considered, along with a possible wine tasting. Please forward suggestions to Mary Alice.

James Johnson reported on a variety of land use matters.

451 Page Avenue initially deferred until next meeting and has plans to move forward without the neighborhood support. The applicant chose to not meet with the neighborhood organization at this time. A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to deny the application for the variance.

492 Clifton presented a variance for reducing the required side yard setback. A motion to support the variance request was made, seconded and carried unanimously.

An update on 1240 Euclid Avenue was presented. This is the site at the existing church on the north side of Euclid Avenue. Tom Painter presented site plan drawings and three-dimensional images of the latest proposal for the development of this site. Conditions are being drafted for the site development at this time and will be presented in future meetings.

Amy Stout reported for Jo Jo Ross on behalf of the ING Marathon Cheering Committee who brought victory to the CPNO, winning ten thousand dollars for having won the event. The next meeting of the Friends of Candler Park will be held on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm to work on visioning exercises and a possible dog run park. The first workday has now been scheduled for Candler Park on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at eight thirty am. For further information contact Jo Jo Ross at [ross.jojo@gmail.com](mailto:ross.jojo@gmail.com).

Continued on page 23.



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## CPNO Minutes

Continued from page 22.

### New Business / Announcements / Open Forum

Mark Clement noted that he had some preliminary conversations with the City of Atlanta related to a splash pond for the pool area. George Dusenbury suggested measures by which funds could be generated for this project.

Mark Clement proposed the notion of a gathering / event to celebrate the opening of the Candler Park Pool this season. It is proposed that the pool will be open Memorial Day weekend.

Amy Stout reported on behalf Terry Stewart, of the Granma Gordon - pecan tree project that held a successful fundraiser and is currently working with Park Pride in ongoing efforts to raise funds and perhaps file for historic tree distinction for this project.

The Greater Atlanta Men's Barbeque and Support Group and the Mary Lin Auction were both very successful fund raising events for the elementary school.

The infill development committee will meet Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at seven pm. Committee chairpersons made a presentation to the Lake Claire Neighborhood Organization to some positive feedback.

Tom Stubbs is running for Superior Court Judge and spoke briefly to the folks attending the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

## Junior Citizens Police Academy

A Press Release from Council Member Anne Fauver

The Atlanta Police Department is offering a Junior Police Academy for youngsters aged 12 to 15 years old from June 9<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>. The class will offer:

- Physical training of "officers" (obstacle course)
- Review of the Criminal Justice System and Juvenile Court
- Tour of 9-1-1
- Firearms safety
- K-9/Bomb robot demonstration
- Mock traffic stops and MUCH MORE

Sign up at [www.atlantapd.org/Index.asp?nav=Training&menu=17](http://www.atlantapd.org/Index.asp?nav=Training&menu=17) or call 404-209-5250.

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## Zone 6 Crime Report

March 16 – April 11, 2008  
compiled by Regina Brandt

**Moreland Ave @ Euclid Ave**—Auto Theft. 3/16-3/22. Six-day time frame. Victim reported his vehicle stolen. Not listed where the vehicle was parked

**1200 Block McLendon Ave**—Larceny from auto. 3/18. Tue Morn. Reporting person states someone smashed the front passenger side window on the victim's vehicle and removed property

**1300 Block Benning PI**—Auto Theft. 3/21-3/24. Two-day time frame. Victim stated someone stole his vehicle from its parking space. The vehicle was locked and the victim states he did not leave the keys in it

**300 Block Candler Park Dr**—Auto Theft. 3/22. Sat Eve. Victim stated he left his keys in his vehicle and someone stole it.

**1500 Block Iverson St**—Larceny from Auto. 3/23. Sun Morn. Victim states someone smashed the front passenger window on his employer's vehicle and removed property

**500 Block Goldsboro Rd**—Larceny from Auto. 3/27-3/28. Two-day time frame. Victim stated someone entered her vehicle and removed property. The victim stated the vehicle was locked. No signs of forced entry were found

**200 Block Elmira PI**—Auto Theft. 3/28. Fri Morn. Victim states someone stole her vehicle while it was parked on the street. The victim stated she is not behind on payments and did not sell the vehicle to pay off any loan. No record was found of the vehicle being impounded

**400 Block Moreland Ave**—Residential Burglary. 3/28. Sat Morn. Victim stated someone smashed in the rear door to his garage and removed property

**1600 Block McLendon Ave**—Commercial Burglary. 3/30. Sun Morn. Victim reports that someone broke a rear window to gain entry and remove property. Alarm was not activated at the time of incident.

**800 Block Briarcliff Rd**—Larceny from Auto. 3/30. Sun Morn. Victim reports someone broke the left rear window to gain entry and removed property.

**400 Block Clifton Rd**—Residential Burglary. 3/30. Sun Eve. Victim reports returning home to discover the front door forced open and property missing. Witness observed 2 B/M running from the location and fled in a dark blue 4dr older model Buick with chipped paint on the hood.

**1700 Block Dekalb Ave**—Residential Burglary. 3/31. Mon Day. Officer responded to an alarm. Victim stated she locked all doors and windows that morning, the Alarm activation pad was ripped off the wall, and property was taken. No forced entry was made, but a neighbor had observed the victim's son (not listed in report) walking around outside the apartment during school hours.

**300 Block Moreland Ave NE**—Residential Burglary. 4/1. Tue Day. Victim states someone broke in to her apartment through her front door and removed property

**2000 Block McLendon Ave**—Residential Burglary. 4/2. Wed Day. Officer responded to an alarm call and found that someone had pried open the back door. The home was searched but no one was located inside. The victim was on scene and stated that property had been taken

**200 Block Arizona Ave**—Larceny from Auto. 4/5-4/6. Sun Morn. Victim reports that someone entered her vehicle and removed property. There were no signs of forced entry, and victim is not sure if she locked the doors.

**200 Block Southerland Ter**—Residential Burglary. 4/9. Wed Day. Victim states someone smashed the glass to his back door, entered his apartment and removed his alarm keypad. A witness stated he had seen the suspect walking around the area prior to the incident. The suspect had asked if he could look at the units which were still under construction

**1200 Block Euclid Ave**—Pedestrian Robbery. 4/10. Thurs Eve. Victim stated the suspects approached him and asked if he wanted to smoke some marijuana. The victim agreed and began to walk towards Moreland Ave with the suspects when one of them pulled out a bowie knife. A witness attempted to help the victim but was beaten by one of the suspects before they fled the scene on foot. Gi Unit 4385 was advised

**400 Block Page Ave**—Residential Burglary. 4/11. Fri Day. Victim stated someone pried open a side basement window, entered the home, and removed property. Damage was also found to the rear basement door.

## Classified Ads

**PIANO - For Sale – YAMAHA - Walnut** upright spinet - 48 inch - nice house size. About 12 years old - excellent condition - beautiful sound-\$1250. call 404 933 3053.

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**My GREEN Daycare (0-5 years)** In-home, eco-friendly daycare opening May 12<sup>th</sup>. All food served will be homemade and all-natural, if not organic. We also have an organic veggie garden. Please call 404-695-7117 for more info.

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