



June 2019

MESSENGER



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A Letter to the Editor

By Dana Fowle, president@candlerpark.org

My day job requires writing. A lot of it. And nothing makes it to print or on a screen without an editor's OK. The Messenger is no different. Ideas are massaged, deadlines met, and editor feedback expected. But not this time. This time I wanted to keep the content to myself, to slide it in just before last call and to offer no opportunity for editor pushback.

You see, I want to put the spotlight on Susan Rose, the editor, who by nature, does not seek attention. She's quiet. She's low-key. But The Messenger with her guidance is making quite a splash. Twice this week neighbors have reached out to me to say how much they enjoy reading their community paper. In fact, I left a recent copy on my desk in the newsroom and someone walked up, leafed through it and said, "Wow, this is a real paper."

This is one of my favorite compliments from a Nextdoor post, "The writing is good and succinct, and the many contributors reflect the diversity of the community's interests."

Susan curates these pages with all of the care and insight of an old-school newspaper editor. She recognizes those things dear to us like our upcoming graduates and our beloved pets. But she also makes sure the meaty topics of the moment are in these pages, too. The May issue offered notice of a property tax appeal info session, news of a potentially controversial code enforcement training academy and the grassroots effort of some parents to slow down traffic for little pedestrians at Oakdale

Road and Iverson Street. Its final pages pad out with features that promote healthy lifestyles. Folks, that's a hometown newspaper.

For me, The Messenger is comfort food. I grew up reading a daily newspaper. When I went to college out of state, my grandfather sent me our small, hometown paper every day. I miss the newsprint on my hands. I miss the paper spread out over the kitchen table while my siblings and I fought over favorite sections.

PRESIDENTIAL BRIEFING

Today, I no longer have a paper waiting on my front lawn, but at any given time my own family has one or two editions of The Messenger on the coffee table. My nine-year-old reads it, too. Admittedly, I've folded it into her required reading assignments. But my hope is that out of habit one day she will curl up in a chair, read the local news and consider being engaged in her community.

Susan, in her free time, has managed to capture the pulse of our neighborhood. It's a lot of work. So, please, next time you see her just say 'thank you.' Let the advertisers in these pages know that you saw their ad. Reach out to the volunteer writers and recognize their effort. And by all means, feel free to chip in some copy yourself.

And a note to the editor: Sorry I had to go around your back to pat you on the back, but I really wanted you to know how grateful we are.

Welcome and Thanks!

By Roger Bakeman, membership@candlerpark.org

CPNO welcomes new members

Andrew and Kerry Christmas
Cora Hacker
Steve Kane
Karen Kristensen and Gavin Teichert
Jessica and Hilary Reyes
Nes Rodriguez
Rohn Schmidt
Sonia Sequeira

CPNO thanks members for their contributions:

Amanda Bolster
Anne Giles
Ashley and Jack Reed

Ashley Rogover
Caitlin and Ryan Greene
Carla Roncoli and Tom Painter
Carlos Corless
Chris Spruell
David Smith
Frances & Michael Forte
Greer and Ben Watson
Howard & Katharine Connell
James and Stacey White
Jason and Carla Key
Jesse and Richard Bathrick
John Cheng and Paul Craythorne
Katherine and John Raynor
Kelly Jordan
Lahiri family
Maria Crawford
Martha Ille

Mary Alice Bray
Mary Schauer
Mike Brandt
Mike Dunbar
Sara McClintock
Sarah Jane Reedy
Scarlett & Lance
The Baetti Vezirian household
The Bergartt Family
The Crow Family
The Granger Family
The Pendleton Family
Walker Loucks and Adam Lowendick
...and others who wished to remain anonymous

The mission of the **Candler Park Neighborhood Organization** is to promote the common good and general welfare in the neighborhood known as Candler Park in the city of Atlanta.

BOARD of DIRECTORS

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICER externalaffairs@candlerpark.org	Matt Kirk

Find a complete list of CPNO committee chairs, representatives and other contacts at www.candlerpark.org.

MEETINGS

CPNO Members Meetings are held every third Monday at First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Drive.

Committee meetings take place at The Neighborhood Church, 1561 McLendon Ave., unless otherwise announced (enter from the street level door and ring the bell if you're late).

All are welcome. Only registered members are eligible to vote at monthly meetings. Membership applications must be received by Membership Officer by the first day of the month of meeting.

Find specific meeting information on page 6 and a complete list of CPNO meetings at www.candlerpark.org.

MEMBERSHIP

CPNO membership is free to Candler Park residents, property owners and businesses. Membership must be renewed annually.

Sign up at www.candlerpark.org or mail name, address, and email to

CPNO Membership
PO Box 5418, Atlanta, GA 31107

DATES TO REMEMBER

JUNE

- 10** CPNO Board Meeting, 7 pm, The Neighborhood Church
- 15** Deadline to submit content for July Messenger!
- 17** CPNO Members Meeting, 7 pm, 1st Existentialist Church

JULY

- 8** CPNO Board Meeting, 7 pm, Neighborhood Church
- 15** CPNO Members Meeting, 7 pm, First Existentialist Church
- 15** Deadline for August Messenger!

In case of cancellations or changes, check CPNO's Upcoming Events list at candlerpark.org. All CPNO meetings are open to the public.



How to Get Published in the Messenger

By Susan Rose, editor@candlerpark.org

The Candler Park Messenger is YOUR neighborhood magazine where you can learn about news, events and issues relevant to the neighborhood as well as share info on your own events, info and community concerns. As editor, I welcome contributions that are relevant and serve Candler Park neighbors. Help me help you by following these guidelines:

- Submission deadline is the 15th of the month.
- Submit your content as a Word document attached to an email to editor@candlerpark.org. Please do not put your content within the email, which creates unnecessary copy, cut, and paste work for me the volunteer editor. Also attach to your email good quality photos and images that may complement your content.
- Include a byline in your article and some identifying information about the author, such as Candler Park resident or Mary Lin PTA president.
- If your event is scheduled for the first 10 days of the month, you should plan to promote your event in the prior month's Messenger. Printing and postal service constraints can mean the Messenger will not land in mailboxes until the second week of the month. For example, your event is scheduled for July 6, submit your article and images by May 15 for publication in the June Messenger.
- If you are interested in advertising, contact our publisher, KDA & Tlehs, at 770-623-6220 or sales@kda-communications.com.

Reminder, articles reflect the opinions of authors and not necessarily those of the CPNO, the CPNO Board of Directors, or the Messenger editor. If I consider a submission to be inappropriate, inflammatory, and offensive, I will not publish the information.

If you have questions or ideas for the Messenger, contact me at editor@candlerpark.org.

Fun for All at Hillcrest Block Party

By Jennifer Wilds, membership@candlerpark.org

The afternoon of May 5th was a wonderful one on Hillcrest Avenue for the first block party of the year. The humidity and rain held off for the entire day and allowed about 50 people (and a number of dogs and cats) to join together for croquet, cornhole, a bounce castle, and lots of food and drinks for everyone. Youth and adults enjoyed BBQ, s'mores, popsicles and music to round out a day of good clean fun. Much appreciation goes to the O'Dea, Gleason and May families for organizing and hosting the event. They can tell you how much fun they had so feel free to reach out to membership@candlerpark.org if you would like to discuss hosting your own porch party or block party to meet new Candler Park friends.





Thanks to Corner Tavern



Thanks to Corner Tavern for sponsoring the May CPNO membership meeting! Located in the heart of Little Five Points, the Corner Tavern serves breakfast and brunch on the weekends and lunch and dinner throughout the week. Featuring a roof top deck and pool tables, the Corner Tavern offers an assortment of appetizers, sandwiches, salads, wings, burgers, and entrees such as the Tavern Steak.

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THE MESSENGER

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The Messenger is the monthly newsletter of the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization. Articles reflect the opinions of authors, and not necessarily those of CPNO, the CPNO Board of Directors, the Messenger or the editor.

Articles must be signed and submitted via email to editor@candlerpark.org by the 18th of the month prior to publication.

If you have a news tip or story idea, please email relevant information including contacts to editor@candlerpark.org or call the editor.

If you live in CP or own a business in CP, and aren't receiving the Messenger by mail, be sure to notify us! Send your name and address to editor@candlerpark.org. Place the words "Messenger Delivery" in the subject line.

CP ONLINE

For the most up-to-date information on Candler Park events and news, check us out on the Web at candlerpark.org.

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MESSAGES & CRIME ON NEXTDOOR



Join the Candler Park group at candlerpark.nextdoor.com to keep up on crime reports and other messages.

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You'll get the latest news and will be able to interact with 500 of your neighbors at facebook.com/CandlerPark.

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Our handle is your handle: twitter.com/CandlerParkATL

Show Off Your Home in the Candler Park Tour of Homes, Sunday Oct 6

By Chris Fitzgerald, fundraising@candlerpark.org

The Fall Fest committee is busily preparing for this year's Tour of Homes, and we need your help to make this highly successful neighborhood fundraiser another huge success.

The assortment of homes will include craftsman bungalows, newer two-story homes, quaint condominiums, multi-family residences and so much more ranging from traditional to modern. We are proud of the variety of homes that comprise our home tour, and visitors come from all over to get a peak inside the homes in our beloved neighborhood. If you don't want to participate, perhaps you have a friend or neighbor who might be interested. Remember: Selected homes don't require perfection, and every home has a story to tell! .

There are benefits to participating. For one thing, the Candler Park Tour of Homes—which takes place this year on Sunday, Oct 6, from noon to 6 p.m. — isn't quite the commitment of most other neighborhoods, because it only takes place for only six hours on one day. You can stay home and chat with attendees — or enjoy the tour using the free tour tickets you'll get and wearing the free t-shirts you'll receive as a "thank you," while docents guide attendees and watch over your home. Or you can head off for Fall Fest, which takes place on the same weekend.

You also may close off parts of your home if you need a place to hide some of your "stuff" or a place for your runaway cat to hang out.

Want more information or to schedule a consultation? Please email fundraising@candlerpark.org or call 404.667.0286 so we can come by and meet you. But, please hurry as our deadline is looming.



Show Off Your Garden in the July Messenger

By Susan Rose, editor@candlerpark.org

Calling all Candler Park gardeners! In the July Messenger, I would like to feature photos of neighborhood gardens. It could be full landscapes, a small plot, or even just beautiful pots on a porch. If you want to 'flex' your green thumb, send me your best photo(s) to editor@candlerpark.org by JUNE 15! Include your name and street with the photo if you would like that included.



Aging in Place in Candler Park

By Lexa King, safety@candlerpark.org

Tomorrow marks 3 years since my next door neighbor of 32 years died. He lived alone and was self-employed so when he didn't show up at his studio for a few days, nobody really noticed. He remained alone, in his home, for several days before it was discovered that he had passed. The knowledge of that was painful to me. We weren't best buddies. Over that much time, we had had neighborly differences of opinion. But we were friendly. When I took the trash out the front door, I always glanced over to see if he was sitting on his porch. If he was, I would wave and sometimes, he would come running over to ask me if I had heard about something in the neighborhood or what I thought of something in local politics or just general info. Sometimes I would join him on the porch and we would have a beer together. It was a cordial relationship and I enjoyed it. He was a well-known and well-regarded wood artist known for his creation of The Gilmartin Chair, one of which is in the permanent collection at the High.

Over the years, I had met some of his family from New York when they would visit. I particularly liked his sister, Eileen and her husband, David. When Michael was discovered, the police didn't know who to contact. Fortunately, I had contact info for Eileen and she was reached and informed. At that point, I realized that as wonderful as our neighborhood is and as much as I love Candler Park, we are missing and in need of a very important benefit - Senior Services! Many of us have been in the hood a very long time. And if you are like me, moving may have crossed your mind from time to time, but the question is always - But where would I go that I could love as much as I love it here? So I stay.

Michael's passing was a wake up call though and in my capacity as Safety Officer I would like to initiate some sort of framework to assist the seniors aging in place in Candler Park. The first thing I need is to know who the seniors are. So I am requesting that all of you help with this. If you are a senior in CP, or you have a neighbor or a friend who is a senior, please send me their information. Name, address, contact information would be a great start. This list will be confidential. It will be used to spread information about services that are available, concerns and notifications. The plan is to formulate a system of communication so that nobody feels uninformed, isolated, helpless or hopeless, which can sometimes happen during the aging process.

I am also searching for a team of warriors to help create the network to support this effort. Whether you have info on a Senior or would like to work on the team, please send the appropriate name, address and contact number to me. I can best be reached at safety@candlerpark.org or call me at 404-452-9898. Thank you in advance for your help with this. It takes a village!

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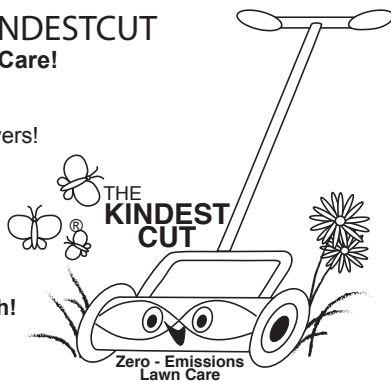
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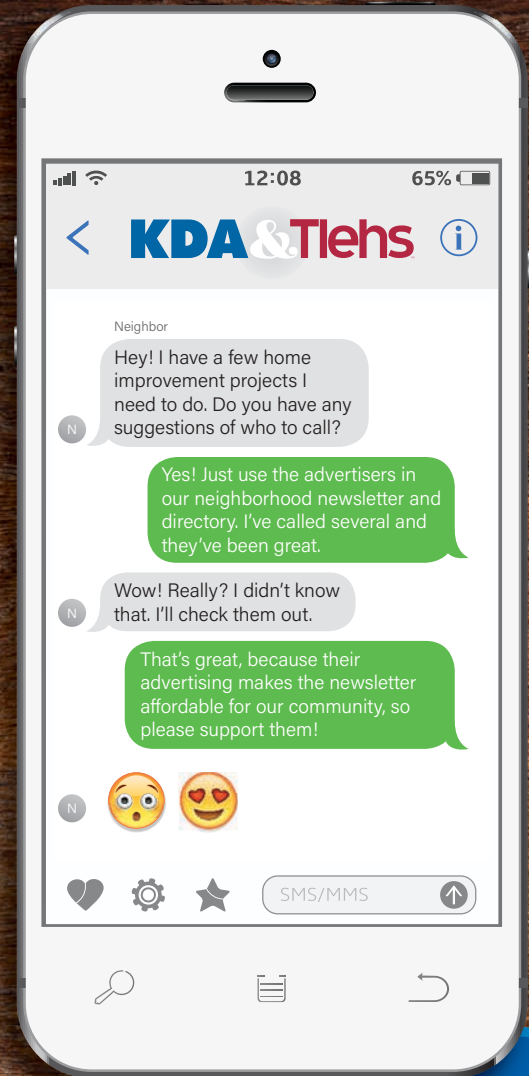
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Growing Up With Mulberry Fields As My Backyard

By Zoey Phillips, Candler Park Resident and Grady High School Student

It's unsuspecting from the street. All you can see is a pebbled, winding alleyway with an automatic wooden gate wedged open with fallen leaves. A painted, metal sign is nailed to a tree reading "Mulberry Fields Garden," but there are no directions of how to get there, just that alley, shaded by a canopy of trees.

This alleyway is more familiar to me than the back of my hand. I know and love every protruding root and dip in the path.

After a bend, you are dumped out into a wide open space glowing with golden sunlight. To the left is an arch draped with crimson red tea roses and to the right are wooden gardening plots decorated with blooming plants. A banana shaped tree swing hangs from a towering pecan tree.

I was there for the hanging of that exact swing. I was sitting on my kitchen floor when my mom came in with the box. When I opened it and saw the yellow rubber and chain, I knew exactly what it was and I couldn't wait to have a tree swing of my very own. I can still swing for hours. It's my happy place.

This enchanting swing lives at Mulberry Fields Garden and I was lucky enough to grow up in this slice of paradise. My family has been a part of the garden since the beginning, and so I take a sweet sun-ripened tomato and fresh organic chicken eggs for granted.

Ever since I was little, I have had access to this oasis in the middle of the city. I have eaten fresh pecans from the tree after collecting them from the grounds with my friends.

It's a whole other world when you can walk down the street to pick fresh veggies or collect an array of flowers for the coffee table in the living room. In the summertime, I don't think my family has ever had to buy green beans from the store because so many grow in our plot. It's a luxury to have access to farm to table fresh foods in a city.

I have also owned some of the goats who live there. Helping to raise them, mixing formula and nursing the babies and even bathing them were commonplace experience for me.

One year I sat for hours combing lice out of my baby goats fur. First we had to bathe them in a mixture of water and Dawn soap. This in itself was nearly impossible because goats do not like to get wet. Then, I had to painstakingly comb through every inch of a wiggling baby goats lice infested fur with a human lice comb. And there were two baby goats who needed the spa treatment.

These experiences are rare for a city girl. When I tell my friends that my only pet is a goat or that I will not eat the eggs at their house because I am used to fresh ones and the store bought ones just don't taste as good, they think I am insane. But I am proud to have been exposed to this alternative way of living and to be able to consider the garden as my backyard.

Bring your family to Mulberry Fields

Mulberry Fields Garden located in the Candler Park neighborhood is one of the best places in Atlanta for your children to make lifelong memories. The garden is open everyday during daylight hours and is located down the alley at 1301 Iverson Street, Atlanta, GA 30307. Children love the tree swing and visiting with the goats. Children also love creating imaginative forts under the branches of the evergreens, chasing butterflies through the plots, and running their fingers through the ocean blue pebbles in the vintage tub. It is all here waiting for you.

Mulberry Fields garden celebrates 20 years!

On September 7 from 5-11 p.m., we are having our Mulberry Fields Gone Wylde party to celebrate our 20th anniversary of the garden. We will have live music, face painting, food and drinks, and plenty of kid activities. We can't wait to see you! <http://wyldecenter.org/mulberry-fields-gone-wylde/>





Commencement for Grady Knights Class of 2019

By Susan Rose, editor@candlerpark.org

Congratulations to the 305 students in the Grady High School class of 2019 who graduated on May 23 in a commencement ceremony at Georgia Tech's McCamish Pavilion in front of a loud and high energy crowd with hundreds of family, friends, teachers, APS staff, administrators and board members! Seniors from the Grady chorus sang the National Anthem followed by Principal Dr. Betsy Bockman providing a welcome and introduction for the ceremony. Candler Park senior Nathaniel Ward's rendition of "You Raise Me Up" by Josh Groban moved many parents in an already emotion-packed event.

Superintendent Dr. Meria Carstarphen created a pep rally atmosphere with her address to the students. Every time she announced an achievement of the graduating class, the students responded "GK, GK, we all we got!" Carstarphen mentioned being 'back stage' with the students before the ceremony and being told that one more student had just completed graduation requirements, upping the total "walking" in the ceremony from 304 to 305.

The Valedictorian Eric Slovensky gave a concise speech that ended with him saying, "As we move on with our lives, we can never give up! Follow your heart, even when you don't know what to do. Do something big and make a difference in the world!"

In the Vision ceremony for family and friends on the Saturday prior to graduation, Salutatorian Abby Challas addressed her classmates and characterized the class as leaders, collaborative, and capable. She said, "This class of 2019 has truly set the bar high, as we have been the heart and soul of our clubs and sports teams, leading them to many victories. This year, our boys Tennis team advanced to state finals, our boys and girls Ultimate team were invited to Nationals, our girls Lacrosse team made history advancing to the second round of playoffs, our girls Soccer team advanced to the elite eight, and our football team? Well, we sure had fun at the games. Our theater program filled this year with so many outstanding musicals, our Southerner and literary magazine staff published amazing pieces, and this year makes 10 years that the debate team has won state!"

Following the Valedictorian's remarks in the commencement ceremony, each student's name was called and each student was presented with a leather bound diploma and shook hands with Dr. Bockman, Dr. Carstarphen, APS Board Chair Jason Esteves, APS Board Member Leslie Grant, APS Board Member Michelle Olympiadis, and APS Board Member Cynthia Briscoe Brown. After all diplomas were presented, the entire class together moved their cap tassels to the left with a final "GK! GK!" before their recessional as Grady High School graduates.

The following highlights of the scholarships and grants offered to this class further illustrate their academic achievements, leadership, and talent;

- More than **\$22 million** in college scholarship and grant money was offered to students.
- 191 students (62% of the graduating class) earned the HOPE scholarship which is Georgia's unique and nationally recognized program to reward students who have excelled academically with funds to be used at public technical colleges and eligible public or private colleges and universities in Georgia
- 96 of the HOPE eligible students earned the Zell Miller Scholarship by having a cumulative GPA of 3.7 or above and a minimum SAT score of 1200 or minimum ACT composite score of 26
- 4 students received a Posse scholarship, which provides full tuition for four years, averaging about \$220,000 each. These students will be Posse scholars at George Washington University, Brandeis University, The College of Wooster and Boston University.
- 89 students received Achieve Atlanta Scholarships totaling \$1.6 million.



- Other colleges and universities that offered scholarship and grant funds to students in the Grady class of 2019 include: Agnes Scott College, Alabama State University, American Musical and Dramatic Academy, American University of Rome, Auburn University, Bard College, Belmont University, Berry College, Bowdoin College, Brandeis University, California College of the Arts, Catawba College, Centre College, Clemson University, Cleveland State University, Colby-Sawyer College, Connecticut College, Delaware Valley University, DePaul University, Elon University, Emory University, Fisk University, Franklin & Marshall



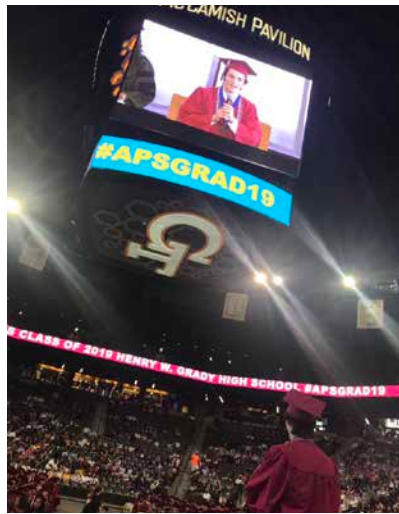
Thanks to Boyd Baker, founder of the Wondershop, for organizing and creating a banner to celebrate Candler Park and Lake Claire high school graduates from Grady and private schools. Check it out to see their photos and college plans!

College, Furman University, George Mason University, George Washington University, Georgia College, Georgia Southern University, Georgia State University, Grinnell College, Guilford College, High Point University, Howard University, Jacksonville State University, Johnson & Wales University, Kent State University, Kenyon College, Louisiana State University, Marquette University, Massachusetts College of Art & Design, Mercer University, Michigan State University, Mississippi State University, Morehouse College, North Carolina AT&T University, Oglethorpe University, Pace University, Pennsylvania State University, Pratt Institute, Purdue University, Radford University, Reinhardt University, Rider University, Savannah College of Art & Design, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Seton Hall, Southern Methodist University, Southern University, St. John's University, St. Lawrence University, Syracuse University, Temple University, Texas Christian University, The College of Wooster, Tulane University, University of Alabama, University of Alabama Birmingham, University of Arizona, University of California San Diego, University of California Santa Cruz, University of Colorado Boulder, University of Denver, University of Hartford, University of Illinois, University of Massachusetts Amherst, University of Miami, University of Minnesota, University of Mississippi, University of Missouri, University of North Carolina Asheville, University of Oklahoma, University of Pittsburgh, University of Richmond, University of San Francisco, University of South Alabama, University of South Carolina, University of the South, University of Southern California, University of Tampa, University of Tennessee, University of Vermont, West Virginia University, Wingate University, Wright State University, Xavier University, Young Harris College.

To see a video of the full commencement ceremony, visit <https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/59643>



Candler Park residents Lily Shevlin and Margaret Rose celebrate with friends after commencement.



Candler Park resident Nathaniel Ward sang "You Raise Me Up" by Josh Groban.



Grady seniors ready for processional into McCamish Pavilion.



Grady High School Salutatorian Abby Challas, APS Board Member Michelle Olympiadi, and Grady High School Valedictorian Eric Slovensky

CPLC Patrol Report for Jan-Mar 2019

Source: CPLC Patrol email newsletter for May to members

In January through March, CPLCP officers performed contracted patrols, member vacation checks, park sweeps and alarm calls in the Candler Park and Lake Claire neighborhoods for a monthly average of 100 hours.

From the Patrol officer logbook, here's a sample of reported activity:

- Resident advised that two dogs escaped from his/her residence on McLendon Ave. Located one of the dogs and the second got into a fight with a neighboring dog. With the assistance from the owner, they were able to separate both dogs, neither sustaining any injuries.
- Resident flagged down officer to advise of suspicious activity at a residence on Hardendorf. APD assigned an officer in an unmarked vehicle to observe for a period of time, but no unusual activity was noted.
- Responded to a call that there was an altercation at Candler Park Market. Upon arrival, both parties reportedly had already left the location and the area was canvased with negative results.
- Spotted an occupied vehicle parked at the back of the parking lot of Clifton Ministries for a period of time. When the officer pulled into the parking lot, the occupant drove the vehicle away.
- While not a Patrol action, officer noted in his Patrol log that the Zone 6 FIT team was called out to assist with a search warrant at 561 Hardendorf Ave.
- Encountered a suspicious vehicle parked at Connecticut and Delaware but after making contact it turned out there were no warrants or wants. Another suspicious vehicle was spotted on Clifton and DeKalb Ave and the driver was interviewed and released.
- Answered an alarm call at a residence on Leonardo Ave and checked the identification of the person on scene. It was judged to be a false alarm unrelated to any criminal or unusual activity.
- Checked the area of Freedom Park for signs of vagrancy or urban camping, but found none such signs.
- Patrolled inside of Candler Park after posted park hours and observed three vehicles parked inside the park. Officer advised the occupants that they cannot be in the park after hours and they left without incident.
- After receiving a lookout Video Integration Center (VIC), officer searched the

neighborhood for a vehicle reported stolen earlier in the day with 5 male occupants.

- Responded to an alarm call on Elmira Street and arrived on site an spotted an unlocked rear door. After finding no sign of suspicious activity, the property was cleared.
- Responded to an auto theft on Clifton Terrace. Reportedly, keys were with the vehicle and last seen around 2am.
- Assisted a stranded motorist in the roadway Oakdale and North Avenue.
- Responded to an alarm call on Page Avenue. Met with the homeowner, whose home is under renovation. The alarm is reportedly going off frequently and most likely caused by an animal.
- Due to several reports of package thefts in the area, gave patrol emphasis to area around DeKalb Place and DeKalb Ave. Reports had been of a vehicle, occupied by 4 males, stopping in the middle of the street with one occupant approaching residences. Vehicle was later found to be a stolen vehicle out of DeKalb that was also involved in a shooting in Cobb county, but subsequently was recovered.
- Responded to a report of a suspicious male in the backyard of a residence on Harold Ave. Upon arrival, the man was gone and no longer in the backyard.
- Assisted on a number of traffic stops in the neighborhood and patrol the area in search of suspicious people or vehicles.
- Responded to an alarm call on Candler Park Drive near the Golf Course and found no signs of suspicious activity. Also made contact with a suspicious male on McLendon, but identification check out and he was released.
- Responded to an alarm call on Lake Claire Ct. and, with the assistance of zone unit, they checked and cleared the house after no sign of forced entry.
- Encountered a male at the intersection of Mell and DeKalb Avenue who appeared intoxicated and was stuck between the entrance gate and tree near the Parkview Heights Condos. The male agreed to move along.
- Assisted a Beat Unit 2608 with a domestic dispute call near DeKalb Avenue and Elmira

- Cleared parks and displaced some urban campers near Freedom Park
- Spotted a suspicious white van that may have been involved in HVAC thefts in Beat 606. While the tag was unreadable and I could not catch the vehicle, I advised the Zone and the VIC unit.
- General observations about activity in the area: Vehicle larcenies are still the most common crimes with occurrence mostly along the McLendon (north and south off the main thoroughfare on the side streets not where parking is heavy). We ask the households and guests to not leave items visible inside of parked vehicles.

From APD official crime records, here are some key stats comparisons:

1) Candler Park-Lake Claire in Jan-April:

- CPLC incidents are down 10% compared to Jan-April 2018.
- The largest category of CPLC incidents remained Larceny-From Vehicle which at 40 is down 1 incident compared to this period 2018.
- Burglary-Residence incidents were three, which is down from 4 this time last year. Auto theft, at 5 incidents, is slightly up from the 3 incidents in this period 2018.

2) Zone 6 and Citywide Year-to-Date through April:

- Offenses in Zone 6 were down less than 1% and Citywide were down 7% compared to the same period in 2018.



CPNO Officer and Committee Report for May

Membership-Jennifer Wilds

Thank you again to Rival Entertainment for offering complementary tickets for their May 31-June 1 Music and Food Festival to 2019 CPNO members who renewed or joined by April 30th. We appreciate our local partnerships and look forward to a sunny festival weekend!!! Please also see article and pictures from our most recent Block Party on Hillcrest Avenue.

Development-Emily Taff

The Development Committee's survey is available at tiny.cc/CP-survey.

This will help us in recommending tools Candler Park could utilize to address development in the neighborhood. The survey will be closed soon.

Candler Park Conservancy-Ken Edelstein

The Candler Park Conservancy has enjoyed a very active and engaged few months, highlighted by our second annual Beavers, Bluegrass & Barbecue spring social and fundraiser. The event featured a raffle, live music, Fox Brothers BBQ, beverages, disc golf and all kinds of impromptu fun and games on Terrace Avenue and on the fifth fairway of the golf course. Around 300 people attended. Thanks to our friends at Candler Park Golf Course, who were willing to close the course late Sunday afternoon and also joined in the celebration.

Other recent events (free and open to the public) included a birdwatching tour and bird-box installation. The bluebirds and nutwatches that will homestead in the boxes will help to control mosquitoes on the playing field and in other areas. For a calendar of upcoming events (free and open to the public) and volunteer activities, go to candlerparkconservancy.org.

Conservancy volunteers also recently maintained and improved plantings at the park entrance, and around the two park signs on McLendon Avenue. And we engaged professionals to remove mulberry trees and other invasive species from the two hardwood coves at the south end of the park; we are now at work on native replacements.

Meanwhile, Conservancy's Projects Committee has been focusing on several major long term projects. After completing designs and cost estimates for improvements to the Active Lawn and the construction of an amphitheater (thanks to a grant from CPNO), we've entered a strategic planning phase that includes fundraising strategies. The Conservancy also is the recipient of a pro bono offer from Perkins + Will to design the playscape that is part of the park's community supported Vision Plan; that design should be completed by the end of the year.

Zoning-Bill Morris

The May zoning meeting was held at the Neighborhood Church with four member in attendance. The agenda included Variance V-19-31,

1660 Dekalb Ave. which was deferred from the April meeting (2nd deferral). Around 15 neighbors also attended the meeting to learn about the proposal and provide comments regarding the application.

1660 Dekalb Avenue, V-19-31 is a special exception application to reduce parking requirements for the space formerly occupied by the Mercantile. Details of the application are provided in the April Zoning report. After discussion at the April meeting, the Committee requested that the applicant provide more detailed and complete information in regard to the following items for the May meeting:

1. Draft detailed parking agreements for a specified period of time for shared parking for My Favorite Mechanic (MFM) and Salon Red (SR);
2. Plans for valet parking with routing shown on site plan;
3. Plans for outdoor seating shown on site plan;
4. Draft agreement to limit hours of operation;
5. Plan to enforce on-site parking restrictions.

The applicant provided the requested documents for the May meeting. Included in the response information was a letter from the owner agreeing to certain stipulations regarding onsite parking enforcement and limitations of the business hours of the restaurant to 4:00pm to 11:00 pm (M-Sat) and 12:00 pm to 11:00pm on Sundays. However the letter included a provision allowing Saturday hours to be expanded to 12:00 pm to 11:00 pm if revenue does not exceed \$1 million after the first full year of operation. Plans for the outdoor seating area in the rear of the restaurant show a seating capacity of 37 in a 566 sq. ft. seating area which is less than 25% of the floor area of the restaurant which triggers additional parking requirements. Detailed parking lease agreements (unsigned) were provided for the 6 spaces at My Favorite Mechanic (MFM) and for 16 spaces at Salon Red (SR). The leased spaces would be used after business hours for My Favorite Mechanic (after 5:00 pm Mon. - Fri. and during lessor's hours on Sat. & Sun.) and for Salon Red Monday after 4:00pm, Tuesday - Sunday 6:00pm until one hour after lessor's closing time. The applicant had also met with Lake Claire Neighbors zoning committee and planned to attend the May Lake Claire Neighbors member meeting as requested by the CPNO Zoning Committee.

After discussion between the committee and the applicant, the committee heard comments from neighbors both opposed and in support of the application as well as a few neighbors still undecided. In general, those supporting the application want to have more options for neighborhood eating and drinking establishments that promote walkability and/or use of other alternate modes of transportation

and those opposing are primarily concerned about congestion and parking impacts on Clifton Rd. and Brooks Ave. Parking and congestion on those streets is currently a problem and the neighbors believe it will get worse with this parking special exception. Prior to the meeting, the Zoning Chair received a petition signed by 14 neighbors on Clifton Rd. recommending denial of the application. In addition, an email letter supporting the application pointing out upcoming city zoning ordinance changes which likely reduce commercial parking requirements was received prior to the meeting. Some of the changes specifically apply to locations within ½ mile or less of high capacity transit as is the case for 1660 Dekalb Ave. A number of additional comments both supporting and opposed were posted on a Nextdoor discussion thread.

After hearing comments from the neighbors and some additional discussion with the applicant, the Committee voted 4 supporting and 0 opposed for the parking special exception with the following conditions:

1. That the provision for expanded Saturday hours if revenue is less than \$1 million after the first year of operation be removed from the owners stipulation letter.
2. That signed lease agreements with MFM (6 spaces) and SR (16 spaces) be provided by the May NPU meeting.
3. That signed valet agreements be provided by the May NPU meeting.
4. That there will be no music for the outdoor seating area and the outdoor seating area will be non-smoking.
5. That 10 spaces for bicycle parking will be provided.
6. That a neighborhood liaison will be designated to handle any concerns from neighbors after the restaurant is open.

Subsequent to the Zoning Committee meeting, the CPNO Board voted to support the application 7 supporting and 1 opposed.

Freedom Park Conservancy-Christina Moore

- Thanks to everyone who participated in Jane's Walk. We had a great time with over 20 walks and more than 200 participants. Special thank to Don Bender and Kelly Jordan for leading a tour of L5P and to Candler Park Conservancy for leading a tour of the Beaver Pond.
- FPC will be holding a monthly volunteer day on the second Saturday of the month starting with June 8th. People are encouraged to RSVP online (it will be posted to our website). Each month we will move around the park and work on a variety of projects like mulching, weeding, invasive removal, and litter pick up.

The Future of the Grady Cluster

By Annsley Klehr, Lake Claire Neighbors Education Chair and Mary Lin Representative to CINS

On April 17, 2019 at Inman Middle School, Atlanta Public School (APS) addressed the Grady Cluster in the State of the Grady Cluster in which, traditionally, Superintendent, Meria Carstarphen, addresses the cluster needs and concerns. However, Carstarphen was not there. Instead, APS Yolanda Brown, K-8 Associate Superintendent for the Grady, Carver, and Washington Clusters, gave a rundown of the events held earlier in the year: Principal's forum, and the data dig.

In advance of the meeting, Council of Intown Neighborhoods and Schools (CINS) sent to APS a list of cluster questions to be addressed. Although the majority of those did NOT get answered, the crowd did ask questions, most of which were school specific and did not address pressing needs and/or concerns of the Grady Cluster. A list of the Cluster questions from CINS:

What are the needs and concerns of the Grady Cluster?

Capacity/Facility Issues

- What is the long-term plan for high school capacity in the Grady cluster? Grady's expected addition will only address current capacity. Has a committee been formed? If so, what is the status of their work? If not, when?
- APS keeps alluding to the need to address capacity issues within the cluster but there is no conversation on the table. How will we accommodate the growing number of students in the cluster without either redistricting or adding high school facilities? When will APS propose a process for holistically addressing capacity issues?
- What are the capacities of surrounding buildings that are not currently being used as academic buildings (Coan, Crim, etc.)? What are the plans for these facilities?
- Centennial Academy is a conversion charter that retains a dedicated attendance zone, by state and local school board policy, but it seems that APS has not yet really decided what this means. This confusion leads to issues. For example, they are often left off of cluster presentations created by APS (the Centennial attendance zone is completely within the Grady school zone). Another example: Centennial faces funding challenges due to the board's decision to not fund more than 800 students even though it has an attendance zone and is required to take any area students even if it pushes it over 800. Is the APS board of education addressing these policy discrepancies?
 - When Howard opens, it will affect two cluster middle schools - Inman and Centennial. Will Centennial have a seat at the table when the redistricting conversations happen?

(This question is to make everyone aware that Centennial is a school with an attendance zone that is contained within the Cluster.)

Equity Task Force

- There is concern about existing and increasing racial and socioeconomic segregation throughout the school district. I am glad APS has created an Equity Task Force, but was hoping to see some mention of segregation as an opportunity barrier. What are the Equity Task Force's recommendations thus far in this regard? How can stakeholders stay up to date and give feedback on APS' Equity initiatives and programs moving forward?

Leadership issues

- Looking towards the future, we know we will someday face a change in leadership. Fulton County just named a new Superintendent and followed a very transparent process. What is APS's process for the identifying a new Superintendent?

- Has a date been set for the special election for Board of Education Seat 2 (Byron's old seat)?

Academic

- We are one of the few clusters that does not have a Spanish-immersion program. Is that something that is on the table or under consideration?

The Past

For years Grady High School parents have worried about the future of Grady High School and the cluster. As those parents are now gone and their children have since graduated, the burden has been left to the next generation of parents. The issues have not changed, but the host of superintendents who have made promises continues to change with no foreseeable plan.

Carstarphen indeed has addressed Grady Cluster's temporary space issues and needs for building updates and improvements, but the Grady Cluster is already at maximum capacity. The renovations and additions do not actually address the capacity issues at Grady or the majority of the elementary schools in the cluster. Howard Middle School will be the only school with extra growing room.

In a Clarion article titled **Recap of Inman Expansion Meeting**, published back in November 2015, Carstarphen detailed the Grady Cluster Expansion and then concluded with an acknowledgement:

"... that the next five-year piece of the plan is still missing, promising to go back and work on it if we were all in support of this plan. She valued audible concerns, still pushing upon the crowd the constraints of time and money.

In her concluding statement she expressed her loyalty to the board and her commitment to APS by saying she is extending her contract for "us to stay together and be judged together. We're okay being held accountable. It's a two-way street."

The Present

According to an email (5/1/19) from Associate Superintendent, Yolanda Brown, explained that back in December of 2017, the Board of Education approved a process to engage the community around long-range planning for the cluster. We are now in Phase III of this process to address rezoning and overcrowding. The Board's wording:

"Beginning in early 2018, the Administration will initiate Phase III of this rezoning, a larger conversation with the Grady Cluster about the need for rezoning in that area and the long-range plan for relieving school overcrowding. The district will work to finalize this plan by March 2020."

Brown spoke at the State of the Cluster about a long-range planning committee. In more detail in an email, she explained that in the spring of 2018, APS began conversations with the Grady Cluster Advisory Team. The Advisory Team wanted to make sure there were more voices at the table, and as a result, the long-range planning committee was created with one teacher, one parent, and the principal from each school in the cluster. Any community member or member of the public is welcome to sit in on these meetings. To date there have been two of these planning meetings so far, one in January (about causes of overcrowding) and one in March (focusing on a Design Thinking Process) of this year. Notes from those meetings can be accessed here: <https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/52695>

Alva Hardy, Facilities Services Executive Director, reported there is an RFP out for a comprehensive facilities assessment, (which happens roughly every five years). This is to assess the conditions and spaces of all APS buildings.

The following is an excerpt from the Request For Proposals (RFP) that was issued by the district (and shared by Brown).

"The Atlanta Board of Education is seeking to optimize the usage and efficiency of all APS facilities. The Atlanta Board of Education would like to establish strategic, system-wide goals as the basis for future construction expenditures and planned facilities improvements. Similarly, there is a need to establish community-wide consensus regarding issues of optimum facility size, use, and operational costs.

In an effort to establish and achieve these goals, the consultant team will work under the direction and supervision of APS' Chief of Operations. Existing data and analysis compiled by APS staff and consultants will be made available to the consultant team and includes the following: demographic analysis of current student populations, inventory data on all APS properties including vacant land, and assessments of approximately 74 instructional facilities. Similarly, APS staff members will serve as a resource by continuing to provide expertise and analysis of facilities issues as needed.

The assessments of 74 instructional facilities mentioned above is a facilities condition assessment update of a similar study performed in 2013 and updated in 2015. A link to the study is: <https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/43927>

The reports are searchable within the high school clusters.

The scope of work outlined in the RFP follows a five-phase planning process that will not exceed eighteen (18) months in duration. The first three (3) phases of the planning process will focus on the preparation of assessments, recommendations and implementation strategies related to school buildings. It is anticipated that this initial focus will take approximately eight (8) months to complete. Subsequently, the latter two (2) phases of the process will focus on assessments and recommendations for all other APS facilities and vacant properties. Implementation priorities, phasing, real estate disposition strategies, financial analysis and final plan recommendations will be developed in detail during this later portion of the planning process.

The results of this effort will be used to plan and inform the next SPLOST cycle Capital Improvement projects and to give guidance for district planning activities in to the near future."

The Future

We must look toward the future, knowing that The Grady Cluster's population is only continuing to grow. We must ask:

- What facilities can support the growth?
- How do we maintain the cluster that we worked hard to keep together and yet still address the growth? Is that possible?
- DeKalb county has a hired position that looks into long-range planning. Is this something that could benefit us?
- What makes the most sense, not for our own child(ren) or our own schools, but for the Grady Cluster at-large?

Special thanks to Associate Superintendent Yolanda Brown and Leslie Grant for helping to provide information for this article.

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May 20 CPNO Members Meeting – draft minutes

These minutes are presented for review. They may be amended before being considered for official adoption at the June CPNO members meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Roger Bakeman, President Pro Tempore.

Motion to adopt the agenda passed.

Motion to approve the April Minutes passed.

Thank you to Corner Tavern for providing dinner.

Guest Speakers:

- Sgt. Jones, Zone 6, Night Watch, emphasized the Clean Car Campaign. Also encouraged people to forward any videos that show reported crimes as this helps the investigators.
- Urban Ecology- postponed until June. There is a meeting June 5 at the New Church on McLendon Avenue regarding the Tree Ordinance.

Financial Update:

Treasurer not present

Discussion/Vote:

- FallFest Budget - Chris Fitzgerald, FallFest Treasurer
Motion to approve the 2019 FallFest Budget passed.
- Zoning - John O'Connell, Architect for the 1660 DeKalb Ave project, explained the Special Exemption Permit. The motion that the CPNO Membership approve and support a motion presented by the CPNO Board as "the Special Exemption Variance for 1660 DeKalb Ave (V-19-31) with conditions set by the Zoning Committee" did not pass.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Submitted by Bonnie Palter, Secretary

May 20, 2019

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Life Changing Magic: How Tidying Up Can Benefit Your Physical Health

By Gail Turner-Cooper, Candler Park Resident and Certified Health Coach

By now, most of us have seen or heard of the hit Netflix show, "Tidying Up," starring Marie Kondo. Kondo's an expert in tidying up, or taking the parts of our homes we've tried to ignore and shining a light on them. With that light, she teaches us to take value in our belongings—whether that means keeping them or thanking them for their purpose before letting them go.

Kondo's not just a neat freak – cleaning your home has myriad benefits for your physical health. When you feel like things are "off" with your health, consider giving your living space a deep clean. Here are just a few ways it could make your body feel better today.

1. Alleviate stress

A cluttered house homes a cluttered mind. By clearing some of your physical junk, you can clear some of that junk inside your brain too. Take an emotional load off with a few loads of laundry.

2. Rid yourself of dust and allergens

Dust allergies are common, and sometimes it

feels inevitable that you'll encounter it. With regular cleaning though, you can keep most of the dust at bay. If your home has accumulated a bit of dust, consider wearing a paper mask over your mouth and nose while you clean too avoid inhaling the allergen.

3. It's a form of exercise!

Cleaning is basically cardio, if you think about it. Getting up and spending two or three hours cleaning will do much more for your physical health than sitting around thinking about cleaning.

4. Your sleep will improve

Having a tidy home is part of healthy sleep hygiene. Because a messy house causes stress, that stress can keep you up at night. Keep your space clean and neat and catch those precious Z's tonight.

Gail Turner-Cooper is a certified health coach and the founder of Align Health Coaching based in Atlanta. You can learn more about her and Align Health at www.alignhealthcoaching.com.



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Schools-Private

McGinnis Woods Country Day School	770-664-7764
Montessori Academy at SS & Vickery	770-205-6277
St. Catherine's of Siena Catholic School	770-419-8601

Siding

Painting Plus - Siding	404-474-3464
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Swimming Pool Equipment & Supplies

Pool Supply Atlanta	678-691-6124
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Tree Service

Green Fern Tree Service	770-881-1712
The Davey Tree Expert Company	770-451-7911

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COMPASS



If the weather is nice, consider taking a bike or scooter to the Candler Park MARTA station. Take Iverson, not McClendon—it's flat, wide, and easy—then turn onto Oakdale for a half-block to the station.



If taking MARTA, when you arrive at the Candler Park Station, walk to the back of the station so that you have a better chance of getting a seat when the train arrives. Avoid the crowds at the Mercedes-Benz stop and get off at Vine City, where there is now a pedestrian bridge that takes you straight to the stadium.



For a pre-game beverage, head to Brewhouse Cafe. From there, you can take MARTA from the Candler Park or Inman Park station. Get your Breeze card in advance so that you don't waste any time at the station.

—Jo Gipson

Candler Park Resident since 1995;
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