

The Inman Park Advocator

Atlanta's Small Town Downtown News



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Lisa Burnette

What's the first thing you think of when you see the word "Volunteer" in the *Advocator*? Inman Park Festival, right? Many think about how they can volunteer for a two hour shift during our once-a-year Festival. But there are plenty more opportunities to contribute in Inman Park, year round.

Look at the long list of chairs and committees on the back of this *Advocator*. Each and every one of these areas is fueled by volunteers, and can always use more.

Beautification and Treewatch Committees organize projects to plant trees and maintain our green space. The Traffic Committee works with the City and other entities to identify problem spots in the neighborhood, and look for funding to fix them. Planning is not just a chair position, but a whole committee of people working on projects that shape the future of our community. We have an opportunity to add another Inman Park voice on the Neighborhood Planning Unit.

The Webmaster is working with a new Information Management Committee to enhance our website in ways to make it more useful. The Porch Party Committee needs new volunteers each and every month to open up their homes and host this fun event.

Even the *Advocator* itself is put together and delivered by a large group of volunteers. And of course, Festival Committee not only needs more than 800 neighbors to put in those valuable shifts the last weekend of April, but also meets each month, nearly year-round, to put in countless hours of planning and organizing.

Many, many, more tasks are being performed that don't get recognized on that back page: a graffiti removal team, an ad hoc committee on our property taxes, not to mention the spontaneous efforts of neighbors pitching in when specific needs arise.

If you are new to the area, volunteering is the absolute best way to get to know your neighbors. Trust me on this. My husband and I showed up at a Festival meeting in a living room our first year here, and have been on that committee ever since.

Take a look at all that goes on in Inman Park and think about whether you have any skills, interest, or time that you can contribute. There are many cogs in this machinery and the whole thing is run by volunteers. So don't wait until April to think about the "V" word. I hope you'll think about getting involved year-round (and, by all means, don't forget to reserve that two-hour Festival shift next spring, too).

COMMITTEE BUDGET REQUESTS DEADLINE

By Lisa Burnette, President

IPNA's fiscal year is from November 1st to October 31st and it is a requirement that all budgets be published twice before being voted upon. So, that means we need to start now. You must be a resident member in good standing (membership dues paid!) to vote on the budget.

Committee Chairs

This will serve as the official notice to all our committee chairs and coordinators. Your budget requests should be submitted to the Board by the July IPNA meeting for discussion at the July 22nd Board meeting. Requests should be in writing and as detailed as possible to provide the rationale for requested funds.

Of course, not everything a committee asks for will necessarily be granted, but the more detailed a committee is in its request, the more the Board and the general membership will be able to judge the correct allocations of funds when it comes time to vote on our budget.

IPNA Members

As concerned members of IPNA, please make sure that you let the Committee chairs know what you would like done over the coming fiscal year. The names and contact information for the Chairs and Coordinators are on the back page of the *Advocator*. The membership should also be thinking of probable ad hoc or project type committees that might be formed over the next year. Would any funding be needed for those?

Non-Members

Individuals may also submit written requests to ask for a budget line to be established for funding certain projects. To be considered, such requests should show an immediate and direct benefit to the neighborhood.

Please send budget requests to:

Megan & Trevor Wilson

Co-Treasurers of IPNA

wilson.meganleigh@gmail.com

THE PRICE OF WATER

*By Jennifer Carlile, Assistant Manager of Public Relations,
Department of Watershed Management*

Clean water is a necessity that many of us take for granted. Although it would be inconvenient, we could theoretically do without electricity and gasoline. Water, however, is a requirement for life, which might account for the notion that water should be “free”.

Water is a product of nature, but the water treatment process is an expensive human endeavor that requires capital, infrastructure and expertise. For years, U.S. consumers have enjoyed artificially low water rates – rates that did not accurately reflect the cost of treating water.

According to www.peopleandplanet.net, the price of water is increasing worldwide. In a 2007 article on that website, **Edwin Clark** noted that, “Over the past five years, municipal water rates have increased by an average of 27 percent in the United States, 32 percent in the United Kingdom, 45 percent in Australia, 50 percent in South Africa and 58 percent in Canada.”

Clark points to three factors that affect the cost of water: demand, the cost of transporting water to users, and price subsidies. In developed countries, treatment costs also drive up the cost of water. Infrastructure maintenance and replacement is a significant cost driver, especially for older cities like Atlanta. According to the American Water Works Association (AWWA), most of the water pipes in the United States were installed in the early to mid-1900s. Pipes generally have a lifespan of 50 years.

In the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA) document, “Water and Wastewater Rates and Rate Structures in Georgia, 2007,” the authors emphasize that rate structures vary from municipality to municipality because they depend upon factors such as size of treatment plants, age of assets, type of water supply, and customer base. The same document warns that “even when a utility customer base does not grow, operating costs rise every year”. Many municipal governments do not pass along the actual cost of treating water to customers; in other words, they subsidize the cost.

Water rates across the nation are beginning to reflect the true cost of clean water. These costs include the cost of treating the water for potable use, collecting and treating the wastewater for return to the river or source, infrastructure maintenance, staffing, and other costs associated with a 24-hour operation. According to GEFA, “pressure to maintain low or relatively low [water and sewer] rates forces many utilities to avoid making necessary operational and capital expenditures”.

In 1998, following a law suit for violation of the Clean Water Act, Atlanta was forced into action after years of neglect, and began a nearly \$4 billion dollar overhaul of its combined and sanitary sewer systems and other water infrastructure. Atlanta must complete the repairs and upgrades to its sewage collection systems by 2014, according to the terms of a federal Consent Decree.

To date, the City of Atlanta’s Department of Watershed Management has:

- Constructed the Nancy Creek Tunnel, which has reduced sanitary sewer overflows by 60 percent;
- Inspected more than 1,000 miles of sewer pipe and cleaned more than 250 miles of sewer lines, resulting in fewer pipe collapses, sinkholes and backups;
- Acquired more than 1,800 acres of greenways to protect 24 miles of streambanks;
- Completed sewer separation projects in three Atlanta communities, resulting in additional sewer capacity while reducing combined sewer overflows; and,
- Replaced water mains in several Atlanta communities.

Despite ongoing efforts to secure funding assistance from state and federal agencies, Atlanta’s customers are footing most of the cost of the Clean Water Atlanta Program through higher water and sewer fees. On July 1st, the second four-year rate increase took effect, pushing Atlanta’s rates among the highest in the nation.

The days of inexpensive water are behind us. Meeting the growing demand for clean, safe drinking water will require sophisticated treatment systems and, better asset management – with scheduled infrastructure maintenance and replacement, a qualified workforce, and a little ingenuity. And, it will require a new understanding about the true cost of the most precious and life-sustaining resource on the planet – *water*.

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 18th, 2008 IPNA MEETING

By Stephanie McCaa, Secretary

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF NEWCOMERS

Lisa Burnette welcomed everyone. She asked everyone to continue the tradition set by past president **Anda Olsen** to reach out to neighbors. She asked for newcomers to introduce themselves and the following did: **Daniel Carr** and **Wendy Patton** on Lake Ave.; **Alan Lindsay** and **Amy Buchanan** on Inman Village Parkway (they are not new to the neighborhood but it was their first meeting); and **Craig Eister** and **Doug Vanorsdall** on Druid Circle.

Tom Holder introduced **Judge Jackson Bedford** early on the agenda because he had another commitment. Judge Bedford was the judge who made the bond decision on the **Terry Williams** murder case. He was asked to come to the IPNA meeting to discuss the decision-making process. He is also running for re-election which will be held in November. Tom pointed out that the judge has been very active in the Atlanta Bar Foundation and as a “Secret Santa” spearheading donations to many Atlanta charities.

Judge Bedford explained that getting information on judicial decisions through media sound bites is a disservice. What he does is try to be fair and compassionate but tough; he is not a “let ‘em go” judge. He has had four death threats and round-the-clock protection because of his decisions. The justice system is about creating an impartial tribunal so the jury and/or judge can make the best decision possible. No one wants to convict on wrong information. He understands that Terry Williams was a friend and is sympathetic. However, he is bound by the Constitution to grant bail if the case calls for it. He reviews a case based on four criteria:

1. Is there a flight risk?
2. Is there a risk they will commit further crimes?
3. Is there a risk to the community?
4. Is there a risk to witnesses?

If the answer to those questions is no, then he is bound to grant bail. In the **Cory Williams**' case, the judge was given the information that he had no prior convictions and had a family. He set the bail at \$92,000 – the second highest he had ever set. Judge Bedford does not believe in setting bail for people if they have a dangerous history. When he found out Cory Williams had a violent juvenile record, the judge revoked his bail.

Oreon Mann asked if it would have helped if a larger number of people had attended the bond hearing. Judge Bedford said sometimes it helps; however, in this case it appeared the defendant did not have a record.

Richard Shapiro asked why Cory Williams was allowed to move in with his father who had to lock up his son's four guns. Judge Bedford answered that sometimes that is the best they can do because there is nowhere else to send a defendant. **Dennis Mobley** asked if there was a way to make it easier to know the time of the bond hearing instead of having to take the day off. Judge Bedford explained how hectic and unpredictable the court system is and said it was impossible to gauge the exact time of a hearing.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

A motion to accept the minutes from last month's meeting was made, seconded, and carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Kristine Sandage** shared the news that **Dennis Mullen**, a police officer who has worked Festival security for 20+ years and was instrumental in putting the security plans together, had open-heart surgery on May 28th. He is in critical condition. IPNA has been in communication with his wife through Kristine and **Lisa Burnette**. IPNA decided to use funds from the budget for a gift card for his family. Lisa thanked Kristine for her involvement.
2. **Cathy Bradshaw** announced that she and **Bo Bradshaw, Judy Clements, Pat and Wayne Smith, Gretchen and Bruce Maclachlan, and Ruth and Al Caproni** will be hosting a party for **Jim Martin**, Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate, on Wednesday, June 25th, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., at the Ma-clachlan house, 226 Elizabeth St. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by calling 404-347-9766 or e-mail to Walton@martinforsenate.com.
3. **Oreon Mann** announced this month's Book Club. The book is *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by **Khaled Hosseini**, author of *The Kite Runner*. The Book Club will meet Wednesday, June 25th at 7:00 p.m. at **Jan Keith's** house, 889 Edgewood Ave. Bring a covered dish.
4. **Sarah Doyle** announced her candidacy for the Georgia Court of Appeals. She is a long-time resident of Inman Park. More information on her campaign will be forthcoming.
5. **Danny Feig-Sandoval** said he did not have the check but he thinks the Festival numbers will be close to \$95,000. This news met with a round of applause. Danny then asked people to start thinking about volunteering for staff positions for Festival 2009.
6. **Dennis Mobley** announced that he believes an Inman Park Village retailer, X3 Sports, is trying to drum up interest for a mini-festival in September. He's not sure of the details but wanted to put it out on the radar screen. He thinks it's supposed to benefit the fund to fight ovarian cancer. They want to close part of North Highland Ave. for the festival.
7. **Brett Lauter** announced he is taking over responsibility for the upkeep of Springvale Park. He thanked **Frank Schultz** for all his hard work. Brett formed a committee and clean-up started last week. He is interested in getting more lighting, fixing the sidewalks, and cleaning up both sides so it does not invite derelicts. His name and phone will be on the back page of the next *Advocator* if you want to join them.

POLICE OFFICERS' REPORTS

Investigator Peek reported they have seen crime involving people breaking down doors and windows and grabbing things they can see such as purses, iPods etc. Inman Park has had this same problem. The hot item now is flat-screen televisions. These thieves can enter a building, steal the TV and exit in 1 ½ minutes. If you have a flat-screen TV that is visible through a window, please close the curtain, especially at night when it can be easily seen. Also, keep your valuables away from any door or window (i.e. put your purse in a drawer, cabinet, or your bedroom).

As **Major Propes** could not attend, **Sergeant Joe** reported on her behalf. The problem with kids at the Inman Park Pool at 2:00 a.m. has been taken care of. The beat officer and patrol are aware of the situation. Noise violations have also been addressed by the license and ordinances department. **John Spurman**, a career auto theft criminal, violated his probation so he will be in jail "a good while". Crime is up in East Atlanta especially with robbery-kidnappings. People were kidnapped, driven to ATMs and made to take out money. No one has been injured but please be aware of your surroundings. When you go out late at night: stay in well-lit areas, carry a cell phone, and use common sense.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORTS

1. a. **Jay Tribby**, chief of staff for **Kwanza Hall**, discussed the City budget and said the council is two weeks away from finalizing it. His phone number is 404-330-6038 and e-mail is khall@atlanta-ga.gov. The final set of public hearings is tonight. The mayor is steadfast in not touching the public safety money. During the last month there have been several small pieces of legislation passed that have given the council more of an oversight over the executive branch. This ensures more accountability measures will be in place. Jay anticipates a lot more of this type of legislation to come. The IPNA Board and other neighborhood boards are arranging a meeting with Kwanza to discuss millage rates and various other matters.
- b. Jay also mentioned traffic calming, specifically on North Highland Ave. The City did a study in March and does not think there is enough consistent traffic to address this street now. Jay suggests that we put together some suggestions. **Dennis Mobley** wants to get **Tamara Jones** involved again. He said simple suggestions, such as traffic lights and stop signs, had been made earlier. Jay said he'd be happy to see Tamara involved. Jay also mentioned that there will be some education for the businesses on North Highland Ave. regarding off-street parking. He said there are retailers who will not pay for off-street parking. Jay believes there is a need for education in how mixed-use developments work. **Brett Lauter** said the City did a study for Edgewood Ave., Lake Ave., and North Highland Ave. over a year ago and he still has not heard the results. Jay said he will follow up on this. **Lisa Burnette** said IPNA will also take this issue up.

There was discussion about the need for signs on North Highland Ave. showing where the designated off-street parking lots are. Jay will look into it and perhaps it will become part of the education for the businesses.
- c. Jay received a notice about the X3 Sports festival and confirmed that no formal application has been submitted.

- d. The issue of a cell tower has risen again and his office is working with **Lisa Burnette** and **Chuck Clarke** on this matter. They believe the person they had been working with at City Hall had their position downsized.
 - e. Jay said the request to reduce the speed on Lake Ave. from 35 to 30 m.p.h. has been approved.
 - f. **Sandy Hoke** pointed out that westbound on Edgewood Ave. at the Boulevard intersection, someone is almost always parked in the bike lane which disrupts cyclists and cars. Jay will follow up on this.
2. **Midge Sweet** reported she was representing **Senator Nan Orrock**. Senator Orrock will be participating in a United Nations seminar on women's issues. She is happy about the solar and wind energy initiatives but disappointed in the governor's recent gun laws. You can find out more at campaign@nanorrock.com. **Lisa Burnette** pointed out that there is information about absentee ballots on Pg. 19 of the [June] *Advocator*.
 3. **Will Sellers** spoke on behalf of **Councilman Willis**. The councilman is very concerned about tax increases and is looking at creative ways to generate revenue. One way is through bio-fuel which uses grease from restaurants to run City fleets, etc. He is also very concerned about pensions for City employees. The City had been responsible for 75% but it has increased to 100%. If you have any questions, please call 404-330-6041.

IPNA OFFICERS' REPORTS

PRESIDENT: Lisa Burnette

Nothing to report.

PUBLIC SAFETY: V.P. Bill Hagan

The cyclone fence owned by CSX on DeKalb Ave. will soon be gone thanks to the efforts of **Jay Tribby** and **Amy Higgins**. IPNA received the first payment (\$2,500 per month) from Inman Park Village which will pay for their Security Patrol. A small section of the Old Fourth Ward also brings us a healthy check. Please see **Kris Dwyer's** article in the *Advocator* (Pg. 16) which clearly explains the crime report which **Richard Shapiro** puts together so well on the Yahoo! Group. You will notice most crimes are crimes of opportunity. **Bill** again asked that people put their trash cans/ Herbie Curbies out on the morning of trash pick-up if you can. Putting them out the night before just encourages vandals to go through the cans.

SECRETARY: Stephanie McCaa

Stephanie thanked **John Kress**, **Caro-lyn McLaughlin**, and **Marge Hays** for volunteering to put up yard signs announcing the IPNA neighborhood meeting each month. Thanks were also given to the many others on the Yahoo! Group who volunteered after the placing of the signs was assigned. 2007-2008 directories are in a box on her front porch, 156 Waverly Way, if anyone wants one. The all NEW 2008-2009 directories will be ready for distribution in two weeks and will also be in boxes on her front porch for pick-up.

CO-TREASURERS: Megan and Trevor Wilson

1. **Megan** and **Trevor** were on vacation so **Lisa Burnette** spoke on their behalf. She asked for a vote of approval for \$6,000+ for legal fees regarding the Gunby Street issues. The expenditure had been authorized but we need a neighborhood vote since the amount is over \$1,000. A motion was made, seconded, and approved.
2. **Jonathan Miller** asked for \$200 to be used to help sponsor a poster design contest at the Savannah College of Art and Design. The poster is for the "Districts Group", an ad hoc group of representatives of Atlanta's landmark, historic, and conservation districts of which Jonathan is a member. The goal of the group has been education and this poster will show all landmark districts and neighborhoods. The basic funds will come from the historic preservation budget. A motion was made, seconded, and approved.

PLANNING: V.P. Bill Goodman

Bill was not present but he is putting together a Planning Committee. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact him or **Lisa Burnette** for more information.

ZONING: V.P. Drew Evans

1. **Drew** introduced **Molly Gunn** and **Nick Rutherford** who discussed their plans to open a restaurant called "Porter" in the former Bridgetown Grille/ Grandma Luke's Bakery and Café location. The couple have lived in Inman Park for two years, are long-time residents of Atlanta and have worked in many of the city's finest restaurants. The restaurant will feature a beer bar with 20 on tap and 100 in bottles but the main focus is great food. Nick will be the chef (he is currently chef at The Chocolate Bar in Decatur). They plan to open early September and have applied for their building permit. They will close Mon-Wed at 10:30 p.m. and Thurs-Sat at 2:30 a.m. They will serve brunch on the weekend. Their main focus is 80% food revenue. **Sandy Hoke** asked if they think their revenue will be 80% food after midnight and Molly said they hope to attract other restaurant employees who are looking for a place to dine after their shift is over. Molly said if it ends up being mostly alcohol revenue late at night they will change their hours, because it will be a restaurant not a bar. They have five designated parking spaces behind the restaurant and share communal parking and street parking. **Dennis Mobley** made the motion to support their liquor license application. The motion was seconded and approved.
2. **David Green** presented a Candler Park project for the church at 1240 Euclid Avenue (behind the Star Bar). His firm is transforming the church into lofts and town homes. They have saved the vast majority of trees and kept the same population density as the rest of the street. They worked with Candler Park's neighborhood association for eight months to ensure a seamless development and received unanimous neighborhood approval. For more information, go to the Candler Park website at cpno.org or e-mail David at dgreen@lasarchitect.com.

This was presented to the IPNA as an FYI since it's in Candler Park.

3. **Jonathan Miller** announced:
 - a. The upcoming quarterly Beltline meeting will be on Thursday, July 10th, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at APS Auditorium, 130 Trinity Ave.
 - b. According to the AJC, Studioplex will be adding 9,000+ square feet of retail space called The Pavilion. **Scott Serpas**, formerly of Two Urban Licks, plans to open his first restaurant, Serpas, later this year.
 - c. The City will be hosting several public meetings regarding transportation. The next one is July 1st, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 435 Peachtree Street. The Atlanta Urban Design Awards were held June 17th, led by **Regina Brewer**. There were no projects in Inman Park. If you are interested, the application for the awards next year is due in April, 2009.
 - d. The next NPU meeting is June 26th at the Little Five Points Community Center. The only thing that affects Inman Park is 1240

Euclid Ave. Jonathan also announced that he will be chair of NPU. The Chair does not have to be a representative. Therefore, if IPNA were to choose someone else, the neighborhood would effectively have more than one representative. If you are interested in that position, please contact Jonathan.

- e. **Craig Eister** asked about the church and parking lot at Euclid and Druid Circle. Jonathan explained it has been re-zoned and the design has been approved. He does not know if the construction has been held up because of permit problems or the economy.
- f. Jonathan asked everyone to vote to reaffirm the NPU By-laws by signing in and marking a ballot or voting next week at the NPU meeting. There are no changes to the By-laws.
- g. Another question was raised regarding the building near the Sherwin-Williams store on Moreland Ave. Jonathan explained that someone applied for a restaurant liquor license but then withdrew the application before it was approved.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION: V.P. Chuck Clarke

Chuck said he would discuss the cell tower issue during the Old Business part of the agenda.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Danny Feig-Sandoval**. Traffic. The City will sign a contract with a company to do traffic calming and then put the projects out for bid. Lake Ave. will be one of the focus areas.
2. **Dennis Mobley**. **Dennis** is the chair of the recently formed ad hoc IPNA Information Management Committee. Other members include **Tom Baldwin**, **Yvonne Merkel**, **Jonathan Miller**, **Doug McLaughlin**, **Danielle Neely**, **Betty Ridderhoff**, **Kristine Sandage**, and **Steve Stern**. The purpose is to find a better way for the neighborhood to access the information it needs to know. One focus is the ability to access your security account and make on-line payments. If you are interested in joining the committee, let Dennis know. **Lisa Burnette** said she would like the website to be more dynamic. Dennis said one of the first priorities will be to create secure user I.D.'s and passwords.

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

New Business:

Judy Clements announced she has formed an informal committee to address tax increases. They are holding ad hoc meetings and they have included **Lisa Burnette**. They will meet with City Council representatives next week. The Committee is focused on ideas to reduce expenses and enhance review. If you have any suggestions, please let Judy, **Regina Brewer** or **Al Caproni** know (contact information for each of them is in the directory). She said the county voted not to raise the millage rate. The school board is asking for a 14% millage increase. The City has not voted on this matter yet. Judy said the Committee was formed very late in the process for this year, however, it will set the stage for on-going involvement in these issues. Lisa Burnette said she appreciates all the work the committee has done and will try to get everyone the names of who to contact in the the city and county regarding this issue. Cathy Bradshaw encouraged everyone to attend a hearing or contact the representatives because they need to hear from us.

Old business:

Chuck Clarke discussed the proposal for a T-Mobile cell tower at the City of Atlanta Bass Fields Recreation Site at 326 Moreland Ave. This is approximately a 100-foot tower behind the BP Station. IPNA was notified of this proposal through a consultant who wanted IPNA to agree to the tower. This consultant determined that the proposed cell tower would provide an adverse affect to our historic neighborhood. T-Mobile's offer of mitigation for the adverse affect is to provide an "Historical Narrative of Little 5 Points". **Richard Shapiro** pointed out that this impacts the existing proposal for a parking deck because the tower would be right in the middle of the Moreland Ave. access to the deck. Discussion continued as to the legality of this lease proposal. It was suggested that **Bill Goodman** be involved since he was involved in Bass Fields. **Jay Tribby** said he is surprised at this news because he thought they had stopped the proposal and will look into it first thing tomorrow morning. A motion was made to immediately write a letter to **Mayor Shirley Franklin** and the City Council, copying all other relevant agencies, to share our very strong opinion that we oppose this tower on every front. **Lisa Burnette** will see if we have some funds we could set aside for attorney fees for Bass Fields regarding this issue. The motion was seconded and approved.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

The next IPNA meeting is July 16th at 7:30 p.m. A motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

Lisa adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

NPU-N UPDATE – JULY 2008

By Jonathan R. Miller, Chair of and IPNA's Representative to NPU-N

Fantastic news! NPU-N's By-laws were re-affirmed by a wide margin! The vote was approximately 68 to 9 with 5 abstentions. (What? You say you are not overwhelmed with joy! Shame on you-this is democracy in action!) This was so much better than years past when there was only once chance to vote and that was on a Saturday morning at the L5P Community Center. Last year the poll watchers outnumbered the voters! So everyone (except me) is safe for another year. On planning and licensing issues, your job is to watch for notices, attend immediate neighbors meetings and vote at IPNA meetings. I will take your vote to NPU-N meetings and report back. Simple.

Except that nothing is ever simple. As you may know (or could tell from the by-line), I was elected to fill the remainder of this year's term of Chair of NPU-N. I will continue as IPNA's representative, but it is time to think seriously about an alternate representative to help out. I only had the barest inkling of how many e-mails an NPU Chair gets, so I will need some help keeping track of Inman Park issues. And thanks again for your support.

P.S. Take a look at the table below. A number of items were new last month and have already been approved by City Council. See how a little budget problem can light a fire under your government.

ORDINANCE NO. (ZRB NO.)	DESCRIPTION	COMM. *	STATUS (AS OF JULY 1, 2008)
06-O-2697 (Z-06-144)	Affordable Housing ordinance.	ZN	Held in Committee.
07-O-0078	Allow License Review Board to not meet in December.	PS	Revised by C.C. in Jan 2007; held in committee; sent back to NPUs.
07-O-0611 (Z-07-52)	Limit the height of retaining walls.	ZN	Pending before ZRB.
07-O-0621 (Z-07-54)	Create Code Section 16-28.023(a) titled Transfer of Development Rights in the BeltLine Planning Area.	ZN	Pending before ZRB (may have to be re-written).
07-O-1087	Water and Wastewater City Service Credit Card, On-line Payment, Electronic Check User Convenience Fee {\$4.50 per use}.	FE	Held in Committee for comment from Finance Dep't (<i>probably moot because fee tacked onto a recently-enacted ordinance – see 08-O-0744</i>).
07-O-1521	Outdoor dining areas regulations.	UT	Held in committee.
07-O-1522	Revise dog restraint requirements.	PS	Held 7/31/07 at the request of the author for further review.
07-O-1795	Regulate the transportation of hazardous materials through the City.	PS	Held in Committee.
07-O-2418	Establish procedures for the permitting and regulations of Valet Parking Services.	TR	Held in committee (public hearing-1/30/08; work sessions held).
08-O-0196 (Z-08-010)	Regulations re: appearance of public decks.	ZN	Pending before ZRB.
08-O-0744	Set water rates and add \$4.50 fee for convenience payments.	UT	<i>Adopted by C.C. on 19th June.</i>
08-O-0870	2009 Budget.	FE	<i>Adopted by C.C. on 26th June.</i>
08-O-0871	Increase fees for installation by the City of sidewalks.	UT	<i>Adopted by C.C. on 16th June.</i>
08-O-0872	Increase fees and require annual renewal for residential parking permits.	TR	<i>Adopted by C.C. on 16th June.</i>
08-O-0873	Establish fees for use of City parks.	CD	<i>Adopted by C.C. on 19th June.</i>
08-O-0874	Add fees for subdivisions and replatting lots.	CD	<i>Adopted by C.C. on 16th June.</i>
08-O-0875	Raise building permit fees.	CD	<i>Adopted by C.C. on 16th June.</i>
08-O-0876	Increase fees for maps and planning documents.	CD	<i>Adopted by C.C. on 19th June.</i>
08-O-0877	Increase/add fees for use of city parks and recreation centers.	CD	Held in committee (public hearing held; 2nd hearing on 12 th June; 3rd hearing on 1 st July).
08-O-0880	Increase permit fees for contractors installing water/sewer lines and meters.	UT	<i>Adopted by C.C. on 16th June.</i>
08-O-0881	Reinstate regulations and increase fees for permits to block streets/sidewalks during construction activities.	UT	<i>Adopted by C.C. on 16th June.</i>
08-O-0883	Increase permit fees for contractors installing sidewalks, driveway aprons, curbs, and gutters.	UT	<i>Adopted by C.C. on 16th June.</i>
08-O-1001	Establish fees for UDC applications.	CD	<i>Adopted by C.C. on 16th June.</i>

* City Council Committee code:

CC=Committee on Council CD=Community Development/Human Resources FE=Finance/Executive PS=Public Safety & Legal TR=Transportation
 UT=Utilities ZN=Zoning *italics: newly-listed or revised since last month*

INMAN PARK CRIME BULLETIN FOR JUNE 2008

By Greg Scott

Below is a summary of June's criminal activity in our neighborhood. If you are thinking of moving to Inman Park and are reading this report, don't despair... we are an active and pro-active neighborhood and a wonderful place to live. We take our safety seriously and work in partnership with neighbors and the police to keep our neighborhood safe. If you already live here, be aware and use this information to change your behavior so we can all be safe.

We are still seeing a disturbing number of thefts from autos that could have been prevented. I have been given a difficult task in following **Kris Dwyer's** beautifully written "Thank you note from a criminal" in last month's *Advocator*, and I will not even try. But the sentiment of my simple missive remains the same – **STOP LEAVING ITEMS IN YOUR CAR!** Tell your friends, neighbors, visitors, construction workers, people you see on the street... scream it from the rooftops if you have to! The bottom line is that if a thief thinks there is something in your car worth stealing, they'll smash your window. Unfortunately, these days pretty much anything is worth stealing to the average street criminal, so let's stop tempting them.

If it isn't permanently attached to the car, take it inside, or at least put it in the trunk, and tell your friends and visitors to do the same. Laptops, GPS systems, and Ipods are fetching a relatively pretty penny at the crack market, where they can be converted to a rock in mere seconds, with your personal information, inability to read a map, and questionable music taste ending up at the disposal of a number of criminal elements.

We also had a disturbing assault/ attempted armed robbery take place just across Moreland Ave. in Candler Park. Luckily, the suspects were scared off by a baseball bat wielding boyfriend, but it just serves as a warning to be aware of your surroundings at all times and report any and all suspicious activity to 911.

DATE	TIME	CRIME	BLOCK LOCATION	NOTEWORTHY
5/24-6/1	1 week period	Burglary	400 Block Seminole Ave.	Front door window smashed, entry made. Checkbook taken. Suspect is W/M, 6', named "Jimbo".
5/25	12:00 a.m.	Assault	400 Block Seminole Ave.	Suspect entered a party uninvited. He struck several people with a shovel and announced that "what they did to him was wrong". He was arrested, which was not wrong.
5/29	8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.	Theft from Auto	Delta Place	Checkbook and parking permit taken from an unsecured vehicle.
6/3	7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.	Theft from Auto	1100 Block Austin Ave.	Passenger window smashed. Cell phone, iPod, credit cards, and driver's license taken.
6/3	Overnight	Theft from Auto	800 Block Edgewood Ave.	Passenger window smashed. Glove box rummaged through. Nothing taken.
6/4	9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	Theft	700 Block W. Ashland Ave.	Bike taken from outside house.
6/5	Overnight	Theft from Auto	1000 Block Austin Ave.	Passenger window smashed with rock. GPS, wallet, SS card, and vehicle paperwork were taken.
6/5	7:30 a.m.	Burglary	1000 Block Euclid Ave.	Victim was sitting in living room when suspect attempted to kick in front door. Suspect was arrested. Nothing taken.
6/7	10:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	Auto Theft	100 Block Hurt St.	Victim left keys in the ignition and saw suspect drive off.
6/7-6/8	1 day period	Theft from Auto	1000 Block Washita Ave.	Rear passenger window smashed. Baby clothing taken. Steering column damaged.
6/7	Overnight	Theft from Auto	1100 Block Alta Ave.	Passenger window smashed. Nothing taken.
6/8	Overnight	Theft from Auto	500 Block Seminole Ave.	Driver's window smashed. Laptop taken.
6/8	2:30 a.m.-5:00 a.m.	Theft from Auto	400 Block Sinclair Ave.	Victim found suspect sleeping inside car. He had entered via a smashed passenger side window. Suspect left with note cards.
6/9	11:00 p.m.	Robbery	100 Block Hurt St.	Suspect came to victim's apartment presumably to buy an iPod victim had for sale on Craigslist. Suspect held a gun to victim's Chihuahua and left apartment with dog.
6/9	Overnight	Theft from Auto	400 Block Seminole Ave.	Rear passenger window smashed. Stereo and glasses stolen.
6/10	2:30 p.m.	Assault	600 Block Moreland Ave.	Victim was walking north on Moreland Ave. when two W/M jumped out from behind a car and sprayed him with pepper spray. Suspects then jumped into a dark colored Chevy SUV and fled.
6/10	4:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m.	Auto Theft	1100 Block Alta Ave.	Vehicle stolen from parking lot.
6/10	Overnight	Theft from Auto	500 Block Seminole Ave.	Rear passenger window smashed. Stereo stolen.
6/10	2:30 a.m. - 3:30 a.m.	Theft from Auto	400 Block Sinclair Ave.	In-dash stereo and laptop stolen from car that had a window smashed two days before.
6/10	Overnight	Theft from Auto	800 Block Dixie Ave.	Rear cargo door of vehicle found open. iPod, sunglasses, phone charger, tools, and air compressor taken. No signs of forced entry.
6/11	Overnight	Theft from Auto	900 Block Waverly Way	Passenger window smashed and vehicle paperwork taken.
6/12	Overnight	Theft from Auto	700 Block Lake Ave.	Passenger window smashed. Cell phone, passport, mp3 player, and glasses taken.
6/13	Overnight	Theft from Auto	800 Block Lake Ave.	Passenger window smashed. Two pairs of glasses taken..
6/13 - 6/16	3 day time period	Burglary	1000 Block Edgewood Ave.	Trailer at school broken into. CD player and lab dissection kit stolen.
6/14-6/21	1 week period	Theft from Auto	100 Block Montag Circle	Motorcycle license plate stolen.
6/15	5:35 a.m.	Robbery	400 Block	Victim was standing near a bus stop when suspect approached

			Seminole Ave.	him and asked for money. Victim stated he had no money, so suspect took his cell phone and vehicle keys.
6/15-6/21	6 day period	Theft from Auto	100 Block Hurt St.	Vehicle entered. iPod adapter stolen.
6/16	Overnight	Theft from Auto	400 Block N. Highland Ave.	Passenger window smashed . Laptop taken.
6/17	Overnight	Theft from Auto	1000 Block Euclid Ave.	Passenger window smashed. In-dash stereo taken.
6/18	Overnight	Theft from Auto	400 Block N. Highland Ave.	Passenger window smashed. Book bag and clothing taken.

To receive more in-depth crime reports for the whole of Zone 6, subscribe to the Inman Park Yahoo! Group or the inmanpark.org mailing list:
-To subscribe to the Yahoo! Group, go to www.yahoo.com, click on "Groups" and type "inmanparkga" in the "search" groups box. After you click on the group URL just click on "join this group" and follow the instructions.
-To subscribe to the inmanpark.org mailing list, go to www.ina.m.npark.org and click on "Subscribe" . Fill out the form and click on "subscribe."

INMAN PARK SECURITY – DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES UPDATE

By Bob Sandage

I am writing to let you know of recent and exciting developments in the Inman Park Security Patrol.

During this next month, all resident members of the Security Patrol (Bronze, Silver, or Gold level) will begin receiving membership cards. These membership cards can be used at local area businesses to receive certain benefits. Our first flagship member of the Security Patrol on the business side is Shaun's Restaurant. They are offering one free dessert per party with entree purchase to members of the Inman Park Security Patrol. If you wish to take advantage of this offer before receiving your membership card, present your ID and Shaun's will have a current directory of members to verify your security patrol membership.

We are looking for more business members of the Security Patrol who are willing to offer specials to resident members. If you are interested, or know of anyone, please pass along this information.

A current list of participating businesses can be found on the Files section of the Inman Park Yahoo Group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/inmanparkga>) and is called Security Patrol Participating Businesses.pdf. Check back regularly, as this

list will be growing quickly! If you are not a member of the Yahoo Group, you can contact me for the most current list.

The Inman Park Security Patrol is also scheduling a Trolley Barn gathering to be held directly after a [brief] September IPNA meeting. "The Safety Dance" will be open only to Security Patrol members. Please plan to attend and meet your fellow neighbors!

If you have any comments or questions I can be reached at:

bobsandage@yahoo.com
or call: 678-523-5214.

Thanks for your support.

“ON FLAGS & MUD PADDLING”

By Bill Hagan, V.P. Public Safety

As always, skip to the "meat" if you wish, and just go to the (significant) **Security Patrol News**, below.

But, again, as always, I cannot resist an "intro."

I'm an unabashed flag-waver, but not the sort the term usually means. Noticing neighbors (as distinguished from "nosy neighbors") frequently see all sorts of flags flying at our home and its GarageMahalo at Edgewood and Spruce. I have quite a collection; **Kathi** just rolls her eyes when I order a new one. My latest acquisition is that of the Isle of Man, which I fly during the great TT (ask **Bo Bradshaw**). And, anytime we have company, I haul out (or overnight from a flag store!) the right state or national flag. Anyway, by the time you read this, our Independence Day will be weeks behind, but one of my favorite holidays, Bastille Day, just a few days past. It allows me to annoy my German mother and tease our great neighbor, **Dirk Botterbusch**, by flying the *drapeau français*.

Well, I mention that because—aside from looking forward to a nice little Margaux to salute republican France—I serendipitously looked up "security patrol" and found that both words are of French origin. I was especially taken to learn that "patrol" originated as an alteration of Old French *patouiller*, "to paddle about in mud." Might be true of the infantry, but that's not as apt in Inman Park. Yeah, I'm easily amused.

But, I have some real news on our Security Patrol. No, nothing about flag-waving or paddling in the mud, nor is this just another plea for joining or renewing your membership . . . but, as long as I said that, have you? No, this is real news about significant developments.

Security Patrol News. The bottom-line-up-front is that we have had an almost complete changeover in personnel and operations, starting at the top. No, I did not resign, though I tried! But, after many months of observation and consideration, it became clear that we should move from "mere" patrolling to a true community-policing operation. To do so required a fresh start.

Nothing about the above should be taken as unhappiness with **Inv. Carlo Peek** and his patrol officers. We all got our money's worth and more during this past year. Indeed, as I told **Inv. Peek** when we discussed the changeover, he has done Inman Park inestimable service and we will always be grateful to him as our first "chief." **Carlo** asked me to convey to you that "Anything I can ever do for Inman Park from a personal or professional side I will. The residents that have continued to support the patrol have been there during some tough times, and I thank them." I intend to make a presentation to **Carlo** on our behalf sometime soon.

On 1 July 2008, however, we officially began the “new & improved” Inman Park Security Patrol, under the leadership of a trained, experienced, and ready APD police supervisor, **Sgt. Brent Schierbaum**. Even before this official announcement, some of you (the observant kind of people who wonder why the Baden-Wurttemberg or RSA flag is flying at the GarageMahalo today!) have already noticed and remarked to me about the palpable change in patrol performance. I expect to hear from others soon, but really want you to tell the patrol officers, not me.

I will not use this space to detail the changes now, but the thrust will be, as **Sgt. Schierbaum** puts it, “a force that recruits and trains professional and committed police officers who demonstrate an understanding of the ‘community policing’ concept, and that ensures that all Security Patrol officers maintain a level of professionalism and a commitment to the Inman Park Community that enhances the safety and well being of Inman Park.”

Here are a few examples (and the actual list is quite lengthy) of what **Sgt. Schierbaum** and his team intend to do:

- Park and walk in the areas surrounding businesses
- Park and walk in the parks contained within Inman Park
- Drop-ins at businesses located within Inman Park
- Follow ups with known crime victims
- Well-being checks on known elderly/special-needs residents
- Crime prevention tips
- Association member contacts
- Officer-initiated interaction with citizens observed in yards, walking in neighborhood, etc
- Analyze at least twice a week the crime trends occurring within Inman Park
- Schedule the patrols of the IPSP in a manner that places the Patrol in service during the times crimes are most likely to occur.

Again, the above is but a small sample, and not all of that will happen overnight. You will, however, see changes and see those soon. When we have our final Security Patrol “contract” ready later this month, I will have it printed in the Advocate.

The spirit of “community policing” goes both ways, of course, so the Security Patrol solicits your ideas and those of your neighbors. What activities would **you** like to see the officers perform?

Hmmmm. Maybe I need a Security Patrol flag?

The History of Atlanta Told Through Historic Photographs

From its “rebirth” after the Civil War to its status as one of the largest cities in the United States, Atlanta has been an integral part of the fabric of United States’ history. The story of the “Capital of the South” reflects both a diverse and progressive spirit, and the unique culture that contributed to the city’s growth and prosperity.

With fact-filled photo captions and chapter introductions by **Michael Rose**, *Historic Photos of Atlanta* rediscovers the fascinating past of the “City Too Busy to Hate” through nearly 200 rare photographs culled from the Kenan Research Center at the Atlanta History Center, showcased with exceptional clarity and beauty.

From railroad companies to Little Five Points, the Flatiron Building to the Ebenezer Baptist Church, antebellum lore to its role in the Civil Rights Movement, and much more, Atlanta shines through the decades in glorious black-and-white photography, displayed in a large format.

“Atlanta is a city that in many ways has little physical history remaining,” says Rose. “What was left after the Civil War has been taken down and rebuilt a number of times. The photographs in this book present a documentary history of a city that has passed away and can only be seen through these pictures of the people and places that are gone.”

Historic Photos of Atlanta is part of Turner Publishing’s Historic Photos series. These books, highlighting the history of the great cities, legendary figures, and pivotal events across America, have been acclaimed as a staple in the collection of anyone who loves history.

Contact Information:

Rachel Joiner and/or Liz Chenery

Marketing

Turner Publishing Company

Phone: (615) 255-2665

Email: rpatton@turnerpublishing.com

lchenery@turnerpublishing.com

2008 PROPERTY TAX FACT SHEET FOR FULTON COUNTY CITIZENS

Submitted from District 6, Fulton County

For 2008 property taxes, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners has voted to maintain the millage rate set in 2007. This rate is:

1. General Fund (countywide) 10.281
2. South Fulton Tax District (unincorporated) 5.659

Each Fulton County property tax bill includes portions for several local taxing authorities:

1. Fulton County General Fund
2. School Board (Atlanta or Fulton County)
3. City government or unincorporated South Fulton Tax District

Each taxing authority sets its own millage rate. One mill equals a tenth of a cent, or one dollar on every thousand dollars of taxable

value. Each rate is multiplied by the home's assessed value (minus any exemptions). These numbers are added together to calculate the total property tax for an individual property.

Due to a number of factors affecting the economy, most local taxing authorities within Fulton County will do one of the following in 2008:

1. Increase millage rate, compared to 2007.
2. Same millage rate as 2007
3. Partial "rollback" (i.e., a millage rate higher than "full rollback".)

HOW DOES ASSESSMENT AFFECT PROPERTY TAXES?

If the assessment changes for an individual property, the property tax may increase or decrease, even if the millage rate stays the same. Approximately 56% of Fulton County properties had no change to their assessment in 2008, compared to 2007, and will have the same tax this year for the Fulton County portion of their bill.

Approximately 30% of Fulton County's residential properties had a lower assessment in 2008, compared to 2007, and will have a lower tax this year for the Fulton County portion of their bill.

Approximately 14 % of Fulton County's residential properties had a higher assessment in 2008 compared to 2007, and will have a tax that is up to 3% higher this year for the Fulton County portion of their bill.

TAX RELIEF MEASURES

There are a variety of property tax exemptions available to qualifying Fulton County homeowners, including various homestead exemptions; the "Circuit Breaker" bill for low income seniors, which will take effect in 2009; the Georgia Homeowner's Tax Relief Grant; and an assessment freeze and other measures as enacted by Senate Bill 610. Property owners may contact the Fulton County Tax Assessor's Office to determine which exemptions are applicable to their property.



Porch Party! Porch Party! Porch Party! Porch Party!

July Porch Party

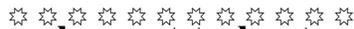
At the home of

Cathy & Bo Bradshaw

206 Hurt Street

Friday, July 25th, 7:30 P.M.

**BRING A DISH TO SHARE
AND YOUR FAVORITE BEVERAGE(S)**



Does your porch want to host a porch party?

It's easy and fun!

Call Richard or Pat Westrick 404-523-4801

Porch Party! Porch Party! Porch Party! Porch Party!



Let's Go To Scandinavia!

By Diane Floyd

After a lovely cruise through the Baltic Sea (I highly recommend it) I am inspired to serve a dinner that is purely Scandinavian and perfect for the season!

Make-your-own Smørrebrød - Open-Faced Sandwiches

(with my usual large
number of choices)

Grøntsagssalat (Mixed Vegetable Salad)

Blotkake (literally translated "Wet Cake" made with sponge cake, custard and peaches)

Iced Tea and Apple Juice

Dinner will be served from 6 until 7:30 p.m. on July 16th before the IPNA meeting. The cost is \$7.50 per adult, \$3 per child 5 years old and older, and \$20 for a family. Bring the whole family and "chow down!"

2008 BOOK CLUB CALENDAR

The Book Club meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month unless otherwise noted.
All meetings are at 7:00 p.m. Bring a covered dish

JULY 23RD

Animal, Vegetable, Mineral by **Barbara Kingsolver**
Hosted by
Ruth Caproni 1065 Washita Ave.

AUGUST 27TH

The Summer We Got Saved by **Pat Cunningham Devoto**
Hosted by
Oreon Mann 877 Edgewood Ave.

SEPTEMBER 24TH

The Zoo Keeper's Wife by **Diane Ackerman**
Hosted by
Charlotte Steeh 1303 Iverson
in Candler Park

OCTOBER 22ND

People of the Book by **Geraldine Brooks**
Hosted by **Cathy Jamison**
805-B Edgewood Ave.

NOVEMBER

No Book
Happy Thanksgiving!

DECEMBER

Holiday Party
Watch for Details!!!

For Information: 404-688-7330

ATLANTA URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION (AUDC) UPDATE

By Chuck Clarke, Vice-President for Historic Preservation

Please note: If you wish to do any construction work (beyond routine maintenance) on the exterior or site of a home or building in the Inman Park Historic District, **you must contact AUDC** to begin their review/approval process. Once a project is submitted to AUDC, please contact me (at historic.preservation@inmanpark.org) so that neighborhood meeting(s) can be set up. Thanks!

UPCOMING AUDC DEAD- LINES	HEARING DATE	APPLICATIONS DUE	
		Type II	Type III/IV
	August 13 th	July 28 th	July 21 st
	August 27 th	August 11 th	August 4 th
	Sept 10 th	August 25 th	August 18 th

Recent AUDC Actions on Applications for Certificates of Appropriateness (CoAs):

- **756 W. Ashland Ave.** – *deferred-* Application for a Type III Certificate of Appropriateness (HD-08-192) to allow the construction of a screened/glass porch addition and other renovations.
- **507 North Highland Ave.** – *deferred-* Applications for Type III Certificates of Appropriateness (HD-08-110) for a variance to allow a reduction of the rear yard setback from 44 ft. (required) to 10 ft. (proposed); and (HD-08-111) to allow the construction of site improvements, addition and other renovations.

Applications Scheduled for This Month :

(These applications had previously been deferred because the UDC wanted changes made. They are now being re-scheduled.)

- **756 W. Ashland Ave.** – Application for a Type III Certificate of Appropriateness (HD-08-192) to allow the construction of a screened/glass porch addition and other renovations.

- **507 North Highland Ave.** – Applications for Type III Certificates of Appropriateness (HD-08-110) for a variance to allow a reduction of the rear yard setback from 44 ft. (required) to 10 ft. (proposed); and (HD-08-111) to allow the construction of site improvements, addition and other renovations.

Applications Expected But Not Yet Scheduled (as of press deadline):

- **169 Hale St.**

AUDC CONTACT INFORMATION			
Website:	http://www.atlantaga.gov/government/urbandesign.aspx		
Address:	Atlanta Urban Design Commission (AUDC) 55 Trinity Avenue, Suite 3400 Atlanta, Georgia 30335-0331		
Phone:	404-330-6200	Fax:	404-658-6734

11:11 Tea House

Submitted by the IPNA Board

As many residents know, the subject of the 11:11 Tea House, formerly at the corner of Edgewood and Waddell, has been the subject of considerable discussion —much passionate—on the neighborhood Yahoo board, IPNA meetings, porch parties, and elsewhere.

The Board decided that, rather than attempting to engage in the internet debate, we would issue an official statement about the situation and publish it here, thus this article.

Some of you have concluded and stated, for reasons we cannot understand and on facts unknown to us, that Inman Park, as a community, or numerous resi-dents individually or in concert, sought to rid Inman Park of the Tea House and its proprietor/resident, **Penney Balmes**.

It is the official position of the Inman Park Neighborhood Association [IPNA] Board that:

No member of the Board nor the Board as a whole had any role in the matter except as set out below. Specifically, the Board states that:

1. Penney's announcement that she had been arrested came as a surprise to the Board and to nearly everyone who attended the May IPNA meeting, as did the recent news that Penney had been evicted. The eviction—if that is what happened—is, of course, a matter between Penney and her landlord.
2. As for the criminal-court process, the Board is aware of only one set of neighbors who ever made an official issue over the operation of the Tea House. We have been informed that several neighbors have talked with Penney personally about their concerns, but, so far as it is known to us, only one home's occupants actually pressed the matter with officialdom. We will neither agree nor disagree with that couples' complaints, as their concerns are moot in any event, but we know of no one else.
3. While allegations were leveled at the entire neighborhood for persecuting Penney, quite the opposite was happening:
 - a. **Lisa Burnette**, IPNA president, and **Bill Hagan**, the IPNA VP for Public Safety, met with Penney at her request after the May meeting. As a result of the 2+ hour meeting at Bill's home, we agreed—on behalf of the neighborhood and subject to coordination with the complaining neighbors and the arresting officer—to go to the Community Prosecutor and seek some disposition short of the then-extant charges. We did that based upon Penney's agreement to make a good-faith effort to comply with applicable laws affecting her as a resident or, if she sought to restart her business, businesswoman, and that she do the same with respect to accom-modating her neighbors' concerns. In other words, to do what she had a duty to do anyway, and what all of us are obliged to do. Penney agreed.
 - b. Bill went to court with Pen-ney, met with the Community Prosecutor, and stated the IPNA position as above. Following that discussion, the Community Prosecutor agreed to recommend dismissal of the charges without prejudice. A few minutes later, in open court, the Prosecutor did so and the Judge so ruled.
 - c. On the way home with Penney, Bill suggested that she write a summary of what she wanted to do in the space over the next few months in the way of events, and that he would pass it on to others in the neighborhood who would help her apply for a business license or special-events permits, and assist in drafting notices to neighbors.
 - d. Penney said she would, but it seems this eviction has, obviously, intervened.

Those are the facts as we know them. If other actions occurred, those are unknown to us. Accordingly, we deem this matter closed. We regret the furor, and believe it ill-conceived, erroneous, and harmful to the harmony in our neighborhood. We also wish Penney well and welcome her back in the neighborhood anytime as a resident again or visitor.

Dear Friends of the Atlanta Contemporary Art Center:

I am writing to inform you of staff changes at the Atlanta Contemporary Art Center. Executive Director **Kay Kallos**, who has led the organization since March 2007, has resigned, effective July 7, 2008, for personal reasons. She is relocating to Dallas, Texas.

Kay's guidance of the Contemporary has helped to maintain and advance the institution as the leading venue for contemporary art in the region. During her time, new areas of programming have flourished and visitation has increased dramatically.

To continue her good work, the Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Curator **Stuart Horodner** and Gallery Manager **Stacie Lindner** will take on expanded roles. As Artistic Director and Managing Director, respectively, Stuart and Stacie will assume expanded roles to include fundraising, board relations, facilities and financial management, and program oversight.

Insuring continuity of mission during this transitional period, staff members **Michelle Frost**, **Alana Wolf**, and **Stan Woodard** will continue in their respective roles as Bookkeeper, Events Coordinator, and Communications Director.

The Board and staff of the Contemporary look forward to the Atlanta community's continued support during this thirty-fifth year of the center's operation. Please join me in wishing Kay the best in her new life adventure, and in congratulating Stuart and Stacie as they embark to lead the Contemporary to new and greater successes.

Sincerely,

Baxter Jones
Board President
The Atlanta Contemporary Art Center
535 Means Street, N.W.
Atlanta, GA 30318

ATLANTA NONPROFIT TO HOST FUNDRAISER FOR CLEAN WATER IN AFRICA

By Priscilla Smith

A local nonprofit, ClearWater Initiative, will host a fundraiser Saturday, July 12th, from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. in order to raise much-needed funds to help provide clean, clear, potable water to villagers in remote areas of northern Uganda. The event, which will be held at the SweetWater brewery in Atlanta, will feature a group of refugee drummers from Burundi, handmade crafts by members of Refugee Family Services and the Refugee Women's Network of Atlanta, a live DJ, and a silent auction.

While deployed in the secluded villages of northern Uganda during 2007, US Army Reserves Captain **Ben Sklaver** immediately saw an urgent need for action. These villages were devastated by more than 20 years of insurgency and conflict. Water was scarce as rebel forces often destroyed local wells. Once his tour ended and he returned home to Atlanta, Sklaver founded the nonprofit ClearWater Initiative to help bring drinkable water to these villages.

Almost immediately, ClearWater has been able to do so. For example, the villagers of Ogedi in northern Uganda once had little choice but to drink slow-moving and stagnant water from a marsh which was often contaminated with animal waste. Local residents used this marsh for personal drinking water, cooking, and washing. It was also the main watering hole for livestock.

Today, thanks to the ClearWater Initiative, the villagers are now able to fill large jugs with clean, drinkable water. Children, who previously spent their days hiking to remote wells to fetch water, now have time to attend school and their risk of contracting malaria while collecting water from a stagnant pools has been dramatically reduced. Parents can now work to support their families.

This is just one example of the work ClearWater has done. Since March, 2008, the group has launched projects in five villages affecting approximately 3,800 people. Join ClearWater Initiative on Saturday, July 12th, 2008, as they work to raise \$25,000 in a single night to provide clean water to more than 2,000 people in the conflict-affected areas of northern Uganda.

WHERE: Sweetwater Brewery
195 Ottley Drive N.E..
Atlanta, Ga.. 30324

WHEN: Saturday, July 12th
Time:

8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

WHAT: A fundraiser for ClearWater Initiative featuring music by the Burundi Refugee Drummers Group and DJ **Oliver Bills**, who will spin soul and international songs. Admission is \$30 in advance and \$40 at the door.

The event will feature delicious SweetWater beer as well as homemade food . Crafts available for sale by the Atlanta Refugee Women's Network.

There will also be a silent auction featuring signed original items by celebrities such as **Mike Myers**, **Kathy Griffith**, and **Larry King**, Sports tickets, fantastic gift certificates for area restaurants, area attractions, and other services.

CITY COUNCIL ELIMINATES PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

Press Release from City Council

Restores Public Safety Officers & Rolls Back Millage Rate.

The Atlanta City Council has eliminated the Mayor's proposed property tax increase and rolled back the millage rate by implementing significant cost saving measures as part of a \$570.89 million FY09 General Fund budget. (*Legislative Reference # 08-O-0870*) The City Council unanimously approved a balanced budget by a vote of 15-0.

To eliminate a property tax increase, the Council slashed its own budget by \$1.3 million and implemented additional across the board reductions (including Council) of 2.5 percent for a savings to the city of \$15,875,000.

The cuts would come at the determination of the administration, but Council-members have stipulated no further personnel reductions should be considered. "Every household in this city has had to undergo some belt tightening as food and fuel costs soar," said City Councilman **Howard Shook**, Finance/Executive Committee Chair. "There is no reason City Hall should not have to do the same." Councilmembers agreed to also add \$1.7 million in savings from non-departmental parks levy opportunity bond funds back to the general fund as well as \$2 million from the sale of additional Certification of Public Necessity and Convenience (CPNC) licenses to taxi cab operators. The city is also poised to collect an additional \$264,000 in revenue from an increase in speeding fines imposed due to rising fuel costs. The Council approved a measure Friday to request Judges of the Municipal Court of Atlanta to increase the fines identified in the Fine Schedule by Description and as assessed by the Court in the amount of \$12.00. (*Legislative Reference # 08-R-1305*)

The total savings will equal approximately \$19.8 million for city coffers. "With careful deliberations and thoughtful amendments, the Council has amended the budget to acknowledge revenue declines, sustain service levels, and require city leaders to work together to identify new and enhance current revenue streams," said City Council President **Lisa M. Borders**.

Under the new city budget the money saved would be used to eliminate the need for the Mayor's proposed .43 mill tax increase; restore abolished positions in the public defender/solicitor's office; restore abolished code enforcement officer positions, and neighborhood planning unit staffing positions.

The City Council voted to use the remaining \$3 million in savings to provide Atlanta homeowners with a tax break in the form of a .1187 mill property tax rollback. Under the Council's budget the city of Atlanta's Property Tax Levy will now be set at 8.8 mills down from 8.92 mills. "The goal of good government should be to streamline operations and reduce costs while improving effectiveness," said City Councilmember **Clair Muller**, District 8. "We aim to do that."

District 9 City Councilmember **Felicia A. Moore** agreed: "Bureaucracies will usually find ways to spend pretty much whatever money comes in. We saw it in the previous fiscal year. We need to tame the natural appetite for spending especially when our residents are doing the same."

Councilmember **Cesar Mitchell** was instrumental in ensuring maximum flexibility to make additional changes without impacting staffing levels. "Department heads should be able to find an additional 2.5 percent from overhead, hopefully without cutting personnel," Mitchell said.

District 10 City Councilmember **C. T. Martin** said: "At the Mayor's request, we've already gone up significantly on water and sewer rates. I feel that in these economic times we should not double burden our taxpayers."

Councilmember **Mary Norwood** said: "Our citizens have seen their taxes and fees escalate. It is important to the livability and affordability of our city that the Council adopt a budget without a tax increase. It is my hope that in the upcoming year, all taxing entities in the City of Atlanta will evaluate the cost and efficacy of their service delivery for our citizens."

The city administration released a statement Thursday night advising that a property tax was needed in anticipation of a continued anemic economy.

District 3 City Councilmember **Ivory Young** suggests that the belt tightening has just begun. "Our economy is still not showing signs of a recovery," Young said. "This City Council has asserted itself, like at no other time in recent history. We serve as the check and balance the people have elected us to be and we must maintain levels of fiscal growth and stability within city government that the taxpayers deserve."

Some Councilmembers say they are more optimistic about the future of at least the local economy than the administration. "We have major construction in this city that has gone online and we are going to see a positive impact," said City Councilmember **Jim Maddox**, District 11. "I would rather be the prophet of prosperity."

The Mayor does have line-item veto power and eight (8) days to sign the budget.

SOLID WASTE SERVICES TO CONTINUE WEEKLY COLLECTION OF GARBAGE, YARD TRIMMINGS AND RECYCLING

Press Release from Department of Public Works

Effective Monday, July 7th, 2008, the City of Atlanta's Office of Solid Waste Services moved the previously outsourced collection of recyclables into the Solid Waste Services operation. This measure will save the City \$3 million dollars per year and improve service reliability.

The proposed FY09 budget anticipated reducing the frequency of collection of yard trimmings and recycling to every other week. Per our commitment to the Council during the budget briefings, we have continued to explore opportunities for increased efficiency within our solid waste collection operation, and have successfully re-organized our routes and crews to continue providing weekly collection of garbage, yard trimmings and recycling.

We are also expanding the recycling program to include collection of cardboard. This new service will allow for cardboard to be picked up as part of the recycling collections, as long as it is broken down and dry. Citizens may continue using their existing recycle container or their own larger container with a lid if clearly labeled "**Recycling**".

If you have questions or need additional information please contact the Department of Public Works' Customer Service Division at 404-330-6333.

(Editor's Note: "FY09" refers to the Fiscal Year 2009 Budget.)

GOOD MOVES MOVES!

By Carolyn McLaughlin

Good Moves ended the 2007/2008 Season with a week-long Choreography Camp attended by the Consort and Consort Apprentices. These two groups include Inman Park's own, **Ben Dobbmeyer**, **Grace Dwyer**, and **Margot McLaughlin**. They danced every day from 9:00 a.m. until at least 3:00 p.m.

The highlights of the week were: working on two new pieces for the Fall Repertory Concert (Saturday, November 22nd and 23rd at 7 Stages), "The Prince, A Pauper and *Queen*," and "Ballet de Boynton"; a pool party at the Inman Park Pool; and performing at Regency House in Decatur.

We finished June by helping Inman Park United Methodist Church welcome a new pastor. Six of our dancers provided liturgical dance for Reverend Leslee Samuelson first service.

We now send the majority of the Consort off to work in Brockport, New York with The Limón Company at the Limón Institute's Summer Intensive. Our young pre-professionals will spend three full weeks being mentored by some of the best artists that modern dance has to offer. I look forward to sharing their experiences with you.

Good Moves is excited to report great news for the Fall! We will receive \$5,000 in General Operating Support from The Fulton County Arts Council and \$4,725 in project support from the Georgia Council for the Arts. This public support is greatly appreciated and represents 18% of our budget for the 2008/2009 season.

We will offer Creative Movement, Pre-Ballet, Ballet and Athletic Movement for Boys starting on August 18th.

We have held our tuition rate at \$10 per hour, 50% below the area average. On Sunday, August 10th from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., we will hold our first-ever Scholarship Audition for Ed Source.

We have developed a great schedule of fall classes for Ed Source. Details are available at our website: www.goodmoves.org.

Thanks to all our supporters.

AGENDA FOR JULY 16TH IPNA MEETING

- I. **Welcome and Introduction of Newcomers**
- II. **Minutes of Last Meeting**
- III. **Announcements**
- IV. **Police Officers' Reports**
- V. **Elected Officials' Reports**
- VI. **INPA Officers' Reports**
 - A. **Treasurer**
 - B. **President**
 - C. **Secretary**
 - D. **Planning**
 - E. **Zoning:**
 1. **Liquor License: General Process**
 - F. **Historic Preservation**
 1. **507 North Highland Avenue**
 2. **756 West Ashland Avenue**
 3. **169 Hale Street**
 - G. **Public Safety**
- VII. **Committee Reports**
- VIII. **New Business**
 1. **North Highland Fall Festival**
- IX. **Old Business**
 1. **Ad Hoc Tax Committee**
 2. **T-Mobile Cell Tower**
- X. **Adjournment**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

COUNTDOWN TO FESTIVAL FROM JULY 12th, 2008, TO APRIL 25th, 2009 ☀ ☀ ☀

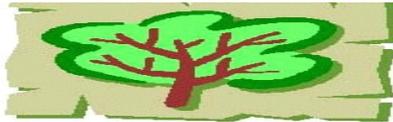
296 DAYS

DATE	DAY/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION/PHONE NUMBER
July 14	Mon.		
July 15	Tues.		
July 16	Wed. 7:30 p.m.	IPNA Meeting	1015 Edgewood Ave. 404-581-0576
July 17	Thurs.		
July 18	Fri.		
July 19	Sat.		
July 20	Sun.		
July 21	Mon.		
July 22	Tues.		
July 23	Wed. 7:00 p.m.	Book Club (Pg. 15)	1065 Washita 404-688-7330
July 24	Thurs.		
July 25	Fri. 7:30 p.m.	Porch Party (Pg. 15)	206 Hurt St. 404 -523-4801
July 26	Sat.		
July 27	Sun.		
July 28	Mon.		

July 29	Tues.		
July 30	Wed.		
July 31	Thurs.		
Aug. 01	Fri. 10:00 p.m.	ADVOCATOR DEADLINE	e-mail: theadvocator@bellsouth.net
Aug. 02	Sat.		
Aug. 03	Sun.		
Aug. 04	Mon.		
Aug. 05	Tues.		
Aug. 06	Wed.		

"The *Advocator*" is the newsletter of the Inman Park Neighborhood Association, Inc. (IPNA). In addition to the reports by the IPNA Board of Directors, Officers, and Committee Chairs, the *Advocator* publishes letters to the editor, press releases, articles deemed of interest to the community, and paid advertising. Publishing of display advertisement/classified ads, articles, letters, or notices, does not constitute an endorsement by IPNA, its Board of Directors, and/or the *Advocator* and the *Advocator* staff. The content and opinions of a published article or letter represent the opinions of the author and not the opinion of IPNA, its Board of Directors, and/or the *Advocator* and the *Advocator* staff unless it is expressly stated. IPNA reserves the right to edit all items submitted for publication and to reject any material or ads submitted for publication. Material submitted anonymously, including Press Releases, will not be published.

TREE WATCH COMMITTEE CALENDAR



DATE	DESCRIPTION	PHONE NUMBER
07/08/08	Monthly meeting: Call Richard Westrick for details.	404-523-4801
08/12/08	Monthly meeting: Call Richard Westrick for details	404-523-4801