

The Inman Park Advocator

Atlanta's Small Town Downtown News



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Please send IPNA and Security Membership payments and applications to: 167 Elizabeth St., N.E., Atlanta, Ga. 30307

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Lisa Burnette

When leaving items on my front porch for a neighbor to pick up and finding a package waiting for me which had been dropped off by another neighbor, it occurred to me there are a lot of quirky things that might only happen in Inman Park. So here are a few I came up with.

You know you live in Inman Park when ...

- 1) You know the names of your neighbors on BOTH sides of you (and probably across the street as well).
- 2) Between March and October you eat at least one meal a week outside, and probably have to choose whether to do it on the front porch or the back.
- 3) The majority of t-shirts you own say "Staff" or "Volunteer" on the back.
- 4) You have told someone that your house or a neighbor's house:
 - a) used to be a house of ill repute;
 - b) was once owned by someone connected with Coca-Cola;
 - c) is situated on a Civil War battle site; or
 - d) is haunted.
- 5) You have enjoyed an adult beverage while participating in an important community meeting.
- 6) You take the last Friday of April off from work each year, and possibly the following Monday as well.
- 7) You have spent an entire weekend going to the park, eating at one of Atlanta's best restaurants, getting exercise, and partying with your friends all without ever leaving the neighborhood (and possibly without even getting in your car).
- 8) Picking paint for the exterior of your home involves selecting at least four separate colors.
- 9) You have driven a golf cart in the middle of the street and you weren't in Peachtree City.
- 10) Complete strangers have walked or driven by & stared at or even snapped a photo of your house.
- 11) People give you gifts with butterflies on them.
- 12) BONUS: You know what at least three of these following abbreviations mean:
 - a) UDC
 - b) IPNA
 - c) NPU
 - d) IPP

Your turn. Can you think of more? Go to the blog at <http://blog.inmanpark.org> and add your comments to the list.

NOW HEAR THIS!!!!

By Betty Ridderhoff, Editor

Be sure you read the Calendar page in this issue of the *Advocator*. This year is full of short deadlines, however, April is the worst one of them all. The deadline has been moved up to March 27. Don't be late as the copy goes to the printer on Monday, April 6, at 8:00 a.m., **with or without your article.**

As April will be the last issue before Festival, try to send your articles in early to make sure they can be included in the April issue.

And the good news is — **Diane Floyd** will be joining the *Advocator* staff again. This will give us a truly great staff of hardworking neighbors putting out every edition. As many of you know, Diane was previously the editor of the *Advocator*. We are all looking forward to working with her again.

I would like to take this opportunity to say 'thank you' to the *Advocator* staff: **Joyce Sayle, Jacqui Vanik, and Randy Bailey**, for all their hard work and giving of their time to meet the printer deadlines. Thanks to them, they get the proofreading done and back to me so the final layout can be done in a timely manner. When you see them, please let them know how much you appreciate the work they have been and are doing. A little pat on the back once in a while goes a long way. They're really great.

2009 FESTIVAL MEETING

By Danny Feig-Sandoval

With one and a half months to go, the 2009 Inman Park Festival and Tour of Homes Planning Committee is steam rolling along with great plans for a great Festival!!

Please come to the March IPNA meeting on the 18th and get your House Tour tickets. **Yvonne Merkel**, **Tammie Blair**, and **Ivey Claire Eldridge** of our marketing committee have been extremely busy putting together some great prize packages for the most tickets sold so take a bunch and sell, sell, sell! If you cannot make it to the meeting, you can obtain your tickets by e-mailing Yvonne at ymerkel@bellsouth.net or call her at 404-285-8283.

Of course, it takes over 800 people to make this festival run smoothly so please sign up now on our website at inmanpark.org or at inmanparkfestival.org. Contact our volunteer coordinator, **Judy Clements**, at judyclements@bellsouth.net or call her at 404-523-9922 if you have any questions about volunteering. Don't sit back and lose out on those prize volunteer slots as they will go fast. Sign up today. We also are offering small businesses a great opportunity to sponsor Festival as Friends of Festival. This is a great opportunity for great exposure to the community at some very affordable rates so please check it out. For additional information, contact **Carrington Moore** at friendsoffestival@gmail.com.

I have included the Festival '09 Planning Committee list in this month's *Advocator* again (See Page 12) so you can see how many great neighbors volunteer so much of their time for eight months of the year to make Festival such a great event. If you would like to get involved in any of these committees or have any feedback for them, please do not hesitate to contact the committee chair. Take a moment as well to thank them for their efforts as they are so deserving of your praise. If you would like to help out with Festival planning or need more information, contact me at: danny@smallcarpenters.com or 404-791-8497.

**Festival committee meeting will be at the Trolley Barn on
Thursday, April 9, at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.**

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 18, 2009 IPNA MEETING

By Stephanie McCaa, Secretary

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF NEWCOMERS

Lisa Burnette asked newcomers to introduce themselves and the following did: **Peter Hand**, property owner at North Highland Ave. and Elizabeth St.; **David Mallis** from Inman Park Village; **Clarence Turner** from the Old Fourth Ward; and **Rick Stepp** from Inman Park Village.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **John Naugle** represented Atlanta: City of Peace, Inc. His organization's goal is to build Atlanta into a global capital of peace cultivation, education, and inspiration. For more information go to www.ATLpeace.org.
2. **Pat Westrick** announced this month's porch party will be on Friday, February 27, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of **Melissa Miller** and **Thom Abelew**, 211 Hurt St. Porch parties are always the last Friday of each month and are a great opportunity to meet your neighbors. Bring a drink and a dish to share. If you are interested in hosting a porch party, please contact Pat.
3. **Oreon Mann** announced this month's Book Club. The book is *Them* by **Nathan McCall**. Book Club will be hosted by **Eleanor Matthews** at 100 Waverly Way on Wednesday, February 25, at 7:00 p.m.
4. **Kris Dwyer** announced the upcoming series on world religions which will be held at the Inman Park United Methodist Church. The series will run every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. through March 23. All are welcome.
5. **Danny Feig-Sandoval** announced the Inman Park Festival Tour of Homes tickets will be on sale at the next IPNA meeting. He encouraged everyone to go to inmanparkfestival.org and sign up to volunteer. We still have 624 slots left for volunteers!

Danny extended a big thank you to **Barbara Leach** for her tremendous work in getting an \$8,000 refund back from Bank of America last year.

POLICE OFFICERS' REPORTS

Bill Hagan introduced **Sharla Jackson**, our new Inman Park community prosecutor. She has replaced **Warren Atkinson** in this role. She will be attending IPNA meetings and will work with the Zone 6 APD to prosecute offenders in our area.

The community prosecutor program started in 2003 with a focus on putting repeat offenders in jail; closing drug houses and open-air drug markets; and interacting with the police. It also introduced Citizens' Courtwatch which allows citizens to explain to a judge why and how a particular crime/criminal impacts their community. It gives the community a voice. Ms. Jackson works very closely with **Kwanza Hall** and **Jay Tribby**. There will be a Courtwatch training session held on March 7. For more information go to inmanpark.org.

Major Propes, Zone 6 Atlanta Police Officer, shared the information that **Roderick McBride**, a repeat offender with a focus on car break-ins, was just sentenced to 20 years with five years to serve. This strong sentence happened because of a community prosecutor. Usually this type of criminal would have only gotten probation.

Another criminal, **James Cook**, who specializes in house burglaries and car break-ins, was arrested. He is currently on probation,

but the APD is working with the DeKalb Community Prosecutor to get a stronger sentence. Major Propes reminded everyone that the only way to link a criminal to stolen items is if you write down your serial numbers! There was a round of applause for the great arrest report.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Kwanza Hall had given a presentation earlier in the evening before the IPNA meeting commenced.

IPNA OFFICERS' REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY: V.P. Bill Hagan

Bill Hagan thanked **Bob Morrison** for getting the patrol car registered. He also recognized **Cameron Childress** for his article in the *Advocator* and for his work on the Public Safety Committee. Bill then introduced **Bob Sandage**. The street captain program kicked off last week so you will meet your street captains when they knock on your door to explain the public safety campaign. He is still looking for street captains for lower Austin Ave. and Virgil St. **Greg Scott** on Sinclair Ave. will be heading up the business part of the public safety patrol. He wants to make it a win-win for the neighborhood and businesses. The ultimate goal is to have a 24/7 patrol. Bill Hagan asked everyone to do their part in stopping crime by participating in the "clean car campaign" from the APD. **DO NOT LEAVE VALUABLES IN PLAIN SIGHT IN YOUR CAR!** **Lisa Burnette** thanked everyone on the public safety committee for all their help.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION: V.P. Chuck Clarke

Nothing to report.

TREASURER: Trevor Wilson

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the following expenses:

1. Security Patrol Officers - \$1,697.50.
2. DC Landscapes (December)-\$1,298.
3. DC Landscapes (January) - \$1,080.
4. Jacob's Engineering (traffic calming) - \$9,055.

SECRETARY: Stephanie McCaa

Stephanie announced she has Inman Park flags and banners for sale. She will be putting information in the *Advocator*, on the Yahoo Group, and on the website tomorrow. Please contact her directly to place your order. (See information on Page 12.)

PRESIDENT: Lisa Burnette

Nothing to report.

PLANNING: V.P. Bill Goodman

Bill Goodman was on vacation so **Lisa Burnette** reported for him. She introduced **Liz Coyle**. Ms. Coyle is on the Board of the Historic Fourth Ward Park Conservancy. This is the newest park on the Beltline and parts of it will be ready by Spring 2010. It will feature a two-acre lake. The park needs your support so please go to historicfourthwardparkconservancy.org or h4wpc.org to become a member. Ms. Coyle also reported as a representative of the Beltline development groups, discussing the sudden decision by GDOT to take over the Norfolk Southern line which had been abandoned, thereby creating a threat to the Beltline and Inman Park. She reported the parties involved (including GDOT, Amtrak, and the Beltline) have agreed to a 30-day stay which ends March 6. The GDOT Board is meeting tomorrow, and hopefully they will decide to let the original Beltline plans go ahead. Lisa Burnette gave an overview of what actions IPNA has taken with regard to this pressing issue. We have sent out over 6,000 letters to the GDOT Board, Governor, public officials, Amtrak, and the Beltline outlining how detrimental this commuter rail would be to the intown neighborhoods. We have started an on-line petition on www.ipetitions.com called "keep high speed rail out of Inman Park", and Bill Goodman made a video of Inman Park to showcase the neighborhood and the devastating impact the rail line would have (go to youtube.com and type in "keep high speed rail out of Inman Park"). Lisa has also created a Facebook group called "Keep high speed rail out of Atlanta's neighborhoods." You can check out her blog at inmanpark.org for details. IPNA will also be sending out a press release on Friday. Please call or e-mail Lisa with any questions or suggestions on how we can fight this issue.

ZONING – Drew Evans

Thomas Stephens presented his plans for a restaurant called Pure Taqueria. It will replace "The Grape" in the same space on North Highland Ave. He has not yet applied for a liquor license, but the immediate neighbors voted unanimously to support his intent to apply for a liquor license application. The restaurant will offer authentic, fresh Mexican cuisine. It will serve beer, wine, and margaritas only. Hours will be 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. although he anticipates closing by 11:00 p.m. every night. Seating includes 95 inside with 25-30 on the patio. **Peter Hand** asked how he was going to handle parking. Currently he has 30 spots but needs more so he and Peter are going to talk off-line about possibilities. Thomas will not open unless he has enough parking even though the City says he just needs 28 spaces. **Jonathan Miller** asked for more information on his background. He replied that he has been in the restaurant industry for almost 20 years in other states, and in several ventures in suburban communities in Atlanta. He will be the owner-operator of this location. A motion was made to support the immediate neighbors' decision to not oppose his intent to apply for a liquor license. The motion was seconded and carried.

Jorge Pacheco owner of the restaurant Park's Edge (space formerly occupied by Pacific Kitchen) is applying for a liquor license. The immediate neighbors gave him their support. He has adequate parking and has added outdoor lighting. A motion to accept the

immediate neighbors' support of the liquor license application was made, seconded, and carried.

NPU-N – Megan Holder asked that everyone look at her article in the February *Advocator*, which helps to explain the processes you must go through for approval by the LRB, UDC, or BZA. She also introduced **David Laube** as a candidate for the alternate NPU-N representative. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to elect him as the alternate. Megan and David also discussed the master plan for the Beltline Sub Area 5 (which includes Inman Park). In making the plan, they looked at future land use, usually stayed with current zoning plans, and encouraged mixed-use and the grouping together of green space.

Jonathan Miller pointed out several areas of concern including a vague description of a MARTA transit-oriented development and a high-density allowance for Gunby St. Peter Hand also noted his parcel of land, piece 26, was designated as Light Commercial Development (LCD) when it should be mixed-use. A motion was made to support the master plan on the condition that the transit-oriented development at MARTA be better defined, that Gunby St. be reduced from high-density to be consistent with our historic guidelines, and that Peter Hand's plot be changed from LCD to mixed use. The motion was seconded and carried.

Jonathan Miller announced the Atlanta Preservation Society's Sixth Annual Phoenix Flies: A Citywide Celebration of Living Landmarks, March 7 - 22. Inman Park's Arboretum will be featured on March 17. Jonathan also voiced his opinion that the neighborhood should support the Historic Old Fourth Ward Park and asked that we donate \$1,000. He asked for this to be an agenda item at the next meeting. He also needs a check for \$50 for the IPNA share of the rental fee of the Little Five Points Community Center. The agenda for the next NPU-N meeting includes Park's Edge liquor license, a presentation by MARTA, approval of the Beltline master plan and housing ordinances. This is a public meeting so feel free to come. Check the Inman Park Google calendar for dates and times.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Traffic Calming - Danny Feig-Sandoval announced the good news that we've finally secured approval to continue to lay our sidewalks the way we have done in the past. Construction on the traffic calming crosswalks on Lake Ave. will start in May.

Festival – Danny Feig-Sandoval said the next Festival meeting is March 12 at 7:30 p.m. (See notice on Page 1.)

Arboretum - Oreon Mann announced the City Council is going to honor the Inman Park Arboretum for its pioneering work. A presentation will be made on March 2 in the City Council Chambers. The award ceremony is open to the public. Arrive by 12:40 p.m. for the 1:00 p.m. ceremony.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

The next IPNA meeting will be March 18 at 7:30 p.m. There was a motion to adjourn. **Lisa Burnette** adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

THE INMAN PARK SPRING FESTIVAL INVITES YOU TO KICK OFF FESTIVAL WEEKEND AT THE

CATERPILLAR COSTUME BALL

FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES!

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

5:00 p.m. TO 7:00 p.m.

**Held at the "Outdoor Classroom" of the
Inman Park Cooperative Preschool
760 Edgewood Ave.**

Hayride by friend Bo Bradshaw

Face Painting - - - Other Fun Activities! Prizes!

Hot Dogs, Veggie Dogs, Popcorn, & Cupcakes!

Be sure to wear your favorite costume!

Tickets available at the gate -

\$2.00 per person (grownups and kids alike!)

For more information contact: Laura Lancaster Archer (archer@mindspring.com) or

Alex Coffman (acpff@cp,cast/met)

For volunteer opportunities: <http://www.inmanpark.org/festival/volunteer/default.aspx>

SIX REMINDERS

By Jan Keith

For those of you who are “list makers,” here are six reminders for you to put on your “to-do list”:

1. Festival has nearly 1,000 volunteer slots/opportunities needing your help. Have you signed up yet? It’s easy and you’ll have an incredible time volunteering. You’ll also have the satisfaction of knowing you are contributing to making the best Festival in the world happen in our “Small Town Downtown”. Remember, if you sign up to house sit during the Saturday 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. time slot, you’ll receive a free Tour of Homes ticket *after* you complete your shift. Go to www.inmanpark.org to volunteer.
2. Have you arranged to go on tour Friday? All houses are open for the short tour from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. Friday’s tour will have no lines, no closed streets and lots of time to visit with other neighbors and, of course, with our wonderful tour homeowners. The Saturday and Sunday tour hours are 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.
3. Have you bought your discount tour tickets yet? They will be available at the March 18 and the April 15 IPNA meetings for **\$12 for members of the neighborhood**. You must be a member in good standing (i.e., paid your membership dues) to get the deep discount. Tickets will also be available at 889 Edgewood Ave. and at 177 Elizabeth St. until Thursday, April 23.
4. Have you encouraged your friends and neighbors to buy tour tickets? Advance tickets are \$15 for non-members and \$20 during Festival. There are some great prizes if you sell the most tickets! Tickets are available online from the IPNA website and many local merchants will have tickets at the discount price before Festival.
5. Have you cleaned up the unsightly trash and leaves from your neighbor’s sidewalk (knowing that you’ve already taken care of your own long ago!)? Festival is the time when we want our neighborhood to look its best. Take a few minutes to pick up trash and spruce up areas that need it. Be especially mindful of areas where the street vendors and entertainment occurs, plus near and around the houses on tour.
6. Have you marked your calendar for April 24, 25, and 26? Fun is going to happen and we want you to join us. Volunteer! Buy tickets! Spend money! Have fun! See you on tour and at Festival!

TREE HUGGERS’ BALL

By Sally E. McClintock

The Inman Park Tree Watch Committee was pleased to host its Ninth Annual Tree Huggers’ Ball and Silent Auction on February 7. Funds were raised to plant new and maintain existing neighborhood trees. We appreciate the many friends and neighbors who attended this fun event as well as our sponsors and contributors. Please join us in thanking the individuals and companies who helped to make the event a success:

Our Host:

- The Trolley Barn

Wine Sponsor:

- Hall’s of Fine Wines

Beer Sponsor:

- Sweetwater Brewing Company

Centerpieces:

- Andy Rhodes,

Our Band:

- Slim Chance and the Convicts

Our Dinner:

- Highland Bakery

Raffle item donations:

- Across the Street Restaurant
- Adaptation Floral Design
- Adore Hair Studio
- Angie’s Folk HeART/Angie Wehunt
- Animal Magnetism/Nancy Dagenhart
- Atlanta Preservation Center
- Betsy Hall
- Bo and Cathy Bradshaw
- Condition Kettelbell Gym
- Danneman’s Coffee
- Drea James Design/ Jennifer Green
- Ellery McClintock

- George Gary
- Gloriosa
- Good Moves
- Hanson Designs/Paul & Jon Hanson
- Highland Bakery
- Inman Perk Coffee
- Jason Carl
- Kelli^Paul Studio
- King-Keith House
- Machete Man/Jeremy Dahl
- New Moon Skin Care/Amy Bransford
- Park’s Edge Restaurant
- Passion Nails
- Pet Sitter/Sue Joy
- Richard and Pat Westrick
- Shaun’s Restaurant
- Small Carpenters at Large
- Sotto Sotto/Fritti
- Stone Soup Kitchen
- Susan Danner
- The Albert
- The Clean Dog
- The Porter Beer Bar
- Tin Lizzy’s Cantina
- Wilkerson Mill Gardens
- Wisteria Restaurant
- Zaya Mediterranean Restaurant

GOOD MOVES NEWS

By Carolyn McLaughlin

Spring is on the way with two great events for Good Moves: the Inman Park Dance Festival and the Saturday Soirée.

The Inman Park Dance Festival is presented in partnership by Good Moves and the Inman Park Neighborhood Association as a part of the Inman Park Festival and Tour of Homes. This year, 2009, will be the 9th year of this successful partnership. It will also be the first year this program is completely supported by proceeds of the Inman Park Festival and Tour of Homes, an important show of support for local performing artists. Good Moves is very proud to be a part of the partnership and a neighbor in the 'hood. I hope you will come and

see one of the shows. They will be held on Saturday and Sunday of Festival weekend at 4:00 p.m. in the Trolley Barn.

The weekend after Festival you are invited to be a guest of Good Moves at the Saturday Soirée. I hope you will join us for an afternoon of fun, food, friendraising and fundraising. There will be great food, drink, and dancing on the back lawn at:

167 Elizabeth St.

(thank you **Betty Ridderhoff** for being our host for a second year!). So, on Saturday, May 2, 2009, from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. take a break after all of the great work of Festival, be Good Moves' guest and get to know your neighborhood dance organization. We hope to see all of you there.

Ed Source has great news to share, too. We welcomed seven new students during our "Four Free for February" promotion. We are planning Dance Camps for the first two weeks of June for ages 8 – 12. We are also hard at work on our Fall class schedule with the addition of Tween & Teen Movement and Morning Movement for Adults. We will have more details for you by next month.

As always, you may contact us at any of the following:

www.goodmoves.org, or
goodmoves@mindspring.com or
by phone: 404-518-1646.

“THE SUN NEVER SETS ON THE INMAN PARK PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE”

By Bill Hagan, V.P. Public Safety

No, I don't mean I have a 24/7 job ... though the lady who called me at home late last night, after I was not only in bed but sawing Sequoias, and who apparently thought I was in the Inman Park Patrol car and would look for her lost dog, seemed to think I am awake 'round the clock! No, the sun never sets on our worldwide reach. I just got off the phone with a French TV reporter for the French press agency CAPA, who wanted to ride with our Security Patrol. Serendipitously for us Inman Parkers, he is working for the program "L'effet Papillo" (the butterfly effect). Then, earlier today, I was trying to help an Inman Park scofflaw beat an Italian traffic ticket. One of the advantages to having been an Army judge advocate is to know cops, lawyers, and judges from all over the world. Some of these still think they owe me favors, and I do nothing to dissuade them. In this case, I was playing my Carabinieri card trying to get Inman Park's Pisa Perp [**Betty Ridderhoff** won't let me publish the name but his initials are **Greg Scott** ... oops.] from having to pay a fine for "circulating in a restricted traffic zone without authorization." Actually, that sounds almost romantic in Italian, but the 115 fine takes some of the charm out of the event. **Greg's** defense is pretty lame, too: "We were trying to find the parking lot in our guide book, got railroaded by traffic into the restricted zone, and by the time we realized we weren't where we were supposed to be, I guess we got flagged. We were literally just turning around." Sure, **Greg**, as they say in Italy, "Dillo al giudice."

But most of our activity is closer to home right here in our 'hood. Some of it is pretty funny and "so Inman Park," meaning it, too, has a bit of an international, if not celestial, flair. Take last night, for example. Seems the officer saw a man walking down the middle of the street around midnight. Upon stopping him, the officer learned that this was a 1000-year old (yes, you read that right) Hare Krishna who likes to take backstreets on his return to the Hare Krishna temple on Ponce so "he doesn't have to talk to anybody." Ooooooooookay.

Despite the energetic and effective efforts of **Cynthia Knapp** and her "Off the Wall" gang of street captains, graffiti continues to mar our neighborhood. In fact, in some areas, it is getting worse. Art? Puhleeze. Add an "F" to art and you are closer to what this awful offal is. The taggers are animals marking territory; those who use the larger canvas of public and private property in the name of "art" are self-centered narcissists who, in almost fascist fashion, arrogantly decide what art is and that you will see it ... and pay for it in the destruction they wreak. We are about to spend thousands of neighborhood dollars to clean graffiti off of walls and other places as we ready for Festival. Some property owners don't seem to care. I intend to ask certain businesses and residences to help with this and to take up some of the burden of labor and cost. I also intend to name here those who help—and those who don't.

Other public-safety issues are more serious, and I do not mean crime alone. One of the great successes in Zone 6 and Inman Park public safety—and the kudos go to many—is the Community Prosecutor program begun some years ago by Fulton County District Attorney, **Paul Howard**. It was only within the last year or so that Zone 6, a stepchild of sorts, got its own Community Prosecutor, **Warren Atkinson**, who had a satellite office in **Liz Lapidus's** Bradley Building in the 700 block of Edgewood Avenue. To our dismay, however, we learned only hours before the February IPNA meeting that we would lose **Mr. Atkinson** as our Community Prosecutor. Some of the sting of that surprise was lessened by news that **Sharla Jackson** would take **Mr. Atkinson's** place. Those of you who know or know of **Ms. Jackson** do not need to be told what a fireball of energy and action she is.

As I said to **Kwanza Hall** recently, we Inman Parkers are mindful of the fiscal realities confronting the DA and APD, but are very concerned about this change. That **Sharla** dropped what she was doing to attend and speak at the monthly IPNA meeting is a symbolic, but impressive, statement of her commitment to her duties. But, we have heard rumblings that she and other community prosecutors will

have more work for fewer lawyers. Accordingly, we will be seriously disappointed if that eviscerates the "community" in Community Prosecutor, making the label a hollow title. We count, however, on **Mr. Howard** to push for more resources, an effort that we will be pleased to assist him and **Kwanza Hall** in voicing.

Similarly, as we know but others occasionally need to be reminded, we are a motivated and organized neighborhood, capable of concerted political and community action in a common-sensical but powerful way. The spirit of the Inman Parkers of the 1980's, who stopped the bulldozers, thereby keeping the "park" in Inman Park, is alive and well today. The present campaign to stop the high-speed rail from destroying the Beltline Project -- and Inman Park, Old Fourth Ward, and other neighborhoods, too -- is one example; ensuring that across-the-board meat-cleaver budget cuts do not decimate the ranks and effectiveness of the APD and the Fulton County DA is another. We look to **Kwanza** and other elected officials to work with us and others to help us make that happen. Let's all keep that in mind and listen closely to candidates' promises as we gear up for November elections. We can shape those contests and affect the outcomes.

Sgt. Brent Schierbaum and his officers continue their vigorous patrols; see details for February on Page 10. I also posted it on the Inman Park Yahoo board at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/inmanparkga/> a recent example of how the ["New & Improved"] Inman Park Patrol, under the leadership of **Sgt. Schierbaum** (who is, of course, the reason behind the "N & I"), has been a potent force in deterring crime in the neighborhood. The N&I IPP has made numerous arrests in the last several months. That said, certain forms of street slugs are hard to catch as they melt quickly into the shadows and crawl under figurative rocks. That is why it is especially gratifying—for us and the officers—when they actually catch one of these thugs. Thanks to IPP Officer **John Chaffee**, who works our afternoon shift, here is a happy ending to what might have been just another car break-in listed as a "reported/unsolved crime."

Here are excerpts from his report: "On 02-25-2009 I was working a city approved extra job when I observed **Mr. [Thomas Roosevelt] Webb** enter the parking lot at ... the intersection of Elizabeth St. and Atlantis Ave. Once in the parking lot **Mr. Webb** approached a green Honda Accord and began looking into the vehicle through the windows. **Mr. Webb** then approached the driver's door of the Honda and opened the door ... I could clearly see that **Mr. Webb** was now sitting in the driver's seat of the green Honda with the driver's door still open and he appeared to be looking through the vehicle. ... **Mr. Webb** exited the vehicle and was beginning to walk away from the vehicle ... I then asked **Mr. Webb** where he was headed and he advised Little 5 Points ... I asked **Mr. Webb** if he knew who owned the green Honda and I pointed to the vehicle he had just been inside. **Mr. Webb** advised that he did not know who owned that vehicle." As you may guess, **Mr. Webb's** day deteriorated and he got a free ride to the Fulton County Jail. Thanks, **Officer Chaffee**, for your alertness and actions.

Security Patrol operations are not only about crimes and arrests. You will see two "animal call" entries in the Security Patrol activity report I mentioned above. One of those was a lost dog, then found. The second, however, was responding to a report of an abandoned puppy. The same **Officer Chaffee** mentioned in the Honda caper, above, found the little lost dog. Unable to find its owner, the puppy now has a new home. *Yup, you guessed it; it's now a police dog.* ☺

So, make that Security Patrol even better. Get ready for **Bob Sandage's** fundraising campaign kick-off and do something about it with your wallet. Send your check, payable to the "Inman Park Neighborhood Association," to IPNA, 167 Elizabeth Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30307.

Oh, looks as if my Italian legal friends are not going to be able to help our Pisa Perp. The internet is a wonderful thing but has made it more difficult to well, fix, tickets, as even the Codice della Strada has a long reach in 2009.

So, Greg, better pay up if you and **Sandra** want to visit the Dolomites next year.

SUBJECT: IPP FEB 2009 ACTIVITY REPORT INMAN PARK SECURITY PATROL FEBRUARY 2009 ACTIVITY REPORT

By Sgt. Brent Schierbaum

Directed Patrols	276	Information for Police	4	Burglary In Progress:	1
Drop Ins / Park and Walk	134	Theft	3	911 Hang Up Call	1
Suspicious Person	35	Open Door	2	Person Screaming	1
Alarm Call	14	Injured Person:	2	Abandoned Auto	1
Suspicious Vehicle	9	Animal Call	2	Association Member Contacts:	21
Fight/Disturbance	5	Roadway/Sidewalk Obstruction	2	Field Interview Forms	12
Noise Complaint	5	Illegal Drug Use:	2	ARRESTS: Entering Auto (Felony)	1
Parking Complaint	5	Traffic Violation	2	Parking Citations	1

INMAN PARK CRIME BULLETIN FOR FEBRUARY 2009

By Greg Scott

On Page 11 is a summary of February'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. One recurring theme in these crime reports are the iPods and Laptops taken out of parked cars. Folks, DON'T leave your valuable electronic items (or anything of value, for that matter) in your car, *period* – and spread this Gospel to all who visit or neighborhood. I read a good description of the three types of car break-in thieves in the Midtown Public safety report. The three types are *Survivalists*, *Opportunists*, and *Professionals*. *Survivalists* are breaking into cars to raise money for their living expenses, which unfortunately usually involve drugs and alcohol. *Opportunists* might not set out to break a window, but they see that iPod or laptop sitting on your front seat and just can't help themselves. *Professionals* generally work in groups and hit large parking lots in well organized forays. The ones we have to contend with the most are the first two, and the best way to thwart them is to make sure you have nothing to tempt them in your car. We have seen a drop off in the unusual number of robberies we experienced during the holidays and after the New Year. Even though we are not seeing as much violent crime, we must make a conscious effort to maintain our vigilance and to continue to practice common sense when out and about.

I can't help but think that the relative brevity of the following report has something to do with our Inman Park Patrol and the increased hours we have had the car on the road since the holidays. Keeping the car on the road, however, costs money.

If you are not a current member of the Security Patrol, please contact me at 404-597-8065 or wedfoto390@yahoo.com and I will be happy to explain the benefits of membership. If you are already a supporter, please remember to renew before May 1, and consider upgrading your membership level. Over the next few months we will be rolling out new and exciting benefits available to all Security Patrol members only.

I had the pleasure of riding along with Officer Welch in the IPP car last Saturday night and can vouch for the fact that our officers are serious about keeping our neighborhood safe. Make sure you show them your support and appreciation!

DATE	TIME	CRIME	BLOCK LOCATION	NOTEWORTHY
1/24 – 1/25	11:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Burglary	400 Block North Highland Ave.	Suspect texted victim from inside apartment after prying open back door. Suspect was angry over a break-up with the victim.
1/27	Overnight	Auto Theft	900 Block Waverly Way	Trailer unhitched from truck and stolen.
1/27	Overnight	Theft	800 Block Virgil Ave.	Bike stolen from porch, where it had been chained to the rail.
1/29	5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Theft from Auto	400 Block Moreland Ave.	Rear driver's side window smashed. Stolen: laptop and digital camera.
1/29	3:15 p.m.	Commercial Robbery	400 Block Moreland Ave.	Suspect entered dry cleaners with a long gun and demanded money. Stolen: entire cash register.
1/29	6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Robbery	1000 Block Dekalb Ave.	Victim was walking through park when suspect, wearing a ski mask and armed with a gun, demanded victim's property. Suspect then ran towards the MARTA station.
2/4	12:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Theft from Auto	1100 Block Colquitt Ave.	Rear passenger window smashed. Stolen: backpack with books.
2/4 – 2/5	7:00 p.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Theft from Auto	900 Block Waverly Way	Unsecured vehicle entered and \$2 change taken.
2/8	Overnight	Theft from Auto	Washita Ave. @ Euclid Ave.	Front passenger window smashed. Stolen: iPod.
2/8 - 2/10	2 day period	Theft	Waddell St.	Someone climbed fence, cut locks off of two bikes, and stole both of them.
2/8 - 2/9	Overnight	Theft	Waddell St.	Two bikes stolen from second story porch.
2/9	Overnight	Auto Theft	900 Block Washita Ave.	Car stolen from street.
2/9	1:15 p.m.	Burglary	400 Block Sinclair Ave.	Suspect was discovered in house by victim. Suspect threatened victim with a coffee pot when confronted, and then fled. Stolen: Wallet and contents.
2/11	Overnight	Auto Theft	200 Block Elizabeth St.	Car stolen from street.
2/13	11:00 a.m. –	Auto Theft	100 Block	Car stolen from street.

	5:00 p.m.		Hale St.	
2/13 -2/14	Overnight	Burglary	1000 Block Colquitt Ave.	Crowbar used to enter shed. Bike taken. Suspect was in a white pick-up.
2/17 – 2/18	Overnight	Auto Theft	1100 Block Alta Ave.	Car stolen.
2/18	9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Burglary	100 Block Montag Circle	Apartment door kicked in. Stolen: iPod, laptop, 50” TV, Wii, Playstation 3, and digital camera.
2/19 -2/20	2 day period	Theft from Auto	900 Block Dekalb Ave.	Driver’s window smashed. Stolen: iPod.
2/20	12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.	Theft from Auto	500 Block North Highland Ave.	Driver’s window smashed. Stolen: laptop.

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.inmanpark.org and click on “Subscribe” . Fill out the form and click on “subscribe.”

THEATER AL FRESCO - SELLING OUT SOON

By David Hudson

The Theater Night committee is busily preparing for this year's evening of montage performances by our neighborhood theaters. As was true last year, we expect that this year will be a sell out by the end of March. If you haven't made your reservations yet, its time to call **Marie Wooldridge**, reserve your table and send her your check.

Many of our PRODUCING, PATRON, and ANGEL level sponsors are returning to support this worthwhile cause again this year. We are also delighted to welcome several new sponsors at these levels this year. Their contributions, and yours, make it possible for our local theaters to continue to provide the stellar performances seen throughout the year. Last year because of your generous support, we raised in excess of \$20,000, all of which goes directly to our neighborhood theaters.

If you haven't already responded to this years call for sponsorship, please consider doing so now. There are four levels of sponsorship available, we hope you will select the one that best suits you and join us for this wonderful evening.

Reservations for sponsorship will be accepted until March 20 at which time any remaining tables will become available.

Sponsorship is easy, provides priority table assignments and of course greatly benefits our neighborhood theaters, who add so much to the quality of life in our neighborhood, and its tax deductible. Sponsorship is available on four levels; please choose the one that works best for you.

PRODUCING sponsors: Sponsors of \$1,000 or more. These sponsors will have their names or business names prominently displayed on a banner behind the stage and in the program and will receive one table, seating six, in front of the stage as a part of their sponsorship benefits.

PATRON sponsors: Sponsors of \$500 to \$1,000. These sponsors will have their names listed in the program and on a banner and receive one table seating six close to the stage.

ANGEL sponsors: Sponsors at the \$200 to \$500 level. These sponsors will have their names listed in the program and receive priority seating. Please note that this level of sponsorship does not include the cost of a table. Tables seating six may be reserved for an additional \$100 at the time of your sponsorship commitment.

STAR sponsors: Sponsors of \$100 to \$200 will have their names listed in the program and receive priority seating. This level also does not include the cost of the table. A table seating six may be reserved for an additional cost of \$100 at the time of your sponsorship commitment.

This is a critical time in the lives of many theaters as funding continues to disappear from both public and private sources. We are very concerned about the financial health of our local theatres so we ask you to be particularly generous this year. Their fiscal challenges have increased and they need our donations more than ever. It would be a shame to lose any of our theatres but we fear that is a possibility. We hope that you will consider increasing the amount of money you contribute to this very worthwhile cause and allow us to make a larger contribution to our neighborhood theaters.

Tables not reserved by sponsors as of March 20 will be available for a cost of \$100 per table. Reservations and sponsorship commitments may be made by telephone or e-mail to Marie Wooldridge, who manages this part of our production. As always she will keep up with the reservations, the money, and the number of remaining tables without ever once losing her cool. She can be reached at 404 880-9065 or mjwooldridge@comcast.com. Please remember that actual table assignments are not made until she RECEIVES YOUR CHECK. So the sooner you send in your money, the better your seats will be. We expect a sell out again this year so don't delay. Checks should be made out to “Friends of Inman Park.” All donations are tax deductible.

Once again we thank you for your continuing support of both this event and of the theaters that we are so lucky to have within walking distance of our very own "hood". Come join us for an evening of laughter, great food, lovely tables and fabulous theater all in the company of neighbors and friends.

Feel free to call any of our committee members with any questions you might have or if you would like to volunteer your time to help set up or clean up after the event.

Cathy Bradshaw	404 524-4190
Judy Clements	404 523-9922
David Hudson	404 688-7231
Jane Kourkoulis	404-577-7845
Wendy Patterson	404 584-7503
Terry Sagedy	404 525-9019
Margie Veneziale	404 688-1247
Marie Wooldridge	404 880-9065

NOW APPEARING ON STAGE STARRING IN "HIS OWN LIFE STORY"

Jesse Joseph Norfleet

Born: February 19, 2009 7 lbs. 14 oz. 20¼ inches

To the delight of

Proud Parents:
Julie and Jay Norfleet

And the applause of
Happy Grandparents
Joyce Sayle
and
Joe and Pat Webb

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
Porch Party! Porch Party! Porch Party! Porch Party!

March Porch Party

At the home of

Ellery and Sally McClintock

331 North Highland Avenue

Friday, March 27, 7:30 PM

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!
★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

STILL 495 OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER FOR FESTIVAL!

By Judy Clements, Festival Volunteer Coordinator

What if we prepared for Festival and no one came? Or worse, what if we prepared for Festival and there were no volunteers to help make it a success? Just think about it. No one volunteered to sell beer, or haul trash or sell tickets or house sit or decorate for Butterfly Ball?

It is up to you. **Volunteer now!!**

Every year, we need crowds of Festival volunteers and this year is no exception. In fact we need more than ever. When we launched the Volunteer Signup database in January, there are 793 volunteer slots to fill. So far, 298 of those slots have been filled.

The hottest ticket is always **Beer Sales**. There are only 72 shifts left and once those are gone, they are GONE.

We have added a new category, **Festival Set-Up**. These jobs begin as early as April 18 and are finished by the time Festival opens. Take a look. Maybe you would like to help Melissa haul tables and chairs or help Kristine put up No Parking Signs.

Butterfly Ball needs helpers. Want to decorate? Take tickets? There is a spot for you.

Trash and Recycling volunteers are the unsung Festival heroes. But did you know that you get to drive a golf cart and use a walkie talkie. Now how cool is that?

Did I say singing? Well, maybe not. But you can be a Festival **Entertainment Sound/Production** Assistant and help **Steve Ellison** operate the three entertainment venues.

House Sitting always needs good volunteers for houses on Tour. Working in 2 hour shifts, you can help shepherd crowds through the homes of generous Inman Parkers who get their homes ready for us nosey neighbors to visit. It is easy and fun. Or you can **sell house tour tickets and Inman Park merchandise**. Four locations so pick the one you like best.

And much more. Don't be left out. Go to www.inmanpark.org and click on Volunteer. If you have problems or questions, just call me at 404-523-9922 or send me an e-mail at: judyclements@bellsouth.net.

LEAVING A LEGACY ONE BRICK AT A TIME

*By Regina A. Brewer
Mary Lin PTA President*

Your community school, Mary Lin Elementary, and its PTA have launched a new fundraiser this year—a bricks campaign that will beautify the playground and create a lasting legacy at the school. We are hoping that you will join us and create a lasting legacy of your community partnership.

Several years ago, we were able to construct a wonderful playground at Mary Lin because of the generosity of our families and the community. While the equipment is still in great shape, the landscape around it has major erosion and drainage issues. Unfortunately, the Atlanta Public School system does not fund playgrounds or playground improvements. To solve these problems, we had a landscape design completed which will address the issues with brick paver pathways. The brick pavers create a pervious surface to allow better drainage but will prevent erosion from continuing to degrade the playground area. It's a large project and will be broken up into different phases.

Our goal for the first phase is to sell 400 bricks which would be installed in the area where the teachers and students congregate. This area floods easily after it rains and becomes a large mud pit. Just improving this one area will make an incredible difference in our playground.

Starting at \$45, these bricks are an easy way to give back to our dynamic, award-winning community school. Since we are not having an auction this year, we are hoping that you can support our school with the purchase of bricks. We would love to have you be a part of this project and leave your own legacy for Mary Lin. Mary Lin is a wonderful school because of the support from our families and the community. We hope you will choose to be part of this wonderful opportunity. Also, bricks are tax deductible!

The bricks can be purchased online at www.marylinelementary.com/shop or if you have any questions, contact Cherie King at: fundraising@marylinelementary.com

Thank you so much!

2009 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

2009

MARCH 25

March
by **Geraldine Brooks**
Hosted by
Sarah Kirk
61 Waddell

APRIL

NO BOOK!
VOLUNTEER FOR
FESTIVAL

MAY 21

Thirteenth Tale
by **Diane Setterfield**
Hosted by
Oreon Mann
877 Edgewood Ave.

JUNE 24

The Double Bind
by **Chris Benjamin**
Hosted by
Linda Dunham
12 1st Ave. in Kirkwood

JULY 22

The Bonesetter's Daughter
by **Amy Tan**

AUGUST 26

Alice's Adventure in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass
by **Lewis Carol**

SEPTEMBER 23

The Optimist's Daughter
by **Eudora Welty**

OCTOBER 28

Frankenstein
by **Mary Shelley**

For Information: 404-688-7330

NPU – N REPRESENTATIVE

By Megan Holder – Chandler

For those of you who read my article in last month's *Advocator*, you know that I emphasized the importance of bringing the appropriate documentation and paperwork when you appear before the NPU board. A big thank you to **Jorge Pacheco**, executive chef at Park's Edge, for doing everything just right when appearing before the board for his liquor license review. He made IPNA look good!

The NPU voted to approve the Beltline Master Plan for Subarea 5 with the three conditions requested by the neighborhood.

1. The transit-oriented development classification at Marta be better defined.
2. The Gunby Street property be reduced from high-density to consistent with our historic guidelines.
3. **Peter Hand's** property be classified as Mixed Use.

√ Because of timing, these amendments will be made to the plan after it is presented to the City Council. There was also a vote on two ordinances this month.

Z-08-78 Substitute:

An ordinance to amend the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances, Part 16, zoning, of the City's land development code for the purpose of creating a new planned development zoning district, entitled "Planned Development – Conservation Subdivision (PD-CS)" and associated regulations, and for other purposes.

The board voted to support this ordinance because it encourages responsible and sustainable development.

Z-08-048 Supportive Housing;

An ordinance to amend various sections of the zoning code of the City of Atlanta, for the purpose of clarifying and/or defining certain terms related to supporting housing and shelters; to provide where such uses shall be permitted; and for other purposes.

The board voted not to support this ordinance. While the board does support Supportive Housing (SH), we did not feel that this specific ordinance was in the best interest of our neighborhoods. We felt allowing SH in zoning districts such as MRC and MR was not appropriate and did not feel the ordinance allowed the neighborhoods an active role in the approval and oversight of SH.

2009 BUTTERFLY BALL - A CRASH COURSE

By Karin Mebius

(Butterfly Ball Ticket Order Form is on Page 17.)

When/where: Friday April 24, 2009, from 8:00 p.m. - Midnight under the big tent on Euclid Ave.

Butterfly Ball is our yearly blowout neighborhood fest, organized by the IPNA Festival Committee. If your IPNA membership is current, you will receive a printed invitation, which will be personally delivered to your door by one of our kind volunteers.

Tickets have to be pre-ordered and are given out on a first-come, first-served basis. You can either reserve individual tickets or reserve a table. **A table seats eight and you can only reserve one table per household.**

We prefer you buy your tickets on-line by going to www.inmanpark.org/butterflyball. The website will be opened on March 21st. Alternately, you can order tickets by mail with the Ticket Request Form printed elsewhere in this *Advocator* (and one will be enclosed with your personal invitation).

Last year's band was a huge success and therefore we decided to bring them back. Their name is **Kingsized**. When I talked to the bandleader and lead singer "**Big Mike**" Geier a while ago, he told me they already have some SPECIAL plans for Butterfly Ball, so I'm sure we'll have a blast.

We'll have a food buffet and two cash bars. Non-alcoholic drinks are complimentary. The dress code could be called "Formal with a wink". Sure, go all out with that tux or that gorgeous gown if you like. But also feel free to bring your funny hat, mask, or shocking pink feather boa, you'll steal the show!

We still need some volunteers, notably to help decorate the tent on Friday afternoon. So if you're interested, e-mail me at karinmebius@gmail.com or sign up at www.inmanpark.org!

CALLING ALL INMAN PARKERS!!!

By Brett Lauter

We need **VOLUNTEERS** at the Inman Park United Methodist Church on Saturday, MARCH 28 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.!! The Church is in dire need of major and minor repairs and we need any and all volunteers.

Peachtree Road United Methodist Church is providing much needed resources to help fix up our community centerpiece but we NEED VOLUNTEERS!!

The Inman Park United Methodist Church serves as more than an historic church, it serves as a community center which hosts neighbor meetings, clubs, and organizations. Please help us return the Church to its former elegance.

What: Volunteer Day to fix/refurbish Historic Inman Park United Methodist Church.

Where: Inman Park United Methodist Church, 1015 Edgewood Ave. (near the corner of Edgewood Ave. & Elizabeth St.).

When: Saturday, March 28, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Who: VOLUNTEERS from Inman Park and beyond.
Why: Peachtree Road United Methodist Church is providing needed resources for repairs.
How: E-mail **Brett Lauter** at brettlauter@msn.com to volunteer.

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PUBLIC SECURITY CHAIR OF FESTIVAL

By Kristine Sandage

It's that time of year again and the Inman Park Festival 2009 will be here soon! As we get closer to Festival time, I want to ask for the cooperation from the neighborhood to ensure everyone has a fun and safe festival.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING YOUR DOGS TO FESTIVAL! This is a very serious issue. Legally, pets are prohibited at the Festival by Atlanta City Ordinance Sec. 142-63(e), and you could get a citation from the Atlanta Police for bringing your pets into the Festival. Often you will see dogs at other smaller festivals; however, due to our "Class B" status, which is an anticipated attendance between 20,000 and 49,000 people, we are not allowed to have pets at all. This applies to all dogs; even the small, purse-sized dogs are not allowed.

Safety is another reason not to bring your dog into the Festival. Large crowds can cause anxiety for some dogs. Additionally, children may unknowingly provoke dogs as well. For the well-being of your dog and the safety of everyone attending, please leave your dogs at home. If you live within the perimeter of the Festival and need to walk your dog during Festival hours, please be sure not to bring them into the main areas or you will be cited.

Once again, there will be no dogs in this year's parade. Sad as this may be, the Festival Committee has made this decision based on the fact that when others saw dogs from the parade, they felt they were justified in bringing their own dogs.

I would also like to ask for everyone's help this year to communicate the "**NO DOGS**" message to everyone who may attend Festival. Get the word out! Also, during Festival, you can help in policing for dogs and let us know when you see a dog within the boundaries of Festival. I would greatly appreciate this help.

I have another message for the residents on the North end of Inman Park. The house tour bus route is changing. The proposed route will be Cleburne Ave. to Seminole Ave. to Sinclair Ave. and then left on Washita Ave. to Euclid Ave. There will be no parking on these streets, particularly Sinclair Ave. between Seminole Ave. and Washita Ave., in order for the bus to navigate these streets. Towing will be strictly enforced in this area. So be prepared and don't park there if you don't want to be towed. Please contact me if you have any questions, 678-521-4329.

So get excited for Festival; it will be here before we know it!

ECONOMIC DOWNTURN + ATLANTA DEFICITS = LESS POLICE + MORE CRIME

By Richard Shapiro

Do the math. Despite dueling statistics on crime rates, one thing's for sure—we are all still concerned about the level of crime, several terrible incidents recently, the 10% Atlanta Police reductions, and the dangerous world we live in. It is critically important to do everything we can to protect ourselves.

Now beginning its 11th year of existence, the Little 5 Points Atlanta Police Mini-Precinct continues to be a cornerstone in our multi-prong approach to reduce crime in our community (while there is no magic bullet, each step we take helps incrementally). The Mini-Precinct continues to provide a crucial increased police presence in our community, now more critical than ever with Police furloughs and reductions in force. But we need your help to keep it open.

The L5P Mini-Precinct is a public/private partnership between the City of Atlanta and community. The community provided the funds to renovate the space and continues to pay for rent, utilities, and other operating costs. The Police Dept. provides the officers, equipment, supplies, video surveillance, etc. The bulk of the funding for this satellite police station comes from the L5P Business Association members and substantial contributions from the Inman Park Neighborhood Association and the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization. The rest of the funding is provided by contributions from individual households in the area.

Yes we pay taxes, *yes* there should be enough cops on the streets, *yes* we should be fighting mad and fighting hard to improve that, and *yes* in a perfect world we wouldn't have to pay extra for better police coverage—but it's not a perfect world, crime continues to be a major problem, and we have to face the realities. Having a Mini-Precinct here is a great opportunity for us to get a lot of police presence bang for our private bucks.

Since it opened, the increased presence and visibility of Atlanta Police Officers that the Mini-Precinct brings to our community has made a significant difference in the conduct of those hanging out in L5P and the surrounding community. We are particularly pleased to continue to have Officer Dino LaRosa (an aggressive officer with over 20 years of familiarity with the L5P area including many years as our local bicycle officer) assigned to the L5P Mini-Precinct.

Our area is far less dangerous than it used to be, when shootings, stabings, armed robberies, vicious assaults, with some fatalities, were practically routine—these types of incidents have become relatively rare since the advent of the L5P Mini-Precinct (working in conjunction with several other anti-crime initiatives). It's really a no-brainer. Having more police around (staffing the precinct, bike and motorcycle patrols headquartered there, officers coming and going, taking breaks, etc.) makes criminals and problematic elements tend to stay away and/or watch their behavior. This protects people, possessions and property values.

Closing the Mini-Precinct would be irreversible; if it closes we won't get it back. That will make the criminals happy—but we'd suffer the consequences.

Keeping the Mini-Precinct here requires funding. Please send your contribution now. And if you haven't contributed to the Mini-Precinct Fund in the past, now is a good time to consider joining the hundreds of your neighbors who have been supporting this worthwhile endeavor. It's the right thing to do for your community, your neighbors, and yourself. A yearly contribution of \$40 or more is suggested. It's a small price to pay to insure this valuable project continues to serve our area.

Please invest in your community and send your check to:

L5PBA Mini-Precinct Fund
P.O. Box 5733
Atlanta, GA 31107

Be sure to include your name, address and phone number. These contributions should be tax deductible—check with your tax professional.

CAMP LADYBUG AT MONTESSORI IN TOWN

By Kristine Sandage

Montessori In Town announces registration for its summer program "Camp Ladybug" is open to pre-school aged children in our community. Camp Ladybug is a hands-on nature based summer camp that includes gardening, art, cooperative games, and water play.

Children bring their own brown bag lunches. The cost is \$150 per session.

There are four sessions:

- 1st Session: June 8 – 12
at Poncey-Highland Campus
- 2nd Session: June 15 – 19
at Poncey-Highland Campus
- 3rd Session: July 6 – 10
at Glen Castle Campus
- 4th Session: July 13 – 17
at Glen Castle Campus

The Poncey-Highland Campus is located at 1085 Ponce de Leon Ave. in the education building of the Druid Hills Baptist Church. The Glen Castle Campus is located at 750 Glenwood Ave., S.E. in an historic set of buildings in Grant Park. Montessori In Town is an AMI recognized school.

To registrar contact Montessori In Town at 404-784-1038 or e-mail to: montintown@mindspring.com.

The registration deadline is May 15, 2009.

ING MARATHON & HALF MARATHON

Press Release

The following information is provided to inform the Atlanta and Decatur communities about the upcoming ING Georgia Marathon & Half Marathon and to help people who live, work, and worship near the event area to plan their travel to reduce traffic delays during race weekend.

Race Weekend Events on Friday, March 27 through Sunday, March 29, 2009:

The ING Georgia Marathon includes events for the whole family as participants, volunteers, and spectators:

Friday, March 27, at 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 28, at 9:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.: Health & Fitness Expo at the Georgia Dome.

Free and open to the public, features fitness-oriented speakers, exhibitors, and vendors.

Saturday, March 28, Publix 5K Run/Walk at 9:30 a.m. and Publix Kids Fun Run for children 10 and under at 10:30 a.m. at Grant Park.

Race day registration for both events opens at 7:30 a.m.

Sunday, March 29, 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - ING Georgia Marathon & Half Marathon, start and finish at Centennial Olympic Park.

The Marathon and Half Marathon Course - Sunday March 29, 2009. The ING Georgia Marathon & Half Marathon course starts and finishes at Centennial Olympic Park and goes through beautiful in-town neighborhoods, by parks and historic sites, and through 4 college courses is entirely within Atlanta, and is bounded by Edgewood Ave. on the south, Moreland Ave. on the east, Virginia Ave., Piedmont Park, and 10th St. on the north, and Marietta St. on the west. The Marathon includes the Half Marathon course and crosses Moreland to add a trip to Decatur and back before rejoining the Half Marathon on North Highland Ave. The course map shows the locations of the Start-Finish area, the Marathon and Half Marathon mile points, 17 Hydration Stations, and other key information.

For More Information (including maps, etc.) please visit the Community section at:
www.INGGeorgiaMarathon.com.

Additional Community information will frequently be added to this website, so you may want to visit it quite often.

Our objective is to give the Community advance information about the event, to help people adjust their local travel plans to reduce delays and to encourage spectator participation.

Although this event has passed, we wish to thank the City Council for this honor.

Council Communications
City Hall
55 Trinity Ave. SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

Date: February 25, 2009

Atlanta City Council to honor Inman Park Arboretum

ATLANTA – District 2 City Council member Kwanza Hall will honor the Inman Park Arboretum on **Monday March 2, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.** at the regular meeting of the Atlanta City Council.

The Inman Park Arboretum was established in 2006 to educate the public about trees and tree species, to promote biodiversity in Atlanta's intown neighborhoods, and to create a new generation of advocates for the City's tree canopy. As spring comes to the City, Hall urged Atlantans to "Do yourself a favor: Put on your walking shoes and experience this remarkable outdoor museum for living trees. When you finish, you will appreciate the role that community-based groups can play in creating a greener, more sustainable Atlanta."

The Inman Park Arboretum emerged from a partnership between residents and business owners, the Inman Park Neighborhood Association, Inman Park Tree Watch, Trees Atlanta, and the Georgia Forestry Commission. **Greg Levine** of Trees Atlanta hailed the Arboretum as "one of our most successful projects." "For many years, the neighborhood had been concerned about the age and health of their trees," he said. "Through the Arboretum, a devoted band of volunteers put forest replacement and care in overdrive, resulting in a healthier urban forest. The Arboretum has put trees in the forefront of importance to Inman Park neighbors."

Lisa Burnett, President of the Inman Park Neighborhood Association, underscored the role that trees play in the neighborhood's identity. "These trees are as much a part of our neighborhood's history as our historic homes. They are vital to the quality of life that we currently enjoy in Inman Park, and to the future that we want for our children and grandchildren."

Since the Arboretum's opening in April 2007, volunteers have identified more than 75 tree varieties that visitors can enjoy while walking an area bounded by Dekalb Ave. on the south and North Highland Ave. on the north. According to Amy Higgins, one of two neighborhood coordinators for the Arboretum, "The Inman Park Arboretum has chosen to feature elaborately flowering trees, so spring is a wonderful time to take the walking tour and enjoy the vibrant blossoms. Highlights include several varieties of cherry trees, magnolias, and crabapples."

To take a self-guided walking tour of the Arboretum, download the brochure from the Trees Atlanta website: <http://www.treesatlanta.org/Resources/inmanarb.pdf>

For more information about this proclamation, contact Councilmember **Kwanza Hall** at 404-330-6038 or khall@atlantaga.gov
(*Editor's Note: What a wonderful honor for our TreeWatch Committee.*)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

COUNTDOWN TO FESTIVAL FROM MARCH 14, 2009, TO APRIL 24, 2009 ☞☞☞

31 DAYS

DATE	DAY/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION/PHONE NUMBER
Mar. 17	Tues.	ST. PATRICK'S DAY	
Mar. 18	Wed. 7:30 p.m.	IPNA Meeting	1015 Edgewood Ave. 404-581-0576
Mar. 20	Fri.	FIRST DAY OF SPRING	
Mar. 25	Wed. 7:00 p.m.	Book Club	61 Waddell Ave. 404-688-7330
Mar. 26	Thurs. 10.00 p.m.	NOTE EARLY ADVOCATOR DEADLINE: ADVOCATOR DEADLINE	e-mail: theadvocator@bellsouth.net
Mar. 27	Fri 7:30 p.m.	Porch Party	331 North Highland Ave. 404-523-4801
Apr. 01	Wed.	APRIL FOOLS DAY	
Apr. 05	Sun.	PALM SUNDAY	
Apr. 09	Thurs.	PASSOVER	
Apr. 10	Fri.	GOOD FRIDAY	
Apr. 12	Sun.	EASTER	

"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
03/17/09	Arboretum Walk led by Trees Atlanta as Preservation Partner in phoenixflies.org. Meet at Lake Ave. & Elizabeth St. at 1:30 P.M.	Trees Atlanta 404-522-4097
04/14/09	Monthly meeting: 7:30 p.m., 177 Elizabeth St. Call Richard Westrick.	404-523-4801
05/12/09	Monthly meeting: 7:30 p.m., 177 Elizabeth St. Call Richard Westrick.	404-523-4801

MARCH AGENDA

- I. Welcome and Introduction of Newcomers**
- II. Minutes of Last Meeting**
- III. Announcements**
- IV. Police Officers' Reports**
- V. Elected Officials' Reports**
- VI. IPNA Officers' Reports**
 - A. Zoning:**
 - 1. NPU-N Report**
 - B. Public Safety**
 - C. Historic Preservation**
 - D. Treasurer**
 - 1. Report of Regular Expenditures.**
 - 2. \$20,000 sidewalks (budgeted).**
 - 3. Approximately \$3,000 Supplies and postage for GDOT/Amtrak opposition (not budgeted).**
 - E. Secretary**
 - F. President**
 - G. Planning**
- VII. Committee Reports**
- VIII. New Business:**
- IX. Old Business**
- X. Adjournment**