

# The Inman Park Advocator

Atlanta's Small Town Downtown News



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Newsletter of Inman Park Neighborhood Association • 245 North Highland Ave., N.E. • STE. 230-401 • Atlanta, GA 30307

## A FINAL WORD FROM YOUR EDITOR:

It is time for me to stop doing the *Advocator*. I have been honored to serve the neighborhood. In the immortal words of Edward R. Murrow: "Good Night and Good Luck." I will see you around the neighborhood.

Diane Floyd

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Regina Brewer

### Summer Summary

It's August and, while it is still summer, I think a summary of the happenings is in order. Your board has been very busy dealing with a number of issues and, as always, nothing is ever easy here in Inman Park.

### Parks Edge

As most of you know, Park's Edge restaurant located on Bernina has been a hot issue for IP. The owners were arrested for violating fire life safety codes by holding a party without a permit, without a business license, and pouring without a liquor license. They were cited for erecting an illegal tent in their parking lot and, additionally, they were operating a valet service without a valet permit and the valet was parking cars on a public road and on a fire lane, effectively blocking emergency vehicles from coming up Bernina and Copenhill. Employees were throwing trash and cigarette butts on the neighboring resident's roof and the restaurant had live music when they were not authorized to do so.

The restaurant owners changed the name of the corporation and had a new agent apply for the liquor license and, despite Inman Park and NPU-N's unanimous opposition to granting a liquor license, the City of Atlanta Liquor License Review Board (LRB) ignored all the evidence and recommended granting the liquor license. More egregious perhaps was that the owners went on the local news and stated that Inman Park's opposition was racially based. This could not be more false and slanderous.

Since then, there have been some con-

tinued issues with the valet service directing diners to park in the fire lane. They also violate the city sign ordinance by placing their sandwich boards near an intersection, and they leave them up 24/7. This is subject to a \$1000 fine per day. For many neighbors, this has been a frustrating and disheartening experience. Some good news came out of this situation. The Mayor has authorized a task force to look at the LRB and if it is operating in a proper manner. They will be looking at who is appointed, their level of attendance, any undeclared conflicts of interest, and by-law compliance. We have three representatives on this task force--Bill McMurry, Amy Higgins, and Bob Sandage. All of them offer a different perspective when it comes to liquor licenses and restaurants in Inman Park. I urge everyone to remember that we have many wonderful restaurants in Inman Park and that they need to be commended for working with us instead of against us. Those are the restaurants we need to support by eating at their establishments.

### Online Membership and New Directory

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Judy Clements and James McManus for finally putting our membership application online. We can now join IPNA and the Security Patrol online, and the directory is fully digital. We have taken that database and now have an email mail-out list for important announcements. The membership rates were increased from \$5 to \$10, but that is still a phenomenal deal. You receive the directory, you have priority for purchasing Butterfly Ball tickets, and you

are invited to the IPNA Christmas Party which offers live music, wonderful food, and an open bar. This year we will be checking membership at the door at the party, so you need to be a member no later than November 15. Otherwise, you can attend but you will need to pay for your admission. Many, many thanks to Betty Ridderhoff for her hard work on the directory all these years and Diane Floyd for last year.

### Springvale Park Visioning Plan and New Playground

After receiving a grant from Park Pride, we now have a new Master Plan for Springvale Park. The good news is that we will have a larger, improved playground and a plan for improving the park's infrastructure. The bad news is that it will take quite a bit of funding to fully execute the plan. We need a hydrology study to explain why the grass around the pond is always wet and to identify the natural spring and how it impacts the park. We also have hardscape that is treacherous. The neighborhood has to consider how we address the berm that divides the two sides of the park. Leaving the dirt and constructing a complex set of stairs on the more natural side of the park is an incredible structural undertaking. Removing the berm and reconnecting the park with a bridge is another option, but bridges are also expensive and there are concerns from the immediate neighbors about creating public safety issues. At this time, the neighborhood needs to focus on correcting the infrastructure issues and creating a new and safer playground.

### Other Items

We've also been working on a traffic study on Elizabeth Street with the Old Fourth Ward. We know that the intersection at Elizabeth and N. Highland must be improved and crosswalks must be installed along N. Highland. The city is still looking at the information that was gathered and the wheels of the city turn very slowly.

Work continues on the potential rezoning of the buildings where Wisteria, Il Localino, and North Highland Pub are

located. We met several times with the owners, their attorney, and the immediate neighbors. The proposal is to re-zone the property from RG2 (multiple family residential) to NC (neighborhood commercial). We worked with the attorney who represents Inman Park in zoning matters and gave a proposal to the owner's attorney in February and await their response.

We updated our bylaws which included creating a new board position, VP of Communications. Leigh Hays has taken that

job on and we have a new Facebook Page, we will be revamping the *Advocator*, and we will be updating our web site to better serve Inman Park.

So as you can see, we've been busy this year and this summer. We will be having our August meeting at the Wrecking Bar again. It's been a lot of fun to have a different venue that is also fully accessible to our disabled residents. See you at the meeting!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS				
DATE	DAY/TIME	EVENT	Pg.	LOCATION/PHONE NUMBER
Aug. 17	Wed. 7:30 PM	IPNA MEETING		Wrecking Bar, 292 Moreland Avenue
Aug. 18	Thurs.			
Aug. 19	Fri.			
Aug. 20	Sat.			
Aug. 21	Sun.			
Aug. 22	Mon.			
Aug. 23	Tues.			
Aug. 24	Wed. 7:00 PM	Book Club, <i>Lost Boys of Sudan</i>	10	337 Drexel Avenue, Decatur
Aug. 25	Thurs. 7:00 PM	NPU-N Meeting		L5P Community Center, 1083 Austin Ave.
Aug. 26	Fri. 7:30 PM	Porch Party	8	116 Elizabeth Street
Aug. 27	Sat.			
Aug. 28	Sun.			
Aug. 29	Mon.			
Aug. 30	Tues.			
Aug. 31	Wed.			
Sept. 1	Thurs. 10:00 PM	ADVOCATOR Deadline		advocator@inmanpark.org
Sept. 2	Fri.			
Sept. 3	Sat.			
Sept. 4	Sun.			
Sept. 5	Mon.	LABOR DAY		
Sept. 6	Tues.			
Sept. 7	Wed.			
Sept. 8	Thurs. 7:30 PM	First 2012 Festival Meeting	9	211 Hurt Street
Sept. 9	Fri.			
Sept. 10	Sat.			
Sept. 11	Sun.			
Sept. 12	Mon.			
Sept. 13	Tues.			
Sept. 14	Wed.			
Sept. 15	Thurs.			
Sept. 16	Fri.			

# LIVING IN INMAN PARK

**Whether you have lived here forever or just moved in yesterday—here's some information & things to know**

## **Great neighbors surround you! There are lots of way to connect.**

- Join the Yahoo Group. Try this link: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/inmanparkga>. Information you need to know & great community resources.
- Find us on Facebook - [www.facebook.com/InmanPark](http://www.facebook.com/InmanPark)
- Join the Monthly Neighborhood Meetings—Always the 3rd Wed of the Month at 7:30pm. Meetings are fun & keep you in the know. Location announced on Yahoo/Advocator.
- JOIN the neighborhood association—just \$10 a year (your first year is free!).  
You can join anytime | Be sure to complete the application so you are registered as a neighbor in good standing for voting rights & receiving your invite to the Christmas party.
- Advocators are published monthly & delivered to your porch as well as posted online - [www.inmanpark.org](http://www.inmanpark.org) for those of you traveling.

## **TRASH & RECYCLING & YARD DEBRIS:**

Pick up is NOW Monday's for the Neighborhood!

**Inman Park is a historic district & there are rules about making changes to your houses/buildings.** If you are thinking of adding a fence or making changes to your house/structure, be sure to make sure you understand the guidelines BEFORE you begin work. Our VP of Historic Preservation, Erin Kane is ready to help you—contact her via email.

[historic.preservation@inmanpark.org](mailto:historic.preservation@inmanpark.org). Don't rely on the City of Atlanta for info on the historic guidelines for Inman Park. Not knowing the rules isn't an excuse and it may mean you have to redo it to meet the rules.

## **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY VS the City of Atlanta**

- City of Atlanta picks up your weekly trash, recycling & lawn clippings. Extra large pickups require special call.
- You need to pick up after your own dog.

You are responsible for the upkeep of your sidewalk and the area between the sidewalk/curb but you can't block off your sidewalk with a car or lawn debris or other obstructions

## **Inman Park Security Patrol**

- DIAL 9-1-1 first. ALWAYS be it suspicious person or emergency.
- You can join the Security Patrol at anytime. It is an annual membership - one year from whenever you join.

# MINUTES OF THE JULY 20, 2011 IPNA MEETING

By Jaclyn McDougal, Secretary

## WELCOME

Regina Brewer welcomed the group and thanked Bob and Kristine Sandage for graciously hosting the meeting at the Marianne, the upstairs space of the Wrecking Bar. The members of the IPNA Board introduced themselves.

## INTRODUCTION OF NEWCOMERS

Randy Howard introduced himself. Randy and his wife Tonie just moved to the neighborhood from Smyrna.

## MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

A motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting was made, seconded and carried.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pat Westrick reminded everyone that this month's porch party will be at Oreon Mann's house on Friday, July 29 at 7:30 p.m. Oreon lives at 877 Edgewood Ave. Please bring a dish to share and your favorite beverage.

Richard Westrick thanked the festival committee for donating the tips from Festival beer sales to the Tree Watch Committee. The Tree Watch Committee is very appreciative of the over \$4,700 donation.

Matt Hicks, Chair of the Historic Old 4th Ward Park Conservancy passed out information about the park and asked for neighbors to become members. The conservancy needs a large member base in order to solicit donations from corporations--the larger their membership base the more money they can ask for. More details can be found on their website- <http://www.h4wpc.com/>

## POLICE OFFICER'S REPORT

*Lt. Schierbaum, Officer Chaffey and Major Dalton*

### 2 robberies to report in Inman Park

The first happened at 3:30 a.m. on a Monday in the parking lot of The Albert in the Elizabeth/Austin area. Two women were waiting in the parking lot for their friends to get off of work when they were approached by two men who showed them a gun and took their purses and then fled on foot. It was noted that the robbers were very quiet in order to not draw attention from the employees that were inside the restaurant.

The second occurred around 9:00 p.m. on a Wednesday night. A woman

was walking down N. Highland near Carmel talking on her cell phone when she was approached by a young male who demanded her phone. A scuffle ensued, the perp pushed the woman against a street sign, showed a pistol, dropped said pistol, picked it up and ran into the park. While the characteristics of these robberies do not indicate any sort of pattern, nor is it thought that they are connected, it is important to reiterate to everyone to be aware of your surroundings at all times and to avoid putting yourselves in situations where you may be isolated or distracted, particularly at night. Even though analysis of these incidents shows that they are not indicative of a trend, and appear to be crimes of opportunity unlike the "rolling robberies" we have experienced in the past, it is vital that we all stay on our toes and take care to avoid becoming a victim. The Inman Park Patrol has increased its directed patrols in areas where these crimes are most likely to occur. We are resolute that one armed robbery in IP is one armed robbery too many.

### Car break-ins

On a Tuesday 20 cars at Bass Lofts and 15 cars at Steel Apartments were broken into. The odd thing about these break-ins is that only 20% of the cars had anything stolen. The perps went through smashing windows. At Steel Apartments there was a security guard and police have looked into him, although he is not a suspect at this time. Three people were apprehended after police, responding to a suspicious activity call, found them and stolen goods in their minivan on North Avenue. They are being questioned in the Inman Park car break-ins.

The officers reminded everyone to keep your valuables out of your car, be aware of your surroundings and report any suspicious activity to 911 and then to the IP Security Patrol. They also remind everyone to write down and record the serial numbers on your items so they can tie robbers back to crimes and return your items. Many items are not returned to the owners because the owners do not have the serial numbers.

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

Jay Tribby, Chief of Staff to District 2 City Councilmember Kwanza Hall, reported that the Council voted on two important fiscal matters at the end of

June: the FY12 City budget and pension reform. He reported that during the final hours leading up to the budget's adoption, Kwanza and a number of his colleagues worked successfully to restore funding cuts slated for the Parks Department. Pension reform, which was passed unanimously by the Council, will begin to save the city between \$20-30 million dollars annually starting in November. Currently, 1/5 of the city budget goes to pension obligations.

Harris Street/John Portman Way Renaming: In response to a lawsuit filed by the Atlanta Preservation Center and five individual citizens alleging violations of City of Atlanta Ordinance 138-8 and the Georgia Open and Public Meetings Act, on June 20, 2011, the Atlanta City Council voted unanimously to repeal the ordinance renaming Harris Street for John Portman. However, the issue of renaming Harris Street is not dead. Albert Maslia has already applied on behalf of the Portman Commission to once again begin the process of renaming the street. The Portman Commission was sued for not following the City's process correctly. A public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, July 26, at 10 :00 a.m., during the Council's City Utilities Committee meeting. Depending on the outcome of the public hearing, the full Council could take up the renaming as early as its Monday, August 15, meeting.

A neighbor asked if Kwanza knows that some people in Inman Park are opposed to his legislation to extend City pouring hours to 4:00 a.m. Jay said Kwanza is aware of this, and that some residents in other District 2 neighborhoods are opposed as well. Kwanza's original intent was to find a way to permit later pouring hours in the Edgewood/Auburn Ave and downtown areas, primarily as an economic development tool. Since the citywide legislation was defeated in committee, the matter is "dead" for the time being.

The issue was raised about metal plates in the roadways and sidewalks. Jay and City Auditor Leslie Ward, an Inman Park resident, explained that, historically, the City's agreements with utilities companies have been weak, with the result that the companies come into neighborhoods without much advance notice and without being responsive to

residents' concerns. Jay said that, according to recent media reports, the City is trying to strengthen its hand with utilities companies, a move that Kwanza welcomes.

A neighbor asked about how to replace broken and/ or stolen trash cans and how to get the blue recycling bins. Jay said to email the City's Public Works Department at:

[publicworks@atlantaga.gov](mailto:publicworks@atlantaga.gov)

as well as Kwanza at:

[khall@atlantaga.gov](mailto:khall@atlantaga.gov)

and they will try to get expedited delivery service.

## IPNA OFFICERS' REPORTS

### **PRESIDENT: Regina Brewer**

Regina allocated her time to Matthew Garbett, President of Old Fourth Ward Neighborhood Association. Regina went to O4W's meeting and spoke as part of efforts to reach out to our neighbors. O4W is interested in forming alliances with other neighborhoods and becoming more involved in all issues.

Matt referred to his letter in July's *Advocator* about the pending legislation that will regulate Farmers' Markets in the City of Atlanta. He asked for any volunteers in Inman Park to help with the legislation and create a plan that will benefit everyone and remove the language that impedes this process (i.e. not taking WIC or food stamps, planning for walkability not forcing driving and parking, placement and zoning in neighborhoods, commercial vs. residential and temporary structures). More information can be found in the July *Advocator* and online. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the IPNA board.

### **COMMUNICATIONS: V.P. Leigh Hays**

Leigh is asking for volunteers to put out signs throughout the neighborhood in high visibility areas to announce the IPNA Meetings. Please contact Leigh if you can help.

For over 25 years Diane Floyd & Betty Ridderhoff have, between the two of them, been doing the *Advocator* with little help from anyone else. It is a huge task and other neighborhoods typically have 5 – 7 people involved in this process. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the *Advocator*, please contact Leigh Hays. Leigh has taken over the advertising section of the *Advocator* and

will be following up on unpaid ads. If you have not paid for your ad, please do so or they will no longer run in the *Advocator*. Ads are due by the 25th of the month and can be emailed to [ads@inmanpark.org](mailto:ads@inmanpark.org).

### **PLANNING: V.P. David Laube**

Research continues regarding the area on North Highland in front of the Highland Bakery to see if Pedestrian Crossing signs are needed.

Work is still in progress on a plan for the North Highland Ave./ Elizabeth St. Intersection.

### **NPU: Megan Holder**

Megan Holder was not at the meeting so Jonathan Miller reported both OMG Taco and Inman Perk were approved for liquor licenses.

Jonathan reported on a plan to limit parking on one-way streets, although Inman Park is not affected yet. This is targeting Arizona Ave., two streets in Chandler Park and one street in Reyonldstown and would limit parking to only one side of the street on one-way streets. More information should be available at the next NPU meeting. NPU meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month at Little 5 Points Community Center.

### **ZONING: V.P. Alan Travis**

Parks Edge was approved for their liquor license on June 7 and should be back up and running any day. Parks Edge is now responsible for holding up their end of the licensing agreement and operating within the law.

Alan reported on a new committee approved by the Mayor's office that will monitor the License Review Board, their decisions and how their recommendations are determined. This committee will include three Inman Park residents: Bill McMurry, Bob Sandage and Amy Higgins.

Mindy Thompson of Sard & Leff presented on behalf of Barcelona Wine Bar, which will be opening on N. Highland Ave. There are extensive changes being done to the space at significant expense to them. They are hoping to be done with construction in mid-September and open in October. The hours will be Monday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 2 :00 a.m. and Sundays 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. They will serve Spanish-inspired food and wines and have a full bar. The owner, Scott Lawton, is originally from Vinings, lives in the neighbor-

hood and has been in the restaurant business for over 10 years. Barcelona Wine Bar operates 6 other restaurants - 5 in Connecticut and 1 in New York.

Mindy announced Barcelona Wine Bar is currently hiring restaurant managers. For more information email [hr@barcelonawinebar.com](mailto:hr@barcelonawinebar.com) and/or visit their website:

<http://barcelonawinebar.com/>

They are seeking a liquor license. There were no attendees at the immediate neighbors meeting. A motion was made seconded and carried to support their request.

### **HISTORIC PRESERVATION: Erin Kane**

936 Austin Ave. is not ready so no report was made.

1082 Alta Ave -- four neighbors attended the immediate neighbors meeting and approved the application for a Type III Certificate of Appropriateness. The work was described as adding an addition to the rear of the house, finishing out the basement, new front porch that will match the house and a walkway to the house. A tree has to be removed for the extension, but current tenants noted the tree is diseased and dying and needs to come down anyway. A motion was made, seconded and carried to support the application .

### **PUBLIC SAFETY: V.P. Greg Scott**

Greg Scott reported the date for the Beer Festival/5k run is proposed for November 5 and the plan is to generate enough money for a new patrol car. Karen Heim is heading up the committee for the festival and will let everyone know when she will start taking volunteers for beer pourers. Katie Morgan created a logo for the event and hopes to market the concept to other neighborhoods.

They are hoping to keep the sponsors to neighborhood businesses only and not bring in any corporate sponsors or bring back some of the sponsors from last year. The cap for tickets is 2,000 and they are hoping for 500 runners for the 5k. The majority of the route for the run will be on the Path to reduce any traffic problems.

Greg stated the need for a new patrol car is urgent and the mechanic stated it will probably not pass emissions next year. Last month it cost \$600 to get it ready to pass emissions. He also asked for any volunteers to join a committee to search for a new patrol car.

**TREASURER: Carolyn McLaughlin**

Carolyn was not at the last meeting so these numbers are for two months.

PUBLIC SAFETY . . . . .	\$32,680.97
SPRINGVALE PARK . . . . .	\$1,236.90
BUTTERFLY FLAGS & BANNERS . . . . .	\$1,256.64
BEAUTIFICATION . . . . .	\$2,540.00
SOCIAL COMMITTEE . . . . .	\$1,154.17
TREASURER EXPENSE . . . . .	\$98.00
ZONING EXPENSE . . . . .	\$135.00
EDUCATION BUDGET . . . . . (public schools and library donations)	\$6,000.00
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TOTAL EXPENSES . . . . .	\$47,618.08

The two budget allocations that we approved were for the Mini Precinct \$5,000 and the sidewalk program \$20,000.

Carolyn asked for any budget request to please be submitted by July 31 and the better the case you present the better your chances are.

**SECRETARY: Jaclyn McDougal**

Jaclyn announced she has the banners and flags as well as directories.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

The next meeting is Wednesday August 17 at 7:30 p.m. Regina Brewer adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

**FESTIVAL 2012**

*By Melissa Miller and Thom Abelew*

As the new co-chairs of Festival 2012, we would like to thank Nick Franz for his fearless leadership for the past two years, the Festival Committee chairs and members for all their planning, time and effort to keep this festival running smoothly, and a big thank you to all the volunteers that are essential to the success of our festival each and every year. We hope everyone had tons of fun and is looking forward to helping out again next year.

Our festival has grown tremendously over the years and requires many months of planning and forethought. There's always room for improvement and building on our past successes. If you have any ideas for next year's festival or just want to see what goes on behind the scenes, please join us for our first Festival 2012 meeting on Thursday, September 8, 7:30 pm at 211 Hurt St. Everyone's welcome but be forewarned – we will put you to work!

Questions??? Give us a call at 404-276-7736 or 678-612-1193.

**2012 HOUSE TOUR**

*By Pat Westrick and Jan Keith*

Hi, neighbors – Now that we've had a month or so to bask in the glory of a simply amazing 40<sup>th</sup> Inman Park Festival, it's time to start planning for next year. The House Tour Committee is looking for likely homes for next year's tour, and we need your help.

Let us know if you or any of your neighbors might be good candidates for next year's tour. You don't have to have a perfect house – in fact, many of our visitors appreciate the opportunity to see a house "in progress," as it gives them a perspective on how much work goes into the renovation of some of our homes. It's a great chance to complete projects with a definite deadline (and you'll love to hear the compliments from the visitors as they look at the results of your efforts!)

We're likely going to be focusing on the Alta, Austin, Degress, Haralson area of the neighborhood, but we're open to other areas as well. Give either Jan or me a call or drop us an email if you have questions or would like to volunteer or suggest a neighbor's home. The House Tour is an important part of Festival and, for many festival-goers, it's the reason they come to see us year after year. Please help us have another outstanding House Tour in 2012!

Jan Keith: 404-688-7330, kingkeith@mindspring.com  
Pat Westrick: 404-388-6466, patwestrick@realtor.com

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**FESTIVAL 2012**  
**April 27, 28 and 29, 2012**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Porch Party! Porch Party!**  
**AUGUST PORCH PARTY**  
 at the home of  
**DIANE & JOHN FLOYD**  
 Friday, August 26, 7:30 PM  
 116 Elizabeth Street

BRING A DISH TO SHARE  
 AND YOUR FAVORITE BEVERAGE

\*\*\*\*\*  
 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!  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**2011 BOOK CLUB CALENDAR**

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

**August 24, 2011**

*Lost Boys of Sudan:*  
*An American Story of the Refugee Experience*  
 by **Mark Bixler**  
 Hosted by Cathy Cook and Jim McKinney  
 337 Drexel Avenue (Decatur)

**September 28, 2011**

*Cutting For Stone*  
 by **Abraham Verghese**  
 Hosted by Ruth Caproni  
 1065 Washita Avenue (Inman Park)

**October 26, 2011**

*The Lonely Polygamist*  
 by **Brady Udall**  
 Hosted by Linda Dunham  
 12 First Avenue (Kirkwood)

**For Information: 404-688-7330**

<b>INMAN PARK SECURITY PATROL JULY 2011 - ACTIVITY REPORT</b> <i>By Lt. Brent Schierbaum</i>					
Directed Patrols	560	Robbery	3	911 Hang-up Call	1
Drop Ins/ Park and Walks	350	Theft from Auto	3	Street/ Sidewalk Obstruction	1
Suspicious Person	17	Theft of Vehicle	2	Noise Complaint	1
Alarm Activation	10	Abandoned Auto	2	Reckless Driver	1
Disturbance	6	Parking Complaint	2	Damage to Property	1
Suspicious Vehicle	5	Fireworks	2	Animal Bite Call	1
Trespass Complaint	4	Officer Help Call	2	Person Injured	1
Automobile Accident	3	Illegal Drugs	1	Theft	1
				Snatch Theft	1
Enforcement Activity	Arrests (Wanted on Warrant/ Probation Violation)				1
	Parking Citations				2
Association Member Contacts					20

## 2011 AUGUST PUBLIC SAFETY NEWS/ JULY CRIME REPORT

By Greg Scott, VP for Public Safety

The Inman Park Security Patrol has made a huge impact in the quality of life of our neighborhood, thanks to the generous membership contributions of residents and businesses. While we encourage those that have not given to please consider contributing, we are also constantly on the lookout for ideas to help increase revenue for the patrol in order to help defray the cost of more patrol hours, fueling the patrol car and keeping it maintained. One of these ideas, a combination 5K race and beer festival, the Inman Park Beer Chase, with all post-expense proceeds benefiting the Patrol, has been in the works for quite some time now. At this writing we are currently in the permitting process for this event. My "partners in crime" – Inman Park's own Karen Heim and 5k Guru Katie Morgan from neighboring Candler Park have worked tirelessly to get this event off of the ground, and we are certain that it will be a unique and exciting addition to Atlanta's Festival landscape and hopefully a new fall tradition. Keep an eye on the Yahoo group, *Advocator* and Inman Park Facebook page in the coming weeks for dates, times, ticket information and of course, volunteer opportunities!

We have also decided to re-tool the Dine Out event. This year individual restaurants will be doing a one-night Dine Out-style fundraiser throughout the fall and winter. We feel that by allowing the restaurants to participate individually or in very small geographic groupings we will be able to give each participating restaurant the quality attention and patronage they deserve for supporting the Patrol. Stay tuned for details as this exciting opportunity for food, drink and fun for a great cause develops.

While I hate to go from festivals and dinners and cocktails and beer to crime, it is my duty to report the bad with the good. As usual, if you are thinking of moving to Inman Park and are reading this report, don't despair...Inman Park is 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 in this great place, be aware and use this information to change your behavior so we can all be safe. If you are interested in more detailed reports concerning the dates and locations of these incidents, the APD web site has a very easy to use crime mapping tool at:

<http://www.atlantapd.org/zone6.aspx>.

During weeks 26-30 we had 3 armed robberies reported in the Inman Park Patrol area. The first involved a homeless man in Little Five Points who was robbed at knifepoint by a well-known trouble-maker in the area. Police continue to look for this subject but this is not his first time pulling a stunt like this and he has made himself scarce. The second robbery occurred at 3:30 in the morning. Two women were in the parking lot of a restaurant in the Elizabeth Street area waiting for their bartender friends to close up when they were approached by 2 suspects who, very quietly so as to not draw attention from inside, showed them a gun and took their purses, fleeing on foot. The third robbery took place at around 9:00 p.m. on a weeknight. A woman was walking down N. Highland Ave. talking on her phone when she was approached by a lone suspect, who demanded that she give him the phone. A brief struggle ensued, and the suspect pulled out a handgun, which he promptly dropped, picked back up and fled into Freedom Park without the phone, while a witness gave

chase. While the first robbery can be classified as an acquaintance crime, as the victim knew the suspect, the other two are classic examples of thieves taking advantage of victims in vulnerable or distracted situations. Please remember to be aware of your surroundings at all times and to avoid putting yourself in a position to tempt criminals.

We had 7 Auto Thefts and 2 attempted Auto Thefts. In one of the attempted thefts, the thieves were thwarted by a witness who chased them away and was able to give the police a description of the criminals. Two of the theft victims admitted that there was a possibility their cars were actually misplaced and not stolen. In a van theft on Edgewood and Spruce, the thieves left another stolen van running at the scene when they were spotted and chased by the victim.

We had 7 individual Thefts from Vehicle. It would be 8 but one of them turned into a stolen vehicle as a spare key was left in the vehicle, which the criminals made use of. The car next to it in the restaurant parking lot on Krog St. was left, but only after the criminals broke the passenger side door lock and took a handgun from the vehicle. A handgun was also taken from a vehicle on Washita. It is always disturbing to read that a handgun has fallen into the hands of a criminal. If you own a handgun, please take the necessary precautions to avoid having it end up being used in another crime.

On July 19 we had a rather unique occurrence. Over 30 car windows were smashed in 2 separate apartment complex parking lots. While many items were taken, these incidents, which police believe are connected to a string of similar crimes around town, are unusual because several cars were entered with nothing taken. Criminals usually will only take the risk of smashing a window if they are relatively certain of scoring loot. Given that these incidents occurred in secured areas in a very short amount of time it is thought these crimes were planned in advance. If you notice what appears to be people casing parking lots, security entrances or fences please call 911 and then the Patrol.

There was only one burglary reported this period. A house under renovation on Washita was entered through an unsecured door and copper tubing and wiring was stolen.

Two thefts occurred – a bike secured to a pole was stolen on Austin Ave. while the victim was attending a community meeting and a cellphone was stolen on N. Highland after the victim allowed two men to borrow her phone. They fled to a parked car with the phone. I can't believe I have to write this, but it is **never** a good idea to let strangers use your phone.

Remember it is never too late to join the Patrol. Go to [www.inmanpark.org](http://www.inmanpark.org) to sign up online. Your support is vital to helping keeping the car on the road.

Until next month, be safe!

**Get Better!**  
**Fred Fisher**, 1061 Alta Avenue,  
is recovering from hip replacement surgery.



## ATLANTA URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION (AUDC) UPDATE

By Erin Kane, Vice President for Historic Preservation - [historic.preservation@inmanpark.org](mailto:historic.preservation@inmanpark.org)

**Please note:** If you wish to perform any construction work (beyond routine maintenance) on the exterior of a site, home, or building in the Inman Park Historic District, you must contact the AUDC to begin their review/approval process. Please contact me at the email address above as early in the project as possible to schedule meetings and be placed on the monthly IPNA meeting agenda, or for any questions related to the historic regulations or approval process.

UPCOMING APPLICATION DEADLINES	APPLICATION DEADLINE	HEARING DATE
	August 2	August 24
	August 23	September 4
	September 6	September 28

### Recent AUDC actions on applications for Certificates of Appropriateness:

#### July 13

- 523 Seminole Avenue - Application for Type III Certificates of Appropriateness (HD-11-138) for a variance to reduce the Julia Street setback from 80-82 ft. (required) to

21 ft. (proposed), a garage door facing and visible from Julia Street, parking between the house and Julia Street, a driveway more than 10 ft. wide at Julia Street, and architectural features consistent only with the existing house and (HD-11-125) to allow a new addition to the existing house – **approved with conditions.**

### Applications scheduled for AUDC:

#### August 10

- 1082 Alta Avenue - Application for a Type III Certificate of Appropriateness (HD-11-145) to allow an addition and other renovations to an existing structure.
- 834 Virgil Street - Application for a Type III Certificate of Appropriateness to allow for an addition to the existing residence (HD-11-150).

**Please see the agenda on the back cover for applications scheduled for this month's IPNA meeting.**

### AUDC Contact Information:

<http://www.atlantaga.gov/government/urbandesign.aspx>

55 Trinity Avenue, Suite 3350

Atlanta GA 30335-0331

(404) 330-330-6145 (phone)

(404) 658-6734 (fax)

## SHADE TREES - SHADE TREES

By Richard Westrick, TreeWatch

If you look at pictures of Inman Park in 1888, you will possibly be surprised at how desolate the landscape looks - there are absolutely no trees! Fortunately, concomitant with building homes, Joel Hurt planted trees - hundreds and hundreds of shade trees. Unfortunately, to get the rapid growth he wanted to shade the neighborhood, he planted many, many Water Oaks and their cousins - relatively fast growing Oaks, but only living 100 - 130 years.

And now they are dying.

I think that we can all agree that our tree-lawns (between street and sidewalk) are now, after street widening over the past century, too small to support a proper shade tree.

So. The TreeWatch committee would like you to contact us and let us know where we can plant a future 100-year Shade Tree in your yard - front, side, or back. Help us to replace our lost canopy!

**Richard Westrick**

[richard.westrick@gmail.com](mailto:richard.westrick@gmail.com)

home - 404-523-4801

cell - 404-625-4315

## SPRINGVALE PARK PLAYGROUND UPDATE

by Springvale Park Playground Committee

Join us at the August IPNA meeting when we will be introducing our ideas for the Springvale Park playground expansion and rehabilitation. Our committee (Eric Goldberg, Jane Smith, Patty Murphy, Callie Kaiser and Amy Higgins) is launching into fund raising this month with the goal to build the playground by Spring of 2013. Many thanks to Pat Westrick for donating the proceeds from the Antiques Roadshow raffle to our committee and getting us started toward our goal of \$100,000.

**Welcome New Neighbors  
Joanna and Doug Robinson,  
137 Elizabeth Street**

**Julie Noble and Eric Anderson,  
Joe and Jack,  
1135 Alta Avenue**

## MEMORIES OF “INMAN PARK CLEAN-UP DAY”

*By Pat and Wayne Smith*

*Moved to Inman Park April 1973*

In the early 1970's, as Inman Park renovators bought the old rundown, uncared-for houses, they were left with one big problem: what to do with all the trash left behind. I am not only talking about the old junk cars and car parts left in the yard, I mean the trash also left inside the houses. Most of the houses had been divided into apartments or used as rooming houses. This meant added kitchens and bathrooms as well as rooms enclosed on the side of the house or porches closed in. Walls and ceilings had to be removed; old lath and plasterwork was falling in and also had to be removed. Lots of stoves, refrigerators, sinks, toilets and gas space heaters, some of which were in almost toxic condition, had to go. All this produced piles and piles of trash. For the homeowners this was not only a big headache but also a big expense.

About this time, someone, I am not sure who (if you know, please contact me), made a deal with the Atlanta Sanitation Department for a no-holds-barred pick-up one day a year. The city agreed to pick up anything on the street. That day was a Saturday, about two weeks before Festival. About a month before “Clean-Up Day” IPR members would start their pile of trash, everything and anything that could be carried, dragged or somehow shoved to the street. It was not unusual to receive an invitation to a “tear-out party” where neighbors would gather at someone's house and fueled by a little beer and pizza go to work tearing off a room or stripping lath and plaster and carrying it to

the street. Neighbor helping neighbor.

The competition was fierce for the bragging rights to the **“Largest Trash Pile in Inman Park.”**

The morning of clean-up day, the City of Atlanta sent a convoy of dump trucks and front-end loaders and a small army of sanitation workers. Along with the IPR neighbors, the cleanup started. Some IPR members worked loading the trucks and others divided into small groups to clean up abandoned and neglected properties. First the front-end loaders picked up the big piles and then the city workers armed with rakes, brooms and shovels came behind to do the fine clean up. It was quite a sight to see the City and the neighborhood working hand in hand for the good of our community.

At the end of a hard day's work, everyone went to their respective homes but only to get cleaned up and return for a picnic in the park. The neighborhood provided hotdogs, soft drinks and beer not only for our members but also for all the city workers. It was a wonderful time for us all to relax and get to know each other.

After about 10 years, the piles of trash were getting smaller and other neighborhoods wanted the same service so the City had to put an end to it all. “Clean-up Day” was a huge success. The perfect example of cooperation between neighbors and between the community and the city. Great memory from the past.

“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.

**See Meeting Agenda Below**

**IPNA MEETING**  
**Wrecking Bar**  
**292 Moreland Avenue**  
**WEDNESDAY**  
**AUGUST 17, 2011**

**BUSINESS MEETING STARTS AT 7:30 p.m.**

**AUGUST 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. President**
  - B. Communications**
    - 1. Ad rates and deadlines
    - 2. *Advocator* Committee
  - C. Planning**
    - 1. NPU report
      - a. Beltline Minute
  - D. Zoning**
  - E. Historic Preservation**
    - 1. 834 Virgin Street
    - 2. 936 Austin Avenue
    - 3. Bass Lofts
  - F. Public Safety**
    - 1. Beer Chase 5K and Beer Festival-Change of Date
    - 2. Contract for \$4,000 for Premier Events
  - G. Treasurer**
    - 1. Report of Regular Expenditures
  - H. Secretary**
- VII. Committee Reports**
- VIII. New Business**
- IX. Old Business**
- X. Adjournment**