# THE Inman Park Advocator

Atlanta's Small Town Downtown News • Newsletter of the Inman Park Neighborhood Association advocator@inmanpark.org • inmanpark.org • 245 North Highland Avenue NE • Suite 230-401 • Atlanta 30307 **October 2017** Volume 45 • Issue 10

## The Trolley Barn Hosted the Atlanta Mayorial Candidate Forum



On October 6, 2017, the candidates running for City of Atlanta Mayor came together to discuss top issues in our community. Photos by Sandi Parker

IPNA Meeting Kids' Stroll Notes from September

Findley Plaza Redesign

Page 6

Page 11

Page 14-15



## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

The L5P Halloween Festival & Parade supports our local businesses by raising funds for the L5PBA.

> Tag your parade pics on Instagram: @L5PHalloween!



## AMNESTY DECLARED!

#### Finally: <u>DENTISTRY</u> <u>WITHOUT</u> <u>GUILT</u>!

We officially pardon all previous dental offenses!

- No matter how long you've gone without dental treatment
- No matter what shape your mouth is in
- No matter how nervous you feel

We won't badger or embarrass you about it. Put that all behind you and get a fresh start in a friendly, non-judgmental, atmosphere.

#### An Atlanta Magazine's TOP DENTISTS IN ATLANTA 5 STAR DENTIST

Richard B. Shapiro, D.D.S. 427 Moreland Ave. Suite 200 404-523-2514

"We Cater to Cowards"

Four different stores and daily changes in inventory, means finding the perfect piece at a bargain price couldn't be easier. Spruce up your home and your closet with consignment items at a fraction of their original cost.

We've Got

Stores

Need

Stu



fkconsign.com



## Neighborhood Association

#### **OFFICERS**

President, Neil Kinkopf 678-900-6862 president@inmanpark.org

VP • Planning, Sara Maffey Duncan 908-507-0568 planning@inmanpark.org

> **VP • Zoning** zoning@inmanpark.org

VP • Historic Preservation, David Bikoff 404-693-7990 historic.preservation@inmanpark.org

VP • Public Safety, Thom Abelew 678-612-1193 public.safety@inmanpark.org

VP • Communications, Cristy Lenz 404-822-3884 communications@inmanpark.org

> **Treasurer, David Adams** 404-661-6543 treasurer@inmanpark.org

> Secretary, Chris Coffee 404-729-6662 secretary@inmanpark.org

#### ADVOCATOR

Editor: Alex Kronemeyer Staff: Susanna Capelouto, Pat Westrick, Kathleen Busko, Alison Gordon, Glenda Minkin, Julie Noble, Marge Hays, and Susan Crawley

Submissions: advocator@inmanpark.org

## **Chairs & Coordinators**

Adopt the BeltLine: Anne Robertsannediehl@gmail.com • 404-242-5300
Archives: Teresa Burk tburkus@gmail.com • 404-449-3000
Beautification & Sidewalks:
Millie Astinsidewalks@inmanpark.org • 404-589-9012
Education: Galit Levitinshubuc@gmail.com • 404-518-7978
Festival 2018: Cooper and Robbie White Piercec3pierce@yahoo.com
Freedom Park Conservancy: Phillip Covin Covin8@yahoo.com
Graffiti: Chuck Clarkecclarke@empoweret.com • 404-668-2620
Hospitality: Patsy Fisher
Inman Park Tree Watch and Arboretum:
Oreon Mann oreonmann@yahoo.com • 404-402-6486
Jim Abbot abbot.jim@gmail.com • 404-281-0638
Lifelong Inman Park: Cathie Berger lifelong@inmanpark.org • 404-584-6309
NPU-N Representative:
Rick Bizotnpu.n@inmanpark.org • 404-954-2490
Social:
July Fourth: Carol Mitchell carol@the-mitchells.org • 404-659-2579
Holiday Party: Alex & Andy Coffman a_coffman@att.net • 404-993-7577
Porch Parties: Pat & Richard Westrickpatwestrick@realtor.com • 404-523-4801
Special Events: Karen Goeckel kgoeckel@me.com • 678-612-1776
Springvale Park:
Stephanie & Cameron McCaa cammccaa@gmail.com • 404-414-2496
Amy Higgins (Master Plan) AHigginsAIA@gmail.com • 404-593-8253
Eric Goldberg ( <i>Playground</i> )ericgold@mindspring.com • 678-467-2096
Transportation:
Janice Darlingjdarling@springboard-inc.com • 678-488-1925



To advertise in the *Advocator*, please contact KDA Communications at (678) 905-4842 or sales@kda-communications.com.

the Advocator is a publication of KDA Communications. Subject matter published is the opinion of the author and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the publisher of this newsletter. Professional advice should be obtained before making any decision in which a professional is readily available. Advertisers assume responsibility for the content of the ads placed in this publication. Material published may not be reproduced without the written permission of KDA Communications.

the Advocator is the official newsletter of the Inman Park Neighborhood Association, Inc. (IPNA). In addition to the reports by the IPNA board of directors, officers, committee chairs, and the agenda for the current month's meeting, the Advocator publishes letters to the editor, press releases, articles deemed of interest to the community and paid advertising. Publishing of display advertisement, 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 submitted anopmously, including press releases, will not be published. By submitting materials and photos you acknowledge you have the right to do so and understand the Advocator is published online as well in print.

Content is due on the 20th of the month prior to publication and should be submitted to advocator@inmanpark.org.







- niaBaer utting Down Roots
- Candler Park
- Lake Claire
- Inman Park
- Decatur
- Druid Hills
- Virginia Highland
- Morningside Poncey Highland
- Old Fourth Ward

Ready to Buy? I'll leverage my in-town network to find the right property - and negotiate the best deal for you.

Ready to Sell? My experience with professional staging, compelling photography, and strategic marketing helps sell your home faster and for the highest price.

Contact me, your in-town Realtor® and neighbor.

**KVV METRO ATLANTA** 

#### Call Now: 678-358-3369 cynthia@cynthiabaer.com | CynthiaBaer.com





the next

## **Porch Party** October 27 • 7:30 p.m.

At the home of **Janice and Dave Darling** at 925 Austin Avenue

All are welcome. Please bring a dish to share and your favorite beverage to enjoy. .

Your porch wants to host a party! Call Pat or Richard Westrick to get on the schedule. 404-523-4801

#### **2017 Inman Park Book Club**

The Inman Park Book Club meets on the last Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. to discuss the featured selection. Please bring a covered dish to share and contact Jan Keith (404-688-7330) with any questions. Most book club selections are available at our neighborhood bookstore, A Capella, 208 Haralson Avenue NE. Shop local!

Nov

The Book That Matters Most by Ann Hood Linda Dunham, 12 1st Avenue (Kirkwood) (date changed due to Halloween)

### Inman Park Security Patrol Activity

#### September 2017

Directed Patrol:	1
Drop Ins:	9
Suspicious Person:	2
Parking Tickets:	2
Meeting with an Officer:	1

## Other Happenings to Note

#### Horizon Theatre presents "Project Dawn"

*Through – Oct. 29 • Horizon Theatre • horizontheatre.com/plays/project-dawn* Gritty, gripping, and shockingly funny, go behind the bench in this inspired-by-real-life story of the women on both sides of the law in Project Dawn, an innovative court designed to transform the lives of women in the sex trade. In this daring and vital tour de force, seven actresses double as victims/participants and Court staff. Whether you are to the left or the right, Project Dawn will gnaw at your heart and open your eyes to see clearly what's happening in your own backyard.

#### Atlanta Pride Festival & Parade

#### Oct. 14 - 15 • Piedmont Park • atlantapride.org/pride

This year's Atlanta Pride Festival, the 47th annual, is the largest Pride event in the southeast and the largest event in the country to coincide with National Coming Out Day. The Parade starts near the Civic Center MARTA Station. Check out the website for all the deets!

#### Friends of Ponce Library Book Sale

#### Oct. 21 • 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. • Ponce Library • 404-885-7820

Library book sales are a great way to support your library while getting some great deals on books and other media. Get your holiday shopping done, refresh your child's book collection, and browse the eclectic donations from all of your Atlanta neighbors. The money earned at the book sale helps to support the programming and collection efforts of the Ponce Branch. Interested in further supporting the library? Join the Friends!

#### Fiddler's Green Coffeehouse presents Laura Lapointe and Out of the Rain

*Oct.* 21 • 8:00 p.m. • First Existentialist Congregation of Atlanta • 470 Candler Park Dr. NE. Fiddler's Green Coffeehouse presents Laura Lapointe and Out of the Rain. Lauren Lapointe is a Savannah-based singer/songwriter who has been gaining recognition across the country for her soulful songs, unique voice, and strong live performances. She has played at many renowned listening rooms across the nation. Out of the Rain – Ron Hipp and Carol Statella – is an Atlanta folk duo noted for innovative arrangements and unusual expressive power. Presented by Atlanta Area Friends of Folk Music (AAFFM). Admission: \$10.

#### Ponce Library Kids' Halloween Shadow Puppet Show

*Oct.* 25 • 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. • *Ponce Library* • 404-885-7820

Witches, wolves, and firebirds, OH MY! Join us for a special shadow puppet show, featuring Mr. Damon Young. Performances include Vasilisa the Brave and Firebird. Costumes are encouraged, and a puppet making craft will take place after the show. Bring your friends, and join in on this celebration of Russian folklore and the fall season!

#### Trunk or Treat

*Oct.* 28 • 4 p.m. • *Inman Park United Methodist Church* • 1015 *Edgewood Avenue* Trunk set-up starts at 3 p.m. and then the fun will be from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.! We'll have candy, games, drinks and lots of family fun. There is no cost and all kids in costumes are welcome!



Oct **18** 

Oct

**IPNA Meeting** Trolley Barn 7:30 p.m.

**NPU-N Meeting** L5P Community Center 7:00 p.m.

Oct 27

Porch Party See page 4 for details.

Oct **28** 

Caterpillars' Costume and Candy Stroll See page 11 for details. 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Nov

**Book Club** 7:00 p.m. See page 4 for details.

Nov 15

IPNA Meeting Trolley Barn 7:30 p.m

Nov 30

**NPU-N Meeting** L5P Community Center 7:00 p.m.

Dec 8

**IPNA Holiday Party** The Trolley Barn 7:00 p.m. - 11 p.m.



## Neighborhood Meeting Highlights: What you missed...

**IPNA Meeting Notes, September 20, 2017** The Trolley Barn, 7:30 p.m.

#### Inman Park Security Patrol (IPSP)

- 1. Officer House urged residents to watch their phones while walking.
- 2. Don't leave your laptop in the car.
- 3. We are adding one dayside shift to the IPSP.

#### Announcements

- 1. The Wine Stroll needs volunteers to work two-hour shifts.
- 2. The next Porch Party is on September 29 at 7:30 p.m.

#### Elected Officials

Our Deputy District Attorney announced the hiring of three new prosecutors. He announced a new heroine task force that will carry narcon. There will be a lunch and learn on October 15 on the seventh floor of the courthouse. Lunch will be provided. The discussion will be about shoot spotters, a new technology to help pinpoint gunshots.

#### **Inman Park Festival 2018**

1. Cooper and Robbie White Pierce were voted in as Festival Chairs for the next two years.

2. Inman Park Festival Committee needs Chairs for rentals and signs. Next meeting is Monday, October 16. E-mail c3pierce@yahoo.com to get plugged in.

#### Little Five Points, Findley Plaza Redesign

Walter Brown with the Community Improvement District (CID) discussed the two charrettes held to discuss the redesign. Desired features are bike parking, rideshare pickup, Marta busses, outside dining and a cultural space. Brown said they are pricing improvements and that they'll start raising private funds in November and hopefully will start on the project late summer of 2018. (See pages 14 - 15 for more detail.)

#### **Political Candidate**

Peter Aman, a City of Atlanta Mayorial candidate, joined the meeting to speak about his campaign for Mayor.

#### Villa de Grip Update at 320 N. Highland Ave NE

The developers are doing a traffic study and should have the results back next week. They plan to hold a neighborhood wide meeting to discuss the traffic study and development. Inman Park has retained the services of zoning consultant, Nina Gentry, to help navigate this process.

#### **Jenkins Metal**

The proposal for the site is on inmanpark.org. They will hold a neighborhood meeting on September 27 to further discuss their plans. They have proposed condo units. (This meeting was postponed and will be announced at a later date.)

#### **IPNA** President

- 1. Philip Covin has been named Inman Park's representative to the Freedom Park Conservancy. He will update the neighborhood on their master plan.
- 2. IPNA VP of Zoning Chuck Clarke had to resign due to work schedule conflicts. Jonathan Miller has agreed to step in. There will be a vote at the October 2017 IPNA meeting to approve this position.

#### **IPNA VP, Communications**

- 1. Inman Park Mayoral Candidate Forum on October 4 at 7:30 p.m. at the Trolley Barn.
- 2. Inman Park District 2 Candidate Forum on October 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Trolley Barn.
- 3. The Inman Park Caterpillars' Costume and Candy Stroll on October 28 starts at 2:30 p.m. The event has lots of fun activities and will have a stroll for kids at 4:00 p.m.! Neighbors, please line the route at 4 p.m. to cheer them on or join in the fun! Sponsored by Lifelong Inman Park. (See page 11 for more details.)
- 4. The Annual IPNA Holiday Party is planned for December 8 at the Trolley Barn. Come from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. for a buffet dinner, the open bar, and the band. Gluten-free and vegetarian dishes will be available.

For the full meeting minutes go to inmanpark.org. The next meeting is on October 18, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Trolley Barn.

## Get Ready for Fall with Butternut Squash Soup

#### Ingredients

One 2- to 3-pound butternut squash, peeled and seeded

2 tablespoons unsalted butter

1 medium onion, chopped

6 cups chicken stock

Nutmeg

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

#### Directions

Cut squash into 1-inch chunks. In large pot melt butter. Add onion and cook until translucent, about 8 minutes. Add squash and stock. Bring to a simmer and cook until squash is tender, about 15 to 20 minutes. Remove squash chunks with slotted spoon and place in a blender and puree. Return blended squash to pot. Stir and season with nutmeg, salt, and pepper. Serve.



RECIPE BY FOODNETWORK.COM

Jonathan Guy M.D.



#### QUESTIONS About tech?

Personal, Polite, In-Home or Office Service

Mac & PC | iPhone. Android. & iPad | Camera

See all we do at www.ShesWired.com WeCanHelp@ShesWired.com | 404.935.9614

## STRESS CENTER

Questions about addiction? **We can help.** 

160 Clairemont Ave., Suite 200 | Decatur, GA 30030 470-296-1636 | atlantastresscenter.com | Hablamos español





## Get noticed. Advertise. Contact us Today!

To advertise in a KDA Neighborhood Newsletter, please contact us at

678-905-4842 • sales@kda-communications.com

3300 Highlands Pkwy • Ste 100 | Smyrna, GA 30082 678.905.4842 | www.kda-communications.com

It takes a community to care for our homeless and death row dogs & cats!

## PLEASE HELP SAVE A LIFE TODAY! Donate

(Tax deductible: Monetary or Supplies)

## **Foster or Adopt**

Check us out online to view our "Pet of the week" and all our awesome dogs and cats listed on PetFinder.com looking for a forever or a loving foster home! Dates available on our website for PetSmart adoption days.



www.GreenPetsAmerica.com

GPA is a non-proft 501C3. We rely solely on the communities donations

## FIND YOUR PRODUCTIVITY! COWORKING BELTLINE



404.475.4850

ALKALOID.NET





October 2017

## Thank You BeltLine Wine Stroll Volunteers!

The BeltLine Wine Stroll Committee would like to thank all those who contributed to making the 5th annual Wine Stroll a complete success -- attendees, participating restaurants, businesses, and our sponsors.

This year's BeltLine Wine Stroll raised \$46,000 for Springvale Park, a city park in the center of Inman Park, and the Inman Park Security Patrol.

We appreciate the support and look forward to seeing everyone for the 2018 BeltLine Wine Stroll!









- DESIGN
- RENOVATIONS
- New Homes

OUR OFFICE IS LOCATED IN THE INMAN PARK NEIGHBORHOOD.

...AS SEEN ON



CONTACT US FOR A FREE CONSULTATION (404) 537-1827 www.HeirloomDesignBuild.com

October 2017



## Lifelong Inman Park



## Highlights from the September Aging Well Session

By NANCY MORRISON • AGING WELL COORDINATOR • LIFELONG@INMANPARK.ORG

Session Title: An Overview of Assisted Living

Twenty seven of our neighbors attended the September session on Assisted Living, an alternative housing option for people requiring assistance in some aspects of their activities of daily living (ADLS). Kris Brandt, Senior Consultant with Arbor Terrace of Decatur, provided practical information on what it is, who this type of housing best serves, the care and services it provides and cost considerations. This continues to be the fastest growing type of senior housing due to the increasing longevity and population growth among older adults. These factors make it necessary for many to have access to the supportive care available in assisted living. Key points included

- Assisted living is often an alternative to hiring in-home care and/or relying on family caregivers.
- For many older adults, the socialization aspect of assisted living is welcomed.
- The most common assistance required by residents includes help with bathing and personal care, meals and medication management, and specialized memory care.

- Assisted Living is not covered by Medicare and is private pay with the average cost in Atlanta area being around \$4,500 per month, while often going up to \$7,000+ depending on level of care required.
- Long-term care policies will usually cover all or portion of this cost.
- Veterans who have served at least one day during war time may be eligible to receive some financial assistance to help cover the cost. Check with your Veterans Administration.
- Most assisted living facilities offer specialized dementia care often in a secured area of the building designed to best meet the residents' unique needs.
- Many facilities will offer short term respite care.

Please join us for future programs to be announced in the Advocator, on InmanPark.org, and on NextDoor.

The Lifelong Inman Park Committee sponsors the Aging Well Series to provide our neighbors interesting, practical, and timely information and approaches to well-being.

## FIRST ANNUAL INMAN PARK CATERPILLARS' • COSTUME AND CANDY STROLL

W.

××

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

....

WHO: INMAN PARK KIDS AND YOUNG-AT-HEART WHAT: HALLOWEEN COSTUME AND CANDY STROLL WHERE: MEET AT POPLAR CIRCLE



#### **SPOOKY FUN SCHEDULE**

2:30 FACE PAINTING 3:30 REFRESHMENTS PARADE LINEUP AND DANCE PARTY 4:00 COSTUME AND CANDY STROLL

- INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP COSTUME CONTEST!
- DON'T WANT TO DRESS UP? THAT'S COOL! COME PARTY AND HAND OUT CANDY ALONG THE STROLL PATH!
- DANCE PARTY AND FACEPAINTING BY MISS LADYBUG AND MC GREENTHUMBS!
- EVENT IS THE SATURDAY BEFORE HALLOWEEN AND THE WEEK AFTER THE FAMOUS L5P PARADE

#### PRESENTED BY LIFELONG INMAN PARK

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT LIFELONG@INMANPARK.ORG

## Homelessness in Our Community

By Karen Taber • K2taber@comcast.net

Since my Inman Park Advocator article in February regarding the large homeless encampment discovered and removed from behind a vacant house on Alta Avenue, there has been slow but steady progress made over the last nine months concerning this multi-faceted and complex issue.

In March, I was appointed the Little Five Points CID (Community Improvement District) Homeless Task Force Chairperson. Through tremendous support from the CID, I have been able to build a broad coalition to strategize humane efforts to confront unsustainable chronic homelessness in our vicinity.

This task force has devoted countless hours and engaged in extensive communications with many dedicated Homeless Outreach Teams: HOPE Atlanta, Intown Collaborative Ministries, Partners for Home, Street Medicine Mobile Unit, Tapestry Church, Little Five Points Business Association, Atlanta Police Department, GDOT, City of Atlanta Parks Department, and CSX.

It is estimated that there are currently eight to ten chronic homeless individuals living in the Little Five Points vicinity. Most suffer from severe drug and alcohol addiction with underlying mental illness. Our collective goal is to convince these individuals to accept alternative shelter and wrap around services made possible by a recent \$25 million dollar bond passed by City Council and a matching grant by United Way to end homelessness in our city. Over the course of the next three years, the funding will be used to provide 364 new emergency shelters, place 500 persistently homeless people in permanent supportive housing, provide permanent housing for 300 homeless families, and perform housing interventions for 250 young homeless people.

Outreach teams have been in regular contact with some of these individuals with little success. Drug-addicted homeless are the most difficult group to develop trust with and to convince that accepting services is the best choice. In the meantime, these homeless encampments are continuing to cause an array of public health and safety issues stemming from large amounts of hazardous trash including food waste, drug needles, and human waste. (A serious Hepatitis A outbreak is happening in San Diego from chronic homeless encampments.) Discarded empty Amazon and UPS packages have been found in these areas, as well as contents from suspected car break-ins and from residential properties, suggesting that criminal behavior is occurring.

The Moreland Avenue grassy GDOT swaths remain the most challenging area for persistent garbage-ridden encampments. Permanent "No Trespassing" and "No Littering" signs have been promised for months and clarification on what law enforcement will do when violations occur remains unanswered.

A massive cleanup was performed on October 2, 2017. The required manpower consisted of 12 GDOT workers in protective gear and required heavy machinery, including two sanitation trucks. Ironically, a "Welcome to Little Five Points" sign stands along this trash-ridden entrance into our community that deserves better and can do better!

If further resistance to outreach teams continues, law enforcement will be summoned by the CID to begin the "pre-arrest diversion court" process, a specific alternative for repetitive homeless-related offenses. According to outreach teams, mandatory detox in confinement is often the only solution to begin wrap around services.

Transient "train hoppers" pose a different homeless challenge to the area. These groups seem to find Little Five hospitable to their chosen lifestyle and to easy drug access. Continued pressure by law enforcement for illegal "urban camping" type violations might very well be decreasing the numbers we have seen in the past. Persistent attempts this summer to set up tents in the Freedom Park area have been thwarted by nearby residents calling 911. There were also two very serious attacks involving train hopper dogs last spring, one in Findley Plaza and the other along DeKalb Avenue. The CID is also putting pressure on CSX to secure the easy access off the tracks into our vicinity.

On more successful fronts, the APD Narcotics Unit was involved with a recent arrest of a suspected drug dealer in the parking lot of Starbucks. If the flow of heroin and meth can be halted in the vicinity, the number of drug-addicted homeless in the area will surely decrease. A CID homeless subcommittee, headed by Candler Park residents Matthew Brooks and Kate Sandhaus, has been formed to advocate for improving the utilization of the Little Five Points police mini-precinct. The CID has been working diligently on plans to redevelop Findley Plaza into a cleaner, greener and more welcoming space for art events and al fresco dining experiences while maintaining the valued cultural diversity and eclectic vibe of Little Five Points. Community input has been invaluable. The CID has also been working with L5PBA to implement more efficient trash removal which will keep public trash receptacles from overflowing.

What can you do? Consider "best practices" recommended by experienced outreach teams. Do not give money or food to homeless. If this sounds harsh or inhumane, offering homeless this kind of assistance provides zero incentive to accept available services. If you feel compelled, consider a donation to a homeless shelter or drug rehabilitation center. Call 911 to report illegal behaviors such as aggressive panhandling or homeless encampments on public or private land. The City of Atlanta needs and wants to know where homelessness is occurring so that sufficient resources can be allocated and outreach teams can be summoned.









by Warner McConaughey

HammerSmith.net

Every Stage of Life Has Its Challenges.



Let our training and experience help guide you when your life (and home needs) change.

Call us when it's time for a new cocoon!





Melissa Miller 404-276-7736 Pat Westrick 404-388-6466 Re/Max Cityside 404-371-4419

CELEBRATING 34 YEARS OF BRINGING INMAN PARK HOME!





#### Two upscale thrift stores benefiting homeless pets







#### Over \$945,000 donated to animal charities!

#### Clothing, furniture, housewares & more!

1 N. & 89 N. Clarendon Ave. Avondale Estates 1/2 mile from DeKalb Farmers Market park once. shop twice.

Main Store: 678.974.5671 Furniture, Decor & More - 404.434.9856



Closed Mondays

secondlifeatlanta.org

13 October 2017



## Little Five Points Finley Plaza Redesign

By Walter Brown • Little 5 Points Community Improvement District, Vice Chair • 678-793-0457

Have you spent time in Little Five Points lately? What was your experience? The answers to these questions are complex but generally gravitate toward a negative impression and longing for something better. Most of us accept that Little Five Points is a unique place and we love (mostly) the eclectic, creative spirit that has always differentiated L5P from any other place in Atlanta or even the Southeast.

The good news is that several new organizations have emerged over the last few years whose central focus is improving Little Five Points. These include the Little Five Points Community Improvement District (CID), the Little Five Alive (Friends of Little Five Points) non-profit, and the Little Five Arts Alive project managed by the Horizon Theatre. Combined with the existing L5P Business Association and in coordination with several community leaders, we have already had a positive impact on L5P through Plaza activation and events but it's just not enough without some

significant changes to the physical space.

It's been nearly 25 years since the Plaza was last updated. As you may have noticed, the current location, spacing, condition, and use of the tree islands leaves much to be desired. In addition, there is a strong desire on the part of the broader community to have a space that can be flexibly deployed to attract a variety of active uses including cultural events, sidewalk dinning, markets, and musical performances. The current layout does not allow for full utilization of the plaza in more creative ways and we now have an opportunity to re-think and re-design this critical space.

Fortunately, the City of Atlanta, as directed by Kwanza Hall, has allocated \$450,000 to the Little Five Points Community Improvement District (L5PCID) to work with the Business Association and surrounding community to create a concept plan for Findley Plaza that can be built as soon as 2018. Here are some of the important elements featured in the newest plans:

- Large tree wells to permit very large trees and shade over time
- Tree furniture zone along streets to buffer visual/noise pollution
- Wide sidewalks and space along businesses to display merchandise and dining tables
- Space for bike parking and safe, dignified, access for MARTA busses
- Drop-off area for ride sharing and taxis
- Large central programmable space for cultural and dining use (twice current size)
- Widened sidewalk in front of Corner Tavern for increased safety
- · Improved trash collection and lighting
- All new paving and granite curbing
- · Paver system for Central Plaza that may also mitigate stormwater

Perhaps the most important reason to redevelop the Plaza is to create a safer, cleaner, and more joyous place for all users of Little Five Points to enjoy. Again, we love the eclectic clutter to a point, but also want our own children to feel safe walking through or being in the Plaza at all times of the day and into the evening. The status quo is not acceptable.

To better understand what the community would like to see in a new Findley Plaza, both Little Five Alive and the CID have been interacting with the community at festivals, neighborhood meetings, and community outreach sessions over that last six months. Feedback has been very encouraging and the current plan is very close to the concept the city is likely to build out for us. Please see the most recent concept designs and imagery we are working with the City to build.

We know we will need to raise additional private or grant funding to support the extra ingredients we would all like to see in a new Plaza design including specialty lighting, security cameras, staging and power, specialty paving, and landscape materials not covered by city funding. Fortunately, Don Bender has agreed to take on the task of raising non-profit contributions from businesses owners, community leaders, and residents wishing to invest in a more beautiful and functional plan for Little Five Points. A future article will discuss how you can become involved in the fundraising effort to follow.

In addition, no amount of physical investment will take the place of better management of the Plaza and of Little Five Points in general. The CID is working concurrently on a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Atlanta to take over management of the public spaces in Little Five Points so that neighborhood expectations of security, cleanliness, and activation can be counted on and become less chaotic. The CID is committed to improving the business environment of the shop owners (many who are neighbors themselves) while offering the City of Atlanta a truly unique arts driven environment that we can all be proud to claim as our own.

Critical issues we must deal with include rampant illegal vending, chronic homelessness, public urination, drug sales, trash, and aggressive behavior that threatens to further complicate a retail environment facing competition from internet sales, and the growing distractions offered by so many newer intown retail districts. A separate CID task force is working diligently and humanely on homeless overpopulation and quality of life crime. The L5PCID Findley Plaza team includes: Walter Brown - CID Vice Chair, Carly Berg - CPNO rep, Don Bender - fundraiser, Scott Pendegrast – L5P Business Association, John Izard - fundraiser and homeless task force, Will McDonald - local resident and design assistant, Elizabeth Broderick - IPNA rep. For further updates, please continue to visit the L5PCID website (http://l5pcid.com/) and feel free to call me at 678-793-0457 and give us your thoughts.





## 2nd Annual Merry Artists Market Saturday, Nov 4, 2017 10 am-2 pm

Now accepting local artist applications!

#### Apply today at MerryArtistsMarket.com

- Quick and simple application process
- Easy booth set up and removal
- Event promotion & local outreach provided by IPUMC

## Join the Out of the Darkness Community Walk

By SALLY DORN • INMAN PARK NEIGHBOR • sdorn47@comcast.net

On Sunday November 5th, several thousand people will gather in Piedmont Park to walk in the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's Out of The Darkness Walk (AFSP). The Walk helps raise awareness of suicide and funds to support programs for suicide prevention. In addition, it also gives survivors of suicide an opportunity to honor the memories of their lost loved ones and to recognize they are not alone.

We walk to honor the memory of my daughter, Michelle Ferguson Priestly who was a long-time Inman Park resident. Michelle moved to Inman Park in 1978 when she was nine. At the time of her death in 2001, Michelle was an Inman Park resident, a single mother of Nicholas (IPCP alum who was two at the time), a city of Atlanta cop (she had been on medical leave for six weeks recovering from serious injuries sustained in an on-duty incident with a suspect), and a part-time Georgia State University Law student. I don't

think anyone realized the extent to which her work-related injuries had affected her mental state.

This year Michelle would have celebrated her 48th birthday. I am hoping to have 48 people on Team Michelle Ferguson Priestly to honor that milestone. In the past, many neighbors have joined us, including Jane Bradshaw Burnette, Cathy Bradshaw, Susan Thompson, Bill Dorn, Janet Sowers, Bobbie Paul, Eileen Brown, Marilyn and Meghan Grist, Susan Thompson and others. Won't you consider walking with us?

Over 44,000 people in the US die each year from suicide. AFSP has set a goal of reducing the annual suicide rate 20% by 2025. Could you help us meet that goal?

For more information, go to https://afsp.donordrive.com/index. cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.team&teamID=154157.



## Take Flight, Inman Eagles! You Are Meant To Soar

By Kim Meyer • Trustee, Inman Middle School Foundation • 404-550-0368

Supporting our neighborhood schools is essential to strengthening our community!

At Inman Middle School, EVERY Eagle deserves the opportunity to take flight and soar. The Inman Middle School Foundation supports a vital mission: to provide the funding and support that will enable the Inman faculty and administration to make Inman the best middle school – public or private – in Georgia.

## Why is supporting the Inman Foundation so important?

Despite a growing enrollment (Inman serves over 1,000 students) and diverse student body, Inman still faces unprecedented funding cuts. Inman is also one of a handful of schools within APS that does not receive Title 1 Funding (significant funds allocated to districts that qualify as "disadvantaged"). While we are fortunate to be in this position, this means we need everyone to fill the sizable gap between the budget we are allocated by APS and the resources we need to give every Eagle the opportunity to take flight and soar!



#### How are the Foundation funds used?

The Soaring Eagles Fund serves as a long-term funding source supporting strategic technology initiatives, teacher professional learning, and innovative curriculum enrichment resources. Last school year, the Foundation funded 145 Chromebooks, the Weatherbug meteorology station and science program, gifted certification training for six teachers, and a variety of teacher requests for technology and curriculum enrichment resources in the classroom.



Recently, it was confirmed that for 2017-2018, the Foundation will be funding a team of highly experienced educators from the Educational Advisory Foundation who will partner with Inman teachers to provide the intensive one-on-one or small group math instruction for students who need help mastering areas they find difficult. This has the additional benefits of decreasing class sizes and allowing teachers to continue with the rest of the class at their own appropriate pace while the students being helped are getting back on track.

Dr. Kevin Maxwell, Inman Middle Principal, stated the following: "I continue to be inspired by the collective commitment of Inman Middle School stakeholders to ensure that every student is engaged in challenging and meaningful learning. There is a real understanding that academic excellence is only attained when students have access to exceptional teachers and state of the art resources.

The Inman Foundation plays a critical role in providing these resources. Inman Middle School is a special place that is thoughtful, caring, and student focused. Our highly skilled teachers stay current on research, and Foundation funding permits them to keep their skills up-to-date and to acquire the best choices of curricular materials and technological enhancements which are often not covered by APS. This ensures that our students are involved in integrated learning activities that support both academic and emotional security and growth.

Continuing to build on this tradition of excellence is only possible through the generosity of the Inman Foundation. Your donations provide critical support that enables our students to have optimal educational experiences and reach their fullest potential. Your support enhances our school, community, state, and nation. Walt Disney once said, "Our greatest natural resource is the minds of our children." Thank you for providing the resources to help every student at Inman achieve his or her highest aspirations.

#### How can you help our Eagles soar?

Every donation counts, no matter the amount. Anyone can donate – friends, families of future Eagles, relatives, alumni, and businesses! Dr. Maxwell and his team have some exciting plans to continue bringing innovative technology and curriculum enrichment into every classroom at Inman! The Soaring Eagles Fund will be an essential source to achieve these objectives. Visit our website today – www.inmanfoundation.org – to learn more and support Inman Middle School.

Your gifts will ensure that our Inman Eagles take flight and soar! ►

# genda

October 18, 2017 IPNA Meeting • 7:30 p.m. • Babysitting Available The Trolley Barn • 963 Edgewood Ave. NE

- I. Welcome & Introduction of Newcomers
- II. Police Officers' Reports
- III. Minutes of Last Meeting
- IV. Announcements
- V. **Elected Officials' Reports**
- **IPNA Officers' Reports** VI.
  - President A.
  - B. Planning
  - C. Zoning
  - D. Historic Preservation i. 1054 Euclid Avenue
  - E. **Public Safety**
  - F. Communications
  - G. Treasurer
  - H. Secretary
- VII. **Committee Reports**
- VIII. **Old Business**
- New Business IX.
- X. Adjourn

*Check inmanpark.org the day* of the meeting for any agenda updates.



## Good to Know

**Inman Park Neighborhood** Association (IPNA) membership: Available to those who live within, own property within or operate a business within the boundaries of Inman Park. Membership is free with online registration at inmanpark.org. Membership allows you to vote (see bylaws online for details), gives you access to the directory and makes you eligible for special neighborhood events. In addition to being a member of IPNA, you may register for the Inman Park Security Patrol (IPSP) which staffs offduty Atlanta Police officers to patrol our neighborhood. There are four levels of commitment starting at \$50 per year.

IPNA meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Trolley Barn.

IPSP membership is based upon a rolling annual membership term. Your renewal date is one year from your membership date and again every year after that.

Websites

InmanPark.org InmanParkFestival.org Facebook.com/InmanPark Instagram: @inmanpark

**Report All Crimes: Call 911** IP Security Patrol: 404-414-7802 L5P Mini-Precinct: 404-658-6782

**L5P Business Association** www.little5points.com

## Want to be a part of next month's Advocator?

If you have news to share with your neighbors in the November issue of the Advocator, please send your submissions to advocator@inmanpark.org on or before October 20.



827 Kirk Road Decatur, GA 30030 waldorfatlanta.org

SATURDAY, NOV 11 10AM-4PM

Food, Music & Activities



#### SELECT SHADES

## A SUNGLASS SHOP LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN

LOCALLY OWNED RAY-BAN, OAKLEY, PERSOL, SHWOOD, KREWE & MANY MORE

299 North Highland Avenue NE, Ste J In the courtyard next to MF Sushi

> (404) 963-7310 fb.com/selectshadesiq

#### SELECT SHADES @ INMAN QUARTER





# **KDABusinessConnect**

Connecting Local Businesses to Your Neighborhood.

A/C Heating Services Casteel Heating & Air - 770-419-7463 E. Smith Heating & Air - 770-422-1900 Premier Indoor Comfort - 770-345-9707

Blinds & Shutters Classic Blinds & Shutters - 678-820-7998

Closet Organization Closet Designs & More - 678-392-4597

Decks/Outdoor Living Leisure Time Decks - 404-935-0212

Electrical Services Casteel Heating & Air - 770-419-7463

#### Flooring

Floor Coverings International West Metro - 678-905-9100 Select Floors Roswell - 770-299-1008

Home Remodeling & Renovation Hammersmith - 404-377-1021

Home Theater/Automation Atlanta Audio & Automation - 404-602-0559

Mountain/Lake Properties Big Canoe Realty - 770-893-2733 Lake Arrowhead Realty - 770-720-2700

Outdoor Kitchen/Fireplaces/Gas Logs The Mad Hatter - 770-740-8133 Painting The Painting Company - 678-710-9240

**Plumbing** Plumb Pros - 770-384-1886

Swimming Pools Mirage Pools - 770-886-1304 Executive Pools - 678-225-8892

Tankless Water Heaters Premier Indoor Comfort - 770-345-9707

**Tree Services** AKA Tree Removal - 404-496-5405 Atlanta Tree Professionals - 404-909-8507

Under Deck Systems Undercover Systems - 678-608-4384



PH: 404.948.2123

FOR 30307 NEIGHBORS. ONE PER CHECK

Se\_HAMPTONHUDSON