



November 2011

Happenings in Brookhaven

Movie Shoots: Once again our neighborhood will be “the scene to be seen” in two upcoming Hollywood productions entitled NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH starring Ben Stiller and FLIGHT starring Denzel Washington. NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH filmed interior and exterior scenes at 3926 Club Drive on October 31st and November 1st. FLIGHT is scheduled to film on Bellaire on December 1st to 2nd. The movie companies from both productions will make generous donations to the HBNA that will help fund future neighborhood projects.

Street Party: A big neighborhood thank you goes out to Lisa Martinez who has been running this event for more years than even she can count! The reviews received have been positive and we hope all those in attendance had a great time. The weather could not have been more perfect for the kids’ activities and what looked like a cozy outside café in the middle of Brookhaven. This year’s event marked Lisa’s last in what she calls “a bittersweet ending to an event that should long continue”. “I am so grateful to have been a part of the planning for the last few years and look forward to what exciting ideas someone with a fresh perspective will bring to it.” (Please read Lisa’s full article at www.historicbrookhaven.org.)

Neighborhood News

HBNA Membership

The 2012 HBNA Dues invoices were mailed the week of October 10th to all neighborhood families. Dues for 2012 are \$100 and go to support many worthwhile neighborhood activities including the directory, beautification, e-mail blasts, zoning, etc. The deadline for payments is November 11, 2011. If you have not received your invoice, please email communication@historicbrookhaven.org and a replacement invoice will be placed in your mailbox. In addition, you can pay your dues using PayPal by going to the following website www.historicbrookhaven.org/paydues.htm. You may pay by mail by mailing a check for \$100 to:

HBNA
4060 Peachtree Rd
Suite D, PMB 427
Atlanta, GA 30319-3020

Please make sure that your name and address is on your check to ensure that your payment is entered correctly in our database. We will use this information when printing our 2012 Directory that will be distributed early in 2012.

As of the week of October 24th, approximately 200 families have joined the Association for 2012. This is a great start but we all need to join so that our Association can continue to support the neighborhood and keep it looking beautiful.

Beautification Project

If you've driven or walked by the triangle at the intersection of Club and Davidson, you may have noticed some improvements in the works. The city recently removed an old oak tree from one of the corners. But that's just the beginning. Redevelopment of this "micro park" is the first of many planned improvements to the public green spaces in our neighborhood. Click on www.historicbrookhaven.org and you can learn more about the plan and how you can support this exciting improvement.

Tree Planting

With the support of our local Lowes, several residents in our neighborhood are actively promoting and soliciting their neighbors to purchase trees for planting in their front yards in close proximity to the street. The goal is to have additional trees to provide shade cover for streets and sidewalks and to maintain the attractive tree lined streets that help make Brookhaven an attractive oasis in the city. The trees are being provided by Lowes at their cost and will be planted by a landscaping crew, costing residents \$100 per tree. Look for new oaks, maples and crape myrtles being planted in early December.

Closed Circuit TV Security Systems Being Investigated

In conjunction with the planned construction of new entrance monuments for our neighborhood, HBNA is investigating the feasibility of incorporating CCTV security systems within the monuments to monitor all incoming and outgoing vehicular and pedestrian traffic. As proven in many commercial and public settings, having a record of traffic entering and exiting our neighborhood could be valuable in identifying suspicious vehicles and individuals. This information can be provided to Law Enforcement to help solve crime in the area.

Zoning & Development Challenges

Four years has elapsed since the Brookhaven LCI study led to the adoption of the Overlay Ordinance, a unique zoning and development regulation for Brookhaven. While the sluggish economy, the downturn in real estate and restricted bank lending has slowed commercial real estate development in Brookhaven, there have been several proposals for new development and HBNA is aware that more are coming.

Most recently, Walgreens has submitted plans for a new store at the corner of Peachtree and Colonial, and their plans do not comply with the Overlay Ordinance. Walgreen's petition for a variance from Overlay requirements to allow a new curb cut on Peachtree was denied. Even though other elements of their plans contradict with the Overlay requirements, Walgreens has indicated that their efforts to obtain a permit would continue.

Another challenge has been the erection of a billboard in the parking lot of Extended Stay hotel on Peachtree. The Brookhaven Peachtree Community Alliance, the sponsor of the LCI study and Overlay Ordinance, has engaged counsel to challenge the legality of this billboard. HBNA and other

neighborhood groups, as a member of BPCA, are supporting this effort.

One more property that is attracting significant new development interest is the Hastings Nursery site. The property is being marketed for two commercial pad sites. HBNA has contacted the property Realtor to discuss our concerns for its development and our support for the LCI / Overlay requirements.

Of all neighborhoods that border the Peachtree road commercial corridor, Historic Brookhaven has the greatest direct exposure to commercially zoned property and other properties that are likely prospects for redevelopment, mostly in the jurisdiction of DeKalb County. HBNA was active in the LCI study process, the creation of the LCI recommendations, the drafting of the Overlay Ordinance, and continues to support the strict compliance of the LCI vision and the Overlay requirements. Furthermore, HBNA is joining other neighborhood groups to provide the community and legal challenges to inappropriate development. HBNA needs all of our community's support for maintaining high development standards and preventing the dilution of the vision created in the LCI study. Interested in helping HBNA protect its commercial borders and promote high quality development? Contact Mike Elliot at melliot@mindspring.com.

Atlanta's Tree Ordinance Recompense Funds - Volunteer Lawyer needed

When properties in the City of Atlanta are developed or improved that require the removal of trees, the City of Atlanta requires the compensatory replacement of trees removed or payment of funds to the City of Atlanta to fund the planting of trees elsewhere in Atlanta. HBNA has determined that many individual homeowners have been required to pay substantial funds for Tree Recompense, and we have no idea where these funds go. HBNA believes that over \$500,000 has been collected for Tree Recompense from Historic Brookhaven properties over the past five years. HBNA is seeking a volunteer who resides in the City of Atlanta with a legal background to investigate how to have these funds returned to the community and reinvested in the Brookhaven area for new trees and other landscaping improvements. This situation is a great opportunity for someone to help Historic Brookhaven recover a very large sum of money to benefit the community. If you can help HBNA recover the substantial funds paid to the City of Atlanta, please contact Mike Elliot at melliot@mindspring.com.

Website Sponsors

You know how special your neighbors are. If you have a business you would like for them to keep in mind, please contact Grant Campbell at rcrgcsales0@gmail.com about potential sponsorship opportunities.

Our current website sponsors include Bob Connelly and Cathy Boston. Please be sure to use their services or recommend them to your friends.



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Neighborhood Boys Honored

Georgia House Majority whip, Edward Lindsey, recently sponsored a legislative resolution honoring four Brookhaven Eagle Scouts. Alex Butler, Miles Mallory, Reid MacArthur and Will Rogers were recognized for an inspiring, challenging and generous Boy Scout project – to raise money for an inner city Boy Scout troop. The four were part of a group of 20 scouts that embarked on an extreme one-day hike, hiking as far as they could on the Art Loeb Trail in western North Carolina, a trail chosen for its difficulty. As a result they broke Scouting's 100 Year World Record of longest one-day hike by hiking 37 miles in more than 17 hours. The scouts collectively raised more than \$8,000 for the newly established Troop 2010. Congratulations to these outstanding young men.

Community News:

City of Brookhaven – The prospect of a city of Brookhaven is all about taxes, the services we receive for those taxes and what the citizens of unincorporated DeKalb County ultimately want. In order to determine the geographic boundaries and viability of a city of Brookhaven, Citizens for North DeKalb has commissioned a study by UGA's Carl Vinson Institute of Government. The study will be completed later in November and disseminated to the public for review. State Representative Mike Jacobs will then present a referendum proposal to the State House of Representatives in January 2012. If approved, the public would vote yes or no on a Cityhood Referendum. Those neighbors that want to donate, volunteer or understand more please go to www.citizensfornorthdekalb.com for further details.

Brookhaven Farmers Market – Have you visited the Brookhaven Farmers Market yet? It is located in the parking lot behind Haven and Valenza each Saturday from 9 am – 1 pm and you can find great fresh produce and more from local vendors and farmers. Visit www.brookhavenfarmersmarket.com for more information.

Savi Urban Market – The Mom & Pop Convenience store on Dresden Road (across from Haven) is now Savi Urban Market. They stock wonderful wines, craft beers, Sweet Grass Dairy cheeses, some organic produce, good olive oils, mustards, etc, and a few prepared items and even have a sandwich counter with delicious choices. What a great addition to the neighborhood!

Town Brookhaven – It may have started out slowly, but Town Brookhaven is adding new stores and restaurants almost weekly. Also, the new CineBistro is a great place for in theater dinner and a movie. You must be 21 years of age due to alcoholic beverage service.

HBNA Board Contact Information:

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