VIRGINIA HIGHLAND voice

February 1993
Vol. 4 No. 1

Property Tax Season:
Virginia-Highland is on first list to Homeowners

By Kevin W. Wood

It's that time of year again. The Joint City-County Board of Tax Assessors (the "Joint Board") isdistributing the 1993 ad valorem property tax Assessment Notices to Fulton County and City of Atlanta property owners via two mass mailings on January 22, 1993 and March 5, 1993. Being first and foremost among Atlanta's chic in-town neighborhoods, Virginia-Highland is, of course, honored to be selected for the earlier mailing on January 22, 1993.

In the very unlikely event that the assessed value of your property exceeds its fair market value (unlikely because we all know that our illustrious leaders at City Hall and the Fulton County Government Center would never make that kind of mistake), there is a procedure available to challenge the assessment.

On or before the date which is thirty (30) days from the date when the Assessment Notice is actually mailed, you can appeal the assessment. Please note that the Joint Board must be in receipt of your appeal by the deadline date. Mailing the appeal on or after the deadline date or even having the appeal postmarked by the deadline date will not be sufficient. No particular form for the notice of appeal is prescribed or required, but it must be in writing, it must include your name as the taxpayer, the tax ID Number (from the Assessment Notice), the property address, and a statement from you as the taxpayer that you wish to appeal the assessment. The notice of appeal must be sent to the Joint Board at the Fulton County

See TAX, Page 12

Ed Neal — Special Photo

Friend, Board Member Passed Away

By Deborah Cox

We move to this neighborhood for many reasons—convenience to downtown, the charm of the older houses, the easy access to unique shops and restaurants, and so on. But quickly we learn what truly makes this feel like home: the interesting, involved, and caring neighbors we come to know and depend on in our everyday lives. Those of us who love to call Virginia-Highland HOME owe so much to the neighborhood pioneers and activists who have given time and effort to shape the progress of this area. On December 27, 1992 we lost one of these pioneers, Ed Neal.

In 1982, Ed and a handful of his neighbors founded the St. Charles/ Greenwood Neighborhood Association so that the particular needs of this part of Virginia-Highland would be considered as the neighborhood faced the inevitable changes the future brings. He served as President of St. Charles/Greenwood from 1988 until his death. As President, he represented the organization as a member of the Board of Trustees of the VHCA and served as the co-chairman of the VHCA Zoning and Planning Committee.

Nyna Gentry, President of the VHCA Board, said that, "Ed always had

See NEAL, Page 8

INSIDE

VHCA Calendar	2
President's Column	2
Officially Speaking	4
Recycling News	5
Book Review	6
Food Review	17
Crime Watch	12
Classified Ads	15

Printed on Recycled Paper!

The John Howell Park Project has moved its headquarters to the Virginia-Highland Baptist Church on Virginia Avenue.

VHCA CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

3 VHCA General Meeting
9 NPU-F Meeting
10 Ponce Coalition
16 Summerfest Meeting
16 Parking Meeting
24 Zoning Meeting

MARCH

3 VHCA General Meeting
9 NPU-F Meeting
10 Ponce Coalition
16 Parking Meeting
16 Summerfest Meeting
31 Zoning Meeting

APRIL

7 VHCA General Meeting
13 NPU-F Meeting
14 Ponce Coalition
15 VOICE Deadline - Ads and Articles
20 Summerfest Meeting
20 Parking Meeting
31 Zoning Meeting

All meetings are open to the public. Anyone who wishes to discuss a topic of interest to the neighborhood should contact the Board to get on the agenda, otherwise your concern may not get the attention which it deserves. Please Call 222-VAHI (8244).

The VHCA General Meetings and Zoning Meetings are held at the Ponce de Leon Branch Library at 7:30 P.M. The NPU-F Meetings are held at the Morningside Presbyterian Church at 7:00 P.M. Both the Summerfest and Parking Committee meetings are held at the YWCA on N. Highland at 7:00 P.M.

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

A 1993Update on 1992 Events and Issues in Your Virginia-Highland Neighborhood

SUMMERFEST: SummerFest '92 was a tremendous success and plans are beginning to roll into high gear for SummerFest '93. By the time you receive this issue of the Voice, your Board of Directors may well have found a local special events company to make this year's event one that all residents and businesses can be proud of. We will, of course, still have committee chairs for the different aspects of SummerFest, so don't think that the neighborhood won't have input in how our event is conducted. Please mark your calendars with the dates of the SummerFest '93 meetings listed in the Calendar of Events and plan to attend!

DOT PROPERTY: The vacant DOT property (bounded by Ponce de Leon on the south, St. Charles Ave. on the north, Barnett St. on the east and Bonaventure on the west) has been released by the Department of Transportation for sale. Thanks to Joyce Gross and Burn Sears for their time and effort in working with the DOT to prove that this land was not connected to the former Presidential Parkway, but was actually old right of way acquired for I-485. Some of you may well remember that long battle, which this neighborhood won back in the 70's. So far there has not been an offer made that the DOT has felt acceptable, but some residents have been meeting with a local developer who has an interest in the property. The developer is interested in what the neighborhood wants to see on the property, which is a far cry from what we are accustomed to dealing with when it comes to developers. These issues will be discussed during our regularly scheduled Zoning and Planning meetings. If you have an interest, be sure to attend these meetings the last Wednesday of each month at our local library.

MURPHY'S: Murphy's, an issue most of you may have thought was dead, is very much alive and kicking in the court system. Tom Murphy appealed the portion of the Board Of Zoning Adjustment's decision requiring 42 parking spaces for his project and an off-site parking attendant. This appeal was heard before Judge Luther Alverson of the Fulton

See UPDATE, Page 7

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Bicycles Require Care, Maintenance, Year Round Many Adjustments will Require Bike Mechanic

By Mike Goodman, B.G.

Like any machine, bicycles require periodic maintenance. Today's bicycles are more complicated (and easier to pedal) than the simple single speed bikes that most of us grew up on. But even though today your bicycle may have as many as 21 speeds, there's no need to be intimidated. By checking just a few things occasionally you can be sure that your bicycle is in good operating condition.

First, although it may seem obvious, be sure your wheels are fastened properly. Many bicycles have quick release mechanisms on the wheels, and it's easy to forget to fasten them if you've had the wheels off. Also, spin the wheels to see if they are inordinately out of round or true.

Secondly, check the tire pressure. A car tire gauge will work fine if it reads high enough. The correct inflation pressure will be written on the side of the tire. Typically, the wider mountain and hybrid bike tires take 40 to 65 p.s.i. while road bike tires run around 100. It is normal for bike tires to gradually lose air over time whether or not the bicycle is being ridden. Smaller higher pressure tires will need inflating about every 10 days or atleast every two weeks. The bigger tires only need topping off about every three or four weeks. In addition, it's a good idea to inspect the tires for cuts or abrasions that might cause flats. It may prevent your bike ride from becoming a bike walk.

Aside from the wheels and the tires, there are four other components on your bicycle to monitor for problems or adjustment. They include the crank, the bearings, the gears and the brakes.

Problems with the gears and brakes are usually obvious. Gears will slip or hesitate when shifting, or perhaps the chain will fall off more than occasionally. The brakes may squeak, the brake levers may travel too far before the brakes engage, or the brakes may just not stop well. Because many things could cause these various problems, it is a good idea to consult a bike mechanic should you experience any of them.

You will also need a mechanic when the bearings need adjustment. By the way, bearings are simply a number of steel balls arranged in a circular pattern that bear weight and/or allow two connecting parts to spin, rotate, or pivot against one another. Bicycles have bearings in the wheels, the crank and the headset. You can check for loose wheel bearings by simply grasping the wheels with your hand and shaking them. You'll feel some play or wiggle if they need adjustment. Shake one of the crank arms (the rod to which the pedals attach) to check for loose crank bearings. You will feel some play here also if an adjustment is needed. To check the headset bearings (the system that allows the handlebars to turn), apply the front brake and rock the bike back and forth a bit. Again, you'll feel the characteristic looseness if adjustment is necessary.

Finally, listen for "ticks" or "creaks" in the crank. These noises indicate the nuts that hold the crank arms on need tightening. Neglecting this adjustment necessitates replacing the crank arms in a very short time.

It is important to make all these adjustments on your bicycle on a timely basis. Riding your bike out of adjustment causes rapid and excessive wear. Of course, there is much more to bicycle maintenance than the inspection tips discussed here. These are merely intended to let you know when your bike may be due for further service. Visit your neighborhood bike shop when you have questions or concerns about the condition of your bike.

Bicycles are beautiful, efficient machines. They provide recreation, exercise, and transportation. With periodic maintenance your bicycle will serve you well for many, many years.

The Virginia - Highland VOICE is published by the Newsletter Committee of the Virginia - Highland Civic Association. Newsletter Committee offices are located at 805 Adair Avenue NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30306, (404) 222-VAHI (8244). Please send information of community interest, including articles, news, upcoming events, and letters to the editors to the above address. Only letters that have been signed will be considered for publication. Deadline dates for articles and advertising are January 15, April 15, July 15,and October 15.

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Officially Speaking

Your City Council

By Sheila Martin-Brown
Councilperson-at-Large

I am concerned that many residents in this city have a flawed view of city government and, particularly, of the Atlanta City Council. Having been a member of this council since 1989, before that an urban planner in the 1970's, and later the director of the Bureau of Purchasing and Real Estate for this great city, I can tell you firsthand that much of the coverage of this council by our city's only major daily newspaper has not always been clear and complete.

For the most part, coverage has been slanted and has given the impression that the council is a group that is completely fragmented and divided. Yet we have worked together in many areas that resulted in numerous positive improvements for this city. Some of those improvements include the relocation of the Piedmont Park Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) and the refinancing of Underground Atlanta bonds.

Our job as council members is to address the concerns of our residents and to work together to find solutions to problems and challenges that face this city.

There are many problems facing Atlanta that are rarely, if ever covered by the local daily. I'm sure many of you do not realize that your tax dollars are being spent on sanitary services for both the Atlanta Housing Authority and numerous federal and state office buildings, yet the city gets little if any money from those agencies to cut the cost for those services. We are also busy working on a major challenge: preparing our city for the 1996 Olympics.

While no one always agrees on everything, when it comes to the good of this city, we have worked in solidarity with the mayor whenever a critical decision has to be made for the good of Atlanta. And when we disagreed with the mayor, it was based on the restraints by the city code—a case in point is the recent decision not to pay the aviation commissioner $120,000. That decision was based on a simple fact: nowhere in the city code is there a provision to pay any city employee, including the mayor, that amount of money. As a council, we were essentially compelled to uphold that provision until the executive branch proposed the creation of a new position with a $120,000 salary.

Yet what you see highlighted most often are the fights on the council floor. But I believe these disagreements have often resulted in compromises for what is best for our residents. Furthermore, I believe the council floor is the forum where such debates should be aired.

But because many of you are not present at these meetings, you must read the slanted versions in the morning paper. I advise you not to believe everything you read and I invite you to come to council meetings or watch committee and full council meetings on cable television. I would also encourage you to call and talk with your council representatives.

While you may think, based on reports in the local paper, that council members are constantly at each other's throats, I'd like to reassure you that when the floor fights have ended, we laugh and most of us have dinner together, because the bottom line is—we care about this city and we care about you.

RECYCLE TODAY

Remember Your 3 R's...
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

By Nan Hunter

Recycling in 1993 has a few nuances. Now "other" plastics are being accepted at the DeKalb Farmers Market. I believe by "other," they mean yogurt, cottage cheese and similar containers. This was brought to my attention by my friend Ricks and I really appreciate hearing about recycling and environmental happenings in town.

Another "flash" came to me from our own "Compost Man," Dr. Clark Gregory — the Kroger on Ponce has a newspaper bin. For those of you who have too many newspapers to keep around for a month, just toss them in the big red and green bin in the Kroger lot. And if you need help hauling a large amount from your place of work or anywhere, you can call 876-2943 and Clark has a truck. No, he won't help you move your furniture.

Here's a helpful hint on how to recycle your #1 and #2 plastic at Kroger. Flatten your milk, water and soda containers and put them in a cart on your way in. Include your plastic newspaper bags, too. Of course you are already carrying in your own bags for your purchases.

Have you noticed how certain salespeople are now asking if you want a bag? I always thank them for inquiring because I don't need another bag, even if I do recycle them. When I only have a couple of things and they're packaged to begin with, I really do not need a bag.

In case you forgot whom to call if you see a stove, furnace, refrigerator or any heavy appliance on the street, the number is 794-7956; leave a message. And if you've any furniture you need picked up, call the Furniture Bank. They give it to the homeless who are leaving the shelters. Their number is 355-8530.

I want to thank Patti Shupe for helping me with phone calling.

Repeated by popular demand —

See RECYCLE, Page 15

Parking Survey Received Huge Response

By Jett Marks

Thank you for responding to the Parking Committee's survey of parking problems. We have received 67 completed surveys which is the best response to any survey conducted in the VOICE. Direct mail marketing figures led us to expect 40 responses. (We originally stated a cutoff date of December 15 but later decided we would continue to accept responses. Better late than never!) The strong response no doubt indicates how very much parking problems get under our skin.

There was great disagreement over exactly what the problems are and what the solutions might be. Survey aside, you could tell this by coming to any of the meetings. Still, there were a few points of consensus. When sorted by address, it was clear that different areas have different problems. This points to different solutions for different areas — certainly not a surprise.

Before I discuss the results, I want to remind our readers that this survey is just one part of a three-part study to determine the focus of a long-range neighborhood parking plan. In the interim, however, we are finding it possible to implement some short-range improvements. Where we can find a consensus, we will take action.

The first point of agreement is that our sidewalks need work. Why is this mentioned in a parking survey? Our respondents cited two reasons for sidewalk repair: 1) residents need not bring their cars to the business areas, and 2) visitors would be more inclined to park away from the business district and walk. Both would reduce the traffic congestion.

Another point of consensus is to encourage bicycle paths, bike racks, and mass transit. All have the aim of bringing in residents and visitors to the gathering spots and leaving their cars behind. Isn't this what Virginia-Highland is about?

Even on these points of consensus, there was some dissent. One respondent mocked bike paths by asking if someone from Duluth would bike down here. (I want to take nothing from this comment because it is valid, but I am amused since I work in Duluth and have commuted there by bike. I would do it more often if there were bike paths.) A few people mentioned the noise and vibration caused by MARTA busses. A couple of people did not want cars encroaching farther into the residential streets. No one said anything against sidewalk repair. There is an article concerning sidewalk repair elsewhere in this newsletter.

Support for parking permits depended on where you lived. We may be able to work up a plan to issue permits during key times and at key locations — the clearest need is for permit-only parking for residents near Piedmont Park during events. This will go into our long-term plan.

Support for stricter parking enforcement depended on whether your personal parking practices violate the law, e.g., do you park on the street facing the wrong direction (transverse park)? There were a lot of respondents who want to see stricter enforcement of parking regulations, and parking-count studies conducted by the Parking Committee over the last 9 months indicate that many problems would be solved by this approach. Residents must understand, however, that our police officers have taken an oath to uphold all the laws. We cannot pick and choose the ones they should enforce.

See PARKING, Page 9

The doctor of the future will give no medicine but will interest patients in the care of the human frame, in diet, and in the cause and prevention of disease.

—Thomas A. Edison

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BOOK REVIEWS

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The Girls In The Balcony *by Nan Robertson*
Women, Men and the New York Times

Ms. Robertson recounts the class action suit filed in the 70's by the women employees of the New York Times, and she was there. It was a long, drawn- out process finally settled out of court without the Times admitting any guilt of discrimination. This great newspaper's history of being a liberal, socially responsible institution is permanently tainted by its attempt to protect that reputation with an obviously hypocritical attitude of 'do as we say, not as we do.' The insights into the personalities involved on both sides are intriguing. Hopefully things are better for the women working there today, but who knows, the Times fooled us once.

Truman *by David McCollough*

David McCollough was the narrator of the great PBS series on the Civil War. He's not just a talented voice-over; he knows his history and tells it well enough to have won two National Book Awards. Truman was nominated too, but didn't win, which makes one want to read the winner that year. It must be something special because Truman is outstanding.

It weighs in at around 1000 pages and took 10 years to write. You'll want to pay it the respect it deserves— there is not a boring page in the lot. When finished, you'll know Truman better than if you'd actually known him. He was smart and straightforward and accepted responsibility for his actions. Regrettably, there were a few unpleasant aspects of his personality, but he was a man of his times in that regard.

On civil rights, however, he became a man well ahead of his times. He adored his family, politics, poker and bourbon, and he could really play the piano and the press. He surrounded himself with appropriate people for the tasks to be done and took political risks for his convictions. Greatness became him because he didn't recognize it or acknowledge it, and he didn't change to accommodate it. He gracefully and graciously lived a full life with gusto. Some of the greatest minds of the 20th century came to respect and like him. You will too, and you'll wish for the likes of him again.

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UPDATE, From Page 2

Superior Court. Judge Alverson upheld the requirement of 42 parking spaces but reversed the requirement of an off-site parking attendant. The City of Atlanta applied for a discretionary appeal concerning the reversal. The Court of Appeals remanded the case to Superior Court for findings of fact and suggested that a new application for appeal be filed after that occurred. At this time the findings of fact (backing up the Judge's decision) have not come down. In the meantime, a second appeal by J.D. Christy, represented by neighborhood resident Ben Erlitz, was also filed. J.D.'s appeal relates to the BZA's decision to allow Murphy's to operate during their daytime business hours with less than 50% of the required 42 parking spaces. This appeal will have been heard before Judge Don Langham of the Fulton Superior Court by the time you receive this issue of the Voice. Whatever the outcome, the decision will most probably be appealed to the Court of Appeals. Bottom line is that the number of required parking spaces for the proposed new Murphy's is 42, not 26 as was presented by the original application.

Our neighborhood suffered a great loss during the holidays in the death of Ed Neal, a member of the Board of Directors representing the St. Charles/Greenwood neighborhood. Be sure to read the article on Ed in this edition of the *Voice* (Front Page). Ed dearly loved his neighborhood. You may not have agreed with his position on certain issues, but he stood by his convictions and fought for what he felt was right for Virginia-Highland. He was a special individual and will be missed, especially by me, as we were close friends for more than ten years.

We have many issues to deal with during 1993 and your voice counts when heard, so be sure and attend the general meeting held the first Wednesday of each month. Rremember, YOU GET AS MUCH OUT OF YOUR COMMUNITY AS YOU PUT INTO IT!!!

Nyna Gentry, President

I had some great ideas but a lot of questions . . . how much, how long, where to begin? SawHorse was responsive to my needs and patient with my concerns. Fast and professional, they handled every aspect of the renovation.

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Scholarship Fund in Memory of Ed Neal

The Ed Neal Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established to benefit students with learning disabilities in Cumberland County, TN and Fulton County, GA as they continue their education after high school. Please send your contribution to the following address:

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NEAL, FromPage 1

time
to discuss in detail the intricate aspects of neighborhood issues and, on zoning matters, would try to work with the applicant or the Board to come to a compromise acceptable to all parties. Since many zoning issues are not clear-cut, his experience in dealing with the BZA was extremely beneficial in working out a solution to complicated and subjective issues."

His Zoning co-chair, Tinka Green said, "Ed knew the zoning process, understood the meaning of the laws, and could even quote from the Zoning book - and it's a very thick book!"

Ed loved this neighborhood and his dream was that it retain its village atmosphere. He did not want the area so totally over-run with retail/restaurant/bar establishments that it would become the next Buckhead.

Yet neighborhood activities were not his only love. First and foremost, he was a teacher. He taught for 20 years, primarly in special education programs. While teaching in Tennessee, he held a number of offices in his local chapter of the Council for Exceptional Children and served two years as Treasurer of the State Federation. He served on many committees in his ten years with the Fulton County School System including four years as a Charter Member of the Teacher Council. Twice he received the "Teacher of the Year" award at Crestwood High School, and he was named "Teacher of the Month" at Chattahoochee High School.

Superintendent James H. Fox, Jr., of the Fulton County Board of Education said, "Ed was a master teacher who effectively supported all of his special needs students with a realistic preparation for their future. I especially appreciated Ed's valuable input on the Teachers' Council in identifying concerns and suggesting ideas to improve instructional programs and working conditions for teachers throughout the district."

Patti Pear, who teamed with Ed for many years to teach economics to students in the special education program, explained how Ed not only had a great relationship with his students, but also was a friend and a support for the parents of these children. Patti stated, "Ed was what I call a life teacher. He helped his students become responsible by teaching them communication skills and giving them a foundation to boost their self-esteem. Also, he taught us teachers how to help his special students. I know I am a much more effective teacher because of what Ed shared."

Many of his former students and their parents had kind words to say about Ed and his influence on their lives. David Josselson, who now owns a very successful business, summed up by saying, "Mr. Neal never believed his students would amount to nothing, as society expected. He was a motivator and a pusher who made sure you had the skills you needed to operate in the real world."

Ed achieved much in his 41 years through his own efforts as well as the efforts of those he gently influenced. He will be affectionately remembered and sadly missed.

A scholarship fund has been established in Ed's memory to benefit students with learning disabilities in Cumberland County, TN and Fulton County, GA as they continue their education after high school. Contributions should be sent to the following address:

The Ed Neal
Memorial Scholarship Fund
C/O Nyna Gentry
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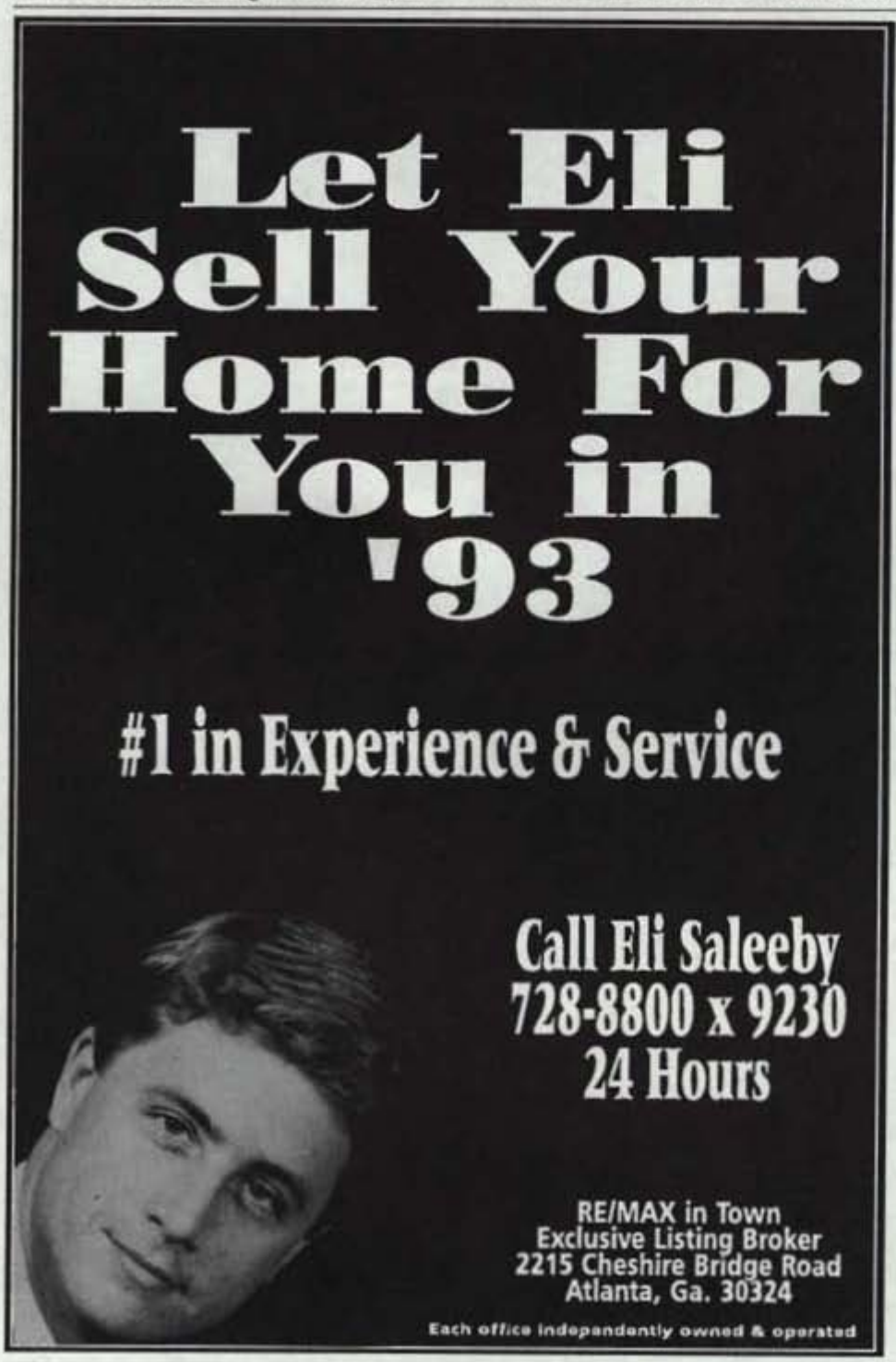

PARKING, From Page 5

Thus, they cannot choose to ticket only cars from Gwinnett and Cobb Counties (this was only suggested jokingly), and they certainly can't tell who is a resident by how politely a car is parked. In other words, if you break the rules, being a Va-Hi resident isn't going to shield you from a citation. Incidentally, it could certainly smooth over some bad feelings between neighbors if we residents parked politely all the time — and what a good examplethis would set for our visitors.

There was support for parking decks. We have seen many plans but none has been found to be feasible. We will continue to consider decks. One-side of the street parking and one-way streets will require more study; the survey results were inconclusive.

The list of problems cited in the survey included matters that affect parking but are better handled by other committees, such as zoning. There were other issues raised that do not apply to the neighborhood as a whole. Still, these issues warrant attention and a full report of the survey's findings will be published and distributed to the people who should take action. This report will not be in the VOICE due to space constraints, but it will be made available through the Parking Committee and Civic Association.

I will close my summary of the survey results by consolidating and paraphrasing comments made by a large number of respondents. They stated we must keep in mind that although we have seen an increase in traffic, we are still much better off than urban areas in most other cities; the increase in headaches has been more than offset by the increase in value of our homes. (Alas, be sure to see the article in this edition of the Voice on how to challenge your property tax assessment!) We do not deny that work is required. Moderate remedies and education, however, will be our first tools in addressing the problems. Anything that restricts either residents or visitors will be a negative; we should rely on good information and good judgment before resorting to extreme measures.

We wanted the kitchen of our dreams, but on a budget! We called SawHorse and they made it all come true. Their creative design ideas even won the 1992 Home Builders Silver Award. Congratulations SawHorse and thank-you!

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Piedmont Park has Become the Main Course on the Table

By Kathy Couch
Parks Chairperson

There's a lot on the table these days about Piedmont Park. A new master plan, the new City/Conservancy partnership, Plaza '96, Friends of Piedmont Park, the CSO treatment plant, and possible Park expansion are all issues you'll be hearing more about in the coming months. As a neighborhood bordering on the Park, Virginia-Highland is greatly affected by what happens there. After all, it's our own backyard.

Finally...a Major Step Forward

For several years, the City of Atlanta and the Piedmont Park Conservancy (a private citizens group) have been trying to reach agreement on a partnership to revitalize the Park. In December, a Memo of Understanding was approved by both parties and will serve as the working agreement for future efforts to upgrade and maintain the Park. The MOU states that:

- The City will maintain its existing authority over the Park, which will be exercised in a good faith spirit of cooperation with the Conservancy.
- The Conservancy will have primary authority for raising additional funds for the Park, which must be spent in accordance with the Master Plan.
- The Park will be managed and operated consistent with the Master Plan (which will be revised over the next six months).

As the blueprint for future capital improvements and management decisions, the Master Plan will be binding on both the City and the Conservancy. We'll have several opportunities to provide citizen input before the Master Plan can be adopted.

Now that a working agreement has been reached, the Conservancy can move ahead with its plans to raise $15 million to fund Park revitalization. This new partnership is the first of its kind in Atlanta and a big step forward for Piedmont Park. New York, Brooklyn, St. Louis and other major cities have successfully used such partnerships to restore and improve their public parks.

Expanding the Park

In another issue facing Piedmont Park, there's currently an opportunity to add more acreage. Two major parcels of adjoining land are being offered for sale to the City to expand the Park northwards. Both are potential sites for the proposed new CSO (combined sewer overflow) treatment facility required by the EPA. See the article by Jett Marks in this edition of the Voice for more details.

Plaza '96

The coming Olympics has inspired a major new proposal for Piedmont Park called Plaza '96. An anonymous donor wishes to create a multi-million dollar Olympic commemorative plaza in honor of the 100-year anniversary of the modern games. The preferred site, which would remain an open green space, is the meadow where the ballfields are now located.

The concept for Plaza '96 is a classically designed ceremonial area — a community gathering spot reminiscent of the Park's early days. During the 1985 Cotton States Exposition, there was an ornate fountain on this site. The focus of Plaza '96 would be an heroic sculpture symbolizing Olympic athletes past and future, surrounded by a circle of lighted walkways. The names of all U.S. athletes who have participated in the modern games would be inscribed along the walkways, with room to add new names in the future. The donor has commissioned sculptor Frederick E. Hart, well known for his Vietnam Memorial sculpture in Washington, D.C.

During the '96 Olympics, the large, open plaza could serve as the site for opening and closing ceremonies, according to project designers Peter Polites and Rodney Cook (who was instrumental in organizing the "Save the Fox" movement 15 years ago). They envision it as the prime location for concerts, festivals and other high density activities, taking pressure off over-used parts of the Park. This supports Frederick Olmstead's vision of the Park's Grand Plaza as a space designated for ceremonial activity and mass congregation. Olmstead (Piedmont Park's designer) viewed it as a place of "relief for workers hemmed in by the City."

According to the proposed plan, the ballfields would be renovated, with new drainage and irrigation systems, and they would remain in approximately the same area as they are now. The designers are in the process of presenting plans and getting community input for the proposed Plaza '96 project. The City has officially accepted the gift, subject to compliance with the Park Master Plan, which is now being updated and will require public input. As specified, the gift can only be used for the plaza (and not the Park in general). However, the donor and his design team feel that the presence of Plaza '96 will attract more funding to the Park in the future.

Friends of Piedmont Park

You'll be hearing more about this grass roots public advocacy group in '93. Friends of Piedmont Park is reorganizing and looking for new members. Its goal is "to enhance Piedmont Park as the crown jewel of Atlanta's parks system and as an urban green space for the enjoyment of the public." As a member, you can help influence the critical decisions facing the Park this year. For more information, call Van Hall at 876-2520

So...What Kind of Park Do You Want?

Now's your chance to bcome involved and have a say in what happens to Piedmont Park. Much needed improvements are coming, one way or another. Public hearings will be scheduled about the Park Master Plan and the various proposals now pending. Watch for more news here and in the local newspapers, and we'll keep you up-to-date at regular monthly civic association meetings, too.

Do you have an idea for an interesting story for the VOICE? If so, give us a call at 222-VAHI.

Gardening Volunteers Can Gain Hours for a Chance to Volunteer for the 1996 Olympics

By Kathy Couch
Parks Chairperson

Now there's one more reason to join our roster of gardening volunteers who maintain our planted traffic islands, John Howell Park, and other areas. Every hour that you contribute over the next three years will be reported to Park Pride, a city organization that promotes community green spaces. Names of those who have at least 100 volunteer hours will go into the pool from which official Olympics volunteers will be chosen. Other volunteer activities you're involved in may also be participating, so you can rack up hours even faster.

We're taking a rest for the winter but plan to renovate The Corner island in early spring. If you'd like to volunteer or want to organize your neighbors to plant a specific traffic island or public area, please call 222-VAHI.

ABOVE: Linda Miller and Chipley McKnight prepared the St. Louis corner for planting. Nancy Cunningham, Sally Thomsen and Mike Couch also joined in the fun.

RIGHT: Shild Grant, our volunteer professional landscaper, supervised the planting efforts at three locations last fall.

TOP: Highland Hardware donated fertilizer and flowers for the fall planting of The Corner traffic island. The gateway to Lanier Boulevard at North Highland also got a facelift. Our volunteer crew included Judy Beasley, Nancy White, Kimberly Krautter, Mary Jo Peed, Robert Nowak, Chipley McKnight, Sally Thomsen, Ruthie Penn-David, Elizabeth and Ray Couch, David Magee and Carey Atwater.

ABOVE: Kathy Couch and Stephanie Coffin helped plant the flowers donated by Intown Hardware for this renovation of the crescents at St. Louis and North Highland Avenues.

TAX, From Page 1

Government Center at the address listed on your Assessment Notice. Remember, the Joint Board must be in receipt of your notice of appeal on or before the deadline date.

Now here's the tricky part. Two years ago, the state statute governing ad valorem taxation of property was changed to delete the requirement that the taxpayer state the grounds for the appeal in his or her notice of appeal. Notwithstanding this change, the Assessment Notice form you receive from the Joint Board will say, "Please state the reasons for your appeal." If you decide to enumerate the grounds for your appeal (even though this is not required), it is recommended that you state as many grounds as possible in a separate letter which should be attached to the Notice of Appeal.

The Joint Board then has an unlimited period of time to respond to the appeal. (House Bill 253 which is currently pending before the Georgia legislature would, among other things, shorten the response time of the Joint Board to 45 days.) The Joint Board can decide to do one of two things with your notice of appeal. It can decide to make no change in your original assessment, in which event your assessment will be forwarded to the Fulton County Board of Equalization, or the Joint Board can make an adjustment and notify you of the adjustment. If you are not in agreement with the adjusted assessment, then you have twenty-one (21) days from the date of the notice of the adjustment to refile your original notice of appeal, together with a statement that you want to continue your appeal. Again, the Joint Board must be in receipt of your refiled notice of appeal on or before the twenty-one (21) day deadline date. In the event you elect to appeal the adjustment, your adjusted assessment will be sent to the Fulton County Board of Equalization. The Board of Equalization has three members and three alternates. Each Board of Equalization member is selected by the Grand Jury, must own property in Fulton County, and have a high school diploma. Most Board of Equalization members have no training in real estate appraisals. After receipt of your assessment notice from the Joint Board, the Board of Equalization will notify you of your hearing date. After you have filed your appeal, you may request an informal meeting with the Joint Board prior to your hearing with the Board of Equalization. Although you are not required to meet with the Joint Board nor is the Joint Board required to informally meet with you, many experts believe that your best chance of getting a satisfactory adjustment is by working with the Joint Board. It is crucial, in any event, to have the facts of your case well researched and your information well organized before any meeting with either the Joint Board or the Board of Equalization.

In most instances, the Board of Equalization will allow you fifteen (15) minutes at the hearing to put on your case. You can, but are not obligated to bring anyone you wish to the Board of Equalization hearing. Many experts recommend that you bring a court reporter because, if you do not raise an issue at the Board of Equalization hearing, the issue cannot be litigated separately later and it is very difficult to prove what issues were raised by the taxpayer at the Board of Equalization hearing without a court reporter's transcript. If you are unhappy with the Board of Equalization's decision,

See BOARD, Page 20

CRIME WATCH

Below is a listing of the crimes reported to police in May and June for the Virginia - Highland neighborhood (beat 610):

	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Assault	8	5	3	4
Auto Theft	14	8	14	28
Commercial Burglary	0	0	1	1
General Larceny	23	11	14	16
Homicide	0	0	0	0
Rape	1	0	0	1
Residential Burglary	33	11	9	17
Robbery	7	6	9	2
Vehicular Larceny	27	26	35	28

Virginia-Highland Can't Flee from the Crime without Everyone's Help

By Joyce Gross

'Tis the season to be robbed. Recently there has been a spree of armed robberies at commercial establishments in our area. Several arrests have been made. One suspect has been linked to over 40 robberies in and around metro Atlanta.

Although we had a slight rise in vehicular larcenies in November, the police believe they have apprehended the individual responsible for a large portion of them.

Three cheers and a pat on the back for our own Rob Evans who saw two suspicious individuals walking down Barnett Street with a plastic bag containing a square object. He followed them to the pawn shop and notified the police. An arrest was made as it turned out that one of the individuals was already wanted by the police. Good work, Rob!

Also, we commend the local heroes over in Lake Claire who came to the rescue of a woman who was pulled into a wooded ravine while jogging. Her screams were heard and local residents subdued the perpetrator and held him for the police. Hurray!

Reports are coming in of new credit cards being stolen from mail boxes. There have also been reports that outgoing mail left for the mailperson is being stolen. Act accordingly.

Be on the lookout for a Honda with primer gray paint—possibly containing three teenagers (two black males and one white female). They are wanted in connection with an assault and robbery that took place on Barnett Street.

Remember, there is a right way and a wrong way to park your car on the street. If you do not park you car with the passenger side next to the curb you are subject to a parking ticket. Consider yourselves warned.

We are in the midst of a letter writing campaign. First we are asking the City to make funds available for more police presence in Beat 610 (Virginia-Highland).

The Honorable Mayor Maynard Jackson
City of Atlanta
55 Trinity Avenue, SW
Atlanta, GA 30335
(404) 330-6100

Councilperson Mary Davis
City of Atlanta
55 Trinity Avenue, SW
Atlanta, GA 30335
(404) 330-6049

Sheila Martin-Brown
Councilperson-at-Large
55 Trinity Avenue, SW
Atlanta, GA 30335
(404) 330-6043

Chief Eldrin Bell
Atlanta Bureau of Police Services
175 Decatur Street
Atlanta, GA 30335
(404) 658-6600

When you're finished writing the City, set your sights on the State. Criminals need to serve their full sentences. Early parole is a large part of our problem. The robbery suspect we mentioned in the first paragraph should have been serving his full sentence when he committed those robberies. Gun control is not going to be our savior. We need more prisons and more programs to help addicts clean up their act. Write to:

The Honorable Governor Zell Miller
203 State Capital
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404) 656-1776

Lt. Governor Pierre Howard
240 State Capital
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404) 656-5030

State Senator David Scott
District 36
190 Wendell Drive
Atlanta, GA 30315
(404) 656-0090

State Representative Jim Martin
Georgia House of Representatives
State Capital
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404) 656-0277

Get your block organized. Know your neighbors. Pay attention to what goes on. Watch out for each other.

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RECYCLE, From Page 4

How to Compost in Your Backyard, No Matter What its Size. Come to the meeting room in our VA-HI Library on Ponce de Leon — Saturday, March 27, 2-3 PM. Dr. Clark Gregory, Supervisor, Fulton County Soil & Water Conservation District, will answer and explain as well as sell the compost bins for $5.00. You need to begin composting today. One of Atlanta's largest landfills just closed and another will not open.

To those of you who want to jump on our recycling bandwagon, it's easy — as easy as the 3 R's, reduce, reuse, recycle. Just ask any child how to do it, or call me at 875-1630. I'll send you the dates for the next four pick-ups, March-June. Thanks. We need more recyclers on the following streets: Arlington Place, Drewry, Greenwood, Kentucky, Lanier Boulevard, Ponce de Leon Place, Maryland, Rosedale Road, Rosedale Drive, Rupley, Stillwood, St. Augustine, Todd and Vance.

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The Inman Park Cooperative Preschool, located at 760 Edgewood Ave., offers afternoon care to kids ages 1-5 who are not enrolled in its morning program. Hours: 1:00-5:00, M-F. Cost: $3.00/hr. Part-time use is fine. Great staff, loving care and fun activities. Snacks provided and naps are possible. Call Patty Bonner at 827-9796 for more information.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE by helping your neighborhood. The Virginia-Highland Civic Association and various committees are looking for your help. Call their information line and get involved today. Remember...you r neighborhood is a reflection of what you make it. Call today at 222-VAHI and follow the instructions.

VIRGINIA- HIGHLAND VOICE ADVERTISING RATES

Size	Length	Height	Rate
1 inch	2 1/4"	1"	$20
2 inches	2 1/4"	2"	$30
3 inches	2 1/4"	3"	$40
1/6 page vertical	2 1/4"	5"	$50
1/6 page horizontal	5"	2 1/2"	$50
1/4 page	3 3/4"	5"	$75
1/3 Page vertical	2 1/2"	10"	$100
1/3 page horizontal	7 1/2"	3 1/2"	$100
1/2 page	7 1/2"	5"	$150
Full page	7 1/2"	10"	$300
Business card size	3 1/2"	2"	$35

Artwork: All artwork must be provided in the form of black and white camera ready copy.
Deadlines: January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15. These dates are one month prior to publication and distribution.
Payment: All payments must accompany advertisements. Checks should be made to Virginia-Highland Civic Association and sent to 805 Adair Avenue NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30306. Advertisements and payments may also be dropped off at Babes in Highland, 1030 N. Highland Avenue, Atlanta.
Discounts: A discount is given for four consecutive appearances of an advertisement. The discount is the equivalent of half of the fee for the fourth advertisement. In order to receive the discount, a contract must be signed, and the discount does not apply to back page advertisements.
Distribution: The Virginia-Highland VOICE is distributed to over 4,000 households and businesses in the Virginia-Highland area.
Classified Advertisements: All classified advertisements cost $2 per line, and the VOICE reserves the right to edit all advertisements. Please send Classified advertisements to: The VOICE 805 Adair Avenue NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30306.
For additional advertisement rates or information, call 222-VAHI and punch #3.

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Don't Be Shy To Your Own Neighborhood

By J.D. Christy
Vice President VHCA

Where in the world did it go? The year '92, I mean. Some would say good riddance to '92 and may '93 be better for all mankind. Closer to home, may '93 be good for all residents and merchants of Virginia-Highland.

Having been seven months on the Virginia-Highland Board of Trustees, I've noticed a pattern. New faces usually appear at the meetings only when someone has an agenda to pursue, or when crime or zoning are in the news. Well folks, zoning is calming down some, and neighborhoods, having organized along with Zone Six police to work on crime, are having some success.

We have four to five thousand residents and a prosperous commercial district. There are good things happening, but some problems remain. Lots of talent and many ideas are never heard from — why? Summerfest, schools, noise, traffic, crime, parks, Ponce Task Force, sewer treatment, trash, recycling and other subjects that may concern you, can be addressed at our meetings. The more brain power and communication, the better life can be in our community. So if you like to talk, cometo speak and if you are shy, come and listen until you are comfortable, then you too may want to run your mouth.

We are a friendly group, unpaid and working to make things better if we can. See you any 1st Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Ponce Library. Don't be shy, you may make a new friend or two.

Award Winner

The Home Rebuilders recently won the **1991 Majestic Fireplace Design for Remodeling** — a contest sponsored by Majestic Fireplaces and *Remodeling* Magazine.

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COLONEL MUSTARD
WITH A KNIFE IN THE KITCHEN

FOOD REVIEW

AMERICAN ROADHOUSE

This is a plain food place, for middle of the road tastes, reasonably priced — at least I think it is, or maybe all the red, white, and blue got to me. I just felt like I was doing the right thing having jalapeno cheese and bacon, which was reeeal good.

One of our party lives in New York City and she proclaimed the concoction of pancakes with bananas and nuts a winner. I know, I know, living in NYC does not a gourmet make and maybe she doesn't get out much, but it was good and huge. Also, the two-eggs-scrambled was such a gigantic helping that suspicions set in on the type of hen that laid the eggs. The other items we tried were standard size and standard fare: biscuits, and bagels with cream cheese.

On another trip I had a toasted cheese sandwich for breakfast, which was regular because this is a regular kind of place. It is the perfect setting for a snack after a union meeting, for bringing the Little League team after a game, or for planning a block party. There's a big round table up front with room around it for baby strollers. The owners should put up one of those established-when signs because this place will probably be here for a long time and someday its beginnings will seem impressive. Hey, this is America.

Colonel Mustard gives it 3 hot dogs.

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842 N. Highland
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extended to midnight

Neighborhood Announcements

• The PTA of Morningside School has invited parents of prospective kindergartners to orientation tours. Beginning on December 2, the orientation meetings have included registration information, a chance to meet the principal and ask questions, and a tour of the school. Orientations begin at 9 am and will be held the following Wednesdays: April 14, and May 5. For further information, call Ginny Connelly at 876-7470.

• 7 Stages presents the southeastern premiere of an uplifting family drama entitled Night Sky. Directed by 7 Stages Artistic Director Del Hamilton, Night Sky is both a realistic study of a family in crisis and a celebration of the everyday triumphs of the human mind and spirit. Night Sky opens Friday, February 5 and runs through Sunday, February 28. Performance times are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8:00 pm and Sundays at 5:00. Tickets are $7 - $14 and may be reserved by calling (404) 523-7647. 7 Stages is located at 1105 Euclid Avenue in Little Five Points.

• Jett Marks reports that the Ponce Task Force has changed its name to Ponce Coalition.

• Watch for films from the 1992 Kidsfest at Summerfest on WSB-TV sponsored as a Public Service Announcement by Crawford Long Hospital.

• An elderly Virginia-Highland neighbor can no longer care for her adorable Golden Retriever/German Shepherd dog named Buster. He's an excellent watch dog who prefers life outdoors in the backyard. He comes free and with his own doghouse to a good home. Call 892- 6773 if you are interested in adopting Buster.

If you have an announcement for our new Neighborhood Announcement board, please call 222-VAHI, ext. 3

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SUNRISE ENVIRONMENTS

Suitable Site For CSO Still Under Debate

By Jett Marks

Judging from the number of neighbors at January's Neighborhood Planning Unit (NPU-F) meeting, there is a great deal of interest in the future location of the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) facility planned for Clear Creek and Piedmont Park. A larger than usual crowd attended the meeting to hear presentations by representatives of the two most favored sites. Both sites would add more than ten acres to Piedmont Park and provide for water treatment as required by Federal law.

As you may recall from past issues of the VOICE, a CSO catches and treats a mixture of rain and raw sewage which overflows sanitary sewers during heavy rains. The City faces stiff penalties if it does not build this CSO. This facility was originally planned to take land away from Piedmont Park along 10th Street across from Grady High School. Bill Eisenhauer and a host of others organized STOP to get the City to reconsider the location. Six sites along Clear Creek have since been selected as potential locations. These are listed from downstream to upstream:

1. Behind Ansley Mall Kroger
2. On West Lumber Company's property
3. On National Cement Company's property
4. Original location just inside of park on 10th Street
5. Grady High School
6. Great Mall of China

For various reasons, sites 2 and 3 are the only two receiving serious consideration. Representatives from these two sites made their presentation to the NPU-F.

Both presentations are exciting because they add new land to Piedmont Park. Despite the large building on the property, despite the trucks carrying sludge out and chlorine in, despite the time and cost to implement these facilities, both sites would add greatly to the enjoyment of the Park. They would add space, new entrances to the park, new vistas, paths and trails, the possibility of more parking, and other amenities. Of course, some of these ideas are merely conceptual. The neighborhoods have final say about what can go in there as long as the water can be treated.

It is difficult to make a fair comparison between the two presentations. Several factors were discussed: environmental impact, cost, and implications for future land use around the park, to mention just a few. None of these factors was clear-cut and uncontested. We do know, however, that both facilities are technically feasible and meet the City's requirements.

A decision favoring one site over the other was not reached at the meeting. It was not clear which site would be better. Certainly, having cost information would help in making this decision and this is what the NPU-F requested. We will hear more when we have the costs, and then the decision will be made.

George Barnes, head of the City's Department of Water & Pollution Control, stated that he hoped the neighborhoods instead of the City would decide between the two sites. He is so pleased with both sites that he would like to give them both a CSO.

Call 222-VAHI(8244) and punch 5 to find out more about the CSO.

Ponce De Leon Branch Atlanta - Fulton Public Library
Program Schedule for March 1993

Program	Age Group	Date / Time
AARP Tax Assistance	Seniors	Every Monday 10:00am - 2:00pm
Time for Two's	2's	Tuesdays 3/2, 3/16 10:00am
Storytime	3-5	Every Wednesday 10:00am
Sleepytime	3-5	Every Wednesday 7:00pm

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know your neighbors

Get involved with your neighborhood newsletter or other committee.
Call 222-VAHI
for more information.

Sidewalks throughout the Virginia-Highland area are due for a facelift

By Ellen Kates

As the year turns slowly toward spring, we're all planning spring cleaning, our lawn and garden projects, and anticipating once again enjoying the outdoors. The Parking Committee of the VHCA is too, and it is including sidewalk refurbishing in its agenda to improve the ease and safety of traffic flow throughout our streets. Safer pedestrian access and level, hazard-free sidewalks will encourage people to walk instead of drive, thereby reducing traffic, parking congestion, and waistlines.

The VHCA is considering helping with costs of sidewalk repairs (the percentage will be determined by the total square footage needed). A city ordinance requires the owners and not the city to repair sidewalks in front of their own property. Please phone 222-VAHI (8244), punch 2 for Parking, and tell us the nature and square footage of your problem site; we also need your name, address, and phone number.

Renters need to get their landlord's written approval because it is the owner's responsibility for maintenance and repair of sidewalks and it may be tax deductible for the owner. We also welcome input and financial support from business owners, even if your frontage may not need repair, since better sidewalks enhance the businesses as well as the community. The Parking Committee offers recognition for businesses that contribute to maintaining the pedestrian quality of Virginia-Highland. Let us know if your business will contribute to the Sidewalk Repair Fund.

If your sidewalk needs branches trimmed or obstructions removed, let us know. We'd like to know of anything that can be done to make our sidewalks more usable. If the issue is poor lighting, burned-out street lights, tree roots breaking up pavement, let us know and we'll work on it. Here's how it works: call 222-VAHI with your site information and the committee will contact the city inspector who can handle about five sites per week. He will present an estimate, and when that is paid, he will schedule the work. Ideally, it takes no more than 8-12 weeks from payment, but in some circumstances it may take as many as 20 weeks. Please respond to us by March 31st. At the April 7th meeting of the VHCA, the Parking Committee will propose a budget for reimbursing the owner a percentage of the costs for sidewalk repair.

Costs from the City are significantly cheaper than other contractors and are as follow: concrete sidewalk is repaved at $1.50 per square foot (sq.ft.). Hexagonal blocks (required in some areas designated as Historic) are $2.50/sq.ft. Granite curbs cost $7.00 per foot to install and $1.00 per foot to raise existing granite curbs. If concrete walkway abuts the curb, a concrete curb can be put in at $5.00 per foot; otherwise the more durable granite is required. Driveway aprons are $2.00/sq.ft., and handicap ramps at intersections are at no cost if approved by the city.

Where tree roots have caused pavement to buckle, Highways & Streets will refer to Parks & Recreation to determine the optimal repair method while still preserving trees. Cost example: a 50' sidewalk that is 6' deep is 300 sq.ft. The cost is $450 for concrete, $750 for hexagonal tile, plus any necessary curbing or apron work. While emphasis is on N. Highland and Virginia, the most visible and heavily trafficked part of Virginia-Highland, we want to hear from all parts of the neighborhood. (We are asking the City to repair their sidewalks along John Howell Park.) Be sure to let us know if you would like to participate. It will be great to see our sidewalks "spring" into new life this summer!

The Atkins Park neighborhood recently raised money to plant a tree on St. Charles Pl. in memory of our neighbor, Brad Bedell. We would like to thank all who helped make this project possible, especially Bold Springs Nursery and Habersham Landscaping.

-Barbara Dobkin

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BOARD, From Page 12

you can then appeal to the Fulton County Superior Court. The appeal to the Fulton County Superior Court involves a full-blown jury trial and requires special pleadings. I strongly recommend that you not attempt to file an appeal with the Fulton County superior Court without the assistance of a lawyer who is familiar with litigating property tax cases.

If these procedures seem complex and you are ready to throw up your arms in total frustration, do not despair. The Fulton County Association of Taxpayers, the County Chapter for the Georgia Association of Taxpayers, Inc., will be sponsoring three separate Saturday seminars on January 30, February 6, and February 13, 1993 for anyone interested in learning more about the assessment appeal process and procedure. For your information, the Georgia Association of Taxpayers, Inc., is a nonprofit corporation with the purpose of promoting lower taxes and less government spending. It is not affiliated with any political party, does not endorse political candidates, and does not contribute money to any political campaigns. The seminars will be especially helpful in learning what the components are that go into the final assessment of your property and how best to pre pare and put on your case before either an informal meeting with the Joint Board or the Board of Equalization. These seminars are free to members of the Fulton County Association of Taxpayers and you can join that organization at the door for $10.00 per household for the year. If you do not want to join, the cost of the seminar is $15.00. Sample forms will be distributed at each seminar. The locations for the seminars have not been set as of the writing of this article, but you may call the Fulton County Association of Taxpayers at 607-1596 for additional information.

PleaseNote: The Virginia-Highland Voice and the Virginia-Highland Civic Association are not licensed to practice law or to provide legal advice in Georgia. The Virginia-Highland Voice and the Virginia-Highland Civic Association are not responsible for the views expressed in this publication. They offer these views as a public service. In all legal matters, you are best served by retaining your own attorney for private counseling.

Likewise, lawyers assisting the Virginia-Highland Voice and Virginia-Highland Civic Association, including Kevin W. Wood, are merely attempting to provide general legal advice on how to approach legal problems. You are advised to consult with an attorney of your own choosing at a time when all facts may be fully disclosed, rather than acting on the general advice given in this publication.

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What does PTA mean to you? How does Property Tax Assessment sound?

If you have questions about your assessment, why not join neighbors in VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND and learn about the appeal process.*

Where: The Virginia-Highand Baptist Church
(across from Inman Middle School)

When: Sunday, February 28 at 4 PM

*not to be confused with the Fulton County meeting to be held in March