

VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND VOICE

NEWSLETTER OF THE VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND CIVIC ASSOCIATION • P.O. BOX 8401, STATION F • ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30306

SEPTEMBER 1977

ZELL MILLER VISITS I-485 LAND

On September 8th Lt. Governor Zell Miller toured the highway right-of-way in our neighborhood, as the guest of State Senator Todd Evans. After the tour, he met with representatives from the Morningside-Lenox Park and Virginia-Highland neighborhoods to hear briefings on neighborhood plan for reuse of this land. The Lt. Governor evidenced a sincere concern about the hardship the right-of-way has caused our neighborhood, and was visibly moved by the impact the aban-

doned houses have had on many of our streets. He told Senator Evans and the neighborhood representatives that he had lost a race for Congress in the 9th District because he opposed a highway in northeast Georgia. He also indicated that right-of-way problems confront his home of Young-Harris.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Lt. Governor expressed his willingness to work with our neighborhoods in resolving the reuse question.

IMPORTANT MEETINGS

SEPT. 19

On September 19, an educational forum will be held for Virginia-Highland residents to meet the candidates for the Atlanta Board of Education, District 3, which includes our neighborhood. Joe Martin and Angela Ioannides will be participating along with candidates seeking the three at-large seats. The forum will be moderated by State Senator Todd Evans with time allowed for each candidate to speak and answer questions.

The forum will be held at 8 p.m. at the Samuel Inman School Auditorium, and is jointly sponsored by Virginia-Highland and Morningside-Lenox Park Civic Associations.

SEPT. 26

City Council candidates standing for election October 4th will be heard in a forum on Monday, September 26. The forum, jointly sponsored by the Virginia-Highland Civic Association and Morningside-Lenox Park Civic Association, will give residents of the two neighborhoods an opportunity to hear the several candidates for local office express their views on important issues facing the City of Atlanta. Time is 7:30 p.m. at the Morningside Presbyterian Church, on Morningside Drive.

EYE SORE: MUDDY LOT

By Peggie Hahn

There it sits, a muddy, rutted eyesore, reminding us of the effects of absentee ownership in our neighborhood. Efforts to brighten it with two gaily painted walls only serve to contrast with the mire below.

I refer to the vacant lot on the corner of Los Angeles and North Highland Avenues. We pass it every day — ever notice how it looks after an hour or so of rain? Ever been bitten by the mosquitos that breed in those mud puddles as you walk by?

A group of neighborhood residents has been working since last fall to find a solution to this example of urban blight. At that time we initiated numerous attempts to contact the owner of the property, a Mr. Robert Chambers (of Parks-Chambers, Cox Broadcasting, et al, husband of Anne Cox Chambers, Ambassador to Belgium). The closest we could get to Chambers was his secretary who assured us that he would return our calls. He never has.

The businesses in that area need more parking. People park their cars in the mud of that lot now. A plan was set in motion to pave the area. Eugene Rush, an architect living in Virginia-Highland, drew up a design for a parking area which combines 16 parking spaces with stretches of grass and flowers. Estimated cost: \$2,000.

A consortium of four businesses — George's Delicatessen, Hopkins

(Continued on page 2)

NEWSPAPERS NEEDED

Michael Recycle, Inc., a neighborhood non-profit recycling project, is officially underway and has located four satellite bins to collect newspapers. The two drop-off sites most convenient for Virginia-Highland residents are the Big Star Foods store parking lot (behind Plaza Drugs) and the Food Giant parking lot on North Highland. Simply bundle in easy-to-handle stacks or bag your newspapers and place them in the brown bin at either location. The newspapers should not be mixed with magazines or other paper products, and should be free of food or

chemical residues.

One ton of recycled newspapers is equivalent to 17 trees. The manufacture of recycled paper over virgin pulp produces 70% fewer pollutants, and requires 40-70% less energy. So help save resources, protect the environment, and conserve energy by recycling your papers.

Michael Recycle, Inc. plans a central site for the collection of glass and aluminum, as well as newsprint, in the near future. Look for regular progress reports to appear in **The VOICE**. Contact your neighborhood representative, Jo Deck 875-1324 with any questions, suggestions or offers of help.

PARK - n - SHOP ICE CREAM & FROZEN YOGURT PARLOR
 11 AM till 10 PM - 752 North Highland Avenue N.E.
 Adjacent to Park & Shop Superthrift Grocery Store
 36 Bryers & Sealtest Flavors
 Clip this Coupon for 15¢ Off any Ice Cream or Yogurt Purchase

SOUTH'S MARKET - 790 N. Highland

Fresh vegetables — fruits — eggs — and many more items.
 Have specials each week. Cigarettes, regular 55¢; longs 60¢, plus tax.
"If You Don't Trade With Us, We Both Lose"

BAUGH & McELVEEN, Inc. — DRUGGIST
 810 N. Highland Avenue, N.E.—Corner Greenwood
 876-8836

Prescriptions — Sundries — Cosmetics
 Soda Fountain — Gibson Cards

FREE DELIVERY

Atkins Park Delicatessen

794 N. HIGHLAND AVENUE

HAPPY HOUR
 TUESDAYS
 4:00 - 7:00



VIRGINIA/HIGHLAND'S —
 - OLDEST TAVERN (est. 1932)
 - BEST SANDWICH
 - BEST PIZZA
 - LARGEST GAMEROOM

(Continued from page 1)

Draperies, Los Angeles Auto Parts, and Moe's & Joe's — was formed when the owners agreed to finance the construction of the proposed parking area. National Bank of Georgia agreed to make any loans necessary at a low interest rate. Bill Hollberg, of the Virginia-Highland Steering Committee, drew up a proposal to lease the property for three years at one dollar per year and make the needed improvements. Councilmember Esther Lefever and former chairman of the Civic Association Dennis McConnell wrote letters endorsing the project. All of this plus photographs of the site were delivered to Chambers this Spring.

Enter James Landon, attorney for Robert Chambers. Exit our proposal. Landon would agree to the project provided that the lease be on a month-to-month basis (in case Chambers wants to sell the property) and that no permanent improvements (such as asphalt) be made.

At this point the deal fell through. The business consortium felt that the financial investment was too big for something that might only last for a month or two. A one-year lease was suggested. No go.

At present, one of our local businessmen wants to buy the property and build on it. Councilmember Esther Lefever is serving as an intermediary between the businessman and Landon/Chambers. We hope to hear some good news shortly.

This project has taken a lot of time and effort, but if it pays off in an improvement to our flourishing business district, it will be worth it.

COMING: Tour of Homes

Plans are under way for the annual Tour of Homes scheduled for November 12 and 13. Suggested homes for the tour are needed. To volunteer your support for publicity, advance ticket sales and/or other tour committees call Susan McConnell at 875-3735.

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COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWS

(Ed. Note: School news is a regular column organized by the Education Study Committee to keep the neighborhood aware of what is happening, and when, in the school community.)

October 4th represents an important date for the Atlanta Public Schools. On that day, the Atlanta Board of Education will be elected to serve for the next four years. The individuals elected to serve on the board will be responsible for shaping policy and for the operation of a school system with 85,000 students, 6,500 employees and a budget in excess of \$100 million annually. The ability and commitment of those individuals elected are most critical factors in developing a sound educational program for Atlanta City Schools.

Mary Lou Romaine, a Virginia-Highland resident and well respected educator, has commented, "As a classroom teacher and president of Atlanta Federation of Teachers, I am certainly aware of the difficulty of searching through the bureaucracy of Atlanta Public Schools to find leaders whom I admire and whose educational judgment I trust. Similarly, the Virginia-Highland community must now search the neighborhood and the city for the candidates with whom it can entrust the future of Atlanta Public Schools. How to decide? Stepping into my neighborhood resident shoes, I would focus on these issues:

Achievement

"How can we secure the best teachers, plentiful materials, the most adequate facilities, and maximum learning conditions?

Discipline

"A problem in all urban areas, and increasingly, in all schools. How can we insure a safe, pleasant and humane environment for students and employees?

Employee Relations

"Any business, any institution, will be judged successful in relationship to the satisfaction of its employees. Particularly is this true when the institution's commodity is human beings.

"Our job is not easy. We must find candidates who are qualified to make policy for one of the largest school systems in the state, candidates who are capable of comprehending and allocating a budget of over \$100 million.

"As a resident of Virginia-Highland, I have joined my neighbors as we renovated our homes, battled a highway, built a strong community organization and elected a state senator. We have worked hard to rebuild our neighborhood, only to find that our renaissance is doomed unless we build and strengthen our public

If you need information on Civic Association activities, call one of the following people:

Commercial Advertising Manager—Lee Raudonis	876-7429
Commercial Revitalization—Peggy Hahn	872-0011
Education Study—Nancy Hamilton	874-2338
History Project—Gail Novak	875-3126
Home Improvement Referrals—Rick Sibley	872-1462
Membership—Karen McCall	872-0852
Neighborhood Planning—Charles Longley	875-6345
Newsletter Editor—Barbara Gilbert	876-7067
Newsletter Distribution—Marryanna Matthews	874-0009
Steering Committee Chairman—Bill Todd	874-0325
Treasurer—Rita Tekippe	874-9564
Zoning—Bill Hollberg	872-6941

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

MOTHER'S MORNING OUT—Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. co-op, toddlers thru 5 years, Morningside Presbyterian Church. Call 876-3963.

DAYSPRING SCHOOL—Accepting pre-schoolers (3-6 years), located at 729 Edgewood Avenue, open 7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m., \$25/week, served only natural foods for lunch and snacks, non-profit organization. Call 522-8139, 525-1059 or 373-5944.

MT. ZION/BEDFORD PINE DAY CARE CENTER—Will care for children ages 3-12 years, located at 137 Boulevard N.E., open 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., serves breakfast, lunch and snack. Fees based upon sliding salary scale. Offers after school program also. Call 688-1208.

Non-commercial personals accepted free from Virginia-Highland residents. For the next issue, send your item with name and phone number by October 1st to:

The VOICE

P. O. Box 8401, Station F
Atlanta, Georgia 30306

schools. If you are concerned, as I am, that our neighborhood and our city develop a school system that we can be proud of, you will attend school board forums, watch and listen and ask hard questions. Then you will support and vote for the candidate who has the best answers — and get your neighbor to support that candidate, too!"

Because schools are so important, attend the September 19th Educational forum at Samuel Inman School and remember to vote on October 4th.