



Summertime is Festival Time!

The Virginia-Highland Civic Association (VHCA) and its media partner, DaveFM (92.9) radio, are proud to present the 26th annual Virginia-Highland Summerfest. We hope you and your family will participate!

Recognized by local media as one of Atlanta's best neighborhood festivals and consistently revered by art professionals as one of the best artist markets in the southeast, Summerfest also features exceptional food and music, a 5K race and an activity-packed Kidsfest. Summerfest is a fantastic event for the entire family.

Summerfest takes place in the heart of our neighborhood along tree-lined Virginia Avenue, between North Highland Avenue and Park Drive. Admission is FREE; however donations to the civic association are greatly appreciated.

Times:

Friday, June 5, 2009 – 7:00 PM - Community Dinner/Movie

Saturday, June 6, 2009 – 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM

(Artist Market & Music)

Note: Artist Market closes at 6:30 PM on Saturday.

Sunday, June 7, 2009 – 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

(Artist Market & Music)

Special Events:

Community Dinner and Movie: The community dinner and outdoor movie will begin at 7:00 PM and will be held at Inman Middle School field at Virginia and Greencove. Please bring ID to verify residency. The movie - "Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa" - will begin at dusk.



Neighborhood After-Hours: Following the community dinner Friday night and after the last band Saturday, join us for an evening of drinks and soft music performed by local performers. At the Virginia-Highland triangle, tables covered with linen and trees adorned with sparkling lights will create the magical evenings of Summerfest, providing an opportunity to spend time with neighbors old and new!

Neighborhood Parade: It was so much fun last year, we're doing it again! This year, the theme is "Wacky Hats". Please see additional details in box on p. 2.

VIP Area for New Park Donors: Tables will be set up in a shady area of John Howell Park where people who have purchased a brick or otherwise donated \$50 or more to our new park are invited to rest, relax or picnic. Volunteers will be on hand to accept donations on-site, so please stop by!

The Artist Market

The juried artist market will feature work and exhibits from more than 220 of the best artists in the southeast and beyond, in a variety of media including painting, clay, glass, jewelry, photography, printmaking, fiber, wood, metal and mixed media. More artists applied to exhibit this year than ever before, so the quality of art available for purchase should be top notch!

5K Road Race

The Summerfest 5K will start at 8:00 AM on Saturday June 6th and feature 1,000 runners winding through the streets of Virginia-Highland. Following the 5K Race, children 5 and under will run, waddle or crawl to the finish line of the Tot Trot, this year being held at the Inman Middle School field at Virginia & Greencove at 8:45 AM. Registration for the 5K and Tot Trot must be made in advance. See www.active.com to register with a credit card or www.running4fitness.com for more information.

Food and Music

Summerfest always features a variety of delicious food, including items from local restaurants. A variety of non-alcoholic and alcoholic drinks will be available throughout the festival.

This year's music will be presented by radio station partner DaveFM (92.9), and the artist line-up is one of the best ever! The music stage will be located on the Inman Middle School field at Virginia & Greencove and will feature a variety of renowned local musicians, along with nationally-acclaimed singer/songwriters. The 2009 line-up includes headliners Cowboy Mouth on Saturday and Manchester Orchestra on Sunday. For the complete line-up visit www.vahi.org/summerfest.html.

Kidsfest

This year's Kidsfest will take place in John Howell Park (near Arcadia) on Saturday, 10 AM to 6 PM and Sunday, Noon to 5 PM. Kidsfest features unique games, crafts and activities for children of all ages. Most activities are free.

Parking

There is a limited mix of free and paid parking lots and designated on-street parking available. Festival attendees can park for \$10 at Grace Lutheran Church, 1155 N. Highland Ave. during festival hours on Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Grace Lutheran is within easy walking distance of the festival.

Summerfest Committee and Volunteers

The VHCA sincerely thanks all Summerfest volunteers and sponsors. Special thanks to DaveFM (92.9) radio which is providing advertising and music to make our event successful.

For more information or to volunteer, visit www.vahi.org/summerfest.html or www.929dave.fm.

Virginia-Highland Summerfest 2009

Celebrating 26 Years of Art, Food and Fun

Second Annual Summerfest Community Parade

Don't miss this year's Parade of Wacky Hats!!! Think up something fun, outrageous, silly and over-the-top to wear on you head as you walk the parade route down Drewry and onto Barnett (about 0.6 miles). We'll end up at the Community Dinner at Inman Field.

This will be great fun, so get creative, decorate yourself, family, street and/or neighborhood group - and participate! Houses along the parade route are also encouraged to decorate and compete for fabulous prizes to be awarded directly following the parade. The theme for home decoration is the same: **Wacky Hats**.

When:

Friday, June 5, 2009 Assemble by 6:00 PM. Parade begins promptly at 6:30 PM and will end by 7:00 PM. Open to Va-Hi residents, students and Summerfest volunteers.

Get your parade number in advance by registering at www.vahi.org/parade.html

Where:

Assemble at Ace Hardware, 854 North Highland at Drewry.

Route:

Down Drewry, turning right onto Barnett and continuing to the Summerfest entrance ending at the community dinner. Participants may walk or ride a non-motorized vehicle.

Theme:

The best Wacky Hats will compete for prizes to be awarded at the end of the parade at 7:00 PM

Prizes:

Prizes include three packages of Georgia Aquarium tickets (each for a family of four), \$25 gift certificates from Atkins Park Restaurant, and much more!

ONLY NON-MOTORIZED VEHICLES MAY PARTICIPATE. SORRY,
ABSOLUTELY NO DOGS ALLOWED ON THE PARADE ROUTE!

Committee members who have invested many hours of their time to bring you this event include:

Director:	Pamela Papner
Co-Chairs:	Kim Nickels and Charlie Lefort
DaveFM:	Will Davis, Marketing & Promotions Director
Logistics:	Rob Frazer, Premier Events
Artist Market:	Julie Tepp and Nancy Musser
Volunteers:	Allie Coker and Pam Ahern
Graphic Design:	Cornelia "Neil" Bowen
Parade:	Doris Betz
Publicity/Ambiance:	Allie Coker
Road Race:	Ed Williams
Safety/Parking:	John Wolfinger

Neighborhood Preservation Committee Update

by: Lola Carlisle

The VHCA Neighborhood Preservation Committee is actively exploring the potential benefits of Historic Designation status for our neighborhood. What we've learned from all the feedback we've received – e-mail, community meetings, word-of-mouth, phone calls, website postings, etc. – is that we need to become even more focused as we move forward. We want to ensure that Virginia-Highland residents are informed on this topic in order to discover whether or not residents support Historic Designation for our neighborhood.

The Neighborhood Preservation committee is working to create, man and fund an intensive community outreach plan. Watch Voice for more information or visit www.lovevh.org.



www.vahihometour.org

Planning Begins for 2009 Tour of Homes

by: Rob Glancy

Planning has begun for this year's 15th Annual Virginia-Highland Tour of Homes. Since its 2004 revival, the event has raised over \$90,000 for the community. Last year's tour achieved total ticket sales of \$19,700, down from the record of nearly \$30,000 in 2007, but overall a great year with \$17,500 raised for the neighborhood after expenses. All proceeds benefit community projects sponsored by the VHCA, including safety initiatives, parks improvements and local grants.

The Tour Committee thanks Tracy Sharp for donating a wonderful piece of art for the Tour's first Silent Art Auction. The Committee plans to expand the Art Auction in 2009. Interested artists should contact the Tour Committee for further information. Special thanks also to Buckhead's Anis Bistro and Cafe for filling in for Vine Restaurant which abruptly closed the week before this year's tour, and for additional efforts by the Ponce De Leon Whole Foods Market and Bella Cucina Artful Food.

This year's Tour will be Saturday, December 12th, 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday December 13th, 12 pm to 5 pm. As always, the event will feature distinctive Virginia-Highland homes coupled with food tastings from local restaurants. The Committee is currently planning this year's event and viewing home candidates for the tour. If you would like your home considered or have a home you would like to see on the tour, please contact Rob Glancy and the Tour Committee at tour@vahi.org or call 404-661-8719.

The committee is also seeking individuals to help with the planning and execution of this year's tour, including sponsor recruitment, ticket sales, public relations and advertising, volunteer coordination, home write-ups and tour weekend support. Volunteering for the tour is a great way to give back to the neighborhood.

2009 Sponsorship levels begin at \$450 and display advertising is another method of effectively yet economically promoting businesses for as little as \$100.

Further information is available at www.vahihometour.org.

Historic Fourth Ward Park Under Construction

by: Elizabeth Coyle

Construction of Atlanta's newest park is underway just south of City Hall East in the Old Fourth Ward near the BeltLine. A beautifully designed lake, which will function as a storm water retention pond, is the centerpiece of Historic Fourth Ward Park, scheduled for public opening in 2010. In Phase I, approximately 16 acres of vacant industrial land spreading south from North Avenue to Ralph McGill will be transformed into passive meadows, multi-use play fields, a skate park, amphitheater, playgrounds, gardens and more. This new park will be a catalyst for revitalizing the surrounding area, linking and improving the quality of life for adjoining neighborhoods: Old Fourth Ward, Inman Park, Midtown, Poncey-Highland and Virginia-Highland

In 2008, the Historic Fourth Ward Park Conservancy was formed as the non-profit support arm for the park. The Conservancy's mission includes developing, enhancing, and maintaining the park to the benefit of Atlanta citizens and visitors, helping to make it one of the City's very best parks. Funds for adding amenities will be raised through memberships, events and other programs focused on making Historic Fourth Ward Park a best-in-class public green space.

Visit www.HistoricFourthWardParkConservancy.org to become a member. Those joining before June 30 will be considered a Founding Members.

President's Corner

by: Pamela Papner

President, Virginia-Highland Civic Association Board

The Year One fundraising plan for our new park at the corner of N. Highland and St. Charles is complete and activity planning is underway. We need volunteers and your financial support. Please see page 8 of this issue for plan details and suggestions for how you can make a tax-deductible contribution. If you're interested in doing more, please email me at: ppapner@earthlink.net.

With little publicity and a number of grass-roots activities conducted by the Atkins Park Neighborhood Association, we have received a wonderful outpouring of support for our new park. Thank you so much to the following generous donors:

Sandy d'Aprile worked as the VHCA real estate agent, at no commission, for the purchase of the lots. Peter Hughes has stepped up and offered his expertise to develop the site engineering plans. And Morningside resident Peter Frawley has graciously offered his expertise pro bono as our landscape architect. We are incredibly grateful to these residents, and we hope to have proposed drawings for the new park in the fall to share with residents for feedback.

We've had wonderful support from John and Julie Peak. John is a former VHCA board member who donated his Aaron Gross Community Service Award to the park endeavor, and then John and Julie matched that with a personal contribution of \$1,000.

The Atkins Park Neighborhood Association has been very active in raising funds for the new park, and we very much appreciate their efforts. In just a few short months, they have contributed:

\$ 630	Donations from APNA Christmas Party
\$1,000	Donation from APNA Treasury
\$ 190	Donation from APNA Book Sale, led by Shawna Mahony
\$ 682	Donation from recent APNA Yard Sale

Thanks to all contributors! Every penny counts and we still have a long way to go! Please consider donating today!

Neighbors Who Purchased a Brick in the New Park:

Following is a list of neighbors who at press date had purchased a brick to support the new park. If you haven't already done so, please "Buy a Brick"!!!

To learn more, visit vahi.org/newpark.html.

Jeff & Shelly Alperin
Atkins Park Neighbors
Peter Bade
Annette Bernard
Kevin Bolin
Amanda Bolin
Ali & Jon Bradway
Frank Brannon
Jason Brooks
Lola Carlisle
Bill & Maria Chan
Johanna Chapin
Linda & Robert Chapin
Carolyn & Peter Cobb
Paul & Susan Concannon
Mary Crain
Alice Green
Linda Green & Druid Hills
United Methodist Preschool
Frazier & Gloria Dworet
Kimberly Kurtis & Alan Erera
Woods Falls
Pat and Jerry Gardner
Amber & Davin Gastwirth
Wayne & Laura-Lee Glass
Kim Gnat
Teresa F. Groshans
Jay Groundwater
Martha Porter Hall
Priscilla Heffelfinger
Cha & Rebecca Holmes
Mark Hoppert
Andrea Jennings
David Johnson
Hunter Lane

Susan & Gabriel Loh
Jim Long
Jack Martin
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Laura & Ken McDuffie
Betty McIntosh
Peter Meeks
Kristen Melton
Michael Misoyianis
Chris Monahan
Johnathan Moynahan
Pamela Papner
Stephen Pararo
Harry & Sue Perkins
Norman Richie
Mark Rowles
Eliyahu & Dena Schusterman
Michael & Jennifer Schwartz
Deborah Schwarz
Vanessa Shaller
Mark Sotir
Mary & Mark Stouffer
John Douglas Strohl
Eric Taub & Penya Sandor
Robert V. Taylor
Mark Thompson
Heather & Ivan Wademan
James Wagner
Elaine & Tom Warren
Joseph Weinstein
Bret Williams
Allyson Willner
Russel Winch
Shelly Rose Ziegler



Suzuki Violin - Now in Your Neighborhood!

**Violin lessons, ages 4+
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(404) 556-0998 or email, ktiev@bellsouth.net
On the web at: www.karlatievsky.com



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dorisalbie@earthlink.net

Paul Burks

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pburks1212_@hotmail.com

Allie Coker

Vice President, Summerfest, Home Tour (Co-Chair),
Fundraising
alliecoker@bellsouth.net

Frazier Dworet

Planning (Co-Chair), Atlanta Projects Liaison
frazier953@mindspring.com

Michael Gelfond (Alternate)

Finance, Fundraising
mike.gelfond@lbi.com

Rob Glancy

Home Tour (Chair), Parks (Chair)
arglancy@ratecapital.com

Joe Krebs

Planning (Co-Chair), NPU-F Liaison, Parks, Webmaster
krebs.joe@gmail.com

Charlie Lefort

Summerfest (Co-Chair), Public Safety,
Home Tour (Co-Chair), Fundraising
charlielefort@greenwaymedical.com

Shawna Mahony

Secretary, Membership (Chair), Fundraising
Email: shawnacarlson@hotmail.com

Karen Page

Treasurer, Summerfest
kpage94@hotmail.com

Pamela Papner

President, Summerfest (Director), New Greenspace,
Fundraising
ppapner@earthlink.net

John Wolfinger

Public Safety (Chair), Transportation, Sidewalks
jjonww2@earthlink.net

The Virginia-Highland Voice

Published quarterly, by and for the residents
of Virginia-Highland

Editor: John Becker

Designer: Preeti Ayyangar

Business Manager: Nita Luce

We welcome your feedback on *The Virginia-Highland Voice*.
Please send your comments to editor@vahi.org.

Please visit our web site for calendar updates, additional
information on VHCA or to join: www.vahi.org

VHCA Calendar

Monthly Board Meetings

When: First Monday of each month, 7 p.m.

Where: Public Library on Ponce de Leon Ave.

Planning Committee Meetings

When: Last Wednesday of each month

Where: Public Library on Ponce de Leon Ave.

Meeting locations subject to change

Please visit our web site for calendar updates, additional
information on VHCA or to join: www.vahi.org

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News from Morningside Elementary and Inman Middle Schools

Morningside Elementary School

Christa Martin & Craig Pigg

MES PTA Co-Presidents

The Morningside Elementary School Wellness Committee devoted the early part of this school year to developing resources and community support for student health and wellness programs. Partnerships were developed with various community organizations to enable Morningside to develop a pilot Farm to School Program, encompassing garden related curriculum, nutrition education, and more freshly prepared and desirable foods to be served in the cafeteria. In March, committee leaders visited the Chez Panisse Foundation and the Edible Schoolyard in Berkeley, California where important information needed to further the program was acquired.

Key partners in the program include the nutrition department at Georgia State University and Murphy's Restaurant, which is helping to fund our eco-garden project through dining events, an employee volunteer base and donations. Michael Thompson, a local gardener, is acting as a farmer-mentor to MES, providing guidance and resources to develop a successful garden. Food 101's Chef Ron Eyster has already played an important role in sourcing and preparing foods for the children and will develop future meal plans for the cafeteria.

Thanks again to all our wonderful community sponsors and their work so far! We are thrilled to pilot this wonderful new program and excited about the vast opportunities available. If anyone is interested in helping with the Farm to School program at Morningside, or at the new Springdale Park Elementary School, please contact Teresa Groshans at teresagroshans@hotmail.com.

Inman Middle School

Denise Romeo

VP Communications, Inman PTA

In February, Inman families and friends enjoyed samplings from more than 20 of our neighborhood's best restaurants at "Taste of Inman." Thanks to all the fabulous Va-Hi restaurants for donating their delicious goodies! Attendees also had a chance to shop at the Book Fair and enjoy musical performances by the Inman Jazz Eagles.

Two of Inman's teachers are winners of the 2009 Atlanta Families' Awards for Excellence in Education (AFAEE). Ms. Kelly Schlegel

(7th grade Science) and Ms. Tracy Wilson (7th grade Math) were chosen from a group of 75 candidates across the Atlanta Public School system. They were chosen based on quantitative evidence of student achievement, qualitative evidence of increased student self-esteem and strong evidence of collaboration with key stakeholders. Congratulations to these outstanding educators!

To see the many and varied other awards achieved by Inman teachers and students, view our Brag Sheet at www.inmanmiddle-school.org/uploads/Inman_Brag_Sheet_-_March_2009.pdf.

For anyone with a rising 6th grader entering Inman next year, check out www.inmanmiddleschool.org/uploads/Incoming_Eagles_-_Transition_In_Newsletter_-_January_2009_Revised.pdf for all the information needed to transition to Inman with ease. While you're on the web site, you can view the "FAQS," read past issues of the Inman Insight, and sign-up for the Inman e-mail list to receive weekly information from Inman.

Lastly, please support our school by visiting the "Inman Drink Oasis" at Summerfest June 6-7. Inman students will be selling bottled water, soft drinks, and sports drinks to thirsty festival-goers. Proceeds from Drink Oasis support the many wonderful programs and activities sponsored by the Inman PTA.



sponge

Organic cotton baby blankets

Children will love to embrace these embroidered, super soft blankets and will treasure the inviting colors, intriguing textures and inspiring designs from nature.

New Elementary School Now Has Name and Principal

by: Jenn Ballentine

On February 9th, 2009, Ms. Yolanda Brown, current principal of C.W. Hill Elementary School, was named principal of the new northeast elementary school, now officially known as **Springdale Park Elementary School**.

Ms. Brown has been an educator for Atlanta Public Schools for sixteen years. During the first six years of her career, Ms. Brown was a teacher at Thurgood Marshall Middle School. In 1999, she was selected as the Atlanta Public School System-Wide Middle School Teacher of the Year. Shortly after receiving this honor, Ms. Brown was chosen as a Model Teacher Leader Facilitator for the Atlanta Systemic Initiative (ASI).

During Ms. Brown's four years as principal of C.W. Hill, the school was named a Title 1 Distinguished School, and received the Bronze and Platinum Awards from the Governor's Office of Student Achievement. Springdale Park parents and students are thrilled to have Ms. Brown leading the new school!

At the April 13th legislative meeting of the Atlanta Board of Education, the name Springdale Park Elementary School was selected after careful review of fourteen submissions and the criteria against which they were weighed (representation of the four neighborhoods and two schools that are coming together as one community, the uniqueness of the environmental aspects of the school, and the school's historical location).

The Atlanta Board of Education also recommended that the new building on campus be named Olmsted Hall after Frederick Law Olmsted because of the significant role he played with respect to parks and public spaces both in this neighborhood and nationally.

Located at 1274 Ponce de Leon Avenue, the school is currently under construction, but is scheduled to open for the 2009-2010 school year. All current K – 3rd grade students who live in Virginia-Highland, Midtown, Poncey-Highland, and the part of Druid Hills within Atlanta's city limits will be re-zoned to the new school as of the 2009-2010 school year. The school will be a full K-5 school once the inaugural 4th grade class moves up in the 2010-2011 school year.

Springdale Park will be the first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)-certified school in the Atlanta Public School district. The school will feature eco-friendly designs such

as a rooftop garden, low-flow bathroom fixtures, water efficient landscaping, natural lighting and geothermal heating and cooling.

The new school's PTO will hold a grand opening celebration in early August. Volunteers are needed to help with the event and a variety of other tasks. If you're interested in volunteering, join the Springdale Park Yahoo Groups. Until the school's website is created, communication by the principal and PTO, including a monthly newsletter, will be coordinated through this listserv.

To join:

Go to www.yahogroups.com, sign up and/or sign in and join the group.

Group name: new_ne_school

Group home page: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/new_ne_school

Group e-mail: new_ne_school@yahoo.com

To make a donation to the Springdale Park Elementary School PTO, go online to www.newneschool.org. The PTO wants to raise \$50,000 by the first day of school. The funds will be used to invest in and upgrade classroom technology, purchase and install playground equipment, purchase books and educational materials for the media center and provide for extracurricular and enrichment activities.



Dr. Joan Beaulieu, DVM
404.881.1805

1402-3 N. Highland Ave.
Atlanta, Georgia 30306
Fax: 404.881.6220



Join the New Highland Park Conservancy

"New Highland Park" is the temporary name of a wonderful new park being created in the heart of Virginia-Highland.

On December 4, 2008, the VHCA closed on the purchase of two lots at 1076 and 1082 St. Charles Place, across from Belly on N. Highland Avenue. Formerly the site of a public library, the two lots will be developed as an environmentally-friendly passive park and rain garden to support recreation, walking, community gathering and educational programs for neighborhood residents and visitors to Virginia-Highland.

Financing for the acquisition came through the Georgia Land Conservation Program and the VHCA is the first non-profit in the state to be approved for funding under this program.

While this financing provided the short term funds needed to acquire the land, the VHCA plans to conduct a series of fund raising activities designed to raise the money needed to retire the debt. This plan relies heavily on volunteer involvement and financial donations from the community at large. Following are details of the association's fund-raising plan.

I. Private Donations – Individuals and Small Businesses

Individual donations will be coordinated by myself and will include:

- "Buy a Brick" Campaign
- Sale of uniquely designed visible street number signs (John Wolfinger)
- Sale of cards offering discounts at local businesses (Shawna Mahony)
- Quarterly fundraising events (see below)
- Direct solicitation of funds via founding membership donations.

Local Business Donations will be coordinated by Frazier Dworet, and will include:

- Solicitation of sponsorships
- Implementation of revenue-producing programs such as:
 - Sale of Va-Hi merchandise at local businesses
 - Donation of percentage of sales during one day of shopping at Whole Foods and/or Publix
 - Donation of percentage of sales during one day of dining at local restaurants
 - Donation boxes at checkout of local businesses

Local Groups & Visitors Donations: A leader is still needed to develop a fundraising plan to attract money from other local groups/visitors:

- Other local medium/small businesses in Atlanta

- Frequent visitors to Virginia-Highland commercial area
- Politicians
- Other preservation groups in city, state, country
- Other local neighborhood associations

II. **Grants and Corporate Donations** – Atkins Park residents Paul Burks and Priscilla Heffelfinger are leading the full-scale search for grants and large corporate donations. They are developing a list of targets (foundations and large corporate giving programs), a presentation to support the donation request, and will also be making the formal request presentations.

III. **Quarterly Fundraising Events** – A series of quarterly fundraising events will be planned. These events are dependent upon getting volunteers organized to lead and execute them.

- Summerfest Local Picnic and VIP area - June 6 & 7, led by Shawna Mahony

- An "oasis" from Summerfest for people who have contributed \$50 or more to the park. Residents can bring a picnic or carryout from local restaurants. Tables will be "sponsored" by local eateries.
- Volunteers will be on hand selling bricks and other park related items.

- Summer Outdoor Movies - July/August (Leader needed)

- Opportunity to partner with DaveFM for up to two outdoor movies in the new park, including free publicity. DaveFM would donate movie hardware, license, publicity, permit. In exchange, they will have sponsorships visible.
- We would sell tickets and concessions.
- Dates requested (to be confirmed): July and 2nd-3rd week of August.

- Fall "Taste of Highlands" - Sept. 2009 (Leader needed)

- Solicit local restaurants to participate/offer food at venue.
- Tickets would be sold and hopefully restaurants would donate food.

- Gala Dinner/Silent Auction at Callanwolde - January 2010 (Co-chairs needed)

- There is potential to become a "green partner" with DaveFM in order to get airtime publicity. Callanwolde has committed to donate the space and we would pay for basics like clean-up.
- Event would likely be on a Friday night.
- Getting celebrity backing would be ideal.



We need you! All volunteers interested in leading or working on a committee to support one of the above initiatives should come to a meeting on:

Tuesday, June 16th at 7pm Atkins Park Restaurant
(Upstairs Meeting Room) See you there!

Please Join/Contribute Today!

The VHCA is funding much of the debt through proceeds raised by Summerfest and other events. But we want to pay off the mortgage on the property as soon as possible to ensure the new park remains ours forever! The new park will contribute to all our property values...please give generously.

Membership Levels & Benefits:

Buy A Brick: \$100

(Brick + Certificate)

Park Patron: \$250

(Brick + Special blue "Park Patron" T-Shirt)

Park Angel: \$500

(Brick + Special green "Park Angel" T-Shirt)

Park Angel:

(Brick + Special "Park Angel" T-shirt

and Donor Name on Park Plaque)

\$1,000



Member Information
Buy A Brick Order:

Name

Mailing Address

Email/Phone Number

Please make checks payable to:

Virginia-Highland Conservation League, Inc.

c/o: Pamela Papner, VHCA President

854 Highland Terrace, Atlanta, GA 30306

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New Business Profiles

HERE ARE SNAPSHOTS OF THREE BUSINESSES THAT HAVE OPENED RECENTLY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. VOICE ENCOURAGES EVERYONE TO PATRONIZE ALL THE BUSINESSES OF VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND.

Glamour Paws

776 N. Highland Ave. NE
(404) 885-9285 www.glamourpaws.net

Glamour Paws is your premier neighborhood pet spa and boutique. They are dedicated to making your baby look glamorous! They specialize in dog and cat grooming, and offer the finest products to pamper your pup or kitty. Each pet receives undivided attention and lots of tender loving care. Whether you just want a bath or full out glam session, your pet can get it all at Glamour Paws. They offer a by-appointment-only schedule so there is no over-booking, keeping your pet's experience stress-free (no silly cut-off times). Glamour Paws carries a variety of organic treats, toys, and apparel for pets of all sizes. They are also an environmentally-conscious boutique, offering items such as 100% bamboo collars, recycled rubber toys and organic t-shirts. So, bring your pet and check out the hottest boutique in the neighborhood. First time customers – ask about our special: \$10 off your first full grooming!

DBA Barbecue

1190-B N. Highland Ave.
404-249-5000 www.dbabarbecue.com

D.B.A. Barbecue is opening this spring in the space formerly occupied by Vine Restaurant. D.B.A. – which stands for “doing business as” – will be a casual neighborhood restaurant featuring barbecue and southern comfort food with full service and a full bar. At opening, D.B.A. Barbecue will serve dinner only; lunch, weekend brunch, and catering will be available within the first two months.

Doug Morgan, formerly of Jim ‘N Nicks BBQ in Birmingham, will be the creative force in the kitchen. Matt Coggin, who has worked in the neighborhood for ten years, is the managing partner and familiar face in the dining room. Matt has worked at Harvest, La Tavola, Wisteria, Sala, and Kevin Rathbun's Steak. Matt and his partner James Ehrlich of Eclipse di Luna have created an exciting new concept for Virginia-Highland dining.

Menu-wise, D.B.A. Barbecue will offer fifteen side dishes to accompany pulled pork, baby back ribs, beef brisket, smoked turkey, and smoked chicken. D.B.A. will also offer oysters on

the half-shell, fried catfish, shrimp and grits and other southern favorites. The bar will feature southern brews, creative cocktails, an international wine list, and novelty sodas.

D.B.A. Barbecue will be open Monday-Thursday 11 am – 10 pm, Friday 11 am- 11 pm, Saturday 10 am – 11 pm, and Sunday 10 am – 10 pm.

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404-218-2252 www.silversteinthomascarter.com

A consulting firm founded by two Virginia-Highland natives – Alexander Thomas and Adam Silverstein – Silverstein, Thomas & Carter specializes in a unique style of business management consulting for the small businesses in our community. Leveraging over forty years of experience in retail operations as well as backgrounds in merchandising and business development for Fortune 500 companies, the firm takes an innovative approach towards developing client strategies. They pride themselves at having been where their clients are, and they personally understand the struggles of managing a profitable small business. It is with dedication and personal interest in their clients' success that the firm delivers innovative strategies that produce results. As members of the Virginia-Highland Business Association and the Virginia-Highland Civic Association, Silverstein, Thomas & Carter is truly vested in our business-community's success.

Voice welcomes these fine businesses to our neighborhood.



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The VHCA Says... We Want You!

by: Shawna Mahony

The Virginia-Highland Civic Association has been working on new and easy ways for you to support our neighborhood. One is the launch of our "join-now" button on the website. Just go to www.vahi.org and click on "join – now". What could be easier?

Another great way to support our neighborhood is through the purchase of our new discount cards. Each card is only \$10, and entitles the bearer to discounts and deals throughout the Virginia-Highland shopping area for an entire year. The cards will be available in May, and will be sold at Summerfest and other locations. Make sure you sign up for the community e-newsletter on the "join" tab of the website to receive more information. 100% of proceeds go to support the new park.

The VHCA is a volunteer-run, non-profit organization that helps maintain Virginia-Highland as one of the most livable urban communities in America. The VHCA continues to fund vital projects in our neighborhood, such as maintenance of John Howell Park; improvements to Orme Park; legal support for community (as needed); and annual grants to local organizations that improve our quality of life, such as the Fire and Police stations, local schools and the library. Additionally the VHCA has purchased the former "library lots" to be used as a public greenspace.

Please support your community today by becoming a member. Go to www.vahi.org or fill out and return the attached form. We look forward to working with you!

Virginia-Highland Civic Association Membership Form Membership Year 2009-2010

Name(s):

Address:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Membership Levels:

I would like to support the VHCA with a membership at the following level:

- ☐ Individual: \$20 ☐ Senior (65 and older): \$15
☐ Family: \$30 ☐ Additional Donation: \$

VHCA Committee Interest:

- ☐ Please contact me about committee participation

Please make checks payable to:

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Mail to: VHCA Membership Committee

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Rufus Henry Stansell (1929-2009)

Neighborhood Folk Artist, Friend

by: Loren Solomon

Editor's Note:

Long-time Virginia-Highland resident Rufus Stansell passed away recently. For those who didn't know Rufus, here's a link to an obituary that appeared in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, and a few words of remembrance from someone who knew him well.

http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/metro/obits/stories//2009/04/05/stansell_obit.html

Rufus Stansell loved ice-cold Coca-Cola, preferably in the small glass bottle.

He loved nice shirts, chocolate, Granta books, strawberry milkshakes, Ansley Mall, puzzles, Mark Twain, Shania Twain, and every single Seinfeld episode.

Rufus loved Abba, the beach, clocks, sunflowers, going antiquing, 60 Minutes, Pulp Fiction, Patsy Cline, and O Brother Where Art Thou.

He loved sitting on the front stoop – with whomever or by himself - watching the sky, counting the planes, or just waiting for it to rain.

He loved eating at Evans Fine Food and Java Jive for breakfast, and falling asleep to the sound and discussions of all the pilots and planes in the area on his little transistor radio.

Rufus loved snooping and sneaking peeks out his basement window to see what was going on at 2am on the corner of Virginia and North Highland.

He loved black walnut and butter pecan ice cream even though he had to eat around the nuts.

He loved IMAX movies and pocket knives and fixing things and tools.

He loved secretly recording people on his tape recorder and then playing it back when you least expected it.

Rufus loved yard sales and making roosters and playing gin and talking on the phone and his black leather beret and his 'I'm With Stupid' shirt.

He loved saying that Rufus spelled backward was 'Sufur' –

and that he needed to hurry up, because he was 72, 75, 78 and he didn't have much time.

He loved taking pictures, building The Fence, mowing the lawn, spray painting flowers, and making yard art.

But most importantly, Rufus loved me.

Just as I am, just as I was. A size 8 or 18, brown hair, grey hair, working at Murphys, running my own business.

What he actually said was that I was perfect just the way I was and that anyone who didn't see that plain as day was an idiot. He loved me when I was being funny and smart and just as much when I was depressed and hurt; when we screamed and yelled at each other and when we apologized.

Rufus was the father I never had.

One of the best friends I've ever had.

The one constant in my life – almost every day of my life, from the time I moved into 995 N. Highland when I was 23 to the day he died when I was 44.

Thank you, Rufus, for everything and every moment.

You said recently that you loved me too much.

I say, you loved me just fine.



This eclectic, creative piece of "street art" – known as 'The Fence' – has become one of Virginia-Highland's well-known landmarks. Created in 1987 by Rufus Stansell, it has been a true work in progress for over 20 years - and has been documented by CNN, Atlanta Magazine, and numerous local television stations.

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Colonel Mustard in the Kitchen with a Knife

Colonel Mustard – referring to the character from the board game Clue – is a pseudonym for a Virginia-Highland resident who enjoys dining at the many wonderful restaurants in our neighborhood and sharing thoughts on the dining experience with others. In this issue the Colonel tells us about Belly General Store.

For years, this location was the site of Fleeman's Drugs. The Coke mural on the building's side was originally painted in 1914. Dr. Fleeman kept the tradition going with a large collection of Coke memorabilia you could peruse while you were waiting for your order at the old-fashioned soda fountain counter. Dr. Fleeman and his wife lived nearby on St. Charles Place and they were said to be quite the characters. Legend has it that Mrs. Fleeman got mad at her husband once and drove her car through the front of the building. Consider that your Va-Hi trivia tidbit of the day.

Now that Belly is there, the tone is much different. There are two large communal tables for customers and it has the true feeling of a general store with a little bit of everything for sale including old style toys and drinks, some huge squash, a few potatoes, chips of all sorts, decorative items for the house, and a grand assortment of candy like jaw breakers of a size that boggles the mind (and mouth). I'm sure little kids go crazy here because big kids sure do.

The food menu features breakfast all day with eggs and grits (so good) and freshly squeezed juice. Order the grapefruit for a real treat. I had a ham and cheese panini – big enough for two. But, of course, I ate it all (so tasty). All sandwiches are served

with a pickle spear and a deviled egg. My friend had a salmon salad sandwich and a side green salad and she ate her entire meal, as well. We shared a gigantic cream puff – I mean colossal – with chocolate frosting. Belly is well known for its bagels and cupcakes, an assortment to please anyone. You can take home containers of the salmon salad, chicken salad, and tuna salad and cheeses to feed your family when you're too tired to cook. If you're walking your dog, stop at the window and order coffee and something to nibble on and sit on the corner in an old metal chair and watch the world go by. Belly is such a charming place to meet neighbors and run into old friends, or if you are alone, take a book and sit there as long as you'd like.

Everything is so tasty, so good and so relaxing, Colonel Mustard gives Belly General Store 5 hotdogs (out of 5).

Belly General Store

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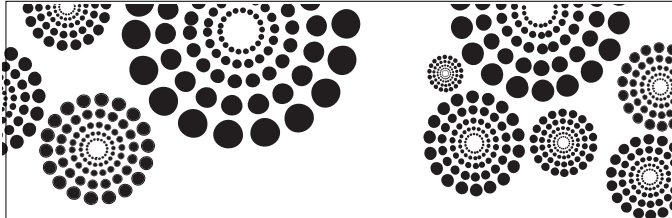
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by: Linda Merrill

History of Virginia-Highland

{Part III}

EDITOR'S NOTE: THIS IS THE THIRD IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES ON THE HISTORY OF VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND, EXCERPTED FROM A LONGER WORK-IN-PROGRESS BEING RESEARCHED AND WRITTEN BY 9-YEAR VA-HI RESIDENT LINDA MERRILL. AN ART HISTORIAN BY TRAINING, LINDA WORKED AS A CURATOR AT THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION FOR THIRTEEN YEARS, AT THE HIGH MUSEUM FOR TWO, AND NOW – AFTER A HIATUS TO STAY HOME WITH HER TWO CHILDREN – SHE TEACHES AT EMORY. LINDA WELCOMES COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS ON HER WORK. SHE CAN BE REACHED AT MAGDALIN@MINDSPRING.COM.



The Adair estate - also known as Wood Cliff - sits on Rupley Drive.

Highland Park

In July 1892, the Atlanta Constitution illustrated the recent rise in property values along the Nine-Mile Circle with a pertinent example: a sixteen-acre tract of land that sold in the late 1880s for \$3,200 had recently been purchased for \$17,000. The newest landowner on the trolley circuit was Green B. Adair (c. 1837–1914), a cousin of the real-estate mogul George W. Adair and a native of Talladega County, Alabama. Adair had served in the Army of Northern Virginia and was among those who laid down their guns at Appomattox. Soon after the war he settled in Atlanta and rapidly became one of the city's most successful cotton merchants. Although he retired from active business in 1891, when his eldest son, Green B. Adair Jr., was still a toddler, Adair remained involved in charity work and was to be remembered as “one of Atlanta's most beloved citizens.”

When Adair purchased property on the Nine-Mile Circle, his family was living in the heart of Atlanta; the land outside town

was acquired for a summer home. By 1911, however, the Adairs were living year-round at 1000 Highland Avenue (now 964 Rupley Drive) in the graciously proportioned Mediterranean-style house they named Wood Cliff. It was impressive on the outside, but according to the Atlanta Constitution the interior was still finer, “excelled perhaps for beauty by no house in the city.” Rooms on the first floor could be opened into a large single space for grand entertainments, and second-story parapets afforded stunning views of the surrounding countryside, with glimpses of the city in the distance.

The Adair estate was not to remain “an isolated country spot” for long. As early as 1897, what had previously been referred to as the Adairs’ “country place” had become “their suburban home,” for lands surrounding the Nine-Mile Circle, the newspaper reported, were “beginning to bloom like golden herbs under the manipulation of capital and scientific labor.” One “sprightly young suburb” on the trolley line was Highland Park, established on land originally owned by Richard Todd, which the family had begun to sell off in parcels. It occupied a ridge overlooking Atlanta, a prospect “of picturesque and surpassing beauty,” and it was a comfortable distance from Ponce de Leon Springs, which had been discovered in 1868 during construction of the Air-Line (later Southern) Railroad (now the site of City Hall East). Since 1874, Atlantans had traveled by horse-drawn streetcar to enjoy the allegedly medicinal mineral water (hence the name, a reference to the Spanish explorer who sought the Fountain of Youth); the water in Highland Park was said to share its restorative powers.

The suburb was originally bordered on the north and south by St. Charles and Blue Ridge avenues, with Ponce de Leon running down the center from Barnett to Highland. The 50-by-200-foot lots were offered for \$1,000 each in May 1893, with advertisements noting that both Green Adair and the Reverend Dr. John W. Heidt (1841-1909) owned houses in the vicinity. Rev. Heidt,

former pastor of Trinity Methodist Church, had lately built an elegant home reminiscent of the antebellum South—"that romantic era," one journalist declared, "whose civilization has never been surpassed"—and he avowed that there was nothing like a house on the edge of town for "making the most of God's pure air and the sunshine . . . in this part of the world." The subdivision was still growing in 1902, when 65 more lots, primarily on St. Charles and Greenwood, were offered at auction: advertisements described the property as "free from any objections, nice white settlement, beautiful oak grove, fine spring water, paved street, etc." The realtor promised auction attendees a free lunch and the chance to win one lot "absolutely free: Be on hand and get your start in life without cost."

By 1912, there was no need for such inducements. A crowd of three hundred showed up at the auction sale of 28 lots on Greenwood Avenue and all but eight were sold. Potential buyers were guaranteed a sound investment, since the property was adjacent to the glamorous new development of Druid Hills; only passing reference was made to the natural beauty and pure water of the region. "Art is encroaching upon the domain of nature," the Atlanta Constitution had presciently observed in 1894, "exchanging the views of woodland scenery for those of domestic civilization."

Next issue: Turn-of-the-century Virginia-Highland

Sources:

Atlanta Journal and Atlanta Constitution, 1924-32;
Franklin M. Garrett, *Atlanta and Environs: A Chronicle of Its People and Events* (1954), vol. 2; A. D. Adair personality file, c 1905-10, and Neighborhood plats, district 14, Atlanta History Center.

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