



#### ANNUAL VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING / ELECTION OF OFFICERS

**When:** Monday, September 13, 2010 - 7:00pm

**Where:** Cafeteria of Inman Middle School, located at the corner of Virginia and Park avenues

**Agenda:** Will be posted online at [vahi.org](http://vahi.org) by September 1, 2010

Interested in running for the VHCA Board? The neighborhood needs your help! We especially need a Treasurer in 2011. Please contact [president@vahi.org](mailto:president@vahi.org) if you are interested in running or want more information. Deadline to get your name on the ballot is Saturday, September 11th. If you're interested in running for a seat on the board, just email [president@vahi.org](mailto:president@vahi.org).

# Summerfest Success!

By Pamela Papner (Director), Ann Guy & Charlie Lefort (Co-Chairs)

Residents from all over the city appear to have enjoyed Summerfest again this year! We're still counting the proceeds and completing the P&L (a recap will be presented at the annual meeting on September 13), but preliminary estimates indicate we should be at about 90% of last year's revenues (last year was our most successful year ever financially). The primary driver of slightly lower revenue this year was the threat of rain on Sunday and a reduction in attendance that day from what we typically see. Nevertheless, Saturday was very crowded and the event was quite successful. Noteworthy highlights this year include:

**Community Dinner and Movie:** An estimated 1,200 people attended the free community dinner on Friday evening. Even while waiting in line for food,



# Summerfest



VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND



people had smiles on their faces, happy to catch up with neighbors they don't typically see. Special thanks to John Peter Casey for chairing the dinner and to Cindy Kaufman for all her work; to Atkins Park Restaurant for providing the delicious meal; and to El Taco and La Tavola restaurants for donating the delicious and plentiful desserts.

**KidsFest:** Thanks to the incredible vision, legwork and execution by leader Jenny Warner, Kidsfest generated \$3,300 this year, more than double the net revenue she and Ann Guy earned last year! Before last year, Kidsfest had been a \$6,000 cost center. Major kudos go to Jenny, who was aided by Kendal Elliott and Aly Higgins who helped manage the area throughout the weekend. Our Kidsfest is unique compared to other festivals that typically only provide inflatables for play. Summerfest Kidsfest offered an incredible array of free crafts for kids, along with face and nail painting, funky hair and tattoos, mural painting and other organized activities (DJ, Hulahoop, Dress Up). This year the music stage featured a very talented line-up of neighborhood musicians, which was quite the hit. Kidsfest 2010 was the best ever!

**Neighborhood Parade:** Thanks to Doris Betz and Alice Gepp, the "Movie Madness" themed parade attracted more than doubled its participants from last year. We hope the event will continue to grow and become a neighborhood tradition!

**Volunteers:** More than 300 volunteers were needed to support Summerfest, and we thank them all! The group was organized by Allie Coker who, along with Kathryn King-Metters, also managed the volunteers on-site throughout the festival.

Special thanks also go to the many sponsors of Kidsfest including Callanwolde, ReMax "Intowners" (Sandy d'Aprile,

Peter Bade, Julie Sadler), Primrose School, American Roadhouse, Enyiaanse Salon, Chinese Shaolin Center, Midtown Gynecology and local churches Grace Lutheran (baby changing station) and Church of our Saviour (crafts); the Georgia Aquarium for donating parade prizes; the Panera Bread Company and FUZE for the food/drinks donated for artist lunches; Road Race sponsors (including Primrose School); and to the following individuals who significantly contributed to the success of this event:

Neil Bowen (Graphics for T-Shirts, Posters and Advertising)  
John Wolfinger (Parking Program)  
Karen Page (Treasurer and Financial Analysis)  
Phuong Nuygen (T-Shirts Production and Web Updates)  
Julie Tepp and Nancy Musser (Artist Market)  
Ed Williams (Road Race Director)  
Rob Frazer (Operations from Premier Events Management)  
Will Davis (Marketing Director, DaveFM Radio)  
Tressa Pedulla (Public Relations)

Special thanks also go to the many neighbors along Virginia Avenue and its side streets who endured the parking inconveniences and noise this year and in years past. We appreciate so much the patience and support of those neighbors most impacted. Summerfest is, of course, our neighborhood's primary fundraiser. Every penny of the proceeds benefits us all directly – from paying off the debt for the acquisition of land for New Highland Park, to the new stone wall/plantings at the Virginia/N. Highland triangle, to local park improvements, as well as funding for zoning and safety initiatives, community grants to schools, the library, Trees Atlanta, PEDs and other entities that directly provide value to all Virginia-Highland.

Thank you all so much!

## Virginia-Highland *Civic Association* 2009-2010 Board of Directors

### Allie Coker

Vice President, Summerfest, Fundraising  
alliecoker@bellsouth.net

### Frazier Dworet

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

### Cherry Frederick

Planning, Summerfest, Fundraising  
cherry.frederick@gmail.com

### Rob Glancy

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

### Alyson Higgins

Planning, Residential Preservation (Co-Chair)  
alyhiggins@gmail.com

### Holly Kilgore

Secretary, Fundraising  
hkkilgore@aol.com

### Kathryn King-Metters

Traffic & Sidewalks Chair  
kkingmetters@gmail.com

### Charlie Lefort

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

### Karen Page

Treasurer, Summerfest  
kpage94@hotmail.com

### Pamela Papner

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

### John Wolfinger

Public Safety Chair  
jjonww2@earthlink.net

## The Virginia-Highland *Voice*

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

Editor: John Becker

Design: Preeti Ayyangar

Business Manager: Nita Luce

We welcome your feedback on *The Virginia-Highland Voice*.

Please send your comments to [editor@vahi.org](mailto:editor@vahi.org).

## VHCA *Calendar*

### Monthly Board Meetings

When: First Monday of each month, 7 pm

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

## ANNUAL VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING / ELECTION OF OFFICERS

When: Monday, September 13, 2010 - 7:00pm

Where: Cafeteria of Inman Middle School,  
located at the corner of Virginia and Park avenues

Agenda: Will be posted online at [vahi.org](http://vahi.org)  
by September 1, 2010

Please visit our web site for calendar updates, additional  
information on VHCA or to join: [www.vahi.org](http://www.vahi.org)



### Suzuki Violin - Now in Your Neighborhood!

Violin lessons, ages 4+  
Karla Tievsky, Suzuki Specialist

Druid Hills United Methodist Church  
1200 Ponce de Leon Avenue, NE

Call Karla to schedule an information meeting  
(404) 556-0998 or email, [ktiev@bellsouth.net](mailto:ktiev@bellsouth.net)  
On the web at: [www.karlatievsky.com](http://www.karlatievsky.com)



**Dr. William Carlson**  
404.981.1805

1402-2 N. Highland Ave.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30306  
Fax: 404.981.6220

# President's Corner

Pamela Papner  
Board President, Virginia-Highland Civic Association

As this VHCA year draws to a close, I'd like to take a moment to recognize the significant achievements of the past twelve months. The community owes a huge thank you to all board members and neighbors who contributed their time to improve our community.

The Virginia-Highland Conservation League, Inc. led two significant initiatives this past year: *Fundraising for Phase I Orme Park Improvements* and *Fundraising for New Highland Park*.

**Funds Raised To-Date for Orme Park**

- \$50,000 grant from Park Pride
- \$40,375 received from Anne Fauver city discretionary funds
- \$20,000 grant from VHCA
- \$22,360 funds raised by Friends of Orme Park
- Ben & Jerry's Free Cone Day (10 years @ \$1,000 per year)
- Park Pride 20 years/20 picnics event
- \$6,490 in local resident donations
- \$5,009 in proceeds from Silent Auction at Callanwolde held in January
- \$750 micro grant from Park Pride

\$144,984

**Funds Raised To-Date for New Highland Park**

- \$35,460 from resident donations and "Buy a Brick" program
- \$15,000 from AT&T Uverse easement
- \$5,009 in proceeds from Silent Auction at Callanwolde
- \$3,316 from Atkins Park Neighborhood Association donations and fundraisers
- \$3,000 in proceeds from Edible Plant Sale held in March 2010
- \$2,000 from sponsors of VIP area at Summerfest 2009
- \$1,800 from renting land for movie/video shoots

\$65,585

So many people have stepped up to help raise these significant funds. Special thanks this year go to: Victoria Talley, Julie & Ryan Healan, Alice Gepp and Peter Bade for their significant fundraising work for Orme Park; to Conne Ward Cameron, Pat Penn, John Wolfinger and Max Alligood for the Plant Sale that raised \$3,000 for New Highland Park; and to the Silent Auction team that raised more than \$10,000 for both park projects. That team included Anne Woodward, Alice Gepp, Hillary Sencer Edelstein, Victoria Talley and Carolyn Corwell.

We also thank our Atkins Park neighbors for their regular support with fundraising and the following families who have donated their time and efforts to cut the grass and perform other maintenance at the new park: Jimmy Lee, Malcolm & Brenda Miller, Bob & Linda Chafin, and Shawna & Brian Mahony. Special thanks also goes to Rob Glancy for his efforts to obtain the design and community feedback, then implement the beautiful stone seating wall at the Virginia/N. Highland triangle, along with the many plantings you now see today. It's a fantastic improvement!

**Below is a brief recap of other major achievements and contributions this past year:**

**Planning:** The review, investigation (including meeting with property owners), and analysis of variance requests take significant time and expertise. Thanks go to Aly Higgins and Frazier Dworet (co-chairs) and the members of the Planning Committee who spend many hours of their valuable personal time to make this process work.

Special thanks also to Jack White and Tom Spach, who have been leading (with great success and progress) the effort to work with Callanwolde and DeKalb County to address significant construction issues that impacted residents on Rosedale Road.

**Safety:** Thanks to John Wolfinger for his many efforts to promote safety in our neighborhood, including oversight of the Safety Patrol; development of the street captain program; regular email safety updates; improved relationships with local police, fire and city administration; and our third annual "National Night Out." John's contributions have been tangible and signifi-



cant over the last four years he has worked so hard.

**Voice Community Newsletter:** Thanks to John Becker (Editor), Preeti Ayyangar (Designer) and Nita Luce (Business Manager) for the many hours each spends delivering such an informative and well-designed newsletter each quarter. Advertising revenues were highest ever this past year!

**Fundraising:** Tour of Homes and Summerfest brought in healthy revenues this year, and that money goes directly back to the community to support initiatives such as paying off the debt for the purchase of New Highland Park; construction of the new stone seating wall and landscaping at the Virginia / N. Highland triangle; printing/ mailing of the Voice newsletter; Va-Hi Safety Patrol; and neighborhood grants. Special thanks go to our Home Tour leaders (Charlie Lefort, Cindy Kaufman, Mandi Robertson, John Peter Casey, Ann Guy, and Rob Glancy) who raised \$14,000 this year and to our Summerfest leaders: Pamela Papner (Director), Ann Guy & Charlie Lefort (Co-Chairs).

#### **We Need Your Involvement!**

If the contributors above look familiar, it's because the same people tend to role up their sleeves and get involved, year after year. We need more of you to do that. There are a variety of activities in which you can get involved. If you are interested in "giving back" by doing more for your civic association, please email: [president@vahi.org](mailto:president@vahi.org).

## **Historic Designation Interest Survey Results to Be Presented**

A Historic Designation Interest Survey was mailed to all resident households and owners of residential property in Virginia-Highland on April 29 and 30th of 2010. The survey was prepared and conducted for the Virginia-Highland Civic Association by Turner Research Network. A total of 4,672 surveys were mailed and 727 were returned for a response rate of 15.6%. The survey results will be presented by Turner Research Network at the September 13th Virginia-Highland Civic Association annual meeting.

If you have questions regarding the survey, contact John Turner at Turner Research Networks or the VHCA Neighborhood Preservation co-chairs, Lola Carlisle and Alyson Higgins, at [chair@lovevh.org](mailto:chair@lovevh.org).



**NITALUCE**  
& associates  
Real Estate Consultants  
Luxury...Lifestyle...Living



*Want to know more about  
home sales in Virginia Highland?  
Receive your complimentary  
neighborhood market  
analysis from your  
VA-HI resident REALTOR®*

**404.667.3337**  
[homes@nitaluce.com](mailto:homes@nitaluce.com)  
[www.nitaluce.com](http://www.nitaluce.com)

KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY ATLANTA MIDTOWN  
Each office is independently owned and operated. Equal Housing Opportunity.

**the beehive**   
a local boutique



**the beehive features independent  
designers from your community**

1250 Caroline Street, Suite C120 Atlanta, GA 30307  
(Edgewood Retail Complex)  
404 350 3898  
[www.thebeehiveatl.com](http://www.thebeehiveatl.com)

# Atlanta's Oldest Fire Station Seeks Funds for Renovation

85-year old firehouse needs extensive repairs - and you can help make sure it gets them



Did you know that Fire Station #19 - located on the northeast corner of N. Highland and Los Angeles avenues - is the oldest fire station in Atlanta? The firehouse opened its doors on June 1, 1925 and has been serving the residents of Virginia-Highland ever since. Now, it's time for VaHi residents to return the favor.

Maintenance on the firehouse has been deferred for years. The staircase has extensive termite damage, there are holes in the ceiling, and water collects on the garage floor due to lack of a drain.

Kronberg Wall Architects has completed plans to renovate the structure that include reinstating the distinctive arch-door truck bay and updating the interior spaces and building systems, while preserving the historic features that give the structure its distinct bungalow charm.

Total cost for the restoration is estimated at \$400,000 and donations are being requested to help fund the project. A tax deductible donation can be made online by visiting [www.vhfirecompany.com](http://www.vhfirecompany.com). At the website you can also view photos of the damage and check out a detailed copy of the renovation plans.

Or, stop by the firehouse in person to make your donation. Visitors are welcome anytime but you may want to stop by on one of the Sundays each month when they have "story time" for the kids featuring free ice cream. While you're there you can also purchase a variety of promotional items (t-shirts, baseball caps, coffee mugs, etc.), all featuring the distinctive station #19 logo. Proceeds go toward renovation of the firehouse.

Our firefighters are there for us when we need them. Will you do the same for them?

# Virginia-Highland's "Green Dream" New Highland Park Fundraising Updates

Special thanks to Glamour Paws Pet Boutique, located across N. Highland Ave. from the new park, for the two "Bark in the Park" outdoor movie events they sponsored. Neighbors enjoyed the movies and \$164 in concessions was earned for the park.

The following generous neighbors purchased bricks for the park since the last issue of Voice:

Atkins Park Garden Club  
Elise & Scott Davies  
Brian Dempsey  
Jennifer & Stephen Priestley  
Jack Reed  
Danny & Meredith Seelos  
Sarah Smith & Chad Gray  
Larry & Ann Wright  
Meredith Zara

## You Can Now Donate or Buy A Brick Online.

Go to [www.vahi.org](http://www.vahi.org) and, from the link embedded in the copy about New Highland Park, you can donate or order a brick online using a credit card via Paypal.

## Hold the date and participate!

Come review the design for New Highland Park that was presented to residents at a meeting several months ago (posted at [vahi.org](http://vahi.org)). Bring a folding chair or blanket to sit on. We'll walk the grounds and gather more input about desired amenities like seating, fencing, lighting, plants, etc.

Date: Saturday, September 11, 2010  
Rain Date: Sunday, September 12, 2010  
Time: 11am – 1pm  
Location: New Highland Park, across from Belly

## Buy a Brick in the New Va-Hi Park!

We've raised more than \$35,500 from donations and brick purchases to date, but we still need more than \$700,000 to pay off the debt for the two lots. If every family in the neighborhood contributed \$100, we would be near our final goal. If you have not already done so, please contribute TODAY! Here's the offer:

Contribute \$100 and receive an engraved brick. Your donation is tax-deductible. The brick can be engraved with your family name(s), in honor of someone special, or you may simply wish to create something whimsical. You'll receive a certificate, suitable for gift-giving.

**ORDER NOW! See details below.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift is for: \_\_\_\_\_

(Name desired on personalized certificate)

## Provide Specific Engraving Desired:

(Up to 3 lines of text, with no more than 14 characters -including spaces- per line).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Checks Payable To:** Virginia-Highland Conservation League

**Mail To:** Pamela Papner, VHCA President, 854 Highland Terrace, Atlanta 30306

**Questions?** E-mail: [brickinfo@vahi.org](mailto:brickinfo@vahi.org)

## Giving Levels & Benefits

Buy A Brick: (Brick + Certificate)	\$100
Park Patron: (Brick + Special blue "Park Patron" T-Shirt)	\$250
Park Angel: (Brick + Special green "Park Angel" T-Shirt)	\$500
Park Founder: (Brick + Special "Park Angel" T-shirt and Donor Name on Park Plaque)	\$1000

## Restaurant Review

# At Osteria It's All About...Famiglia!

Kate Powers

Dining at Osteria is like having a meal as part of a big Italian family. The friendly atmosphere and staff make one feel welcomed and at home upon arrival. This is one of my family's favorite places to dine when we are in the mood for a good, casual meal.

Instead of our usual favorites, the last time my husband and I visited we decided to try something we'd never ordered before. As a relatively new Atlantan, I've developed a love affair with the fried green tomato, and lucky for us it was the appetizer special this night. The tomatoes were lightly breaded, cooked to perfection and served with a light creamy dressing. Yum!

My husband's dinner choice was the bacon zucchini pizza. If the dining goal had not been to try something new, we would have missed out on a truly wonderful pizza combination. This is a white pizza made with thin slices of zucchini, apple wood smoked bacon, ricotta and mozzarella cheeses, and extra virgin olive oil. The bacon did not make the pizza greasy in any way and added a nice smoky flavor.

I dined on the smoked chicken ravioli. The ravioli were stuffed with ground chicken that had a delicious, delicately smoked

flavor. The combination of roasted tomatoes, extra virgin olive oil, fresh basil and Parmesan cheese made for a unique ravioli dish. Additionally, I found the portion size to be perfect: just enough to satisfy.

Portion size and pricing are features we really like about Osteria. Entrees and pizza run \$8 – 12, salads \$5 – 6, and appetizers \$3 – 8. Portions sizes remind me of what would be served if one were dining at home around the family table: not oversized, but meant to satisfy.

One thing I miss from past menus is the dessert trio. I usually don't want (or need) a whole dessert to myself, but when the overwhelming craving for something sweet hits me, the dessert trio was a great way to share a taste of dessert with others at the table. One could satisfy the craving and not feel guilty about eating an entire dessert. Maybe mini desserts could be an option on future menus?

### Osteria 832 Pizza and Pasta

832 N. Highland Avenue

(404) 897-1414

[www.osteria832.com](http://www.osteria832.com)

**When Feeling Great Can't Wait!**  
Busy Families & Individuals



Experienced, compassionate providers.  
Open 7 days a week; evenings and weekends.  
Most insurance accepted or a medical discount program is available.

Edgewood • Little Five Points  
1220 Caroline St., Suite 230  
Mon-Fri 10am-8pm • Sat-Sun 9am-2pm

**NextCare**<sup>®</sup>  
**URGENT CARE**  
**678-916-3613**  
[nextcare.com/homes](http://nextcare.com/homes)

Freelance Journalist  
Commercial Copy Writer

JOHN BECKER

News Stories • Interviews • Newsletters  
• Case Studies • White Papers

988 Rosedale Rd Atlanta GA 30306  
o: 404 228 0814 • m: 404 755 6966 • [jbecker715@yahoo.com](mailto:jbecker715@yahoo.com)



# Gas Main Replacement Project Nears Completion

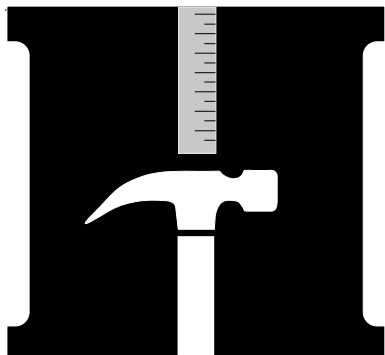
Kathryn King-Metters

Atlanta Gas Light Company (AGL) has been replacing the original gas mains along North Highland and several VaHi side streets over the past few months. There were initial problems with messy street markings, sidewalk replacement not matching existing sidewalks, failure to respond to a safety issue, and overall concerns about patching instead of repaving impacted streets. After these issues were brought to AGL's attention by the civic association, they and their contractors have become very cooperative, and since then have provided detailed updates to make the project as manageable as possible for residents.

As of mid-July, the gas main installations on North Highland and Kentucky have been completed. Approximately sixty connections between these mains and individual gas lines still need to be completed. Over the coming six weeks these gas connections along Kentucky and on North Highland (from Virginia to Amsterdam) should be finished.

Stone sidewalks that have been torn up during the process are now being replaced with an aggregate stone concrete to try to match the original sidewalks in the neighborhood. Those already replaced with plain concrete will be replaced again with aggregate material before the project is complete.

When the project is finished, AGL has promised to clean up as best they can all of the paint markings in our streetscape area (Virginia Ave. from firehouse past the Chevron). We were advised the paint markings along the roads will eventually wash away. Despite the VHCA's request to repave impacted streets (instead of patching every ~12 yards), AGL has advised it will not be repaving, as the city permit approved the patches being implemented. Due to concerns about future potholes as well as current aesthetics, the VHCA will be following up with the city to understand why repaving was not required.



**HAMMERSMITH**  
DESIGN & RENOVATION PROFESSIONALS

404.377.1021

[www.HammerSmith.net](http://www.HammerSmith.net)

*Thank you Atlanta for your support!*



## Looking for a Win-Win?

Let me put my 20+ years of Intown real estate experience to work for you, and I'll make a \$300 donation in your name to a community or school group of your choice.\*

I help you, and you invest in your community!

**Now that's a Win-Win!**



**FOURTEEN WEST**  
REALTORS®

Call Michael Gaddy at 404-917-7725  
office: 404-874-6357      [mgaddy@14west.com](mailto:mgaddy@14west.com)

\*Simply use Michael Gaddy, recipient of the 2009 Fourteen West Integrity Award, as your REALTOR on your next home purchase or sale. The donation will be paid to the club or group of your choice within 2 weeks of a successful close on your home.

# History of Virginia-Highland

## {Part VIII}

Linda Merrill

EDITOR'S NOTE: THIS IS THE EIGHTH IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES ON THE HISTORY OF VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND, EXCERPTED FROM A LONGER WORK-IN-PROGRESS BEING RESEARCHED AND WRITTEN BY LOG-TIME 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.

### Better Homes, Parks, and Schools



*In 1923, the city of Atlanta selected the home located at 57 Orme Circle as “demonstration house” for the Better Homes Movement. This home sits on the lot today (now 562 Orme Circle).*

To Americans of the interwar years, the subdivisions that made up the neighborhood now known as Virginia-Highland would have exemplified the American Dream. As President Calvin Coolidge declared in 1922, “It is time to demonstrate more effectively that property is of the people. It is time to transfer some of the approbation and effort that has gone into the building of public works to the building, ornamenting, and owning of private homes by the people at large.” The bungalows that predominated in Virginia-Highland were within the financial reach of a growing middle class. Compact and efficient, with small rooms conveniently arranged on a single floor, these houses were also promoted as a means of liberating women—a new constituency in the 1920s—from the drudgery of housework.

The Better Homes Movement was a nationwide educational campaign launched in 1922 to advance the ownership, maintenance,

and beautification of houses. “Everything that can be done to encourage home-ownership and to make homelife pleasanter,” wrote Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover, who served as president of the board, “is a distinct contribution not only to social well-being but to the highest spiritual values of life.” The first Better Homes Demonstration Week took place in June 1923, and in announcing the national event to his fellow Atlantans, Mayor Walter A. Sims asserted that “the progress of a city, like the progress of a nation, is measured by the quality of its homes.” So perfectly did the Virginia-Highland suburb

embody the movement’s ideals that a brand new bungalow on Orme Circle (no. 57, now 562, “a charming little house of the moderate priced type”) was selected as Atlanta’s “demonstration house.” Furnished by local merchants with every necessity and labor-saving device, the house proved so popular that Boy Scouts were recruited to handle the crowd. Atlanta won third prize in the national competition and second prize the following year, when one of the three model homes prepared for the contest was the Hardy residence on Virginia Avenue.

The same insistence on domestic stability at a time when traditional values were in flux inspired the national Playground Movement, which advocated and fostered the “wholesome use” of leisure time. Virginia-Highland participated in that campaign as well, when the women activists of Boulevard Park purchased a “playground apparatus” for Meadowbrook (now Orme) Park



*Known as Inman Middle School, the Virginia Avenue School opened its doors on this site in 1924.*

in 1925. The City Parks and Playgrounds Department appointed and trained a playground director for the new suburban park, charged with organizing “open air games and other interesting activities” that included basket-weaving and sewing for the older girls. Mothers were urged to take advantage of these services (offered 5 hours a day, 4 days a week) not only because of “the importance and benefit to be derived from supervised outdoor play,” but also because of the need to keep their children off the streets: “They have the ‘gang’ spirit: let them go to the community playground where even the little tots are safe and happy under the watchful eye of a supervisor, and the older children are free to play in a way they like, yet safe from automobiles and street cars.”

The neighborhood children were served in a more lasting way by the establishment of a new public school. At the urging of the Boulevard Park Women’s Auxiliary, A. J. Brownlee, proprietor of an Atlanta furniture store, agreed to sell the city a parcel of vacant woodland on the northeast corner of Virginia Avenue and Park Drive for \$18,000. The Atlanta Federation of Women’s Clubs raised \$20,000 for the building fund, largely through

bridge parties held in the homes of its members, and the cornerstone was laid in October 1923. Originally known as the Virginia Avenue School, it was designed by the architect Warren Powell under the supervision of A. Ten Eyck Brown, who oversaw the construction of an entire group of Romanesque-revival school buildings in Atlanta. The Samuel Inman School, as it was eventually named, had been planned to accommodate 630 students, but it opened its doors in 1924 to 1,000—and the neighborhood was still growing. Proposals for additions had been made even while the building was under construction. An auditorium designed by G. Lloyd Preacher was built in 1929, and a library and five additional classrooms were added in 1937, as part of a Works Progress Administration project. In 1978, Inman School was converted to a middle school, and the building was thoughtfully expanded and renovated in 2004.

Sources: *The Historical Atlanta Journal and Atlanta Constitution*; Janet Hutchinson, “The Cure for Domestic Neglect: Better Homes in America, 1922-1935,” *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture* 2 (1986): 168-78.

Next issue: Virginia Hills and Highland



## Public Safety Update

John Wolfinger, VCHA Safety Chair

How many times have you wondered if there was a city law against something that bothers or annoys you - from a neighbor using a leaf blower at 7 AM Sunday morning to a restaurant sign board blocking your path on a sidewalk or political campaign signs on a telephone pole? Well, there's actually a fairly easy way to find out. For city of Atlanta ordinances, laws and codes go to [www.atlantaga.gov](http://www.atlantaga.gov), click on "City Council" and then on "City Code of Ordinances." There is a good search engine box at the top where you can type in a key word or words and hopefully find an answer to your question. You may have to play around to find the correct key word and you'll probably have to read through a number of ordinances to find the one you're looking for, but the investment in time should be worth it to satisfy your curiosity.

If you're concerned about a problem house in your area with uncut grass, a suspected illegal usage such as an ad hoc boarding house, or a general run-down appearance and you want to know who owns the property so you can contact them to ask for remedial action as to the problem, go to the Fulton County Tax Assessor's website at [www.fultonassessor.org/Main/Home.aspx](http://www.fultonassessor.org/Main/Home.aspx),

click on "Property Records" and then make a search by address. On most city addresses, leave off the quadrant designation to get a valid search result, and you will get the owner's name and a contact address.

If you'd like to report a property you strongly suspect of code violations, go to [www.atlantaga.gov/government/planning/codescompliance.aspx](http://www.atlantaga.gov/government/planning/codescompliance.aspx). You can learn about the four ways to report code violations, the easiest of which is to e-mail a report to [codesrequests@atlantaga.gov](mailto:codesrequests@atlantaga.gov). You can even attach a digital photo to illustrate the problem along with your report. The page also tells you how to follow up on your report to see if city inspectors have investigated your complaint.

This is a campaign year and so we can almost certainly expect illegally placed campaign yard signs - it is an inevitability. Such signs placed on the right-of-way between the sidewalk and the curb, on parkland, public school grounds, parkway median strips, and on utility poles are all unlawfully placed. I suggest letting the candidate know directly that you're very disappointed that they choose not to obey such a basic law, and that they are willingly disrespecting your public space. It is also unlawful for candidates to place flyers on your auto when it is parked on public property, such as on the street.



Helping small businesses and homeowners connect, protect and support their technology

PHONE 404.875.5274  
E-MAIL [info@work2homeinc.com](mailto:info@work2homeinc.com)  
VISIT [www.work2homeinc.com](http://www.work2homeinc.com)

## Does your tech guy ? speak your language ?

Work2home explains technology in plain English, not acronyms. Our services include:

- Setup and support for office technology, including networking, file servers, firewalls and digital voice systems
- Mac and Windows/PC repair, support and virus removal
- Improve mobile phone reception at office and/or home
- Setup backup and remote access to PCs and Macs
- Conduct personal one-on-one technology training



**Work2home**<sup>TM</sup>  
MAKING TECHNOLOGY SIMPLE



## Spotlight on Neighborhood Businesses

### Java Jive Withstands the Test of Time

790 Ponce de Leon Ave.  
404-876-6161

For over sixteen years Steven Horwitz and his wife Shira have made the daily one mile trek from their VaHi home to open up Java Jive, located on Ponce de Leon Avenue directly across the street from the historic Clermont Hotel. It's the periwinkle colored building you've passed thousands of times, probably thinking they just sold coffee. Not that their java isn't "the cup that pleases," but did you know they've also received more than fourteen awards for their food from Atlanta Magazine and Creative Loafing over the years? "Best Breakfast," "Best Pancakes & Waffles," and "Best Biscuits" are just a few. And they serve it all up to you in an authentically "retro" space filled with vintage stoves, a showcase of old toasters and waffle irons, and other vintage kitchen items, including Shira's favorite: Mr. Sno-Cone.

Horwitz describes he and his wife as the kitschy neighbors that anyone - from children to seniors - can't help but love. Celebrities like Java Jive, too. Don't be surprised if you run into Devo, Rep. John Lewis or director/producer/actor John Waters on your next trip in. Java Jive is also an active supporter of VaHi's neighborhood schools, providing gift certificates for their annual fund-raising auctions.

Java Jive is open Tuesday - Friday 8 AM to 2 PM, Saturday and Sunday 8:45 AM to 2:30 PM. They offer breakfast during the week and brunch on weekends. Check 'em out on Facebook where you can learn "fun facts" about Java Jive and get the scoop on the special offering for the upcoming weekend.

To their valued regular customers, Steven and Shira say thanks for your support. If you haven't been in, they'd love to meet you. Stop in soon for breakfast or a great cup of coffee to go!

## Less Stress = More Life!

- Residential & Commercial Storage
- All Climate Controlled
- Guest Office Area w/ Free Wi-Fi
- Self-Serve Coffee Bar
- Access 7 Days a Week
- Locks, Boxes & Moving Supplies
- Concierge Services Available



Bring  
in this ad  
for Our  
SoVo  
1/2 Off  
Special!

# CITYStorage

726 Ponce de Leon Place, Atlanta, GA 30306

city-storage.com  
**404-853-3303**

## 2010 Virginia-Highland Tour of Homes - This Year with a Spin!

Charlie LeFort and Cindy Kaufman

Planning has begun for this year's 16th annual Virginia-Highland Tour of Homes. Since its 2004 revival, the event has raised over \$110,000 for the community. Even last year's brutally cold and wet weekend didn't stop hundreds of tour-goers from helping us raise more than \$14,000.

All proceeds benefit community projects sponsored by the VHCA, such as the Virginia-Highland triangle island renovation, the new park at N. Highland and St. Charles, safety initiatives, and local grants.

This year the planning committee has some surprises in store to expand the Tour's focus. Stay tuned for more information about the Design Forum, a special addition to the Tour that will take place in a historic neighborhood location, and be included in the ticket price!

As always, each home on the tour will be paired with a neighborhood restaurant to enhance your experience and showcase some of the best Virginia-Highland has to offer. Mark your calendars now for December 11th and 12th!

### Why Sell Your Home In This Market?

We make property management painless and profitable by supervising all details professionally and responsively.

**PROPERTY**

*consultants*

*We treat your property like our own,  
providing individual attention and service.*

**Gary S Chad 404-254-4100**

## VHCA Membership - Join Now and Support Your Neighborhood Civic Association!

The Virginia-Highland Civic Association is a volunteer-run, non-profit organization that helps maintain Virginia-Highland as one of the most livable urban communities in America. But why should you join?

**What does the VHCA do?** We support the community by funding maintenance of John Howell Park; improvements to Orme Park; the neighborhood commercial zoning initiative; legal support for the community (when 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, in December 2008 we purchased the lots located at St. Charles Place and N. Highland for the purpose of creating a new park.

**How does the VHCA do it?** We are funded primarily through sponsorship fees from Summerfest and the Tour of Homes, and your generous contributions. In 2010 we'd like to do even more for the neighborhood - but all of this takes time, money, and volunteers. We encourage all VaHi residents to become dues paying members of the civic association, as well as to participate actively in committees and community events and activities.

**What are the benefits of membership?** Through active participation in the VHCA you will:

- Enjoy opportunities to meet new and longtime residents at meetings, socials, and community service events;
- Receive notifications about local events and important topics; support activities and committees that help keep the neighborhood desirable and stable;
- Have opportunities to vote in regular and special meetings about issues that affect you and control the destiny of Virginia-Highland.

Where can I get more information? Go to [www.vahi.org](http://www.vahi.org).

**How do I join?** By filling out and returning the attached form.  
We look forward to hearing from you and working with you.

## Virginia –Highland Civic Associa-

### tion Membership Form Membership Year 2010

Name(s): .....

Address: .....

Phone Number: .....

Email Address: .....

#### Membership Levels:

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

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual: \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (65 and older): \$15 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family: \$30     | <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Donation: \$     |

#### VHCA Committee Interest:

- ☐ Communications
- ☐ Fundraising – Summerfest
- ☐ Fundraising – Tour of Homes
- ☐ Membership Committee
- ☐ Parks Committee
- ☐ Planning Committee
- ☐ Safety and Sidewalks
- ☐ Other

#### Please make checks payable to:

Virginia-Highland Civic Association  
Mail to: VHCA Membership Committee  
927 Glen Arden Way, NE, Atlanta GA 30306



Virginia-Highland Civic Association  
P.O. Box 8401, Station F  
Atlanta, Georgia 31106

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT 2431  
ATLANTA GA

## Selling Virginia Highland for Over 30 Years



Julie Sandy Peter  
**Sadler, D'Aprile & Bade**

*are now*

**the in towners**

**Call Us Today**  
**Three neighborhood experts,**  
**one singular focus**  
**...Getting your home sold!**

**404.875.5100**

**Re/Max Metro Atlanta Cityside**