

The Virginia-Highland

VOICE

Spring 2010

Make Plans Now to Attend Sumerfest 2010!

Summerfest 2010 promises to be the best Va-Hi summer festival ever!

- Friday, June 2: Community Dinner, Movie, Parade
- Friday, June 4: Community Dinner, Movie, Parade (This year's parade theme will be Movie Madness – go crazy dressing up like your favorite movie character!)
- Saturday, June 5th & Sunday, June 6th: Road Race, Artist Market, Music, Kidsfest

Details are posted online at: vahi.org.

Edible Landscape Sale to Benefit the New Highland Park

Date: Saturday, March 13

Time: 9:00am to noon

Location: At the park space at the corner of St. Charles and N.Highland
(See story on page 6)



Passersby enjoy the recently renovated triangle island at N. Highland and Virginia avenues.

Triangle Island Renovation Nears Completion

Project Puts Finishing Touches on Phase Two of Va-Hi Streetscape Improvements

Rob Glancy, VHCA Parks Committee Chair

After considering numerous design options and gathering considerable feedback at neighborhood meetings, the Virginia-Highland Civic Association Board last year approved plans for renovation of the much-loved triangle island on the southwest corner of N. Highland and Virginia avenues. Originally, the odd shaped island and 'slip lane' had been a trolley stop. In recent years, as pedestrian and vehicular traffic has increased, the island became less pedestrian friendly and was in desperate need of an overhaul.

Home Tour Recap

Rob Glancy, Home Tour Co-Chair

Plans called for installation of a granite seat wall, curbing and landscape boulders. Special thanks goes to landscape architect Brad Jones of Jordan, Jones and Goulding, who donated his time and talent to develop the final plans.

Installation of the new features – done by the Bosarge and Chandler Group, LLC – was largely complete by early February. The new layout and design is already becoming popular with residents and visitors alike who can be found sitting on the new seat wall and benches – despite our recent cool temperatures!

The renovation's \$16,000 cost was funded solely by the Virginia-Highland Civic Association, as the initial Phase Two streetscape work which was implemented and funded by the City of Atlanta did not include these improvements.

Trees Atlanta is wrapping up installation of trees as this article is being written. To date, in the island alone, eight bald cypress, three chinese elms, and two first lady cherry trees have been installed. An additional three first lady cherries and two evergreen hollies are scheduled for installation, in addition to reinstallation of the "Welcome to Virginia-Highland" sign. Perennials and annuals will also be planted around the trees. Previously there were only three maples in the island, so the number of trees in the area has been increased dramatically, which will help provide cooling shade in the summer months.

Of particular concern in tree selection at the corner were the power and utility lines, which the neighborhood had hoped to bury. Unfortunately, doing so was not feasible due to budget constraints. Two additional elms will be installed in front of Mooncake and a crepe myrtle near Cottage Antiques.

going once... going twice... get going to the Oakhurst Cooperative Preschool Auction Jubilee

The Solarium in Oakhurst • April 18, 2010, 3 — 6 p.m.

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- Unique Hand-Crafted Apparel & Gifts • Original Art from Local Artists •
- Beautiful Vacation Retreats • Children's Activities • Live Music with Roxie Watson •



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The 2009 Virginia-Highland Tour of Homes took place on Saturday December 13th and 14th. Although the weather was not cooperative, tour-goers flooded the neighborhood and enjoyed food tastings from DBA BBQ, Atkins Park, Murphys, La Tavola, Shortys, MetroFresh, Whole Foods, Rosebud, Bella Cucina and El Taco.

Total revenues once again exceeded \$27,500 including ticket sales, sponsorships and advertising. The net income for the tour this year was over \$16,500, although some revenues and minor expenses are still pending.

This marks the sixth consecutive year that the tour has been held since its revival in 2004. The tour would not be possible if it were not for the generous support of homeowners, restaurants, committee members, house captains, advertisers, volunteers and, of course, the thousands of tour goers.

A special thanks goes to Steering Committee members Charlie LeFort, John Peter Casey, Mandi Robertson, Cindy Kaufman, and Ann Guy for their tireless work over the past year. Thanks to Harry Norman Realtors for being our leading cash sponsor this year. Harry Norman agents Mary Hallenberg and Shannon Makaila deserve a special thank you for their efforts. Media coverage was provided by Dave FM, Atlanta Homes and Life-styles and Atlanta Intown, and Phuong Nguyen of Creative Crop provided creative leadership and website design.

Please contact tour@vahi.org if you are interested in having your home considered for the 16th annual Tour of Homes, which will take place in December 2010. The tour steering committee is also in need of assistance with sponsors, and most other functions.

Local Haiti Relief Efforts Continue

Virginia-Highland residents have responded generously to a neighborhood-based effort to help the people of earthquake-ravaged Haiti. Conducted in partnership with The Haiti Alliance, the effort was begun by David Baumgarten who started by collecting items on his front porch. Donations are now being accepted at our own City Storage on Ponce de Leon Place. Two containers worth of items had been collected at deadline for later shipment on container ships. Though money has been the greatest initial need, our donations will be used to help in the on-going rebuilding efforts.

For details on what is needed today and how you can help, please visit www.donationsforhaiti.org. You can also volunteer on the Web site to help with the sorting and packing of boxes.

Thank you for being such a generous community,
Virginia-Highland!

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The Virginia-Highland Voice

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

Editor: John Becker

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

Please send your comments to 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

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



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Notice of Upcoming Historic Designation Survey

Watch your mailboxes this month for an important survey from Turner Research Network regarding historic designation for Virginia-Highland.

The VHCA's Neighborhood Preservation Committee has enlisted the help of Turner Research Network to conduct a short survey on the topic of historic designation. The committee continues to gather input from Virginia-Highland residents to gauge the interest in Historic Designation Overlay Regulations to protect the historic nature of our neighborhood.

Please take the time to answer the short survey. Your participation and timely response are very important!

To contact someone from the VHCA Neighborhood Preservation Committee, visit <http://lovevh.org>.

President's Corner

Pamela Papner

President, Virginia-Highland Civic Association Board

For those who attended the silent auction held at the beautiful Callanwolde Fine Arts Center on January 22nd, thank you! Approximately 330 people attended, and feedback was that all had a great time. We raised a net of ~\$10,000 to benefit our New Highland Park and Orme Park.

There are so many people to thank for their generous donations that made the event a success. A huge and heartfelt thank you goes to:

- Callanwolde Fine Arts Center (Sam Goldman, Executive Director) for donating the facility.
- Atkins Park Restaurant for providing such delicious food at cost.
- The Lindsay Rakers Band for providing such fantastic music and donating their talents.
- Mara Davis for serving as host and introducing the band; DaveFM for their promotional support.

- The “Auction Ladies” for organizing, getting items and putting on the event: Caroline Corwell, Hillary Sencer-Edelstein, Alice Gepp, Holly Kilgore, Victoria Talley, Anne Woodward.
- The 30+ volunteers who worked the event.
- Scott Schwartz, auctioneer, for donating his team and talents to the live auction.
- Allie Coker for overseeing dinner operations.
- VHCA Board members for pitching in with additional auction items, clean-up, coffee operations and general support.
- San Francisco Coffee for donating the coffee.
- DM Paule for donating a portion of his book sales for “Highlands-A-Go-Go: Finding Virginia-Highland”.
- Ace Intown Hardware, Urban Cottage, and DBA Barbecue for selling tickets.
- All the wonderful local businesses and residents who donated goods and services.

Again...thank you all so very much for a wonderful event!!!!

SPARK Students Introduced to Debate

David Rein

Springdale Park Elementary PTO Vice President

Springdale Park’s 3rd and 4th graders got a special treat with the introduction of debate to SPARK’s full list of afterschool activities.

Volunteer Debate Coach Michael Song was a former Georgia high school debater in Cobb County who won first place in the 2004 Atlanta Classic; qualified for the National Forensic League debate tournament three times while in high school; and graduated from Princeton University in 2000. Song volunteered to coach because he wanted to share his passion for debate with motivated and aspiring students. He felt teaching debate at the elementary school level was an opportunity to have the maximum public service impact in exchange for his volunteer hours. The debate club at SPARK introduces students to the different styles of debate that are used at the middle and high school levels. Students are taught the basic structures of different types of debate as well as ways to effectively communicate. They have the opportunity to debate with other students while at club meetings.

“Debating can be intense,” said Song, “which is why I also think it’s important to make the club fun.”

Looking ahead, Song hopes to coordinate activities with debate teams at Inman Middle and Grady High Schools, both of which have strong debate teams already in place. In the future, the club hopes to participate in metro area competitions.



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Spotlight on Grady High School

Vernell Stewart Britton
PTSA President

This has been an exciting school year at Grady High School. Our students continue to excel and our faculty members demonstrate their excellence in both the classroom and the community.

Four Grady students received scholarships for full tuition at Boston University; the College of Wooster in Ohio and Bard University. Two students are Trumpet Award winners.

For the second consecutive year, Grady faculty members were awarded the Atlanta Families First award for excellence in education. This year's recipients are Vincent Martinez and Sergio Rodriguez. This award, formerly known as the Michaels Family award, recognizes the significance of teacher and principal quality in ensuring that every child receives an excellent education. Only twelve teachers and four principals were selected out of 111 applicants.

Along with soloists from the Grady Music Department, Grady's chamber singers and philharmonic orchestra presented the concert "Voices with Strings" at the Atlanta Women's Club. The orchestra performed at the People to People International Board meeting held at the Grand Hyatt in Buckhead.

Georgia Public Broadcasting partnered with Grady in presenting this year's "Doggies On The Catwalk." The show featured celebrity models and their dogs in outfits designed by students enrolled

in Mr. Martinez's program, Urban Couture. Held at the Georgia Public Broadcasting studios, the event was taped to be shown later throughout Georgia. Proceeds from the event benefited Pets Are Loving Support (PALS), an organization that provides pet care and support to the companion pets of the city's critically ill and disabled persons.

Grey Knights football coach Ronnie Millen was selected as Atlanta Public Schools Coach of the Year and defensive back Damien Swann was recognized as player of the year. Swann was also tapped by the Atlanta Journal Constitution as an All-State player.

Lisa Willoughby was selected by the Barkley Forum at Emory University as a key coach. This is one of the highest honors a debate coach can receive nation-wide.

Susan Mercer, a Grady English Teacher, was the recipient of two fellowships, the R. Howard Dobbs Inquiry-based Learning Fellowship and the Rockdale Writing Fellowship. Both include year-long collaboration between public and independent school faculty.

For the fifth time in six years, the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA) has named The Southerner a Crown Award finalist. The Southerner is one of four Georgia high school publications – and the only newspaper – to receive this honor. The Crown Award is the highest recognition for overall excellence provided by the CSPA for student print or online media.

The kick-off of our Character Development program was a success. The theme was "Character Development: Phronesis and Practical Wisdom." Ninety students joined community leaders in a conversation on character and how specific character traits impacted their lives. The conversations with leaders and our students will continue through "Lunch and Learn" and other special programs.

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Did You Know?

The Virginia-Highland Morningside Parent Association (VHMPA) provides a link between parents of the two neighborhoods for the sharing of interests and concerns common to the group and to provide information, activities and support that enhance the members' child-rearing efforts. The VHMPA organizes playgroups, publishes a monthly newsletter and operates an email network to facilitate information sharing among members. Social activities are numerous and include sponsorship of neighborhood festivals, races and fundraisers, backyard happy hours, and organized volunteer activities. Currently, the VHMPA has more than 700 members. More information is available at www.vhmpa.org.

What could be more local than fruit grown in your own garden?

A planting of blueberries or a small tree like a persimmon in a corner of your property is an easy way to grow fruit at home. These plants bear beautiful blooms in the spring, carry their colorful fruit into the summer and many of them have great fall color. They'd be worth planting even if you didn't harvest a single fruit.

To make it easy for you to add these to your garden, we've put together a sale of fruit trees, berry vines and bushes with all proceeds going to grow our new Highland Avenue park. The plants we're offering are grown in the metro Atlanta area and have been chosen because they'll do well for us here in town.

- For gardeners into immediate gratification, we'll have blueberries and blackberries for sale.
- If you can wait a year or two for fruit, we've got figs and grapes.
- If you're planting with an eye to the future, buy an apple or maybe a pomegranate tree.
- For those with exotic tastes, we're offering olives, jujubes and a host of other unusual trees you won't find at the local nursery.

For a complete list of plants available and an order form (including online pre-purchase), check www.vahi.org, or contact John Wolfinger at jjonww2@earthlink.net or Conne Ward-Cameron at connew@bellsouth.net.

Streetscape Update

VHCA Traffic and Sidewalks Committee chair Kathryn King-Metters provided the following update on efforts to work with the city to address issues related to the recent streetscape improvements at the corner of Virginia and N. Highland avenues.

There continues to be a problem with drivers running into or over the sharp-edged granite curbing. The city has agreed to paint a white guide line along the curbing around the slip lane in front of Murphy's and Taco Mac as well as at the entrance to Aurora Coffee. Reflectors will augment the lines.

No Parking signs will be installed in front of the Chevron convenience store along Virginia Ave. Cars parking there impede the use of both westbound traffic lanes approaching N. Highland.

No Parking signs will also be installed at the northeast and southeast corners of Lanier Blvd. and Virginia Ave. In addition to traffic control, this should also improve line of sight going into the intersection at Virginia and N. Highland. Two vertical signs with diagonal black and white warnings will be placed in the No Parking area west of the bulb-out in front of the Wachovia Bank on Virginia Ave. to alert drivers to the bulb-out curbing.

King-Metters says traffic flow at the intersection will continue to be monitored for additional issues.

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Virginia-Highland's “Green Dream” Silent Auction at Callanwolde a Success

Pamela Papner

Solicitation of Donations for New Park Silent Auction Update

The silent auction held January 22nd at the beautiful Callanwolde Fine Arts center was a resounding success! Approximately 330 attendees enjoyed a fabulous dinner provided by Atkins Park Restaurant, the fantastic music of Lindsay Rakers Band (look for them again at Summerfest!), and a fun-filled silent and live auction. We are still contacting and collecting money from a few high bidders who left without their items, but we expect to net approximately \$10,000 from the event - \$5,000 to pay down the debt in New Highland Park and \$5,000 to go toward Orme Park improvements! A wonderful result! Thanks to everyone who attended.

Neighbors Who've Recently Purchased a \$100 Brick/Donated to New Highland Park:

Peter & Sheila Anderson (\$250) • Josh Antenucci
Cole Belton • Dina Crocket • Johnette Crum
Kevin & Marci Fisher • Guido Frenken
Nan Hunter • Robin Hutchinson • M. Susan Kennedy
Dennis Maloney • Jerry Matheny • Sarah Pattison
Crafton Clark Pease • Martin & Linda Pinne
George Andl & Linda Pogue • Jason Rhodes
Logan Ritchie & Brian Gordon • Robby & Krista Russell
Tyler Ryan & Suzanne Macpherson
Rockdale Fund for Social Investments (\$500 donation)
Tom Spach • Lisa Strickland • Cameron M. Stoeckel
Edith Waller (\$200) • Lee Rivera & Natalie Williams (\$200)

Park Founders Donor List (Gifts of \$1,000)

Neighbors listed below have generously donated \$1,000 to the New Highland Park, since the last Voice listing of donors. We have 17 Park Founders to date. We thank them so much for their generous support!

Charles & Ross Kleman Families
Lily Friedlander Fund
The Glancy Foundation
The Simpson Organization

Buy a Brick in the New Va-Hi Park!

We've raised almost \$30,000 from the “Buy A Brick” campaign to-date, but we still must raise 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.

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Checks Payable To: Virginia-Highland Conservation League

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Questions? E-mail: brickinfo@vahi.org

Giving Levels & Benefits

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

Neighborhood Safety Update

John Wolfinger, VCHA Safety Chair

January 12, 2010 was a date to remember in the annals of the Atlanta Police Department, in that our new interim Police Chief George Turner called a meeting of NPU officers and public safety chairs to openly discuss his plans for fighting crime and to publicly introduce his new command staff. This is in direct contrast to the closed-door policy of the previous administration and marks the beginning of direct community involvement relating to public safety in our city.

Mayor Kasim Reed was present at the gathering and did make remarks several times, but Chief Turner was clearly in charge – both of the meeting and of his department. It was also refreshing to see the Mayor sitting with several city council members – including our newly elected Alex Wan – and discussing issues openly as they arose, working as a team and not as adversaries.

The 911 call center, which we all know was broken, is currently headed by a police lieutenant on an interim basis until an ongoing national search yields a new director. Thirty new operators are now in training and should bring staffing back to proper levels, and APD is working with AT&T to clear up technical and operational problems in our new system that was installed when the call center moved to its new facility downtown.

The Mayor and his Chief Operating Officer are reviewing the current city budget to identify funds that may be redistributed to increase pay levels, benefits and the size of our police force.

Other items discussed were the reconfiguration of our current zone system, partnering the police and code enforcement departments to work more closely together, the reopening of closed recreation centers and a reworking of the APD website to a more user friendly tool.

Chief Turner made numerous personnel changes, with our Zone 6 commander Maj. Renee Propes going to the airport to assume command there and being replaced by Maj. John Dalton, previously of the major crimes unit. Maj. Dalton will have Lt. Rodney Bryant as his second in command. Bryant comes to us from the same position in Zone 3. Returning to Zone 6 after a short stint in Zone 5 is newly promoted Lt. Brent Schierbaum. Lt. Schierbaum is evening watch commander, which is prime time for crime, and he's well suited to handle this important watch position. Maj. Dalton has been making the rounds of neighborhood civic association and NPU meetings to introduce himself – he tells me he has been going to at least two meetings each weekday night to get around to all the groups in our large zone.

These changes show that Mayor Reed's administration is serious about taking responsibility for crime fighting. As Reed stated that evening, "Not having dollars is not an acceptable excuse" as related to public safety. We will all miss Major Propes at the helm of Zone 6, but wish her well in her new command at the airport. We also welcome Major Dalton and his team to our area and pledge our assistance, as he needs it.



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Update on Orme Park Phase One Improvements

Pamela Papner, VHCA Board President

As reported in the last issue of Voice, the neighborhood is raising funds to upgrade about two acres of Orme Park, extending along Brookridge Drive from the entrance near the bridge to the entrance past the playground area. These improvements are part of the "Visioning Plan" adopted by the VHCA and NPU-F in late 2007. They are consistent with the overall goal to retain Orme's "woodsy" look and feel, and are being performed under the auspices of the City of Atlanta Parks Department, which owns and controls the property.

- Phase One "Part A" improvements include design, site preparation (grading, storm water allowance, erosion controls) and installation of hardscape improvements (granite wall, demolition/reconstruction of stairs/entrance, and improved walkway with decorative pavers).
- Phase One "Part B" will require more funding but would include additional hardscape (granite walls and decorative pavers), relocation of playground equipment to the area just to the right of where it is today, and addition of plants and benches.

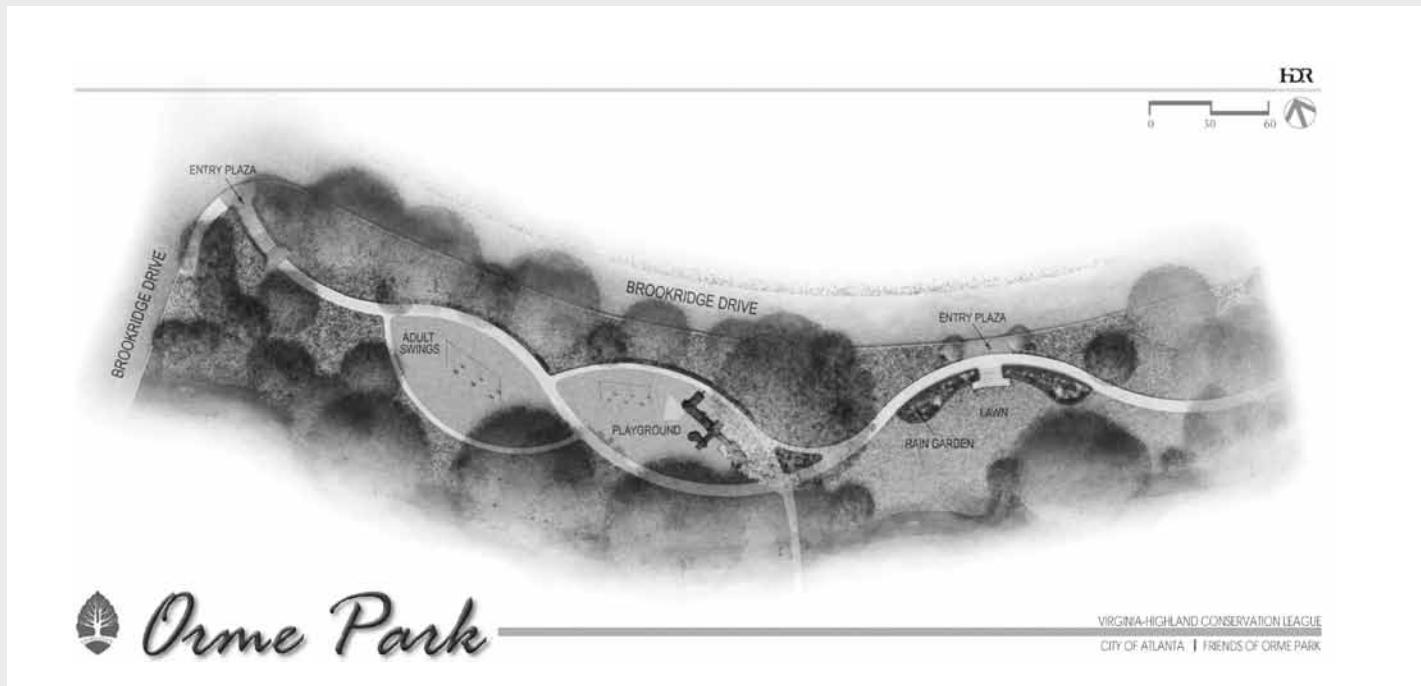
The overall cost for Phase One is still being estimated, but is expected to exceed \$200,000.

To date, we have raised nearly \$93,500:

- \$42,500: Anne Fauver discretionary funds
- \$20,000: Friends of Orme Park fundraising
- \$20,000: Matching grant from Virginia-Highland Civic Association
- \$5,990: Donations from families living near the park, from December fundraising letter
- \$5,000: Proceeds from recent Silent Auction at Callanwolde

We will be applying for a Park Pride grant and will continue fundraising efforts. Your financial support would be much appreciated, especially if you live near or frequently use Orme Park. If you have not contributed to date and wish to do so, you can write a check to "Virginia-Highland Conservation League" and mail it to: VHCL c/o Pamela Papner, Treasurer, 854 Highland Terrace, Atlanta, GA 30306.

A high-level design is shown below. We are currently in the permitting phase of the design process. Construction bids will be requested once we receive a permit from the city. The target date for beginning construction, assuming funding is in place, is early summer.



How Healthy Are Your Trees?

Patty Jenkins

A local arborist provides a primer on how to tell if your hardwoods may be diseased or even dying.

It rained very hard last night. Then the wind began to blow. It rained some more, and the wind kept blowing. I said to my husband, "Boy, am I glad we got the dead pine taken out!" The combination of water-saturated soil and heavy wind could have uprooted that tree in a heartbeat.

I'm lucky. I'm married to a certified arborist, someone who knows a lot about trees. When I saw the tree outside my office window seep white foam and later its trunk turn a strange dark brown/black, I thought it had some sort of disease. But Peter knew – even before the needles started dropping – that it had died. I'm glad I saw what I did, but had we acted on my (wrong) diagnosis, we could have had a tree fall into our bedroom. Instead, we were protected from a potentially deadly accident because we got the tree removed ahead of time. Given Peter's training and his years of experience, I knew we were doing the right thing.

Are you uninformed about trees? Or maybe you have just enough knowledge to think that something is wrong, but not enough to know how severe the problem is and whether anything should be done about it?

Regardless of which category you fall into, here is some excellent advice: Check out your trees! Start by looking for the following warning signs that point to a tree that may require treatment (including pruning) or even removal:

- A moderate or excessive lean, particularly within distance of a target such as a house, playground, or driveway.

- Cracked soil at the trunk base, indicating that the tree may be uprooting.
- Mushrooms on the trunk or roots, usually telling you the tree is experiencing decay.
- A sparse canopy or leafless branches at the top of the tree, indicating that the tree may have a fungal disease and could be dying.
- Cracks where a multiple-trunk tree is joined or at major branch connections. The tree could split apart or drop a very large limb.
- Evidence of insect attack, such as "pitch tubes" in pines or sawdust at the base of hardwood trees.

This is certainly not a complete list of the problems that cause trees to be dangerous. But if any of these conditions are present, or if the tree just doesn't "look right," have your tree evaluated. Call a certified arborist. This professional has the expertise to diagnose and prescribe treatment for a sick tree.

Any time is a good time to get your tree checked out. And for goodness sake, if the tree needs work, find out how urgent the need is. Don't leave it to Mother Nature to "remedy" your tree for you! She may not be as discriminating as a reputable tree company in how she cares for your trees.

Patty and Peter Jenkins are co-owners of TreeInspection.com, LLC
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History of Virginia-Highland

{Part VI}

Linda Merrill

EDITOR'S NOTE: THIS IS THE SIXTH IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES ON THE HISTORY OF VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND, EXCERPTED FROM A LONGER WORK-IN-PROGRESS BEING RESEARCHED AND WRITTEN BY 10-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.

Boulevard Park

"Have you seen North Boulevard Park?" wrote Charles H. Black, president of the North Boulevard Park Corporation, to a local real-estate agent in June 1916. "A visit will convince you that it is the prettiest residence Park in Atlanta." New trolley tracks were being laid on Boulevard (now Monroe) north of Virginia Avenue to Orme Circle, and the corporation was busy installing gas mains, electrical and telephone lines, and water and sewer pipes to make the area more hospitable.

Apart from the new stretch of Boulevard, the only preexisting streets in the subdivision were Cresthill and Elmwood, dirt or gravel roads leading to orchards and farmhouses. The border streets, south and north, were Cooledge —named for F. J. Cooledge, vice-president of the North Boulevard Park Corporation in 1916—and Orme Circle, named for A. J. Orme, then secretary-treasurer. The developers took pride in Boulevard Park's shady sidewalks lining granite-curbed roadways. Because the streets were all laid at once, in a scheme that emphasized consistent design, they were all, presumably, originally paved with brick. Although many of the granite curbs survive, if sometimes in fragments, just one street—Cresthill Avenue—entirely escaped blacktop resurfacing in later years. Cooledge was later restored. In 1993, the Atlanta City Council adopted an ordinance preserving "the brick right-of-way" on Cresthill.

American involvement in the first World War slowed the real estate market, but the North Boulevard Park Corporation continued preparing the property, certain of selling it at a profit once funds were flowing again. In June 1919, some four hundred lots were advertised for sale at an average cost of \$45 per square foot. They were modestly proportioned—50 to 60 feet wide and 125 to 200 feet deep—and often irregularly shaped to fit the contours of the landscape. They came with regulations dictating a uniform building line (25 feet from the street) to order the appearance of the neighborhood. And according to the Atlanta Constitution, restrictions were imposed "to protect the property against the encroachment of undesirable citizens and undesirable structures placed on the lots."

As the suburb's name suggests, the intersection of Boulevard and Park formed the hub of the district. One way or another, all roads led to Boulevard, and all but one (Elmwood, which intersects Cresthill) to Park Drive. As a continuation of Ponce de Leon Place to the south, Park Drive not only linked the older neighborhoods to the new, but also connected the more established residential areas to Piedmont Park. A gracious thoroughfare, Park Drive took a long, slow curve toward Boulevard and the Forrest Avenue trolley line, where the intersection was marked with a pair of triangular traffic islands planted with flowering shrubs. These would have matched the ornamental triangle that still stands at the Piedmont Park end of the Park Drive bridge, and may even have been constructed from the same antique materials salvaged from the streets of antebellum Atlanta. The four vestigial islands now at Park and Monroe can hardly suggest the original, diamond-shaped design.

In keeping with its importance as the subdivision's primary artery, Park Drive was the first street prepared for home construction, and ten houses on Park were standing (and occupied) in 1919. Within two years, eighty-five percent of the lots in Boulevard Park had been sold. It was often said that "new homes sprung up overnight": on Cresthill, for instance, there were 11 occupied houses in 1921 and 42 in 1923. That pace was in keeping with the neighborhood as a whole, which by 1926 had been "improved," as the Constitution put it, "with 464 high type bungalows and two-story houses"—remarkably, a house on every lot.

The first occupants of those high type bungalows were, by the socio-economic standards of the day, solidly middle class. Among the early residents of Cresthill Avenue were bookkeepers, cashiers, bank tellers, school teachers, engineers, lawyers, and "traveling agents;" a landscape gardener, a theater manager, a barber, an auto mechanic, a watchmaker, a traveling salesman, a plumber, and a streetcar conductor; proprietors of a downtown drugstore and a bakery on Ponce; and employees of the city's railroads, service stations, insurance and utility companies, as well as such Atlanta institutions as Haverty's, Rich's, and Coca-

Cola. There were students and newlyweds, families with young children and retirees; and although several households had two incomes, many consisted of widows and unmarried women. Within certain boundaries, therefore—established, if unspoken, from the start—anyone could feel at home in Boulevard Park, which may account for its slogan: “The Place to Live.”

Sources: The Historical Atlanta Journal and Atlanta Constitution; Franklin M. Garrett, Atlanta and Environs: A Chronicle of Its People and Events, vol. 2 (1954); Timothy J. Crimmins, “Bungalow Suburbs: East and West,” Atlanta Historical Journal (Summer/Fall 1982); Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, North Boulevard Park Neighborhood File, Atlanta History Center.

Next issue: Orme Park

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 shares her thoughts on one of the neighborhood’s most popular eateries, Rosebud.

*It was Constantinople...now it's Istanbul.
It was Food 101...now it's Rosebud.*

Chef Ron Eyester bought out his partners and changed the name of the old Food 101 to Rosebud. Interestingly, the new restaurant wasn't named for the sled in the movie Citizen Kane, but for rocker Jerry Garcia's guitar. Only Grateful Dead fans would know that, I guess. But you don't have to be in the know to love the food and service at this popular spot. For example, as we sat down the waiter very unobtrusively changed the white napkins to black (as that was the color we were all wearing). How nice to avoid the white fuzz on your pants! During the meal, our server responded quickly to a request for a cup of half decaf/half regular coffee with a friendly and comfortable attitude. The little things can make a big difference to patrons.

On this occasion, we were lunching with friends from out of town. Chef Ron stopped by our table to chat; he's always a hit with his winning personality. I didn't order an entrée but instead had chicken liver toast. The livers were like a pate smeared on brochette – rich, but very light. I ordered a ‘simple’ salad consisting of local lettuces and tiny fried string potatoes with a red

wine vinaigrette dressing and tempura onion rings. The onion rings were served stacked over an empty beer can - a novel idea that keeps them from getting soggy. My husband had one of the specials – a crab cake melt – which was much like a tuna melt with crab instead. My friend also had the Morningside ‘Chowda’ – rich with potatoes and cream – and she loved it. Our other friend had the fried oyster sandwich on white bread with pickled red onion, smoked bacon and remoulade sauce and he was also pleased with his selection.

For dessert, I ordered the chocolate Crème Brûlée: a bit out of the ordinary and so rich, it's made for sharing. We also had cherry bread pudding. There is frequently just a little twist on old favorites here and they almost always work.

There's a room in the back for small private parties. My husband had a business meeting there recently and one of the participants raved so about the lamb shank that I'm planning to have that on a return trip. This is one of the more upscale restaurants in Va-Hi but it is relaxing and comfortable and the food is fabulous.

Colonel Mustard gives it 5+ hot dogs. You can't go wrong.

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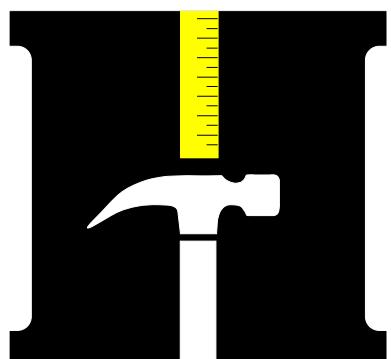
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