

THE Inman Park Advocator



Atlanta's Small Town Downtown News • Newsletter of the Inman Park Neighborhood Association
advocator@inmanpark.org • inmanpark.org • 245 North Highland Avenue NE • Suite 230-401 • Atlanta 30307

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President's Message Keeping the Faith, Moving the Needle

BY DENNIS MOBLEY • PRESIDENT@INMANPARK.ORG



To use a baseball analogy, when an Atlanta Brave hits a three-run homer, it is exciting and usually makes the evening news. But in reality it's a string of singles and alert base running that leads to the truly BIG innings!

And so it is in the life of a neighborhood like ours. We LOVE the splashy "home runs" as it were. Last month's big play

was the decision by the City's development arm, *InvestAtlanta*, to sell our beloved Trolley Barn to the neighbor-led group that has been operating it for years as a charming event venue open to the public at reasonable prices. It is the little hum-drum, tedious tasks that lead to big splashy victories like these.

To cobble the winning Trolley Barn proposal took several evening meetings, required multiple neighbors to put words on paper, took several draft versions, and then required that 30 pages of text be proofread to ensure that every "i" was dotted and every "t" was crossed.

Speaking of proofreading, a small group of neighbors have to plow through 20 pages of *Advocator* copy each month, with the same objective. You can see their names at the bottom of page three each month. Their names probably belong at the TOP!

These are but examples of the undramatic, sometimes boring day-to-day efforts that are the true lifeblood of a successful organization of any kind, whether it is a baseball team, a corporation, or even a neighborhood like ours.

We are all aware of the pressing need for crosswalks in Inman Park, and indeed at virtually every IPNA meeting, public officials are reminded of this. The fact of the matter, for better or worse, is that the eventual appearance of adequate crosswalks and, later, pedestrian crossing signals and the like, will be the result of little-known efforts such as those by neighbor **Janice Darling**, for example,

who painstakingly catalogs our intersections and enters them into a spreadsheet that gets uploaded to the City's new "311" system. Also deserving mention are the countless early-morning Transportation Committee meetings convened by neighbor **Danny Feig-Sandoval**.

Some months ago a thread on the infamous Yahoo group decried the lack of public trash receptacles in the neighborhood. Neighbor **Alison Gordon** responded by offering to develop a map denoting those few receptacles that exist and those locations where new ones are needed.

Another recent neighborhood "home run" was the announcement by Atlanta Public Schools that they will convert the old, vacant Howard School to our west into the Grady cluster's pre-eminent middle school! Several years ago, Inman Park neighbors including **Tamara Jones** and **Regina Brewer** among others, submitted an unsolicited "white paper" to APS proposing the idea in the first place. Complete with conceptual drawings and cost estimates, prepared during their copious free time (e.g., when their toddlers might finally lay down for a nap).

I am naming only a few of the dozens if not hundreds of names it takes to do the day-to-day often humdrum tasks that eventually lead to big successes that get on the front page.

One final example is that dozen or so neighbors of our Public Safety Committee have volunteered to be Street Captains. Happily, we've seen no TV news trucks covering heinous criminal acts lately. Could this be at least partially because these folks are becoming more involved?

I think "yes", but on any given day one might wonder if one is making a difference. Our continued success, I'm convinced, is a matter of faith that working together day-to-day will move the needle and, every now and then, may result in a big "win" that we read about or see on TV. It only happens if we each of us gets involved in one way or another. Happy Holidays, Neighbors! **M**

Academic Bowl

Our local Middle School won big!

Page 9

Trolley Barn

Find out the latest about our beloved Barn.

Page 10

Inman Diners

Want to join a fun dinner club?

Page 14

When The Spine Shifts...

- Arm Pain
- Asymmetry
- Bone Spurs
- Carpal Tunnel
- Decreased Motion
- Degenerated Joints
- Digestive Disorders
- Disc Herniation
- Dizziness (Vertigo)
- Fatigue
- Fibromyalgia
- Golfer's Elbow
- Headaches
- Hearing Issues
- Low Back Pain
- Mid Back Pain
- Migraine
- Headaches
- Muscle Spasm
- Muscle Tension
- Muscular Imbalance
- Neck Pain
- Numbness/Tingling
- Pinched Nerve
- Poor Posture
- Rotator Cuff Issues
- Shoulder Pain
- Sinus Conditions
- Spinal Decay
- Strength Issues
- Tendonitis

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The *Advocator* is the official newsletter of the Inman Park Neighborhood Association, Inc. (IPNA). In addition to the reports by the IPNA board of directors, officers, committee chairs, and the agenda for the current month's meeting, the *Advocator* publishes letters to the editor, press releases, articles deemed of interest to the community and paid advertising. Publishing of display advertisement, articles, letters, or notices does not constitute an endorsement by IPNA, its Board of Directors and/or the *Advocator* and the *Advocator* staff. The content and opinions of a published article or letter represent the opinions of the author and not the opinion of IPNA, its Board of Directors and/or the *Advocator* and the *Advocator* staff unless it is expressly stated. IPNA reserves the right to edit all items submitted for publication and to reject any material or ads submitted for publication. Material submitted anonymously, including press releases, will not be published. By submitting materials and photos you acknowledge you have the right to do so and understand the *Advocator* is published online as well in print.

Content is due on the 20th of the month prior to publication and should be submitted to advocator@inmanpark.org.

IPNA Business Meeting Minutes

BY BEVERLY MILLER, SECRETARY • SECRETARY@INMANPARK.ORG

President Dennis Mobley called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. A motion was made, seconded and approved to add to the agenda a land use amendment for 670 Dekalb Avenue.

Newcomers: Roy Biswajit

Minutes: A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the October Minutes.

Announcements: **Oreon Mann** announced the IP Book Club Book Swap on December 13 at 1:30 p.m. at 1046 Washita Avenue. Bring a book and a dish, both to be shared. **Marge Hays** announced that **Tim Keane**, new Atlanta Commissioner of Planning and Development, will be speaking Monday, November 23 at 6:30 p.m. at the Atlanta Preservation Center. **Steve Hays** announced that InvestAtlanta has cleared the way for the AESRC to purchase the Barn.

Police officers' reports: **Investigator Watkins** reported a few car break-ins. To suppress holiday crime, more officers are in areas with the greatest risk.

IPNA officers' reports: **Dennis Mobley, President**, asked for ratification of the board's appointment of **Rick Bizot**, replacing **Tonya Marlatt** as V.P. of Zoning. It was moved, seconded and carried. Dennis asked for authorization of the 2016 Festival and Tour of Homes. It was moved, seconded and carried.

Brian Roof, V.P. Historic Preservation, announced plans for renovating 193 Battery Place. Four immediate neighbors voted against supporting the project with two immediate neighbors abstained. The owners will rework the plans, hold another immediate neighbors' meeting and appear before IPNA.

Barbara Leach, Treasurer, reported significant contributions for IPSP in October from the Wine Stroll and filming.

Michaela Kendall, V.P. Planning, introduced **Stacey Patton**, Director of Real Estate and Asset Management for the Atlanta Beltline, who asked for support for an amendment to realign the Eastside Trail with the stairs at Dekalb Avenue.

Beltline, Inc. has secured a future tunnel easement in case Hulseley Yards closes. Beltline, Inc. hopes the changes offer a better opportunity for development. Developers will have to meet overlay setbacks and provide extensive clean-up and flood remediation. North American Properties has an option to develop and is considering a five-story mixed-use building. IPNA has considered changing its bylaws to make its western boundary the Atlanta Beltline. This new alignment would mean IPNA would give up control of half the 670 Dekalb parcel. It was moved, seconded and approved to ask the Bylaws Committee to maintain the current boundary, meaning part of the parcel would remain in Inman Park and part in the Old Fourth Ward. A suggestion was made to work with Old Fourth Ward to create a cooperative plan for zoning. Seven immediate neighbors previously voted unanimously in favor of the amendment. It was moved, seconded and approved 20-0 to support the immediate neighbors.

Rick Bizot, NPU-N: no report

Rick Bizot, V.P. Zoning, announced 1) application for Change of Agent for Liquor License for X5 Entertainment, LLC d/b/a Variety Playhouse. They are seeking: bringing in a food and beverage operator; licensing and expanding the second floor bar and adding distilled spirits. No immediate neighbors attended the meeting. It was moved, seconded, and voted 21-0 in favor of supporting the application. 2) Govinda's Cafe at 1150 Euclid Avenue is seeking a reduced parking special exception. Attorney Jackie Hilliard presented for Roy Biswajit, owner of the restaurant, to reduce the required parking spaces from 53 to 5. Ten immediate neighbors supported the application unanimously with conditions: 1) in the event Mr. Biswajit is no longer associated with the business, or the business changes to something other than a vegan restaurant, the special exception granted herein shall immediately expire; 2) total square footage of the business shall not exceed its existing square footage of 1,008 square feet; 3) other than the business website, the Applicant shall not advertise the business to potential

customers outside of Neighborhood Planning Unit N; 4) the business located at the property shall open no earlier than 11:00 a.m. and shall close no later than 10:00 p.m. It was proposed that IPNA offer a memorandum of understanding specifying the conditions. The owner agreed to sign. It was moved, seconded and approved 21-0 to support the immediate neighbors with the specified conditions.

Chris Coffee, V.P. Public Safety: no report

James McManus, V.P. Communications, reported 428 people in the neighborhood database. Emails will go out in about a week asking residents to update their profiles. **Sandy Hoke** pointed out that given problems with USPS, IPNA might think about additional ways to notify immediate neighbors in addition to sending postcards. **Jan Keith** asked if Evites to the holiday party went out to all members because she didn't receive one. **James MacManus** asked that anyone with missing Evites contact him and said next year's invitations will come through Memberclicks. Jan offered thanks to **Chris Coffee** for posting the Georgia Power number during this evening's outage.

Committee Reports: **Danny Feig-Sandoval**, Transportation Committee Chair, reported many frustrations involving new crosswalks at Elizabeth and Lake and said IPNA might consider a part-time lobbyist to deal with the city since there is so much work to be done. The Commissioner of Public Works, Richard Mendoza, has agreed to meet with the Transportation Committee.

Beverly Miller, Secretary: no report

Old Business: none

New Business: **Randy Bailey** asked which company is laying all the fiber in IP streets and was told that AT&T is working on Elizabeth Street currently while other contractors installing Google fiber recently damaged a gas line on Lake Avenue.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m. 

Other Happenings to Note

Horizon Theater: Santaland Diaries and Madeline's Christmas

Santaland Diaries: Now through Dec. 31; Madeline's Christmas: Now through Dec. 31 • Horizon Theatre • horizontheatre.com

Two theater experiences no one should miss! And if you've missed them in previous years, this is YOUR year! See page 9 for more about one of our neighbor's role in Madeline's Christmas.

Winter Wonderland at Fernbank Museum

Now through Jan. 10 • Fernbank Natural History Museum • fernbankmuseum.org

Exhibition features trees and other displays decorated by local cultural partners recognizing celebrations including Christmas, Hanukkah and the Festival of Lights. Other traditions and practices like origami, indigenous art and national symbols are also represented.

Bonfire on the Square

Thursday, December 17 • 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. • Downtown Decatur Square

Bring blankets, marshmallows for roasting and all your friends and family for a community bonfire on the square!

Folk for Merriment

Friday, Dec. 18 • 8:00 p.m. • Epworth UMC at Candler Park • aaffm.org

Two Atlanta-based folk music trios present a special holiday concert benefiting the Frank Hamilton Folk School. Redwine Jam will perform seasonal folk music, traditional and contemporary, reverential to raucus, from the British Isles, Ireland and North America. \$10 General Admission.

Four Shillings Short in a special Winter Solstice Concert

Saturday, Dec. 19 • 8:00 p.m. • Epworth UMC at Candler • aaffm.org

Traditional and original music from the Celtic lands, Medieval & Renaissance Europe, India and the Americas on more than 30 instruments. \$10 General Admission.

New Year's Eve at Dad's Garage in Their New Home!

Thursday, Dec. 31 • 7:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m. • Dad's Garage • dadsgarage.com

This will be the first show at Dad's Garage in our new location. You'll see a cavalcade of ridiculous improvised games and scenes starring a collection of the finest improvisers in our ensemble. You get a glass of champagne and a patented Dad's Garage toast. Buy tickets in advance.

Atlanta Fiction Contest Space Jam Party

Thursday, Jan. 7 • 7:00 p.m. • Highland Inn Ballroom • clatl.com

Enjoy free entry to Creative Loafing's annual Fiction Contest celebration! You will hear readings of the top three entries having to do with this year's theme, Space.

Monster (Truck) Jam

Saturday, Jan. 9 • 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. • Georgia Dome • monsterjam.com

Big trucks with big wheels make big noise and excitement at Monster Jam at the Georgia Dome. Tickets available in advance.

The King Center's 47th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Service

Monday, Jan. 18 • 10:00 a.m. • Ebenezer Baptist Church • www.prweb.com/releases/2014/11/prweb12348512.htm

Dr. Gwendolyn Boyd, first female president of Alabama State University, will be the keynote speaker at this year's Commemorative Services in Atlanta held in the Horizon Sanctuary. Early arrival is strongly encouraged. **M**

IPNA Calendar

Dec 16 **IPNA Meeting**
Trolley Barn
7:30 p.m.

Dec 17 **Festival Committee Meeting**
860 Euclid Avenue
7:30 p.m.

Jan 14 **Aging Well Meeting**
Inman Park UMC
9:30 a.m.

See page 12 for details.

Jan 14 **Inman Diners**
Sign-up deadline

See page 14 for details.

Jan 20 **IPNA Meeting**
Trolley Barn
7:30 p.m.

Jan 21 **Festival Committee Meeting**
860 Euclid Avenue
7:30 p.m.

Jan 26 **Book Club**
522 Morgan St. (Old Fourth Ward)
7:00 p.m.

See page 17 for 2016 schedule.

Jan 28 **NPU-N Meeting**
L5P Community Center
7:00 p.m.

Public Safety Update

BY CHRIS COFFEE, VP PUBLIC SAFETY • PUBLIC.SAFETY@INMANPARK.ORG

The Inner Workings of APD Patrol car and the 911 Center

This is an on-going piece continuing from last month's Public Safety Update! I will now share the inner workings of the APD Patrol car and of 911 Operations.

The typical patrol car has one officer to a car and a mobile data terminal (MDT). The officer can use the MDT to run tags, look up names, and view Fulton/Dekalb County Jail booking photos. The car also contains a radio and a shotgun or patrol rifle. Officers receive verbal 911 dispatch over the radios with further details on the call coming in on the computer.

Every 911 call goes into the Atlanta 911 center, a location pops up, and it is taken by a civilian call taker. From a cell phone, the caller's location is pinpointed to the nearest cell tower. If the caller is near the border of the city, that tower may be outside the APD jurisdiction and confuse the call taker. From a cell phone, it is best to call the 911 center directly at 404-658-6666. A location will not pop up for this direct line and you can give the call taker your exact location without any discussion.

After the 911 call taker receives all the information, they prioritize the call before it is sent to the appropriate zone dispatcher. Priority 1 is rarely used and saved for Officer down calls. Priority 2 is an active incident where someone needs immediate help. Lastly, a Priority 3 call is one where no one is in immediate danger, i.e. reporting a car break-in that happened overnight.

That is the overview of the APD patrol car and the 911 center. These men and women are doing their best to protect us but they still need our help, support, suggestions and accountability. Support the Inman Park Security Patrol, call 911 on suspicious activity and stay safe! **M**

Inman Park Security Patrol Activity – November 2015

Directed Patrols.....	770
Drop Ins	69
Susp. Person.....	9
Info. For Officer	9
Alarms.....	3
Injured Person	2
Member Contact.....	2
Fights.....	2
Theft from Vehicle	1
Fire Alarm	1
Theft.....	1



Martha Staid and Andrew K. Stein of Ashland Avenue welcomed their first son on Tuesday, November 10th, 2015. Eli Rawson Stein became the world's 7,380,000,000th person, weighing 6 pounds, 4 ounces.

Calling All Bold Souls to "Bear" the Cold on January 1

BY GEORGE GARY • GGMDATL@GMAIL.COM

16th Annual Inman Park Polar Bear Jump
Thursday, January 1, 2016
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Inman Park Pool (Edgewood Avenue & Delta Place)

It's the very first party of 2015, right here in Inman Park. It's a social event, a family outing, and a hangover cure all in one happy gathering! We still insist that it has cured the common cold. And we're done before New Year's Day parties and Bowl games!

Rain, sleet or snow... we jump! Just bring your swimsuit and a towel and join in on the icy plunge. Or just come watch and cheer on your friends and neighbors (over Irish coffee). More than 130 bold souls showed up last year and more than half jumped! Changing rooms will be open. Commemorative "Bear-wear" may be purchased on-site, but there is no cost to participate in the Polar Bear Jump. Coffee is compliments of JavaVino.



The festivities begin at 10 a.m. on January 1, with the jump scheduled for 11 a.m. **M**

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Join Us for a Traditional Christmas

We invite you to join us in our celebration of the Christmas season. Services will be held throughout the week and on both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Come and celebrate The Nativity of our Lord, Jesus with us and change your life. All are welcome.

Christmas Eve.

Evening Prayer at 5:30 pm

Rosary at 9:45 pm

Christmas Eve Mass at 10:30 pm

Christmas Day

Mass at 10:00 am

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www.sthildasacc.org

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Why choose us? Our team is an expert in Inman Park! From past successful sales, to actually living right in the heart of Inman Park, we have the resources to help both sellers and buyers. Our sale strategies through our staging, pricing, and marketing are proven. And our experience in the neighborhood allows us to help buyers get their home for the right price with the blend of new and historic features they want. We have buyers who want to live in Inman Park, and there are not enough homes on the market.

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IMS wins big!

BY BOYD BAKER • PARENT
BOYD@SUMOWRITER.COM

Inman Middle School won First Place in the Atlanta Public Schools Academic Bowl. Inman Middle School will compete in the Regional Championship on January 9, 2016.

The PAGE Academic Bowl for Middle Grades was originally conceived in 1983. In January 1985, the Academic Bowl became the first program supported by the PAGE Foundation, Inc. During the 2014-2015 school year approximately 1,400 students from 59 public school systems and 21 independent schools from across 59 Georgia counties participated.

Thank you to sponsor Jessica Hughes who teaches 8th Grade Science at Inman Middle School! **M**



Madeline's Christmas

BY BEVERLY GIBSON • BRIANA'S MOM • GIBS2939@BELLSOUTH.NET

Inman parker Briana Gibson-Gary, a 4th grader who lives in The Peach House from the *Advocator's* Knock Knock spotlight last month, has been cast as Anne in the musical *Madeline's Christmas* that runs in December at Horizon Theatre. Horizon is located right down the street at 1083 Austin Avenue. This is the first show for which Briana auditioned (and she got a part...YEA), so this is her theatrical debut!

This is the 8th year that Horizon Theatre Company has produced this spectacular family show, always proving to be a sell-out hit! *Madeline's Christmas* is a Family Series production in collaboration with the Atlanta Children's Theatre. *Madeline's Christmas* is a great story from renowned author Ludwig Bemelmans of 12 girls that are experiencing a magical holiday. The musical is told through the eyes of the young girls who have fallen ill to the flu, all except for the littlest: Madeline. On Christmas Eve, Madeline receives a gift from an unexpected visitor that leads to an enchanting adventure and life lessons of compassion and family values for audiences of all ages. Briana is thrilled to be participating. It has been an amazing experience for Briana to be a part of such a talented group of professionals committed to family entertainment.



Briana would be delighted to see neighborly Inman Park faces in the audience, so she invites everyone to come see the show. Performances run from December 5th to December 31st and Briana is in the following shows:

Dec 5 @ 1:00p	Dec 6 @ 3:30p
Dec 7 @ 6:30p	Dec 9 @ 10:30a
Dec 12 @ 10:30a	Dec 13 @ 1:00p & 3:30p
Dec 18 @ 1:00p	Dec 19 @ 1:00p & 3:30p
Dec 21 @ 1:00p & 3:30p	Dec 23 @ 1:00p & 3:30p
Dec 26 @ 3:30p	Dec 27 @ 1:00p
Dec 29 @ 1:00p & 3:30p	Dec 31 @ 1:00p & 3:30p

Whether you choose to come with your family, friends or make it a church group outing, *Madeline's Christmas* is a holiday treat for both children and adults, so come join us! **M**



Festival Focus


Festival Update

BY PAT WESTRICK • INMAN PARK FESTIVAL COMMITTEE
PATWESTRICK@GMAIL.COM

While everyone has been busy with Thanksgiving stuffing and Christmas preparation, the 2016 Festival Committee's collective thoughts have been rushing right on past all the late-Fall and early-Winter celebrations. With nary a thought about ice and snow, their focus has beamed straight on through to the dogwood and azalea season and what our little corner of the universe likes to think of as the most wonderful time of the year: the last weekend in April, The Inman Park Festival and Tour of Homes!

We look forward to that weekend all year long. There are parties on our porches, tasty beer, funnel cakes, an amazingly wacky parade, lots of cool art, and it is right at our doorstep. Our friends from the suburbs suddenly get very friendly. The BeltLine and MARTA become like superhighways into our neighborhood. Children who have grown up in Inman Park and moved away come home with their spouses and kids for Festival. It's our homecoming.

So here's a bit of advice: find your 2016 calendar right now and write "Inman Park Festival" in great big letters across April 29, 30 and May 1 so you won't accidentally schedule anything else that weekend. (Oh, and tell your sister she needs to pick a different time to get married - we have priorities around here!)

So if you promise to save the weekend, we'll promise to keep you up-to-date on how the planning is coming along. Watch this spot for more news in the months to come! 

Save the Dates!
APRIL 29, 30 AND MAY 1, 2016!



Good News at the Trolley Barn

BY STEVE HAYS • PRESIDENT, ATLANTA AND EDGEWOOD STREET RAILWAY COMPANY • ATLBARN@BELLSOUTH.NET

On behalf of the Atlanta & Edgewood Street Railway Company (AESRC) d/b/a The Trolley Barn, I am pleased to share with you good news about the Barn. On November 19, 2015 the Board of Invest Atlanta voted unanimously to sell The Trolley Barn to AESRC which will continue to operate the property as an event facility.

Our City Council representative, Kwanza Hall, released the following statement today: "I am thrilled that longtime Inman Park residents and advocates for the Trolley Barn will be able to continue their stewardship of this extraordinary historic structure and contemporary event space as its new owners. The community has invested in the restoration and preservation of the Trolley Barn for decades. This is a great day for Inman Park and the City of Atlanta."

AESRC's sincere thanks go to all who made donations toward the purchase of The Trolley Barn. 

Tree Planting Day

BY JIM ABBOT • COMMITTEE CHAIR, TREE WATCH • ABBOT.JIM@GMAIL.COM


Do You ♥ Trees?

Mark your calendars! Inman Park Tree Watch and Trees Atlanta will be planting trees in our neighborhood on Valentine's Day weekend, **Saturday, February 13, 9:00 a.m. to noon.**

Have a request or suggestion for a place or places to plant? Email me at abbot.jim@gmail.com.

Tree Watch has already identified about 100 potential locations for new trees in Inman Park. Most of these sites are in the eastern half of the neighborhood. Streets include but are not limited to Degress, Alta, Austin, Sinclair and Colquitt.

Surely you're thinking, "I do love trees! I want to do MY part to make certain that Inman Park is as leafy green in the future as it is now. I know that trees mitigate the urban heat island effect, reduce storm water runoff and electricity use. They store carbon and unconsciously influence drivers, so that they tend to slow down. They provide habitat for animals and even lower our stress levels. Trees beautify our neighborhood! I wonder how I can help?"

Well, that's easy! You could volunteer to help us plant, mulch and water our new trees on Saturday, February 13. And if you're a homeowner, you could vow to be receptive when someone from Tree Watch contacts you about new trees for your yard and/or sidewalk planting strip. Expect to hear from us soon! 



Join the Inman Park Security Patrol

Staffed by off-duty police officers, the IPSP supplements the city's police patrols in Inman Park. The patrol is managed by the IPNA, and memberships and fundraising activities are key to its fiscal viability. Visit inmanpark.org today to join, renew your membership or make a donation.

JOIN TODAY

Next Aging Well Event in January

By NANCY MORRISON • AGING WELL COORDINATOR, LIFELONG INMAN PARK • NMORRISON1214@GMAIL.COM

The next event in the Aging Well Series is “End of life decisions, palliative care and spirituality.” Please join us on January 14th at 9:30 a.m. at Inman Park United Methodist Church. All are welcome. **M**

Christmas Eve and Christmas Services Listing in Inman Park

Inman Park United Methodist Church

1015 Edgewood Ave NE

Thursday, December 24:

3 p.m. Do-it-Yourself Nativity

Come to the church at 3 p.m. for this family-friendly Nativity! Be sure to dress up as your favorite person or animal from the nativity story.

6 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Worship

Please join us at 6 p.m. for our traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight worship. Nursery will be provided.

Please call 404-522-9322 or email contact@inmanparkumc.org if you have any questions.

Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

502 Seminole Ave NE

Thursday, December 24:

5 p.m. Worship Service

Friday, December 25:

Midnight Worship Service

11 am Worship Service

Please call 404-525-2504 or e-mail sjmcc@sjmcc.org if you have any questions.

St. Hilda of Whitby

414 N. Highland Ave NE

Thursday, December 24:

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer

9:45 p.m. The Holy Rosary

10:30 p.m. Mass – Vigil of the Nativity

Friday, December 25:

10 a.m. Mass – Nativity of our Lord

Please call 678-906-7405 or email frhall@sthildasacc.org if you have any questions. **M**

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1930's Automotive Garage Being Transformed into Modern Meditation Center

By MAYRA CUERVAS • MAYRA.CUEVAS@GMAIL.COM • VOLUNTEER, KADAMPA MEDITATION CENTER GEORGIA • 404-451-1224

A historic Inman Park automotive garage built in 1938 that once housed AAA Electric Motor Service will soon be transformed into a modern meditation center.

Kadampa Meditation Center Georgia has purchased 741 Edgewood Avenue and has begun renovation plans with the help of two award-winning teams, architectural firm Gamble and Gamble Creative and construction firm Nicholson Contracting, LLC.

“Our strategy is the thoughtful adaptive reuse of an existing tool shop, via an understanding of how natural light creates different atmospheres within the space and how recycled and sustainable non-toxic materials can be conceived of in a way that creates comfort, economy and delight, while respecting the spiritual community and the neighborhood,” said Michael Gamble, Principal of Gamble and Gamble Creative. Design plans include a meditation space for 80 people, a gift shop and bookstore for the sale of meditation-related items.




Future location of the Meditation Center at 741 Edgewood Ave

The new Center will offer daily meditation classes, day courses, study programs and retreats for all levels of practice. “We offer many scientific methods to solve our modern human problems and find peace of mind in a challenging world. This reveals a boundless source of happiness from within. In this way we can make our daily lives more fulfilling and meaningful, improving all our relationships,” says American Buddhist Monk and Resident Teacher, Gen Kelsang Mondrub.

Kadampa Meditation Center Georgia is run entirely by volunteers and established in Atlanta since 1998. The new Center is expected to open in Fall 2016. Classes are currently scheduled around Metro Atlanta. For days and locations visit MeditationInGeorgia.org. 

Midge and John Sweet Recognized at the Atlanta City Council

By DISTRICT 2 ATLANTA • 404-330-6038

At the November 16, 2015 meeting of the Atlanta City Council, Kwanza and his colleagues declared today “Midge and John Sweet Day” in the City of Atlanta. More than 50 former elected officials, nonprofit and neighborhood leaders, and friends joined the Sweets and current city council members for the ceremony. The ceremony included the presentation of a proclamation to these two longtime Inman Park neighborhood leaders and public servants whose careers have included elected office, nonprofit board service, and grassroots neighborhood advocacy. Midge Sweet was a member of the Atlanta Board of Education from 1991-1997. John Sweet was a member of the Atlanta City Council from 1978-1981. 

Hospitality Committee


Our **Inman Park Hospitality Committee** celebrates births, welcomes new neighbors, and shares condolences in the *Advocator* every month. If you have a life event to share, please e-mail Patsy, our Hospitality Committee Chair, at abbyl@mindspring.com. You may include photos with your submission and we will include those as space allows.

Inman Diners

BY KARIN MEBIUS • KARINMEBIUS@GMAIL.COM

If you want to have a great time getting to know neighbors, join the Inman Diners Club! Participants are divided into smaller groups of 12 to 14 who will meet for five dinners throughout the year. It's not about exquisite cooking or large dining rooms, just having fun!

Friday, January 15, 2016: Sign-Up Deadline for Inman Diners 2016. Please e-mail karinmebius@gmail.com for sign-up and any questions!

Saturday, January 30, 2016: Inman Diners Kick-Off Party 7:30pm at 860 Euclid Avenue 




Transportation Committee Update

BY DANNY FEIG-SANDOVAL • CHAIR, TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE • DANNY@SMALLCARPENTERS.COM

After much persistence, Janice Darling scheduled a meeting with Nursef Kedir (City of Atlanta Chief Transportation Engineer), Janice Darling, Tamara Jones, and me, to discuss what the city was planning to do with regard to the crosswalks at the intersection of Elizabeth Street and Lake/Austin Avenue. The city's short-term plan, based on Mr. Kedir's engineering judgement, is to require anyone walking North on Elizabeth Street wanting to cross over Lake Avenue to cross over Elizabeth Street going east, then cross Lake Avenue to the dry cleaners, and then cross Elizabeth Street again to get back to Inman Quarter! In other words, this requires one to increase their chances three times of getting hit by a car as opposed to crossing at a slight diagonal following the path of the sidewalk. We made this alternate suggestion to him at the meeting claiming that by crossing at the same angle of the sidewalk would place you at the same distance as the access ramp straight across from the dry cleaner. He said he might consider this, but felt it wasn't safe. He did agree with our request to remove a few parking spaces that are actually in the Elizabeth/Lake intersection. We continue to have frustrations with this particular City Engineer who is in charge of transportation concerns and plans to address these sidewalk issues with others from the city. The long-term plan

at this intersection is to have a scramble light installed which will stop traffic in all directions allowing pedestrians to cross in any direction. This is part of our city bond referendum request list, all of which is still pending final approval by City Council.

It is unfortunate that we live in a city where we allow developments like Inman Quarter and Krog Street Market to be built while the city makes absolutely no changes to the affected intersections around these developments. The developers pay a large sum of money in impact fees, none of which are dedicated to the area impacted by the development. The developers of Inman Quarter and Krog Street Market, JPX and Paces, have stated a willingness to work with the city on intersection improvements, but they are unwilling to make the improvements without the city's approval. Evidently, City Council is discussing a new plan to make impact fee dollars available to the areas impacted by developments. We will have to wait to see if actually get any of the bond money for our City Council approved KLENH transportation study, funded by Councilman Kwanza Hall's office. We have so many concerns to be addressed that perhaps it is time we spend some money on a neighborhood advocate who can work the proper channels of City Hall to get our projects implemented. 

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Swimming Pools

Mirage Pools - 770-886-1304

Tree Services

AKA Tree Removal - 404-496-5405

Under Deck Systems

Undercover Systems - 678-608-4384

NPU-N Update

BY RICK BIZOT • NPU-N REPRESENTATIVE FOR IPNA
NPU.N@INMANPARK.ORG

Notes from the November 23, 2015 meeting:

PRESENTATIONS:

Parks Department: Tom Cullen reported that some of the repairs of the tennis courts at Candler Park are on hold due to cold weather.

Department of Public Works: Dennis Muma reported that crosswalks had been installed at the Lake/Elizabeth intersection. When asked why only 3 of the 4 crosswalks had been installed, he responded that he would look into it.

Mayor's Office of Special Events: Ben Klehr, NPU-N's representative to the City Council's working group on special events, reported that they have had two meetings so far: one to review how MOSE works and one where Doug Boss (Parks Department) presented the special events approval process for City parks.

LICENSE REVIEW BOARD:

Brad S. Syna (Variety Playhouse, Convention Center, 1099 Euclid Ave NE, Inman Park & L5P); Change of Ownership request for liquor license (existing location) and new license for balcony bar. Applicant received support from IPNA and L5PBA. NPU-N Board voted 7-0 (with 1 abstaining) to support.

Stephen A. Harvey (Cafe Highlands, Restaurant, 640-644 N. Highland Ave, Poncey Highland); Additional facility request for liquor license (existing location). Applicant received support from PHNA. NPU-N Board voted unanimously to support.

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT:

299 Moreland Ave NE (V-15-222, Candler Park/L5P); seeking a special exception to reduce the number of required off-street parking spaces from 54 spaces to 32 spaces to allow the conversion of retail to restaurant. Applicant received support from CPNO and L5PBA. NPU-N Board voted 7-0 (with 1 abstaining) to support.

835 Kirkwood Ave SE (V-15-266, Reynoldstown); seeking a variance from zoning regulations to reduce the required front yard setback from 30' to 23.1' and the required West side yard setback from 7' to 3' and increase the allowed lot coverage from 55% to 61% for a second story addition and rear deck addition to a single family residence. Motion to reconsider last month's vote passed unanimously. Applicant received support from RCIL. NPU-N Board voted 6-0 (with 2 abstaining) to support.

69 Selman St SE (V-15-275, Reynoldstown); seeking a variance from zoning regulations to reduce the required North side yard setback from 7' to 3.5' to construct an addition to the rear of a single family residence. Applicant received support from RCIL. NPU-N Board voted unanimously to support.

NPU-N Members

The citizenry advisory council of this neighborhood planning unit includes representation from the following areas:

Cabbagetown
cabbagetown.com

Candler Park
candlerpark.org

Druid Hills
druidhills.org

Inman Park
inmanpark.org

Lake Claire
lakeclaire.org

Poncey-Highland
ponceyhighland.com

Reynoldstown
reynoldstown.net

L5P Community Center
l5pccc.org

L5P Business Assn
little5points.com

549 Oakdale Rd NE (V-15-320, Candler Park); seeking a variance from the zoning regulations to reduce the north side yard setback from the required 7' to 3.28' to allow for the construction of a house addition. CPNO voted to support the application. NPU-N Board voted unanimously to support the application per site plan filed with City on 9/23/15.

1037 Manigault St SE (V-15-333, Reynoldstown); seeking a variance from the zoning regulations to 1) reduce the required east side yard setback from 7' to 4' and 2) reduce the required west yard setback from 7' to 6' to make an addition to an existing single-family home. RCIL voted to support the application. NPU-N Board voted unanimously to support.

479 Candler St (V-15-340, Candler Park); seeking a variance from the zoning regulations to reduce the required front yard setback from 35' to 18.42'. Applicant not present; deferred at the start of the meeting.

535 Hardendorf Ave NE (V-15-353, Lake Claire); seeking a variance from the zoning regulations to reduce the front yard setback from 35' to 19.5' to construct a porch on an existing single-family dwelling. LCN voted to support the application. NPU-N Board voted unanimously to support per site plan filed with City on 10/21/15.

1146 Euclid Ave NE (V-15-355, Inman Park and L5P); seeking a special exception from the zoning ordinance to reduce the onsite parking requirement from 53 spaces to 5 spaces to allow the conversion of a retail space into a restaurant. Applicant received conditional support from IPNA; did not receive support from L5PBA. NPU-N Board voted 7-1 to support the application, with the following conditions:

1. Special Exception No. V-15-355 is granted to Mr. Biswajit for the purpose of operating a vegan restaurant on the Subject Property. In the event Mr. Biswajit is no longer associated with the business, or if the business changes to something other than a vegan restaurant, the special exception granted herein shall immediately expire.

continued on next page

NPU-N Update

continued

2. The total square footage of the subject business shall not exceed its existing square footage of 1,008 square feet.
3. The business located at the subject property shall open no earlier than 11:00 AM and shall close no later than 10:00 PM.
4. No alcohol sales shall be permitted.

CD/HR COMMITTEE LAND USE AMENDMENT:

670 Dekalb Ave NE (CDP-15-021, Inman Park); to amend the Land Use element of the 2011 Atlanta Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) so as to designate property located at 670 DeKalb Avenue from Mixed Use (MU) to Transportation Communication Utilities (TCU). [Effectively relocating the Atlanta Beltline transit corridor from the former Southern Railway Line to Gunby Street as it passes through this parcel]. Applicant received support at IPNA. NPU-N Board voted unanimously to support.

NEW BUSINESS:

NPU-N 2016 Officer Nominations: Chris Jenko, Chair; Catherine Woodling, Vice Chair; Ed Lindahl, Secretary. NPU-N Board voted unanimously to support.

NPU-N Executive Committee meets monthly. The meetings begin at 7:00 pm in the Little Five Points Center for Arts & Community, 1083 Austin Ave NE. All are welcome to attend. Next Meeting: Thursday, December 17, 2015. M

Our Sympathy & Condolences

Sympathy to **Pat Arrington**, Edgewood, on the death of her husband

Sympathy to **John Murrill**, Alta, on the death of his mother

Book Club Calendar

BY JAN KEITH • BOOK CLUB COORDINATOR • JANETBKEITH@GMAIL.COM

The Inman Park Book Club meets at 7:00 p.m. on the last Tuesday of each month. Book Club is hosted each month by a different member, and members are each asked to bring a dish to share. M

Inman Park Book Club 2016

Date	Host and Book
January 26	Melanie Guthrie—522 Morgan Street (Old Fourth Ward), <i>Warmth of Other Suns</i> by Isabel Wilkerson
February 23	Jan Keith, 889 Edgewood Avenue, <i>Everything I Never Told You</i> by Celeste Ng
March 29	Kathy & Kevin Dowling, 245 N. Highland Avenue, Unit 314, <i>Let's Pretend this Never Happened</i> by Jenny Lawson
April	No Book—Volunteer for Festival
May 31	Oreon Mann, 877 Edgewood Avenue, <i>The Orphan Train</i> by Christina Baker Kline
June 28	Jean Shank, 68 B Waddell Street, <i>Euphoria</i> by Lily King
July 26	Perveen Malarkar, 1021 Euclid Avenue, <i>Americanah</i> by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
August 30	Sandy Dunlap, 933 Faith Avenue (Glenwood Park), <i>Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy: Four Women Undercover in the Civil War</i> by Karen Abbott
September 27	Shirley Brown, 870 Inman Village Parkway, Unit 512, <i>Circling the Sun</i> by Paula McLain
October 25	Cathie Jamison, 805 B Edgewood Avenue, <i>The Nightingale</i> by Kristen Hannah
November	No Book—Happy Thanksgiving!
December 11	Patty McGuigan Robinson, 814 Virgil St., Holiday Party

Agenda

December 16, 2015

IPNA Meeting • 7:30 p.m. • Babysitting Available
The Trolley Barn • 963 Edgewood Ave. NE

- I. Welcome & Introduction of Newcomers
- II. Minutes of Last Meeting
- III. Announcements
- IV. Police Officers' Reports
- V. Elected Officials' Reports
- VI. IPNA Officers' Reports
 - A. President
 - B. Historic Preservation
 - C. Treasurer
 - D. Planning
 1. NPU-N Report
 - E. Zoning
 - F. Public Safety
 - G. Communications
 - H. Secretary
- VII. Committee Reports
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. New Business
- X. Adjourn



Good to Know

IPNA Membership: Open to everyone, including non-residents. Membership year is May 1-April 30 though you are welcomed & encouraged to join or renew at anytime. First year is free. Membership has its rewards: allows you to vote (see bylaws online for details) and is your invitation to the Holiday Party & other events. Pay online or send a check to the address on the front page. Online applications are available.

IPNA meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at The Trolley Barn.

IPSP membership is based upon a rolling annual membership term. Your renewal date is one year from your membership date and again every year after that.

Websites

InmanPark.org
InmanParkFestival.org
Facebook.com/InmanPark

Report All Crimes: Call 911

IP Security Patrol: 404-414-7802
L5P Mini-Precinct: 404-658-6782

L5P Business Association

www.little5points.com

Want to be a part of next month's *Advocator*?

If you have news to share with your neighbors in the January issue of the *Advocator*, please send your submissions to advocator@inmanpark.org on or before December 20.

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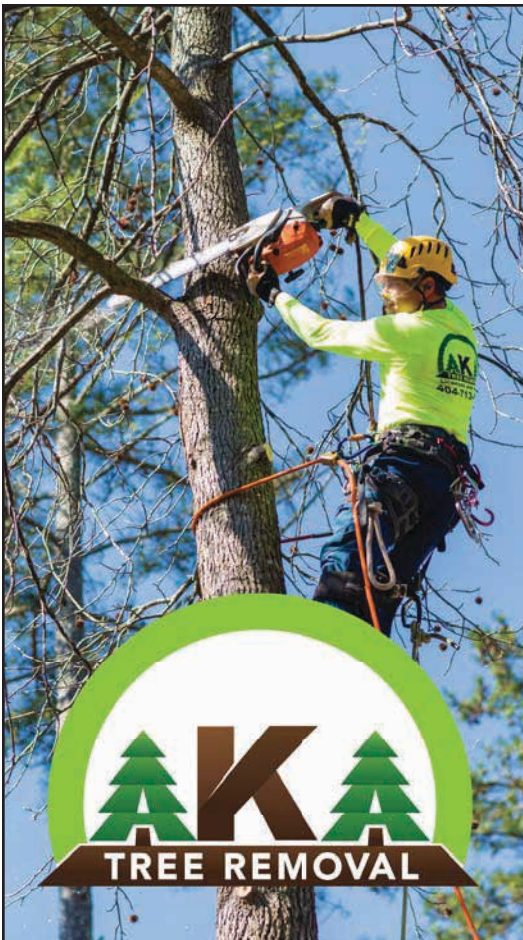
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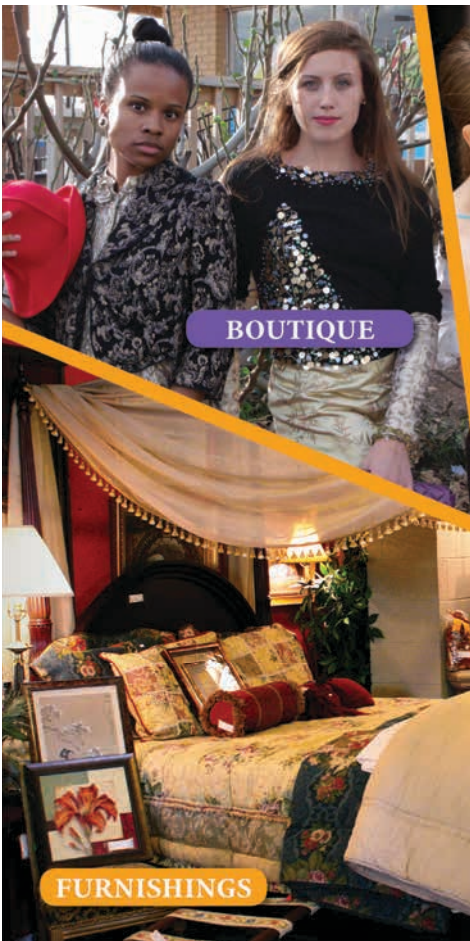
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