



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Inside this issue:

Neighborhood Meeting 1

Ice Cream Social 1

Where Can You Park? 2

Welcome Wagon 2

Kids Club 2

Park News 3

Sheridan Road Traffic Update ... 3

Zoning News 4

Membership Information 4

Neighborhood Meeting

Thursday, July 12, 2001

7:00 p.m. – Social

7:30 p.m. – Meeting

Westminster Presbyterian Church
1438 Sheridan Road

LaVista Park Annual Ice Cream Social

It is summertime and time for the annual ice cream social. Last year we had 6 separate locations. Unfortunately in the middle of a drought it happened to rain on our social.

Hopefully that won't happen this year. We need several volunteers to host the locations. If you have done it in the past and want to do it again, that would be wonderful. If you are new, it is a great way to meet your neighbors. This year we are trying something a little different. Instead of having it in the middle of the week we are having it on a Sunday afternoon later in the summer after school has started back. The dates will be Sunday, August 26 from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. The rain date will be Sunday, September 2. Please help us make this event a success by volunteering to either host a location, or to help serve ice cream. Call Jane Jaskevich at 404.320.9822 if you are interested.

If you volunteer to host, you will need:

- A table to serve the ice cream from
- Spoons or ice cream scoop for serving
- An ice chest
- Something cold to drink (water is fine)
- Shade
- Trash can
- Chairs (optional)

LaVista Park Civic Association supplies the following:

- Four gallons of ice cream per house
- Ice cream cones
- Ice
- Paper cups
- Paper napkins
- Plastic spoons
- An ice cream social sign for your yard
- Balloons for your mailbox

Let's get out and socialize with our neighbors and extend the summertime fun. Volunteer and make it happen!

Lavista Park Civic Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 95671
Atlanta, GA 30347
www.lavistapark.org

Newsletter Published Quarterly

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Welcome Wagon

Kathryn Perkins

welcomewagon@lavistapark.org

Welcome to our new neighbors!!

In April we welcomed Kyle Perry (1181 Kingsley Circle), Brent Boyd and Rob Garrard (1227 Sheridan Road) and Walter Goldsby (1291 Mayfair Drive). In May, Ray Pierce and Tommy Lively (1427 Sheridan Walk) and our new neighbors at 1222 Kingsley Circle moved in. If you know of anyone moving into our neighborhood, please call me, Kathryn J. Perkins at 404.728.8972 or email me at the address above, so we can officially welcome them to LaVista Park.

Attention All LaVista Park Kids Club Families

Please join us for an ice cream social!

Eat an early dinner, then come pig out on ice cream with us!

When: July 29

Time: 6:30-7:30pm

Place: 1160 Citadel Drive

Questions: Call **Colleen Blau** at 404.325.5244 or e-mail to kidsclub@lavistapark.org



Where Can You Park?

I am often asked questions pertaining to what is allowed in single-family residential (R) neighborhoods according to DeKalb County's zoning regulations.

In DeKalb County all residences are required to provide off-street parking spaces. These spaces must be paved with asphalt or concrete, and be located within a driveway, carport or garage. No more than 35% of the total area between the street right-of-way line and the front of the house shall be paved. No parking is allowed in the front yard, but circular driveways are allowed, subject to the 35% coverage.

Parking of a business vehicle within R districts other than ordinary passenger vehicles shall be within a garage or carport, or within a side or rear yard. The parking of any business vehicle other than a passenger automobile, passenger van, or passenger truck shall not be permitted in any residential district. RV's must be parked on the side or rear yard. No residential parking area shall be used for the sale, repair, dismantling, servicing, or long-term storage of any vehicle or equipment.

Generally speaking, permanent parking must be off the street and on a paved surface. Commercial vehicles (truck, earth-moving equipment, trailers, etc.) are not allowed to be parked anywhere in R districts.

If there is a problem concerning parking on your street, call the county and report it. They will not be able to enforce code violations if they do not know about them. The number to call for zoning violations is 404.371.2118. The DeKalb code enforcement manager is Ernie Blow at 404.371.2776.

Bonnie Jackson
DeKalb County Zoning Board of Appeals

Editor's Note: The above article is a reprint of the article that was previously printed in *The Neighborhood News* in the Spring 2000 issue. It was decided that we should rerun the article because of the following incident. On the evening of June 11 around 9:30 PM, the unoccupied house at the corner of Vista Valley Drive and Lavista Road burned until the early morning hours. Approximately ten emergency vehicles including police cars, fire trucks, hazardous chemical response units, rescue vehicles, ambulances, Georgia Power trucks, and Atlanta Gas trucks arrived. Because the house was on the corner, the vehicles were able to park on Lavista Road, closing that section for several hours. Emergency vehicles would have had great difficulty making their way further into the dead-end street because of cars, trucks and SUVs parked on both sides of Vista Valley Drive. This code was established to help save your life in an emergency like the one we just experienced. We have also been informed of several residences where cars are being parked on the front lawns. Please read the code and note that violators are subject to ticketing and towing.

Park News

Donna Newman, parks@lavistapark.org

The AT&T volunteers are finished for the spring, but there are a few opportunities left! You may have noticed the soil amendments alongside the road. The county has (theoretically) tilled that into the Georgia clay. It is (or soon will be) ready for planting. I have coreopsis in my backyard I'm willing to donate. Others of you may have other things that would fit well as perennials in partial or full shade. I'd like to line up donors and planters to plant these places. About 3-4 volunteers could help me move the coreopsis in about half an hour. Others of you may have additional suggestions for these spaces.

Also, the county is supposed to prune the trees along the road, so that strip gets some sunlight from the really low hanging branches. They are supposed to spray the poison ivy throughout the park.

The extra mulch on the Beech Haven Road side has been spread, but until the next set of volunteer labor from AT&T comes, the mulch on the Brookforest Drive side will not get done. Rather than leave it six months, I'm offering it up for anyone who wants free mulch. Please help yourself.

I'm looking for suggestions for what to plant/do next. The nursery might be able to get us some bulbs if we know what we want and where we want to put them. Let me hear from you!

Sheridan Road Traffic Update

Barry Summers, traffic@lavistapark.org / Traffic & Pedestrian Safety Committee

The residential character of Sheridan Road has always been affected by the volume and control of cut-through motorists. The key to controlling this traffic is to make the street less desirable as a short cut. During the next couple of years changes around our neighborhood will affect this attractiveness one way or another.

When the Head Start School on the Atlanta end of Sheridan opens later this year, we can expect to have some increase in traffic congestion during the morning and afternoon drop-off and pick-up times. How much is anyone's guess. It is likely that enrollment will gradually increase so it may be sometime next year before we feel the full impact. Neither the city nor the state has any plans to alter the street or intersection with Cheshire Bridge, but the school will probably have a patrolman to direct traffic.

Planned intersection and road improvements at Briarcliff /LaVista, LaVista /Cheshire Bridge and Briarcliff /Sheridan may improve traffic flow enough to make those routes more attractive to motorists and take some pressure off us. However, the design of the Briarcliff/Sheridan intersection, which is having construction delayed because of land acquisition problems, may encourage drivers to use Sheridan. (Maybe the school congestion will discourage them!)

About two months ago some LaVista Park volunteers participated in a traffic slow-down along Sheridan and LaVista Roads where we acted as "pace cars" and held our speed to the posted limits. This was very effective for the three hours we were there. What about the rest of the time? Our request for additional speed limit signs has been approved by DeKalb County and they should be installed during the next month. But let's face reality. Most drivers are going to travel 35-40 mph because they feel it is comfortable and safe, and they pay little attention to signs. And yes, we will always have those excessive speeders and DUI's who aren't going to pay attention to anything. The only truly effective speed control is to have frequent and visible law enforcement. This is not going to happen. The Department of Public Safety simply does not have the personnel.

There is another way to help make Sheridan less desirable as a cut-through. It will take discipline and dedication. Why wait for "slow-downs"? If each of us is willing to strictly observe the 25 mph limit, (be honest, most of us don't) then cut-through motorists will quickly learn that they will have to brake for LaVista Park residents. Do I see a bumper sticker here?

Thinking about buying or selling?

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Zoning News

Gene Schmidt, zoning@lavistapark.org

The DeKalb County Commissioners voted to extend the Residential Zoning Moratorium until 31 January 2002. This only affects residentially zoned areas such as LaVista Park, forcing any new development to follow existing zoning requirements.

The commissioners also decided not to follow the ruling of the Planning Commission to deny the proposed text amendment regarding Code Section 27-768, Places of Worship. Instead, they once again voted to defer full cycle. It will again come before the Planning Commission on 10 July and the Board of Commissioners on 24 July. Both hearings are at 7:00 PM in the Maloof Center Auditorium at 1300 Commerce Drive in Decatur.



LAVISTA PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. Box 95671 • Atlanta, GA 30347

LVPCA Executive Committee

- Acting President Steve Smith 404.634.7156
- Treasurer Bonnie Jackson 404.634.3232
- Secretary Henry Batten 404.679.5699
- VP Section I Sherri Hopper 404.325.5315
- VP Section II Joan Hamilton 404.633.6151
- VP Section III Kathryn Jaskevich-Perkins 404.728.8972
- VP Section IV Donna Stern Snider 404.315.1148
- Zoning Coordinator Gene Schmidt 404.633.4818
- Neighborhood Watch Coordinator .. Jane Jaskevich 404.320.9822
- Immediate Past President Shad Funkhouser 404.325.9192



LAVISTA PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 95671 • Atlanta, GA 30347

- I want to renew my membership in or join the Lavista Park Civic Association at **\$15 per year.**
- I want to renew my subscription to the the Lavista Park Patrol at **\$165 per year, \$115 when joining from September - December, \$65 from January-April** (includes \$15 for civic association dues.) Afterwards, renewal fees of \$165 are due annually during June.

Enclosed is my check made payable to **Lavista Park Civic Association.**

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: Day _____ Evening: _____

E-mail: _____

- the park social events membership committee community issues
- welcome wagon children/education/schools