

The Messenger

News for Candler Park

Your Intown Hometown

December 2005

MEETINGS*EVENTS

CPNO MEETING DECEMBER 12 @7 PM

The Candler Park Neighborhood Organization is for all CPNO members! We meet the third MONDAY of each month (EXCEPT this month when we'll meet the 2nd Monday of the month) at Epworth United Methodist Church at 1561 McLendon Avenue. NEW ROOM – Historical Room, 2nd Floor. Please use McLendon Avenue entrance.

DECEMBER MEETING AGENDA:

- Welcoming Remarks
- Reading and Vote on Minutes
- Officer, Committee Chair and Rep Reports
- Vote on resolution re: Traffic Calming Recommendations
- Vote on resolution re: @2,500 Seed Money for FallFest
- Vote on resolution re: Hardship Fund
- Vote on resolution re: Security Patrol Committee
- Vote on resolution re: Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Committee
- Zoning Variance Votes -- See back page
- New Business
- Announcements

TO SUBMIT AN AGENDA ITEM for the January meeting, contact any CPNO officer (*see list on page 2*). Deadline is December 26, 2005.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday, December 5 * 7 PM

CPNO Board of Directors Meeting
New Location --Home of Bryan Sells & Deneta Howland - 1291 McLendon-- Open To All

Saturday, December 10 * 8am - 12

CPNO/FOCP Candler Park Workday
Candler Park (meet at the playground)

Monday, December 12 * 7 PM

CPNO Regular Meeting
Epworth United Methodist Church
1561 McLendon

Thursday, December 15 * 7 PM

NPU-N Meeting
L5P Community Center
Corner of Euclid & Austin Ave.

Consensus? Traffic Calming Saga, Part II

At the November meeting for the CPNO, a resolution was passed to support the consensus results of the PEDs facilitated Charrette on safe routes to schools covering Clifton Road, Euclid Avenue, and North Avenue and Candler Park Drive. At the Charrette held at Mary Lin Elementary, I was asked to be point person for the Clifton Road group. Unfortunately unable to attend the November meeting, I now write concerning the language summarizing the consensus results as to Clifton Road.

The pending resolution now states: "CLIFTON ROAD Consensus Recommendations from Residents: Painted crosswalks along Clifton at Muriel Avenue, Harriett Avenue, and Marlbrook Drive. In- street crosswalk signs at each of these intersections. (Further discussion is needed to reach an overall consensus.)" However, the results reached by the Clifton Road team at the charrette were quite different, emphasizing pedestrian medians and stop signs, with crosswalk signs as helpful additions. Toward the Resolution's objective of further discussion, and to more accurately articulate the Clifton team's suggestions, I'll provide some background on the results of the charrette.

The biggest problem on Clifton is high traffic speeds. In particular, everyone east of Clifton walking to Mary Lin or Paideia has to cross in the face of dangerous traffic twice daily. Bicyclists encounter the same danger, and notwithstanding painted crosswalks and most recently double-yellow lines, the problem has not diminished. PEDs has documented the speeds, and the study only managed to clock two cars going the speed limit or

under. Clifton's width necessarily complicates the danger for pedestrians, and, because it is considered to be a main traffic artery by the City, some of the obvious solutions are either unavailable or require further study for City approval.

As a result, the Clifton team at the charrette spent most of their time discussing how pedestrian medians would look, and whether they should be augmented by bulb-outs. We discussed various shapes for the bulb-outs, including pass-throughs for bicycle lanes. Ultimately, the median plan stripped the bulb-outs from the proposal (out of deference to bicyclists' interests) and went with the pedestrian medians, adding painted crosswalks at Harriet, Marlbrook and Muriel with in-street signs.

Three folks in the Clifton Road group wanted stop signs to be the emphasis, and nobody from the median side (with one possible exception) was inclined to disagree with them, the idea being that stop signs might work with the median proposal. The understanding from our conversation with Mr. Lorn Whittaker (the City traffic engineer that was kind enough to donate his time to the charrette) was that any possibility of melding the two approaches (that is, including stop signs with the median plan) would be dependent on a later traffic survey establishing the viability of stop signs at the three intersections. For that reason, the Clifton team presented the stop sign proposal in addition to the widely-accepted median version.

-- *Continued, Pg. 2 Saga*

Join CPNO!

The membership committee is looking forward to a fun and exciting year for CPNO and all the residents of Candler Park. You can help by becoming a member! Joining CPNO and paying annual dues is a simple way to contribute to our thriving community. Monies from dues can be used to create welcome packets for new neighbors and members (including a membership directory), help fund recruitment initiatives to get more residents involved, and provide seed money for ongoing neighborhood events and some new exciting social and annual events currently being planned.

We want our membership to reflect our diverse neighborhood. The only way to ensure that everyone is represented in CPNO is for **you** to join. CPNO has a place for everyone and for all levels of involvement. Not everyone has the time or interest to serve as a member of the exec committee or to chair Fall Fest. But now there is a way that everyone can significantly contribute to the neighborhood – by joining CPNO.

Membership is open to all Candler Park residents and business owners who are at least 18 years of age.

Annual dues are \$15 per adult over 18 years, \$5 for adults over 65 years and are due by the end of the January regular CPNO meeting each year. Join soon! An additional \$10 initiation fee is waived for everyone who joins before the February 2006 CPNO meeting. Membership applications can be found below in this issue of the Messenger and online at the Candler Park website -- www.candlerpark.org. Contact the membership secretary with any questions – Amy Alford (404-610-5220 or amy.alford@emory.edu).

-- Amy Alford

CPNO Membership Application

Name (as you wish it to appear): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

ZIP: _____

Home phone: _____

Mobile phone: _____

Email: _____

Minor Children (names and ages) _____

Please indicate what, if any, of the above information you do NOT want published in the neighborhood directory: _____

* If business representative, please list the name, address, and phone number of the designated representative above.

Annual Dues

Annual dues are \$15 for each adult 18 years or older, \$5 for each adult age 65 or older. Make checks payable to Candler Park Neighborhood Organization (CPNO).

Please indicate:

New Enrollment (Include a one-time \$10 initiation fee per adult, if after February 20, 2006)
 Membership Renewal
 Business Representative Name of business: _____
Address of business: _____

Membership Involvement and Interests

Please check any below that you may be interested in helping with.

New neighbor welcome Newsletter/Messenger Historic Preservation Candler Park/Environment
 5K/Road Races Land Use/Zoning Tour of Homes Flyer Distribution
 Fall Fest Parent/child groups Social events
Other specify _____

Please mail this application with enclosed dues to : CPNO Membership Secretary / P.O. Box 5418 / Atlanta, GA 31107


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Park Pride Awards Grant

I am pleased to announce that Park Pride, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving Atlanta's parks and greenspace, has awarded a \$500 matching grant to the CPNO-sponsored "McLendon Avenue Beautification Project." The project, which was the brainchild of several neighborhood residents, will revitalize the twenty-one bulbout gardens along McLendon Avenue between Moreland Avenue and Clifton Road.

Project organizers intend to use the grant to pay for pine straw, plants, and other materials. Landscape architect Keith Thieme of Urban Green has agreed to donate his design services, and project participants will donate the labor required to clean the bulbouts and implement Thieme's designs.

The project is now in the planning stages. Anyone wishing to be a part of the planning, design or implementation stages should contact me as soon as possible at or (404) 525-6151.

The project also needs additional funding for materials, and the CPNO has agreed to accept donations on the project's behalf. In addition, the CPNO will match individual contributions to the project up to a total of \$500.

Please send your nondeductible contributions to: Bulboult Garden Fund c/o CPNO, P.O. Box 5418, Atlanta, GA 31107.

-- Bryan Sells

Bookclub Calendar

The Candler Park Book Club meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30pm. Light dessert will be served. Please join us for a lively discussion of the following books.

- **DECEMBER 8th**
Holidays On Ice By David Sedaris
- **JANUARY 12th**
The Alienist By Caleb Carr
- **FEBRUARY 9th**
Madame Bovary
By Gustave Flaubert
- **MARCH 9th**
Money By Martin Amis
- **APRIL 13th**
A Prayer For Owen Meany
By John Irving
- **MAY 11th**
The Tender Bar
By J. R. Moehringer

Please contact Nicole Forde (luckysevens@comcast.net) for RSVP and meeting location

Season's Greetings



May you and your family have a peaceful and happy holiday season

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IMPORTANT NOTE!

The December Exec board and general CPNO meeting will be on the 1st and 2nd Mondays of the month instead of the normal 2nd and 3rd of the month -- 12/5,12.



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City Biking

Atlanta is a tough city for cyclists. We've even been recognized for it by Bicycling Magazine. We have the dubious honor of being one of the worst cities in the country for biking. (Atlanta and Houston vie for the title every year.) Traffic is heavy and bike accommodations few. However, that doesn't mean you can't ride your bike here. You just have to know where to ride and how to negotiate the traffic. Here are **three tips**.

First, if you remember nothing else, remember this: **Be visible. Be predictable.**

Being visible is self-explanatory. Dress so drivers can see you. Yellow is the best color to wear. According to the *Scientific Minute* on WABE, it's the color most visible to the eye. Ever notice how yellow lenses enhance your vision in low light conditions? Don't wear gray. That's the color of the street. You'll blend into the surroundings like James Bond or Emma Peel when they're dressed for night work. And, of course, at night, the more lights and reflective gear you have on, the better.

Being predictable simply means that you follow the rules of the road. Bicycles are classified as vehicles. Thus, like any other vehicle, they are required to follow the same rules of operation. We have only one set of rules for the road, so when everyone abides by them, everyone knows what everyone else is going to do. As a cyclist, you ride on the right hand side of the road; obey the signs and

signals; and signal your intentions to other drivers just as if you were in a car.

Second, be aware of hazards that are specific to bicycles.

Watch for cars making left turns in front of you and look for cars pulling out from side streets and driveways. Although this is an obvious danger to be aware of, it's one for which cyclists need to be particularly vigilant. Drivers often misjudge the speed at which bicycles travel and they do not perceive bicycles as a danger to them. Motorists will often pull out in front of a bicycle where they would never consider such a move if the oncoming traffic were another car or truck.

Watch for cars that pass you and then make a right turn in front of you. You prevent this situation by moving to the center of the lane before you get to the intersection.

Watch for sewer grates that have the bars turned parallel to the curb.

Be aware that railroad tracks and steel cover plates are extremely slippery, especially when wet.

Avoid road debris and watch for sand in intersections that may make you slip and fall while turning.

Be aware that drivers cannot see the holes, debris, and other road hazards that you may have to negotiate. Signal drivers as soon as you can when you have to make an unanticipated move in such situations.

Third, pick good routes. You can find lots of neighborhood streets or more lightly traveled thoroughfares to use when you look for them. A good route is not only safer because there is less traffic, but also because you learn where the hazards are. However, sometimes there are no good routes from point A to point B. Sooner or later you end up having to travel on a road that's just too dangerous to ride.

I'm often asked if it is legal to ride on the sidewalk. The answer is, technically, no. However, in Atlanta, it is sometimes the best option for safety. Use your common sense on this one. Obviously, you don't ride on a sidewalk being heavily used by pedestrians, like Peachtree Street. However, you might hop up on the sidewalk on Piedmont north of Monroe. Know that the sidewalk holds its own hazards though. Drivers are not expecting traffic nor looking for it on the sidewalk. Remember tenant number one: Be visible. Be predictable. Assume that cars entering or exiting from driveways or side streets don't see you.

Naturally, riding with cars is unnerving. It's a healthy fear. But if you'll start with these three guidelines: Be visible, be predictable; know the hazards specific to bicycles; and pick good routes, you'll find riding in Atlanta is quite doable. Plus, you can brag about how hard-core you are for riding in one of the worst cities in the country for biking.

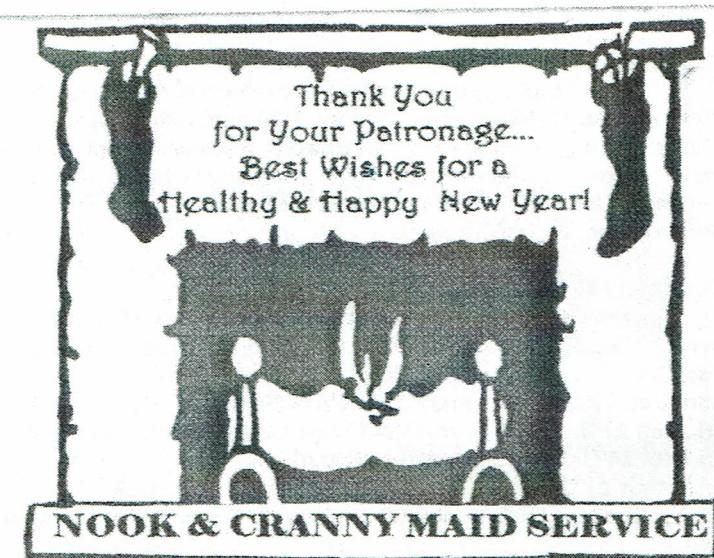
-- *Mike Goodman*

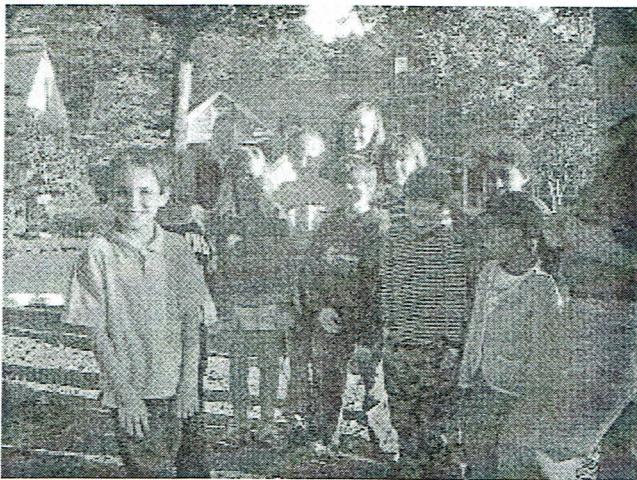
This article is reprinted with permission from Mike Goodman's e-newsletter, *Bike Stuff*.

Paw Sitters

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Butterfly Garden For Freedom Park!

Twenty-seven students from Ellen Powell's Challenge Classes at Mary Lin School helped plant an equal number of native Georgia plants at the Freedom Park Bird and Butterfly Garden on October 18. Plants included trumpet vine, hibiscus cranberry and native azalea. The garden is a joint project of the Atlanta Audubon Society and the DeKalb Master Gardener Association and has been endorsed by the Freedom Park Conservancy. It is located just down the hill from Mary Lin, at the corner of North Ave. and Candler Park Drive.

Pictured in the attached photo are (l-r) Max Dunsenbury, Riley Erickson (back to camera), Emma Pettersen, Skylar Swift, Zachary Carter, Sarah Chemli, Alex Jones, Annelise Hooper, Adrienne Say, and Phil Edwards, Master Gardener. In rear are Master Gardeners Harriette Cline and Loretta Parker and teacher Ellen Powell. Not pictured, Cree West. Other students who participated included J.D. Capelouto, John Contreras, Emily Ferris, Samuel Heller, Annie Mason, Avanti Lemons, Blake Pollock, Marie Godiers, Julia Houghton, Emily Johnston, Honora Johnston, Rachel Klika, Quinn Mulholland, Issac Rehig, Ryan Switzer and Samuel Tatum.

Thanks,
Carol Vanderschaaf
Atlanta Audubon Master Birder

Epworth Church Calendar

Everyone is invited to join us for the Epworth UMC at Candler Park Christmas events. We hope you will stop by for the many community wide events being offered during this holy season!

Sun. Dec 11 11:00 Christmas Music "Early American Chorale"
12:15 Open House for Renovations in the Education Wing
Week of Dec. 12-16, Monday - Friday 7:30 p.m. Clifton Sanctuary Men and Guest Choirs sing nightly on the steps of Epworth followed by Hot chocolate and snacks in the Parlor *Epworth Choir will be singing on Friday night the 16th!
December 24, 5:00 pm, Christmas Eve Service
Sunday, Dec. 25 11:00 worship

Other dates to look forward to:

Interested in getting in on the ground floor for a newly developing Contemporary Service? Epworth is making plans now, and welcomes folks interested to contact Rev. Lisa Dempsey at 404-525-4746.

Sun. Dec 4 12:15 Contemporary Service planning
Fri., Jan 27 8:00-11:00p.m. First Coffee House featuring live Christian music

Fri Feb. 24 Coffee House 8:00-11:00p.m

Fri March 31 Coffee House 8:00-11:00p.m

Easter Sunday, April 16 at 9:00 am Launch Contemporary Service in the Fellowship Hall

Great things are happening at Epworth UMC at Candler Park!

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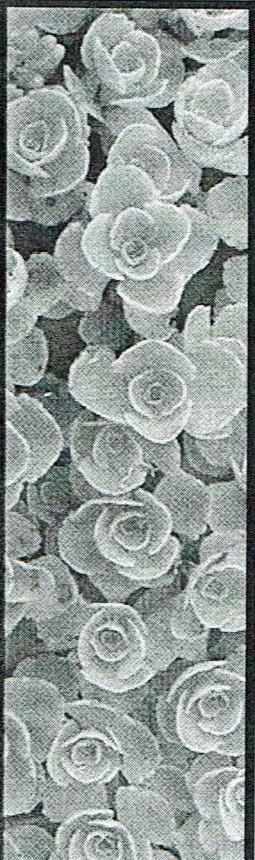
Shea and Carol Group
Re/Max Metro Atlanta
404 522 4561
www.shealandcarol.com

Deliverers Needed

Messenger deliverers are needed for Clifton from McLendon to Dekalb Ave, Dekalb Ave from Clifton to Marta, Dekalb Ave from Oakdale to Ferguson and several Zone deliverer opportunities. If you live in an apartment and would rather this be dropped off at your mailbox or door give me a call. Call 404-524-0634 or email to cpmessenger@candlerpark.org.

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Why is Mary Lin Such A Great School?

There has to be a reason that, in past years, parents have lined up (sometimes camping out for 2-3 days beforehand) to make sure their child can get into Mary Lin Elementary. Actually, there are a number of reasons. There's the fact that the students have Spanish class every day and music and art every week. The 5th kids learn a musical instrument. Physical education and penmanship are not things of the past. And then there's the fact that Lin is plugged into community.

Community involvement.

The annual Operation Care Basket drive will provide Thanksgiving dinners to families in need and, in a twist, this year's drive will include the family pets. Parents and kids will also continue working to turn Katrina's disaster into a blessing. Even before the adults decided on a response, the student council sold pickles to raise over \$700 for the people displaced by the hurricane. PTA-sponsored, long-term "sister school" project is being developed to help a Gulf community school, already in need, to rebound. Through the national PTA's database, "school adoptions" are being arranged through the state departments of education. As the PTA Web site says, "There is plenty to do, and will be for at least two years." Through this effort, we'll be able to keep you updated on the personal side of Gulf coast recovery.

Parent involvement.

Lin also thrives, in part, because of parent involvement. *Extracurricular activities* are not only supported, but run, by parents. Once again this year, Lin's lively minds completely filled the early (7:30 a.m.) meetings of the Math Superstars and the Rockin' Readers. Parents are the ones who find *extra cash for the school*. The PTA provided \$6,400 to buy magnetic white boards for every classroom and another

\$2,500 for teacher grants. And, blessed by the creative minds and willing hands of still more parents, money was raised for the 5th grade's December ocean biology field trip to Tybee Island. The kids stepped up to sell pickles, lemonade and \$1 "sweet notes" as well as the perennial favorite, washed cars to raise hundreds more. That money will fund student scholarships to meet teachers' expenses and make sure that every 5th grader can go.

The faculty.

The 2005 school year has already been exciting for Lin faculty, beginning with the birth of Principal Ginger Vail's first child, Eleanor Charleston Vail, born on September 18. Dr. Vail will be on maternity leave until the winter holidays. In the meantime, the school is ably directed by Dr. Linda Thompson, a former principal herself until she retired. PE teacher Ms. Stephanie Bennett Walker, in addition to working toward her PhD, was named Mary Lin teacher of the year. Just one reason she's tops is her innovative ways of getting the kids to enjoy exercise, such as forming tumbling, jump rope, and hoola hoop teams.

Educational field trips.

Who can forget the fun of field trips? Even though rising gas prices are leading many schools to cancel these, Lin has been able to hold, with trips so far to the Weinmann rock museum, Cagle's dairy farm, the planetarium, Puppetry Arts, and the botanical gardens. Budget willing, future trips will be to see the Nutcracker, to Fernbank, the Margaret Mitchell house, Georgia Power and the Carter Center. November also is science month. The student's scientific projects will be on display on the 15th and the best will be entered into the Atlanta Public School-wide competition.

-- Marie J. Murray

Friends of the Park

Friends of Candler Park, a new community organization whose purpose is to improve the park, has been collecting surveys about park usage for the past several months. We want to thank those of you who have already turned in your replies. Thus far we have collected about 30 surveys. If you still have a completed survey, feel free to turn it in to the Candler Park Market or mail it in: PO Box 5285, Atlanta, GA 31107. The survey is also now available online: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=972651549937>.

We encourage everyone to voice their opinions about the park. Results will be compiled and published at a later date. If you have any questions, please email me at denetahowland@earthlink.net or call 404-525-6151. Thank you.

-- Deneta Howland

Candler Park Workday

This is the big one, folks! The next Candler Park Workday, sponsored by the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization and the Friends of Candler Park, is scheduled for Saturday, December 10, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This month we'll be planting two dozen trees in the park as part of a major CPNO-endorsed effort to improve the landscaping at the park entrance and pool.

We need lots of volunteers. The young and old are welcome, and gloves are recommended. The project organizer, Donna Taylor, asks volunteers to "RSVP" in advance so she can distribute the trees accordingly. Please contact her if you plan to help in person at the event.

You can also contribute to the project by sponsoring a tree. The project is still looking for neighbors to sponsor one tulip poplar (\$120), 4 eastern red buds (\$125 each), and 14 crepe myrtles (\$80 each). You can send your nondeductible contributions to: Tree Fund c/o CPNO, P.O. Box 5418, Atlanta, GA 31107.

-- Brian Sells

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The Resolution

Resolved: The Candler Park Neighborhood Organization accepts the consensus recommendations (below) of the PEDS-Facilitated Charrette on safe routes to school. The CPNO encourages residents of Candler Park and Lake Claire interested in Clifton Road to continue discussions in order to reach consensus on overall recommendations for Clifton Road.

CONSENSUS RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PEDS FACILITATED CHARRETTE EUCLID AVENUE

Consensus Recommendations from Residents:

- Sidewalks on both sides of Euclid from North to Moreland.
- Sidewalk (extended into street) on one side of Euclid between North and Oakdale where currently there is no sidewalk or shoulder.
- Raised crosswalk midblock between North and Benning (or striped crosswalk with in-street crosswalk sign)
- Raised cross walk around Euclid Terrace to facilitate crossing and reduce speed on the street
- Striped crosswalks at intersections of Euclid Terrace, Candler St., Sterling and Benning with in-street crosswalk signs in the crosswalks crossing Euclid.
- Curb cuts on all intersections above.
- Better "no parking" signage on Euclid where it narrows southwest of North and continue signage up to Moreland.

NORTH AVE AND CANDLER PARK DRIVE

Consensus Recommendations from Residents:

- Stop signs at North and Candler Park Drive. This is currently treated as a 90 degree curve but is really an intersection and should be treated as such. Discussion at first called for a raised crosswalk there but cost and drainage issues made it seem unlikely to happen. Speed humps being planned for Candler Park Drive do not call for a speed hump at this location. Stop signs on either side of the crosswalk would give the PATH right of way and make it safer for all concerned.
- Blinking school zone sign on North just before Candler Park Drive. This would warn motorists before they enter the intersection with Candler Park Drive. The current blinking light is placed too far into the intersection and does little to encourage drivers to slow.
- Raised crosswalk in front of Mary Lin on Candler Park Drive. This would improve visibility problems at this

CRIME REPORT

There are no Crime Report records this month.

LAND USE ISSUES

There are no land use issues scheduled to be heard and voted on at the December CPNO meeting. Land use issues to be voted on at the January meeting must be submitted prior to December 26.

NPU-N ISSUES

NPU-N meetings are held at 7PM, on the 4th() Thursday of every month at L5Pts Community Center(Crn Euclid and Austin Ave.) Candler Park residents are welcome to attend. Contact Amy Stout at 404-371-0505 regarding any regularly scheduled voting or agenda matters. *NOTE-- The December NPU-N meeting will be the 3rd Thursday of the month -- Dec. 15th.*

There is no report for NPU-N matters this month.

Resolution -- cont.

important crosswalk as well as address the speeding problem. No parking signs to protect the 20 ft buffer on either side of the crosswalk to help visibility as well.

- Raised crosswalk or marked crosswalk with in-street crosswalk sign to connect Candler Park's (the park) path to the west side of Candler Park Drive which has a sidewalk.

CLIFTON ROAD

Consensus Recommendations from Residents:

- Painted crosswalks along Clifton at Muriel Avenue, Harriett Avenue, and Marlbrook Drive. In-street crosswalk signs at each of these intersections. (Further discussion is needed to reach an overall consensus.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR PERSONALIZED RELIABLE CLEANING SERVICE – with 15 years experience, call Pat Felty, 404-822-8043. From a neighborhood near and with neighborhood references.

DRUID HILLS BEAUTY SHOP: 1101 Ponce de Leon Ave. Just Below N. Highland. Men & Women. Wednesday - Saturday At Present - 404-872-0164.

NOOK & CRANNY MAID SERVICE – 404-688-3766. "Let us do your dirty work!" Est. 1990. Dependable, personalized service, neighborhood references. Licensed, Bonded, Insured.

Attention Christmas Carolers

Please join us at 6pm on December 21st at the Epworth Fellowship Hall (where we have the CPNO meetings) for our CPNO Annual Christmas Carol Walk. Santa will be there and everyone is welcome!!! We will meet at 6:00 for hot chocolate and to rehearse. Depending on how well the rehearsals goes, we will then hit the streets to bring holiday cheer to the neighborhood!

Last year it was a big hit with the children. We will be doing all of the easy Christmas Carols we all know well. Can't sing? Well nether can we. Would rather stay home and say "Humbug!"? Fine! E mail us and we may come carol you. Depending on the interest level we may finish up with a Pizza Party!!!!

For any questions or comments:
688mark@bellsouth.net

Yours truly,
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