



The CANDLER PARK MESSENGER



February 1993

Vol. 5, No. 2

MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CANDLER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

From the President

Recently, Candler Park made the news again, as the location for a well-publicized crime. The incident at the Zen center was, indeed, unfortunate; but it should be recognized that this crime could have occurred anywhere, and is not indicative of a crime problem in our neighborhood.

What is significant is the armed robbery of a neighbor of mine during prime evening hours at the bus stop in front of his own home performed by teenage girls with guns. Or last summer's Honda break-ins. Or the person who does yard work for you and then comes back and removes your television and stereo when you aren't home.

We, as a neighborhood, are no more crime-ridden than any other intown neighborhood around here; in fact, our crime statistics tend to be lower than many of the surrounding neighborhoods in our zone. But, if we are to have the quality of life we all want and deserve, we need to increase our feeling of safety and security in our neighborhood, both inside and outside our homes.

It is with this goal in mind that we will dedicate our February meeting to planning, together, a program to increase our safety and well being in Candler Park. We will have members of the police and representatives from security companies here, but they will be here to plan with us, not merely to answer questions or lecture to us. This will be a workshop type of meeting; our planning will require us to commit ourselves to a long-term program to increase security.

I don't want to pick up my morning paper and read another article about unsafe conditions in this neighborhood, or to hear another person tell me they would never live here because it is unsafe. We all know our neighborhood isn't dangerous; let's work

February

Tuesday, 2/9 - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, 2/16 - 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, 2/16 - 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, 2/18 - 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, 2/18 - 7:30 p.m.

CPNO Monthly Mtg.
Messenger Deadline
CPNO Exec. Com. Mtg.
NPU-N Monthly Mtg.
Pkwy. Planning Mtg.

March

Tuesday, 3/9 - 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, 3/9 - 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, 3/16 - 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, 3/16 - 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, 3/18 - 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, 3/18 - 7:30 p.m.

Potluck Dinner
CPNO Monthly Mtg.
CPNO Exec. Com. Mtg.
Messenger Deadline
NPU-N Monthly Mtg.
Pkwy. Planning Mtg.

Neighborhood Organization Meeting February 9th

The Candler Park Neighborhood Organization meets on the second Tuesday of the month at Epworth United Methodist Church, 1561 McLendon Avenue.

This month's agenda:

7:00 - 7:30: Refreshments
7:30 - 9:00: Regular business
-Special exemption permit (setback variance) for 286 Elmira Place.
-Treasurer's Report.
-Candler Park Garden Club Report
-Workshop: How do we increase safety in Candler Park? Development of plan.
9:00: Adjourn
Child care provided.

and plan together a way we can make it even more secure. Join us, February 9.

Maya Hahn, CPNO President

The Candler Park Messenger is a publication of the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization. C.P.N.O. 1992 officers are: President-Maya Hahn; 1st Vice President-Chip Miller, V.P. of Finance-Anita Teel-Villar, V.P. of Communications-Michelle Jordan, V.P. of Public Safety-Chukk Garard, V.P. of Neighborhood Facilities-Bob Stanton, V.P. for Special Projects-Gary George; V.P. of Zoning-Michael Bishop.

Candler Park Neighborhood Organization P.O. Box 5418 Atlanta, GA 30307 Tel. 522-0011

CANDLER PARK MESSENGER

F.Y.I....

-Planning for the re-use of the Presidential Parkway lands is continuing with meetings the third Thursday of each month at the Epworth United Methodist Church.

-Our March meeting will be preceded by a potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m., so be thinking about what you can bring. It doesn't have to be anything elaborate - the real purpose of these occasions is to get together and meet some new people in the neighborhood.

-Our thanks go to Christine Stanton for providing refreshments for the January CPNO meeting!

The "AIR Man" Cometh...

Like the fresh air of autumn, Lon Waitman arrived at Inman Middle School. He came to teach drama as part of the Arts in Education program sponsored by the Georgia Council for the Arts, with additional funding by the Inman PTA. Inman students called him "AIR Man", partly because he was the "artist in residence" for nine weeks, but mostly because he was special.

After his first three weeks at Inman, several core groups of sixth graders were to be selected to work intensely with him. At the end of six weeks those students would be presenting a performance for their classmates, teachers and parents. Core students would be pulled from their other subjects and would be

expected to keep up with the work they missed. To be considered, students would have to complete a two-page application form and be screened by their teachers. One hundred seventy children applied.

Sixty students were selected. Then came weeks of work in preparation for the theatrical production. With a whistle dangling from his neck, Mr. Waitman was at the ready to instill respect for the learning process and for fellow actors. "He's working us hard -- he's more strict than I thought he would be," one girl said with no complaints.

Having fun was important also. "Focus, stay in character, and have fun with it!" Mr. Waitman reminded them. "Play it big." And they did. In their final production of several different theater pieces, they played it big -- as German soldiers, a tomcat, an accountant, cowfolk, teachers, a sailor, a machine, storytellers, astronauts, and a squawking bird. They had fun being a cat splattered by a UPS truck, a purple-headed boy stuck to his seat by chewing gum, a girl without front teeth, and a trio of strange men -- the Marx Brothers and Coneheads combined. They performed a funny piece about an overbearing uncle, and a touching piece about a lonely new boy at school.

The performance was a success. Audience response was enthusiastic and appreciative. One teacher told me later that she saw

students perform on stage who had not spoken in class all quarter.

"Truth, we communicate truth in the theater," AIR Man had told them. And it was truth he had communicated directly to his students. "Lon helped build their self-confidence," said Sandra Pardue, an assistant principal at Inman. "He made each student feel important and unique."

Karen Weyandt



Spring is just around the corner, and you know what that means...time to start thinking about the 4th annual CPNO Yard and Bake Sale!

The yard sale is one of our largest fundraisers all year, so plan now to start stockpiling those unwanted household items as contributions.

We're also looking for volunteers to accept and price donations, as well as to work the sale itself. Sign up to help at the February CPNO meeting, and watch the *Messenger* for more information on dates and times for dropping off donations.



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The Bottom Line...

How often do you consider your personal safety as you head out for a jog, walk or bike ride? Below are some precautions to share with your neighbors:

Don't tune out your environment. Wearing a Walkman type radio/tape player cuts off warning signs of trouble, such as a car slowing down, or bushes rustling.

Be conscious of sounds all around you. When you hear someone running up from behind, shift direction slightly. This can throw an assailant off guard and allow you to escape.

Don't exercise alone at night. The single exerciser is the target of choice. If you can't find a partner, run with a large dog.

Know your route. Know where you can get help.

Vary your route or routine. Most assaults are premeditated, and depend on a habitual pattern -- going by the same deserted spot at the same time every day. If possible, change direction of your route frequently.

If you are a biker, carry repair equipment and know how to use it.

The right expression helps. Assailants look for those who look vulnerable, lost, confused or distracted. Wear a confident, purposeful expression, even if you don't feel that way.

Proper posture counts. Beware of vulnerable positions and

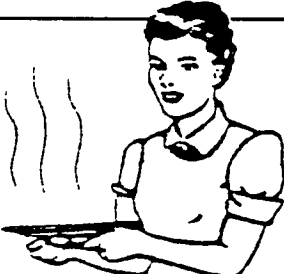
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actions -- sagging shoulders tentative steps, and other signs of weakness.

Yell if you're threatened. The most effective way to stop an attacker is to yell commands such as "NO" or "STOP" to your assailant, or ask a passerby to call 911.


Lie to a potential assailant. Don't be afraid to pretend to know a complete stranger who may be walking or jogging by.

Act crazy. This is not the time to be polite. Do something disgusting, such as faking the need to vomit, and you may get left alone.



Get Cookin'!

Don't forget that we're having a potluck dinner before the March CPNO meeting! Dinner is served at 6:30, and the meeting begins at 7:30. We hope to see you there!



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February

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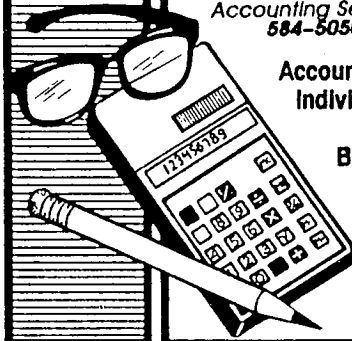
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Melissa Rayfield, D.V.M.

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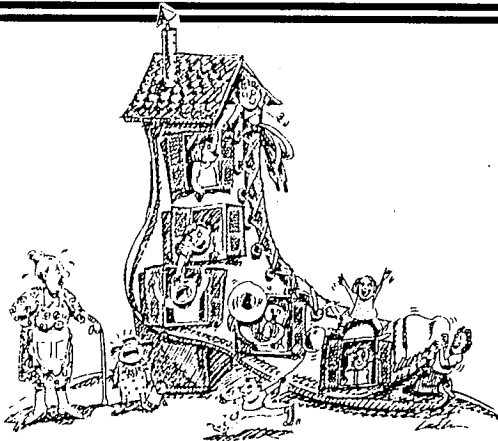
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