

The Messenger

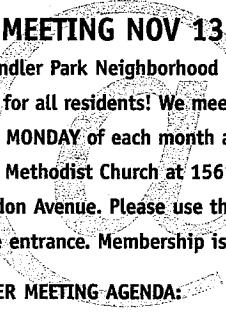
News for Candler Park

Our intown hometown

November 2000

MEETINGS*EVENTS

CPNO MEETING NOV 13@ 7 PM


The Candler Park Neighborhood Organization is for all residents! We meet the second MONDAY of each month at Epworth United Methodist Church at 1561 McLendon Avenue. Please use the Mell Avenue entrance. Membership is FREE!

NOVEMBER MEETING AGENDA:

7:00 pm NOTE: EARLIER MEETING TIME!

- Officers' Reports
- VOTE: 2001 CPNO Officer Elections
- VOTE: Presentation and vote on nomination of Little Five Points as a Neighborhood Commercial District (NCD)
- Pedestrian friendliness and Sidewalk Committee presentation and report
- VOTE on Variance (see back page)

TO SUBMIT AN AGENDA ITEM for the December meeting, contact any CPNO officer (see list on page 2). Deadline is November 20, 2000.

EVENTS CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2000

Monday, November 13 * 7 PM

CPNO General Meeting

Monday, November 20 * 7 PM

CPNO Executive Committee Meeting

DECEMBER 2000

Saturday, December 2 * 1 PM - 6 PM

Candler Park Holiday Tour of Homes

Saturday, December 2 * 8 AM - 6 PM

Candler Park Neighborhood Yard Sale and Artist's Market

Property Tax Struggle Enters Final Stage

We are in the final stage of our long effort to secure equal taxation with the rest of Atlanta. Through the combined efforts of all the neighborhoods in Atlanta/DeKalb and the political leadership of Councilmember Cathy Woolard, the city enacted an ordinance to provide refunds of overpaid property for tax year 2000. This was in addition to the refund ordinance for 1999.

These ordinances were necessary because our homes are assessed for property tax purposes by DeKalb, while the rest of Atlanta has its homes assessed by Fulton County. Differences in assessment practice between the two counties have led to inequality in taxation within Atlanta.

For example, in 2000, the assessments on property in Atlanta/DeKalb rose an average of 32.9% while assessments in Atlanta/Fulton only increased 3.7%. Meanwhile, studies of sales data show that property values have been rising at about an equal rate in both parts of the city. Since we pay the same millage rate and receive the same services as the rest of Atlanta, we believe we should also have our homes assessed on an equal basis.

As obvious as this might seem to us, others disagree. The Atlanta Board of Education has sued to overturn the 1999 refund ordinance. Also, believing we should not have refunds of taxes if they do not, a group called Fulton County Taxpayers Association has sued to overturn the 2000 ordinance.

With vigorous citizen action, we have achieved more than anyone thought possible: the enactment of ordinances for repayment of overcollected taxes for both

1999 and 2000. These days, though, it seems no political action is finished until the issue is heard in court.

*This last
phase will
require more
intense legal
work & money*

defend them against the lawsuits. Remember, though, the city administration fought against them all along. Now that the ordinances are law in spite of their efforts to prevent their enactment, the city is making minimal effort to defend them.

It falls to us – as it has all along – to correct the problem. We have to raise enough money to defend the ordinances ourselves.

We have worked with attorney Mary Carole Cooney during this entire process, so she knows the issue extremely well and has done all the preliminary legal research necessary to go to court. However, this last phase will of course require more intense legal work than anything we have done previously.

(continued on page 2)

Update On Property Tax 1999 Refunds

When The Fulton County Taxpayers Association sued to stop the refunds of 2000 taxes, they also obtained a restraining order against sending any 2000 refunds until the lawsuit is resolved. The City Law Department then voluntarily stopped the 1999 refunds, even though neither FCTA nor the School Board asked them to do so.

This action is unfortunately typical of a Law Department that fought these ordinances for more than a year and, now that they are law, is doing little to uphold them. We believe freezing 1999 refunds is particularly unfair considering the city has yet to issue refunds for many requests submitted to them five and six months ago. We are attempting to get the Law Department to rescind its order.

In contrast to the Law Department, the Clerk's Office is doing what it can. The Clerk's Office has agreed to continue to mail refund forms to those who request them, and the Finance Department will continue to process the forms short of actually mailing the check. Thus, if the order is lifted, or when we win the lawsuit, the checks can go out immediately. The Clerk's Office has also apologized for how confusing the refund form is.

The refunds have been on again, off again in the past. We would advise people to continue to send in the refund forms. If and when refunds are restarted, there will be a large backlog of checks to be sent out and that will likely take priority over processing new refund forms at that time. If you go

ahead and send in your refund form now, you will be at the head of the line.

Two questions some have asked: if you paid all or part of the 1999 taxes, you CAN apply for a refund even if you did not own your home in 1998. You would need to obtain a copy of the 1998 bill and proof of its payment from Fulton County. Also, under the DeKalb section of the refund form is a row entitled "Atlanta General." This is the same as "ATL OPNS" on your 1999 Atlanta-DeKalb tax bill.

Since a guide to filling out the refund form was published in the Messenger in September, it will not be reprinted in full here. Two changes, though: to obtain a copy of the refund form or for help filling out the form, call Forest Webb in the City Clerk's Office at 404-330-6031. Do not ask for anyone else. You will probably just get incorrect information. If you do still do not get satisfaction, Paula Ward here in Candler Park has volunteered to field questions. You can contact her at 404-524-8876, or e-mail her at paward@us.ibm.com. You can also download a copy of the refund form and look at a copy of the instruction sheet from the Candler Park website at www.candlerpark.org.

Remember, though, if we do not get enough donations to continue our legal defense of the ordinance, we will not be getting any refunds. Please consider a donation.

—Greg Smith

Candler Park Holiday Tour of Homes Tickets On Sale Now!

It's almost time for the Candler Park Holiday Tour of Homes! The Tour will take place on Saturday, December 2nd, from 1 to 6 pm. This will be the last Messenger article you'll see before the Tour, so make sure you get your tickets now.

Tickets are \$10 before the tour and are available at Donna van Gogh's Artist Market, Little Five Points Pharmacy, and Virginia-Highlands Intown Hardware. Ticket prices will be \$12 the day of the tour.

Drop by the Candler Park website (www.candlerpark.org) and get a preview of the eleven homes we have on the tour. There are some great examples of Candler Park architecture, ranging from 1890's bungalows to one of the new houses on Druid Place. Come by and get ideas for renovating or decorating your own home!

Signs will be posted around the neighborhood to get you to one of the several starting points, where you'll receive your tour guide. The starting houses this year will be 1223 Druid Place, 1410 McLendon Avenue, and 521 Clifton Avenue.

All receipts from the Tour of Homes go to benefit the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization. Call (404) 524-3202 or e-mail CPTourofHomes@yahoo.com for more information.

Our tour sponsors this year include Maya Hahn, RE/MAX, Shane Meder & Associates, Small Carpenters at Large, and R/L/Bellinson. The residents of Candler Park appreciate their support and thank them for making this year's tour possible.

—Roger Johnson

NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE and Artist's Market

Saturday, December 2
8 am to 6 pm

Epworth United Methodist Church

All proceeds benefit the Candler Park Playground. See back page for more details!



It's Almost Playtime: Playground "Fun-Raising" Now At 75% Of Goal, Neighborhood Yard Sale And Artist's Market Planned For December

Playground Goal Is In Sight

The Candler Park Playground Task Force is pleased to announce that we've raised over \$38,000 since our fundraising efforts began last summer! Please help us thank the Price Gilbert, Jr. Charitable Fund and its Trustee Wachovia, as well as the Georgia-Pacific Foundation, for their munificent grants. We appreciate the efforts of Donna Taylor, Task Force member, who secured both grants. We are also indebted to Doc Chey's Noodle House / Highland Bagel / Taqueria del Mundo for their generous contribution.

We've received brick orders and other donations from more than 50 individuals and families from Candler Park and surrounding neighborhoods. It's your support that will make our wonderful new playground a reality.

Bricks Make Great Gifts!

For those of you who have been intending to send in a donation but haven't gotten around to it (and you know who you are!), please cut out the form below and send it in today. We're less than \$12,000 away from our goal, and each and every donation helps us get that much closer to having our playground back.

Help us raise \$50,000 to purchase new playground equipment! DONATIONS of any size are joyfully and gratefully accepted! All are fully tax-deductible and eligible for employer matching contributions. (We will mail you a receipt for your records.)

MESSAGE BRICK DONATION: As a special thank you for donations of \$75 (individuals or families) or \$150 (businesses), you may have the message of your choice engraved on a brick that will become a permanent part of the new playground's design!

Make checks payable to Park Pride and mail c/o James Johnson, 344 Josephine St., Atlanta, GA 30307. Please write 'Candler Park Playground' in the memo area!

The holidays are looming large on the horizon, so why not make a gift donation in someone's name? Or, if your house is like mine, you really don't need any more toys to trip over... why not suggest that the grandparents buy a brick for the kids instead?

Don't Miss The Neighborhood Yard Sale On December 2nd

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, December 2. In conjunction with the Candler Park Holiday Tour of Homes, we'll be holding a Yard Sale and Artist's Market at Epworth United Methodist Church on McLendon Avenue from 8 am to 6 pm.

We've already collected hundreds of great items for sale, and are expecting much more to be collected in the next few weeks. Here are just a few of the categories of "great stuff" you'll find:

Appliances and electronics
Baby and kid's items
Books and CDs
Clothing
Furniture
Jewelry... and lots more!

This will also be a great chance to view and purchase works from local artists. Best of all, one hundred percent of the proceeds will go toward the playground fund.

Want To Donate To Our Yard Sale?

If you've got yard sale items (in good condition) or works of art to donate, please let me know. We can arrange for pickup, if necessary. We'd like to get all items no later than the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend (Nov. 26). Thanks in advance to our donors, and to Epworth for allowing us to use their facility. As always, please contact me at stacywms@aol.com or 404.378.5564 if you have questions or would like to get involved.

—Stacy Williams

A Lasting Holiday Gift Idea

If you're looking for a great (and unique) holiday gift idea, look no further. Your child's name or family name, memorial, tribute, or other message can become a permanent part of the new Candler Park Playground! For just \$75, a permanent brick with your message will be included in the playground design. You could even start a holiday tradition of visiting "your brick" with your kids each year — something that will become more and more meaningful as the years go by. To get your brick, just complete and mail the form below with your check payable to Park Pride. All donations are tax-deductible!

Help Us Rebuild The Candler Park Playground!

Name _____ Phone _____

Complete Address _____

Your Donation Choice:

\$ _____ (any amount is welcome and tax-deductible)
 \$75 engraved brick (individuals and families only)
 \$150 engraved brick (businesses only)
 My employer will match my contribution: Employer name _____

Your Brick Message (Choose only ONE option):

Option 1: 14 large characters OR Option 2: Two lines of 14 small characters

NOTE: Spaces between words DO count as characters.

Inman Park Cooperative Preschool Auction – Come Find Some Great Deals!

The 16th annual holiday sale and auction of the Inman Park Cooperative Preschool will feature three ways to stock up on holiday gifts: a retail area, a Silent Auction, and a Live Auction.

The retail area will be filled with discounted books, gourmet foods, and new clothing. The Silent Auction will feature home furnishings, art, gifts for children, professional services, and entertainment opportunities such as theater tickets and dining certificates. The Live Auction will feature stays in vacation homes from Florida to Los Angeles, paintings by well known Atlanta artists, a 1983 BMW motorcycle, and more – all selling for a fraction of their retail value.

When And Where:

Date: Sunday, November 19, 2000

Time: 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.

Place: Inman Park Trolley Barn
963 Edgewood Ave.

Admission to the auction is FREE. For more information, contact Karen Taber at 404/577-8721, or send email to k2taber@mindspring.com.

Tutoring

Math, Writing, Reading, Study Skills, ADD, Dyslexia, SAT Prep

- **Grades 6 to 12**
- **Affordable**
- **One-on-One Tutoring**
- **at Horizons School**

404-373-2848

Eureka! Individualized Learning



CPNO Treasurer's Report

CPNO finances remain good. Our bank balance is \$6,682.50, which should leave us with a positive balance at year end. We will have 501(c) tax status in time for any year-end tax deductible (hint, hint) donations. Accounting codes to standardize financial reporting will be presented to the Executive Committee in November. *–Mike Brandt*

Trees Atlanta Offers “The Gift of Shade” In Time For Holiday Giving

Here is another great gift idea for the various upcoming holidays... Candler Park residents can have shade trees planted in Atlanta as gifts!

Trees can be planted for a friend, or in memory or honor of someone, just by purchasing Trees Atlanta gift cards. The recipient gets a beautiful card informing him or her of your “Gift of Shade.”

You can also specify that your trees be planted in intown neighborhoods and/or around schools and parks. For more information, or to order for the holidays, call Trees Atlanta at 404.522.4097.

N.B. SAVAGE
and company, inc.

Custom Remodeling & Renovation

N. Brock Savage

770-518-7418

1641 East Bank Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

NBSavage@aol.com

Candler Park Resident

Epworth Church Presents November Concert Featuring Vivace Winds And Friends

The Epworth Church at Candler Park will present *Vivace Winds and Friends* in concert at the church on Sunday, November 19 at 3 pm.

Vivace means “lively.” And that is the spirit that permeates this woodwind quartet. That attitude will be reflected in their presentation of music by international composers, some familiar, some not... a young Russian composer, the recently “discovered” South American composer, Piazzolla, as well as Debussy and Haydn, and the English composer Gordon Jacob.

Some friends of Vivace Winds will join in the concert at Epworth. Bobby Shepherd will join the group for a couple of numbers. Shepherd is an accomplished vibraphonist/percussionist. Shepherd will be featured in a couple of special arrangements by former Atlantan Tom Knott. One of these features is a poem of T. S. Eliot set to music.

This November concert is the second in a series the Epworth Church hopes to continue to bring to the community. October saw a concert of organ, piano, and flute. The church is looking for enough community support to continue the series.

There is no charge for the concerts.

When And Where:

Date: Sunday, November 19

Time: 3:00 pm

Place: Epworth Church

McLendon Avenue,
across from Candler Park

Admission: FREE

Take A Walk On The Wild Side(walks) of Candler Park

Eighty percent of the respondents to the Candler Park Neighborhood Survey strongly value the pedestrian friendliness of our neighborhood. As a result, preserving, maintaining, and improving this characteristic has become an objective of the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization (CPNO).

As part of a broader initiative addressing pedestrian safety and convenience, CPNO is sponsoring a sidewalk improvement program. This program aims to identify and prioritize specific areas of concern, and to assist homeowners with the financing and processing of their projects.

Initiated by Candler Park resident Eric Worrell and the CPNO, a Sidewalk Team has met twice and begun organizing the program, but they need more help.

How can *you* help? (hint: there are no wrong answers):

(A) Volunteer to lead or serve in one or more of the following capacities:

1. Identification and prioritization of problem sidewalks
2. Fundraising
3. Communication

(B) Organize a "Block Party" to identify and prioritize sidewalk needs on your street.

(C) Make a tax-deductible contribution to the sidewalk effort (details below).

(D) All of the above.

The next meeting of the Sidewalk Team will be Monday, November 20 at 6 pm in the Historical Room of Epworth United Methodist Church on McLendon Avenue.

If you are interested in joining this dynamic group, please contact Eric Worrell, Austin Wattles, or Michael Hintze at cpsidewalks@hotmail.com – and take a walk on the wild side!

Tax-deductible donations to the sidewalk effort can be made by contacting Mike Brandt, CPNO's VP Finance, at mbrandt@mindspring.com. Looking for a donation guideline? Most Neighborhood Survey respondents indicated they would pledge at least \$100 for this important, property value-enhancing initiative.

—Gary Brown

Candler Park FallFest Set For October 2001, Committee Chairs Needed

The annual festival in Candler Park will return! Newly re-christened as Candler Park FallFest, it is officially scheduled for the weekend of October 12-13, 2001.

FallFest management will be headed up by Bert Bellinson (if you recognize the name, it may be because Bert served as President of the Candler Park Pool Association for the 2000 pool season.)

A small core management team is already in place. However, volunteer committee chairs are still needed for the following areas:

Business management/accounting
Communications
Entertainment booking
Exhibit sales
Logistics
Procurement
Public relations
and more

If you're ready to help Candler Park have its best festival ever, sign up now. For more information or to volunteer, call Bert Bellinson at 404-351-8000, or email bert@tangentindustries.com.

Also, look for the FallFest web site, coming soon!

Vote*



*for Maya for
your Realtor.



Maya Hahn

30307 Office: 404-522-0011
Re/Max Metro Atlanta Cityside
mayah@mindspring.com
internet.mayahahn.realtor.com

The Year of the Child

Come celebrate with us.

Sunday School (adults and children) –

Sundays 9:30 am

Worship – Sundays 11:00 am

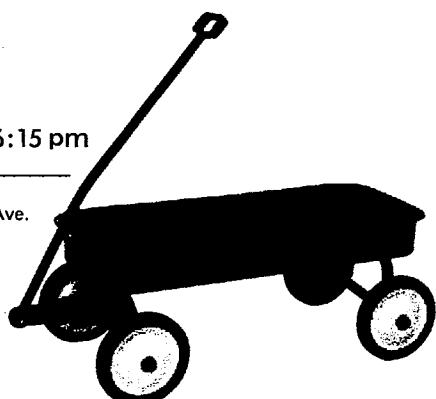
Family Supper Night – Wednesdays 6:15 pm

Druid Hills Presbyterian Church • 1026 Ponce De Leon Ave.

Across from the Majestic Diner, near N. Highland Ave.

404-875-7591 • www.dhpc.org

email: dhpcusa@yahoo.com



In the Heart of Things: A Loving,
Caring Community of God's Diverse People.

Mary Lin Happenings

Thank you to everyone in the neighborhood who helped with our school's annual fund raisers. Mary Lin raised \$19,500 to fund this year's PTA projects. The kids did an excellent job and we appreciate all of you who took the time to buy gift wrap!

As we head into the Christmas season, remember to use your grocery cards. Mary Lin received a check from Kroger in August for over \$500 from purchases made through the spring of last year, and our account statement in September showed we are already halfway to another \$500!

Also, you can use schoolpop.com when shopping online. Most of the schools in the neighborhood are registered with schoolpop, so all you have to do is register at the site, pick your school (such as Mary Lin!) and shop. A percentage of everything you purchase through the schoolpop site will go to the school you pick.

Mary Lin will also be sponsoring two fund raisers during the next couple of months. The first is on Saturday, November 18 at 1 pm, when the children's play *Coyote Tales* will be presented at 7 Stages Theatre. Tickets are \$10.00, and Mary Lin will receive 50% of each ticket sale. If you would like to buy tickets they will be available any Tuesday from 5 pm to 8 pm at Mary Lin in the Hall House.

Our second fund raiser will be on December 16, when the Mary Lin PTA will be at Borders Books on Ponce de Leon wrapping presents for tips from 11 am to 9 pm. Come on by and we'll wrap your Christmas gifts and you can donate a small tip to Mary Lin!

One last thing: Mary Lin will have its annual Operation Care Basket ongoing through November 17. If you have any canned goods you would like to donate to the cause, please stop by and drop them off at the school.

—Julia Murray

Please Don't Feed The Stray Animals

Sure, that stray cat looks hungry... but Ms. Cindy Smith, Mary Lin Principal, has asked that all Candler Park residents refrain from feeding stray cats and dogs. A great number are roaming the school playground, which poses a safety hazard to the children. Ms. Smith says she frequently finds open cans of cat and dog food and mounds of dry food on school property. Mary Lin appreciates your compassion, but wants to keep the kids safe, too.

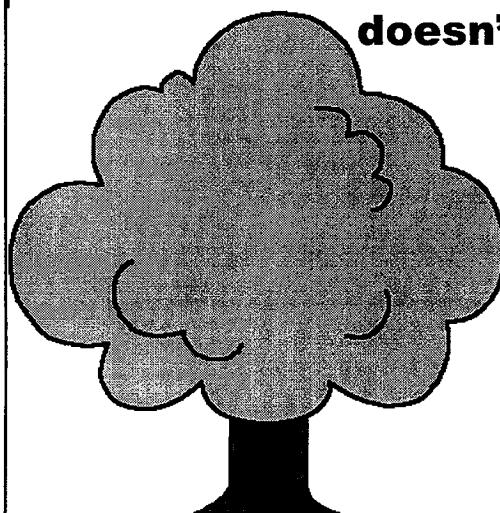


Regency Sideboard. American black cherry with ebonized black walnut accents.

2815 Peachtree Road NE 404.261.2017 cotswoldfurniture.com

COTSWOLD
FURNITURE MAKERS

Because Money... doesn't grow on Trees



Start saving for your future with a savings account at B.O.N.D.

BOND
community
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

The largest Credit Union dedicated to Local Redevelopment

Little 5 Points
433 Moreland Ave.
(404) 525-0619

HOURS
Monday-Friday 11-6
Saturday 11-3

CRIME REPORT

Crimes reported Sept. 18 - Oct. 7, 2000 in Zone 6 police records. (Block numbers rounded to closest hundred.)

500 Candler Street, 9/28, 11:47 am, attempted burglary, someone had bent window screen, later found lawn mower gone.

DeKalb Ave., 1/7, 9:30 pm, victim assaulted by ex-husband.

1300 Elmira Place, 9/27, 12:50 pm, responded to alarm, basement crawl space open, police notified alarm company.

1400 Iverson St., 9/22, 11:00 am, wallet missing, when victim went to bank, found \$270 of purchases charged against him.

1400 Iverson, 9/30, 12:15 am, vehicle entered, stereo was pried but not successfully taken out.

1200 McLendon, 9/28, 8:30 pm, bicycle stolen from hallway.

1600 McLendon, 10/01, 2:20 pm, suspect car-jacked victim's car. Female accosted by suspect for her keys, who then entered and stole vehicle. Suspect arrested by able new police officer.

1600 McLendon, 10/01, midnight, outside storage area broken into behind restaurant, value lost of about \$600.

400 Mell, 9/21, 1:38 pm, suspect was assaulted, took wallet, victim was taken to the hospital (no further details in the police report).

500 Moreland, 9/29, 9:00 pm, store entered by prying open the front door, alarm activated but alarm company didn't receive signal, metal box and stock stolen.

500 Moreland, 9/30, 12:51 am, victim was beaten in the head and face by alleged "skinheads."

Moreland & DeKalb, 9/21, 5:10 am, stolen vehicle recovered. Suspects arrested after traffic stop.

Moreland & Euclid, 9/28, 12:40 am, cell phone reported gone.

300 Oakdale, 9/21, 6:21 pm, burglary; rear window broken by cement block, bicycle and stereo stolen.

400 Sterling St., 9/24, 3:00 pm heard window broken earlier, later found glass loose.

500 Terrace Ave., 9/18, 5:20 am, someone left faucet on all night a couple of times.

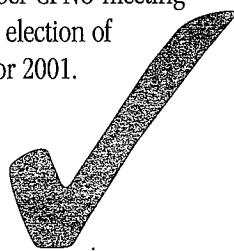
ZONE 6 POLICE: CALL 911 FIRST!

Individual Officers: 404-371-5002

It's Time To Vote, Again!

The November CPNO meeting will include the election of CPNO officers for 2001.

Be there to cast your vote on November 13 at 7 pm!



VARIANCE REQUESTS

Voting on the following request for variance will be held at the November CPNO meeting.

595 TERRACE AVENUE

Variance for side yard setback reduction.

Tammy Hammond, owner of property at 595 Terrace (SPI zoning) seeks a variance for a side yard setback reduction to allow construction of a porte cochere that has been previously approved by the Urban Design Commission.

CLASSIFIED ADS

AFFORDABLE HEALTH INSURANCE – \$20.00 office visits, preventative care covered! Dental and vision care discounts included, also AFLAC plans offered!! Call 404-622-1257.

NOOK & CRANNY MAID SERVICE – "I earn your business every time I clean." Bonded. Insured. Dependable. Call 404-688-3766.

TUTOR – High school English teacher. Writing, reading and college prep. Call 404-523-2079.

CANDLER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE and Artist's Market

December 2nd
(in conjunction with the
Candler Park Holiday Tour of Homes)
8 AM to 6 PM

Epworth United Methodist Church
McLendon Avenue across from Candler Park



Featuring:
Electronics
Computer Items
Appliances
Furniture
Camping Gear
CDs/Records
Books
Clothing
Baby and kids items
Toys

Plus Original Works Of Art... And LOTS More!

All proceeds benefit the Candler Park Playground!