

# The LORE

August, 2011

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE LORING HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



Loring Heights  
Neighborhood  
Association

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## Social Chair

Hello neighbors,

The Friday Fiesta season for 2011 is winding down with 1 more Friday Fiesta scheduled. Come out and meet your neighbors!! The Pond Park fundraiser Friday Fiesta in May was great fun and raised approximately \$1000. We have very generous neighbors and the pond park is obviously a great source of pride for the neighborhood. Here are the remaining dates and locations for 2011 - always check the Google calendar on the website for last minute updates to the location:

- Friday, September 9, 2011 - the home of Gary Adkins @ 458 Deering

Upcoming events in addition to the Friday Fiestas include the Halloween / Fall Festival in October, and the Holiday Party in December! You can always check the online calendar at the website for updated details on events.

**Dues** - If you have not paid your dues for 2011, please keep in mind that dues are collected beginning in December for the next calendar year. December 2010 thru November 2011 is the current membership term. If you pay in November for 2011, you will be asked to pay again in December for 2012 membership term.

It is your participation in the neighborhood and its events that make living in Loring Heights such a great place to live!

See you in the neighborhood,

Kevin Landry

LHNA Social Chair

## PEACHY HORNE

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## Land Use News

By Jeremy Faughtenberry –Land Use Chair [jfaughtenberry@gmail.com](mailto:jfaughtenberry@gmail.com)

Our Loring Heights neighborhood is constantly improving and moving forward towards the goal of being recognized as a jewel of an intown neighborhood that we all already know it is. My position as land use chair gives me a unique perspective into this movement which I would like to share. Neighbors are improving their houses, the park committee is ensuring the longevity of our crowning centerpiece in the neighborhood, and all kinds of ideas are starting to trickle in on how to use the Atlantic Station money towards the betterment of our neighborhood. While the future is bright, we still do have some challenges we have to take on to get to where we know we should be as a neighborhood.

You may have seen my invitations to land use meetings this year to meet with your neighbors who are adding on or changing the look of their houses. I only send out invitations to these meetings when the resident performing the upgrades is requesting special permission to be exempt from certain zoning regulations. An example of this would be an addition to a house that encroached on the designated backyard setbacks. These meetings are required by the city before the board of zoning adjustment will hear the neighbor's case. They are also important as neighbors to attend so you can vote in favor of or against these proposed changes to make sure we as a neighborhood steer our land use the way we want. Besides that, it is a great way to meet and visit neighbors and see some very cool projects popping up in our neighborhood!

The City is facing budget shortfalls as we all know. While the government works out the budget problems they

are bridging the gaps in income with fees and fines on its citizens. We have just learned that property code enforcement has been moved from its own domain to that of the police and that code violations have been cited and will continue to be. This does not mean the police are patrolling for people who don't cut their yard once a week or for weeds in a flower bed. It does mean that we keep up our efforts to maintain our properties properly as to avoid what could be an overreaching city government.

Furthermore, Loring Heights has been accepted into the Buckhead Council of Neighborhoods. This is good news for us as it is a coalition of the Buckhead neighborhoods that band together to support individual neighborhoods' causes. The council is comprised of some very influential people and neighborhoods of Atlanta. I saw the BCN in action as a representative at one of the recent meetings where the BCN was able to send Georgia DOT back to the drawing board to work through issues the small neighborhood of Paces Battle was facing with a future GDOT project. We may need to leverage this influence in the future for our neighborhood.

Finally, I would like to close by saying that we have a lot of promise in the future with the Atlantic Station money on the horizon. I encourage everyone to start looking closer at your neighborhood and decide what you would like to see the neighborhood look like, then come share your ideas with the neighborhood at our General Assembly meetings, Friday Fiestas, dog park, or backyards to keep the conversation moving forward during this very opportune time.

## Treasurer

As of end of July, LHNA has roughly \$4,800 in our various checking and savings accounts. Year to date, we have collected only \$2,900 in dues versus a budgeted amount of \$6,650, so we are lagging heavily on collections. We still have several expenditures that will be necessary prior to year end, including our annual liability insurance premium of roughly \$1,400, so without additional dues, we may need to look at cutting some of our other discretionary expenditures (e.g. fun money). If you have not already done so, please go to [www.loringheights.org](http://www.loringheights.org) and click on the "Dues and Membership" tab, and then click on the "Donate" button. Dues are \$50 annually and are collected from December 1st through November 30th, and allow for voting on all relevant neighborhood issues. Thanks!

**Jeff DePaola**  
Associate Broker



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## Parks

The Parks Committee has been working hard on several key issues of neighborhood interest:

1. FLHP continues to work towards a final plan for upgrading the pond/park and installing a playground. We held a meeting on July 19th and shared the current version of the plans with interested neighbors. Our goal will be to finalize this plan within the next month or so, and begin creating construction and permitting documents to eventually receive city approval for our plans. We have been notified that we will need to get buffer variances for some of the work around the pond, so this may add a couple of months to the process. We have phased the project to start with construction of a play space at the top end of the pond, and hope to break ground on this work by year end, or early 2012. We will continue our fundraising efforts in the meantime.

2. CSO Space - Ron Grunwald and David Pyron have been attempting to work with the city and with the Department of Watershed to do a better job of maintaining the CSO space. Hopefully, the end result of this work will be more regular maintenance of the existing landscape, and possibly some other plantings that will require less maintenance in the long-run. We know this space can look a lot better and end up the "green space" we were promised.

3. Community Garden - The community garden is in full bloom! Please drop by and check out your neighbors various plantings, and if you're lucky maybe they will share some fresh fruits and vegetables with you. Thanks to Tom Smith for finishing up construction of the fence around the garden, and thanks to all of our gardeners!

## Security

Summer is here and many of us have been taking our summer vacations. That leaves our neighborhood with more empty homes and thus, more vulnerable to thieves. All of Atlanta has seen a recent increase in crime and we are no exception. We have seen a significant increase in home break-ins in the last few months.

Because of the increased crime in early July, we hired a private security team to patrol our neighborhood during the Fourth of July holidays run by APS Sargent Paul Poole.

We are one of the few intown neighborhoods without a private security patrol. In addition, we can easily be accessed by two major roads – Peachtree and Northside. Lastly, our close proximity to Atlantic Station also makes us more of a target. Therefore, I would like us to consider hiring a yearly private security patrols to help keep us safer; particularly in high crime times such as holidays.

Sgt. Poole sent us a proposal for the services his team provides to their neighborhood. They include:

1. Patrol the assigned neighborhood and respond to all calls in the 'hood.
2. Each shift officer will check all the out of town houses that belong to the patrol. Officers will walk around the house and make sure all is okay while the member is on vacation. They will also pick up papers and put them in the trash, if necessary.
3. If a resident is out of town and we respond to an alarm, we will leave an alarm notice to inform them that we checked the house.
4. Off duty officers will NOT take the place of the assigned beat car. However, off duty officers work with assigned beat cars to help make neighborhood safer.
5. Police supervisor will notify the 'hood of ongoing crime patterns in the area. (note from Nancy: I got a call from Sgt Poole this morning about a higher frequency of late night knocks and break-ins)
6. Once the patrol is established, we will provide non emergency phone number so residents can contact patrol officers for non emergencies. This number will **not** replace 911. (note from Nancy: **always call 911**).
7. Officers will provide monthly safety tips.

I created a poll on the website and found that 32 families would contribute annually to the patrols. In the next few months, we will be deciding how to spend the Atlantic Station money. I will introduce a plan where we can have security patrols that are funded by interest garnered from the AS money as well as contributions from the neighborhood. I am very hopeful that we will be able to get something started by the Fall.

Be safe, know your neighbors, and always – call 911!!!

Nancy Lamb



**PETWELL**  
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**Dr. Brian Berger - Owner & Neighbor**  
Dr. Berger has lived in Atlanta for 12 years and in the immediate area for 3 years. He has extensive training and experience at the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine, the Animal Medical Center (New York), and at Cobb Emergency.

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\*Please visit our website for more info on Dr. Berger

*PetWell offers a 10% discount to Loring Heights neighbors.*



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## PetWell



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You can expect to see even more fleas over the next several weeks. Fall is almost here and soon flea eggs will be hatching, creating a noticeable increase in the Atlanta area. If your pet is not already on year-round flea management, we recommend you start applying it now! Once fleas have set up shop in your home, it takes several months to get rid of them.

Some key facts about fleas:

- Adult fleas (the ones we can see on our pets) only represent 5% of the population. This means you can't see 95% of the flea population! If you see adult fleas on your pet, you can bet there are also eggs, pupae, and larvae in your environment.
- Animals other than cats and dogs carry and spread fleas. Even humans may be affected/bitten.
- Pets that already have a significant adult flea problem are also constantly shedding eggs onto furniture, carpeting, and bedding. Those eggs will hatch soon!
- Without flea management, fleas can quickly take over your home.

Although there is no flea product in existence that will act as a forcefield preventing fleas from hopping onto your pet, there are several products that can kill adult fleas and eggs thus helping to break the life cycle. Bear in mind, however, that these products, no matter what product you choose, will only be effective if:

- You consistently apply/give each dosage at the appropriate time interval (usually every 28 days).
- You treat all pets in your home, even pets that are indoors-only.
- Fleas come in contact with your pet. This seems counter-intuitive but fleas must jump onto your pet to be affected by the product, whether it is oral or topical.
- You maintain diligence in applying/giving each pet in your household monthly prevention.

Please feel free to call with questions or simply come by our lobby for advice.

Dr. Berger  
PetWell Veterinary Healthcare

### There are now 3 easy ways to pay your LHNA dues:

- 1.) Go to [LoringHeights.org](http://LoringHeights.org) and use the PayPal link
- 2.) Drop a check by the treasurer's House  
367 N. Garden
- 3.) Mail this form along with your check to:  
LHNA, P.O. Box 7845, Atlanta, GA 30357

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