

The purpose of our neighborhood association is to provide a social and informational network for those who wish to participate. We welcome all to engage in festivities and/or dialogue to the degree they feel comfortable.

The primary communication mechanisms for those interested in Boulevard Neighborhood Association (BNA) activities are our website (www.historicboulevard.com) and the neighborhood listserv (join via the link at our website. Please include your name and address in your request to join).

We realize that the reach of web-based communication is less than 100% and have established a system of Block Captains to get written notices to our neighbors who so desire. To help us better meet your expectations and/or desire to be kept informed and involved, please take a few minutes to complete the following survey.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Yes, I want to participate in neighborhood activities. The best way to contact me is: _____

I am a current BNA member and would like to renew / I am not a member but would like to join:

Here's my check for:

1 year: Student (\$5)____, Individual (\$10)_____, Business (\$20)_____

3 Year: Student (\$12)____, Individual (\$25)_____, Business (\$50)_____.

I am interested in participating as:

___ Block Captain (covering _____ from _____ to _____)

___ Volunteer for social functions

___ Newsletter and other written projects (such as compiling oral histories from longterm residents)

___ Other

___ I am not interested in further contact from the BNA

The issues I would like the BNA to address are:

please make checks payable to BNA and return with this survey to your Block Captain or mail to Gregg Bayard, 198 Boulevard, Athens, GA 30601 . BNA memberships follow the calendar year.



BNA Steering Committee Members

Chairman:
Tony Eubanks
548-1748

Vice-Chairman:
Charles Apostolik
543-3330

Secretary:
Marie Woods
546-8390

Treasurer:
Mary Beth Gates
546-9765

Membership/Programs:
Gregg Bayard
549-0677

Issues/Publicity:
Patrick O'Brien
614-8007

Neighborhood Watch:
James Johnson
543-1218

Preservation/Environment:
Mark Ebell

Newsletter:
Stephanie Brown
202-9556

At Large Members:
David Bryant
548-0174

Russell Foster
227-0173

Julie Meehan
543-4427

Elizabeth Riley
543-7013

Melissa Link
546-7021



Annual Meeting set for November 14

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at Chase Street School

Adding a new twist to the annual meeting, Membership Committee Co-Chair Melissa Link has arranged for ACC Tax Assessor Kirk Dunagan to discuss the methodology behind determining your property tax bill. Q & A follows the presentation.

BNA general business including election of officers for 2006 follows the program.

Refreshments to be provided by the Boulevard Gardening Club. Open to the public.

Boulevard Gardening Club Blooms

In less time than it takes a seed to sprout, the Boulevard Gardening Club is in full bloom! The club's inaugural event, a plant and seed swap held in April, was a smashing success and the club has gone on to participate in work days on the grounds of Chase Street School, a bog-gardening workshop, an ice-cream social, and an Autumn Yum-Yum potluck celebrating the first day of Fall with dishes prepared from local gardens and a bulldb planting mission throughout the neighborhood.

With a mission to educate, beautify, & build community through a love of plants and gardening, the Boulevard Gardening Club includes four branches—Plant for Beauty, Plant for Knowledge, Helping Hands, and Food & Fun. Meetings are held on the 22nd of each month (except when holidays conflict) at various locales and are geared toward the particular day of the week on which they fall.

A calendar of events and projects as well as contact info is available at www.historicboulevard.com.

BNA Addresses Traffic

In response to vocal neighborhood concerns about the dangers posed by speeding automobile traffic, primarily seen as a result of the existing cut-through volume (which is only expected to increase with development along Prince) , the BNA has formed an ad hoc committee to examine problem areas and to identify and evaluate potential site-specific solutions.

Committee members Brad Aaron (Lyndon Ave), Lauren Fancher (Satula), Nicki Hendricks (Pulaski), Carole Holmes (Boulevard) and Lane Vandiver (Buena Vista) join ACC Commissioner Alice Kinman ("Neighborhood Traffic Calming is my Pet Project") to listen to your concerns and suggestions. The committee is operating on the assumption that innovation and public participation in the process are the keys to consensus on effective solutions for traffic issues in the 'hood.

Addressing the problem of ACC vehicles housed at Boulevard and Pound seems to be a favored first step. Contact committee members through the listserv, by phone or through your block captain.

Like a Good Neighbor? ARMC is there

As expansion of the emergency room facilities at ARMC moves forward, actions taken to date raise concerns and indicate that future proceedings warrant intense scrutiny.

ARMC's purchase of residentially zoned property within Boulevard neighborhood boundaries violated the Hospital Authority's 1999 public resolution that any expansion across Prince would be limited to commercially zoned properties. In addition, ARMC has obtained U.S. Army Corps of Engineers approval to culvert the stream, a tributary of Brickyard Creek, traversing that single family lot. EPA approval will require public notice and hearing. No hearing date has been set.

Furthermore, ARMC announced on Friday, November 4 that the trees along the perimeter of the new parking deck at Prince and King will not be saved as originally promised. We'll keep you posted.



From the Chair...

It is not unrealistic to say that within five years or less, Prince Avenue from downtown to the by-pass will look nothing like it does today. In addition to the current debate over 3-laning Prince from Milledge to Pulaski and/or ACC taking local control of Prince from Milledge to the Loop, significant change for the Boulevard neighborhood's southern boundary is imminent.

The parishioners of St. Joseph's Catholic Church recently voted to sell their property at Prince and Pulaski to finance relocation (timeline 2-4 years, potential buyer/uses unknown). New Way Cleaners at Prince and Barber is perennially rumored for sale and it's only a matter of time

before the right offer surfaces. Emmanuel Episcopal Church leadership has been floating trial development balloons for years and are actively pursuing plans to relocate one of the "cottages" at the north end of N. Pope and to demolish the other. These two houses have been owned by Emmanuel since the late 1950's and are included in the Historic District.

Prince Avenue Baptist Church is nearing completion of its Oconee County facilities and the future of its Prince Avenue infrastructure seems destined to become a private college campus. The recent passing of Flowerland owner Norma Gecoma brings the future of the southwest corner of Prince and Milledge into question. Five hundred yards west, the luscious three-plus acres behind the SunTrust Bank has been for sale for over a year and is sure to be developed.

McDonald's has Mayor and Commission approval to redevelop their lot at Prince and Nacoochee and the adjacent parcel known as 1140 Prince has been sold and plans are underway to develop the entire 1100 block of Prince, from Nacoochee to Park. We are ecstatic that representatives from Boulevard, Cobbham, King, Oglethorpe and CAPPa have been invited to be at the table to "plan the block" with these developers. The importance of this breakthrough in neighborhood/developer relations cannot be understated.

Across the street, ARMC has unveiled plans for significant expansion of its emergency room facilities at the corner of Prince and King. These plans will significantly alter traffic flows and aesthetics on the south side of Prince (and for the near future the north side as well).

In Normaltown, Hugh Logan has publicly expressed the opinion that his Normal Hardware property would make an excellent location for a hotel serving ARMC. Development of the landmark that was Allen's is also imminent. What the future holds with these projects is unknown and unknowable at this time. On a positive note, Jimmy Wilfong is actively pursuing the CAPPa-inspired conversion of his property between Pizza Hut and Black Forest Bakery into second story residential above ground floor commercial (renderings can be viewed at www.historicboulevard.com). Jimmy is also responsible for hiring UGA student and CAPPa charrette participant Mike Sutton to produce architectural renderings of his vision for the Jittery Joe's at Chase and Boulevard.

As if all this weren't enough there is the impending redevelopment of the Navy School's 57+ acres. Needless to say it will be a busy year and beyond for the residents of Boulevard and our adjoining neighborhoods. The volunteers serving on the BNA steering committee have worked for years to establish a process through which we can speak with one voice when consensus exists while encouraging an open, public forum for differing opinions. Our actions to date have been effective in our stewardship of neighborhood interests and have earned us the respect of other neighborhoods, community groups, elected officials and most importantly -given the impending changes along Prince Avenue - the development community.

The BNA is committed to the fundamental premise that neighborhoods are the foundation of any community; they are as important as industry in attracting talent that serves as an economic base. Healthy neighborhoods foster healthy schools, a healthy environment and a sense of belonging that leads to a passionate sense of caring that cannot be bought and sold. Neighborhoods are people as much as, if not more than, the environment they inhabit and influence. You are the neighborhood; you are the heart of the Boo-le-ward.

The BNA welcomes and encourages you to engage in the dialogue as we present a neighborhood perspective to issues surrounding growth and development in Athens-Clarke County. Our proactive approach depends on an informed and active membership and to that end we strive to provide the information you need to keep abreast of issues affecting our environment. We urge you to take an active role in determining the path we take as we grow and prosper.

We are currently accepting nominations for the 2006 Steering Committee. Nominations should be submitted to Charles Apostolik at 543-3330 or cja@home.com. A description of officer and committee chair duties is available at historicboulevard.com

The future is now and we need you to participate - on the frontline as a member of the Steering Committee, in the background as a voice on the listserv or an eye on the street, or as a volunteer helping when and however you can.

You are the *Boo-le-ward*.

What's Up With CAPPa?

CAPPa, a Community Approach to Planning Prince Avenue, was formed as a vehicle to gather information about the users and uses of Prince Avenue - what works and what doesn't; what it has now, had then and might have in the future - from as diverse a population of stakeholders as possible and to then present possible design solutions in a visual format to stimulate public comment and/or action.

After months of data collection and public input, over 200 volunteers including design professionals, community leaders, UGA faculty, staff and students, ACC staff and ordinary folks spent hundreds of man-hours in a three-day design charrette* converting those facts, opinions and wishes into a series of visual representations. These images were presented at a public forum and made available online for further input. (Images and voting results are available at www.planningprince.org)

The images created during the CAPPa process gave graphic expression to the public's aspirations for the future of Prince Avenue. CAPPa went to great pains to keep the process objective, refusing more than a few requests (then and now) to endorse or object to proposed plans along the Prince Avenue corridor. Advocating "the right way" was not CAPPa's purpose at this stage.

As for the future, CAPPa identified and encouraged several partnerships that seemed natural for implementation of specific projects. To date the Boulevard Neighborhood Association has approached Emmanuel Episcopal Church with an offer of free plant materials and donated labor to help realize the CAPPa vision of the Potter's House parking lot on Barber Street. The Athens Area Arts Council recently won ACC approval for a bus shelter as art program (CAPPa can't take any credit for this but it was a suggested community project).

Community recognition has also been realized through the appointment of Jennifer Lewis as a CAPPa representative to ARMC's Citizens Advisory Committee and Pratt Cassity as a CAPPa rep on Jon Cook's developer/neighborhood focus group to plan the development slated for the 1100 block of Prince Avenue.

In short, the CAPPa vision lives as the community strives to implement its suggestions.

*Literally translated, *charrette* means "little cart" and invokes the deadline-driven design process 18th century architectural students faced to submit their projects on the passing cart. Today the term is used to describe the rapid, intensive process through which competing community objectives, as expressed by stakeholders through various input mechanisms, are reconciled in creative design proposals.

Clean Sweep

Walking the Boulevard these days I feel like the neighborhood has lost some weight - a couple of tons worth of trash and debris to be exact!

The neighborhood beautification project coordinated through the BNA in April was by all accounts the most successful effort to date for the Neighborhood Clean-up Project sponsored by ACC Human and Economic Development Department. Eleven rollaway dumpsters of debris, 200 +/- tires and 1 dumpster sized load of metal recyclables were collected during the two-day event.

While many people parted with their possessions, others found beauty in the tarnished treasures that arrived by bike, wheelbarrow, car and truck. The energized BNA Clean-Up crew then spanned out across the neighborhood and tackled the sidewalks, sweeping and shoveling leaves and dirt to the delight of the many runners and walkers enjoying the fine Spring day. Patches of sidewalk that had not seen the light day for many years were resurrected by the efforts of dozens of neighborhood volunteers.

On a another level, the weekend was most satisfying as a community building endeavor. To see neighbors (many of whom had never met) rushing off with trucks and eager hands to help a neighbor in need, then banding together to rake and bag leaves and debris in long neglected areas. More than a few folks walking or driving by were compelled to join the effort, either by running off to haul out the old sofa in the back yard (a few of which came from "the rental house next door") or jumping in to help sweep the street. Our day concluded with a delicious Bar-B-Que provided by the parishioners at West End Baptist Church. The array of homemade desserts was something to behold (thanks for inviting us Mr. Johnson!).

Amid all of the activity and comraderie, you just had to look around and smile at the thought that something as simple as taking out the trash can demonstrate the qualities that make this the fantastic neighborhood that we call home.

Thanks y'all.

ACC seeks input for Navy School

The Navy School Local Redevelopment Authority will host a series of forums to receive public input regarding future development of the Prince Avenue facility. All are open to the public and will be held at the ACC Library on Baxter St.

Tuesday, November 8, 7:00 pm

Wednesday, November 16, 7:00 pm

Thursday, November 17, 11:00 am