

North Briarcliff Civic Association

Serving 1400 houses / condos and 1700 apartments
in the Hawthorne Elementary school district and adjacent streets

Autumn 2010 Newsletter

2566 Shallowford Road, Ste 104, PMB 132
Atlanta, GA 30345-1200

ANNUAL MEETING

Monday, November 8, 2010

6:45 - 7:00 social; 7 - 9 pm meeting

Shallowford Presbyterian Church

Heritage Hall

- ⇒ Summary of the past year's activities and accomplishments,
- ⇒ Election of a new board for the upcoming year
See page 3 for list of neighbors standing for election; additional nominations may be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting.
- ⇒ **speaker: PROPERTY TAX APPRAISER'S OFFICE –
YOUR HOME'S VALUE – FOR TAX PURPOSES**

Bring a donation of non-perishable food for the church's Food Pantry if you can.

Follow the main sidewalk up the stairs to the big doors. Heritage Hall is directly down the hallway facing you. ALL NEIGHBORS ARE WELCOME but only those who are current on 2010 dues can legally vote. 2010 dues may be paid at the check-in table; 2011 dues will not be collected until January 2011.



*Thanks to Donald Vick for stepping up, in August 2010,
to complete the 2009-10 term as Treasurer.*

Thanks to the whole 2009-2010 team for a great year.

-- NBCA Board, 2009-10 --

Beth Nathan	404-315-7440 president@northbriarcliff.org parks@northbriarcliff.org tabasco@northbriarcliff.org editor@northbriarcliff.org
Jon Gordon	404-235-0566 vp@northbriarcliff.org schools@northbriarcliff.org
Donald Vick	404-636-7600 treasurer@northbriarcliff.org
Laura Bulbin	770-939-4636 secretary@northbriarcliff.org
Ralph Carl	770-723-1024 schools@northbriarcliff.org
Larry Foster	678-637-9227 pdk@northbriarcliff.org
Michael Gross	404-636-7887 nwatch@northbriarcliff.org
Kyle Johnson	404-806-0931 webmaster@northbriarcliff.org
Bob Keaton	404-486-9843
Donna McPherson	678-778-2832 infrastructure@northbriarcliff.org involvement@northbriarcliff.org
Betty Phillips	404-634-6498 <zoning> <newsletter distribution>
Billie Sherrod	404-633-9773 interchange@northbriarcliff.org

-- Board Meetings --

1st Wednesdays, 7:30 pm.
Shallowford Presbyterian Church
Open to all NBCA members
Verify meeting details with president.



-- Off Board --

June Buechner	gardens@northbriarcliff.org
Linda Dahlke	database@northbriarcliff.org
Harrison Rogers	

Subscribe to listservs (Watch & General) at
www.northbriarcliff.org/Comm/listjoin.htm

Send Neighborhood Watch items to
nwatch@northbriarcliff.org

ZONING & CODE ENFORCEMENT

Arnold and Joan Kurth, Laura Bulbin, Betty Phillips and Beth Nathan have all been following Code Change proposals and Code Enforcement discussions and have contributed to this article.

DeKalb **COUNTY CODE ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE**, public meeting on September 13:

Most of the 40 member Task Force was present plus a full audience of interested residents. Four speakers made presentations: Judge Nelly F. Withers (Recorders Court), William Malone (Asst Director, Dept of Sanitation), Chris Morris (Director, Community Development) and Byron Zellers (Senior Officer, Code Enforcement).

Judge Withers made comments regarding her inability to enforce some citations in her court. The Code is out of date, with some conflicting statements in different sections, resulting in dismissal of the citation because of these conflicting rules. [See below for more info on Code changes.]

Another problem is that citations must be served in person, with the person receiving the citation acknowledging its receipt with a signature. This is a constitutional right of the person receiving the citation. Because of the time required and difficulty of locating the person being served, some of them absentee owners, many citations in the past were either delivered by Registered Mail or tacked to the front door of a residence. Unless the person cited voluntarily appeared in court, many citations without the required signature had to be dismissed. Additional legal methods of delivery will need to be considered by the County Commission in its code rewrite.

Mr. Malone noted that the Sanitation Department is responsible for the disposal of illegally dumped tires.

Officer Zellers, a Senior Code Enforcement Officer, is responsible for Code Enforcement Training. Code Enforcement covers three main areas – a) Property Maintenance, b) Zoning Codes and c) Signage. The situations under which Code Enforcement officers can issue citations are very well defined. Violations must be in plain view and they can only cite violations they can see while walking to the front door. They cannot walk down the sides or backyard of a property, stand on something to look over a fence, etc. However, an exception is allowed if a complaining homeowner gives permission for a Code Enforcement officer to go into these areas of his or her property, and even to enter the house, so the violation the homeowner sees can also be seen by the Code Enforcement officer.

The county receives 15,000 complaints per year and now has only 22 Code Enforcement officers to cover the entire county. All officers work out of the Code Enforcement office but are assigned to specific areas of the county. Because of the volume of complaints and limited resources, complaints must be prioritized, meaning some complaints will not be acted on as quickly as residents would like. This is unlikely to change in our current economic situation.

Residents sometime complain of following up on a call to the Code Enforcement office, only to be told there's no record of the original complaint. It is extremely important to get a Reference Number when making a complaint and using that number when following up. Likewise, if several residents want to complain about the same property, it is very helpful to cite the same Reference Number when calling.

CODE CHANGE PROCESS. Enforcement provisions are being revised, submitted to the county's hired consultants and then brought back for input at the Community Council level. New provisions are being included to provide that residents receive more and better notice of proposed requests for re-zonings in their communities, as well as providing better due process via administrative hearings for neighbors to register complaints and seek redress from developers who do not comply with all conditions of zoning.

CODE CHAPTER 27 RE-WRITE. The DeKalb County Board of Commissioners is considering proposed text amendments to the DeKalb County Code, Chapter 27, relating to the definitions and regulations pertaining to "Family", "Personal Care Homes", "Child Caring Institutions" and a new category of "Personal Services" within single family residential districts. The goal is to preserve mature and stable neighborhoods for single family purposes, to preserve their established character and prevent incompatible use of land in relation to existing and available facilities. The Board acknowledges that it is in the best interest of its aging population that adequate housing facilities be located in a manner that is safe and that has convenient access to desirable goods and services.

What constitutes a "family" is frequently questioned. The currently Recommended Revision is as follows: *Family means a group of individuals related by blood, marriage, adoption, guardianship or other custodial relationship, or not more than four (4) unrelated individuals, who live together in a single dwelling unit and who function as a single housekeeping unit, have established ties and familiarity with each other, jointly use common areas, interact with each other, and share meals, household activities, expenses and responsibilities. This definition shall include four*

(4) or fewer mentally handicapped, developmentally disabled persons, and other handicapped persons, as defined in the Fair Housing Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 3601 et seq., living as a housekeeping unit and otherwise meeting the definition of "family" herein. For the purposes of calculating the number of persons who live in a dwelling, family members who are related by blood or legal status shall count as one person.

To learn more, contact Betty Phillips, NBCA's Community Council representative.

MAINTENANCE of FORECLOSED PROPERTIES. Legislation has been passed to establish an "abandoned residential property registration program" to protect residential neighborhoods from becoming blighted as a result of the lack of adequate maintenance and security of abandoned properties resulting from the foreclosure crisis.

This ordinance requires lenders or any entity that holds the deed on a property in foreclosure to register the property with the County and maintain the property or face stiff fines. As the ordinance is written, the annual registration fee will be \$175 and violators will be fined \$1000 per day, per property.

Commissioner Connie Stokes has been conducting a series of public meetings to allow citizens to review the provisions and submit their suggestions for modification before the actual effective date of the Ordinance.

RE-IMAGINING SHALLOWFORD. Following the 3 "Re-Imagining Shallowford" public meetings, a preliminary goals list was drafted. Moderator Davis Fox has been working to get additional input for commercial owners/managers which were under-represented in the sessions. Commissioner Rader's office was trying to bring together a small Business Roundtable for the area. Neither effort has been very fruitful. The plan to apply for an ARC Livable Centers Initiative grant this fall may be flagging. That application would have to come from DeKalb's Planning Dept; Davis Fox had volunteered to help them vis-à-vis all the info collected from the public meetings and from his visits to business owners.

One of the goals coming out of the public meetings was for civic associations to better inform their residents about Code Enforcement ... details, where to find the exact language, how to file complaints, etc. A draft document containing specific legal language (from county code) was partially drafted and sent out for review, with few comments forthcoming. Perhaps the Code Enforcement Task Force will make that effort moot.

NBCA BOARD CANDIDATES for 2010-11

1. **Laura Bulbin.** Briarmoor Manor since 2006; (generalist) Past president of North Druid Hills Residents Association. NBCA board member. Helped create DeKalb Civic Coalition. Retired government attorney.
2. **Ralph Carl:** Canna Ridge; (schools/kids); Hawthorne Elementary School Advisory Council (2001-2006); Hawthorne PTA Rep. to Emory LaVista Parent Council (2002 to present); Hawthorne Rep. to Lakeside Cluster Group (2006 to present); Past board member & chair of Shallowford Presbyterian Preschool.
3. **Larry Foster:** Echo Lake area since 1986; (PDK) American history professor at Georgia Tech; Three children attended Hawthorne; NBCA President 1994-2003.
4. **Jon Gordon.** Flair Forest since 2004; (schools/kids) Prior experience with the Forrest Hills (Decatur) neighborhood association; Director of Georgia Tech Office of Assessment. Two children at Hawthorne.
5. **Michael Gross:** Flair Forest since 1999; (generalist, neighborhood watch); Neighborhood native; Property management professional.
6. **Randy Hollingsworth:** Echo Hills (Sherbrooke Forest) since 2004. Member of Hoe & Grow Garden Club. I-85 Interchange volunteer. Past experience with Oak Grove Acres Civic Association. Former restaurateur and Fast Casual Restaurant Franchise Consultant. .
7. **Kyle Johnson,** Shallowford since 2005; (communications, webmaster), St. Pius X Alumni (1996), Communication Chair of the St. Pius X Alumni Association (2009), Director of I.T.
8. **Donna McPherson.** Sherbrooke Forest since 2005. (infrastructure, involvement/membership, neighborhood watch). Neighborhood native, graduated from Hawthorne, Lakeside and Oglethorpe. Owner/Veterinary Technician/Pet-Sitter, Pawsitively Pets Inc. President Ivy's Landing Condo Board 2000-09. NBCA Board 2009-10.
9. **Beth Nathan:** Flair Forest since 1999; (systems: political, info, admin, and eco); Past president & past executive director League of Women Voters of Georgia; NBCA president 2003-07, 09; Database programmer. DeKalb Greenspace/Bond Advisory Committee (District 2 rep) and Parks/Recreation Citizens Advisory Board (CEO's rep).
10. **Betty Phillips:** Flair Forest since 1969; (neighborhood integrity & value; zoning; newsletter distribution); NBCA founding member; Retired CPA; Community Council member.
11. **Donald Vick.** Brookdale. Retired accountant, employed by GM before opening Vick Accounting and Tax Service. Also owned and operated a florist shop in Tucker.
12. <your name & bio here>

SCHOOLS / EDUCATION / KIDS

The Hawthorne teachers, staff and PTA are proud to announce that last year Hawthorne **GRANDFRIENDS** volunteered 493 hours at Hawthorne Elementary! These 17 amazing men and women came into the school building about once a week to meet with their classes and spend their time helping out in various ways. The men and women read books, took children to the library, worked on math skills, worked with small groups on special projects, and did whatever the teachers asked them to do. Hawthorne is truly grateful to the following volunteers: Mary Ann McMichael, Jan Robison, Anchor Sheperd, Prue Swerlick, Andie Heyburn, Suzy Ralston, Anne Schuster, Claude Willis, Betty Hoyer, Dale Merkle, Carol Rudd, George Heyburn, Judy Stembel, Minnie Tee, Betsy Smith, Jane Sinner and Bridges Smith. **Thank you! Thank You! Thank You!** For information about the Grandfriends Program contact Bridget Bassett at 404-417-5596 or bridgetjbassett@yahoo.com

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS! Do you or someone you know play a musical instrument? Hawthorne Elementary School is seeking musicians from our community to perform for our students during lunch. You may use our newly-acquired piano or your own instrument. Lunch is served Monday-Friday from 10:45 am-12:35 pm. You may play as often as you'd like for as long as you wish. No professional experience required, just a desire to share your love of music with children. For more information and/or to be added to our performance schedule, please contact Hawthorne's Music Teacher, Mr. George Arrington, at 678-874-2802.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL. Sarah Merkle and Jennifer Morrison are parent volunteer co-chairs of the Safe Routes to School program at Hawthorne Elementary. They have been working with Hawthorne's principal (Mr. Singh), Abby Mattera (Safe Routes to School Coordinator for Metro-Atlanta area), and county and school district staff to put together two proposals for Department of Transportation infrastructure funding to support safe routes to school around Hawthorne. They are submitting two improvement proposals to the county by October 1.

- 1) **New bridge and trail restoration between Hawthorne Dr. and Cravey Dr.** Jennifer discovered that there is a marked, overgrown trail and broken bridge on a county right-of-way between two houses on Hawthorne Dr. The trail starts about 20 ft. northwest of Foster Ridge Rd and cuts through to Cravey Dr just southeast of Canna Ridge Circle. This link shows the enrollment walk zone for Hawthorne. Canna Ridge Circle is not currently labeled but connects Cravey Drive at the top right of the map with Cravey Drive further down. It is one street west of Braithwood Rd (which is outside of our enrollment zone).
<http://resources.dekalb.k12.ga.us/?c=52&k=0f3e4e74fd>
- 2) **Sidewalks on Overlook Way, Overlook Dr and Flair Knoll Dr. to connect Foster Ridge Rd. to Shallowford.** The county has already determined what exactly would be needed and provided cost estimates for this work. We feel this is a key priority as it would shorten the walk for a large number of students in the northwest section (our largest and farthest) of the enrollment zone.

The county will determine which schools and projects to include in their application to the DOT, due November 23rd. Others applying include Oak Grove and Sagamore Hills, maybe Briarlake, Dunwoody, and a few others. Livsey was funded last year.

EAGLE BRIDGE Over the past 6 years, the Scouts from Boy Scout Troop 77 and Cub Scout Pack 577 have established and maintained a quarter-mile Nature Trail surrounding the back and sides of Hawthorne Elementary School. Flair Forest Garden Club has also partnered with the Scouts to maintain the trail. Hikers and their canine companions may enter the trail on Foster Ridge near the rear of the school or at the trailhead near the playground on Caladium. When the weather is nice, teachers gather their students at "Nature's Classroom" or at the "Hornet's Nest" – two gathering spots along the trail.

Logan Leonard (age 13), has undertaken an ambitious project as part of becoming an Eagle Scout. He is leading a team of Boy Scouts from Troop 77 in building a 50-foot-long pedestrian bridge that will enable hikers to safely cross a muddy ravine. The groundbreaking was held on August 14, 2010.

Eagle Bridge is currently under construction and scheduled to be completed fall 2010. Funding for the bridge materials was provided by NBCA neighbors, Hawthorne School PTA, and a generous donation from Lowes of Chamblee. "We've almost reached our fundraising goal. We need only a few hundred more to buy handrails and hardware... it's tax deductible, you know!"

More info: logan-leonard@comcast.net.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

The **Brookdale/Foster Ridge/Overlook Neighborhood Watch** sponsored another great (but hot!) National Night Out (NNO) on Aug. 3 on Foster Ridge Court. Great food and fun were had by all. Special thanks go to Cheryl and John Cashin for their help organizing the event **along with Sherry Treco-Jones and area Block Captains**.

In addition to some 60 neighbors and kids, they had representatives from the North Precinct police - including Capt. Ellison, ICP Darryl Yarbro and NW Coordinator Al Fowler - and local station #22 firefighters and their two trucks. One of the trucks is one of only two in the entire county - an AIR truck - that houses some of the most advanced equipment available today. Also present were members of the NBCA board - Betty Phillips, Michael Gross, Laura Bulbin, Beth Nathan and Donna McPherson - and the wonderful NW VIPs Joan and Arnold Kurth. This year they also had a commercial sponsor, The Entry Enforcer. The latter gave away four prizes of their services to lucky neighbors!

The annual NNO is a terrific opportunity not only to get together, but to thank the police and spotlight our Neighborhood Watch system. During the event, several new neighbors joined the NW and a new block captain volunteered for an uncovered area. NNO always serves as a reminder that we all want to live in a safe and secure neighborhood where we have a well-organized community and strong police support.

On July 11, the **Lower Cravey Drive Neighborhood Watch group** held their 1st Event - a cookout at the Briarmoor Pool pavilion. Organized by Gayle and Ken Yeager, hamburgers & hot dogs, homemade sides and desserts were enjoyed by all. For many it was the first time to meet. Now we were more than just an Email

Address to each other. Thirty adults and kids enjoyed the pool and visiting with each other. ICP officer, Daryl Yarbro joined us to provide tips on keeping our homes safe. He shared information on being a good witness. Our own VIPs, Joan & Arnold Kurth shared their observations from being on patrol in our neighborhood. The Lower Cravey NW will soon turn One Year Old. If your NBCA area doesn't have an organized Neighborhood Watch group, think about creating one. It doesn't take a great deal of time. Knowing your neighbors and keeping tabs on each other could keep you & your family from becoming a victim of a crime!!!

On September 25, **Flair Knoll Court Neighborhood Watch** held its 2nd annual block party. The bring-a-dish event elicited great food and conversation. Thanks go to Michael Gross and Bryan Golson for organizing and hosting the event.

Kudos to **Bradford Square condos** for organizing a Neighborhood Watch, installing security cameras and upgrading street lighting this summer.

Local Neighborhood Watch event photos, ideas, documents, and a wealth of other information are available on-line at ...

<http://www.northbriarcliff.org/nwatch>

- **Report incidents through the fill-in-the-blank system there.**
- **Sign-up for CrimeTrac, the police crime notification system.**
- **Sign-up for the NBCA Neighborhood Watch announcement e-list.**

LETTER to the EDITOR: Walking the Dogs & Being a Good Neighbor

We have cats and dogs. Taking care of our two cats is easy. They stay in the house and use the litter box. Dogs need to go outside for exercise and to pee and poop. We walk our two big puppies and appreciate our good neighbors who understand doggy nature and allow our pups to pee and poop on their lawns. We know that no one likes dog poop, and our neighbors do not want that left on their lawns, so we carry little bags, collect the poop, and take it home for disposal in our own garbage can. To reciprocate our neighbors for their generosity, while walking our pups, I often collect the little bits of garbage and trash that litter the lawns and street and also dispose of that in our garbage cans.



Unfortunately, some people who own dogs are not considerate of their neighbors. These people open their doors and allow their dogs out to pee and poop wherever, or walk their dogs but leave the poop on their neighbors' lawns. This is not being a good neighbor and casts a bad light on all of us who walk our dogs.

No one likes dog poop, and this is not a rural area with pastures and woods, where doggy poop would not be distinguishable. Please be a good neighbor, and clean up after your dogs.

LOTS of INFO: <http://web.co.dekalb.ga.us/Voter/CurrentElectionInfo.html> or 404-298-4038

YOUR PERSONAL SAMPLE BALLOT: <http://www.sos.georgia.gov/MVP/Login.aspx>

ON THE BALLOT:

- **Partisan Offices**, same offices as in the Primary + some 3rd party candidates.
- **Non-Partisan Offices:** Judges, Board of Education Members.
- **Constitutional Amendments, Referenda, and Special Election Questions ...**
see <http://qual.sos.ga.gov/BallotAmendmentsAndReferendums.pdf> for more details
 1. "Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to make Georgia more economically competitive by authorizing legislation to uphold reasonable competitive agreements?"
 2. "Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to impose an annual \$10.00 trauma charge on certain passenger motor vehicles in this state for the purpose of funding trauma care?"
 3. "Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to allow the Georgia Department of Transportation to enter into multiyear construction agreements without requiring appropriations in the current fiscal year for the total amount of payments that would be due under the entire agreement so as to reduce long-term construction costs paid by the state?"
 4. "Shall the Constitution be amended so as to provide for guaranteed cost savings for the state by authorizing a state entity to enter into multiyear contracts which obligate state funds for energy efficiency or conservation improvement projects?"
 5. "Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to allow the owners of real property located in industrial areas to remove the property from the industrial area?"
 - *Referendum:* "Shall the Act be approved which grants an exemption from state ad valorem taxation for inventory of a business?"
 - *Special Election, DeKalb Homestead Exemption:* "Shall the Act be approved which amends the homestead exemption from DeKalb County ad valorem taxes for county purposes in an amount equal to the amount by which the current year assessed value of a homestead exceeds the base year assessed value of such homestead by extending the exemption for another five-year period?"



IN-PERSON EARLY/ADVANCE VOTING

- Sept 20 to Oct 22, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, MON-FRI, Memorial Drive office ONLY.
- Oct 25 to Oct 29, 7:00 am – 7:00 pm, MON-FRI, 5 locations including Memorial Drive, Chamblee Civic Center and DeKalb County Fire Headquarters (1950 West Exchange Place, Tucker 30084).

GARDENS and GREENSPACE

INTERCHANGE GARDENS. Regular workdays, for cleanup and/or planting, at the Shallowford I-85 interchange will continue, weather-permitting, on the third Saturday of every month, starting at 8:30 am. Damage from recent street light work means there will be plenty to do and maybe a new design. Contact interchange@northbriarcliff.org

NBCA's **OPEN GARDENS** program featured two very different gardens open during the spring and summer. Both were well attended. One was an established day lily garden, with a chance to order your favorite bulbs for planting at the best time. The other was a complete redo of a hillside site with the retaining wall made of recycled concrete slabs. Thank you to both of these gardening families.

Some Cravey Drive gardeners have developed their curbsides into attractive perennial gardens, making it a pleasure to drive by on the way to Northlake. Be sure to check them out.

MARY SCOTT NATURE PARK. Yes, you're seeing that right .. NATURE PARK rather than Nature Preserve. In standard usage nationally; "Nature Preserves" do not encourage public use but Nature Parks do.

Furniture and its placement was a point of discussion during the summer. According to the Master Plan, two Gathering Areas were to be established in the park far from the parking lot and a picnic table was ordered for each. Parks Services has overridden the Master Plan, saying that tables cannot be placed where their personnel could not easily empty a trash can. However, there is no trash can near the parking lot furniture either.

Efforts are being made to determine a permanent fix for the drainage problems in the parking lot. It was not constructed according to the county's engineering documents but the county may have officially allowed an on-the-spot change, meaning that the contractor is likely not responsible.

I have reviewed the financial records and all public funds allocated to MSNP have been exhausted. Friends of MSNP will need to support the park as time passes. An email listserv was created to provide communication within this Friends group. You can join by sending an email to MSNPfriends-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Early in the summer, a truck was observed dumping branches in MSNP, overflowing into the parking lot. That kind of dumping is a felony when done by a paid workman. If you see that kind of thing, call in the license plate.

MSNP will soon have Entry and Rules signs. An official Park Opening ceremony should follow shortly.

NEIGHBORHOOD SIGNS

From time to time, there are important gatherings that may be of interest to many of our Residents within our NBCA community. In an effort to inform the greatest number of individuals, the Association places signage along certain streets and intersections. These multi-use, professionally printed signs on metal stands are placed by Board members several days prior to the event and removed promptly afterwards.

In the past, the Association gained permission from each landowner before putting a sign on their property. We are currently updating our permissions list to ensure each property owner agrees to the terms of the placement.

We have contacted DeKalb County regarding the use of our signs. There are no definitive rules within the DeKalb County code for such signage. Currently, the only rules pertain to existing light poles, street signs and traffic controlling devices such as stop signs, yield signs etc. No one is permitted to adhere signage to such poles/signs.

During the Re-Imagining Shallowford series of public meetings, a significant number of signs went totally missing; one was found in a recycling pile. The loss was costly to the association and deprived neighbors of timely information. The association continues to grow and offer many more activities and opportunities for service. Please don't deprive our community of their right to be informed.

SILENT WATERS

NBCA has been unable thus far to obtain a copy of whatever report was submitted by the county staffers who participated in the on-site April 16 meeting to discuss streambank problems along North Fork Peachtree Creek on both sides of Shallowford Road. Doug Denton, a member of the Soil and Water Conservation Board, has been working with NBCA board member Bob Keaton on this endeavor. A permit for the stream buffer work near Publix has reportedly been issued by the County to the company who put up the fence, after the state determined that the restoration work in the parking lot could be classified as "emergency work."

DeKalb Watershed Management hired a contractor to clear "overgrowth" along sewer lines to facilitate inspection and maintenance. NBCA was NOT pre-notified about this work, except by Beth Nathan happening to be at a creekside home (local sewers often follow creeks and gullies) when someone came to the door to say that there would be workmen in that backyard that afternoon. That information was circulated ASAP but the contractors had moved on before most neighbors received the email.

BLAKE'S MILL HISTORIC MARKER

The NBCA Board is looking into whether the Shopping Center owner would be interested in having the missing Historic Marker replaced and what exactly the cost/process of replacing it would be.

September 2003. When it was more than obvious that the Blake's Mill historical marker (GHM 044-11) wasn't going to reappear at the new Shallowford Exchange shopping center, Beth Nathan tracked down the person in charge of those markers and was told that it had to go on a "lost markers" list for 2 years in case it could be found. But in Nov 2003 the state marker shop closed as a cost cutting measure, so the sign would have to be ordered from a private manufacturer under state contract.

June 2010. The current contact for replacement is Frankie Mewborn, 770-389-7271, GA DNR, Historic Markers. A rough estimate of cost is \$2200 for sign and post. The replacement process includes: finding funding; insuring that owner of land where it is to be placed approves; ordering it through Mr Mewborn; waiting about 3 months for delivery; finding the least expensive installation method (sometimes through county parks dept).

RIGHT TURN ON RED CITATIONS

During the second half of the summer, traffic citations were being issued to motorists turning right from the top of northbound Exit 93 onto Shallowford Road. For decades, a Yield sign had directed traffic in the far right lane, and for the past year or two a "No Turn on Red" sign had hung over the second lane from the



right in the center of the intersection. Arnold Kurth and Beth Nathan began trying to get an official pronouncement on what was legal at that intersection.. from both Georgia Department of Transportation which is responsible for the intersection and from DeKalb police. It was thought that the matter had been resolved after the Yield and a One-Way sign pointing the wrong way were removed, and then the Yield sign was restored. But citations continued. It took State Rep Levitas talking to both GDOT and the Chief of Police to get things fully coordinated. Rep Levitas also began an effort to have the troubling citations nullified. In the end, the Yield sign was replaced by a "**Right Turn on Red After Stop This Lane**", sign and the overhead "**No Turn on Red**" was modified to "**No Right Turn on Red From This Lane**".

North Briarcliff Civic Association
 2566 Shallowford Road, Ste 104, PMB 132
 Atlanta, GA 30345-1200

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Come to ANNUAL MEETING !!

Autumn 2010

If your mailing label is incorrect, please notify database@northbriarcliff.org. The "or current resident" designation on the second address line is necessary to insure proper delivery of all newsletters.

Signed articles in the newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the North Briarcliff Civic Association.

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Community Calendar

1 st Wednesdays	NBCA Board Meeting, 7:30 pm, Shallowford Presbyterian
3 rd Saturdays	Interchange Workday, 8:30 am, Shallowford @ I-85
Oct 2, Saturday	Boy Scout Troop 534 Pumpkin Sale, Briarcliff United Methodist Church parking lot. Proceeds fund troop activities for entire year.
Oct 16, Saturday	Briarcliff United Methodist Fall Festival, 10 am to 2 pm
Oct 18, Monday	Lakeside High School Health Fair 5 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Numerous health experts available for consultation, flu shots \$20, "ask a pharmacist". More info: lakesidehealthfair@gmail.com.
Nov 2, Tuesday	General Election Day. Runoff Nov 30, if needed.
Nov 8, Monday	<u>NBCA Annual Meeting</u> , 7 pm, Shallowford Presbyterian.
SPRING	POSTPONED from October ... Family-friendly non-competitive run/walk/skate/bike event through central DeKalb.

If there's a neighborhood issue that has you concerned, e.g. traffic, sidewalks, litter, etc, please contact the NBCA board. Let's work together !