

President
Steve Bighouse
president@merryhills.com

Vice President
Jorn Winter
vicepresident@merryhills.com



Secretary
Arlene Gross
secretary@merryhills.com

Treasurer
Tracy Alexander
treasurer@merryhills.com

Spring General Membership Meeting
Sunday May 15th at 4:00 p.m. at
DeKalb School of the Arts

Please come to the General Membership Meeting. We will have former commissioner Judy Yates and Dave Butler from the DeKalb County Parks Commission in attendance to talk about the new expansion of Kittredge Park. For those who would like to see the future park firsthand, we will meet at 3:00 p.m. at the Kittredge Pool for a guided tour of the park. In addition, State Representative, and Merry Hills neighbor, Mike Jacobs will talk about what was accomplished at the Georgia Assembly Session this year. Please see the enclosed flyer for directions and information. If you have any questions, please e-mail me at president@merryhills.com.

Steve Bighouse

Traffic and Pedestrian Safety

Your responses to the traffic and pedestrian safety survey have been compiled and results are published on our website at www.merryhills.com/traffic.htm. Many of you provided some very thoughtful suggestions and opinions about how to reduce traffic congestion and improve pedestrian safety for our residents.

A tally of the results showed that a majority of those who responded to the survey favor:

- Passenger rail to serve Clifton Road corridor
- More sidewalks in our neighborhood
- Repairing existing sidewalks in our neighborhood
- Adding traffic light and crosswalk at a LaVista Road entrance to Toco Hill shopping center
- Adding traffic light near Torah Day School
- Making Toco Hill shopping center more pedestrian friendly
- Adding express shuttle vans from Clifton corridor to retail centers at Toco Hill, Sage Hill, and others, to reduce mid-day traffic from the corridor

A majority of the respondents oppose:

- Streetcar on LaVista Road
- Adding traffic lanes to LaVista, Briarcliff or North Druid Hills Roads

Our Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Chair, Flo Wolf, is communicating your recommendations to Clifton Corridor, DeKalb County, and other officials. Continuing effort will be needed to ensure that any traffic improvements in and around our neighborhood reflect our needs and wishes. You can join in helping to accomplish this goal. Send Flo a message at traffic@merryhills.com to volunteer as a member of the Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Committee, or to find out how you can help. And if you haven't yet participated in the survey, it's not too late. Go to www.merryhills.com/survey.htm to complete the survey online, or contact Flo for a paper version.

Development Around MHHA

ARNOLD-TOCO PARK REZONING: As expected, on April 26 the DeKalb Board of Commissioners rezoned this property at Toco Hill from residential to commercial with five conditions. Those conditions are: 1) approval of Public Works Department, 2) driveway access with approval of the Department of Transportation and Public Works, 3) approval of current landscaping code, 4) approval of current tree ordinance, and the toughest yet—5) the large white oak in the middle of the property shall not be removed. Rather than the Planning Department, Susan Hood, Head of the County Greenspace Program, will be in charge of negotiations with the family. In January 2005, DeKalb County, through the Greenspace program, made an offer to buy the property for \$500,000. The owners refused any offer to sell and claimed to have already turned down \$1,125,000. An effort to try to buy the development rights is still possible. After delaying the rezoning for almost two years, it is felt that this is a partial victory for MHHA and N. Druid Residents Association. We have set up an e-mail address for park development information and inquiries, including Arnold-Toco Park. It is parks@merryhills.com.

News of Interest

- Regions Bank expects to open a full-service branch in Toco Hill Shopping Center by late November 2005.
- Toco Urgent Care has moved again. Now it is located at 1276 McConnell Drive, Suite A & B, close to the Avis Williams Library and Mason Mill Park. Phone number is 404-321-2100.
- Theone Dellinger, Holly Lane, has moved to Merrill Gardens in Dunwoody.
- Sam and Stacie Linsky and daughter, Melinda, Christmas Lane, have sold their home and will be moving to Tampa, Florida.
- Amy and Gilbert Zapatka, 1518 Holly Lane, have a new baby boy, Ryan, born in March

Atlanta Business Personality and Merry Hills Resident: Susan Jacobs

Susan Jacobs' job takes her places most football fans can only dream. As Vice President of Communications and Community Relations for Atlanta Falcons, this Weatherstone resident is responsible for making the Falcons and all things connected to them look good – off the field and in the community. “We have a very extensive community outreach program. We work closely with players to get them out in the community to schools, youth groups and with their own foundations,” says Jacobs.

Jacobs' career path includes public affairs director for Time Warner and director of community affairs and philanthropy for Limited Brands. Home Depot co-founder Arthur Blank was one of the reasons Jacobs left retailing to work with the Falcons. “He developed a culture here where fans come first and community is important,” says Jacobs. Jacobs is active in many organizations the community, among them Cool Girls, where she plays an advisory role as mentor or friend to young African-American girls in college. We are glad to have Susan Jacobs in our community. (from September 26, 2004 *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*)

WELCOME TO ALL OUR NEW NEIGHBORS

NEW NEIGHBORS

Lynn Nester, Merry Lane
Chavi and Matt Lewis, Reindeer Lane
Kristi and Chip Mullins, Christmas Lane

NEW NEIGHBORS - JODY LANE

Eugene Berger
Steven and Andrea Watkins
George and Joan Goldman
Phyllis Arogeti
Simon and Hannah Ghertner
Pearline Franco
Ben McGimsey
Douglas and Heida Zaner

NEW NEIGHBORS – BRAMBLE ROAD

Alan & Cindy Brunson
 Victor and Nelda Rouso
 T.L. Hobson
 George J. & Elaine Eisenberg.
 Drs. George and Barbara Gottlieb
 Rick Rosenthal and Wendy Saul
 Lois Michalove
 Mrs. Marlene W. Gelernter
 Jack Saiman and Chana Saiman

Sabina Szlam.
 Sam and Sylvia Berkowitz
 Bob and Diane Moorefield
 Leonard and Tilda Cohen
 Selwyn & Monica Hurwitz
 Howard and Rita Fine
 Lilian Goodman
 Barbara and Roger Williams
 Jeff & Renee Levene
 Rabbi Eliyahu and Sara Nechama

Merry Hills Homeowner Association Dues

Membership dues for the Merry Hills Homeowner’s Association 2005 Calendar Year are now due. We appreciate your continued support and welcome new and returning members. Dues for 2005 continue to be a low \$20 per year. Checks should be made payable to Merry Hills Homeowners Association. If you would like to become a member or renew your membership, please forward your check to:

Tracy Alexander
 Merry Hills Homeowner’s Association
 P.O. Box 98490, Atlanta, GA 30359

In addition to money, it takes volunteers to keep our association strong. Please lend any skills or time you can.

<input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewing Member		<input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Renter	
Name(s):			
Street address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Home phone:		Office phone:	
E-mail address(es):			
List me in the membership directory, which prints names, street addresses and home phone numbers of members (does not list E-mail addresses): (Yes/No)			
List my name in the membership directory: Exactly as above, or as follows:			
I am interested in volunteering for:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Board position	<input type="checkbox"/> Section representative	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership	
<input type="checkbox"/> Zoning	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Website	
<input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch	<input type="checkbox"/> Welcoming newcomers	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
I can contribute the following professional expertise to the Association:			

Why am I not receiving an E-mail newsletter?

We have e-mailed four newsletters to residents on our mailing list during 2004, and one newsletter in February 2005. If you think your e-mail address is on our mailing list, but you have not received your e-mail newsletters, we have published information to help you on our website. Go to www.merryhills.com and click the Help link at the top of the page. If your e-mail address is not currently on our mailing list, you can subscribe by clicking the Subscribe button on the website.

Please Note -- Hotmail Account Users: We will no longer be able to support NEW e-mail addresses for Hotmail accounts. Too often the e-mails fail when the mailbox reaches its maximum size. We want to make sure that the e-mail address we use to contact you is a viable one. If you are already subscribed to our mailing list, we are recommending that you provide an e-mail account other than a free Hotmail account. Yahoo, for instance, gives 100 MB of free e-mail storage in comparison to Hotmail's 1MB. Thanks for your cooperation! Steve Jenkins/E-mail Admin -- mailinglist@merryhills.com

**Merry Hills Homeowners Association
Board Members**

Officers

PresidentSteve Bighouse..... president@merryhills.com
Vice President.....Jorn Winter..... vicepresident@merryhills.com
SecretaryArlene Gross secretary@merryhills.com
Treasurer.....Tracy Alexander..... treasurer@merryhills.com
Past PresidentLinda Billingsley..... pastpresident@merryhills.com

Section Representatives

Section 1Erin DiChiara section1rep@merryhills.com
Section 2 Doug and Tracy Callas.....section2rep@merryhills.com
Section 3Bess and Shawn Allen section3rep@merryhills.com
Section 4 Vacant section4rep@merryhills.com
Section 5Shirley Brickman section5rep@merryhills.com
Section 6Jean Cohen section6rep@merryhills.com
and Betty Jean Dolan
Section 7Patrick Tomlin section7rep@merryhills.com
Section 8Ariana and Roy Fass section8rep@merryhills.com
Section 9Simon Ghertner section9rep@merryhills.com
Section 10 Nelda and Victor Rousso section10rep@merryhills.com

Section Definitions

Section 11252-1330 Merry, 1235 Christmas, 2002-2066 LaVista, 2178 LaVista
Section 21331-1413 Merry, 2771-2801 N. Druid Hills
Section 31246-1341 Christmas, 1724 and 1725 Pine Tree Circle
Section 41348-1448 Christmas
Section 51722-1755 Reindeer, 1708-1798 N. Holly
Section 61260-1402 Holly
Section 71406-1519 Holly, 2487-2515 N. Druid Hills
Section 81426-1472 Wembley Court
Section 9Jody Lane
Section 10Bramble Road

Chairpersons

E-mail Administrator.... Steve Jenkins mailinglist@merryhills.com
Flags Vacant..... flagman@merryhills.com
Neighborhood Watch ... Vacant..... watch@merryhills.com
Newsletter.....Lauri Trainor newsletter@merryhills.com
Neighborhood Val Schlorff and
Welcome.....Virginia Smith..... welcome@merryhills.com
Zoning Vacant..... zoning@merryhills.com
Webmaster..... Flo Wolf webmaster@merryhills.com
Parks..... Linda Billingsley.....parks@merryhills.com
Traffic and
Pedestrian Safety..... Flo Wolf traffic@merryhills.com

Holiday Schedule: Garbage/Yard Waste Collection

Memorial Day, Monday, May 30: Garbage pick-up is Wednesday. No change – yardwaste.
Independence Day, Monday, July 4: Garbage pick-up is Wednesday. No change – yardwaste.

Have an item for the MHHA Newsletter? E-mail to newsletter@merryhills.com by June 1, 2005