

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

We had a great turn-out at our 7th National Night Out party, a Going Away Party for Crime. We estimate that some 250 neighbors attended the event along with many men and women in blue, some on horseback, a group of firemen and a fire truck! We were delighted to see so many Public Safety officers and so many neighbors out to greet them.

We especially wish to thank our sponsors for this year's event. Target, Piedmont Park Conservancy, Shane's Barbeque, Broadview Security, Midtown Wash, Richard's Store, and Mary Mac's.

- **NNO Pictures:** <http://www.midtownponce.org/NNO2009/>

VISION NIGHTCLUB

#1 - A meeting was held earlier this week as Club Vision appeared before the Development Review Committee (DRC), which was attended by 70+ neighbors, all of them either opposed or very concerned about the impact this club may have on the quality of life in the neighborhood, should it get approved by city officials.

We are a little confused as this DRC meeting was for comment only, in other words, not official. Club Vision has already done the renovation to the building - without going through the proper process - and now, they have to file for the Special Administrative Permit (SAP) which they should have done before they did the renovation. Make sense? No, it does not. The Vision (we call it that because we don't have another name at this point) owners apparently feel they don't have to follow the rules. They did not follow them when they were in Midtown before, just across the street from where they want to open now. Nor did they follow them at Compound, on Brady Avenue....and plan to reopen that facility very soon. So why should they follow the rules now?

To sum up the bits and pieces of information that we have now, we assume that the owners of the new Club Vision will apply for the SAP for the 1021-1029 Peachtree Street location and start the Land Use reviews all over again. The DRC expertly and carefully laid out a list of issues that must be addressed, including parking and traffic, queuing, noise, litter and public safety in the surrounding area.

#2 - Rumor has it they will also apply for a liquor license for that same location within the next few weeks, and, they are planning to open by Labor Day.

#3 - In our last e-blast we reported that the capacity would be "upward of 600" patrons. Several people wrote to us advising that the figure would be more like 1200-1500. This makes the specter of Vision's return all the worse given that many people would be vying for the same (just under) 300 parking spaces we told you about earlier.

We will keep you informed as we learn new information. Meanwhile be prepared to attend all public meetings on this issue. We will prepare and publish a list of officials and their email addresses, to whom you should send emails voicing your opinions of having this club reopen in Midtown.

STABBING IN THE PARK

WSB-TV reported that there has been another stabbing in Piedmont Park during curfew hours. As far as we know at this point, APD has not identified any suspects. Southern Voice inquired whether we had any additional information (unfortunately we do not), and they ran the article linked below.

- **WSB-TV:** *Man Stabbed In Stomach In Piedmont Park*
- **Southern Voice:** *Residents on edge after another stabbing in Piedmont Park*

PROBLEM PROPERTIES

The situation at the former Wachovia Bank Building has escalated from bad to worse in recent weeks. We have advised the owners (Midtown Urology) of the conditions there, but have not received any reassuring responses. The HOPE (Homeless Outreach and Panhandling Enforcement) Team has conducted an assessment of the situation there and is devising a strategy. Code enforcement will also take some action.

Sgt Lori Norman and the HOPE team just cleaned out a vagrant nest at 826 Juniper and required to owner of the building to mow the weeds.

Code Enforcement contacted the owners of the vacant condo building on Piedmont Avenue at 12th Street, requiring them to mow the weeds there.

JAIL STATUS FOR CRIMINALS OF INTEREST (partial)

[Kenneth Lamb](#), dangerous sex offender with drug addiction living on the streets, still in jail

[Donald Rayfield](#), area burglar, still in jail

[Ricky Love](#) - the hulky psychopathic vagrant who brutally attacked a woman on Peachtree Street last year, and has terrorized the community for years with his psychotic episodes, is still in jail awaiting sentencing for revocation of suspended sentence (pending results of psychiatric evaluation).

We recently obtained a picture of [Kim Paige](#), the psychopathic vagrant who attacked a woman as she stopped at a traffic light – has anyone ever seen her around? She's still in jail.

FACEBOOK

We're getting into social media - we're on [Facebook](#)! Do a search for Midtown Ponce Security Alliance, and [join the group](#). While it is not our primary means of communication, we could use all the help we can get in spreading the word about the work MPSA is doing to make our neighborhood a safer place. It is also a good place to learn more about your neighbors...

MPSA NEWSWIRE

Sunday Paper: *Back on the Street Again* - <http://www.sundaypaper.com/More/Archives/tabid/98/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/4346/Back-on-the-street-again.aspx>

Creative Loafing: *Re-visioning of Midtown has strong opposition* -
<http://blogs.creativeloafing.com/freshloaf/2009/07/31/re-visioning-of-midtown-has-strong-opposition/>

MPSA MAILBAG

#1 - *This evening I saw a man loading what appeared to be some sort of large electronic into his car in complete darkness. Something about his body language when my headlights shined upon him made me question. After going over the next hill out of sight I turned around to get a second look and a license plate just incase a theft was occurring. He was driving a [Vehicle description omitted.] After I passed, he immediately turned around and drove off quickly in the opposite direction of me. His actions could have been completely innocent. He may have even lived there, but I live around the corner and drive on this street at least 3 times each day and don't recall EVER seeing this car parked there before. I just felt I should report what I felt could have been a robbery incase someone does report it. I hope that is not the case, but if it is I hope my information will help. MPSA Reply: Trust your gut feeling and always call 911 when you see suspicious activity. The police would much rather check out something that turns up totally innocent rather than take an incident report later.*

#2 - *I just wanted to let you all know what happened to me yesterday behind Papi's restaurant off of Ponce de Leon. I walked into the restaurant with one of my friends on my lunch break. I walked back out into the parking lot, and tried to start my car. It would not crank. This man comes out of nowhere and explains that he knows exactly what is wrong with my vehicle, and can fix it. I explain to him no, no, I will call AAA but thanks. He insists he knows what is wrong with it, gets under the front of my Ford Explorer and it all miraculously cranks. I decide to take my car into the ford dealership later and have them take a look. Steve Watson, at Tim Stewart Ford explains to me he sees this scam quite often. Needless to say this homeless man wanted my money, and wanted to act like he could fix my car that he actually messed up himself. This man was a light skinned African American. He was most likely in his early 50's late 40's. He was missing a front tooth. He has a tattoo on his left upper arm. He hair was turning white/gray. He was wearing some type of sports jersey with light blue shorts. I could pick him out in a line up. He was about 5'4. He told me that he sleeps over behind Papis and stays in that area. He also mentioned that he was sitting there because he was waiting for a lady to get home down the street to "fix" her car, as he was a mechanic. I sure hope this helps!*

BE SAFE AND STAY VIGILANT! And remember, if you don't remove those laptops and GPS devices from your car, criminals scouting the neighborhood will gladly do it for you.

- Your Neighbors at the Midtown Ponce Security Alliance

A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY SPONSORS WHO PROVIDE A MAJOR ENHANCEMENT TO YOUR PATROL'S EFFECTIVENESS:

The Sembler Company | Post Parkside

Fifth Group Restaurants - Ecco, South City Kitchen, La Tavola and El Taco

Midtown Tire, Inc. | Midtown Neighbors Association

AND THE MANY RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS MEMBERS OF THE MPSA