

# MOUNTAINBROOK

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WINTER 2008



## COMING SOON-NEW PLAYGROUND!!!

Due to the awesome support of our neighborhood, we have now raised enough money to begin Phase I of our playground Project! Phase I will include a play structure built by Just for Fun, Inc., a custom playground builder out of South Carolina. You can view pictures and read more information on our website at [www.mbcivic.com](http://www.mbcivic.com). It is a wooden structure with metal and plastic components including 2 gazebo-style platforms, one at 3' high, the other at 5'. The activities include: double slide, arched bedrock climber, steering wheels, firepole, 5' wave slide, arched monkey bars, rock wall and swinging bridge. It will also include our refurbished track ride on new posts (or zip line, as some people call it). The track ride has been the #1 most requested item, so we found a way to salvage it but make it safer. We will also be refurbishing our tire swing and remounting it on new posts as it is still in excellent condition. Just for Fun will also install new borders around the perimeter of the main structure and the tire swing area and put in approximately 9" of hardwood mulch. Mulch is something we have never had and we are excited about being able to include this safety feature. The play structure will also include ADA accessible vinyl coated steel stairs. All of the work performed will be in accordance with ASTM and CPSC guidelines for playground safety. The wood is arsenic-free treated pine with rounded edges and has a clear oil based wood preservative applied. Minimal maintenance is required on the playground and therefore will not substantially affect our annual budget.

Future phases of our project are to include a new swingset with regular swings and toddler swings, slides that run down the hill, and a refurbished basketball court. We ask that you bear with us as we are without swings for a period of time while we continue to raise funds. Our current t-bar swings do not meet safety code any longer and we were able to get the best price on demolition by having all the equipment taken out at the same time. **Keep those brick sales coming** and we will be able to install more equipment soon!

Demolition of all of the current playground equipment, except for the spring riding toys which we are keeping, took place on December 6th. You may have been surprised if you visited recently and saw nothing but a bunch of dirt up there on the hill! Installation of the new equipment is expected shortly before or shortly after Christmas (Merry Christmas, Mountainbrook!). The installation will take 3-5 days and we ask that you stay clear of the work zone until the project is completed.

The members of our playground committee, who have been actively working on this project for almost a year now, have researched all the options including metal, plastic, recycled plastic, and different types of wood. We worked hard to provide a safe and interesting play area for all age groups. We are excited to present this as the best choice for our unique setting and we know it will be a great addition to the neighborhood!

**Don't have email?** Periodically we send out important information via email between newsletter printings. Call Mike Anderson if you need hard copies of all messages delivered to your home. As always, please check with neighbors that are not online to help keep them informed of community news and events.

### **THANK YOU TO OUR LATEST BRICK BUYERS.....**

Bill Crane	John & Dawn O'Brien
Manuel & Carmen Garmilla	Scott & Ashley Roehrig
Michael & Jeanne Green	Dennis & Donna Savell
Virginia Guignard	Wolfgang & Elke Schwarz
Justin & Janet Hunt	Doug & Sally Beth Sutherland
Ambrose & Emily Kalmbach	Carol & David Shutley
LaGena Lookabill	Ross & Denise Wilson

We couldn't have done it without our great neighbors! A special thank you to all of our supporters! Mountainbrook is truly a special place to live.

**TO BUY A BRICK,  
DOWNLOAD AN ORDER  
FORM AT  
[WWW.MBCIVIC.COM](http://WWW.MBCIVIC.COM)  
OR CALL ASHLEY  
(704)556-9773**

**MOUNTAINBROOK**

**CIVIC ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL MEETING**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 24TH  
5PM**

HAMPTON INN, PHILLIPS PLACE  
REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

What makes our neighborhood so great?  
How do we keep it that way? Here's  
your chance to find out! We want to  
keep you informed and we welcome  
your ideas. Plus, it's a great way to get  
to know your neighbors. Leave the kids  
at home and have a date night at Phillips  
Place afterwards!

**WE NEED YOU!**

*Are you interested in keeping our neighborhood a wonderful  
place to live? Do you have experience with zoning issues or  
are you good at planning or organizing? If you want to pitch  
in or know someone who might, we want to hear from you!*

*Contact Karen Willis about joining our  
Civic Association Board.*

*President@mbcivic.com or 704-564-3399.*



If you would like to place an ad in  
our quarterly newsletter or annual  
directory, please see our ad rates at  
[www.mbcivic.com](http://www.mbcivic.com)  
or contact **Mike Anderson**  
Directory @MBCivic.com  
704-556-0456

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- Mon, December 22nd : Food Drive—Leave your canned foods in a bag for pick up
- Christmas Eve : Put our your luminaries—To be delivered to you by civic association
- Sat, January 24th : Annual Meeting, 5PM, Hampton Inn



Watch for signs for more info or visit [www.mbcivic.com](http://www.mbcivic.com)

**Congratulations to the Yard of the Month Winners!**

Please see our website at [www.mbcivic.com](http://www.mbcivic.com)  
for photos of these beautiful homes.

- Sept. : **3346 Tinkerbell, Charles & Mary Ellen Black**
- Oct. : **3419 Mountainbrook Road, Marshall & Kim Millican**
- Nov. : **3134 Landerwood Drive, Wil & Camille Coers**



**HIGHVIEW SPEEDHUMPS PETITION**

It's time again to begin the process of requesting speedhumps on Highview Road. As you will recall, our speedhumps were approved last year but were cancelled due to an appeal by a homeowner. We now have the opportunity to request the speedhumps again. The rules have since been changed and we are now only required to receive either approval from at least 60% of the affected homeowners OR approval from the homeowners associations, not both. The petition has been received and is due back to the DOT by February 24th, 2009. If you live in the affected area, please be expecting either a knock at your door or a petition left in your mailbox. Please return the petition promptly. If you have any questions, please contact the CDOT Business Manager, Phillip Reiger, at 704-336-4896, or contact Burt Arrington, neighbor and civic association board member at 704-551-0567.

***Happy Holidays Neighbors!***

There is so much going on and so much to tell everyone that I hope we can fit everything in! It is a very exciting time here in Mountainbrook!

First, Mountainbrook now has a Mission and Vision statement. Our board has been attending the city's Community University and also held a fall planning session where we discussed projects and planned for 2009 and beyond. Our goal is to have a master plan for Mountainbrook. We hope this Mission and Vision will guide us and help set priorities in our fine neighborhood

**Vision:**

Mountainbrook, where our tranquil, tree-lined streets embrace you with beauty, and our residents welcome you with friendliness. A safe neighborhood offering a park, playground, optional swim and tennis club, and a variety of social activities - something for everyone to enjoy. Welcome to our hidden gem right in the heart of South Park!

**Mission:**

The Mountainbrook Civic Association, in coordination with other organizations within the community, will strive to create and maintain a continuously unified structure that supports the priorities and communication of its residents.

As detailed on the front of the newsletter, we are getting a new playground. We are very excited about this! The old playground came out on December 6<sup>th</sup>, and we have submitted our deposit and are awaiting an installation date. Please know that this is just Phase 1 of the playground project. Phase 2 will include new swings and possibly an additional slide. We are continuing to collect brick orders to complete our new playground.

It has been great hearing from all of you, and many of you have brought up some very good questions over the last few months. The covenants seem to be an interesting topic these days. We have done some research and it appears we need to update our covenants. Currently, they do not allow for appropriate governance and they do not allow for variance. So, if you have a new building project planned for your property, you will need to abide by the standing covenants. We have added the updating of our covenants to our project list.

Also, please keep in mind that there are many restrictions that the city has that our neighborhood must follow. An interesting question came up recently concerning storage structures. (i.e. Pods etc.) The city considers these "temporary" structures and after 90 days, they violate city code. If you have a storage unit on your lot like this, please be aware. If any neighbor has questions, you can call "311" and the city will direct you to the appropriate location for answers.

As we head into 2009, we are aware that everyone is concerned with our financial security; not only for ourselves but for our country. Mountainbrook is not immune to these struggles. Our dues are our only way to support our neighborhood. It is how we keep things running and continue to improve our environment which in turn maintains our property values. We have many existing expenses (mowing, lighting etc.) and many projects that we feel are a priority and hope to continue and start in 2009. We hope that you will plan to support the Civic Association next year.

Lastly, I would like to personally thank our board for all of their hard work this past year. Each person has contributed above and beyond, and due to the fact that we are short a few positions, many have worked double duty. I hope that some of you may consider taking a board position next year, and if you don't have time, will consider signing up for a committee. Like I said, it is an exciting time here in Mountainbrook; your attention, time and energy are what make us the GREAT neighborhood that we are! Hope to see you at our annual meeting in January!

Any detailed information on any of the above topics can be found on our website at [www.mbcivic.com](http://www.mbcivic.com).

*Karen Willis*

President, Mountainbrook Civic Association

**Your Current Mountainbrook Civic Association Board Members—here to serve you:**

President	Karen Willis	President@MBCivic.com	704-564-3399
Vice President	OPEN	VP@MBCivic.com	
Treasurer	Sandy Carlson	Treasurer@MBCivic.com	704-554-4793
Secretary	Jennifer Carwile	Secretary@MBCivic.com	704-837-7492
Beautification	Camille Coers	Beautification@MBCivic.com	704-499-6362
Directory, Website, Acting Membership	Mike Anderson	Directory@MBCivic.com	704-556-0456
Membership	OPEN	Membership@MBCivic.com	
Newsletter	Janice Major	Newsletter@MBCivic.com	704-643-9722
Safety	Glen Drysdale	Safety@MBCivic.com	704-969-1750
Social and Anne Heinig Park	Ashley Samuelson	Social@MBCivic.com	704-556-9773
Special Projects and Anne Heinig Park	Burt Arrington	AnneHeinigPark@MBCivic.com	704-551-0567
Welcome	Bill Martin	Welcome@MBCivic.com	704-906-1902

**Mountainbrook Civic Association  
PO Box 472926  
Charlotte, NC 28247**



**TO:  
Mountainbrook Resident**