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THE DRUID HILLS NEWS

Brought to You by The Druid Hills Civic Association

September 2023
Volume 38 | Number 3
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Open Streets Emory Village Returns October 21!

Open Streets Emory Village will return on Saturday, October 21 starting at noon! The 11th annual Open Streets will have live music, food trucks, on-street activities for all ages, adult beverages, and neighborhood merchant specials.

Based on feedback from previous years, Open Streets Emory Village will be condensed to a smaller footprint. Only S. Oxford Road (the stretch with Domino's Pizza) will be closed. But you can still look forward to Glenn Church Trunk and Treat, an Artists' Market, five bands, food, adult beverages, and many more fun family activities.

Start thinking about those Halloween costumes! Watch emoryvillage.org for more information soon!



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Chair's Corner

By DHCA Chair, Van Biesel



The mission of the Druid Hills Civic Association is to “connect neighbors, foster civic engagement, and steward the neighborhood’s beauty.”

We work toward this mission in many ways. The nine DHCA committees each focus on specific goals and areas of interest. Our land use, greenspace, public safety and transportation committees strive to conserve and protect our built environment. Our communications, tour and membership committees work to build community, share information, and strengthen partnerships.

The fuel that powers the DHCA is volunteerism, and we are always in need of fellow community members to help us fulfill our mission. There are many ways to help serve the community. In addition to joining one of the DHCA committees, there are also opportunities to volunteer with other important groups. The Emory Village Alliance works to promote and improve the Emory Village commercial district in the heart of Druid Hills. The Olmsted Linear Park Alliance works to preserve and care for the six linear parks along Ponce. There are multiple “friends of parks” groups for the many parks throughout Druid Hills.

If you would like to get involved with the Civic Association or other neighborhood organizations, we would love to hear from you and help you get started. Please contact us at chair@druidhills.org or vice-chair@druidhills.org.

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DRUID HILLS NEWS WELCOMES YOUR ARTICLES

The Druid Hills News is published quarterly by the Druid Hills Civic Association. Articles are welcome for consideration. Please limit unassigned articles to no more than 600 words or notify the editor in advance.

Submissions may be edited for length or grammar. Please send articles and photos to editor@druidhills.org or JJRichar@bellsouth.net. Send copy as e-mail attachments and photos as jpg attachments if possible.

DEADLINES

The Druid Hills News is mailed to be received in homes during the second week of the month of the issue. The following are the deadlines for the next two Druid Hills News issues:

DECEMBER 2023

DEADLINE – NOVEMBER 11

MARCH 2024

DEADLINE – FEBRUARY 10

EDITORS

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Alida Silverman, Joanna Stroud,
Dorothy Sussman and Pam Woodley.

Thank you to our Spring Celebration Sponsors

By Michael Murphy



The South Fork Conservatory and the Druid Hills Civic Association want to take this opportunity to give a big THANK YOU to all the sponsors and guests of our two Spring Celebration

Events, the Tour of Homes, and Emory Village Spring Concert. Although we are most grateful to all involved, we especially appreciate the support provided by our two largest sponsors, Coca-Cola and HammerSmith. Coca-Cola directed a donation towards The South Fork Conservatory, and the Tour of Homes, while HammerSmith donated funds to the Tour, The Georgia Native Plant Society, Friends of Peavine Trail, SPARK, Paideia and Fernbank Elementary.

We all know what a great corporate citizen Coca-Cola is. But you may not know a lot about our other big supporter, Hammersmith, so here's a little background. Hammersmith was founded by Warner McConaughy in 1991 and is one of the area's leading residential design and renovation firms. Warner is very active in the community and has been a 30-year supporter of the Druid Hills Tour of Homes. Warner also co-founded The South Fork Conservancy. Warner is a life-long resident of Druid Hills. He attended the Glenn School, Fernbank, Paideia, and Druid Hills High School, and his three kids have followed mostly the same path.

Warner grew up on Peavine Creek overlooking The Falls. He and his wife Allison now live on Oxford Road and love walking their dog on the twittens and strolling to Emory Village for dinner. When asked what motivates him to be such a big supporter of causes like the Tour, Warner said, "It's important to keep things local and to support the community, the kids, and the environment. When I saw the opportunity to support so many meaningful causes at once and allow this great event to happen right here in our own backyard, I was delighted to get on board."

The generosity of our sponsors and hard work of our volunteers really paid off in 2023. In the words of Sally Sears, founding director of The South Fork Conservancy, "The 2023 Tour introduced hundreds of visitors to a place they had never seen before that was right in their own backyard, namely the Peavine creek trail and rain garden."

What those visitors may not have realized is that all the work to clean up and beautify the Peavine Creek trail and rain garden was done by neighborhood volunteers, with privately raised, local funds. 2024 will be no different, as the South Fork Conservancy will invest over \$20,000 from Spring Celebration events and hundreds of volunteer hours to improve access and beautify the Peavine Creek watershed flowing through Emory Village.

And that's why the Druid Hills Civic Association has annual events like the Tour...to help residents enjoy their neighborhood, while raising funds to make our neighborhoods even better!

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PARK VIEWS

News from the DHCA Parks Committee

A Lovely Oasis in Druid Hills

By Donna Shapiro

Among the lovely gardens featured in this year's Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour was a certified native plant garden (certification by the Georgia Native Plant Society (GNPS)) in Chelsea Heights. Recently, I interviewed one of the owners of this fine native plant garden, Virginia DuPre. About 15 years ago, Virginia and her partner Michelle Bray began transforming their landscape from a grassy lawn with non-native monkey grass, azaleas, mahonia, nandina and elaeagnus into a garden with almost 25 native shrubs, over 50 native flowering plants, groundcovers, and ferns, and over 15 native trees (They started with a few native trees: dogwoods, a white oak and sassafras). Now, the property is completely covered with native plants, with three exceptions.

Many of the plants came from Virginia's mother, a longtime native plant enthusiast. The rest came from plant rescues with GNPS, and purchases. (You can find a list of native plant nurseries on the GNPS website). Their native landscape provides constantly changing four season interest: blooming and fragrant plants emerge throughout the year, and the winter is adorned by evergreens, bright berries and sculptural tree, shrub, and perennial plant forms. And not to be ignored are the birds, bees, and butterflies that love the food and shelter this beautiful place provides.

Virginia and Michelle did most of the work themselves, with just some assistance with the hardscaping. It's been a labor of love. And the attractive results speak for themselves!

The effort to plant native plants is an effort to sustain the native ecosystem – plants, wildlife, water, soil and air. The certification program at GNPS was established to promote the importance of planting, nurturing, and protecting native plants in a residential landscape. To learn more about the certification program, go to <https://gnps.org/habitat/>

List of Virginia and Michelle's Native Plants

TREES: White Oak; Hickory—mockernut, shagbark; Basswood; Serviceberry; Sassafras; Dogwood; Redbud; American Holly; Cedar; Musclewood; Grancy Greybeard/Fringe Tree; Chalk Leaf Maple; Sugar Maple; Mountain Magnolia; Franklinia; Paw Paw; Parsley Hawthorn

SHRUBS: Oak Leaf Hydrangea; Anise; Spicebush; Sweet Shrub; Maple Leaf Viburnum; Virginia Sweetspire; Clethra (Pepper Bush); Bottlebrush Buckeye; Scarlet Buckeye; Painted Buckeye; Piedmont Azalea; Flame Azalea; Winterberry; Inkberry; Beautyberry; Hearts a Burstin/Strawberry Bush; Witch Hazel; Catawba Rhododendron; Various Blueberries and huckleberries from low growing to high bush; Chokeberry; Saint John's Wort; Leucothoe —Dog Hobble

FLOWERING PLANTS:



SPRING BLOOMERS: Trout Lily; Phlox divaricata—woodland phlox; Bloodroot; Celandine Poppy; Columbine; Virginia Bluebells; Hepatica; Rue Anemone; Bellwort/Merry Bells; Mayapple; Jack in the pulpit; Solomons Plume; Wild Geranium; Dwarf Crested Iris; Alumroot; Wild Blue Indigo—Baptista; Trillium—various—toad shade, Sweet Betsy, luteum, catesby, nodding; Mouse Eared Coreopsis; Indian Pink; Atamasco Lily/Rain lily; Skullcap Hyssop; Stokes Aster; Amsonia/Texas Blue star and fringed amsonia; Fly Poison; Blue Eyed Grass; Chickweed; Black Cohosh; Foamflower

SUMMER BLOOMERS: Black Eyed Susan; Beebalm; Butterfly weed (a milkweed); Hyssops; Pentstemon; Obedient Plant; Primrose; Lobelia (blue cardinal flower); Curtis Goldenrod; Carolina Aster

GROUND COVERS: Green and Gold; Partridgeberry; Blue Eyed Grass; Yellowroot; Ginger—Heartless, Shuttleworth

FERNS: Christmas; Wood Fern; Lady Fern; Ostrich Fern; Southern Maidenhair; Northern Maidenhair; Sensitive Fern

Some photos courtesy of Rex D. Matthews <https://rexdmatthews.smugmug.com>



PARK VIEWS

News from the DHCA Parks Committee

Park Views: Traffic Circle News

By Pam Woodley

Burlington and Ridgewood Dr.

Neighbors recently got together a substantial cash collection for Linwood and Ellie Roberds, who keep the traffic triangle in beautiful shape all year round, switching out the flowers several times per year. Right now it is filled with these colorful, uplifting Cosmos and brightens our days when we drive down Ridgewood Dr. Hopefully, our collection will cover their costs for awhile. They also recently had their first baby - congrats to the Roberds!

Lullwater and N. Decatur Rd.

We had hoped to restore the water supply in this major circle, which the Parks and Green-space Committee recently replanted with natives. It turns out the water cannot be restored at a reasonable cost. Fortunately, we have had our usual share of summer thunderstorms and Jimmy Powell, Director of Exterior for Emory, has been great about helping us with watering if the rains don't come. Thank you, Jimmy and Emory!



Traffic circle at Burlington and Ridgewood Drive

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More info is at waltzplay.org.



Scenes from 2022 Creek Rising Event

Creek Rising Bash Benefits SFC Trails and Conservation Efforts

South Fork Conservancy's (SFC) annual Creek Rising Benefit Bash will take place on **Thursday, September 14**, from 5-7:30 p.m. at Zonolite Park. Plans for future trail connections from the Atlanta BeltLine to Emory will be unveiled, and the Trailblazer Award honoring a regional nature advocate will be presented. Enjoy sips and supper by the creek, featuring a silent auction with vacation getaways, artisan quilts, and Atlanta's largest rubber duck race.

The event will also unveil South Fork Conservancy's latest work, a feasibility study to make natural connections along the South Fork of Peachtree Creek from the Atlanta BeltLine to Emory University. "With the completion of the \$2.5 million Confluence Bridge, we could see our way clear to these new connections," said Kimberly Estep, Executive Director of South Fork Conservancy. "We now have a blueprint to help join a broader network of trails within the region, creating and protecting several miles of creekside access in the heart of the city for everyone to enjoy."


The Creek Rising bash will feature amazing local artists and musicians and showcase priceless gifts of nature found along the creek. The event will include a silent auction of handmade quilts from the Atlanta Quilt Guild, vacation getaways to St. Simons Island, the north Georgia mountains and San Miguel, Mexico, among other exciting offerings.

The event also features a raffle, with prizes including a tour of the Richland Rum distillery, a penguin encounter at the Georgia Aquarium, a Big



Green Egg grill, and more. Plein Air painters from the Virginia Highlands Guild will paint and sell paintings created along the South Fork of Peachtree Creek.

The BeltLine to Emory Plan announcement comes on the heels of a banner couple of years for South Fork Conservancy. In 2022, SFC installed the Confluence Bridge and a major trailhead near Piedmont Road that currently serves as a connection point to PATH400. Additionally, SFC helped to spearhead the creation of a new DeKalb County park and brought in 400 volunteer hours over the course of a difficult and unprecedented few years. Creek Rising will celebrate these achievements and those who made them possible, while looking ahead to further trail expansion, conservation and education along the South Fork. Visit southforkconservancy.org for more information.



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Helping to kick off Frazer Center's 75th year of celebrations are (L-R) adult participant Karina Michaelphine, toddler Logan Griggs, teacher Cathy Morgan-Davenport, adult participant Gregory Montford, and job coach Leslie Walker.

Frazer Center Celebrates 75 Years!

By Dina Shadwell

On the first Monday of 1949, Frazer Center opened its doors. Those doors were at St. Luke's Episcopal Church on Peachtree Street, and the name of the organization was the Cerebral Palsy Center of Atlanta. Over the decades the organization has changed names, and in 1951 Frazer moved to its current 39-acre campus in the Lake Claire and Druid Hills neighborhoods. But the vision has remained constant: to offer research-based education, vocational support, and therapeutic intervention to children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Frazer's founding mothers, Anne Lane and Rebecca Frazer, wanted to provide opportunities for people with disabilities—including Anne's daughter Anita—to live and thrive in their own communities among family and friends rather than being sent away to live at institutions like Central State Hospital in Milledgeville, which was standard fare at the time. As laws and best practices in the field of developmental disabilities continue to evolve, so does Frazer Center. We take our inspiration from Anita, and from Anne and Rebecca who had the vision, courage, and determination to create an uncharted path toward inclusion for people with disabilities.

In Frazer Center's very recent history, our Refugee Intern Program has

made national news as a model for addressing the hiring crisis in early childhood education. Frazer Center staff has presented at national conferences about creating and implementing our inclusion nature-based curriculum with our own students as well as students from Decatur's Our House, a nonprofit serving families experiencing homelessness. And we continue to expand our supported employment and community access programs for adults with disabilities as we work to fulfill our mission of fostering inclusive communities.

As we celebrate our 75th Diamond and Platinum anniversary this year, we hope YOU will join in on our mission! Whether that's attending our special 75th anniversary Gather in the Gardens gala in the spring, volunteering in Frazer Forest, or sharing your own story of how Frazer Center has impacted your life, we want you to know that you not only belong in our community, you ARE our community.

If you do have a story to share about growing up or living near Frazer Forest and Cator Woolford Gardens, we'd love to hear from you. Please reach out to Dina Shadwell, Marketing & Communications Director, at communications@frazercenter.org.



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The print version of this edition of the Druid Hills News inadvertently contains an article in this space entitled “You Can become a Druid Hills Pace Car Driver” which suggests a way for individual residents to insert themselves into unsanctioned, potentially dangerous traffic-control activities. Druid Hills Civic Association discourages such activities and instead encourages Druid Hills residents to continue working with law enforcement personnel, transportation officials and non-profit organizations like DHCA about unsafe traffic conditions in our neighborhood. At DHCA such efforts are coordinated by our Public Safety Committee, and we urge you to contact them at publicsafety@druidhills.org with any questions, suggestions or concerns about traffic safety. Thanks!



Trees Atlanta Front Yard Tree Program

Support our neighborhood’s lovely tree canopy by adding a tree to your front yard, with little or no cost to you! Learn more at: <https://www.treesatlanta.org/yardtree/>.

The Adair Estate on Ponce de Leon had two canopy trees planted through this special program last November. Submit your request to participate in this fantastic program today!



Emory Village Alliance Update

Many neighbors responding to the recent Emory Village Alliance survey suggested they would like to see holiday lights in Emory Village (and would be willing to contribute to a fundraiser to make that happen)! As a result, we are in the planning stage to make that happen! You will be hearing from us soon with requests for contributions and a limited number of invitations to a reception at Double Zero for the first 100 donors. Watch for your opportunity to be part of the 1st Emory Village Holiday Light Celebration with us at Double Zero on the evening of November 28!

Cava is now open at 1385 Oxford Road, formerly the site of Zoe’s Kitchen. The healthy, fast-casual restaurant features customizable salads, pitas, juices, dressings, and dips. Sweetgreen is expected to open during September in the former Doc Chey’s space.



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Journalist Richard Belcher: Druid Hills Luminary

By Jennifer J. Richardson

Many of you know the name and the face. And after 51 years on the air, it's not surprising. But do you know the man, Richard Belcher, behind the voice in the talking box? I was fortunate enough to spend some time with Mr. Belcher in his Druid Hills home, and our conversation covered a lot of his expertise, interests, opinions, and knowledge.

Richard Belcher is an Atlanta native, having grown up in a neighborhood near Cross Keys High School. As a slender man of six feet three inches, Belcher made an ideal basketball player for the Cross Keys team, and his school played my alma mater, Druid Hills.

Mr. Belcher graduated from Georgia State University with a degree in business administration, specializing in marketing. He first worked at radio station WGST, then moved to television stations WXIA and then WAGA, where he was an investigative reporter for 10 years before working as a news anchor for 5 years. His last move was to WSB-TV ("Welcome South, Brother" as the saying goes) at Channel 2, which he joined in 1990.

Belcher served as a news anchor and added to the investigative team at the station. One might think that investigative journalism is all about catching the criminals who embezzle, steal, and subvert businesses and organizations; but it also encompasses businesses and agencies (especially on the local level) that are incompetent or under performing and thus wasting money or resources. An example would be an agency which pours millions into a program that doesn't work, or city or county waste management systems that fail to pick up trash for weeks on end. Another good example is city or county school boards. "Who bothers to know what the school board is doing or who the members are?" asks Belcher, "Something is wrong when our schools are using taxpayer dollars to graduate students who cannot read." Belcher added that incompetence costs a lot more money than mere crime or embezzlement. And always Belcher is passionate about addressing the waste and appalled at indifference and lethargy. Most of all, he wants the problems fixed.

Throughout his career, Richard Belcher has covered stories that stand out in local and national history. His first love was covering crime and he then branched out to other subjects. He covered the trial of Captain Ernest Medina, who was charged in connection with the My Lai massacre in Viet Nam. He was a persistent thorn in the side of Atlanta Public Schools whilst covering the Atlanta school cheating scandal. WSB sent him to cover the O.J. Simpson murder trial, and though there were no empty spaces in the courtroom, Belcher covered the action and made sure Atlanta's Channel 2 had a presence there.

Perhaps the most famous and poignant crime Belcher covered for WAGA-TV was the Atlanta Child Murders. These serial crimes took place from 1979 through 1981, during which 28 persons were killed. Over 100 police and other agents were pursuing the unknown serial killer, and Belcher became acquainted with many of them as well as the families of the victims. Eventual-



Journalist Richard Belcher holding his dog, Skunk. His other dog, Biscuit, is nearby.

ly, 23-year-old Wayne Williams was caught shortly after disposing of a body and charged. Williams was a music producer and part-time freelance photographer who Belcher had seen at Channel 5 upon occasion when he was trying to sell film. Williams was tried, convicted and sent to prison, where he remains and continues to profess his innocence. A memorial and eternal flame was recently unveiled in Atlanta as a tribute to the victims.

Richard Belcher reports that the audience for local and even national TV news is shrinking and therefore decreasing revenue from commercials is causing cut-backs in staff. "We simply don't have enough reporters to cover all the stories as we did in the past," said Belcher. "And there are things—such as the weather report that opens most national newscasts these days—that had never been national news before." "Before" refers to the golden age of television journalism when, in the 1970s and '80s journalists were well trained and seasoned, professional and knowledgeable, even if computer and video technology were just emerg-

ing. National newscasts had multiple reporters and bureau chiefs. TV and newspapers were how the public got its news back then. Today there are so many alternative ways to get news or be entertained, including podcasts, streaming and social media. As a result, ratings have dropped for programs that used to command large audiences.

Belcher is extremely well read and informed and not afraid to share his thoughts, yet remains a consummate professional and is erudite and convincing in expressing his views. He worries about the break-down of the American family; about school children who graduate with few necessary skills. He believes that while there are more guns in the USA now, it is the problem of "character" causing increased crime, gun violence, and disrespect for the police. He wishes American families would teach their offspring to become good, productive citizens.

Richard Belcher has called Druid Hills home for a long time. He is married to former television reporter and community activist Sally Sears. They have one son, and Belcher has two daughters from a previous marriage. Belcher is tremendously grateful to have had his career in broadcasting, especially, he said, "during the golden age of broadcasting." Belcher adds, "The old guard is stepping down from broadcasting—I was lucky to be trained by them and to learn from them."

Things are changing and how we get our news is changing. Belcher is not completely sure what is next for him, but it will include lots of reading and listening to podcasts, and gatherings at his dinner table with friends for good food and excellent conversation. After 51 years of broadcasting, we congratulate Mr. Belcher on a job well done—making him the quintessential Druid Hills Luminary.

OLMSTED 200: Postscript

Submitted by Alida Silverman

On June 22, 2023, Congress dedicated a Kentucky coffeetree in honor of Frederick Law Olmsted, the first landscape architect of the U.S. Capitol Grounds. The event was spearheaded by Rep. French Hill (R-AR) and Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-MI), who introduced H. Res. 1013 during the “Olmsted 200: Parks for All People” bicentennial celebration in 2022. The ceremony is available on YouTube.



The Olmsted Network’s new website (Olmsted.org) has all the good information of the National Association for Olmsted Parks (NAOP) website and more with a fresh new look evoking the lively Olmsted 200 website created for the bicentennial year of celebration. Druid Hills is on the Olmsted Trail, a new feature. And the Arcadia book Olmsted’s Linear Park, published last year, by Jennie Richardson and Spencer Tunnell is on “Good Olmsted Reads” a feature you will find under the Research tab. Check it out!



Architect of the Capitol staff with Big Head Fred.

Lullwater Garden Club News

The Lullwater Garden Club celebrated Garden Week in the Conservation Garden (834 Lullwater Road) this summer with Krispy Kreme donuts and lemonade, inviting all neighbors to stroll through the Garden and see what they have been doing in the Garden.

They have been working diligently scheduling workdays for members to help clean up and beautify the area. As a result of the success of the club’s PLANT SALE during the Druid Hills Tour of Homes, they were able to purchase and install plants along Lullwater Road. And be sure to check out the three new bridges in the garden!

The Garden Club would welcome anyone that is interested in helping on the workdays. Signs will be posted along Lullwater the week before, so you can put it on your calendar!!! You may contact them at: lullwaterconservationgarden.com or Nancy Chambers at chamberseugene@bellsouth.net. It is with your generous support that the club is able to maintain this beautiful area in the Druid Hills community.



One of three new bridges across Lullwater Creek.



Chunks of wood protect newly planted shrubs.



Paideia Pythons Slither into Successful Spring Sports Season

By Grace Garrett

Last spring, the Paideia School demonstrated its dexterity and integrity on the field, in the pool and on the track as students competed for several state titles. Here is a recap of their honors and achievements for spring 2023.

In February, the Paideia swim team competed in the GHSA Swimming & Diving State Championships. The boys 200 free relay (Wade Tolbert, Liam Campbell, Nat Hamrick and Liam McCarthy) took 2nd place. Liam McCarthy, '24, became the state champion in the 100 breaststroke. Wade Tolbert, '25, took 2nd place in the 200 IM with a time of 1:59.32 - breaking the school record in the event.

Throughout the spring, both the boys and girls ultimate frisbee teams traveled around the South, competing in tournaments. In April, both teams won their state championships. Our varsity girls' team, Groove, defeated Midtown in the finals with a score of 7-1. The varsity boys' team, Gruel, dominated Woodward Academy 13-4.

Boys and girls varsity soccer also had a powerhouse season. Our boys' varsity team brought home another state title after defeating Atlanta International School in a close 1-1 game, which ended in penalty kicks (5-4). This marks the boys' 5th state championship in the last 10 years. The girls' varsity team went 9-0 in the regular season, becoming region champs. Despite narrowly losing to Mount Vernon in the state championship, the girls had one of their most successful seasons to date, maintaining a 15-game winning streak.

Our track and field team sent seven strong competitors to state this year. Ninth grader Callaghan Finnegan became a state champion in girls shot put. She also set a new PR and school record at 37-0.45.

We look forward to exciting volleyball and cross country seasons this fall!

Now Even More Peace of Mind for Druid Hills Patrol Members

By Marilyn Geewax

The Druid Hills Patrol is dedicated to helping keep our neighborhood safe for everyone.

But for those who join and pay annual dues, the Patrol offers a popular service: in-person home security checks for members who are out of town.

And now, that benefit is getting even better. The officers have started sending out automated emails after each home check, offering a reassuring message that says, "I found no security issues."

"I think it's working smoothly," said Bob Brown, a Druid Hills retiree who volunteers to help the Patrol with information technology. The new emailed message "provides members with positive confirmation" that all is well at home, he said.

The reassuring feedback "was the thing that was missing before," Brown said.

But if there is a problem – say, a garage door has been left open or a side door is ajar -- the officers can immediately contact the homeowner to address the problem.

The Patrol is a non-profit organization that, for more than three decades, has been providing extra protection for Druid Hills, helping preserve our



good reputation and property values. Bob Brown is just one of several volunteers helping the organization remain vibrant and relevant.

To keep the Patrol going strong, we need more volunteers. For one, we need someone to serve as Co-administrator beginning in January. This position is shared with another volunteer and includes checking Webmail, responding to member questions, maintaining the MemberClicks database, and reviewing requests for the automated vacation patrols. The shared responsibility takes possibly 1-2 flexible hours each week.

Another volunteer is needed currently to serve as Recording Secretary for the board; others are needed to help with marketing to boost membership. We have more than 400 members but need many more to increase the number of hours worked by our officers. Volunteering with your Patrol is a great way to get to know more of your neighbors and help maintain Druid Hills as a wonderful place to live.

If you can help, please send an email to admin@druidhillspatrol.org. To learn more about the Patrol, please visit: <https://www.druidhillspatrol.org>.

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PRESERVATION PERSPECTIVES

Druid Hills Landmark District Preservation Committee

Druid Hills Architectural Styles: The Tudor Revival

By Dawn McEarchern, assisted by Betsy Marvin

Tudor stylings are found on arguably the majority of Druid Hills' historic homes – or maybe just because the details are so striking, it seems like there are more of them. We'll have to reserve a formal street-by-street survey for a future article!

The term "Tudor" refers to the English royals who held the throne from Henry VII in 1485 until the death of Elizabeth I in 1603. Tudor is a medieval style that combined elements from Gothic and Renaissance architecture. The easily identifiable half-timbering detail seen in so many Tudor Revival buildings has its origins in the British practice of using durable oak logs in construction framing. It was from a time when oak trees were abundant, before overuse for building and heating used them all up.

The logs were sawn in half to make two, and the flat side was turned to the exterior of the frame. The open spaces between timbers were filled in with materials like plaster or brick. Less affluent British citizens built their homes with the open spaces filled in with wattle and daub. Wattle and daub is one of the oldest known



Steep gables, pointed arches over door and windows, narrow multi-paned windows

methods for creating a weatherproof structure, going back thousands of years. The wattle was a frame woven of twigs, branches, or whatever local material was available, and the daub was a clay or mud (sand, animal dung, whatever!) compound that was plastered over the frame. (The lath and plaster walls still found in many of our homes are a modern evolution of wattle and daub.)

Other identifying features of the Tudor Revival style include steeply pitched roofs, an asymmetrical design, tall massive chimneys, narrow windows with multi-pane glazing, sometimes with diamond-shaped panes, and arched doorways. And all Tudors do not have to feature the decorative half-timbering. Another common subtype is with parapeted gables, where the walls rise up as a parapet

with the roof edge behind them.

What Tudor details does your home have? Or your neighbor's? Or that really cool one you drive by regularly?



Segmental arch door



Massive chimney, overall tall and narrow proportions in windows, door and dormers



Round arch door



PRESERVATION PERSPECTIVES

Druid Hills Landmark District Preservation Committee

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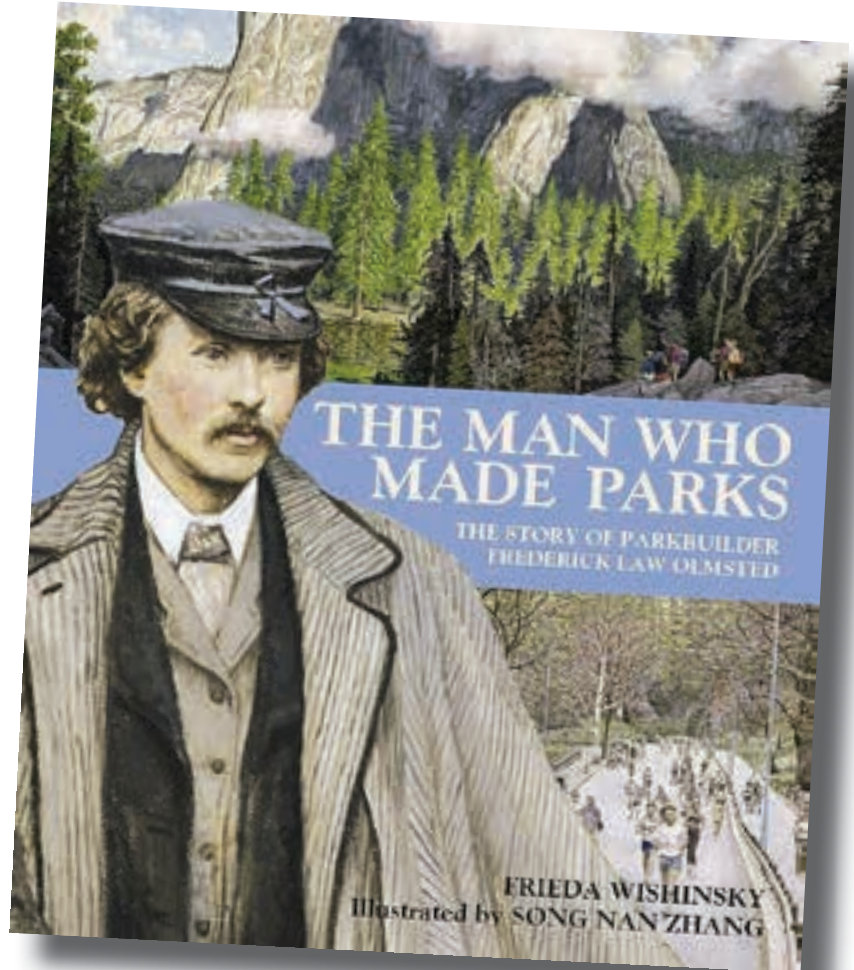
*By Joanna Stroud for the Landmark
District Preservation Committee*

To increase awareness of Frederick Law Olmsted's legacy in our neighborhood and educate both children and parents about the Olmsted parks of Druid Hills, the Landmark District Preservation Committee offers a perfect opportunity for the upcoming holiday gift-giving season! *The Man Who Made Parks*, a short and attractive book with illustrations and information suitable for kindergarteners and older, is now available at Eagle Eye Books, corner of North Decatur and Clairmont Roads. Doug Robinson, the shop's owner, is extending the book at a 10% discount off the \$10.95 price! How wonderful to own this keepsake and to sit in one of Olmsted's famous linear parks and feel the connection between ourselves and our community and to this vital piece of American history!

ABOUT THE BOOK: When the great cities of North America were being built, little thought was given to creating "green spaces." But oases from the dirt and noise of the crowded city streets were exactly what was needed, and Frederick Law Olmsted, considered North America's first landscape architect, recognized this deficiency.

Combining a love of nature with admiration for the structured beauty of the great public parks of London and Paris, Olmsted turned neglected, swampy acres on the edge of New York City into Central Park, into an internationally acclaimed green space. His success, however, was not earned overnight; he had spent many years searching for the perfect career. When he finally discovered his passion, few people believed in his abilities. But Olmsted fought for the preservation of areas like Yosemite in the USA, and his perseverance would be rewarded, as he went on to design some of the most famous public spaces in North America.

This is a chance for your children, as well as you, to learn about the fundamentals of our neighborhood, and why our landscape matters.



Landmark District Questions? We've Got Answers!



"What's my home's style?"

"What do you call windows in a roof?"

"What is a porte cochere?"

If you've got questions, we've got answers! Send your questions to the Landmark District Preservation Committee, and we will answer them in a future newsletter. Email questions to atlantahistoric@druidhills.org. (and you can be anonymous in the paper, if you like! "Dear Abby...")

Callanwolde Supports Underserved Communities

By Andrew Keenan

At the end of 2021, Callanwolde revised its mission as a fine arts center to include supporting underserved communities. Prior to the change, we had developed a relationship with the VA to conduct classes for veterans who live with PTSD and had offered field trips to low-income students. But Callanwolde's board wanted to help more people—especially for those left behind during the pandemic. The board wanted those who were disadvantaged to experience everything that makes Callanwolde such a popular place—high quality classes, live music, and our beautiful gardens.

In 2022, Callanwolde initiated full-day workshops for elementary students who qualify for Title I assistance on days parents dread the most—teacher workdays. Of course, this benefited the students, but can you imagine the positive impact it had on single working parents who struggle to find childcare, not to mention finding the funds to pay for it? We call this program, “Art Scholars,” and developed it because we discovered that 52 percent of elementary public-school children in DeKalb County qualify for Title I assistance.

Art Scholars was such a huge success that this year we dedicated one of our eight weeks of Creative Camp to low-income kids so they could enjoy five days of arts education for free. Any parent whose kids have attended Callanwolde's summer camp also knows its reputation as one of the best in Georgia. Our hope was that if these kids get five days of excellent art education at the level of a school like Paideia, it might inspire a productive and creative path that enhances their future. Frankly, to see the expression on these kids' faces as they stepped into the mansion for the first time made all the effort worthwhile. Programs like these make me most proud of the work we do at Callanwolde.

Our veterans are near and dear to my heart. The additional isolation caused by the pandemic was even more unforgiving on this community. In 2022, we doubled our veteran programming to include those transitioning out of homelessness. Working with people who have suffered from extreme food insecurity is humbling. Experiencing their joy as they hold up their first painting lifts your heart. This year we are partnering with CaringWorks to expand programming to previously homeless communities to include families with young children. We plan to dedicate a day of Winter House to this community so they can enjoy holiday workshops, photos with Santa, toasting marshmallows, sipping hot chocolate, and experiencing the beautifully decorated mansion—for free.

In August of this year, we held our first art workshop for low-income seniors. This is another group who has not yet recovered from the pandemic. They had a chance to work with clay—some for the first time in their lives. We have a lot of seniors who take classes at Callanwolde, but this was the first of, I hope, many



Art Scholars student



Veterans display their artwork

workshops in the future that supports this underserved community.

Callanwolde hosts its biggest annual fundraiser every December at our Holiday Gala. This year the Gala will be held on the evening of December 3. If you like to get dressed up, dance to live music, and enjoy a nice meal surrounded by the best ambiance Atlanta has to offer, we invite you to join us. There will be no shortage of fundraising activities, including live and silent auctions. We believe in quality over quantity, so tickets are limited and invitation only. Send an email to akeenan@callanwolde.com if you would like an invitation.

SPARK School News

Submitted by Kimberly Ryan

Springdale Park students, teachers and staff were VERY excited to start the 2023-24 school year on August 1! There have already been so many fantastic learning activities happening in the STEAM lab in the first few weeks of the school year.

The kindergarten students have enjoyed hands-on lessons about sink and float, 1st grade explored chemistry and made “Jitter Juice,” 2nd grade did a

bubble lesson about the states of matter, 3rd grade students had an in-school field trip to learn about rocks and minerals, 4th grade has created cloud art and 5th grade students have explored weathering an erosion!

We are all very excited for a year full of amazing STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) experiences, family events and community gatherings. Go Dragons!

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by Timothy Greenfield Sanders

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Elijah Palmer, Principal Aaronlyn Wright, Michelle Dillard, Superintendent Dr. Devon Horton, Board of Education member Whitney McGinnis, Leah Cadray, and Christie Uptegrove

Fernbank Elementary Kicks Off School Year

By Dana Borda

Fernbank Elementary's 2023-2024 school year is off to a great start! Our new teacher academy was a huge success. This summer, our new staff members were engaged in scavenger hunts, relationship-building activities and more. We are excited to have our new and energetic staff members!

The school year began with our annual "Popsicles on the Playground" event for new families. More than 100 families attended for some fun in the sun with King of Pops. Our Board of Education member, Mrs. Whitney McGinnis, even stopped by!

For the first day of school, we hosted "Cheers and Tears" outside, where parents could grab a cup of coffee and toast the new school year with our administrators. We were fortunate to have a special visitor on the first day: DeKalb County's new Superintendent, Dr. Devon Horton, toured our school. We cannot wait to discover our students' academic successes this year.



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DRUID HILLS IN HISTORY

Rich stories revealing our neighborhood's past

Edward E. Dougherty: *An Atlanta Architect*

By Jennifer J. Richardson

Edward Emmett Dougherty was born in Atlanta in 1876 and attended the University of Georgia, Cornell University, and the *École des Beaux Arts* in France. Upon his return to Atlanta, Dougherty set about establishing his architectural practice and designed at least two buildings and two homes in Druid Hills.

One of his buildings is the Druid Hills Golf Club (circa 1913). George Adair hired Dougherty to design a clubhouse for the Druid Hills Golf Course in 1912 after seeing a boat and bath house Dougherty designed at East Lake Golf Club. Dougherty's original plans for the Druid Hills project called for a footprint of 60 x 200 feet, to be covered in stucco and to have a slate roof and wide verandas. Portions of his original plans were changed by using wooden sidings and a composition roof

The clubhouse opened on April 29, 1914 and cost \$60,000—almost three times the estimate of \$18,000. Designed in a Dutch Colonial style, the clubhouse featured French doors with fanlights across one façade, and a terrace supported by thick columns. Just outside the terrace was a large fishpond and fountain. On the east side of the clubhouse, Dougherty employed one of his trademarks—an octagonal room—in this case, half of one overlooking the swimming pool. His use of lattice work and wide porticos completed the design.

In addition to the Atlanta club, Dougherty also designed a club in Nashville that looked almost exactly like Druid Hills: the Belle Meade Country Club, constructed between 1914-1916. Also in Nashville, Dougherty designed the War Memorial Hall in 1925 for which he won an American Institute of Architects Gold Medal.

Dougherty designed two significant homes in Druid Hills. “Stonehenge,” the home of Hoyt Venable and family, sits today at the corner of Ponce and Oakdale. It was constructed in 1914 and was the second home built in the new subdivision of Druid Hills. (The first home built was that of Judge John Candler at the corner of Ponce and Briarcliff, which has been demolished. Once the DH Methodist Church, now 1200 Ponce condos occupies that site today.) Stonehenge has been called a “medieval castle plopped down in the middle of Druid Hills.” Today, with several additions, it's the home of the St. John Lutheran Church. It's made of thick granite stone (the Venable's company, Southern Granite, owned Stone Mountain), and it's one of the largest homes in Druid Hills. Mr. Venable's sister was a gifted artist, and the murals on the walls and decorations on the ceilings were all painted by her.

“Boxwood” is located at the corner of Springdale and Ponce. It was built



This is the front of the Druid Hills Golf Club, which faces the golf course. The actual rear, which many think of as the front, faces the parking lot.

on three acres between 1913-1914. Many *Beaux Arts* design and spatial principles were used by Dougherty in the design. The style of the home is considered “French Manor.” The home was commissioned by Veazy Rainwater, who designed the Coca-Cola bottle, and standardized Coke bottles throughout the South. The house contained formal gardens, a horse barn, a stadium, a boys' clubhouse, riding and walking trails and a paddock. In the 1940s, two acres were subdivided from the original three, leaving Boxwood on one acre.

In 1928, Dougherty designed the Druid Hills Baptist Church, which is still standing and known since 2015 as the “Church at Ponce and Highland.” Newspaper articles of the opening of the church refer to its “colossal pedimented portico.” The church is a good example of an octagonal sanctuary attached to a columnated entrance, with elaborate ornamentation around the top of the exterior of the sanctuary. The church was the home base for famous preacher and editor of the “Christian Index” Louie Newton, known as “Mister Baptist.”

Dougherty designed the Imperial Hotel located downtown at the corner of Ralph McGill and Peachtree in 1910. The hotel was built as a modest place for businessmen to stay while in Atlanta. When it opened, a single room cost \$1.50 and a double room cost \$5. Of the 119 rooms, 56 had private bathrooms. The hotel was a slender Chicago-style high rise built for a cost of \$100,000. In the 1950s, the hotel was home of Dale's Cellar restaurant and to the Domino Lounge, where Little Richard and Fats Domino performed.

Dougherty designed the Home Park School on State Street in Atlanta, the Lee Street School, and the Highland School on North Avenue. Dougherty's church designs also included the First Church of Christ, Scientist near the Woodruff Arts Center and the Central Presbyterian, located on Washington Street.

Dougherty is considered a member of the *Beaux Arts* school of design. His hallmarks are wide porticos, fat columns, often in groups of twos, and extensive classical ornamentation such as wreaths, floral friezes and finely detailed exterior and interior molding. And of course, his frequent use of octagonal rooms or portions thereof.

Shortly after finishing the commission for the Druid Hills Baptist Church, Dougherty joined the Southern Baptist Convention Sunday School Board as a staff architect and moved to Nashville. He went on to design many churches throughout the Southeast. Dougherty died in Nashville at the age of 67 in 1943.



DRUID HILLS IN HISTORY

Rich stories revealing our neighborhood's past



This is a side view of the Belle Meade Country Club in Nashville, Tennessee. With its Dutch Colonial roof and banks of windows, it looks remarkably like the Druid Hills Golf Club in Atlanta



The Hoyt Venable home "Stonehenge" is now the St. John Lutheral Church on Ponce.



"Boxwood" was the home of Veazy Rainwater, who designed the Coca-Cola Bottle.



The Druid Hills Baptist Church at the corner of Ponce de Leon and Highland Avenue.



The BFA Philanthropy Club sponsored a book drive which donated over 100 books to The Boyce L. Ansley School

Ben Franklin Academy

By Angela Cassidy

Ben Franklin Academy was excited to begin the new school year in mid-August! Several new courses are being offered this year including AP Pre-Calculus, Honors Micro Economics, Intro to Engineering, AP Drawing, and Linear Algebra.

There are many extra circular activities including Beginner's Golf, Cross Country, Latin Dance, Robotics, Nature Club, Arts and Crafts Club. The Philanthropy Club has already completed a drive to gather necessary items for the unhoused families at the Nicholas House.

Students are delighted to see the newly installed Tiny Door, a gift from Kathleen, Michael, and Katy Harrison. The tiny door porch even includes a welcome mat with the BFA seal on it and a cat dish for the school cats, "Benjamin" and "Franklin"!

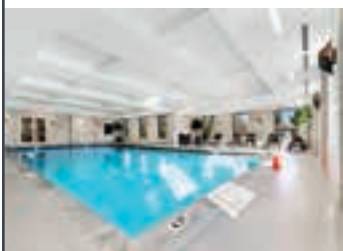
Ben Franklin Academy celebrated the school's AP Scholars as an-

nounced recently by College Board. AP Scholars with Distinction were granted to Ella Greenbaum and Pranay Pingali for receiving an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken AND scores of 3 or higher on five or more of their AP exams.

Phoebe Mullig and Freddy Xu were named AP Scholars with Honor for receiving an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of their exams. Abby Crutcher, Lucas Koh-Maitre, Laura Rauber, Owen Stockton, Sanath Subramanian, and Thomas Wetzel were named AP Scholars for scoring 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.

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*The Jelling stone replication stands in the "Vikings: Warriors of the Sea" exhibit.
Photo credit: The National Museum of Denmark.*



Vikings Journey to Fernbank Museum this Fall

This autumn, travel back in time with new exhibits, events and more at Fernbank Museum. Mark your calendars for Oct. 7 when the highlight of the fall season, the special exhibit "Vikings: Warriors of the Sea," opens at Fernbank.

This exhibit, produced in partnership with the National Museum of Denmark and MuseumsPartner in Austria (and sponsored in part by the Frances Wood Wilson Foundation), will allow guests to discover the truth of who Vikings really were. Featuring extraordinary archeological artifacts and notable discoveries, "Vikings: Warriors of the Sea" uncovers lesser-known sides of the people, culture and influence from the Viking Age.

"Viking culture has featured prominently in film and television programming in recent years, but in many cases, the perspective is skewed towards that of the Viking warrior," said Dr. Bobbi Hohmann, vice president of programming. "Through authentic artifacts, this immersive new exhibit will allow our visitors to gain a better understanding of Viking culture, innovation and achievements."

"Vikings: Warriors of the Sea" features 140 objects that tell a well-rounded story about the Vikings that notes them as more than raiders and pillagers. These objects include a replica of a 21-foot Viking ship, a Jelling stone reproduction that discusses Viking religion and beliefs, weapons, jewelry, coins, personal grooming items and more. Guests can also use different interactive components to learn in a hands-on approach throughout the exhibit, including the chance to play a Norse board game and build a Viking ship, among others.

"With this exhibition, we hope to bring visitors up close with the people who influenced and transformed Western society," said "Vikings: Warrior of the Sea" exhibit curator, Peter Pentz. "While remembered as raiders, the Vikings were also traders, craftsmen, explorers and more."



*One of the ghostly figures from "Woodland Spirits" hangs in WildWoods.
Photo credit: Fernbank Museum.*

To celebrate the opening of "Vikings: Warriors of the Sea," Fernbank will host a Discovery Day perfect for all ages that will feature crafts and activities to add to the experience. This will take place from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Oct. 7.

Also returning this fall is the annual outdoor experience, "Woodland Spirits." Starting Sept. 30, guests can take a walk on the supernatural side when they discover ghostly figures haunting WildWoods. These figures, which can be lurking in the shadows or waiting to greet you in plain sight, were designed by artist Laura Lewis to embrace the chilling imagery of dark forests that can be found in movies and literature.

For more information on Fernbank's programming, please visit www.FernbankMuseum.org.

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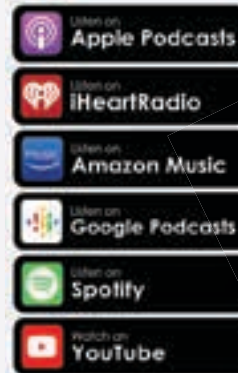
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Finders Keepers	404-377-1944
Uptown Cheap skate-Cumming	770-844-7600
Uptown Cheap skate-East Cobb	770-999-1967
Uptown Cheap skate-Johns Creek	770-495-1515
Dance Studio	
CK DanceWorks, Inc. & CK Yoga	770-975-7298
Dentist	
Acworth Dental	770-974-4146
BridgeMill Dentistry (Scott Merritt, DMD)	770-704-1812
Distinctive Dentistry	770-445-6606
Esthetic Dental Solutions	678-352-1333
Family Dentistry at Seven Hills	678-574-4837
Northpoint Dental	678-274-6987
Roswell Dental Care	470-288-1363
Swords & Phelps Dentistry	770-479-3713
Design & Build Services	
HammerSmith, Inc.	404-377-1021
Doors	
EntryPoint Doors & Windows	770-904-0094
Park Avenue Entries	770-622-0554
Electrical Service	
Arc Angel Electric Corp	470-239-5568
Mr. Electric of Atlanta-Mr. Rooter	770-285-5700
Mr. Electric of Canton	678-408-7174
Rocket Electric	770-288-5855
ServiceWise Electric, LLC	404-704-4903
Shumate Electrical Services	678-584-0880
Eye Care	
Georgia Eye Partners/OPAL Aesthetics	404-383-0956
Funeral Homes	
In Their Honor of Jasper Funerals &	706-253-5060
Garage Doors	
Platinum Overhead Door	678-329-3100
Garbage & Recycling Service	
The Bin Brigade	404-913-5033
Golf Equipment & Supplies	
Golf Cars of Canton	678-880-1156
Government	
DeKalb County Board of Commissioners-	404-371-2899
Handyman	
Happy Handyman LLC	770-685-8421
Shumate Handyman Services	678-584-0880
Home Furnishings	
ARIANA Home Furnishings & Design	678-807-7422
Home Improvements	
GHIR Construction	404-922-7379
Hospital	
Northeast Georgia Medical Center	770-214-4492
Insurance	
Allstate Insurance Nancy Wells	404-452-5066
State Farm-Matt Cresap	770-982-0064
The Upton Agency	770-361-6570
Kitchen	
Housley Enterprises, Inc	678-546-2276
Landscaping	
Stone Edge Landscapes	678-421-4763
Medical Clinic	
Prestige Medical Group	706-692-9768
Military	
United States Air Force Reserve	860-230-7498
Mortgages	
Movement Mortgage	404-394-6738
Nursery	
Autumn Hill Nursery	770-442-3901
Painting	
360 Painting	770-213-5071
Benjamin Moore Paint Store-Alpharetta	678-404-5511
Chris Brown Painting & Home Repair	770-323-3148
Earthly Matters Painting and Contracting	770-346-0203
Red Oak Painting	678-800-6533
Verge Painting and Siding	678-331-1102
Performing Arts	
Schwartz Center For Performing Arts	404-727-8769
Pest Control	
Breda Pest Management	770-466-6700
Legacy Pest Control	770-423-0160
Plumbing	
Bryan Plumbing Services	770-826-5277
Mr. Rooter of Atlanta	470-202-8178
Plumb 'N' Plumber	678-725-0042
Serv'all Plumbing & Rooter Service	770-917-1852
Shumate Plumbing Services	678-584-0880
The Plumbers Guild	404-694-5128
Pre-Schools & Kindergarten	
Omega Learning Center-Acworth	770-792-7431
Primrose School of Acworth Bentwater	770-529-3925
Propane Service	
Gas Incorporated	770-720-1378
Real Estate	
Ansley Atlanta Real Estate-Jody Tirone	404-451-3125
Atlanta Communities-Carl Hawthorne	404-403-1789
Atlanta Communities-Elizabeth Martin	678-373-9342
Atlanta Communities-Jennifer and Associates	770-403-5639
Coldwell Banker-Sherry Warner	404-784-8848
Compass Realty-Gipson and Co.	404-405-5363
Compass Realty-Natalie Gregory Team	404-373-0076
Cory & Co. Realty	404-564-5561
David Cooke-Martin Lake Group at KW	770-652-6270
Georgia Real Estate Depot-Nix	770-401-4932
Harry Norman Realtors-Pam Hughes	404-626-3604
JW Collection Brokers LLC-Oslund	678-321-4211
Keller Williams Realty-Cynthia Baer	678-358-3369
Keller Williams Susan Stanford	678-677-3935
Keller Williams-Linda Jacobs	770-337-2006
Keller Williams-Williams	678-780-7556
Park Realty-John Morgan & Drew Jackson	877-249-8533
Remax Around Atlanta-Falkin	770-330-2374
Remax-Heerema	770-238-6759
Robin Martin and Associates	678-665-0202
Remodeling	
Daniel's Home Services	770-598-1379
GCI Basements	404-569-8794
Serv'all Plumbing-Remodeling	770-917-1852
Restaurants	
Kaldi's Coffee	404-727-0405
Luna Maya	770-720-4999
Norsan Restaurant Group	678-878-2513
Roofing	
Atlanta Roofing Specialists	770-419-2222
Earthly Matters Painting and Contracting	770-346-0203
Schools-Private	
Atlanta Academy	678-461-6102
McGinnis Woods Country Day School	770-664-7764
The Friends School of Atlanta	404-373-8746
Security Systems	
Classic Entry Systems	678-330-1111
Skin Care	
dermani MEDSPA - East Cobb (Marietta)	678-909-1735
The Beauty Barn	678-824-5466
Spa	
Reve Aesthetics Medspa	678-447-0801
Water Heaters	
Serv'all Plumbing-Water Heaters	770-917-1852
Window Replacement	
EntryPoint Doors & Windows	770-904-0094
North Georgia Replacement Windows, Inc.	770-888-1604
Visionaire Windows	404-543-9306
Window Traditions of Georgia	678-672-1963



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