



THE DRUID HILLS News

SUMMER, 2008
Volume 22, Number 2
CONTENTS

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| RECOMMENDED SERVICES | Pg 2 |
| PRESIDENT’S COLUMN | Pg 3 |
| COMMITTEE UPDATES | Pg 3 |
| DHCA BOARD BRIEFS | Pg 4 |
| BOOK CLUB NEWS | Pg 5 |
| NORC IN DRUID HILLS? | Pg 5 |
| BURBANCK PARK | Pg 6 |
| WHAT’S IN A NAME? | Pg 6 |
| SCHOOL NEWS | Pg 7 |
| ALCOHOL SALES IN EMORY VILLAGE? | Pg 7 |
| TOUR OF HOMES | Pg 8 |
| CRITTERS AND PLANTS | Pg 10 |
| OUTDOOR WATERING RESTRICTIONS | Pg 11 |
| HISTORY OF JULY 4TH PARADE | Pg 11 |

Frederick Law Olmsted Elementary School?

By Alida Silverman

The Atlanta Public Schools (APS) now has Certificates of Appropriateness for a new Northeast elementary school on Ponce de Leon Avenue between Briarcliff and Springdale (former Howard School property). Both historic homes will be part of the new school. An addition will be made to the Neel Reid-designed house that will make that site the main one. The corner house will be offices and space for music as well as other school-related activity. Both historic homes will be rehabilitated. The Neel Reid will be liberated from the 1970’s addition on its side and stand whole once again. The 1980’s addition in back of the earlier one will also be demolished. In what can only be called a design breakthrough, the architect for APS, PerkinsWill, submitted a proposal for an addition that respects the Neel Reid house in keeping with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards (especially #9 – see box) and provides for a school population of 450. The landscape in front of the houses with their historic driveways will remain intact, although additional plantings from the Olmsted palette will be done to improve the condition of the grounds.

If all goes according to the approved plans, this new school should be a very good place for children and for our neighborhood. One of the most important aspects is that from the beginning the hallmark of the Olmsted design for Druid Hills, the spatial relationship between structures and lots has been maintained. Although one expects educational institutions to set the standard, this is sadly not always the case. APS has set the standard in this respect, so if the school were to be named Frederick Law Olmsted Elementary School (as some have suggested) it would be most appropriate. Further, it is to be a LEED building. And, who knows? It might choose to focus on ecology and the environment. None of this is up to us, but. . .

It is important to note that a great deal of teamwork went into following this project from the first meeting with APS in Fall 2006 (before the property was purchased). Several members of the Landmark District Preservation Committee (LDPC) were involved, as well as the Division One Co-Chairs, the then-DHCA president, and

Not exactly Love Potion #9, but for the Druid Hills Landmark District—close!

Thanks to Chuck Palmer’s wonderful sense of humor, the Secretary of the Interior’s Standard #9 is becoming known as the “Love Standard” for the Landmark District (City portion of Druid Hills). This standard shows love for the sense of place that is Druid Hills by providing that new additions fit in with their surroundings. The exact wording: “New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work will be differentiated from the old and *will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing* to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.” (italics added)

Scale, mass and proportion are the major concern for the LDPC when it comes to new structures, whether additions onto historic ones or replacement structures. A couple of years ago, a new house on Lullwater Parkway that replaced a (non-contributing) 1960’s structure won an award from the Atlanta Urban Design Commission for sensitive infill in context. This is what it’s about. Or, as an occasional feature in the newsletter puts it, “they did it right.”

Continued on page 7

Please Join Us For The Annual
DRUID HILLS
FOURTH OF JULY PARADE
11 a.m. • Corner of Oakdale & The Byway

Adults, Kids, Bikes, Strollers,
Cats, Dogs, Birds Welcome (No Fish, Please)
Join the Ad Hoc Marching Band
Dress Up Encouraged
Prizes for Most Patriotic Adult, Child, Pet, Stroller/Bike
Refreshments at End of Parade at Oakdale & The Byway

SECOND ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE Saturday, September 27 • 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Druid Hills Civic Association plans to make the 2008 neighborhood-wide yard sale even better than last year’s. The event is an easy way to get rid of your unwanted stuff and keep all the money you make from your sales. No fuss, no hassle! The DHCA will advertise the sale in *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and in the surrounding neighborhood. In addition, each participating household will receive a yard sale sign for the front of the home. All you have to do is drag your treasures to your front yard and start selling!

The American Kidney Fund will have trucks in the neighborhood picking up items you want to leave on the curb at the end of the sale day. They will provide you with a receipt for tax purposes. What a deal! You make money, and don’t have to take anything back into the house at the end of the day.

Registration cost is \$25.00 and the registration form is on the DHCA website (www.druidhills.org). You can pay by PayPal or you can download the form and mail in your payment. A detailed map will be available to download from the DHCA website, showing all the houses participating in the yard sale.

You must register by September 15 to have your house listed on the master map, to receive a yard sale sign, and to be on the Atlanta Kidney Fund’s list for optional pickup at the end of the day. Looking forward to seeing everyone on Yard Sale Day!

Goodbye, Grady

By Mary Angela Whyte

The Druid Hills News recently lost a great friend. Grady Stell was our printer for about 20 years, 15 of them on my watch. Unfortunately, few knew him or how much our oft-praised *News* owed to his watchfulness and care.

I still expect the call, always a couple of weeks before our deadline, that begins with “Mary Angela, I don’t want to bother you. I’m just wondering if there’s anything about *The Druid Hills News*.” That concern and his appreciation for our publication requirements (out before the Tour of Homes, before the Fourth of July parade, etc.) often spurred him to work all night so we’d not be late. The reason for such extreme and exceptional measures was our routine crisis, the result of ignored deadlines and last minute requests to add articles or make changes.

He gave us the best rates, apologized when the price of paper went up, and often made special trips from Buford to pick up late material or deliver early samples of the *News*. At times, rather than accept money from DHCA until we had the product, he took out 30-day loans to pay our postage, all so we’d have the papers in good time. Clarke Weeks, who did our distribution for years, said, “Our children won’t know anyone like Grady,” an honest man who worked hard, asked for nothing and appreciated everything, and truly lived by the Golden Rule.

As his diabetes grew worse and standing at a press for long hours was not good, he shared printing duties with a printer who had a web press, enabling us to print in the folded manner we now use. He drove to Athens to watch our first printing with the new printer and called to assure me we would be pleased with the quality.

Grady had little and lived simply, but as our designer said, “He was happy as long as he had a place to lay his head and was independent.” When the diabetes necessitated the amputation of his lower leg, he learned to walk on his “new” leg and to drive. I never heard him complain—about anything. On one of his many stints in the VA Hospital, Ellen Nemhauser, then our business manager, knew he needed our check and delivered it to him there. A kind person himself, he never forgot her kindness. He often asked after Ellen and Clarke.

His death saddens me greatly, but as his daughter said, “Now he has no pain, two legs, and a nice place to live.” And, I hope, a state-of-the-art printing press.

THE DRUID HILLS NEWS
Newsletter of the
Druid Hills Civic Association
P.O. Box 363
Decatur, GA 30031-0363

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Civic Association Network (CAN) rep

Judy Yates

Freedom Park

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|---|---------------|----------|----------------------------|
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|---|------------|----------|--------------------|
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|---|------------|----------|--------------------|

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| | | | |
|---|-----------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| 4 | Chad & Lacy Henderson | 872-5964 | community@druidhills.org |
|---|-----------------------|----------|--------------------------|

Land Use

| | | | |
|---|---------------|--|--|
| 5 | Max Creighton | | |
|---|---------------|--|--|

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|---|-----------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Alida Silverman | 377-9621 | atlantahistoric@druidhills.org |
|---|-----------------|----------|--------------------------------|

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| | | | |
|---|-------------|--|-------------------------------|
| 9 | Chris Leeth | | dekalbhistoric@druidhills.org |
|---|-------------|--|-------------------------------|

Greenspace Initiatives/ Peavine Watershed Alliance

| | | | |
|---|-----------------|----------|---------------------------|
| 1 | Becky Bracewell | 378-2749 | greenspace@druidhills.org |
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| | Thea Roeser | | membership@druidhills.org |
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Public Safety

Vacant

Tour of Homes

Mary Emma McConaughey—Events Co-Chair
Joanna Stroud—Artists Market Chair

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NPU

| | | | |
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|--|------------|----------|--|

Class of 2010

| | | | |
|---|------------------|--|--|
| 2 | Clarke Weeks | | |
| | Thomas Clements | | |
| | Marshall Orson | | |
| 5 | Catherine Howett | | |
| 5 | Paul Shanor | | |
| | Kevin Steward | | |
| 4 | David Winston | | |
| 5 | Ken Gibson | | |

Class of 2009

| | | | |
|---|-----------------|--|--|
| 7 | Becky Evans | | |
| 4 | Dick Spangler | | |
| 9 | Steve Misner | | |
| 6 | Ellen Nemhauser | | |
| | Nill Toulme | | |
| 5 | Vacant | | |
| 4 | Thea Roeser | | |
| 9 | Douglas Grimm | | |

Class of 2008

| | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--|--|
| | Tim Fenbert | | |
| | Thomas Winn | | |
| | Mac Platt | | |
| 7 | Mary Emma McConaughey | | |
| 9 | Alex Ortley | | |
| 2 | Carolyn Riordan | | |
| 1 | Joanna Stroud | | |
| 7 | Chris Leeth | | |

—*Druid Hills News* deadlines—
The deadlines for the summer issue of the
Druid Hills News are:

Advertising—July 25
Copy—August 1
Publication will be in mid-late August

Recommended Services

Is there a person or service whose work you would describe as quality? honest? reliable? Contact the editor at editor@druidhills.org with a brief account of your experience and why you are making a recommendation to your Druid Hills neighbors.

We have just finished renovating our master bathroom. We opened up the original bathroom into the sleeping porch. The contractors we used are **Max Estes:** 770-873-7979 and **Tim Klingbeil:** 404-797-3370 of **Estes Construction/Dreamlight, Inc.** Their email is tim@dreamlightinc.com. We've known Max for more than 10 years and he is honest, reliable, and always does quality work. We love our new 1915 style bathroom. (Sherri and Steve Ozcomert)

Doug Richey has done handyman services for me and several of my friends for 8 years. He does almost any kind of job creatively, thoroughly and carefully. He's the only person I know who can repair old sash windows! He is reliable and charges reasonable rates. **Doug Richey Handyman Services** 678.776.9650 (Priscilla H. Padrón)

Recycle at Emory

Emory Recycles encourages the community to use its 24-hour drop off site, located near the end of Peavine Creek Drive and the Lower Fields parking lot. Magazines, newspapers, white paper, tin cans, aluminum cans, plastics #1 and #2, phone books, cardboard, and green, brown and clear glass are accepted.



For more information,
404-727-1796 or visit [http://www.emory.edu/FMD/w/](http://www.emory.edu/FMD/w/Recycling/recycling.html)



**Sign up for complimentary eLerts
for news, events, neighborhood updates, and
more, at elert@druidhills.org.**

Here is how to sign up for elerts – the civic association’s current means of keeping you up to date about current and impending events in Druid Hills.
The elert system replaces the paper notices you used to get in or on your mailbox.
It is less expensive and more efficient.

1. Go to our website, www.druidhills.org
2. Click the "sign up today" button & complete the form.
3. Click "subscribe" button. There, you’ve done it!

Subscribing to the *Druid Hills News*

While residents of Druid Hills receive the newsletter each quarter by bulk mail, those who leave the neighborhood often want to stay in touch. How can they do that? It’s easy—take out a subscription.

This is what you do: Find the membership application—in this issue it’s on page 11. Fill it in, joining at whichever level you choose. The least expensive is \$25. In the section entitled Membership Involvement and Interests, in the center of the application, write “DHN subscription” in the line “Other—specify.”

Send the application and your check to the regular post office box address (see the bottom of the application) and you’ll continue to know what’s going on in the old neighborhood.

FYI: Safety News!

Officer Jeremy Turner is our new representative from DeKalb County’s Interactive Community Policing program. He’s a neighbor and grew up in our area. Officer Turner proposes a revitalized Neighborhood Watch, which he will aid. He will also respond to, and direct to the proper authority, code violations or concerns, including sanitation, unacceptable upkeep (tall grass, trash, etc.). He may be reached at rjturner28@aol.com or 404-392-5490.

Let Us Know!

The post office is changing its bulk mailing software, which may cause problems. If your home is not receiving the *Druid Hills News* in the future, please contact us.

HELP
WANTED

Two Druid Hills Civic Association Committees need volunteers!

Community and Lifestyle

- Plan neighborhood events
- Assist with fundraising for neighborhood parks and common areas
- Create an increased sense of community in Druid Hills

To volunteer, please contact Chad and Lacy Henderson at 404-872-5964.

Membership

- Welcome new DH residents
 - Assist with administrative tasks
 - Create new opportunities for residents to join DHCA
- To volunteer, please contact Thea Roeser at theafoeser@yahoo.com

The DHCA is also looking for a **Coordinator**. To volunteer, please contact Thomas Winn at 371-0670 or email adminvp@druidhills.org.

Get the Most
Out of Your
Advertising Dollars

The *Druid Hills News* is published in April, July, September and late November. It reaches thousands of people who live, shop, and work in Druid Hills. With thousands of copies of each issue distributed in the area, the publication’s advertising rates are a bargain for businesses that want to reach Druid Hills customers. For information on ad sizes and pricing:
404-523-3422 (DHCA)
www.druidhills.org/news/advertise.htm
email: admin@druidhills.org.htm

THE DRUID HILLS NEWS
Newsletter of the Druid Hills Civic Association

P.O. Box 363, Decatur, GA 30031-0363, Voicemail 404-523-DHCA

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Photos by Lisa Hill Photography

Your Letters Are Welcome

President’s Column

By Jim Morawetz

The 2008 Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour & Artist Market was a spectacular success, thanks in part to the cooperation of Mother Nature but due mostly to the dedication and hard work of the hundreds of Druid Hills friends and residents who came together to put on (or perhaps pull off) this intricate production. It is hard to imagine a more positive and fitting way to celebrate the centennial anniversary of Druid Hills than to showcase the beauty of our neighborhood in this fashion, while demonstrating our ability to work together to create an event that exceeds the sum of its parts.

The coming months will present us with a multitude of other, no less important though perhaps less pleasant, challenges, including the following:

Druid Hills Master Plan: DeKalb County plans to develop an entirely new zoning ordinance to comport with its newly adopted Comprehensive Development Plan. A major focus of the DHCA during the coming year will be monitoring the development of this new zoning ordinance to insure that it protects the interests of homeowners. To assist us in doing so, the DHCA will sponsor the development of a Druid Hills Master Plan that will focus on land use and transportation and will build on the numerous studies, plans and regulations currently existing.

Chelsea Heights Character Area and Guidelines: To combat unwanted, high density infill development in the Chelsea Heights neighborhood, the DHCA and Chelsea Heights residents retained Dale Jaeger, author of the original Druid Hills Character Area and Guidelines, to create a separate character area and guidelines for Chelsea Heights. The purpose of these Guidelines is to deter unwanted, oversized development on smaller lots while relaxing the architectural standards applicable to other areas of Druid Hills.

As originally drafted, these Guidelines were criticized by many in the neighborhood as too restrictive. They have been revised to address those criticisms, and a draft of the revised Guidelines is posted on our web site at <http://www.druidhills.org/>. We urge Chelsea Heights residents to review the revised Guidelines and to contact Steven Misner (404-373-1523) with constructive comments, criticisms or other responses. The ultimate goal of this project is to preserve a consistent land-to-building relationship, yet permit reasonably sized renovations and expansions of existing homes, as well as the construction of reasonably proportioned new homes in the Chelsea Heights neighborhood.

Druid Hills Conservancy Foundation: To assist in raising money to purchase parkland, green space and conservation easements, DHCA hopes to establish an affiliated section 501(c)(3) charitable organization during the coming year that would be eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions. Our ultimate goal is to develop a Peavine Creek Park System extending from Burbank Park at Emory Village east to the CSX rail line. Such an organization could also be utilized to raise money for other neighborhood infrastructure improvements and maintenance, such as street lights, traffic island landscaping, streambank restoration and tree planting.

Emory Village Street Improvements: Although construction of the roundabout and other Emory Village street improvements is not scheduled to begin before September, major preliminary work to relocate a water main is scheduled to commence much sooner than that,

perhaps prior to publication of this issue of the *DH News*. We have been advised that the eastbound lane of North Decatur will be closed each day from 9 am to 3 pm while the work is being performed.

Proposed Changes to DeKalb Ordinances Governing Nightclubs and Alcohol Sales: Currently before the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners is a proposed ordinance adding “Nightclubs,” defined as any business that serves alcohol after midnight, to the list of commercial uses permitted under the DeKalb Zoning Ordinance. The only businesses in DeKalb County that are currently permitted to sell alcohol for on-premises consumption are restaurants. Although the new ordinance would require nightclubs to obtain a special land use permit from the Board of Commissioners, it contains no restrictions based on proximity to residential neighborhoods and no prohibition against the admission of underage patrons.

Prior to the formulation of the proposed Nightclub Ordinance, Stuart Meddin, a property owner in Emory Village and former co-chair of the Alliance to Improve Emory Village (AIEV), proposed an amendment to the County’s Alcoholic Beverage Code to eliminate within the Emory Village overlay district certain distance requirements that currently restrict the sale of alcohol in proximity to schools and churches. However, the amendment was never presented to the Board of Commissioners for a vote, and there do not appear to be any plans to bring it before the Commission in the immediate future. The DHCA opposed this amendment because it contained no protections for existing residential property owners and no restrictions on the number or percentage of businesses that could serve alcohol in the Village.

Relocation of Emory University Hospital and Clinic: We are disappointed to learn that Emory has rejected the option of relocating the hospital and clinic to its Clairmont Campus and has instead decided to relocate the hospital on the East side of Clifton Road. We have not yet seen a site plan but understand that this will be available in the next few weeks.

Emory’s North Decatur Road Home Purchases and Bike Trail: On April 12, Emory and the Clifton Community Partnership held a community meeting at Emory Presbyterian Church to discuss plans for new pedestrian and bicycle paths along the north side of North Decatur Road between Haygood Drive and the CSX railroad bridge near Clairmont Road. The new paths would have landscaped borders separating them from street traffic. This project is a component of the Urban Design Guidelines commissioned by Emory for key streets leading to its campus and the Clifton community. In order to construct these paths, Emory is offering either to purchase homes along the north side of North Decatur Road or to purchase property near the street in front of these homes. Several homes have already been purchased. Emory officials have advised us that Emory does not intend to retain ownership of the homes after the paths have been constructed but intends to sell them to faculty members.

Other Emory University Land Use Developments: Development proceeds on the Sage Hill Graduate Student Housing development on Briarcliff Road, the 50-acre Mixed Use Development extending from Houston Mill Road to Wesley Woods on Clifton Road opposite the CDC, the Hillel House on Gatewood, and the Ronald McDonald House on Gatewood.

Committee Updates

Parks (Doug Grimm)

The DHCA Parks Committee is a new committee established by Bruce MacGregor, last year’s president. Its primary goal is to be aware of and seek out potential properties whose owners want to donate or offer for purchase all or portions of their property for green space initiatives. A secondary goal is to document all parks in the Druid Hills Historic District to determine location, ownership, size, permitted activities, and caretaker status. Doug Grimm was appointed by Bruce to chair this committee. Doug also serves as Treasurer of OLPA. Becky Evans and Alida Silverman also serve on the Parks Committee. In addition to Becky Evans’ report on Burbank Park activities, the following will be the first report on other items of interest from the Parks Committee.

1. Park Pride Conference, Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Becky Evans and I attended this conference. It was time well spent with lots of general information about green initiatives, techniques for introducing green space into proposed developments (Jeff Rader spoke on this subject re: Sembler project at N. Druid Hills/Briarcliff). Most importantly, we learned that green space initiatives are a high priority with the money people, i.e. foundations, city/county governments, etc. One foundation, The Community Foundation, gave \$95 million to green space projects in 2007. This information was very encouraging and possibly useful in our future endeavors.
2. Meeting at McConaughey Property, April 15. Dan and Mary Emma McConaughey, owners of this beautiful property which includes a waterfall, are interested in preserving this property as a future public trust. They held a meeting to introduce their property to various representatives from a number of green space organizations. On hand were top executives from Fernbank, Park Pride, AIEV, DHCA, DeKalb County, and others. The Park Pride official suggested that the best way to attract a future caretaker/fund provider might be to tie it into a larger more encompassing plan, e.g. Peavine Watershed interconnected properties. Some landowners along the creek have shown interest in donating land for this purpose. We plan to meet in June with these folks and exchange ideas on how to move forward with this idea.
3. 501(3)c Corporation. It has been suggested by Bruce MacGregor and others that a 501 (3)c corporation might be the best legal entity to deal with future park type acquisitions. Toward this end, Alida Silverman will be in charge of the 501(3)c project. Alida has set up a meeting in early June with someone very knowledgeable about Preservation Fund, Inc , a 501(3)c and Peavine Watershed Alliance.
4. Inventory of Parks in Druid Hills. One of the Park Committee goals is to create a list of all the current parks, large and small, that exist in the Druid Hills Historic District and the kind of activities they allow, the caretaker, and other park details. Becky Evans will assist with this project.

Membership (Thea Roser)

The DHCA Membership Committee is currently working on a welcome package, including information for new residents and the neighborhood yard sale. We would like to have a person from each street signed up to deliver a welcome package to any new resident on his or her street. The new package will be a reusable cotton shopping bag with the DHCA logo, containing information on community activities, guidelines for home renovations within the historic district, schools, and the DHCA.

We need one “welcome person” from each street to take a welcome bag to a new resident. We chose a shopping bag to give the welcoming person a chance to personalize the welcome. Items such as fresh baked cookies or flowers will add a personal touch for the new resident in our community and will also make the new resident feel a part of our neighborhood. If you’re interested, please contact us. Once again, you would only be responsible for your street. Also, if you have any suggestions for additional treats or information to add to these bags, please let us know.

Continued on page 10

Atlanta Fine Homes



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DHCA Board Briefs *By Dick Shuey*

January

"Pure" Night Club in Williamsburg Shopping Center: The Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) ruled in favor of the neighborhood's assertion of zoning code violations but the County attorney has no plans to enforce it. The club has sued the Sagamore Hills Civic Association and its president. DHCA will contribute \$1000 to the SHCA legal defense fund and be reimbursed if they recover legal fees.

Relocation of Emory Hospital, Clinic and Research Center: The proposed relocation to the Clairmont campus would be in the best interests of our neighborhood

Proposed Parks Committee: A Parks Committee will oversee development of parks in the Druid Hills neighborhood with Doug Grimm as chair and Becky Evans and Julie Ralston point persons for Burbank Park and the Mann property, respectively. Our OLPA liaison will also participate. The County has no interest in pursuing acquisition of the Daniels' property for a park.

North DeKalb Mal: A COSTCO store will be incorporated into the mall, which may be converted to mixed-use. Suburban Plaza: The City of Decatur is considering annexing Suburban Plaza and Emory Commons.

Redesignation of the Druid Hills Historic District: Some reasons given for redesignation were the absence of original signatures on the enabling documents, and an abundance of caution. An RFP issued was found lacking in specificity/detail. Boundaries would remain the same, but talk of a 50-year rolling period could affect Chelsea Heights.

Chelsea Heights: Dale Jaeger's special character area study was essentially rejected by the neighborhood; the issues will be readdressed.

Emory Village: construction of the round-about will start this summer. Right-of-way is being acquired; AIEV will post updates on its web page.

February

Ron Foust has been appointed the new Division Chair for Division 8.

Proposed Amendment to Alcohol Ordinance for Emory Village: The community would not accept a proposal to exempt the entire Emory Village Overlay District from the County ordinance that separates churches and schools from establishments selling alcoholic beverages. A new proposal requires 60% food sales and 2:00 a.m. closing. The DHCA will conduct a community meeting March 13 to provide information concerning the proposal and to seek feedback from residents

Druid Hills Foundation (or Conservancy): A committee chaired by Doug Grimm was formed to explore the advisability of establishing a 501(c)(3) corporation to acquire and maintain parks in the neighborhood.

Aging in Place proposal: Residents in Lullwater Estates are studying the concept of a Naturally Occurring Retirement Community ("NORC") as a support system for older residents of Druid Hills preferring their homes to retirement communities. The board approved an Aging in Place Subcommittee under Community & Lifestyle, with Lynn Hart as subcommittee chair.

CCP (Clifton Corridor Partnership) Design Guidelines: A concern with the Guidelines is a bias towards urban development without acknowledging that Druid Hills is vulnerable to urban pressure. Also, Emory West should be included in the CCP study. The Board approved two motions: to adopt the Comments as the Board's position, and to request an area-wide DRI (Development of Regional Impact), with one abstention.

Note: The N. Decatur Road houses acquired by Emory are not being used by professors, as advertised. Some have been occupied by unruly students. It was also noted that Emory people are parking on neighborhood streets and taking Cliff to campus

Sage Hill Graduate Student Housing: It appears the lot is being clear cut; the issue has been raised with Emory U.

Emory Village: Construction of the round-about has been delayed, now expected to run from September 2008-August 2009.

Chelsea Heights: Another draft of the Character Area for Chelsea Heights has been prepared and is to be circulated among county officials and the neighborhood for comment.

March

Officer Turner, neighborhood resident and part of the Interactive Community Policing Program, gave his contact information and advised that he is working with Sgt. Singh of the Druid Hills Patrol. He noted that crime is up, especially car thefts, break-ins, and telephone scams.

Historic Preservation: The proposed landscape plan for the former Howard School property now being used as the Morningside Kindergarten Annex is inconsistent with historic landscape design; carpool traffic is another concern. An alternative plan will be sought and presented

Proposed Amendment to Alcohol Ordinance for Emory Village: The Task Force will work with AIEV to seek common ground and develop alternatives to the proposed amendment.

Chelsea Heights: The developer won one of the Hummingbird Lane cases on the basis that the COA was denied by an insufficient number of HPC commissioners. A new draft Chelsea Heights Character Area should eventually be submitted to the HPC.

Emory Development: Emory will not be moving the hospital to the Clairmont Road campus. Discussions are ongoing concerning Emory's acquisition and use of houses on N. Decatur Road.

April

Recognition of Guests: Alida Silverman, historic preservation; Jean Luker, Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church; Calvin Simms, candidate for County CEO; and Tom Stubbs, candidate for DeKalb Superior Court Judge.

Elliott Kyle is the new Division 7 Chair, and Steven Misner is the new Division 9 Chair.

A new membership packet will be presented in a fabric shopping bag with a DHCA logo, containing neighborhood information in CD or DVD format.

The Emory Village Response Team has drafted a proposed resolution to address the amendment to the alcohol ordinance which will not harm fine dining restaurants, but will provide a 50-yard residential buffer. Other proposals were to also restrict alcohol sales in the BP quadrant, and to involve other neighborhoods because an amendment would have county-wide ramifications.

The Atlanta Urban Design Commission approved a Landscape Plan including circulation for the new NE elementary school on the former Howard School property. Both historic driveways will remain intact with no "connector" between them, and with no curb cuts to connect Springdale with the corner house driveway. All new plantings are from the historic Olmsted planting plan.

The Executive Committee has approved a contribution of \$500.00 to the Cabbage Town tornado relief fund.

The CCP Design Committee will conduct a community meeting on Saturday, April 12 regarding a bike path along N. Decatur Rd.

Full minutes will be posted on the DHCA website, www.druidhills.org.



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NORC Sighting in Druid Hills?

By Lynn Hart

What is a NORC anyway?

First let's set the stage: Have you ever heard a Druid Hills resident say this was the place he or she wanted to live forever? My guess is that most of us have heard this wish and may have made it ourselves. While some indomitable souls realize the goal, most residents come to a time when they leave Druid Hills. Maybe their bodies or minds get frail. Maybe they get tired of fixing problems with that old house. Maybe no adult children live close enough to check on them. Maybe the children are saying it's time to move -- move on to a retirement village or assisted living facility, or move in with one of the children. That may be just the ticket for some, but what if there were another choice—a way to stay at home, like that wish? How might it affect your choice if there were a safe, healthy, happy way to continue to live just where you are?

That is where the NORC idea came from: Naturally Occurring Retirement Community.

It is an association of people who want that safe, healthy and happy way to continue to live just where they are. They want to keep living with their neighbors and lifelong friends. They want to keep living in their beloved, if imperfect, neighborhood. With that simple notion, they seek others of like mind. They define a geographic area that allows them to meet conveniently. They band together to set up ways to respond to the needs of the group (first by surveying to find out what services folks desire). The group forms a community that assists individual needs, provides a social network to keep neighbors sharing, and offers volunteer opportunities to retirees and neighbors in the community.

The models we've looked at function as coordinators for all the services the NORC members desire. They connect with local health services, cultural activities, etc. They plan community meetings. They also raise money, quite a bit of it. Some foundations and governmental entities are receptive to grant applications from NORCs. Potential members agree to be dues-paying members.

Human resources are important, too. The Druid Hills Civic Association has just created a NORC subcommittee, part of the Life Styles Committee, with expertise in organizing, knowledge of demographics, and most importantly, enthusiasm for what a Druid Hills NORC could mean to the total community.

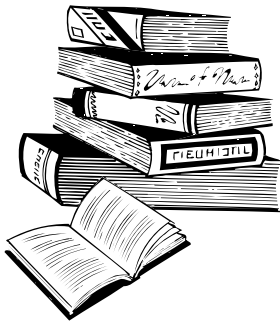
If you are interested, let one or more of the following people know. We plan to schedule a meeting as soon as we hear from those who would like more information.

- Shirley and Bill Hollberg, 404 377-4226
- Lynn Hart, lynnlhart@bellsouth.net.
- Pargen and Lauralee Robertson, 404 378-7677
- Jim Morawetz, president@druidhills.org or Life Styles Comm. chair.

BOOK CLUB NEWS:

All Over the Map

by Faye Andresen



The North Decatur Book Club began their journey in our own back yard, in the Old Fourth Ward of Atlanta. *Them*, by Nathan McCall, chronicles the gentrification of the neighborhood. From “They comin” to coming to terms with “those folks” as neighbors, McCall’s debut novel is a neighborhood blockbuster. Then Donald, who is Chippewa-Finnish and dying of Lou Gehrig’s Disease, takes N. Decatur on the journey of his life. Of farming and mining in Minnesota, of marriage and family, of ancestors from a wilder time, Donald dictates his family story for his children. In *Return to Earth*, Jim Harrison first allows Donald to tell his story and then offers the reflections of loved ones after his death. Finally, reaching across the pond, North Decatur chose an all time crowd pleaser. Nobody doesn’t like PG Wodehouse. Bertie and Jeeves are always funny, always the English delight

Harvard Road Book Club read Kay Bailey Hutchinson’s *Leading Ladies*. The Texas senator writes of the usual lineup of First Ladies and suffragists but is modern enough to include American women recognized in the arts and sciences, literature, and business. *Suite Francaise* is the poignant writing of Irene Nemirovsky. As the Nazis invade Paris, Nemirovsky reflects the 1940s world around her. This was to be the first of five novellas but she was arrested and died at Auschwitz. Returning to Texas, Harvard read the late Molly Ivins and Lou Dubose’s *Bill of Wrongs: The Executive Branch’s Assault on American Rights*. Using examples of a school board’s efforts to add intelligent design into biology class and an innocent German Muslim held as a combatant and subjected to electroshock and waterboarding, Ivins and Dubose catalogue a long list of U.S. rights violations in their well-known ways of combining facts and wry humor.

Deepdene Book Club starts with the wonderful, wondrous *Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, the debut novel of Junot Diaz. Oscar is a 300-pound Dominican “lovesick ghetto nerd” whose family suffers troubles and tragedy, but the book is “entertaining, funny, and soulful.” Anne Tyler is a favorite author for many. Her seventeenth book, *Digging to America*, is about a family new to America and Deepdene thought it not her best effort. Pulitzer Prize winner Geraldine Brooks pens a winner in *People of the Book*. Hanna Heath, a rare book conservator in Sydney Australia, is called to evaluate the recently found Sarajevo Haggadah. Brooks skillfully weaves tales from the present day to 1940 Sarajevo to 1480 Seville in this memorable historical fiction.

Hemingway, any way, any place, was the choice of the Last Tuesday’s Book Club. Suggesting *For Whom the Bell Tolls*, readers were invited to choose any of his books. Choices ran the gamut and all were happy with their choices. *Omnivores Dilemma* by Michael Pollan or Barbara Kingsolver’s *Animal Vegetable Miracle* were their next choices. Although the discussion was lively, appropriate food choices for their annual springtime potluck was a challenge—“eat local” is still difficult in Atlanta. The inspiring story of Greg Mortenson in *Three Cups of Tea: One Man’s Mission to Promote Peace* was a crowd pleaser. Written by Mortenson and David Relin, the book chronicles Mortenson’s efforts towards building a school in Afghanistan.

Always challenging, Faulker’s *The Unvanquished* was the first pick by A Beer and a Book Club. Bayard Satoris, a boy, tells of his family during the Civil War and Reconstruction. Faulker is difficult to read but he understands Southerners and their history. From one outstanding book to another, Beer and Book read Isabel Allende’s most famous *The House of Spirits*. The tale is of a family patriarch trying to maintain the status quo in the midst of a changing Chile. The book chronicles the Trubea family up to and during the time of the 1973 coup. Last, *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls is an unflinching look at her childhood. Dysfunctional parents, embarrassing situations, and creepy relatives are all part of her history but she embraces it all as part of her own life, her own adventure.

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Where’s the Cultural Calendar?

For those who have missed our long standing column of cultural opportunities in Druid Hills, let us explain. We found more and more people using the internet to find interesting events, book tickets and get directions, more information than we could offer and more timely. It seemed that space could be better used for neighborhood news. For you surfers, experienced and novices, here are some Druid Hills sites for doings and classes. For those who avoid computers, find a surfer friend.

<http://www.cll.emory.edu>
links to classes at Evening at Emory and the Center for Lifelong Learning (must be 50+)

<http://www.arts.emory.edu>
links to music, dance, theater, Carlos Museum, etc.

<http://www.fernbankmuseum.com>
links to both the Fernbank Science Center and the Fernbank Museum of Natural History

or just enter what you are looking for in Google

Burbanck Park

By Becky Evans

- For his Eagle Scout project, Candler Vinson, a junior at the Galloway School and Druid Hills resident, was joined by other members of the Glenn Scout troop on Saturday, April 19, in putting in a permeable surface walking path on the Oxford Road side of the property. Thank you, Candler and Glenn Boy Scouts!
- On Saturday, March 30, a group of 20 residents and Emory faculty and students joined together for an ivy pull at the park. Near the end of the morning, several of us had the privilege of walking the property with Honor Cobb, a long time Druid Hills resident, horticulturist, and dear friend of the Burbancks. Mrs. Cobb recounted tales of her friendship with the Burbancks and pointed out the rare native species of plants that she helped Madeline Burbanck plant throughout the property.
- Marshall Davey, a rising junior at Druid Hills High School, is working with James Johnson, an Emory landscape architect, on plans for his Eagle Scout project. Marshall will be putting in permeable surface footpaths leading from the foundation of the house to the creek.
- Thanks to the effort of David Adelman, our local state senator, Burbanck Park will be receiving \$5,000 from the state budget this summer for development. Thank you, David!
- The Planning Committee met on Wednesday, May 7, and agreed on the following items:
 - The driveway will stay (the original budget from Nov. 2007 called for tearing out the driveway and replacing with a permeable surface)
 - James Johnson will draw plans reflecting the priorities of:
 - stepped terrace on top of the foundation of the house
 - granite entrance columns, with a permanent sign for Burbanck Park on the columns (the model being like those marking the entrance of Lullwater Conservation Garden). This sign should be compatible with the sign commemorating the donors on the granite wall by the driveway
 - a donor plaque
 - permeable surface footpaths leading from the terrace to the creek (mentioned above)
 - bench on Oxford Road path
 - native plant landscaping
- The dedication of phase I development of the park will be after the summer, and possibly until after the stepped terrace is complete.
- These plans, especially those for the entrance columns with the permanent sign, will have to be approved through several committees at Emory, such as the Committee on the Environment and the Real Estate Building and Grounds trustee committee
- These same plans will also have to be approved by the DeKalb County Historic Preservation Commission.



The Swimming Owl

By Julie Abston

One morning at the end of March, I entered the kitchen to make coffee and looked out the window at our pond, as is my custom upon arising. Sitting on the stone statue at the shallow end of the pond, in bright daylight, was a barred owl! Textbook perfect, large dark eyes, yellow beak, barred chest.

The owl seemed to be focused only on “fishing” in our pond and stayed on the statue an hour or so, even while my husband and I peered out at him and moved around inside the kitchen. Eventually, my husband had to leave for work and went near the owl and talked to it: he even got in the car and drove very near it, still sitting on the statue.

I continued to watch the owl, which was unphased at the attention Mike gave it. Soon thereafter, it jumped down from the statue and landed on the stones at the edge of the pond. Then it shocked me by sticking one leg quickly into the water and retracting it, as if to test the water. It repeated the motion with the other leg; all the while I was watching from the nearby kitchen window. Then the owl jumped in the pond and swam around LIKE A DUCK. It was obviously “grooming,” splashing and cleaning as it swirled around in the water. Going back on the rocks, it groomed some more, then back to the water to swim around again!

I watched the swimming owl for an hour and a half. Eventually, the blue jays began dive bombing the owl and it moved up and down the large trees, finally leaving, being chased by the jays! Ponds are great for wildlife! Without ours, we would never have seen the incredible swimming owl!

Mike Snider and Julie Abston live at 960 Artwood Road. The pond measures approximately 30 feet in length, has 34 tons of rock walls, and contains 2,200 gallons of water. Mike hand built the pond about 8 years ago. Their property is a Certified Backyard Wildlife Habitat on one acre bordering Fernbank Forest.

What’s in a Name?

For years, as a tour guide in historic Oakland Cemetery, I recognized street names among the family graves—Simpson, Hemphill, Ivy (Atlanta’s first settler’s name now, unfortunately, yet another Peachtree Center Avenue)—and names of larger areas, like Austell and Inman, and it got me thinking. What stories are behind other street names?

Closer to home, how did some of our streets in Druid Hills get their names? We have a plethora of nature-inspired names, lots of trees, dales, ridges, and cliffs, and, of course, university namesakes galore. Were the latter named before Emory added an Atlanta university to its Oxford campus between 1915-1919, or were they named later, even perhaps changed, to give a then small southern school an ivy league cachet?

But what inspired someone to name a major road Ponce de Leon? Didn’t he expect to find the fountain of youth in Florida? Could it be here? Hidden in the Olmsted Parks? And who was Carol (Lane) or Michael (Street)? How about Kay and Kimberly? What accounts for the British Isles influence in Westminster, Edinburgh, Coventry, and Chelsea?

Many of us recognize the family names Houston and Durand, but who were Vickers, Dyson, and Heaton?

If anyone knows the history of these or other street names, email editor@druidhills.org and we’ll share your story with your neighbors!

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School News

by Susan Merritt Jordan

Druid Hills High School

The DeKalb County master plan for Druid Hills High School is now said to call for demolishing the North building in seven or eight years. The County’s latest presentation took place at the school on April 15. An official reported that infrared scans of the structure’s roof revealed it is in excellent condition to serve until a future schedule of improvements funded by a future special local option sales tax (SPLOST). The current \$22 million renovation is still on track to begin in the latter part of this year. As previously reported, this will include a new bar-shaped building across the front on the newer end, adjacent to the historic façade, which will not be altered. The latest drawings call for 13 new science classrooms in the new space.

DHHS valedictorian this year is Cam Tu Nguyen. The 2008 salutatorian is Camilla Burkot.

The Paideia School

Top academic honors in the graduating class at The Paideia School go to Rachel Shaffer of Decatur, winner of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* Cup.

Fernbank Elementary

Fernbank Elementary obtained a \$10,000 Local Community Assistance Grant from the office of State Representative Stephanie Stuckey Benfield. It covered the cost of repair and resurfacing of the outdoor basketball courts and construction of a court for games of four square. The projects were completed in April and May.

Mary Lin Elementary

Mary Lin Elementary had its annual day in the local news spotlight on May 1. It’s become tradition for a few parents to camp out in front of school in anticipation of registration for a precious 20 seats in pre-K. Atlanta Public Schools continues to award these seats on a first-come-first-served basis, unlike DeKalb County, which selects by lottery. This year the APS -- heeding complaints that people who could afford to camp out for three days and nights had an unfair advantage -- declared the practice illegal and waited until the last minute to indicate where parents were to form a line.

For more information on what’s happening in our neighborhood schools, visit their websites, listed below. Several of these sites have been upgraded to offer more content and easier navigation.

- Briar Vista Elementary School -- www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/briarvista
- Druid Hills High School – www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/druidhills
- Fernbank Elementary School -- www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/fernbank
- Mary Lin Elementary School – www.marylinelementary.com
- Paideia School -- www.paideiaschool.org
- Shamrock Middle School -- www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/shamrock

DHN Nature Notes By Susan Merritt Jordan

A pair of geese were seen relaxing May 3 outside the fitness studio at the Sage Hill shopping center at Briarcliff and Clifton. The geese have also been seen hogging a handicapped parking spot in front of the Kroger. According



to store employees, the geese come and go on no apparent schedule. One of the pair accepted water offered in a plastic entrée carryout box. Both birds turned up their bills after inspecting spilled cat food.

What’s another spring without a couple of new coyote sightings? A pair of coyotes was spotted racing across East Clifton Road at dawn on May 12. Another sighting was reported on Clifton Road about a week earlier.

New School on Ponce...continued from page 1

Springdale Road neighbors. Our district school board member, Cecily Harsch-Kinnane, was involved and most supportive from the beginning regarding respecting the sense of place that is Druid Hills. Later on in the process, when we ran into some problems with the circulation plan, we reached out to individuals with knowledge about City workings: a former DHCA president, who brought in a problem-solver par excellence, and a now-Druid Hills neighbor with deep experience as an involved citizen over the years.

From the outset, the LDPC maintained that the new school would need to meet the Landmark District ordinance and identified three main issues of concern: 1) scale, mass and proportion as well as materials of any addition; 2) traffic and transportation, with particular concern for Springdale Road; and 3) drainage. Many people have expressed amazement that APS would choose a site on Ponce de Leon Avenue for such a school. Carpool traffic has been taken off Ponce and will use the Briarcliff driveway of the Druid Hills Methodist Church as the approach. Buses will use the driveway of the Neel Reid house. Like the Howard School, the new school will use the church gymnasium. The same path will be used by carpooling children. However, part of the LEED program calls for discouraging automobile use as much as possible. Many children should be able to walk. The new school will serve a new district, still to be announced but probably drawing from Midtown, Virginia-Highland, and most definitely Druid Hills.

Last but not least, the City of Atlanta and its landmark and historic districts are fortunate to have an Urban Design Commission with a very competent staff, as well as a commission and chairman who understand the AUDC mission.

Unrestricted Alcohol Sales in Emory Village

On March 13, more than 100 neighbors met at Glenn Memorial Church for a question and answer session about this issue. In an effort to create an environment conducive to attracting upscale/fine dining to the Village, Stuart Meddin, property owner and board member of the Alliance to Improve Emory Village (AIEV) drafted a change to the DeKalb County’s Alcohol Beverage Code removing the distance requirements between churches and schools and businesses selling alcohol. His proposal was submitted to Commissioner Jeff Rader for consideration and was endorsed by the AIEV Board.

Subsequent to the change’s submission to Commissioner Rader, The Board of the Druid Hills Civic Association (DHCA) voted overwhelmingly to oppose the ordinance change as originally proposed. The draft was later amended to require a ratio of 60% food to 40% alcohol sales, and a 2 a.m. closing. Before voting on the latest proposal, your Board called a neighborhood meeting to allow residents to question the parties on both sides. Speakers representing the AIEV and the DHCA covered their points for and against the proposal.

- Several areas of agreement became readily apparent. Both DHCA and AIEV seemed to agree that:
- A revitalized, balanced Village commercial district is in the best interest of the Druid Hills community.
 - Creating an environment to attract better restaurants to the Village is highly desirable. Serving mixed drinks along with beer and wine is key to viable upscale/fine dining.
 - We do not want to create circumstances that will result in the Village becoming a bar district.
 - The eventual makeup of Village businesses will be driven by the owners’ assessment of their viability and profitability, not the wishes of the community.
 - The proposed 60/40 ratio of food to alcohol sales has merit and should be discussed further.


- But there were two areas of serious disagreement.
- The DHCA position is that some distance which creates a buffer between churches, schools, and private residences is desirable and should be maintained. However, the DHCA is prepared to discuss alternatives with the AIEV which can result in the majority of the Village becoming open to better restaurants while offering some viable buffer with the church, school, and private residences
 - The closing time for the establishment is key to its functioning as a restaurant or a bar. The DHCA surveyed well known, established upscale restaurants within four miles of the Village to determine when they stopped selling alcohol. All indicated that closing in the 11 p.m. to midnight range worked best. The AIEV position is establishments should be allowed open until 2 a.m. The DHCA reasoned that if the objective is truly up scale/fine dining, closing around midnight is not incompatible with that goal.

On alcohol sales in the Village, both the DHCA and AIEV seem to agree on fundamental issues and just need to consider buffers and closing time with open minds. Surely, there is some common ground on which reasonable people can find a reasonable solution. The goal of both groups should be to speak with one voice to Commissioner Rader as a united neighborhood. The DeKalb County Commission will eventually decide on this matter on a countywide basis and it is our interest to ensure he knows exactly how the Druid Hills community feels about alcohol sales, closing times, buffers, etc.

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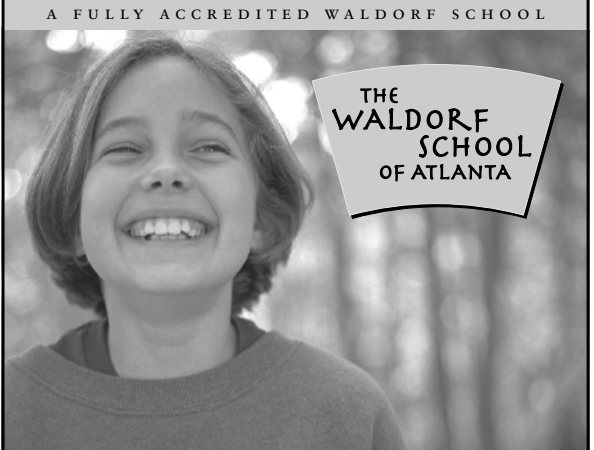
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By Thomas Winn

Beautiful homes, glorious weather, and smiling faces made for an enjoyable centennial celebration of our neighborhood history this past April. Druid Hills turned out its best for the 2008 Tour of Homes and Gardens and Artist Market with neighbors, friends, and non-residents filling the streets and Tour sites to enjoy the many treasures our little piece of paradise has to offer. By all reports, the Tour was a grand success. Attendance was steady both Friday and Saturday and quite strong at times on Sunday, rarely giving our docents time to rest!

Many thanks to our homeowners who opened their beautiful homes to let all enjoy many special surprises. They make our annual event possible. The elegant décor at 857 Oakdale Road, the literary grace of 944 Lullwater Road, the refined palette at 1161 Oakdale Road, the uplifting color at 1010 Oxford Road, the classic Druid Hills grandeur of 1092 Springdale Road, and the Mediterranean charm of 1214 Villa Drive all remind us of the unique and diverse architectural heritage of our historic and significant neighborhood.

Of course, we couldn't begin to open the doors without our dedicated volunteers. The DHCA Board of Directors would like to extend sincere thanks to all Tour committee members, house managers, shift managers and docents. It took more than 400 volunteers to pull this off! Our sponsors were also a big component of the financial success of this year's Tour. All proceeds will go to historic preservation and green space initiatives.

Many special moments were enjoyed by all who participated. The Artist Market continues to grow and has now come into its own, a huge undertaking and an even bigger success. Along with taking in the many visual delights of architecture, design and landscaping, I was momentarily transported to a different era by the welcoming and beautiful sound of the harp as I walked up the driveway of the Springdale home. I also enjoyed a special smile watching the acoustic trio play at the Oxford home. The event was Druid Hills at its best, a warm and welcoming community, from the public streets to the inner sanctums of our cherished homes.



Thanks to all of our
Committee Volunteers!

Thomas Winn: DHCA Administrative Vice President

Tour Committee Co-Chairs:

Mary Emma McConaughy
Chair of Homes and Special Events

Becky Evans Chair of Revenue

Leslie Grun Chair of Operations

Joanna Stroud Chair of Artist Market

Committee Members:

Alida Silverman—Homes and Friends and Patrons

Barbara Vogel—Homes

Lynn Alexander—Homeowners Tour and Gala

Nan Brinson—Docents Staffing

Lisa Hill—Sponsors

Tory Winn—Publicity

Jim Earhart—House Management

Marcia Abrams—Artist Market Opening Reception

Sue Heerin—Lunches

Rhonda Geraci—Publicity

Vanya Jerkunica—House Manager

Shelly Marshall—Tour Secretary

Ellen Prestia—Tickets

Tysie Whitman—Floral Coordinator

Martha Porter Hall—Docents Thank You Party

Van Hall—Publicity

John Hudson—Treasurer

Lynn Hudson—Homeowners' Scrapbooks

and Coca-Cola contact

Valerie Gallagher—Publicity

Jennifer Hardy—Publicity

Carolyn Riordan—Logistics

Sean Riggins—Logistics

Jane Sams—Lunches

House Managers:

Ruth Middleton

Kellum Smith

Dan McConaughy

Vanya Jerkunica

Niki Paris & Kelvin Steward

Clarke Weeks

Scrapbook compiled by Lynn Hudson
Photography by Lisa Hill and Van Hall

~2008 TOUR OF HOMES & GARDENS & ARTIST MARKET~

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The 2008 Druid Hills Artist Market–
A Landmark Year!

By Joanna Stroud

The continuance of the Druid Hills Artist Market was cemented this year with the overall success of the Market and record breaking attendance.

The Market began in grand style with an Opening Reception, a free event for Druid Hills residents, with wonderful food from Bronze Sponsor Whole Foods on Ponce and fine wines from Supporter Sponsor Sherlock Wine Merchants. Under a beautifully decorated twin-peaked tent, attendees enjoyed the festivities, topped off with the cutting of the four-tiered centennial celebration birthday cake by Druid Hills' centenarian Ernest Welch. Ernest turned 102 this May! He was assisted by Kevin Steward of Paris & Associates Realty, the Artist Market Gold site sponsor.

A ribbon cutting by Platinum Sponsor Larry Bosarge of the Bethany Group and Pastor Bradley Schmeling of our host site, St. John's Lutheran Church, officially opened the renovated historic steps leading to the entrance of the Market in St. John's fellowship hall. The in kind donation of the step renovation by The Bethany Group solved a much needed safety issue for the church and the many groups to whom St. John's so willingly lends its space. The Artist Market was excited to secure this sponsor and donation as a way of "giving back" to St. John's.

Opening Reception guests had first selection of the fine art and fine crafts from 41 artists in this year's market, which encompassed the entire first floor of the church's historic structure, Stonehenge. All who attended the Market reported their delight in the variety and quality of the fine art and fine crafts, which included folk art, mixed media, and beaded jewelry, as well as gold and silver designs with precious and semi-precious gem stones, wood turning, photography, textiles, fiber art, pottery, and paintings in oils, watercolors, and acrylics. The delicious luncheon held under the Opening Reception tent was enjoyed by Artist Market shoppers as well as Home and Garden Tour attendees.



Marcia Abrams, Kevin Steward, Joanna Stroud, and Mary Emma McConaughy help Mr. Welch blow out his candles.

Photo by Lisa Hill Photography

If you missed this year's Market, join us next April for the Artist Market on Home and Garden Tour weekend! Information to apply for the 2009 Artist Market will be available in early fall on the Druid Hills website at www.druidhills.org.

The 2008 Druid Hills Artist Market
Wishes to Thank. . . .

- Hosts- St. John's Lutheran Church – the congregation
Pastor Bradley Schmeling
Myrna Lance, Secretary
Jeanette Burgess, Music Director
Clyde Peyton, Sexton
- Sponsors - Platinum The Bethany Group - "A Full Line Masonry Co."
Renewal Construction
Gold Paris & Associates Realty (site sponsor)
Interior Media
Bronze Whole Foods on Ponce
Supporters Sherlock Wine Merchants
Pat Murphy Electric
- Artist Market Chair – Joanna Stroud
- Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour Events Chair – Mary Emma McConaughy
- Opening Reception Chair – Marcia Abrams
- Opening Reception staff – Norman Slawsky, Wanda and Stan Bokoski,
Martha Foster, Sandy Thorton
- Tent decorating – Lynn Hudson, Elise Riley, Katherine Davey, Nan Brinson
- Flowers – Susan Sleeper of Little Sparrow
- Honorary Centenarian – Ernest Welch
- Graphic designer – Gregg Bauer of Max2o Advertising
- Booth marking – Alida Silverman, Carol Hudson, Margaret Foust
- Booth design assistance – Anne Free
- Coca Cola historical display and free Cokes – Lynn Hudson
- Additional food contributions – Rosalyn Smith, Edna Young, Sally Hodges,
Katherine Davey, Kathy Morawetz, Jennifer Berman, Lynette Richelo,
Jennie Shanor, Sherri Ozcomert, Betty Ann Lynch, Elise Riley, Mary Disney,
Barbara Vogel
- Artist accommodations assistance – Diane Gordon
- General Market assistance – Paul Shanor, Jennie Shanor, Nathan Shanor,
Conner Stubbs, Alex Terry, Jason Bower, Najee Batchelor, Ron Foust, Alex
Stroud, Gabe Salkin
- Artist Market staff – Beryl Bergquist, Kristin Farris, Katherine Howett,Cynthia
and George Quillian, Amy Andresen, Rebecca Rewald, Amy Cromwell, Mary
Angela Whyte, Elise Riley, Janet Fath, Wade Austin



Photo by Lisa Hill Photography

The Buck Buckley Band adds a touch of folk music at the Weeks/Harris home.

IN MEMORIAM

On the heels of the excitement of our successful Artist Market, tragedy struck the Druid Hills community. Newcomer to the Artist Market artists, Druid Hills' resident Katherine Armstrong, was killed in an automobile accident on Wednesday, April 30.

Katherine had recently begun a line of children's art work that she called Kat Bird Creations. Her inspiration was the love of her two children and she is remembered as saying the main criterion for all her painted characters was they had to be happy.

We are happy to have met Katherine, and glad we played a part in the beginnings of her sharing her love of art with others through the Druid Hills Artist Market.

The Druid Hills Civic Association and the Druid Hills Artist Market would like to perpetuate Katherine's love of art for children with a contribution in her memory to the Cultural Arts Enrichment Program at Fernbank Elementary School. This program covers the art teacher's salary, supplies, and bringing in speakers. Those wishing to make additional contributions to this fund in memory of Katherine should make checks payable to Fernbank PTA with Katherine Armstrong in the memo portion of the check. Checks should be mailed to Fernbank PTA, 157 Heaton Park Drive, Atlanta, GA 30307.

Katherine's husband Alan Armstrong will be notified of contributions.

Druid Hills Civic Association

Not yet a member of DHCA? Use the form below and join today!
Join online at www.druidhills.org/join/memberform.htm

DRUID HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION—MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please [] enroll me [] renew me as a member of the Druid Hills Civic Association (DHCA).
PLEASE PRINT:

Name(s):

Address:

City: State: ZIP:

Home phone: Work phone:

Mobile phone: Fax:

E-mail: Occupation:

Membership Involvement and Interests

Please indicate your level of interest in the following areas on a scale from 0 to 10.
(0 = Not at all interested 5 = Neutral 10 = Very interested)

- Public Relations/Communications
Historic Preservation
Traffic/Urban Design
Tour of Homes
Peavine Watershed
- Newsletter
Membership Planning
Land Use/Zoning
Flyer Distribution
Other—specify

[] Please feel free to contact me for help

Annual Dues (Check one):

- Individual/Family Member \$25 - \$49
Sustaining Member \$50 - \$99
Druid Member \$100 - \$249
Olmsted Member \$250 or more
- Amount Paid: \$
Please make checks payable to Druid Hills Civic Association.
Mail to: P.O. Box 363, Decatur, GA 30031-0363

Do NOT Eat That Plant!

Many of us in Druid Hills are avid gardeners. Living in an area with one of the longest growing seasons is one reason. Another is the irresistible temptation to add to the mature plants found in older neighborhoods. And last, well, they're pretty!

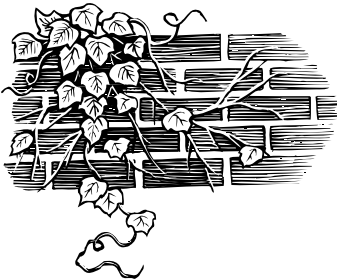
Lurking, however, in our seemingly tranquil gardens lies danger. Many (most!) of the plants we love are poisonous in one way or another. Some list problems such as skin irritation, contact dermatitis, but others add problems like—well, death!

Who would have thought our lovely azaleas and daffodils harbor ill will. Fortunately, few of us are

tempted to chew on our plants (avoid tomato vine snacks), but as a bored child in line awaiting the start of a May Procession, I might well have eaten a sweet pea or two (symptom: permanent paralysis, for one!). And you don't want to hear about morning glories!

Here's a partial list of toxic plants. Google Poisonous or Toxic Plants for an amazing list. The ASPCA is listed there, too, if you have pets that roam. Even if you have indoor pets, there's a list of no-no's for that, too, especially for cats. In fact, some symptoms of illness your pets display may well be connected to that lovely plant on your coffee table.

- Angel trumpet
- Anemone
- Azalea
- Bleeding heart
- Dutchman's Breeches
- Carolina/yellow Jessamine
- Magnolia
- Oleander
- Sweet pea
- Caladium
- Cardinal flower
- Narcissus (daffodil, jonquil--)
- Daphne
- Hellebore
- Hydrangea
- Hollies
- Ivy
- Lantana
- Mayapple
- Morning glory
- Pokeweed
- Star-of-Bethlehem



Committee Updates...

continued from page 3

As mentioned, we are working on the second annual neighborhood yard sale set for Saturday, September 27. If you would like to help, please contact us.

Parents Network
(Co-chairs: Beth Blaney & Claudia Edwards)

Here are a few planned events. Ideas welcome! Host a party for the families or parents during the summer. Stay in the loop by joining the discussion forum and DHPN yahoo groups. Email communication@druidhillsparents.org for more information.

- Attend 4th of July Parade (starts at corner of The By Way and Oakdale)
- Family Playdate every 2nd Saturday at a park- July 12- Sunken Garden (off N. Decatur)- 10:00-12:00
- Mom's Happy Hour July 17 – Neighbors (in VaHi)- 5-7pm
- Pre trick-or-treating Halloween get together (or kick off party)

(Committee Updates is a new column designed to make known what these committees do. We hope to have more committees represented in future issues. If interested in joining a committee, respond to the committee chair or call our hotline 404-523-DHCA.)

The Critters Keep Comin'

by Mary Angela Whyte

A recent conversation with neighbor Furman Smith solidified the notion that we in the intown neighborhood of Druid Hills are not alone. We share our space with more wildlife than one would expect in an urban setting. We've had stories in *The Druid Hills News* about a spoiled baby owl, a mooching turkey made famous in the *AJC*, blue herons (with pond and koi protection tips), and coyote sightings. In this issue, we have geese at Sage Hill and a swimming owl on Artwood! Furman and Rosalyn Smith evidently live in the center of it all.

According to Furman, the two coyotes seen dashing across Clifton and E. Clifton hang out in the wilderness area that runs behind his house and others on E. Clifton. Are there snakes? A fortunately dead three-foot copperhead in front of his house answers that question. Two barred owls are very much in evidence there, too, but his main visitors are some very competitive raccoons.

I say competitive because though we've all had raccoon moments, these raccoons have accepted Furman's challenge with enthusiasm. The prize is cat food. No, it isn't left in pet dishes, an open invitation to dine. The cat food in the garage was in a sealed glass jar, the top of which they managed to unscrew and remove. Undaunted, our homeowner placed the tightly sealed jar in a step-on garbage can. Finding their first foray into the can to eat undesirable, they changed tactics, managed to lift out the jar, dropped it, and broke it. Problem solved? Only for the moment.

The cat food was moved to an empty dog food container, a plastic box touted by the salesperson as raccoon proof. The raccoons, however, did not hear this and so did not know their quest was hopeless. They began to drag the box from the garage, evidently heading back to the ravine, where they presumably had their toolbox. Each morning, the box was found in the driveway at the point of abandonment, and each time it was moved back. Teeth marks have been added.

He's Back!

Good news for those missing, even mourning, Henry, our famous turkey. He has simply moved his operation to E. Clifton these past months and is as well fed as ever.

His current hosts not only have accepted his decision to roost on their deck at night but have saved him from Animal Control. The homeowner witnessed a police officer and a man wielding a net chasing Henry in her back yard. Henry was doing all right, but her intervention added to his future security.

When told the turkey was interfering with traffic on Clifton, she educated the pair on the history and status of turkeys in Druid Hills, and assured them of quite a backlash if Henry were deported.

And so, he continues to vary his home base, find a new group of fans and feeders, and live the good life. We can all be sure we haven't seen the last of him.

Why this persistent persecution of the animal-loving Smiths? Didn't Rosalyn once raise a fallen baby raccoon, feeding it with a bottle, and making it a pet which, as it grew, showed up for dinner and had access to the house? Could it be because of the time, not knowing the raccoon had entered the dishwasher to check the plates for food--- she turned it on? I mean, it wasn't like there was a spin cycle! And daughter Katherine and her friend wrapped it in ice, none the worse for the short-lived experience and, as Furman says, "the cleanest raccoon in the neighborhood."

Do raccoons have long memories? Or is that just elephants?

The Clifton Community Partnership recently unveiled a newly redesigned website www.cliftoncommunitypartnership.org.



CLIFTON COMMUNITY partnership

The newly redesigned site highlights:

- Neighborhood development projects
- Local events
- News articles from the "Community Partnership Update" newsletter
- Clifton community calendar
- Neighborhood organizations and businesses



To see the latest community information at a glance, visit www.cliftoncommunitypartnership.org.



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2008 Outdoor Watering Restrictions

Updated May 16, 2008

Under current State Law, all water utilities must comply with EPD Outdoor Water Use Rules unless they receive approval from EPD to increase or decrease existing rules.

55 North Georgia counties remain at Level 4 (including metro-Atlanta). Fulton and DeKalb Counties are metro Atlanta.

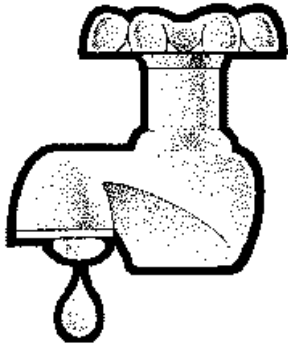
The following is allowed under Level 4 Drought Restrictions:

Established landscapes can be hand-watered by any person:**

- For 25 minutes between 12:00 midnight and 10:00 a.m. (*hand watering is defined as one person with one garden house with a spray nozzle that shuts off automatically when it is released)
- Watering is restricted to the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m.
- Odd-numbered addresses: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays
- Even-numbered addresses: Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays

Newly installed landscapes may be watered;

- By any person who has registered with the Outdoor Water Use Registration Program ***
- Watering is allowed for 30 days during a period of 10 weeks
- Watering is restricted to the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 a.m.
- 3 days/week for 10 consecutive weeks on an odd/even schedule
- Odd-numbered addresses: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays
- Even-numbered addresses: Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays
- During installation, new landscapes may be watered in at any time of the day



Outdoor water use program is available:

- At your county extensions service office (1-800-ASK-UGA1) -free
- Online at www.urbanagcouncil.com - \$ 4.95 convenience fee charge
- Each landscape company needs to register for this program (may copy certificate for use at multiple addresses).
- Each landscape company's clients (homeowner/property owner or manager) must also complete this program for each property they own or manage.

The following uses are PROHIBITED under Drought Level 4:

- 1) Using hydrants for any purpose other than firefighting, public health, safety or flushing.
 - 2) Washing hard surfaces, such as streets, gutters, sidewalks, driveways, except when necessary for public health and safety
 - 3) Filling installed swimming pools except when necessary for health care or structural integrity.
- Adopted 5/26/04 3**
- 4) Washing vehicles, such as cars, boats, trailers, motorbikes, airplanes, golf carts.
 - 5) Washing buildings or structures except for immediate fire protection.
 - 6) Non-commercial fund-raisers, such as car washes.
 - 7) Using water for ornamental purposes, such as fountains, reflecting pools, and waterfalls except when necessary to support aquatic life.

Note: Complete watering rules, from which these are taken, as well as the program noted above. may be found at www.urbanagcouncil.com

To check climate conditions and especially soil temperatures for best planting times, try www.georgiaweather.net and click on Daily Maps or Current Maps.

City and County Water Department Contact Information

City of Atlanta 404-982-1414 www.atlantawatershed.org

DeKalb 770-621-7000 www.dekalb.co.ga.us

Fulton 770-640-3040 www.co.fulton.ga.us

One Woman + A Dream = A Druid Hills Tradition

(by Claudia Edwards, as told by husband Louis Edwards)

Juanita Edwards, my mother-in-law who lived in Druid Hills, started the 4th of July Parade. In the early 1970's, Juanita had been taking her children to the WSB (Channel 2) Parade downtown and wished there was a neighborhood parade instead. In 1976, the Bicentennial year, she decided she would organize a parade. She put up a couple of signs and started the parade at The By Way and Oakdale.

At 2 p.m. on that cloudy and drizzly July 4th, the first parade had 20 participants (5 of those being the Edwards family). They paraded, without a police escort, up The By Way to Oxford to N. Decatur and down Oakdale. On N. Decatur, the 20 patriotic souls just walked down the sidewalk to Oakdale since they did not have an escort. Ward Edwards and Dick Hubert played trombone. John Freeman played clarinet. Laura and Marianne Mayer played the flute and piccolo. Louis Edwards played the snare drum and did the cadences. Donald Mayer played the bass drum that Ward (Louis's dad) made from a collection barrel of a shop vac. Louis recalls it being a lot of fun and Juanita was either carrying the flag or playing a tambourine.

The next year, she put out a couple more signs and called a couple of people to increase attendance. She arranged with Dekalb County for a police escort and she moved up the time of the parade so people who were running the Peachtree Road Race could participate. She also talked to Bucky Johnson, the band director at DHHS, who provided old band sheet music parts for patriotic songs. Juanita decided the band needed a name, and she did not want to insult or compete with the DHHS band, so she called this band the Lesser Druid Hills Marching Band. That year, the band had a practice and as Louis recalls, there was hardly anyone there.

When the Edwards family arrived at the parade that year, they could not believe the number of people: 75+. The following year it was much bigger, and Louis does think that it grows every year. Now, Juanita's grandchildren are in the parade. Her first grandchild made her debut a couple of years ago at 3 months old in a Baby Bjorn (baby carrier).

Louis says that his mother thought it was a lot of fun and was happy people enjoyed it. She thought the downtown parade was too polished and showy. The neighborhood parade was perfect because it was fun and involved everyone. Juanita would love the way the tradition has carried on. It is exactly what she had hoped might become of it. So, make your way to the parade this year in honor of Juanita Edwards, who passed away in 1996, and as she would want—HAVE FUN.





NATALIE GREGORY

Welcome to Your New Home



476 EMORY CIRCLE, DRUID HILLS

Just a short stroll to Emory, this impeccable six-bedroom, five-bath traditional home is a rare find. Nestled on a quiet, sidewalk-lined street in the heart of Druid Hills this home combines the best of new construction with the feel of an older home. Features include an open yet intimate floor plan with large screened-in porch, gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances, high ceilings, distinctive fireplace in the expansive great room, formal dining room, library and a double attached garage hidden from the street. This home boasts a fabulous owner suite with a private deck overlooking the backyard and walk-in closet off its bathroom. Full finished basement with separate entrance. Simply beautiful. \$959,000 UNDER CONTRACT!



1268 OXFORD ROAD NE, DRUID HILLS

This circa 1929 Druid Hills gem boasts four bedrooms, three-and-a-half baths and a front and back staircase. The fabulous carriage house (circa 2000), complete with full bath and three rooms, sits atop a double garage. (Mother-in-law suite, home office, the possibilities are endless.) The large eat-in kitchen overlooks the courtyard in the fenced, level backyard. You'll treasure the charming original open library at the top of the staircase. Extras include a gracious foyer, lovely formal dining room, plaster walls, separate den/television room, a butler's pantry and an office off the living room with original fireplace, all on one of the most coveted historic streets, only one block from Emory University. \$769,000 NEW PRICE!



495 CLAIRE DRIVE, LAKE DRIVE

So many lovely places to entertain in this remodeled 20's brick Tudor that you'll have trouble choosing. Pick from the patio or fabulous screened-in porch overlooking the pool, the family room with multiple sets of French doors to the backyard, the generously proportioned dining room or the back deck including a fountain pond and expansive view of unspoiled woodland area. This three bedroom, two bathroom home features an owner's suite with private deck, spacious bathroom with double vanities and separate garden tub and shower. The gourmet kitchen includes stainless steel appliances and granite countertops. Formal living room with fireplace, library, separate casual den and a breathtaking backyard with pool and pool-house completes the picture. \$629,000



614 CLAIREMONT AVENUE, DECATUR

This spacious 1939 brick Cape-Cod with five bedrooms and three bathrooms is in Decatur's premier location of the Clairemont Historic District. Just a short walk to Decatur Square and award-winning Clairemont Elementary, this home has been newly remodeled. All new Andersen thermal pane windows make this house extremely quiet and energy efficient. Kitchen and breakfast room leads to screened porch and bi-level deck overlooking a large fenced backyard. You'll enjoy games and activities in the newly expanded bonus room upstairs. Thoughtful storage throughout, including a full daylight basement with Stone Mountain granite foundation walls. \$529,000 NEW PRICE!



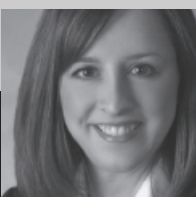
THE ARTISAN, #617, THE ARTISAN

Enjoy a stunning view of the Atlanta skyline from this two bedroom, two-bath condo with study (or 3rd bedroom) conveniently located in the Artisan on West Ponce, in the heart of downtown Decatur. The unit features ten-foot ceilings, two balconies and an open floor plan. State-of-the-art kitchen includes Bosch stainless appliances, granite countertops and Shaker-style maple cabinets. An oversized master bath offers garden tub, separate tiled shower and a double vanity. The home also includes an entrance foyer, oversized windows, secure separate storage unit and two assigned parking places. Property amenities include a rooftop pool, clubroom and fitness room and daytime concierge. \$450,000



266 HEATON PARK DRIVE, DRUID HILLS

The manicured gardens greet you at the entrance of this beautifully remodeled three-bedroom two-bathroom brick home. Sited in the quiet and serene Chelsea Heights neighborhood, this home is walking distance to Emory University and Fernbank Elementary. Renovated kitchen with shaker cabinetry, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances and breakfast area opens to a wonderful deck and generous backyard. Architectural details such as large windows and distinctive fireplace in the living room distinguish this home. Special features include renovated bathrooms, beautiful hardwood floors and separate dining room. Full basement with recreation area, tons of storage space and drive under garage are a bonus. \$439,000



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