



THE DRUID HILLS News

SPRING, 2012
Volume 26, Number 1
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The 2012 Druid Hills Artist Market

This year’s Artist Market takes place in the beautiful Stonebenge Mansion that currently serves as the home of St. Jon’s Lutheran Church. In its eighth year, the event hosts a juried group of artists from across Georgia and neighboring states. Offering creative and whimsical pieces alongside works with the style and precision of seasoned artists, the market has something for everyone.

2012 DRUID HILLS ARTIST MARKET

St. John's Lutheran Church
1410 Ponce de Leon Avenue

Friday, April 20
Saturday, April 21
10 am to 5 pm

Sunday, April 22
1 pm to 5 pm

Free Admission
paintings
pottery
jewelry
wood turning
textiles
folk art
photography
glassworks

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Tour hours, tour ticket prices, and more information on both events at www.druidhills.org

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The Druid Hills Civic Association is pleased to present the 2012 Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour & Artist Market – Druid Hills: The Second Century, April 20-22, 2012. The premiere tour of homes and gardens in Atlanta, the tour celebrates the beauty, tradition, and future of the Druid Hills neighborhood. This year’s tour features five spectacular homes, a “collector’s garden,” a native Plant Sale and the Druid Hills Artist Market. All of the homes display the unique attributes of architecture and design that date back to the 1900’s.

“We hope to inspire a new generation to learn about Druid Hills and build momentum for the ongoing preservation of one of Atlanta’s oldest neighborhoods,” said Claudia Keenan, chair of the Druid Hills Homes & Gardens Committee. Each year, the selection committee spends long hours putting together a diverse group of homes and gardens for the tour. Claudia notes “The homes this year feature a variety of architectural styles and interior designs that will create an engaging, interactive tour experience.”

794 Springdale – “BOXWOOD”

Dr. Doug Bremner & Dr. Viola Vaccarino

A French Manor style home, “Boxwood” originally encompassed three acres when it was built in 1912. One of the first grand Druid Hills estates, commissioned by Charles Veazey Rainwater, the Coca-Cola executive who standardized the company’s bottling business, Boxwood featured formal gardens, a horse track and stadium. Prominent architect



and native son Edward Emmett Dougherty designed a light-filled airy home with plenty of room for the Rainwaters’ four active young sons. Two tiers of the original garden, a pool, paths, and statuary remain, along with the stable and carriage house. Today, the spacious, bright house is enriched by family treasures from Italy and artwork belonging to owners Dr. Doug Bremner and Dr. Viola Vaccarino. The grand staircase is just one of many architectural highlights.

804 Springdale – “SOJOURNERS’ REST”

Dr. William & Dr. Sandra Sexson

The pale brick façade of this early twentieth-century, Craftsman-style home gleams brilliantly against the large old magnolia tree that shelters its expansive front porch. Built in 1908 by P.J. Wesley & Son, one of Atlanta’s prominent pre-World War I contractors, it is thought to have been built for a sibling of #812 next door. The longtime owners, Drs. William & Sandra Sexson, have made few changes in the house’s original plan and decorative details. Built-in



benches and shelves, leaded glass windows, wide pocket doorways, quarter-sawn oak floors, and Moorish archways count among the hallmarks of the Arts & Crafts aesthetic displayed here. The Sexsons, who named their home to recognize the extensive travel that has characterized their lives, have filled the sunny rooms with art photographs and family mementoes.

THE DRUID HILLS NEWS

*Newsletter of the
Druid Hills Civic Association*

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(D.H. Golf Course, Decatur fork of Peavine Ck. & RR Lines)
Steven Misner373-1523



After a workday in the Olmsted Linear Park, Paideia students and faculty members Madeleine Soloway and Magnus Edmund present OLPA President Kirk Elifson with a \$5,000 contribution.

The deadlines for the winter issue of the *Druid Hills News* are:
Advertising — May 10
Copy — May 17
Publication will be in mid-June

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4	David Winston
4	Claudia Keenan
	Kathleen Mathers
5	Amy Power
	Thomas Winn
9	John Zedd

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7	Tom Cross
1	Claudia Edwards
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7	Becky Evans
9	Douglas Grimm
9	Mike Hellerstein
5	Elise Riley
	Scott Riley
	Joanna Stroud

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Ambulance/Fire/Emergency Medical Service	911
Police – Emergency	911
Administrative/General Info	404-294-2605
Criminal Investigations	404-294-2550
Police – General Information	404-294-2000
Center Precinct	404-294-2580
East Precinct	770-482-0300
South Precinct	404-286-7911
Animal Services—Stray Animals	404-294-2996
After Hours	404-294-2519
Atlanta Legal Aid—DeKalb	404-377-0701
Board of Education—DeKalb	678-676-1200
Board of Health—DeKalb	404-294-3700
Business License	404-371-2462
Chamber of Commerce—DeKalb	404-378-8000
Citizen's Drainage Program	404-297-3840
Conventions & Visitors Bureau	770-492-5000
Code Enforcement	770-724-7940
Deaf Teletype	404-294-2677
DeKalb Community Relations (Police)	404-286-7955
DeKalb Medical Center	404-501-1000
DeKalb Medical Center – Hillandale	404-501-8000
DeKalb Rape Crisis Center	404-377-1428
Drainage Problems	404-297-3840
Driver's License (State)	678-413-8400
Drug Hotline	770-322-2540
Economic Development	404-687-2730
Elections	404-298-4020
Family & Children Service (DFACS)	404-370-5000
Gov. Office Of Consumer Affairs	404-656-3790
Homeland Security/Gangs	770-216-4926
Human & Community Affairs	770-322-2950
Keep DeKalb Beautiful	404-371-2654
Law Department	404-371-3011
Marriage License	404-371-2262
MARTA-Complaint Line	404-848-4800
Mental Health Emergencies	404-892-4646
Mobile Crisis Unit	404-294-0499
Motor Vehicle (TAGS)	404-298-4000
Neighborhood Watch	404-286-7955
Planning & Development	404-371-2155
Pot Holes—DeKalb	404-297-3840
Recorder's Court	404-508-0368
Automated Assistance	404-371-3272
Records (Police Information)	404-294-2512
Recreation, Parks	404-371-2631
Roads & Drainage	404-297-3840
After Hours	404-294-2523
Sanitation	404-294-2900
Sight Obstructions (Roads)	404-294-2041
Sheriff's Department	404-298-8000
Courthouse	404-371-2391
Speed Humps	770-492-5200
Street Lights	770-492-5200
Storm Water Management	404-297-2570
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Property Tax	404-298-4000
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Trees Down	404-297-3840
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Water—Billing	404-378-4475
Emergency	770-270-6243
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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 Thomas Winn at tw1042@bellsouth.net

The DHCA is also looking for a **Coordinator**. To volunteer, please contact Mike Hellerstein at 212-1855 or email adminvp@druidhills.org.

Get the Most Out of Your Advertising Dollars

The *Druid Hills News* is published in March, June, September, and December. 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:
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THE DRUID HILLS NEWS

Newsletter of the Druid Hills Civic Association

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Tysie Whitman, Mary Angela Whyte

Your Letters Are Welcome

Help Define the “Vision” for Rutledge Park

by Tim Ralston

A community “Visioning” process will kick off soon for Rutledge Park, a newly acquired park space by DeKalb County, located at 1812 Ridgewood Drive in Druid Hills. The visioning process will be guided by Park Pride, in partnership with DeKalb County and Friends of Rutledge Park, to determine the future use and design of the 1.8 acre property.

The process will include three public “Visioning” meetings to solicit input in developing conceptual plans for the park. Alternating with these visioning meetings will be four Park Pride/Friends of Rutledge Park Steering Committee coordination meetings, also led by Park Pride. DeKalb County and The Friends of Rutledge Park will then partner to implement detailed design and construction activities to realize the intent of the conceptual plans. The visioning meeting schedule is as follows:

- First Meeting March 18 at 6 PM
- Second Meeting April 17 at 7 PM
- Third Meeting May 17 at 7 PM

The public visioning meetings will take place at Emory Presbyterian Church. The address is 1886 Westminster Way, located on North Decatur Road between Westminster Way and Haygood, next to Druid Hills High School. The parking lot is located on Westminster Way. The meetings will be held in the Education Building, which is an annex behind the main church building. All community members are invited to attend these visioning meetings. Input from the community will determine the outcomes to be included in the conceptual plans.

Visit the Park Pride website (www.parkpride.org) for more information about the role of Park Pride in park creation throughout the Atlanta area. Park Pride is the only non-profit organization that works with communities all over Atlanta to improve or create parks.

Donations to Rutledge Park can be made on the Park Pride website (www.parkpride.org). On the Park Pride “Make a Donation” tab, be sure to go to the bottom of the page and note the “Please click here, to make a donation to a specific local park” drop-down tab.

If you are interested in becoming a Friend of Rutledge Park, or if you have questions about the effort, contact Tim Ralston at (404) 370-3773 or ralstont@bellsouth.net.

DHCA Annual Meeting

The Druid Hills Civic Association’s annual meeting was February 12 at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History. Foremost on the agenda was the election of officers and class members of the Board for the next year. The nominations slate was accepted by acclamation and the following were elected.

President: Bruce MacGregor
1st Vice President: Elliott Kyle
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<u>Class of 2014</u>	<u>Class of 2013</u>
Jeffery Baer	Chris Hamilton
Vivian Bencich	Thomas Winn (R)
Steven Cappel	
Hugh Gallagher (R)	<u>Class of 2012</u>
Tommy Greene	Joanna Stroud (R)
Miles Hall (R)	
Carolyn Riordan (R)	*(R) denotes Returning Board Member
Tysie Whitman (R)	

After the election of officers and board members, retired Officer Turner’s successor, Officer Orbestor, was introduced and spoke briefly. Updates on progress made by South Fork Conservancy in clearing walking trails along the north and South Forks of Peachtree Creek were presented by Sally Sears (www.southforkconservancy.org) and Lois Berthume reported on progress in Emory Village (www.emoryvillage.org). OLPA President Kirk Elifson spoke of the latest work on the linear parks, including the last segment at Deepdene.,

Commissioner Jeff Rader and Representative Howard Mosby reviewed the latest DeKalb County redistricting and the effect on Druid Hills. Issues facing Druid Hills in the coming year were noted, especially the effect of new cities formed within DeKalb County. Kim Sutherland narrated a PowerPoint presentation of the homes on this April’s Tour of Homes and Artist Market, followed by a video presentation of interior shots of the homes by Lisa Hill Photography.

President’s Column

by Bruce MacGregor

MOVING RIGHT ALONG

At the time of this writing, the Georgia General Assembly is still in session. So far, the General Assembly has redistricted Druid Hills (and the rest of Georgia) regarding State Senators, State Representatives, County Commissioners, City Council members, and local School Board districts. Interestingly, our new State House districts are very similar to last year’s proposed DeKalb County School attendance zones: That is, the area east of the golf course will remain in the House District represented by Mary Margaret Oliver. Druid Hills west of the golf course will be moved into a new district, represented by Howard Mosby.

Our highly regarded State Representative Stephanie Stuckey Benfield will not seek reelection. She will assume the position of Executive Director of the non-profit firm GreenLaw, where her energy and legal talents will be well used. We will miss her greatly, but our loss is her family’s gain. State Senator Jason Carter will remain our State Senator. Jason is former U.S. President Jimmy Carter’s grandson and former DHCA president Mike Terry’s law partner.

At this writing, the County Commission districts and the DeKalb Board of Education districts were not settled. The Board of Education districts have been especially contentious. Amy Power is our point person for this issue, as she was on last year’s attendance zone redistricting for Fernbank Elementary and Druid Hills High School.

The proposed City of Brookhaven (or Ashford) appears to be on its way through the General Assembly, and is likely to be the subject of a referendum by prospective residents in the July 2012 primary election. The proposed boundaries include the area roughly between the Fulton County line and the Clairmont Road/Chamblee-Dunwoody corridor, and between I-85 and I-285. The impact of removing this large area from unincorporated DeKalb is expected to have a great impact on the tax base and politics of the county. DHCA is a member of the Civic Association Network (CAN), which is looking into the potential impact of this new city on those of us remaining in unincorporated Central DeKalb.

In 2011, we stopped legislation very detrimental to our historic district; it re-surfaced as a stand-alone bill, HB 802, in 2012. If this bill passes, no Historic Preservation Commission in Georgia will can address land subdivision. A Preservation Commission could regulate architectural details of a structure, but not its location. To date, we have successfully stopped this bill,with the help of the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation and local preservation groups. However, the session is far from over, and much mischief happens toward the end.

Other land use issues include the ongoing saga of the Nunan/Buckler property on Clifton Road, adjacent to Burbanck Park. We hope this nine-year saga, with seven lawsuits and three appellate decisions results in additional greenspace adjoining Burbanck Park. The DHCA supports this, provided the land can be acquired at fair market value. Stay tuned.

DHCA is also working with the Frazer Center on South Ponce de Leon to resolve a variety of operational (especially traffic and amplified music) and buffer issues. DHCA’s Division 2 chair Robert Ballou has done a great job coordinating nearby neighbors, in both DeKalb and Atlanta. We are fortunate to have on our Board a certified mediator, Richard Shuey. Dick led a mediation effort in the fall of 2011 to resolve these issues. The mediation is on hold, and the Frazer Center is pursuing an overlay zone for the 22 acres of their 35- acre site that lie within the Druid Hills Historic District. Former DHCA president Chuck Palmer will be our volunteer attorney as this moves forward.

The long awaited development of the “Matthews Property” on Vilenah Lane at Oakdale Road may begin in 2012. Justin Citz, of our Land Use Committee, and Chris Leeth, of our Historic Preservation Committee, will lead a task force to help assure proper density and design of this important site.

The Lullwater Gardens Apartments are under contract for redevelopment. This is a crucial site in the midst of our neighborhood. It adjoins Emory Village and the Druid Hills Golf Course, and was the number one choice of our Parks Committee for greenspace. Since more than two-thirds of the property lies within a floodplain or a streambuffer, environmental protection and design are most important.

As always, the DHCA needs volunteers. As a volunteer organization, we are only as good as our volunteers. If you are already a member, thank you! If you are not yet a member, please join and volunteer for one of our committees. And please remember to sign up as a docent or other position for our Home and Garden Tour and Artist Market. We need you!

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School News

by Chris Usry-Arnold

Briar Vista Elementary

Fall started with the launch of “**The Briar Patch**,” Briar Vista’s new PTO organization. The Briar Patch was busy organizing many school improvement projects, including a new sign for the front of the school, considerable landscaping initiatives, and a new interior art program. The school held the traditional **International Dinner**, “Celebrating Our World and Unity through Food and Fun.” The dinner included traditional dances and entertainment featuring many of the school’s students. Plans for the spring include a first annual “**Fun Run**,” an extensive courtyard renovation, and a spring auction.

Mary Lin Elementary - no report

Springdale Park Elementary – no report

Ben Franklin Academy

College Counselor **Tianna Bailey** has been nominated as an 11 Alive Community Awards recipient for her volunteer work in the community. Junior **Coby Benveniste**, recently competed and won first place in the Computer Science Division of the DeKalb County Science and Engineering Fair. Coby’s project, “An Investigation of Mutation Hot Spots in Human Mitochondrial DNA,” will also be entered in the Georgia Science and Engineering Fair on March 29. Senior **Jeffrey Weiss** will visit the Amazon Rainforest from March 9-18 with Professor Larry Wilson, Ph.D., and Emory University students as part of the class “Ecology of the Tropics.” Senior **Miranda Lynch** was named STAR student and **Dr. Martha Burdette** was named STAR teacher for the 2011-2012 school year. Senior **Martavious Adams** recently traveled to New York to film a commercial to promote the “Campaign for 10 Million Young People” for The First Tee Atlanta Program. Martavious has participated in The First Tee Program since he was 12, then as a junior golfer.

Electronic Recycling Fundraiser – This month BFA will begin a recycling fundraiser that will last through the end of the school year in May. If you can help, collect items for the drive, including old cell phones, cameras, MP3 players, and GPS devices, among others. Proceeds from the electronics donations will benefit Ben Franklin Academy. Please contact Sydney D’Arcy at (404) 633-7404 with any questions about the fundraiser.

Fernbank Elementary –no report

The Paideia School

Paideia had 15 seniors recognized by the National Merit and National Achievement Scholarship Programs for their performance on the PSAT last fall.

Paideia students were also recognized for their achievements in fine arts and music. The Scholastic Arts and Writing Awards given by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers recognized 29 students with gold and silver keys and honorable mention. Students were named to the following metro area youth orchestras: Atlanta Junior Chamber Orchestra; All State Jazz Band; All State Band; Emory Youth Symphony Orchestra; Atlanta Youth Symphony Orchestra; Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony; Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra; District V Honor Band; Georgia All State Orchestra; Atlanta Junior Chamber Orchestra.

Four students from the Paideia community were recognized by Atlanta Intown newspaper for volunteer service. A Paideia senior was a regional finalist in the Siemens Foundations 2011 math, science, and technology competition.

Druid Hills Middle School

DHMS is organizing a trip for seventh grade students to travel to the Georgia Coast to do in-depth studies in marine biology and life science. The Wassaw Island/ Coastal Studies field trip will be four days of interdisciplinary hands-on learning with emphasis on science and social studies.

Druid Hills High School

Two graduating seniors, **Estelle Ostro** and **Sarah Lohmier**, were named National Merit Scholarship Program Finalists; and seven students received National Merit Scholarship Letters of Commendation. The DHHS STAR student, **Kyle Johnson**, was also named the county-

wide STAR student for DeKalb. His teacher, **Dr. Melissa King-Rogers**, received the STAR teacher award for DeKalb County. Junior **Anna Dowling** won first prize in the Physics and Astronomy division at the DeKalb Regional Science Fair and will represent our county at the Georgia State Science Fair in Athens during April. She also received a special award from the Yale Society for Engineering and Science. Juniors **Mitzi Okou** and **Lan-Anh Vo** became members of the All-State Orchestra. Last summer, six rising juniors and seniors attended the prestigious Georgia Governor’s Honors program, a four-week, all expenses paid opportunity available to the top students throughout the state. One student was a Gates Millennium Scholarship finalist, and two students received Quest Bridge Scholarships. DHHS also has three POSSE scholars who will attend Bard College or Boston University in the fall of 2012. Four students were selected for and graduated from the 2011 Youth Leadership DeKalb program. Four students received Honorable Mention designations in the national Scholastic Art and Writing competition. One DHHS senior received 1st place in the Art from Georgia Schools annual Exhibition at North Georgia College and State University.

The school and its teaching faculty also receive significant recognition and awards each year: The College Board named Druid Hills High School as both an AP ACCESS AND SUPPORT SCHOOL and AP STEM School. Art teacher **Erica Staton** received a prestigious Fulbright Classroom Teacher Exchange Grant that allowed her to travel to England this current year to teach. The Fulbright organization selects recipients on the basis of academic and professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields. Ms. Staton is one of approximately 60 U.S. citizens who won the award in 2011-2012. The DHHS Orchestra received

superior ratings at the 2011 Georgia Large Group Performance Evaluation. A Druid Hills High School parent and active PTA member, **Michael Dowling**, was named DeKalb County’s system-wide Teacher of the Year for 2011-2012. Mr. Dowling teaches physics at Fernbank Science Center for the DeKalb system.

To learn more about our neighborhood schools, visit their websites, listed below:

Briar Vista Elementary School:
www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/briarvista

Mary Lin Elementary School:
srt3.atlantapublicschools.us/lin

The Paideia School:
www.paideiaschool.org

Ben Franklin Academy:
www.benfranklinacademy.org

Druid Hills High School:
www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/druidhills

Fernbank Elementary School:
www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/fernbank

Druid Hills Middle School:
www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/shamrock

Springdale Park Elementary School:
srt3.atlantapublicschools.us/springdale



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BOOK CLUB NEWS

Sometimes It Is All About the People

by Faye Andresen

All books are different. Sometimes we fall for the prose and mark passages to share with friends. Other times, the plot is so good we just cannot stop turning page after page. But, sometimes, it is all about the people. It is the characters who take on a life of their own and make us different by having read of them.

Last Tuesday’s Book Club met such people, starting with Deborah Rodriquez in *Kabul Beauty School: An American Woman Goes Behind the Veil*. Rodriquez gives an unpretentious personal account of the dangers and rewards of opening a beauty school in Kabul, Afghanistan. She is first a beautician and tells her story in a “girls just want to look good ...and survive” way. In a very different time and place, but with just as true and honest a voice, Paula McLain’s *Paris Wife* tells of the life of Hadley, Hemingway’s first wife and their life in Paris as he rose to fame in the 1920s. It gives meaty background to several of his most famous literary works and insight into the first of his many wives. As in many cases, wives can often be victims and elicit sympathy, but underwhelmed by *Silver Girl*, members agreed Elin Hilderbrand’s tale of someone similar to Madeoff’s wife was rather insipid and contrived. No sympathy given.

The Lit Chicks met a famous character in James M. Cain’s novel *Mildred Pierce*. (OK, younger readers can think Kate Winslet if they want but –sorry- Joan Crawford is Mildred to me.) Mildred kicks out her neer-do-well husband, handles the ups and downs of business, but cannot earn the love of her indulged daughter. Readers were surprised by the racy nature of the 1941 novel and the meanness of the daughter. Another exploration of family is told in the stunning *Please Look After Mom* by Kyong Sook Shin. A Korean wife/mother goes missing in a train station and is not found. The reflections of the husband and three children reveal a woman who has totally sacrificed self for family. The book traces the fragility of human emotion, the tensions among people in a family, and offers insight into the Korean culture.

In *The Warmth of the Other Suns*, the Harvard Book Club met three people whom Isabel Wilkerson chose to chronicle one of the great modern-day migrations, as black Americans traveled north to escape the racism of the Jim Crow South. Historically factual and yet personal, the book is an epic telling of the struggles of a people as they made their way north for a better future. From travel to a better place to travels to a *better* place, *The Undertaking: Life Studies from the Dismal Trade* is a collection of essays, ranging from serious to whimsical, by Thomas Lynch, concerning his vocation as funeral director in a small Michigan town. He is a poet and his reflections are insightful. The book is regarded by many as a beautifully written treasure. From one small town to another, *DRIFTLESS* by David Rhodes is an action-packed story of the drama folks in one rural town experience. The cast of the novel is as compelling as Rhodes’ own story of riding high on literary success in his twenties, to a motorcycle accident leaving him paralyzed, to this excellent contemporary novel thirty years later. One cannot help but be changed by his story and the story of his townspeople.

In *Molokai* by Alan Brenner, Wine Women and Words meet seven-year-old Rose when she is found to have leprosy and is consigned to live in a Hawaiian quarantine settlement, and then follow her life of more than six decades in the small community of outcasts. This first novel is a moving historical account of Hawaii, the disease, and how human spirit lives on. In *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot, it is not the human spirit that lives on but the actual cells taken from Ms. Lacks, a poor southern tobacco farmer, while in the ‘colored’ ward at Johns Hopkins Hospital, cells that have been grown in laboratories ever since and have gone on to help discover cures and advance medical science. Suzanne Collin’s *Hunger Games* may be directed at a younger audience, but it follows the tradition of *Brave New World* and *Fahrenheit 451* by offering a future society more brutal than today’s. With America destroyed, the oppressive Panem nation requires two teens from each of 12 districts to fight to the death in televised Hunger Games. This is the story of sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen and her survival. The book is the first of a trilogy and a brand new movie, to boot.

The 1700’s seem a bit too old to stir much controversy, but the Proud Mary Book Club was stirred by *Passionate Minds: Emilie du Chatelet, Voltaire and the Great Love Affair of the Enlightenment* by David Bodanis. These two lovers were remarkable in any age – geniuses actually - and Bodanis’ book celebrates their lives in the exciting time of knowledge and the quest for truth. And, yes, a woman in science before Madame Curie. From a century of scientific discovery to an age of medical concern, T. R Reid’s book *The Healing of America* should be required reading for all Americans today. Reid offers a balanced look at health care systems from around the world, evaluating the strengths and challenges within each, while offering the reader insights into America’s medical and insurance systems. For many readers, Oscar Wao may have been the first character from the Dominican Republican (and from a wondrous book) to touch on the brutal and evil regime of General Trujillo, but Mario Vargas Llosa chronicles the last days of the regime and the madness that followed. In *The Feast of the Goat*, Llosa, a renowned Peruvian author, spins a powerful political story. Sadly, it is true.



Valentines for Veterans

Carly Mashman and Sarah Reilly Murphy display hand-made Valentines that they presented to Veterans on Valentine’s Day as gifts from the Lullwater Garden Club.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FAST FACTS

A Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) is needed for exterior changes to houses/properties. Why? To maintain the 'look' of Druid Hills. It's self-protection.

DeKalb County Druid Hills Historic District
The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) hears applications for COAs and approves or denies based on the Druid Hills Historic District Guidelines. There are General Guidelines and there are Character Area Guidelines (certain specific areas). For more information, go to the Civic Association website's links to downloadable application forms. www.druidhills.org

Note: A committee of neighbors reviews applications and comments to the HPC. Committee members are well versed in the Historic Preservation guidelines and are a helpful resource to help the uninitiated move through the process. dekalbhistoric@druidhills.org

City of Atlanta Druid Hills Landmark District
The Urban Design Commission (UDC) hears applications for COAs and approves or denies based on the Druid Hills Landmark District regulations (Chapter 20B of the City zoning code). More information about the process is available on the UDC section of the City website (www.atlantaga.gov), including downloadable application forms. This link may be found on the Civic Association website.

Note: The Landmark District Preservation Committee (LDPC) is a committee of neighbors that comments on applications to the UDC after on-site meetings. Consider them a helpful resource. atlantahistoric@druidhills.org

Help With COA Approvals

by Betsy Marvin

The Landmark District Preservation Committee for the Atlanta portion of Druid Hills has had a busy few months. Members consult with homeowners and architects about proposed alterations and additions to exteriors of houses and other buildings, as well as landscapes. In many cases, the committee can quickly approve well-considered plans for the Certificate of Appropriateness, while in others they provide the applicant with helpful suggestions to streamline the process. The committee is always happy to work with renovators to ensure a harmonious addition or alteration for our beautiful neighborhood.

After a mutually agreeable date is set, the committee schedules an onsite meeting, where relevant comments can be exchanged, opening the way for the COA to be issued (by the Urban Design Commission). Recent onsite inspections have included off-street parking on Oakdale Road, a re-vamped mudroom on Oakdale, a rear addition on Fairview Road , some special signage in one of the Linear Parks, and a handicapped ramp and driveway changes for a church on Ponce de Leon.

We invite interested neighbors to attend one of our ad hoc onsite meetings. Our new committee chair, Steven Cappel, may be reached at atlantahistoric@druidhills.org.

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812 Springdale Road
Krista Brewer and Gary Flack



The vast beveled door of this 1910 house opens into design and décor that evoke the past century. The overarching style is Craftsman, especially in such decorative features as the fireplaces. Homeowners Krista Brewer and Gary Flack have used the strong simple lines of the house as a backdrop for paintings, prints, and other works of art both contemporary and

early twentieth-century. Many of the furnishings and lights are custom designs that resonate with Frank Lloyd Wright’s “Prairie” style. The story goes that #812 is one of two side-by-side houses commissioned for siblings (with #804). The spacious kitchen was created from a warren of rooms, including a two-story service porch and pantry. A double staircase and a tiered garden that can be enjoyed through double-hung windows in the breakfast room and second-floor sleeping porches are among the house’s special features.

984 Springdale Road NE
The Lullwater Garden Club’s Annual Native Plant Sale

The Lullwater Garden Club will once again hold its annual spring plant sale in conjunction with the tour of homes. Native perennials suited for Atlanta’s climate and drought-tolerant succulents will be available, as well as a variety of heirloom tomato plants for homegrown goodness in your garden. All proceeds benefit the Lullwater Conservation Garden, Inc., a non-profit organization that supports the care and maintenance of the Lullwater Conservation Garden located at the intersection of Lullwater Road and Lullwater Parkway.

1130 Springdale Road – Garden Only
Dr. Phil Edwards & Judi Edwards

The imaginative perennial garden that winds up and around Dr. Philip D. Edwards’ backyard has been the great enterprise of his retirement.

“I think of my garden as a series of rooms, each with its own character,” Dr. Edwards observed recently as he strolled and knelt along brick and stone pathways. When he and his wife Judi moved to the house 25 years ago, the yard consisted of a thicket of shrubs and trees and small rock garden. In 2001, he began to systematically weed, clear, and expand toward the back fence, where a woodland garden now reigns. Dr. Edwards travels throughout the South for special plants. Among his personal favorites are seven varieties of Redbud trees, a Japanese Paper Plant, native ginger, Hepatica, and Mayapples (now in full bloom).



1156 Springdale Road NE
Dr. Janet McNicholl & Dr. Robert Linkins

A stately white brick house overlooking a broad lawn, this home was built in 1917, in the style of the Italian Renaissance Revival. The tiled hipped roof and iron railing are typical of the time, though the brick detail is unusual, notes Cynthia Tauxe, a preservation architect. Ms. Tauxe redesigned the house after a large tree fell through its roof while the family was living in Bangkok in 2005. Working long-distance with the homeowners, she reconfigured the second floor and modified the first floor rooms without changing the footprint. The house features geothermal heating and cooling and a well for irrigation. Clean lines and neutral colors accentuate prints, photographs, paintings, and furnishings collected during five years in Thailand.



857 Oakdale
M. Evan Lindsay & Dr. Nancy Cox



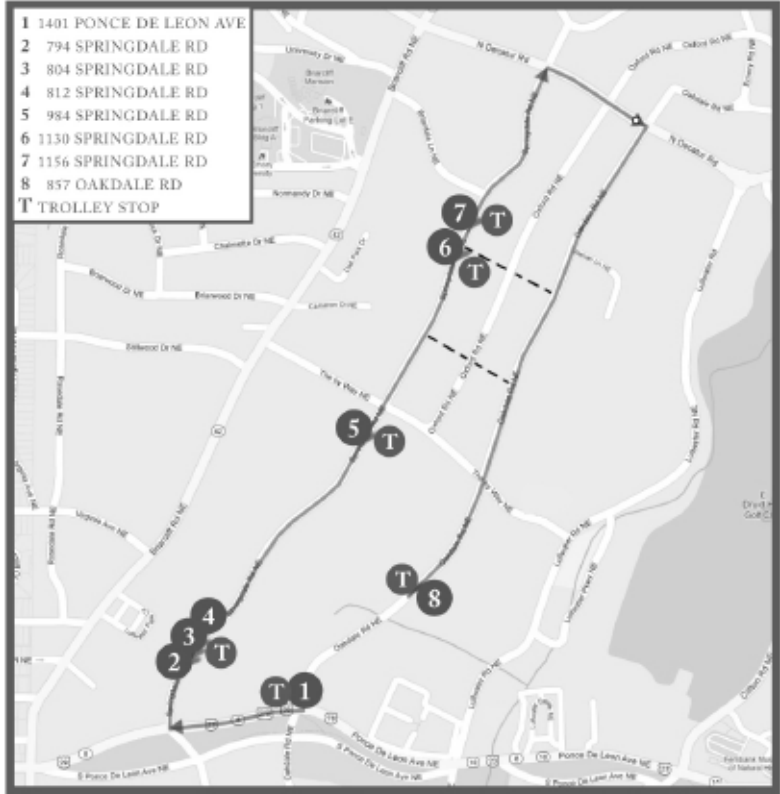
The Tudor façade of this Neel Reid house looks exactly as it did in 1918, when it was newly built for the Druid Hills real estate executive Forrest Adair. The interior of the home, however, has undergone two renovations, including one following a terrible fire in 2009. A 25-month complete reconstruction by owners Evan Lindsay and Dr. Nancy Cox, who bought the home in 1989,

has melded the best of the original design with many contemporary refinements, including a home theater and walk-in closets. Memluk and Hereke rugs from the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul lie on the custom-milled oak floors, a 1917 Steinway piano graces the living room, and a garden sculpture, pond, courtyard, and fountain are visible from two tiers of balconies.

Logistics

Friday, April 20, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM,
Saturday, April 21, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM, and
Sunday, April 22, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM.

Tickets can be purchased in advance on the website:druidhills.org/tourofhomes/. As always, there will be trolley service provide to assist with getting from home to home.



- 1. 1401 PONCE DE LEON AVENUE
St. John's Lutheran Church – Druid Hills Artist Market, Food Trucks, and Will Call Tour Ticket Site
- 2. 794 SPRINGDALE ROAD NE
- 3. 804 SPRINGDALE ROAD NE
- 4. 812 SPRINGDALE ROAD NE
- 5. 984 SPRINGDALE ROAD NE - Native Plant Sale
- 6. 1130 SPRINGDALE ROAD NE - Garden Only
- 7. 1156 SPRINGDALE ROAD NE
- 8. 857 OAKDALE ROAD NE

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Parking is available along the Tour route where designated by standard signage. There is also parking at the two churches, 1419 & 1428 Ponce de Leon Avenue. The trolley will run during Tour hours along the Tour route, stopping at each trolley stop in the order listed above (T). The by-walks provide walking passage between parking on Oxford Road and Springdale Road. Restrooms are available at St. John's Lutheran Church.

PLEASE NOTE
No photography, smoking, food, beverages, backpacks, or strollers allowed inside homes. This is a walking tour of historical homes, some of which may have steep and narrow stairways. Comfortable shoes are recommended; high heels are not allowed in the homes. The Druid Hills Tour makes every effort to keep the event problem free. It assumes no responsibility for accidents or injuries that may occur during the Tour. Please cross all streets only at marked crosswalks and exercise utmost caution. Tour held rain or shine.

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1214 VILLA DRIVE

Welcome to Villa Mira Flores. This stunning 2-story Mediterranean home, on beautifully planted and manicured lot that includes a fabulous pool and pool house (or home office, guest suite, etc.) and a 3-car garage, has been skillfully restored to period. The entry leads to a dramatic 2-story living room and boasts tile flooring, 21 foot ceilings, 4 hand painted murals and a magnificent custom chandelier. A formal dining room, custom kitchen, den plus study (easily converted to 4th BR) and powder room make up the main level. Graceful twin staircases lead to the second level which features 3 BRs and 2 BAs, including master suite with 2 walk-in closets and "magazine perfect" bath.

\$1,400,000



840 SPRINGDALE ROAD

Fabulous floor plan in this handsome 2-story brick charmer w oversized common spaces perfect for entertaining, gorgeous in laid floors, millwork, and moldings, hi ceilings, huge rocking chair front porch, 2-car garage and very nice carriage house, all situated on acre lot on sought after Springdale Road. Main floor features include LR w f/plc, columns to light filled music room, banquet-sized DR, den, study, powder room and eat in kitchen, while second story boasts 4BRs, 3BAS and original sleeping porch. Hard to find finished lower level features spacious media/work out or playroom, kitchenette and full bath.

\$1,399,900



2010 NORTH PONCE DE LEON AVE.

Absolutely gorgeous English Gothic, sitting on absolutely gorgeous 1 acre lot, w absolutely gorgeous pool. The centerpiece of this one of a kind home is an octagonal foyer, leading to an elegant LR w leaded glass windows and f/plc, reading room off living room, formal dining room, den, powder room, screened porch and renovated kitchen. A beautiful staircase leads to 3 BRs and 3 BAs, including a comfortable master suite w f/plc, dressing room and well done bath. The home, owned by a landscape designer, is an outdoor paradise w the most exquisite lawns, planting and formal gardens. A new 3 car garage, done in the style of the home, adds the finishing touch to this fabulous home.

\$1,550,000



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\$1,599,000



1226 SPRINGDALE ROAD

Exquisite 1918 historic Neel Reid gem, flawlessly restored to period using the very best materials and craftsmanship, and perfectly placed on a 1.3 acre park like setting large enough for pool and tennis courts. The 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath classic beauty features grand, formal living spaces w gorgeous archways, moldings, millwork and hardwoods throughout, 7 f/plcs, hi ceilings, slate roof, state of the art eat in kitchen/sitting room w center island and top of the line appliances, all marble baths redone to period, carriage house and lower level apt under 2-car garage, all new systems and more. Truly one of Druid Hills most beautiful homes.

\$1,700,000



1965 PONCE DE LEON AVE.

This circa 1912 traditional 2-story Druid Hills home, with fully finished bsmt and new 2-car garage, all situated high on the hill on a private 1 acre lot across from Deepdene Park, has been restored to perfection. Features include LR w f/plc, sep DR, light filled library/den, cooks kitchen w marble counters and stainless steel, first floor BR and BA plus 3BRs, 2BAs on second level, including master w luxurious bath and walk in closet AND basement w media room, bedroom, kitchenette and bath, with sep entrance, all in sought after Fernbank School District. Three stories of finished living space, on this much land and in this school district is hard to find at only

\$899,900

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1075 LULLWATER RD.

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1146 OXFORD RD.
543 LAKESHORE DR.
640 GLEN IRIS DR.

2042 MCLENDON RD.
633 SHERWOOD RD.
603 SYCAMORE RIDGE DR.
1322 PONCE DE LEON AVE.

Don't Blame Pine Trees for Springtime Sneezes

With all the beauty of spring comes the nuisance of pollen.

Reprinted with permission from Kim Coder, University of Georgia Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources

What is pollen?

DON'T BLAME THE PINES! Pine pollen, stained and photographed under a microscope, looks otherworldly. But those wings help it fly through the air to get to pine cones where it helps ensure next year's young pine trees. It also carries it to your car, your windows and into your nose and eyes where it can irritate delicate membranes. But Coder said few people are allergic to pine pollen -- mostly allergies are to other trees' pollen.

Pollen is the male part of a plant's life. It isn't good or bad. It's just there, in great volume, in the spring. Some people consider spring pollen season a bad time, especially if they are allergic to specific pollens. Large pines surround us in our yards, along our streets and in our forests. These giant plants release huge amounts of pollen into the air every year to assure a new generation of pines.

Large pollens from trees like pine can get in the way and make a mess. But it's the small pollens of other trees that cause various symptoms of hay fever.

Don't blame the pines

Don't blame the pines for allergy attacks. Look to mold spores and weed pollens that are around all summer. Tree pollens have a short distribution period.

On warm, dry, windy days you can see yellow clouds of pine pollen billowing across the landscape. Two side wings hold these big pollen grains aloft. These wings also make pine pollen big enough to see.

Pollen movement

As the wind blows, it sweeps pollen up into the air and carries it long distances. Pine pollen has its unique shape to perfectly match the aerodynamic shape of the

female pine cone. The airborne pollen grains are swirled around the cone and tumble into the receptive base of each bract.

Because pine pollen is so big, we can see it is light yellow. Many windblown tree pollens are invisible. The male pine cones, which dangle at the ends of lower branches, have many pollen sacks which produce and hold pollen. As the male cones mature, they nurture the pollen grains. Then on sunny, windy days with relatively low humidity, the pollen sacks split open.

Annoying, but not usually allergenic

The first place most people notice pine pollen is on their car. Smooth metal surfaces will sport a gritty, yellow dust. It accumulates in miniature drifts on pavements, patios and porches, too.

This yellow dust can be breathed into your nose and mouth. Few people, though, are actually allergic to the pine pollen. But many find it irritating in their eyes and aggravating on their cars and patios.

Other trees

A number of other trees use wind to carry small pollens across the landscape. The trees people have the most trouble with are oaks, walnuts and hickories. These pollens are small enough to cause allergic reactions. Fortunately, they're only around for a short time in the spring.

Surviving pollen season

To protect yourself from pollen:

- Stay inside.
- Keep windows and doors shut.
- Rinse pollen off surfaces.



If tree pollens are driving you to distraction, there are a few things you can do. Stay indoors during peak pollen times, venturing out only on rainy days. Keep the house closed up to keep pollen from entering. Quickly rinse surfaces to remove the dust. But be careful. Some pollens will scratch surfaces.

The grit of pine pollen and the allergenic qualities of the other tree pollens last only a few weeks. This short time gives you a chance to prepare for the spores and weed pollens that will be with you until next fall.

Pollen is a part of life. It's the trees' investment in the future. It also clearly shows that spring is here. Smile as you sneeze - life is good.

(Kim Coder is a forester with the University of Georgia Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources.)

Coyotes in Druid Hills

Advice from People for Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)

Killing coyotes results in survivors breeding to replace those lost, as well as other animals moving in to use resources. Coyotes are attracted to residential areas that provide an adequate food source. The following will work to keep coyotes away:

- Evict animals from dens using ammonia-soaked rags (animals won't like the smell and will leave) and seal affected areas once coyotes have left.
- Area residents should store all trash and compost in sealed containers (use bungee cords to keep lids on tight) and pick up fallen fruit; residents should feed companion animals indoors, always keep companion animals on leashes, and never chain them or otherwise leave them unattended outdoors.
- Motion activated sprinklers, flashing lights, and outdoor radios can be used to keep coyotes away.
- Vegetation should be trimmed back along paths and yards to reduce available hiding places.
- Strict wildlife feeding prohibitions should be enforced.

If lethal methods are insisted upon, coyotes should be cage-trapped (traps must be checked daily and disabled when this isn't possible) and euthanized. PETA's wildlife biologist is available to advise further, if needed.



City Landmark District Update

by Alida Silverman

West End and Inman Park Historic Districts have completed theirs. Druid Hills Landmark District's is underway. What's going on? It's the Text Amendment project of the City's Office of Planning for the City's designated neighborhood districts.

The goal is to clarify and simplify the district regulations and the Certificate of Appropriateness process. Once the draft regulations are received, each property owner in the City Landmark District will receive a copy in the mail. There will be at least a couple of meetings for questions, input, discussion. Then, the reviewed draft will go through the City's legislative process.

What kind of changes for example? Fences will no longer require a hearing by the full Urban Design Commission: they will be reviewed and approved (or not) by the staff, according to the stated parameters in the regs. Instead of a \$100 fee, the cost will be \$10. The City Tree Ordinance will be incorporated into the LD regs. This ordinance did not exist when Druid Hills was first designated in 1982 (and was the only residential district with tree protection). We will also have a map showing contributing (and non-contributing) structures, i.e. structures built during the historic period of development of Druid Hills. (Such a map was not required for designation in 1982.

By the time you read this, we should be much further along in the process.



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Local Teens Get Grounded

*Clifton Community Partnership Update
Spring 2012*

The opening of a new teen center plans to provide a safe haven for local youths to come together through laughter, enrichment and service.

"Get Grounded is the place to be for sixth to twelfth graders," says Angie Waddell, co-founder and executive director of Get Grounded. "We offer a number of different enrichment programs and workshops designed for participants to explore something new and unique."

Located just off North Decatur Road at 1944 Ridgewood Drive, the teen center will offer programs for youths that promote positive peer connection and interaction; promote teen health through proper nutrition and physical and emotional exercise; and training for specific trade that will impart knowledge and/or develop skills among other things.

Get Grounded is a distinctive teen center because it has two teen advisory boards that work together to lead the center. "We want to empower teens to take responsibility for their choices so they realize and achieve their full potential," says Waddell. "The teen advisory boards are supported by adult facilitators that guide the teens in making the decisions consistent with the center's objectives."

As Get Grounded grows its roots in the Druid Hills community, the teen center will evolve into a facility that offers an art studio, community outreach, game room, lounge, music studio, performance theatre, recording studio, study room and yoga.

Volunteers are encouraged to contact Waddell at 404-312-2504 or info@groundme.org.

Thank You, Stephanie!

By Mary Angela Whyte

True to the 14 years of service she has given Druid Hills in the State House of Representatives, Stephanie Stuckey Benfield was reluctant to talk about herself. Instead, she wanted to focus on problems our community is facing or will face, especially the effects of the current redistricting and the formation of new cities within unincorporated DeKalb County.

The redistricting will put current representatives in the position of running again for their posts or even finding themselves no longer in a Druid Hills district. The new cities, if allowed, will adversely affect the County's tax base and raise our taxes. In response, talk of a Druid Hills City is brewing. Much of this is discussed by DHCA president Bruce MacGregor in his column on p. 3, as is what Stephanie calls her major project this season, defeating House Bill 802. She, husband Rob Benfield, Rep. Mary Margaret Oliver, and Bruce MacGregor are closely monitoring this threat to our historic district.

Stephanie will finish out her term, leaving the legislature on January 8, 2013, but she will not be idle. On April 9, 2013, she will assume her new position as Executive Director of GreenLaw, an environmental law firm dedicated to clean air and water litigation in Georgia. The firm's environmental justice project is to help represent, primarily, minorities in communities adversely affected by pollution, such as toxic waste dumps. Clients include Sierra Club and Riverkeeper. Working with staff attorneys, Stephanie's job will focus mainly on fundraising, communication, and grassroots organization, responsibilities that suit her well.

On a personal note, after prodding, Stephanie grew up in Washington, DC, the daughter of US Congressman Billy Stuckey, who served Georgia's 8th District from 1966-1976. She graduated in 1992 from the University of Georgia School of Law and was staff attorney for Rep. Mary Margaret Oliver from 1996-1998, elected herself, to the House in 1999. Introducing her candidacy at the DHCA annual meeting in January 1998, she met DHCA president and fellow attorney Rob Benfield, who recruited her as a docent for the spring Tour of Homes. She laughingly refers to that as their first date. Married in 2001, the busy Benfields have a son, Robert, age 10, and a daughter, Beverly, age 6, who attend Fernbank Elementary.

We will miss Stephanie's advocacy and her commitment to her constituents, but she will still be our neighbor and, no doubt, active in our community. We wish her well in her new position, where she will continue to use her talents for the good of others.







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Atlanta Boy Choir Auditioning

It's that time of year when the Atlanta Boy Choir is actively looking for new members for the 2012 Season. This year is a special one, with a concert at The Temple for Holocaust Remembrance Day, and the Concert Choir (the uppermost level) having been invited to sing with The Glinka School of Music in St. Petersburg, Russia, in The Great Hall of the Philharmonic. The Choir will travel to Russia this June and will give concerts and tour the country for about 10 days.

Auditions are held every Wednesday at 6 p.m. at The Atlanta Boy Choir House, 1215 South Ponce de Leon Avenue. Parents and/or students should call 404-378-0064 for an appointment, and ask for Mr. Neil Cardwell, or email nfo@atlantaboychoir.org. The Spring Concert, commemorating The Holocaust is April 18 at 7:30 p.m. at The Temple, in Buckhead. The unique, fabulous Tour to St. Petersburg, Russia, where the Choir will sing in The Great Hall of the Philharmonic, is a once-in-a lifetime event!

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Conservation and Restoration Efforts Continue in the Lullwater Conservation Garden

The Lullwater Garden Club (LGC) continued their restoration and conservation efforts by undertaking two major projects this fall in the Lullwater Conservation Garden. Since 2007, the Club has worked diligently with community support to return this Piedmont Forest to its original grandeur.

This year, the club partnered with Terry Sutton from Cascade Springs Forestry to develop a short, mid, and long-term plan for the garden and to continue removing invasive plants. The results have been dramatic.



Before



After

Pictured here is one path of the Garden before and after Terry and his team completed their work. The LGC will continue to search out funding opportunities to enable Terry's full plan to be implemented. They are also embarking on an educational labeling project for the six champion tress identified within the Garden.

In addition, several knights in shining armor volunteered to restore the 60+ year-old wishing well roof and surround. This structure had become very dilapidated and was in danger of collapsing. It took longer than anticipated, as much of the lumber was original to the structure. However, the men persevered over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, achieving a beautiful result.



Before



During



and After!

Pictured from left to right: George Clarke, Scott Storbeck, Jim Heerin and Zorro, Ivan Faulkenberry and Chase Storbeck

(Thanks to the generous contribution from the Druid Hills Civic Association (DHCA), the Lullwater Garden Club (LGC) was able to fund this very important project. Additionally, the DHCA contribution will be used to install the educational tree identification makers for the six champion trees. Thanks to all for your support.)

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

Sustaining Member

Druid Member

Olmsted Member

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\$50 - \$99

\$100 - \$249

\$250 or more

Amount Paid: \$

Please make checks payable to

Druid Hills Civic Association.

Mail to: P.O. Box 363, Decatur, GA 30031-0363

NATALIE GREGORY

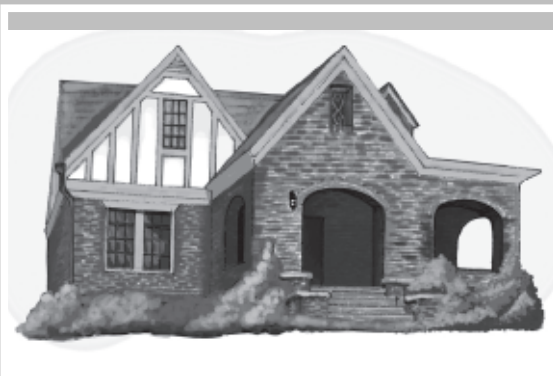
WELCOME TO YOUR NEW HOME



520 SOUTH WESTMINSTER WAY, DRUID HILLS

Executive brick home with six bedrooms and five-and-a-half bathrooms sited on a quiet cul-de-sac street within walking distance to Emory and CDC. This home features 10-foot ceilings, an abundance of natural light, and spacious rooms. The main level offers a formal living room, dining room, kitchen with breakfast area leading to the deck, family room with fireplace flanked with built-in cabinetry, and an attached three-car garage. Upstairs features an owner's suite with sitting area, two walk-in closets, double vanities, separate shower and whirlpool tub. Three more bedrooms are on the second level and each has a private bathroom. Terrace level, with separate entrance, offers a large media room, game room and private guest suite. Professionally landscaped backyard provides a private outdoor living area with a stone fireplace and patio.

\$925,000



508 EMORY CIRCLE, DRUID HILLS

Just a short stroll to Emory University and the CDC, 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 character 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 as well as a walk-in closet off its bathroom. Full finished basement with separate entrance offers great flexibility.



247 SUPERIOR AVENUE, DECATUR

Well-appointed, renovated and expanded brick Tudor offers four bedrooms, four bathrooms and an office. The gourmet kitchen with Viking appliances and custom cabinetry features honed granite countertops and spacious center island. Kitchen opens to a breakfast area and family room with handsome mantle and fireplace flanked by bookcases. Step into the beautiful backyard through French doors in the den and office that open to a granite and flagstone back and side patio. Thoughtful storage throughout includes a Costco-sized pantry, mudroom lockers, and spacious closets. Home is conveniently located on an extra wide lot in Downtown Decatur's desirable Great Lakes neighborhood and is walking distance to Georgia School of Excellence, Clairemont Elementary and downtown Decatur.

\$829,000



1194 CLIFTON ROAD, DRUID HILLS

Walking distance to Emory and CDC, this recently renovated brick traditional offers four bedrooms and three bathrooms. Craftsman style details include handsome moldings and 9-foot ceilings. Formal living room features brick fireplace and opens to a side porch and a sunroom. State-of-the-art gourmet kitchen incorporates the details that you dream of from the magazines. Owner's suite offers walk-in closets, renovated bathroom, sitting area and an office. Ample storage is available with a full basement and a two-car garage. Multi-level deck with fire-pit and deep private backyard offer plenty of room to play and entertain.

\$650,000



170 COVENTRY ROAD, DECATUR

Located in the Ponce de Leon Heights neighborhood, this circa 1929 bungalow with three bedrooms and two bathrooms was recently remodeled to make the most of the cottage charm while adding modern amenities. Formal living room features a fireplace and opens to a sunroom and dining room. The renovated kitchen has Carrara marble countertops, subway tile backsplash, stainless steel appliances and opens to a keeping room. Main level offers a master bedroom with a walk-in closet and a guest bedroom. The second level provides an office, additional bedroom and large bathroom with two vanities. Architectural details include large windows, dental crown moldings, and gleaming hardwood floors.

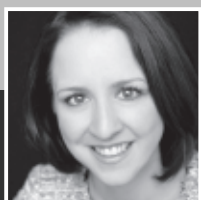
\$395,000



THE CLIFTON, 1717 NORTH DECATUR ROAD, DRUID HILLS

English Tudor architecture, impeccable grounds, and top-notch concierge services await you in this one-bedroom, one-bathroom luxury condominium across from the Emory University campus. Architectural details in this unit include 12-foot ceilings, freshly painted walls, stately judges paneling, limestone surround fireplace, and a balcony overlooking the pool. Kitchen features Bosch stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, breakfast bar and a view to the living room. Ample storage is provided with his-and-hers custom closets, kitchen pantry, and hall linen closet. The spacious bathroom features a separate shower, jetted tub, and granite countertops. The community amenities include fitness center, clubroom, business center, concierge, controlled covered parking, swimming pool, and an overnight guest suite.

\$265,000



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