



# THE DRUID HILLS News

SUMMER, 2010  
Volume 24, Number 2  
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## JULY 4TH PARADE IN DRUID HILLS

Don't miss the 35th annual Druid Hills Fourth of July Parade! Join a few hundred of your friends and neighbors as we march up Springdale and back down Oakdale in a display of patriotism and community. If you've never participated in the parade, you've missed out on a truly unique tradition in our neighborhood. Be sure to dress up your bikes and strollers, your pets, your kids and yourselves ... and if you have any musical ability whatsoever, feel free to join our ad-hoc marching band! Festivities kick off at 11:00 a.m. Parade begins and ends at the corner of Oakdale Road and The By Way. Refreshments following.

## Druid Hills Neighborhood Yard Sale Saturday, September 25 9 a.m.-2 p.m.



Back by popular demand, our neighborhood yard sale! 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 Druid Hills Civic Association will advertise the sale in The Atlanta Journal Constitution and the surrounding neighborhood. Plus, a yard sale sign will be provided for your yard. All you have to do is drag your stuff 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 yard sale day. What a deal! You make money and don't have to take anything back into the house at the end of the day. The DHCA will also have a map locating all participating houses on the DHCA website. Registration cost is only \$25.00.

## Lullwater Garden Club is Awarded the City of Atlanta's Trees for Sustainability Grant

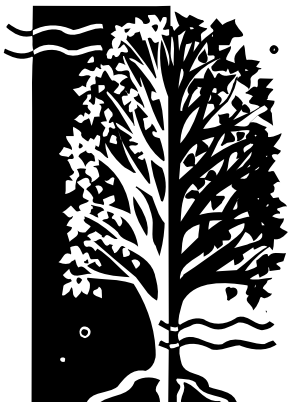
In February of 2010, The Lullwater Garden Club (LGC) applied for a grant through the City of Atlanta's 'Trees for Atlanta's Sustainability' Program. In March, the LGC found they had been awarded the grant.

Twelve trees will be planted in the Lullwater Conservation Garden on April 17, 2010, during LCG's April Community Work Day. The trees awarded include:

- 3 Georgia Oak trees (our state tree)
- 3 Scarlet Oak trees
- 3 Autumn Flame Red Maple trees
- 3 Serviceberry trees

This wonderful collection of trees will add great beauty to the Conservation Garden. The club has been told that Mayor Kasim Reed may be interested in viewing the trees once they have been planted, but no date has been set.

The LGC will be dedicating these trees to Ivy Dougherty, a long standing and much loved member of the club who passed away in November 2009.



## 4th Graders at Fernbank Elementary Enjoy Playing in the Dirt

The Lullwater Garden Club sponsored the installation of perennials in front of Fernbank Elementary School on Friday, May 14. Two gardens were installed on either side of the front door and two more gardens were planted on either side of the front steps. The planting was done by some hard working fourth graders and a good time was had by all. The Lullwater Garden Club members explained the features of the plants and helped the children with the digging. The entire project was part of an early celebration of National Garden Week. The elementary school asked that the planting be done before school was out so that graduation ceremonies could benefit from the sprucing up.

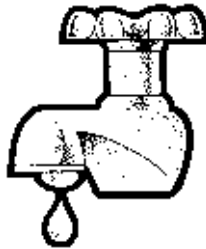


## Change to Watering Restrictions

Landscape watering only is now unrestricted. You may water plants any day, regardless of house number (odd or even). Watering is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

All other forms of water use (e.g., car or power washing) must follow the odd-even rule. Even-numbered houses water Monday-Wednesday-Saturday; odd-numbered houses water Tuesday-Thursday-Sunday. No restriction on time of day.

For complete information, go to the Georgia EPD website: <http://www.gaepd.org/index.html> and click on Outdoor Water Use.



## Final Phase of Dowman Drive Enhancements

by Kelly Gray, Clifton Community Partnership newsletter

Work has resumed in the final phase to complete Emory's main entrance at Dowman Drive. These improvements are a continuation of the project that was started last summer with the new and welcoming ingress to campus. Streetscape improvements will be concentrated to the fronts of the B. Jones and Administration buildings and will complement the landscaped plaza and courtyard of the newly constructed Oxford Road Bookstore and Admissions Office.

Entering Emory's campus from North Decatur Road, visitors will see a new, permanent roundabout with a landscaped island at the intersection of Dowman Drive and South Kilgo Circle; brick pavers and granite curbs on Dowman Drive; improved sidewalks and crosswalks; additional street lights; landscaping; and a relocated visitors information booth near the main entrance. Dowman Drive will also be repaved between the Administration Building and Eagle Row.

Roadwork on Dowman Drive began shortly after Emory's Commencement and is expected to end in August.

The new streetscape on Dowman Drive will provide direct access from North Decatur Road to the new Barnes & Noble bookstore, admissions office and Starbucks coffee shop. The courtyard is designed as a large "green roof" and will cover the parking deck; a green roof was incorporated into the design to enhance the natural environment near the building.

### THE DRUID HILLS NEWS

Newsletter of the  
Druid Hills Civic Association

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Animal Services—After Hours . . . . .404-294-2519  
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Chamber of Commerce-DeKalb . . . . .404-378-8000  
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DeKalb Community Relations (Police) . . . . .404-286-7955  
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Keep DeKalb Beautiful . . . . .404-371-2654  
Law Department . . . . .404-371-3011  
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Mental Health Emergencies . . . . .404-892-4646  
Neighborhood Watch . . . . .404-286-7955  
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Roads, Drainage, Trees Down, Pot Holes . . . .404-297-3840  
After Hours . . . . .404-294-2523  
Sanitation . . . . .404-294-2900  
Sight Obstructions (Roads) . . . . .404-294-2041  
Sheriff’s Department . . . . .404-298-8000  
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Storm Water Management . . . . .404-297-2570  
Tax Assessor’s Office . . . . .404-371-2509  
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Voter Registration . . . . .404-298-4020  
Water—Billing . . . . .404-378-4475  
Emergency . . . . .770-270-6243  
Women’s Resource Center . . . . .404-688-9436  
Zoning . . . . .404-371-4915

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.

Sign up for complimentary E-Alerts for news, events, neighborhood updates, and more, at [elert@druidhills.org](mailto:elert@druidhills.org).

Here is how to sign up for E-Alerts – 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](http://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.

Emory no longer sponsors a recycling site at the Emory Village CVS. Recyclables may be taken to Whole Foods on Briarcliff, DeKalb County fire stations and libraries, and DeKalb Farmers Market.

To join the County curbside recycling program, call 404-294-2900 or visit [www.co.dekalb.gov.us](http://www.co.dekalb.gov.us)

*Druid Hills News* deadlines

The deadlines for the fall issue are:

Advertising— August 10  
Copy— August 17

Publication will be in mid-September

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](mailto:tw1042@bellsouth.net)

The DHCA is also looking for a **Coordinator**. To volunteer, please contact Elliott Kyle at 770-481-1960 or email [adminvp@druidhills.org](mailto: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](http://www.druidhills.org/news/advertise.htm) email: [admin@druidhills.org](mailto:admin@druidhills.org)

THE DRUID HILLS NEWS

Newsletter of the Druid Hills Civic Association

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

*Published by Volunteers*

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Tour photos by Lisa Hill

*Your Letters Are Welcome*



# Memories of Mudville

By J.J. Williams

After World War II, there were many service men and women returning not only to the United States, but also to college. During the war, the enrollment of students at Emory University had declined to 1,400—in all of its schools—but by the late 1940s, Emory’s student enrollment soared to nearly 4,000. Taking advantage of the G.I. Bill of Rights, veterans eagerly sought an education at Emory. Yet housing options on the Emory campus were limited. Led by President Goodrich C. White, Emory rapidly looked for temporary housing for its students.

University Treasurer George Mew put in a bid on Emory’s behalf for war surplus trailers at the atom bomb project at Oak Ridge, Tennessee. These trailers, moved to Atlanta in 1946, were placed along Clifton Road and became known as “Trailer Town”. Trailer Town was removed in 1952. Makeshift Federal Public Housing dorms were brought in and set up across the railroad tracks from the depot. These pre-fab dorms housed 384 male students. Because of its lack of amenities, this settlement was called “Lower Slobbovia” by its residents. In 1955, Lower Slobbovia was demolished. Plywood and tar paper barracks were constructed for married students’ housing, and quickly dubbed “Mudville.” Mudville was located on Clifton Road where the Emory Inn is now, across from the oldest of the CDC buildings. Mudville was undoubtedly named for the unpaved road that all the houses faced. During rains, the dirt road became nearly impassable.

In 1953, my parents, 7-year-old brother and I, moved to Mudville so that my father could study at the Emory School of Business Administration. Our “house” was the southernmost one in a row fronting Clifton (although it was actually the back of our unit that faced Clifton as the front faced the dirt road between our house and another row of barracks.) Across the two-lane Clifton Road were one old home place, and an area of deep woods that would become the site of the Communicable Disease Center’s (now Centers for Disease Control) first buildings.

To a three-year-old, Mudville didn’t seem too bad. As residents of the end unit, my family had a grassy play yard on the south side with a gym set, and our fenced front yard had a sandbox and sliding board. Inside, we had two small bedrooms connected by a hallway, a kitchen, bath and living room. The kitchen was across the back of the house, and our back door opened onto Clifton Road. There was a small living room across the front of the house, and a handyman who worked for my grandparents built a screened-in porch that was accessed from the living room. The black tar-paper exterior made Mudville notorious for collecting and holding the summer’s heat. And of course, there was no insulation. Our breezy front porch was envied by other residents, because electric fans provided the only air conditioning at Mudville.

My brother went to the second grade at Druid Hills Elementary, and when I was old enough, I attended Glenn Memorial Church kindergarten, where my love of rhythm band instruments was a harbinger of life as a professional musician. Later, my brother would be in the first class to attend the brand new Fernbank Elementary School.

Living at Mudville was like staying in a rustic cottage at a state park—few amenities but a thriving community built on shared adversity. The wives of the male students (there were few female students at Emory then) all knew



The author with her mother and brother at Mudville, 1955

each other and most were stay-at-home mothers. My brother recalls that many of the “Dads” at Mudville were dental students (Emory had absorbed and moved the Atlanta-Southern Dental College to the Druid Hills campus in 1944.) Mudville crawled with small children, so there were plenty of playmates, including one girl who shall remain nameless who made a reputation for throwing sand in other children’s hair.

My brother was quite the explorer even then, and took me on several adventures. Once, we visited the old Emory University dump, which was behind the second row of barracks. The dump was an amazing place and filled with myriad discarded items with which to play. My brother recalls glass bottles with colorful chemicals, sea shells, rusting metal beds and springs, and many other things thrown away by Emory. We also visited an old house located in the woods that was home to a child-friendly older man who cut branches from his yard and carved walking sticks for the neighborhood kids. My brother recalls scooting across a water or sewer pipe over Peachtree Creek and exploring the area around the old Houston Mill. Another adventure involved my brother taking me across the South Fork of Peachtree Creek on the old metal one-lane bridge, and onto Mr. Walter Candler’s private estate. (The family was still living there at the time. Emory bought the 185 acre estate in 1958.) My eight-year-old brother and I returned covered with Beggar’s Lice and scratched legs from a bush-whack along the creek, and lying about our adventure wasn’t even an option. No matter how wonderful the hike had been, my brother was switched for taking his four-year-old sister on such a trek. (The switching notwithstanding, this was probably the birth of a life-long love of hiking for each of us.)

I cannot recall the amount of rent we paid to live at Mudville, but it must not have been much, as my father was a full-time student who also worked part time at a grocery store, and my mother didn’t work outside the home. We had one old Chevrolet automobile, one black-and-white TV and a used washing machine. With no clothes dryer, our outside line was regularly filled with flapping clothes.

I have three other important memories of Mudville from this early stage of my life: My mother and I returned from my kindergarten class to find our kitchen full of smoke and water. The old washer was on fire and belched thick black smoke into the kitchen. The machine had malfunctioned, allowing a continuous stream of water into the overflowing tub and onto the floor. My mother waded through inches of hot water on the kitchen floor in order to

...continued on page 10

# President’s Column

by Cathy Vandenberg

First, I would like to thank Dick Shuey, our outgoing president, for his leadership this past year. Dick exemplifies solid leadership. He enthusiastically took on the role of the Executive Committee liaison to the Tour Committee (which we are happy to announce he will do again this year). He, like his predecessor Jim Morawetz, made a point of inviting new folks with a diversity of interests, opinions, and talents to the Board. Most of all, I thank Dick for steering our group in a straight even course by focusing on the association’s objectives, which include promoting the general welfare of the community, preserving and enhancing the historical heritage of Druid Hills, and maintaining its unique residential character for future generations.

The founders of our organization were ingenious in having the new officers’ and board of directors’ terms of office begin just before the Druid Hills Tour of Homes. It’s always an amazing community-building event and this year’s Tour and Artist Market did not disappoint. The Tour featured gorgeous homes, a fabulous artists market, fantastic weather, hundreds of happy attendees, and hundreds of neighborhood volunteers; it involved hundreds of hours of planning and was very successful in generating revenue for our community. This fantastic community effort reflects well on our neighborhood, our association, and plans for the coming year. My two goals for the upcoming year are community building and education.


I mean community building in the sense that we build on the sense of community exemplified in our Tour efforts. It is our stated goal that each new family or household moving into the neighborhood will be greeted by a Druid Hills Civic Association representative and presented a welcome packet that includes a newsletter, information on DHCA activities and how to get involved, along with a freshly baked treat, a bottle of wine, etc. With the able leadership of Thomas Winn, our Membership Committee Chair, we will make this goal a reality. We welcome any folks who would be interested in participating in this activity to contact Thomas or me. This effort will complement already existing community building activities, such as the 4th of July parade, Druid Hills Day, the neighborhood-wide yard sale, the Parents Network Halloween party, and other events.

One of the stated objectives of the Association is to preserve and enhance the historical heritage of Druid Hills. There seems to be a lot of confusion in our neighborhood, particularly among us DeKalb County residents, about what living in a Historic Preservation District means. What is required when one wants to make a “material change of appearance,” be it a total renovation, a small addition, replacing windows, or replacing a driveway? What’s the difference between DeKalb County’s Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), the government body before whom a resident must go and request a certificate of appropriateness (COA) when one wants to make a “material change of appearance,” and the DHCA’s Historic Preservation Committee which is composed of neighborhood folks with knowledge and interest in historic preservation? How do DHCA Historic Preservation Committee members serve the community in regard to COA applications? Do residents know that DHCA Committee members are available for free consultation on their planned changes? What is the DHCA’s role with respect to the HPC Commission? Given these questions and the importance of the issue to folks in the neighborhood, I propose that the Association sponsor an event that provides step-by-step instruction on the Historic Preservation Commission Certificate of Appropriateness process. As they say, knowledge is power.

I look forward to serving as the DHCA president in the next year and serving our community.

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## School News

by Susan Merritt Jordan

(Information was not received from all schools. Websites are listed below.)

Briar Vista Elementary is now engaged in a process to transition from 100% Montessori to a two-track system of Montessori and traditional classrooms. This plan was prepared and promoted by Briar Vista administrators and parents to counter suggestions that closing the school or completely eliminating the Montessori program were ways to help DeKalb County save money. "I can't say enough good about it," says Don McChesney, member of the DeKalb Board of Education for District 2, of the campaign to save Briar Vista. "They didn't just come to meetings with their signs to save their school; they came with a plan."

The top students in Druid Hills High School Class of 2010 are Valedictorian Diem Anh Vo, and Salutatorians George Alexopoulos and Hannah Wichmann. The top graduating senior at The Paideia School is Philip Ehrenberg of Virginia-Highland.

A program at Ben Franklin Academy to help failing public school students from Decatur was featured in March on the website of the Harvard Graduate School of Education. So far, the "Back on Track" program has helped 110 struggling juniors and seniors from Decatur High School with individualized instruction at BFA. The schools say the great majority of these students were able to graduate from Decatur High School after participating in the program. The "Back on Track" partnership is supported by a grant from an anonymous donor.

Strawberry flavored milk and chocolate flavored milk are no longer available for breakfast or lunch at Springdale Park Elementary. Students may now choose skim milk, one percent or two percent milk. With 164 SPARK parents voting on the issue of sweetened milk, 61% favored dropping the flavored varieties and Atlanta Public Schools approved the change. SPARK followed the example of Morningside Elementary where parents also voted to drop flavored milk. Both schools were on the case prior to the ABC broadcast of the six-part Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution, a reality show in which a chef tries to change what children eat at school in a city in West Virginia. In the show, Oliver asserts that flavored milk can contain as much sugar as soda. Comparing labels seems to confirm this assessment. According to SPARK parent Teresa Groshans, it is hoped that cutting the sugar at lunch will be "one of many more steps taken to improve the quality of the food served to children at school."

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

Briar Vista Elementary School:  
[www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/briarvista](http://www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/briarvista)

Mary Lin Elementary School:  
[srt3.atlantapublicschools.us/lin](http://srt3.atlantapublicschools.us/lin)

The Paideia School:  
[www.paideiaschool.org](http://www.paideiaschool.org)

Ben Franklin Academy:  
[www.benfranklinacademy.org](http://www.benfranklinacademy.org)

Druid Hills High School:  
[www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/druidhills](http://www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/druidhills)

Fernbank Elementary School:  
[www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/fernbank](http://www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/fernbank)

Shamrock Middle School:  
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Springdale Park Elementary School:  
[srt3.atlantapublicschools.us/springdale](http://srt3.atlantapublicschools.us/springdale)



### Nighbor Rides for Sister

Daniel Palazzolo and his three siblings are all graduates of Druid Hills High School and 30-year residents of Druid Hills. His sister, an Egleston nurse and mother of five, has recently begun treatment for breast cancer. To raise money in her honor in the fight against breast cancer, Daniel will leave on July 23 to ride a motorcycle from Atlanta to the Arctic Circle. Donations can be made to the Susan B. Komen Foundation, Passionately Pink for the Cure, and are tax deductible. Please visit his amazing website for his blog, photos, the route, and how to donate. Visit <http://atltothearctic.com>.

### DeKalb Library Patrons Check Out Audiobooks, Kiss Late Fees Goodbye

by Kelly Gray, Clifton Community Partnership newsletter

DeKalb Public Library is making it easier than ever to access bestselling books in high demand. The library's new service, OverDrive, affords patrons the opportunity to check out new releases and popular titles 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year as downloadable audiobooks. All that is required is a library card and internet access.

The DeKalb Public Library already has an initial collection of over 300 audiobook titles from which to choose. Selections include titles such as "Superfreakonomics" by Steven Levitt, "Impact" by Douglas Preston and books from the "Twilight" saga series by Stephanie Meyer.

Current patrons can check out two titles at once and can choose the length of their checkout time from a range of one to three weeks. The downloads automatically expire at the end of the checkout period, so patrons don't have to worry about lost items or late fees. Patrons can also place requests for books already checked out.

For details, visit the library's website at [www.dekalblibrary.org](http://www.dekalblibrary.org) and select OverDrive under the eLibrary tab.



### DHCA Parents Network

by Beth Blaney

## Calling Neighborhood Parents

The DHCA Parents Network wants to continue hosting events and bringing local families together. We need your help! We're currently seeking volunteers to join our committee.

No special skill set required. You can use your creativity and organizational skills as parents to help us plan neighborhood gatherings. The time commitment is minimal. The Parents Network meets once every quarter, and communicates mostly through email and phone.

We need YOUR help to continue having a successful Parents Network. Come check us out! We just met in June, and we'll meet again in early fall to plan our third annual Halloween party.

If you're interested, please email us: [communication@druidhillsparents.org](mailto:communication@druidhillsparents.org)

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

A successful Tour of Homes and Artist Market depends on the hard work of hundreds of volunteers, from the Tour committee, which began work immediately after the 2009 Tour, to the homeowners, down to the last recruited docent. However, a few volunteers deserve special recognition. Their dedication and endless attention to detail made all run smoothly. The neighborhood will benefit with historic preservation and greenspace.

Our special thanks go to:

Cyndie Pershing	Events and Home Selection
Becky Evans	Revenue
Debbie McDonald	Operations
Joanna Stroud	Artist Market
Dick Shuey	Executive Committee liaison to Tour committee

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## Grab Summer by the Tail!



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The History of Mother Goose

By Peter Richards, Paideia School

In 2009, a devastating fire gutted the “Mother Goose” building at Paideia School. The fire was started in a bale of hay on the wooden porch, and soon spread to the attic and the rest of the house. A total loss, only the brick walls were left standing when firemen exited the scene. The building was unique to its block on South Ponce de Leon, with a wide white circular front porch and handsome red brick. It was beloved by students and neighbors alike, who all mourned its destruction in the fire. The Mother Goose was named after a nursery that existed in the building for many years before being purchased by Paideia.

The construction of Mother Goose was begun in April, 1910. By 1911, Lucy Candler Owens (Asa Candler’s daughter) and husband had moved into their new home and their second son, William Owens, Jr., was born in April, 1911.

The Goose was one of the only houses on the block and the property consisted of several acres. There were chickens, goats, and a milk cow. Lucy cured hams in the house and her children had ponies, dogs and cats. There was a cook, a butler/chauffeur, and a yard man who came every day (and twice on Sundays to milk the cow). The cook churned their fresh butter.

The carriage house had space for an automobile. There was a small apartment for the chauffeur on the second floor, with an outside set of stairs leading up.

The back of the house held an extensive vegetable garden and English formal gardens with paths and hedges, surrounded by tall brick arches. The rural farm-like qualities of the Owens property ended across Virgilee Park at Ponce de Leon, where newfangled automobiles sped by at the speed limit of 15 miles an hour. An “electric road,” a trolley which clattered and sparked its way from Atlanta carrying maids and commuters, traveled along tracks in the park on the south side of Ponce.

William Owens died of influenza and a heart attack in the house December 20, 1914, and Lucy nearly died of typhoid herself. After a frightening break-in at the home, Lucy’s parents briefly moved in with her in 1915, while their house, The Lemon Pie House (across the street at 1428 Ponce), was being built. When the new mansion was completed, in 1916, Lucy and her son and daughter decamped and moved in with her parents. Her father, Asa Candler, sold her the Goose, on July 28, 1916, for \$7500. On the same day, Lucy flipped the house and sold it for \$20,000 to Dr. Walter B. Hamby, who never lived in the house.

Dr. Hamby sold the Goose for \$30,000 in September, 1918, to Charles Thomas Hopkins. Mr. Hopkins had retired after a successful career as an attorney in Atlanta, whose major client was the Coca Cola Corporation. He was instrumental in derailing a movement to eliminate caffeine, a mildly addictive drug, from Coke, a drink which was legally available to children.

Charles Hopkins died in 1921, of encephalitis and spinal meningitis, the second death in the Goose. His family sold the Goose three years later for \$29,000 to Virgil P. Warren. Warren, known in landlocked Atlanta as “The Commodore,” was the President of The Warren Company, which produced commercial refrigeration units in “America’s Largest Commercial Refrigerator Factory,” located on Memorial Drive. Warren built a large, state-of-the art, walk-in refrigerator insulated with cork and wood in the Goose basement.

When Warren died in 1957, his wife, Annie Laurie Collier Warren, inherited the property. In 1963, the Warren family sold the Goose to John D. Harris, the CEO of the very same Warren Company. Mr. Harris never lived in the house, but held it as a rental property, perhaps as inexpensive housing for students.

In 1968, Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Petree bought the vacant property for \$35,000 and transformed it into The Mother Goose, a nursery licensed to care for 60 children. The Goose building became the day-care center and the Petrees and their children lived in the carriage house.

In 1982, The Paideia School bought the Mother Goose for \$255,000. The Goose would have become 100 years old-- a centenarian-- in 2009, but the fire prevented that happy celebration of longevity. Paideia intends to re-build the Goose. It will, like Atlanta 130 years ago, rise again from the ashes. Resurgens.



BOOK CLUB NEWS:

Pager Turners

by Faye Andresen

Some books seem to propel the reader forward. Whether it is suspense building in the plot, artful prose, or new ideas, some books are just plain page-turners. Supper can wait. Kids can wait. Sleep can wait...just let me finish this book.

The Harvard Road Book Club enjoyed reading Chris Cleave’s *Little Bee*, the poignant story of the fateful meeting of a 16-year-old Nigerian orphan and a British couple. She ends up joining them in their world, sharing her insights and confusion with readers. Book club members agreed it is a page-turner but differ greatly as to the acceptability of the ending. *What Do You Care What Other People Think?* by theoretical physicist Richard Feynman is a collection of essays primarily concerning his experiences investigating the Challenger disaster and exposing NASA’s scientific and policy failure. This book is a follow-up to the widely popular *Surely You Are Joking, Mr. Feynman!* Last they read, *The Botany of Desire* by Michael Pollan. It is a variation on the ideas of *Guns, Germs & Steel*. Pollan chooses four plants: apples, tulips, potatoes and marijuana and carefully chronicles how each has evolved and intertwined with man’s history. It is the idea of co-evolution. Full of interesting historical tidbits and asides, the book includes the cautionary tale of today’s agribusiness moving towards reducing variety and vibrancy of numerous domesticated crops.

The Deepdene Book Club read Barbara Kingsolver’s *The Lacuna*. Club readers thought this a challenging but fascinating book documenting three decades in the life of Harrison Shepherd. Was he simply a writer of 1950’s adventure novels or a radical subversive? Through diary entries, letters and transcripts, Kingsolver documents his early years with Leo Trotsky and Diego Rivera to his testimony at the US House Committee on Un-American Activities. This is a true departure from her earlier works. *In Other Rooms, Other Wonders* by Pakistani writer Daniyal Mueenuddin is a series of wonderfully crafted short stories about the feudal society of Pakistan. The book has garnered rave reviews but the book club wanted the stories to have more of a connection to each other. Last they chose Jefferey Toobin’s *The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court*. Rather than focusing on Supreme Court legal decisions and their lawyerly implications, Toobin zeros in on the personalities and eccentricities of present (or recent) Supreme Court Justices. It’s not exactly a “tell-all” exposé, but does give the reader a sense of the personalities behind the robes.

Tennessee doctor Abraham Verghese established himself as a writer with his popular memoir *In My Own Country*. He secures his reputation with his debut novel *Cutting for Stone*. It is the compelling story of the tragic birth of twins (mother dies, father runs), their lives in Ethiopia and then New York. Wine Women and Words Book Club thought it was a great book, really well-written with interesting settings and characters. It was an excellent choice! Their next choice, *The Reliable Wife* by Robert Goolrick has so many twisted turns it may best be called a gothic novel. Catherine Land bills herself as a reliable mail-order wife to rich yet lonely Ralph Truitt but she plans widowhood ASAP. Well, things don’t go as planned and are not what either the blushing bride or groom expected. This one’s a page turner!

Last Tuesday Book Club started with *Broken for You* by Stephanie Kallos. The story of a dying women opening up her house and life to a troubled young woman and new experiences had moments of interest and surprise but overall the readers were not too impressed with this debut novel. A house full of china is broken to become beautiful mosaics; hearts are mended and lives are put back together...almost wrapped and tied with a bow. Ferrol Sams, a favorite local author known for the renowned *Run with the Horseman*, has penned another Southern novel based on his home town of Fayetteville called *Down Town*. It seems appreciation for the book relates to the southernness quotient of the reader. But all members appreciated the beautifully written tale, *Dreams of My Russian Summers* by Andrei Makine. Winning several literary awards, the book is a tribute to his grandmother’s tenacity and joy of life. Her tales of growing up in Paris lay in stark contrast to the bleak reality of Stalinist Russia. This garnered high praise from the group. Compelling.

A Beer & a Book Club read *The Piano Teacher*, by Janice Y.K. Lee. The book is a good historical fiction of tumultuous times: colonial Hong Kong society, WWII, Japanese occupation, British and Chinese lovers, affairs & indiscretions. The book club had strong opinions about several of the characters but thought it rich in history. Next they read *The Lemon Tree*, by Sandy Tolan. This is the story of a young Palestinian man who returns to his Israeli homestead after his family fled 19 years earlier, only to find it occupied by an Israeli college student whose family fled Europe for Israel during the Holocaust. *The Sheltering Sky* by Paul Bowles is about a wealthy American couple wandering in North Africa. They serve to bridge the gap between the Lost Generation and the new Beat Generation. Readers thought it bleak but brilliant. And last was *Infidel* by Ayaan Hirsi Ali, a political activist who chronicles her youth in Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia and Kenya. The book club was fortunate to have a member who also grew up in Saudi Arabia. Ali is a political activist who while in exile in the Netherlands made the film *Submission* with Theo van Gogh (who was murdered shortly afterward.) Ali is now in hiding in the U.S. A riveting read; fascinating and chilling.

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Holly York

Right: Mary Katherine Hill, one of our budding Druid Hills artists at the artist market opening reception



## The “Only on Oakdale” Tour: A Spring Success

By Rhonda Mullen

Decades after Ms. Matthews closed her Out-of-Doors School on Oakdale Road and years after the last dance in the formal ballroom of architect Robert Smith Pringle on Oakdale, the residents of this historic street opened their homes for the 2010 Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour & Artist's Market. As one tourgoer, who visited all seven featured houses, put it, “They were amazing—sparkling with spring.”

The annual spring tour was held on a picture perfect weekend in April, and ticket sales and attendance surpassed those of last year's tour. The annual tour benefits historic preservation and green space restoration in the neighborhood.

To pull off such an ambitious effort, the tour relies on volunteers from throughout the neighborhood. The 2010 tour drew together 30 members on the planning committee and more than 250 volunteers. People who are interested in being a part of this community team for 2011 can contact Dick Shuey at [rpsuey@mindspring.com](mailto:rpsuey@mindspring.com).

A group of ladies from Reynolds Plantation wrote to thank volunteers after enjoying this year's tour and artist market, declaring the neighborhood “beautiful” and coming away with many design and decorating ideas that they want to try in their own homes. They also were delighted with jewelry purchases at the artist market.

Becky Evans, a veteran tour volunteer who headed this year's revenue committee, said, “I did not speak with ONE cross person all weekend, and that is truly a first for me! What a fabulous weekend!”

One publicity committee member, Jo Ann Herold, did double duty by also having her home on the tour. Her summing up of the experience: “Druid Hills Rocks!”

In the Moise home, many visitors noted an oil painting by Druid Hills resident Whitney Wolf, Tulips of Auschwitz. Wolf, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, was one of the featured artists in the acclaimed Artist Market.

Many tourgoers enjoyed the ease of having the event on one featured street in the neighborhood. The lunches and live music on the grounds of St. John's Lutheran Church were welcome additions, too.

Volunteers celebrated the 2010 tour success with a wrap-up party at Everybody's Pizza in Emory Village. In May, the committee convened to start planning the next great tour of the Druid Hills neighborhood.



Four of the homeowners at the sponsors gala (L to R): Judy Trotochaud, Stephanie Giegerich, Jo Ann Herold (who did double duty on the publicity committee), and Frances Cullen.

### SAVE THE DATE!

Easter is late in 2011, so the 2011 Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour & Artist Market will be held later than usual.

Mark your calendars for these dates:

Thursday, April 28  
Artist Market Opening Reception (free neighborhood event)

Friday, April 29 through Sunday, May 1  
Home and Garden Tour & Artist Market

## 2010 Artist Market!



Another successful Market with Rave reviews!

The Opening Reception with band, food, and drink all evening was a BIG HIT! Ideal weather.

St. John's Lutheran Church was once again a most gracious host.

Thanks to a great group of committee members, sponsors, and volunteers!

Many new media represented this year and

Art was of exceptional quality.

Remorseful you didn't make it to this year's Market?

Keep your calendar clear in 2011 for April 28 through May 1 and

Email your friends, neighbors and families NOW to do the same!

The Druid Hills Artist Market will return with more fabulous fine art and fine crafts!

*Interested in doing a small committee job for the Artist Market during the fall or winter months? No meetings required! Lots of fun Tour & Artist Market perks for committee participation. Contact Joanna Stroud @[rojoal@comcast.net](mailto:rojoal@comcast.net) for details on how you can help.*

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Is Living in a Historic House Right for You?

by Bill Hover, Tax Incentives & Rehabilitation Guidance Program Manager and Architectural Reviewer, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division

A historic house like the Wren's Nest in Atlanta (as seen in 1943 on the left and in 2009 on the right) presents unique challenges to its owner.



The basic question to ask yourself is do you actually want to live in an old house or is what you want more along the lines of wanting to live in a house that resembles an old one?

In this context, here are some things you need to consider:

Older homes are typically smaller and/or have smaller living spaces. As such, you need to figure out creative ways to live within those spaces. Otherwise, you end up making major changes, which makes the house less historic and more along the lines of a new house that resembles an old one.

Older homes have quirks. These may include floors that aren't level, odd previous changes made to the house, "extra" exterior doors, and having to go through one room to get to another, to mention a few. While changing these things could be possible, if you are uncomfortable with the quirks, maybe an older house just really isn't your lifestyle.

Older homes require maintenance. Of course, this is actually true for newer homes as well, it's just that because older homes have likely suffered from deferred or no maintenance, it's much more apparent with them.

When renovating an older home it's important to keep the features and finishes that make up its historic character. Removing the old stuff and replacing it with modern equivalents, often with the expectation that the new material doesn't require maintenance, doesn't do this. Renovation projects should begin with those that stabilize the house's envelope, typically roof repair or replacement, taking special care that flashing and roof penetrations are done correctly and gutters and downspouts are functioning properly, foundation repairs, and repairs to exterior walls and openings. Once these repairs are done, the building systems (electrical, plumbing, HVAC) should be addressed. Updating these systems to modern requirements should be accomplished in a manner that doesn't require gutting the interior of the building to

access voids in the framing. This typically means these improvements are going to be more labor intensive and more costly. However, some of that increased cost should be offset by not having the major interior project which gutting will require. After the building system projects are complete, insulation should be added in the attic and at the first floor, if it is accessible from the basement or crawlspace. Generally speaking, if the exterior walls of a historic house are in good condition, insulation should not be added, as the cost payback from energy savings is fairly distant and doing so could create hidden conditions resulting in eventual damage.

With other renovation projects, care should be taken to retain historic material and finishes; just because plaster is cracked, doesn't mean it can't be repaired. Windows should be retained. While they have a misguided reputation for energy inefficiency, that can often be corrected by repairs to make them function properly, caulking, and the simple addition of storm windows.

Finally, additions should be designed and built such that they are visually unobtrusive and subordinate to the historic portion of the house.

If you are thinking about purchasing and rehabilitating a historic home, or rehabbing the historic home you live in, you may be eligible for tax incentives. To find out more about these programs, please visit [www.gashpo.org](http://www.gashpo.org).

Some good online resources for homeowners include: The National Trust for Historic Preservation - Resources for Historic Homeowners: [www.preservationnation.org](http://www.preservationnation.org) Preservation Books - Living in a Historic Community: <http://www.preservationbooks.org/>

Mid East Festival

By J. J. Williams

The Saint John Chrysostom Melkite Catholic Church celebrated its 45th Annual Mid East Festival on May 22 and 23. The church is located on Ponce de Leon in the former home of Asa Candler. The festival included homemade Mid East food, including beef (Kibbe) and chicken (Shish Taouk) grilled on the premises, falafels, hummus, tabouleh, and stuffed grape leaves from grape vines growing on the property. Delicious desserts made by members of the church were also sold. The festival featured authentic music and dance throughout the weekend, along with a market offering packaged Mid East food and cultural items. Both English and Arabic were heard as the guests talked and enjoyed the festivities. Guided tours of the church sanctuary were available, with explanations of religious items found in a Byzantine church.

The Atlanta Suzuki Flute School is now accepting students ages 4-adult. Convenient Druid Hills location. For information: 404 964 4142 or [TonyWatsonFlute@yahoo.com](mailto:TonyWatsonFlute@yahoo.com)

St. John's sells outstanding coffee beans and religious items through its gift shop at the church and its web site, [www.stjohnmelkite.org](http://www.stjohnmelkite.org), (click on gift shop). There is also historical information about the Candler home and about the Melkite Catholic Church on their website. The church celebrated its 50th anniversary Golden Jubilee in 2007, under the leadership of Rt. Rev. Archimandrite John Azar. Congratulations to our neighbors, Father John and St. John Chrysostom Church, for another successful Mid East festival!

In Memoriam Mary Ellen Perkins Dr. Mary Ellen Perkins, long time beloved neighbor, January 28, 2010, at the age of 99. Mary Ellen, never fussy about her title, moved from her Ridgewood home since 1958 to Wesley Woods to better care for her sister Blanche. Ironically, Blanche, now 102, survives Mary Ellen, as do brothers, aged 98 and 95. In the summer 2007 issue of The Druid Hills News, Mary Ellen said a sister "died young"—at 82. That article was a revelation for those of us who only knew her as forever young, caring for older siblings in her home, energetic, intelligent, and producer of beautiful peonies. We learned her college degree was in math, not a popular field for young women then, and her master's was in education supervision and curriculum. She received her PhD in 1964 and spent her life in education, teaching and consulting, including training teachers in Korea in 1948. Here in Druid Hills, she remained active at Glenn Memorial Church, especially involved with community and social concerns. One of her special interests was Wesley Walk for Others, an annual walk to help support community centers' programs for low income seniors.

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Windows

By Alida Silverman

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has sent a letter to members regarding their new National Windows Campaign. This is a new initiative designed to make sure that homeowners, government officials, and energy firms and auditors all have access to good information about historic wood windows and energy efficiency. The impetus for this initiative has come from what the Trust is calling “the epidemic of misinformation being spread by the nation’s window makers.”

For homeowners, the Trust is providing information about proper maintenance, repair, and storm windows. From understanding that windows account for 10% of air leakage (Department of Energy) to issues like alternative replacements, life span, embodied energy, and “payback,” the Trust will be making the case for maintaining historic wood windows. Regional offices will be providing information about skilled contractors.

On the Federal government front, the Trust is advocating for the proposed HOME STAR program (“Cash for Caulkers”) that provides financial incentives to homeowners to “green” their homes in a way that is preservation-sensitive. For example, the “Silver Star” track of HOME STAR would permit purchase of storm windows as an alternative to new windows for homes listed on/eligible for the National Register. All contributing homes (homes built during the qualifying historic building period) in Druid Hills in our 4 (!) National Register Districts would qualify. The National Trust, originally chartered by Congress in 1949 to acquire and administer historic sites (houses), “provides leadership, education, advocacy, and resources to save America’s diverse historic places and revitalize our communities.” (During the Road Fight in the 1980’s, the Trust provided legal assistance to Druid Hills and the other members of CAUTION.) DHCA is a member. Check out [www.preservationnation.org](http://www.preservationnation.org) (includes the energy efficiency information highlighted in the last issue) and consider joining as an individual.

SPARK

By Alida Silverman

The new Springdale Park Elementary School opened in August 2009 on Ponce de Leon Avenue between Briarcliff and Springdale Roads in the Druid Hills Landmark District to serve Druid Hills (City), Poncey-Highland, Virginia-Highland and Midtown neighborhoods. Nearly three years in the making, “SPARK” is made up of the Neel Reid home that had housed (with two additions) The Howard School, a new accessory structure that evokes a carriage house, and a sizable new structure behind these, as well as the historic home on the corner of Springdale that had also been part of The Howard School and most recently housed the Morningside Kindergarten Campus.

Development of SPARK followed the Landmark District process with applications for Certificates of Appropriateness for the new structures and changes to the Neel Reid home, as well as for hardscape/landscape on the property per the direction of the City Attorney because this was a project in a Landmark District. The COA for the buildings (with eight conditions) was granted by the Atlanta Urban Design Commission in December 2007. The COA for hardscape/landscape (with five conditions) was granted in March 2008.

The external restoration of the Neel Reid home to its original integrity (the old additions were removed and those facades restored) and the new “carriage house” to the east with the new classroom building well behind represent a real achievement. Even though it took a second try, SPARK was a real design break-through. Fortunately, the Atlanta Public Schools engaged an architectural firm that could accomplish such a break-through so that the design of the new school would meet the architectural criteria of the Druid Hills ordinance and thus be appropriate to the Landmark District.

Unfortunately, the rest of the development story departed from this promising track. SPARK opened for the 2009-10 school year with an installed sign and landscaping that were not approved contrary to conditions 3 and 5 of the March 08 COA.

Parking requirements per condition 1 of the December 07 COA had not been met. Parking spaces on the school property fell short of the number required for

such a use. An agreement with the Druid Hills United Methodist Church for additional spaces, an agreement that the Urban Design Commission was told existed, turned out not to exist. An agreement allowing use of the Briarcliff entrance to the church back parking lot for carpool also did not exist.

Because the principal did not feel she could eliminate carpool, the corner house driveway had to be used for that purpose with all traffic to the school thus coming from Ponce. Even though a very capable group of parents achieved an 80% bus ridership, there were still 20 some additional cars coming to the school mornings and afternoons.

Stakeholder meetings convened by the principal in Summer 09 preparatory to school opening and focusing primarily on the transportation, traffic, and safety issues continued throughout the school year. Efforts continue toward finding some solution for the beginning of the new school year in August.

From the outset, with a series of meetings beginning in October 06, the neighborhood Landmark District Preservation Committee had three main issues: meeting the Landmark District ordinance requirements, traffic, and transportation safety concerns (e.g., Springdale Road could not become a stacking lane for carpool, and drainage issues). We were told “the site will work.” Several individuals stated that this site (between two state highways) seemed unsuitable for an elementary school for 550 students. (The Howard School had an enrollment of some 200.)

In the end, the City took the position that the Atlanta Public Schools as a constitutional entity did not have to follow City zoning and that a set of permitted plans meant that the sign and the landscaping conditions of the COA could not be enforced. (Those permitted plans clearly stipulated that the historic driveway of the corner house was not to be removed except for a small portion near the western curb cut that had been repaired with asphalt. Before school opened in August, the entire driveway was removed and replaced with new concrete.)

No one wants “to lose the forest for the trees.” But there are lessons here for us all.

Are You in Style?

You don’t need to spend a lot of money to have the hottest fashion accessory, one that will garner admiring glances and approving looks. In fact, this must-have item can even be free! What is it? A plastic bag! That’s right, a simple plastic bag in your choice of colors. Be bold and let the color clash dramatically with your outfit, or keep it simple with the clear plastic that goes well with everything.

Choose your own style. Carry the bag casually in one hand or tuck it smartly in your belt. Swing it as you walk or keep it by your side; it’s stylish either way. This accessory also says a lot about who you are. It says you are not just a shallow fashion slave but a person who cares about his or her (yes, it’s definitely unisex) neighbors, neighborhood, and the environment. If you choose the free bags (the plastic newspaper sleeves work well) you are also a recycler, very trendy.

And, of course, your bag is also practical. As you gracefully swoop to retrieve what your canine companion has dropped, you have put your bag to use other than mere fashion and have added important stretching to your daily walk.

Your bag, of course, goes home with you, where you place it anywhere other than a storm drain and lay out your outfit and bag of choice for the next day’s walk. You may even hear applause.

DeKalb Co. Animal Ordinance and Contact Information

- 1. Unaccompanied tethering of dogs on property is illegal but dogs must be walked on leash.
- 2. Dogs must be kept within the home and/or a fence, pen or well-ventilated area not less than 100 square feet.
- 3. Pets must have fresh food, water, exercise, sanitation, socialization, vet care, yearly registration/rabies shot.
- 4. Pets cannot be left in hot cars even with windows open and must be safely restrained within open bed vehicles.
- 5. Persistent whining or barking can indicate a serious problem and is not permitted.

View the entire ordinance at [access www.municode.com](http://www.municode.com). Select the “online library” and then follow the prompts.

To adopt from, report neglect/abuse of, or turn an animal in to DASE, call 404-294-2996 (or 911 in an emergency). Remember, DASE is NOT a no-kill shelter; please ask the staff there to provide referrals for other options such as no-kill rescues, low cost fencing, doghouses, appropriate collars, leashes, toys, food, treats and obedience training.

Keep current ID tags on your pet at all times! Microchipping provides a permanent ID; ask DASE how to get it done.

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Coyotes in the Community!

By J.J. Williams

Druid Hills is a better coyote habitat than much of rural Georgia. The reason? Food and water are plentiful here. Therefore, there have been many sightings of coyotes in the community, and reports of attacks on cats and rabbits. Neighbors often hear the eerie coyote howl, especially during May when mother coyotes are raising their babies.

The coyote (Canis Latrans, order: carnivora; family: canidae) can be found in all 50 states, in Canada, and in South America. They migrated from the western U.S. to other parts of North America in order to expand their territory to find food and water. Since cities are full of garbage cans, restaurants, and small animals, Atlanta is just one city in which they thrive. They are nocturnal animals and mostly come out at night, but when food and water are scarce, they can be seen during the daytime.

Coyotes are known as highly adaptable. They will eat anything, including mice, rats, chipmunks, squirrels, rabbits, opossums, insects, cats, the occasional dog, and pet food and unsecured garbage left outside by homeowners.

Coyotes are not going away. They are not protected, and thus can be hunted or captured and removed, but it's an expensive proposition: it costs up to \$1000 to remove one family of coyotes---and another family will probably move in days later. Humans need to learn to live with them, whilst taking precautions and evasive action.

How can you keep your home, occupants, and pets safe from coyotes?

1. Never let your cat roam free. While an attack on a dog is fairly rare, a cat is an easy target for a family of coyotes. Keep your cat inside or purchase a cat enclosure for your yard.
2. Keep all pets and small children inside after dark.
3. Do not feed pets outside, or remove all pet food and the dish immediately after the pet has finished eating.
4. Make sure your garbage container is tightly closed. Wait to put sacks of garbage at the \curb until just before they are to be collected. Secure your garbage container so that it cannot be overturned.
5. If you have a compost pile, turn it regularly, or purchase one of the enclosed rotating drum composters. (Compost Tumbler is one brand name).
6. In the unlikely event a coyote charges you or appears aggressive, act like a predator. Yell, wave your arms, squirt the animal with a garden hose or throw something at it. Set the limit that the coyote is not welcome in your space.
7. In the event of an aggressive coyote, report the incident to animal control. Coyotes can be infected with rabies, and the infection may explain why the animal is being unusually aggressive. Needless to say, keep all humans and pets away from a coyote suspected of rabies.

Coyotes, even though they are residing alongside us humans and our dog and cat companions in Druid Hills, can be lived with safely. If homeowners follow the few basic rules listed above, a nearby family of coyotes will move on to a more hospitable neighbor's yard where pet food is left out, the cat roams the woods, and the garbage can is easy to overturn.

Memories of Mudville...continued from page 3

turn the machine off, waving her hands to help clear the smoke. It made quite an impression. As black smoke poured from our windows, neighbors came running to help, thinking Mudville was burning down. Our unit smelled like an electrical fire for weeks. Another memory is of the time a mean boy pushed my tricycle into the dirt road that was Mudville's thoroughfare. Without looking, I ran after my trike and was struck by a car going an amazingly slow speed due to the muddy road. It knocked me down and I have a small scar on my chin to show for the incident, but I was unhurt. My final memory is of the reason we had to leave Mudville. In August of 1955, my mother gave birth to my younger brother at Emory Hospital. Mudville was too small for three children. In 1956, my father finished his degree at Emory, and we moved into a larger house, bidding Mudville goodbye forever.

In 1959, Mudville vanished from Clifton Road when it was razed to make way for what would later be the Sheraton Emory Inn and a fire station. Farther to the north, but still on Clifton, married housing units for 100 families were constructed in 1959 and named "Clifton Court." Later, Turner Village was built on the site of Clifton Court, and the DeKalb County Fire House (now relocated across the street) was built on exactly the spot where our Mudville home had been. Today, Mudville's old location is handsomely landscaped and has entrances to the Emory Inn, the Conference Center, and the Old American Red Cross building. Across the four lanes of Clifton, the hugely-expanded CDC sits, fortified by walls, fencing and landscaping to keep terrorists away.

Before 9-11, one of the terrorists who later flew an airplane into the World Trade Center stayed for a brief time at the Emory Inn. My speculation is he was surveying the CDC to learn what sort of mischief he could cause there. Whatever he was doing there, Mohammad Atta was sleeping not far from my old home place at Mudville.

Pruning Perennials:  
The "Chelsea Chop" and Other Practices

By Paula Refi

Established herbaceous perennials grow satisfactorily on their own, but some do even better with a dose of discipline. Like children, they occasionally behave badly as youngsters. A little behavior modification applied at an early age can result in mature plants that display all the best characteristics of the genus. But it takes a confident and knowledgeable gardener to make it happen.

Early Spring Bloomers

The first perennials to bloom each spring include creepers like thrift (Phlox subulata), candytuft (Iberis sempervirens), and the many pinks (Dianthus spp.). They blossom early and then seek to expand their range by growing longer and longer stems. Left unfettered, these plants develop vacant centers. To keep them tidy throughout the summer and full of flowers the following year, cut them back by half right after they bloom. This stimulates new stems near the crown.

Summer Bloomers

Many summer bloomers benefit from two types of pruning. For some perennials deadheading individual blossoms will result in repeat blooming. This group includes plants like yarrow (Achillea millefolium.), coreopsis (Coreopsis), bee balm (Monarda), shasta daisy (Leucanthemum x superbum), black-eyed Susan (Rudbeckia spp.), blanket flower (Gaillardia x grandiflora), sages (Salvia spp.), and veronica (Veronica).

Another group of summer flowering perennials benefits from a more radical shearing. In England, it's known as the "Chelsea chop." This term describes the cutting back of perennial plants in spring in order to control their height and flowering time. The name comes from its timing, in late May, when the Chelsea Flower Show occurs. For us, this should happen several weeks earlier.

In theory, the "Chelsea chop" encourages the growth of side shoots that make the plant more compact, reducing the need for staking. The plants then produce more, though occasionally smaller, flowers. For gardeners in the Southeast, where heat and a long growing season compel perennials to grow quickly, this is a wise strategy. It works with summer perennials like yarrow (Achillea millefolium), the tall knotweeds (Persicaria spp.), gaura (Gaura lindheimeri), sneezeweed (Helenium autumnale), garden phlox (Phlox paniculata), black-eyed Susan (Rudbeckia spp.), and Sedum 'Autumn Joy'. For this group of perennials, cut stems back by half in late spring.

Fall Bloomers

Fall blooming perennials benefit from more than one pruning. Chrysanthemums (Dendranthemum x morifolium), asters (Aster spp.), goldenrod (Solidago spp.), Joe Pye weed (Eupatorium maculatum), swamp sunflower (Helianthus angustifolius), and ironweed (Vernonia) make more compact plants if they are cut back in early- and mid-summer.

If you are hesitant to drastically prune your perennial plants, apply this technique to just a few species in your garden or to some of the plants within a plant grouping. Before long you'll discover how pruning enhances their appearance and performance. The best reference on the subject, including other worthwhile maintenance practices, is The Well-Tended Perennial Garden by Tracy DiSabato-Aust (Timber Press).

Paula Refi is a past president of GPPA and editor of "Perennial Notes."

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E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

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<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Urban Design	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Zoning
<input type="checkbox"/> Tour of Homes	<input type="checkbox"/> Flyer Distribution
<input type="checkbox"/> Peavine Watershed	<input type="checkbox"/> Other—specify _____

☐ Please feel free to contact me for help

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DeKalb Federation Honors  
Renie Faulkenberry  
as Outstanding Member of the Year

Renie Faulkenberry, member of the Lullwater Garden Club, was honored at the DeKalb Federation of Garden Clubs' annual awards luncheon. Her club had submitted an anonymous entry on her behalf, citing her wonderful contributions to The Lullwater Garden Club, The DeKalb Federation, and the Redbud District. Her name will be engraved on a plaque kept in the Federation office at Callanwolde. Five of her fellow members were on hand to see her win.

Renie is a very busy person! She is the current Parliamentarian for her club. In addition, she serves as the list server manager and the chief editor for the club's award winning newsletter. She is also in charge of the DeKalb Federation Beautification and Environmental Education Grants, overseeing the Federation's B.E.E Grant Program. Additionally, she is the recording secretary for the Redbud District and a co-chair for the Environmental Studies School. And if that isn't enough, she also writes a monthly environmental letter for the Redbud District and a quarterly environmental update.

We are all very proud of her and her accomplishments. Congratulations Renie!



Renie Faulkenberry receiving her award from Wilma Coney, President of the DeKalb Federation.



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504 WESTCHESTER DRIVE, DECATUR

Designed by renowned Architect M.E. Terrell Meek, this home is nestled on a private nature reserve surrounded by lush landscaping. Relaxing comes easily on the wrap around screen porches, multiple balconies, and stone patio complete with fire pit. Main level boasts a separate banquet-sized dining room, living room with fireplace and barrel ceiling, beautiful custom kitchen and guest bedroom with full private bath. Upstairs features an office, bedroom with private bath and owner's suite with spa-like bathroom and balcony. Architectural features include 13ft ceilings, stunning marble and stone, skylights, and even an elevator for all three levels. Enjoy a private nature reserve in the lap of luxury. \$759,000



157 VIDAL BOULEVARD, DECATUR

Stone sidewalk, beautiful landscaping and charming front porch greet you at this classic brick home located on a quiet street in Decatur. This home offers four bedrooms, three bathrooms, an office and a playroom. The living room features a fireplace with beautiful marble surround and adjoins an elegant dining room. Kitchen with granite countertops and stainless appliances offers views of the landscaped, private backyard. Main level features owner's suite with private bath and an additional guest bedroom and bathroom. Upstairs offers two more bedrooms plus a nursery, bathroom and play area. Unfinished basement with interior / exterior entrance offers ample storage. \$650,000



1792 DYSON DRIVE, DRUID HILLS

Located in the Chelsea Heights neighborhood just one block to Fernbank Elementary, this four-bedroom, two-bathroom newly renovated home fits the bill. Spacious kitchen features granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, a breakfast room, and opens to a large separate den with fireplace. Owner's suite features a private bathroom with a separate whirlpool tub and shower, and spacious walk-in closet. Multi-level deck overlooks fenced, level backyard. Upgrades and special features include new thermal pane windows, new roof, recessed lighting, built-in speakers with surround sound, custom built-ins, crown molding and gleaming hardwood floors. \$525,000



461 DURAND DRIVE, DRUID HILLS

This beautifully renovated 1930's bungalow in Druid Hills offers incredible privacy with the convenience of in-town living. Flagstone walkways wind through a stunning, natural garden leading to this four-bedroom, two-bath home with a new Vermont-style covered bridge garage. Architectural details such as the hand-carved mahogany entry door, graceful archways and built-in china cabinet distinguish this lovely home that was made for entertaining. Butcher block counters and hand-made maple cabinets make this kitchen unique. A newly renovated basement with play room, laundry room and plenty of storage make living easy. \$515,000



1818 RIDGEWOOD DRIVE, DRUID HILLS

Just a short walk to Emory University and Emory Village, this four bedroom, three bathroom Craftsman Cape-cod is filled with options. The main floor has a formal living room with fireplace and built-ins, separate dining room, light-filled study, kitchen with stainless steel appliances, master suite and separate den that leads to a sunroom. Architectural details include hardwood floors throughout, crown molding, arched doorways, plantation shutters and French doors. Two-car detached garage offers a full legal apartment above, perfect for rental income, guests or an in-law suite. \$459,000



159 RIDLEY CIRCLE, DECATUR

Loaded with charm, this home is conveniently located on a quiet street between Downtown Decatur and Emory. This 1950's brick cottage has been completely renovated and offers three bedrooms and one-and-a-half-bathrooms. Sun-filled living room with large windows features a fireplace and adjoins a separate dining room. Kitchen with lovely built-in banquette dining area opens to a screened porch and deck, easy for entertaining and grilling. Permanent stairs to an oversized attic with eight foot ceilings provides further expansion potential. \$329,000



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