

## “Druid Hills News” Exhibit at Emory Through July

By Fran Putney

As part of the 50th Anniversary Tour of Homes and 80th anniversary of the Druid Hills Civic Association, curators at Emory University’s Rose Library assembled an exhibit of Druid Hills history that will remain on display until July 31, 2018. It is located on the main level of Emory’s Woodruff Library just past the Library Service desk in an alcove on the left. Admission is free and open to the public during normal library hours.

The “Druid Hills News” exhibit, consisting of ten panels plus two display cases, features documents, photos, letters, and articles from the Druid Hills Newsletter from over the decades and includes items about the Home & Garden Tour, historic preservation, “Stop the Road” movement, as well as the civic association itself, and more. DHCA spoke with the exhibit’s curator, Courtney Chartier, Head of Research Services of the Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Ar-

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## About Those 75 Acres

By Gary Hauk

Reprinted from *Emory Historian’s Blog*, February 1, 2018, <https://emoryhistorian.org/>

Two questions about the Atlanta campus have long puzzled me, and finally I have the answer to one. It concerns the chunk of land

that was the original nugget of today’s 740-acre campus (not counting the 42 acres of the Briarcliff property a mile away).

In addition to his initial million-dollar gift to help launch the new university in Atlanta, Asa Candler Sr. arranged to convey to Emory 75 acres belonging to Druid Hills, Inc., the corporation through which he was developing the suburb six miles from downtown Atlanta. On March 31, 1915, the university board of trustees voted, in the words of the minutes, that “the property known as the ‘Guess Place,’ located in Druid Hills, be selected as the site of the University, provided it could be secured.”

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# Greetings from the President

By Anne H. Wallace

With the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour behind us, let's now focus on celebrating the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Druid Hills Civic Association!

To commemorate the Anniversary, DHCA engaged our own David Winston to produce a documentary "DRUID HILLS: History Happens Here." The film premiered during Tour Weekend but, if you missed it, please go to our website [www.druidhills.org](http://www.druidhills.org) and click on the link to view this delightful YouTube video. You are also invited to view an exhibit from the Druid Hills archives at the Woodruff Library on the Emory Campus, showing through the end of July. The exhibit includes the minutes of the first DHCA meeting in November 1938!

It is always helpful when celebrating anniversaries to review how things have changed and how they remain the same.

The first plans for Druid Hills were conceived in the 1890s. Joel Hurt purchased approximately 1500 acres of land and secured the services of Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. to plan and design Druid Hills. The area that still today most closely follows Olmsted's original design is the linear parkway of Ponce de Leon Avenue.

In 1908, the Kirkwood Land Company & Joel Hurt sold the Druid Hills holdings for \$500,000 to Asa Candler, Preston Arkwright and brothers George & Forrest Adair, who organized the Druid Hills Corporation. The first "densification" by developers began with a 1915 replating of many areas to fit early 20<sup>th</sup> Century economic trends. This is particularly evident in the Emory/Harvard/Cornell Roads area north of N. Decatur Rd. Fast forward to 2018: urban densification to increase the number of dwelling units and mixed-use spaces per acre is a major threat to Druid Hills.

Did they use the word "connectivity" in 1920? I can imagine that there were neighbors who objected when Oxford Road was added between Springdale and Oakdale. The intent was to allow access of a streetcar line into the northern section of Druid Hills to connect to Emory University. In 2018, we are hearing another verse of the same song as studies ensue to develop a set of bicycle and pedestrian connectivity projects for implementation in this section of DeKalb County.

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**THE DRUID HILLS NEWS - Newspaper of the Druid Hills Civic Association**

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*Thanks to all our writers, especially our new ones! Consider sharing your thoughts and write for the DHCA news. Deadline for the June issue is August 17. Submit to JJRichar@bellsouth.net.*

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## Reduce Crime in the Summertime

By *Thea Roeser and Ellen Meshnick, on behalf of the Druid Hills Public Safety Committee*

The Druid Hills Public Safety Committee's goal is to learn and offer suggestions on how to reduce crime in the Druid Hills community. The DeKalb County Police and Atlanta Police cannot monitor our streets 24 hours a day, so it's up to us to work together to implement the best tools to keep our community safe.

On April 10, the Druid Hills Public Safety Committee met with DeKalb County Police to ascertain how to prevent crime in Druid Hills. In attendance were our host, Major Nicole Rutland (Commander of the DeKalb County North Central Precinct), Captain P.S. Sheirling (Assistant Commander), Al Fowler (Public Education Specialist covering the Neighborhood Watch program), several other officers of varying ranks including an officer from the Atlanta Police Department, plus a Druid Hills Patrol board member. We certainly appreciated their time and willingness to talk with us.

We learned that our neighborhood is assigned one officer per shift and that the officer responds to 911 calls based on levels of priority. Level one covers car accidents with injuries, robberies in progress, and assaults. Level two covers home alarms going off (89% are false alarms) and car accidents with no injuries. The levels go all the way to level seven, with level three covering car break-ins. We asked Major Rutland and the other officers to suggest the best preventive crime fighting tools to protect our community. Following are their responses, starting with the most effective:

1. **Boots on the ground (police)** includes the Druid Hills Patrol (DHP), which is comprised of off-duty police officers hired to patrol our neighborhood. They are our direct contact with DeKalb County Police and Atlanta Police and can respond quickly — with full arrest powers — IF they are on patrol. The DHP currently has enough membership funds to cover patrolling eight hours every day of the week. We encourage residents to join the DHP to increase patrol hours.
2. **Neighborhood Watch** is extremely effective in preventing crime and has a proven track record with police departments throughout the country. The concept is simple: keep an eye on your neighbor's property — especially when they are at work or on vacation — and do not hesitate to report suspicious activity to the police. The DHCA Public Safety Committee has reactivated this program and is recruiting street captains (so far there are 26). Their duties are to compile a contact list of all neighbors on their street (to share only with each other) and occasionally forward safety tips and alerts from the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator. (There is no patrolling!) Please volunteer by contacting [neighborhoodwatch@druidhills.org](mailto:neighborhoodwatch@druidhills.org) or [publicsafety@druidhills.org](mailto:publicsafety@druidhills.org).
3. **Video cameras, like Ring**, are recommended by the DeKalb County Police for two reasons. First, they monitor your home, even if you're out of state. If someone comes into the range of these cameras, your phone will notify you, giving you the opportunity to view who is outside your home and to even communicate with them, without opening your door. It allows you to make the decision whether or not to call the police. (Note that the police remind us that a resident should never feel compelled to open a door for a stranger.) Addition-



al security cameras can be placed in the back of your house, along with motion detector security lights. Furthermore, the video cameras assist in solving crimes by providing the police with high quality video of perpetrators.

4. **Don't leave anything in your car!** The police can't stress this enough. Even a quarter in a cup holder can entice a thief to think there's more money to be found in your car. Car break-ins are one of the biggest problems our neighborhood is experiencing. It's easy to be in a hurry and leave items in your car, but it makes easy shopping for criminals who often come back for more. The police also say to always lock your car.
5. **Set up a free crime assessment** of your house and property by the DeKalb County Police. The DHP also offers this service to its members (the Atlanta Police does not). Since your goal is to discover vulnerabilities, then harden the target and protect your home, the police can give you great suggestions based on their experience in law enforcement.
6. **Have packages delivered to a safe location**, schedule the package delivery date when you know you'll be home, or ask a neighbor to take packages off your porch and hold them at their house until you get home.
7. **Get a dog!** They're considered a real deterrent to crime because their barking notifies the homeowner when someone is on their property. Size of dog doesn't matter — it's the barking that's key!

Criminals do not want to get caught, so they look for easy access and easy escape. Let's give them a hard time by working together as a community to make our neighborhood and our properties less penetrable. Everyone — except the crooks — benefits when our neighborhood is a safer place to live.

## “Druid Hills News” Exhibit ...continued from cover

chives, and Rare Book Library. The following is an excerpt from the conversation:

### What’s in the Druid Hills collection at Emory from which this exhibit was derived?

What we have displayed doesn’t even touch on the depth and breadth of what we have on Druid Hills. We have everything from copies of newsletters to photographs to in-depth meeting minutes and projects done by DHCA. It’s very broad. And as we actually listed in the last panel of exhibit, we have collections of other people associated with Druid Hills (such as the Candler’s).

Our actual DHCA records fill 70 boxes, or 35 linear feet if you lined up all the boxes next to each other. That’s actually pretty big — a good sized collection.

The most excited I got working on the exhibit was finding DHCA meeting minutes from the very first meeting in 1938. Those minutes are in the exhibit — out in the case as well on the panels. In all those 70 boxes, I was thrilled to have come across the founding document!

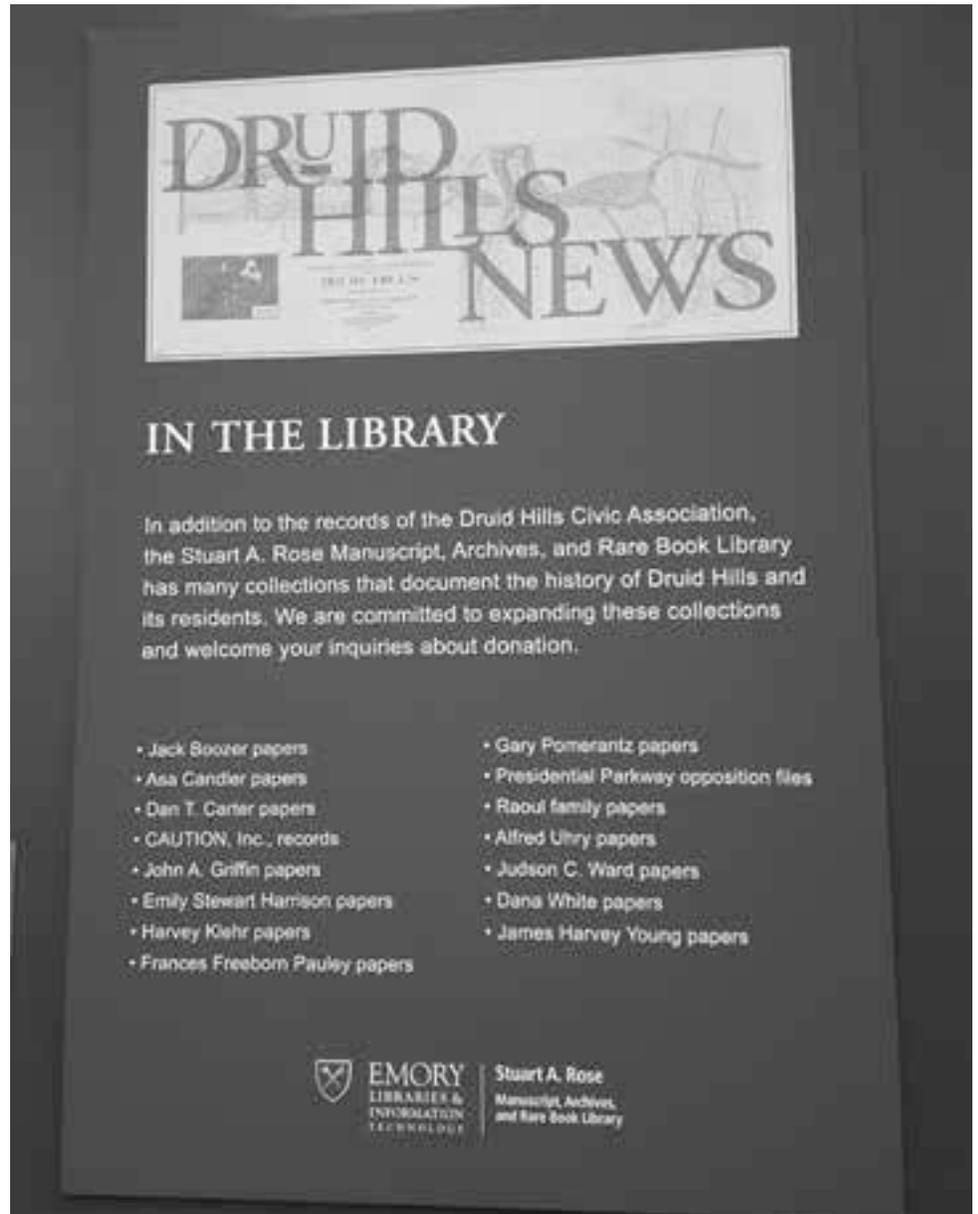
### Tell us about the themes of the exhibit.

Because I live in Druid Hills, initially I was going to go with photos and focus on images of the beautiful homes of Druid Hills. As I was moving through the newsletters, I got excited by not just homes, but the work the (DHCA) organization does throughout the year and has accomplished over decades. Those preservation and conservation efforts seemed to me so special that we wanted to be sure to highlight those as well.

Once I talked to our exhibitions team, we agreed to focus on the newsletter and this idea of community. That’s why we pulled in some really fun things like the book club and restaurant reviews. This is an organization that is for homeowners, but we’re also a community that cares about social life and who our neighbors are and what they are doing.

### How did you choose the items to display/feature?

It was a little overwhelming, but in going through the boxes I focused on the themes of preservation and conservation and added some focus on the history of Druid Hills for people who may not be familiar, including Olmsted and his legacy. After going through so much of the material tied to the themes, we whittled it down to the ones that would



really stand out, then went back again to pick actual items.

### How can residents access the Druid Hills documents collection at Emory?

The finding aid for the DHCA records is online at <https://findingaids.library.emory.edu/documents/druid65/>. It’s a full index of everything in those 70 boxes. We are open Monday–Friday from 9–5 and most Saturdays by appointment. Since DHCA records are held in our off-site storage on Briarcliff Road, please get in touch with us at least a day in advance so we can have them sent over.

**Author’s note:** *Chartier also mentioned that the Rose Library collection has gaps in the Druid Hills Newsletter that the curators would like to fill. They have a full run from 1987 to 2007, but only individual issues for the years before then (1965, 1967, 1982, and 1984) and only a single issue each for 2013 and 2014. If anyone has copies or any other DHCA-related documents or photos, please contact Randy Gue, Rose Library Curator of Modern Political and Historical Collection at [randy.gue@emory.edu](mailto:randy.gue@emory.edu).*

About Those 75 Acres ...continued from cover

On June 28, 1915, Asa Candler, president of Druid Hills, Inc., saw to it that the land was indeed "secured." Below, courtesy of the University's Office of General Counsel, is a copy of the first page of the deed with that date.

The first paragraph above describes the exact boundaries of the property. Using Google Maps and a scale of 200 feet to half an inch, I traced as nearly as I could the boundaries laid out by the deed. Surprisingly, here is what I found:

campus to "Lullwater Creek." That probably was what we today call Peavine Creek, which flows through Emory Village and north toward South Peachtree Creek. (Peavine Creek and Lullwater Creek meet up near the 15th tee of the Druid Hills Golf Club, just

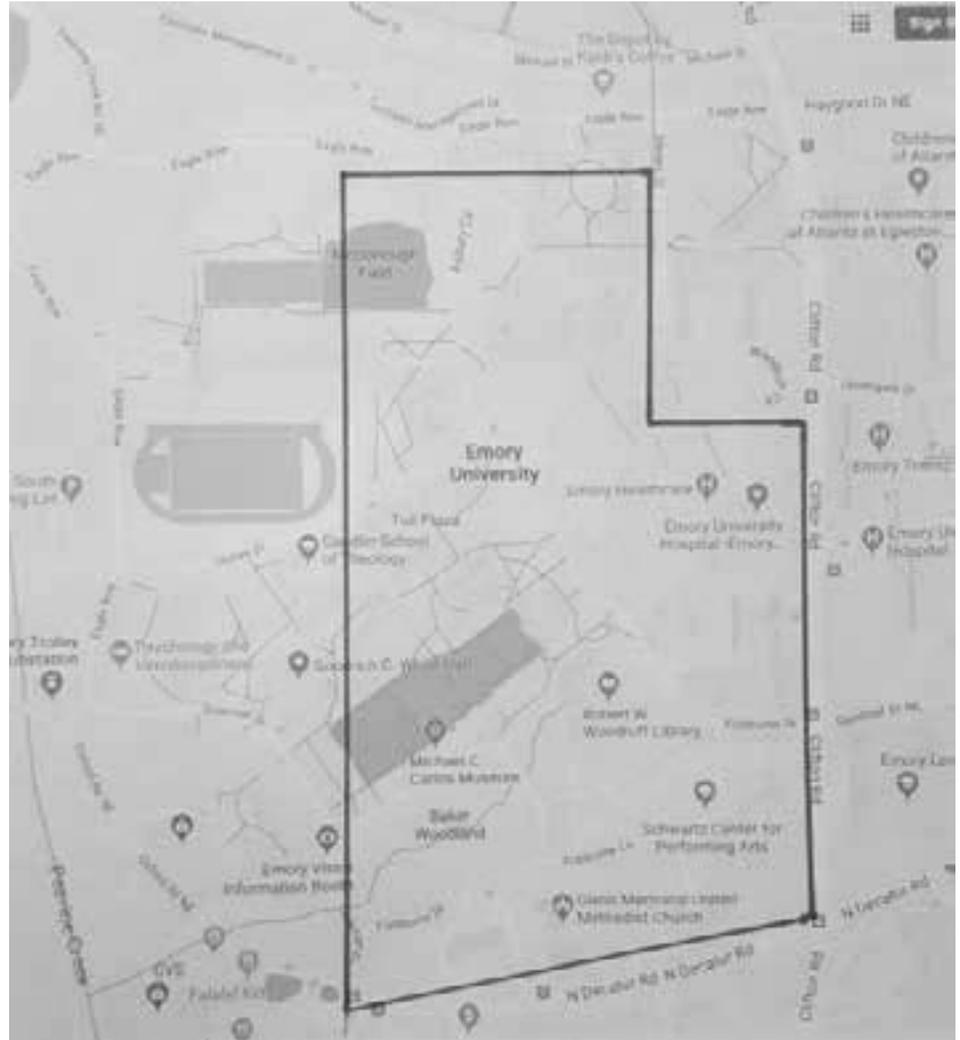


First page

I'd always assumed that the original property included the Quadrangle, but was that correct? The second page of the deed tells more:



Second page



It's interesting that those 75 acres did not include the corner at Clifton and Eagle Row, where the Woodruff Health Sciences Center now stands, or even the land where the Anatomy and Physiology laboratories would be built in 1917 (current site of the School of Medicine). More curious still, the western boundary appears to cut through the edge of the Quadrangle at about where architect Henry Hornbostel would locate the Old Theology Building.

Nine years later, the board minutes of May 30, 1924, indicate that Druid Hills, Inc., deeded to Emory an additional 55 acres, extending the western boundary of the

south of Emory Village. To my inexperienced eye, it appears that Peavine actually flows into Lullwater, and that Lullwater continues on, and maybe folks in 1924 thought the same thing.)

By 1936, according to historian Henry Morton Bullock, in his centennial history of Emory, "subsequent additions" had "increased the campus to 235 acres."

Now to take up the second question — who was that Guess for whom "the Guess place" was named?

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## New Book Highlights Lullwater Conservation Garden

By Jennifer J. Richardson

In 1933, the Cherokee Garden Club produced a large book called *Garden History of Georgia: 1733-1933*, which featured historic and beautiful gardens throughout the state. The book was reprinted once and is now out of print — unless you can find one online for a small fortune or luck up on one at an estate sale. The original book had an article about the Lullwater Conservation Garden with a diagram of the property and black and white photographs.

GOOD NEWS! A new book updates and expands the original. *Seeking Eden: A Collection of Georgia's Historic Gardens* by Staci Ca-ttron and Mary Ann Eaddy is now available for purchase. The coffee

table size hardcover book is full of color photographs and includes the stories of 30 gardens that were included in the original edition. The new book shares the history and evolution of gardens and updates their condition and their owners' plans for rehabilitation, expansion, and maintenance. The Lullwater Conservation Garden is featured, including a history of the Club and phenomenal photographs of the garden. This treasure, available at fine booksellers in the area and on Amazon.com, is a must have for any Druid Hills resident or garden enthusiast.

## Lullwater Garden Club Celebrates 90th Birthday

By Jennifer J. Richardson

Congratulations to current President Heather Ewing and all members of the Lullwater Garden Club on their 90th birthday! The Club was founded by Atlanta women in 1928, after returning from the organizational meeting of the Garden Club of Georgia the same year. Throughout its 90-year history, the Club has been caretaker and guardian of the Lullwater Conservation Garden — a 6-acre woodland of native plants and champion trees. In 1963, the Conservation Garden was purchased from Emory for \$1500. It boasts six champion trees, one State Champion, a gazebo, a flat lawn, and mulched woodland trails that meander along Lullwater Creek. The garden is an Audubon bird sanctuary and a National Wildlife Federation Wildlife habitat. Last year, the garden was awarded nationwide status as an “Old Growth Forest.”

In past years, the garden club members grew memorable gardens, gave gardening advice, and provided garden therapy to challenged individuals and patients at the Atlanta Veterans Administration Medical Center. Members arranged flowers for shows, were featured in the society section of the Atlanta papers, and held

exquisite luncheons and lectures in members' homes. During the “Presidential Parkway” road fight, many members supported road opponents by picketing and attending demonstrations against the expressway.

The 90th anniversary of the Garden's founding was celebrated at the East Lake Golf Club, where a review of the year was presented by President Heather Ewing. Members were treated to Mimosas and a delicious luncheon in the Bobby Jones Room, culminating with a festive yellow cake served by East Lake culinary staff. A good time was had by all!

In addition to numerous other awards last year, the Lullwater Garden Club was honored by the DeKalb Federation of Garden Clubs as “Garden Club of the Year.” For more information about the club, contact Heather Ewing at [HCE.Ewing@ATT.net](mailto:HCE.Ewing@ATT.net). To donate toward the Club's plan to install curbing around the garden and restore it using native plants, contact fundraising chair Kim Storbeck at [kstorbeck922@gmail.com](mailto:kstorbeck922@gmail.com).



A group of some of the members of the Lullwater Garden Club assembled on the front steps of East Lake Golf Club for a 90th anniversary photograph



A culinary masterpiece of a 90th birthday cake created for the garden club by the East Lake Golf Club

President's Column ...continued from page 3

After two years of intense lobbying by DHCA members and friends, the entire historic suburb was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. Subsequently, DHCA members collaborated with scholars and experts to gain more protections. You can read about these in Chapter 8 of *"An Informal History of the Druid Hills Civic Association."* (Copies are available by request through DHCA.)

When DHCA was founded in November 1938, references to the leadership say "... the DHCA men ...". No doubt I would not have been considered for President 80 years ago!!

As we celebrate our accomplishments of the past 80 years, I ask that you acknowledge the effort that it takes to continue to be vigilant, to constantly monitor proposals for development, to be aware of legislation, to participate in studies and discussions, to be respectful of changing lifestyles, to engage residents in the process, to entice neighbors to be part of our Druid Hills Civic Association, and to recognize and celebrate those who have been our strong advocates all these years!

OUR SYMPATHY

The Board of Directors of the Druid Hills Civic Association sends its deepest sympathy to President Anne Wallace on the death of her son, James David Wallace.

Connectivity Project in DeKalb Includes Druid Hills

By Anne H. Wallace

Approximately 2-3 years ago, *Bike Emory* wrote a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the *Clifton Corridor Bicycle and Pedestrian Sub Area Connectivity Study* (GDOT PI #0015066) and was joined by Clifton Corridor Transit Management Association (CCTMA), DeKalb County, the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), the City of Decatur, and the City of Atlanta. Partial funding for the project was also provided through a federal Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grant. The project seeks to identify "... priority bicycle and pedestrian transportation projects connecting Emory University & Clifton Corridor ... to other employment, residential, transportation, and activity centers in the cities of Decatur and Atlanta, DeKalb County, and the region."

The RFP identified **Druid Hills Civic Association** as a member of the proposed Community Advisory Committee (CAC). The Overall Goal recognizes that the **DeKalb Historic Preservation Commission** will have review and input as to whether the plan is consistent with historic guidelines. The project organization included selection

of **Kimley Horn** as the consultants with the goal of presenting a plan to **DeKalb County Board of Commissioners** (BOC) for approval. DeKalb BOC approved funds for the study in March 2018. It is expected to be complete by the end of this year.

The RFP acknowledges that there are "Complex Challenges in the Clifton Corridor." The Clifton Corridor is identified as an area within 1-2 miles of the center of Emory's Druid Hills Campus. Residents of Druid Hills recognize that by definition our neighborhood will be included in this study. The RFP states "Local neighborhood and civic leadership, while generally supportive of efforts to reduce single occupant vehicle trips in the area, must be engaged to understand the impact of potential connectivity improvements on their communities. These challenges will require a study that will consider leading creative solutions in this complex urban context."

Residents are encouraged to discuss options with regard to existing conditions and potential changes on routes that might be impacted and how they might be evaluated. Please feel free to share your thoughts and questions with me at [president@druidhills.org](mailto:president@druidhills.org).

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## OLPA and DHCA Support and Protect the Neighborhood

By Scott Storbeck

Druid Hills was just an idea on paper 127 years ago when Joel Hurt, a land developer, purchased the land through the Kirkwood Land Company and asked Frederick Law Olmsted (the heralded American landscape architect) to design a plan for the area east of downtown Atlanta. It would be a plan that would:

- Embody a pleasing, semi-rural character of scenery
- Have winding, tree-laden streets that follow the contours of the land (not a grid)
- Boast evenly-spaced homes on comfortable, expansive lots
- Encompass a casino and hotel for leisure and guests of the neighborhood.

It would also include parks and open spaces. As Olmsted said, the parks would allow guests the opportunity to leave behind the drudgery of a work day and enjoy green open spaces. Much of the actual development came about from 1908 to the late 1920s. By 1938, a neighborhood association was formed to preserve and protect the unique heritage of the area: the Druid Hills Civic Association (DHCA). Over the years, DHCA has influenced land use and zoning matters, maintained communications with local and state officials, informed the residents about community issues, and promoted the general welfare of the neighborhood.

In 1982, when the Olmsted-designed linear park along Ponce de Leon Parkway (now Avenue) was about to be destroyed by a proposed four-lane highway, the citizens organized and eventually stopped the road from being built. Yet by the mid-1990s, all six segments of the park were suffering from poor maintenance and many of the plants and installations were inconsistent with Olmsted's original plan. A coalition was formed (including DHCA) to rehabilitate it. The representatives drafted a master plan in 1995 for the park's restoration, and the Olmsted Linear Park Alliance (OLPA) was created in 1997 as a public-private partnership to implement the plan. Governed by up to 25 board members, including officers, directors, and various local

and state ex-officio members, OLPA set about the job of restoring the park. Chief among the many tasks was to bury approximately 11 miles of utility lines. Based upon his view of power lines, Olmsted would have said, "This would relieve the streets of a very ugly feature." Almost 6,000 feet of paths were improved to prevent erosion, and 2,600 new trees and shrubs were added.

Today, the responsibility of preservation and maintenance continues with OLPA. While the City of Atlanta and DeKalb County mow the grass in the parks, OLPA is responsible for 90% of the daily maintenance. Toby Brooks, current OLPA President, said recently, "We rely heavily upon the generosity of neighbors and private donors who love this park to provide the financial support we need to care for it."

OLPA is now in its 20<sup>th</sup> year of existence, while the DHCA is celebrating its 80<sup>th</sup> birthday! Working together last year and consistent with their common interests, the two organizations sponsored the first annual **Picnic in the Park** in September. With food and drinks, entertainment, and a social atmosphere, a good time was had by all. More ambitious plans are in the works for this year for another successful neighborhood event to be held **Sunday afternoon, September 23, 2018**. Please mark your calendars!

Together, these two organizations serve to **PROTECT** the character of our neighborhood and parks. Will you **SUPPORT** them? There are approximately 4,000 households in our neighborhood. Currently, less than 1 in 5 donate \$25 a year. Imagine what could be done with all of us contributing!

*The DHCA is a 501(c)(4) non-profit organization with two primary sources of funding: annual membership and the Tour of Homes and Gardens (normally in April of each year). Go to <http://druidhills.org> to renew your membership. OLPA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with two primary sources of funding: annual donations and a Gala (silent auction) held at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History in February of each year. Go to <http://atlantaolmstedpark.org> to make your tax-deductible contribution and support the park.*

## Update on the East Lake Transit Oriented Development (TOD)

By Yvette Weatherly

I have been attending the East Lake MARTA meetings since September 25, 2017. The AT&T property at 1034 College Avenue was initially included in the East Lake MARTA study; however, no changes are planned for this property and AT&T will continue to use it.

MARTA will continue to own its property as well and will enter into a 99-year ground lease with a developer that has not yet been chosen. The ground lease is the reason all residential units on MARTA property will be rental units. The parking lot property will need to be re-zoned.

At the May 8th Decatur Planning Commission meeting, the vote on the East Lake TOD was deferred until June 12,

2018. For the agenda, visit <http://www.decalurga.com/Home/ShowDocument?id=12357>. As of this printing, there were no minutes available.

On May 10, at the Kirkwood Neighbors' Organization meeting, a vote was taken and passed to support the East Lake MARTA TOD plan contingent upon the 5-story maximum in the plan. The affordable housing period of 15 years was recommended to be changed to existing in perpetuity [Vote count: 13 (yes) 4 (no) 6 (abstentions)]

For additional detail, see entry for May 10 at: <https://www.historic-kirkwood.org/interact/viewtopic.php?t=600&p=6377#p6377>

## Briar Hills Condos: *A Hidden Treasure of Druid Hills with a Secret*

By Jennifer J. Richardson

The Briar Hills Condominiums are located on 36 acres at the corner of Briarcliff Road and Briarwood Road and situated between the Druid Hills and Virginia-Highlands neighborhoods. Completed in 1947, the condos were the first Co-Op apartments constructed in Atlanta. They were designed by the firm of Cuttino-Howard & Ellis in the genre of “Streamline Moderne architecture,” according to Atlanta architectural historian Dr. Robert Craig. Streamline Moderne architecture often took inspiration from the designs of ships, trains, and airplanes, and sometimes incorporated nautical elements. Another Atlanta building in this style is the famous Varsity restaurant downtown. In the Briar Hills condos, this style shows itself in flat roofs, steel case windows, corner windows, ceramic tile, glass blocks, steel pipe handrails for staircases, oak or parquet flooring, geometric door surrounds, and no ornaments of any kind or references to previous architectural styles. Doors to the condos are accented with turquoise, red, and cream ceramic tiles.

Briar Hills Co-Op was built as a Jewish Community by the Solloway family of Solloway Realty Company. The Solloway family hailed from Queens, New York. Once their Co-Op project was completed, the family invited friends and relatives to come to Atlanta and live in the units, so the original tenants were all Jewish. In 1949, an Atlanta magazine advertised these residences as having “spaciousness of a home with the convenience of an apartment.” Each unit had a separate entrance and an enclosed courtyard, garden, or balcony. Commuting to work or school was easy because the condos were located on the trolley line.

The floor plan of each unit is unique. Located in 2- and 3-story buildings, there are 2 one-bedroom condos; 16 large “end units” that have curved glass windows; and 35 two-bedroom, two-bath homes — for a total of 53 units. Construction of the buildings was extremely sound. They were made of painted brick and were considered fire resistant and soundproof. Every unit still has the original 1947 bathrooms with mint green, yellow, gray, white, or blue ceramic tile. The buildings remain so sound that there are no cracks in the tile or grout of the bathrooms. About one-half of the units contain their original kitchens.

Originally built as a Co-Op, the homeowners association required anyone wanting to purchase a unit in the complex to be interviewed by the Board of Briar Hills, and to have a certain percentage of the down payment available. This changed in the 1980s, when the Co-Op was restructured to a Condominium Community. Today, anyone with sufficient resources can live in Briar Hills without being vetted by the board.

Perhaps the most intriguing feature of the complex is the



Entrance to a building at Briar Hills showing glass block over the door

presence of a “secret annex” in some of the units. The Solloway family had lived through World War II and undoubtedly knew of the fate of the Jews of Western Europe. In case the Nazis or others began targeting Jews in the U.S., the Solloways incorporated secret hiding places into some units. One such hiding place in an end unit was purposely built to hold 3 or 4 people. In the kitchen area, a butler’s pantry looked like a normal built-in cabinet for the 1947 kitchen. Looking at the pantry from the outside, it appeared as if it were permanently installed. For those who knew the secret, however, the pantry could be pulled out, revealing a small room behind it where residents could hide if necessary. Fortunately, these hiding places were never needed, and some of the later residents never knew about them.

The condos rarely come on the market because of their unique nature. When they do, asking prices range from \$189,000 for a one-bedroom to \$342,000 for a larger unit.

*Note: This article was written with appreciation to Jana Kato of Engel & Volkers Intown Atlanta Realtors, and to Dr. Robert Craig for research assistance.*



Briar Hills building showing curved corner windows



Briar Hills building showing rectangular corner windows

## Please Join the July 4<sup>th</sup> Druid Hills Parade!

Don't miss the 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, please join our ad-hoc marching band! Old cars and other unique vehicles are welcome and receive a place of honor. Voter registration will be offered as well. Festivities kick off at 11:00 a.m. at the corner of Oakdale Road and The Byway. Refreshments follow.

## Summer Bird Watching

By *Chris Showalter, Ornithologist, Fernbank Science Center*

Many bird watchers hang up their binoculars for the summer and wait for fall migration to begin watching again. Summer bird watching may not be as exciting as the migration seasons, but there are still opportunities to see and experience something new. Deepdene Park, Clyde Shepard Nature Preserve, Lullwater Preserve, Hidden Cove Park, Daniel Johnson Nature Preserve,



Morningside Nature Preserve, and the South Peachtree Creek Trail are just a few of the local parks that offer excellent bird watching opportunities during the summer.

Late spring/early summer (June) is still an excellent time to bird watch. Most of the migrant birds have already passed through the area on their way to northern breeding grounds. However, several migrant species stop and nest in our area, such as Wood Thrushes and Hooded Warblers. By this time, the birds that nest in our area have already established territories and most will already have a brood going. Some species will already have nestlings and fledglings, and many may be starting a second brood. This is a great time to learn how to identify baby birds of each species. Identifying young sparrows, for example, is a challenge for even the most experienced bird watchers!

This is also a good time to experience birds counter-singing. In the early mornings, males can be heard singing daily from their song posts as they continue to defend their territory. Counter-singing is when one bird sings its song, then another nearby bird of the same species responds with a song of its own. Counter-singing helps birds establish and maintain territorial boundaries.

In July and August, as the heat really turns up, birds become a little stagnant. There is still plenty of activity going on as young

birds start to search for food on their own. The parent birds, which look worn and tattered, do slow their activity. One of the best ways to attract birds to your yard at this time is to provide a bird bath. Just about any source of shallow water will do, even a pie tin. Just make sure to clean out the bird bath regularly and fill it with fresh water.

By late summer (August/September), the birds seem to disappear. In fact, many people notice that birds are not even visiting their feeders. The birds are still around, but this is the molt season. Molting is the periodic replacement of old feathers with new ones, when birds are quite vulnerable and tend to stay hidden in the bushes and trees. It can be quite alarming to see birds in this condition. For example, many bird watchers report bald-headed Cardinals during this time. Don't worry, the birds are fine and their feathers will grow back. As summer ends, bird activity really picks up again as migrant species start filtering through Atlanta on their way to southern wintering grounds.

### Summer Activities at Fernbank Science Center

The science center offers a couple of activities to beat the heat in the summer.

The planetarium is open Monday-Saturday during June and July. Monday-Friday shows are offered at 11 am, noon, 1 pm, 2 pm, and 3 pm. Saturday shows are offered 11 am, noon, 2 pm and 3 pm. Additional shows are offered at 7 and 8 pm on Thursday and Friday evenings. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors. For more details, please visit [www.fernbank.edu/planetarium.htm](http://www.fernbank.edu/planetarium.htm)

Join us for views that are out of this world at the Ralph Buice Jr. Memorial Observatory. The observatory houses a 0.9 meter (36-inch) Cassegrain reflector beneath a 10 meter (30 ft.) dome. This is the largest telescope in the southeastern United States and one of the largest instruments ever dedicated to education and public viewing. Free observations are held every Thursday and Friday night (weather permitting) following the last planetarium show, generally from about 9-10:30 pm. For more details, please visit [www.fernbank.edu/observatory.htm](http://www.fernbank.edu/observatory.htm)

## Recollections

By Shirley Hollberg

In August of 1968, the day after I graduated from college in Chicago, I moved to Atlanta for a teaching job. Except for those who had hired me, I knew no one in the city save a kind Columbia Seminary professor and his wife who hosted me while I found an apartment. Apartments for rent were found through newspaper want-ads then — no internet, no apartment finder agencies — and definitely no navigation apps on not-yet-invented cell phones. My tools consisted of a handy paper street map with a decent street directory.

I concentrated my search in the Decatur/Druid Hills/Morningside area, and must have looked at a dozen or more places in five days. I responded to one ad for an efficiency apartment at Rainbow Terrace, the old Candler mansion on Ponce de Leon that is now a part of the Lullwater Estate.

One of the things that prompted me to accept a job in Atlanta was having visited during spring break when Illinois was still under a sheet of ice and piles of dirty snow. Driving down Ponce de Leon along the linear parks, the street was a riot of pink azaleas, white dogwoods, and delicate spring green in the trees and blooming shrubs. Surely I had died and gone to heaven.

I pulled off Ponce de Leon between the stucco columns of Rainbow Terrace and parked in front of the house. The landscaping was parched and a bit neglected, but since I had never supported myself, I had no idea how far my teacher's salary would go and had modest goals in my housing search.

I rang the bell and waited at the door. A very slight elderly black woman answered, wearing a proper maid's uniform with starched white collar and cap. I was stunned. Having grown up in a modest home in the Pacific Northwest, I knew nothing of maids and servants. She asked me to wait a moment — a moment in which I took in the large parlor with curved staircase on one side and what I remember as a wrought-iron railed mezzanine above. The maid went to the door of a room on the left and knocked softly. As the door opened, a slight, elderly white woman emerged, surrounded by at least 5 or 6 noisy Chihuahuas. My recollection is of dust and animal odor. I followed her (and the dogs) up the stairs while she fumbled with a number of keys on a large ring, and she approached one of several doors along the mezzanine hall. Alas, none of the keys would open the door. She tried them all, and some of them more than once. By this time, I had already decided that *this* apartment would not be my choice. As she continued to examine the keys, I summoned the courage to say, "Well, thank you for letting me come. I have a couple more places to look today, and if I don't find anything I'll call back and perhaps you'll have found the key." I knew nothing of the Heinz murder that had taken place in the house decades before. If I had, my exit might have been even swifter.

As I exited the property onto Ponce de Leon, I heaved a sigh of relief and caught my breath while driving to my next stops: two lovely basement studios — one on Fairview, and another at the corner of North Decatur and Briarcliff. I didn't rent those either, but forever after I believed that I had experienced the *inside* of Druid Hills.

As years passed, the old Rainbow Terrace Mansion always had an appeal for me. It wasn't long before the elderly owner died and the place was abandoned. Through the '70s, it sat dark and derelict but then revived by imaginative developers in the early '80s. It was 1989 when my husband and I first saw the townhouse we now live in. We



*The Mansion in which the murder occurred (and in which there might be ghosts)*



*The Hollberg townhouse, which assuredly does not have ghosts*

were in Virginia Highland raising our two boys in a large duplex we'd converted to a single-family home. We were both weary of home/yard maintenance and carpool (to Paideia). I told my husband, "I want a simpler life. No lawnmower. No carpool. No mortgage." It took until 1992 when that other recession ended to make the deal. But 24 years after *not* seeing the Rainbow Terrace apartment, we were residents of the Lullwater Estate, though in a modern townhouse that granted all three of my wishes.

A year or two after we moved in, a local TV station did a Halloween feature on haunted houses. They sent a film crew (but not a reporter) to the Lullwater Estate to get some footage of the Mansion. Bennett, our younger son (who had not packed a lunch that day) ran home from school to eat. The videographer asked him what he knew about the place being haunted. Always a storyteller, Bennett made up a story about sometimes hearing footsteps on the roof outside his window at night and then looking out to find nothing — *on the roof of a townhouse that wasn't even there when the Heinz murder occurred!* But it made the evening news and was fun to videotape and share.

## Trash or Treasure?

By Jennifer J. Richardson



Many long-term Druid Hills residents are making decisions to downsize to smaller residences. Some are in charge of disposing of their parents' estates. Some decide to throw out their own things; others hold estate or garage sales or donate usable items to charity. And some choose to save everything and leave the sorting to friends or relatives — which was Scott Storbeck's dilemma.

Scott's mother, Helen, had moved from a large home to a small carriage house in Wimfield, Kansas. Helen eventually died, leaving Scott in charge of going through the house, saving what needed to be preserved, and throwing out the trash. Though the home was small, it was packed with stuff. Scott and his wife, Kim, removed eight dumpster loads of things to be discarded. They were left with fabric from Helen's quilting hobby, as well as 1,500 quilting books (which they donated), and 300 boxes full of Helen's treasures. Many of us can relate to Scott and Kim's dilemma. In my case, I was in charge of my grandmother's estate. I was glad to see the silver, antiques, paintings, and jewelry preserved for later generations, but I was also confronted with bags of twist-ties, every greeting card or note she'd ever received, hundreds of flower-arranging supplies such as frogs, vases, oasis and dried material, and every single newspaper clipping that contained something of interest to her.

So I truly resonated with Scott and Kim and their 300 boxes. After his experience, Scott included the following list in his 2017 annual Christmas letter to friends and relatives:

Dear *[insert elder's name here]*, from *[insert your name here]*:

While I am grateful to be "chosen" as the guardian of your STUFF, allow me this opportunity to pass along some advice.

1. Label the back of any picture you think I should keep. Otherwise, there is a good chance I have no idea who is in the picture and will consider it trash. By default, all landscape pictures will be considered trash.
2. In a related note, convert all slides to prints. Either loading all the slides into a projector and spending hours and days in a

dark lit room or (more likely) holding each one up to the light and squinting to determine who is in the picture is beyond the scope of my job. Trash.

3. If you didn't open your mail from 10 years ago, why should I? Trash.
4. Do not put multiple subject material in the same box. First, I have the problem of recognizing what it is and second, I have to sort it back out into common piles. At that point, I'm sure most of the piles are not worth keeping. This is now called "organized trash" and takes extra time with the same end result.
5. Do not promise the same special "gift" to more than one person. This is closely related to #6.
6. If you change your mind about who gets what, destroy all previous versions of your generosity. Your prior thoughts and feelings are now old and the lists are now trash.
7. You do not need to save copies of the same thing over and over again. One newspaper article about you, for example, that we care about can be scanned and distributed if so desired. The duplicates are called "excess trash."
8. Everything has a useful life, and it's probably shorter than you think. This is called "expired trash."
9. If you're saving it because someone MAY want it in the future, go ahead and ask them now. If they want it, put it in a box with their name on it. If not, it should be considered "current trash" instead of "future trash."
10. If you can somehow do something about these things now, you won't need me!

I believe Scott and Kim have now learned what to save of their own stuff and what to throw out. But coming from a long line of experienced hoarders, I continue a family tradition of saving everything. Who wants to be designated to go through my "stuff" when the time comes?

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## Gala Kicks Off 50th Anniversary Tour

By *Phil Moise*

Friday the 13th is considered an unlucky day, but not for those lucky enough to attend this year's Druid Hills Tour Gala on April 13. On that evening — one of the prettiest Spring evenings this season — the fortunate faithful and their guests gathered at Cator Wollford Gardens at the Frazer Center to officially open the 50th anniversary of the Tour.

The Italian-style Cator Wollford Gardens are part of the 39-acre Frazer Center located in the heart of Druid Hills on the former estate of Cator Woolford, founder of Equifax. The DHCA Board of Directors has been meeting at the Frazer Center this year while St. John's Lutheran Church is under renovation, and that connection led the Frazer Center to graciously open their gardens for the Gala. In addition to the Frazer Center, this year's Gala was sponsored by longtime supporters C. Parks Catering and Decatur Package Store. Lisa Hill Photography also donated its time and talent to take pictures of attendees at the bottom of the classical stone staircase.

Gala Chair Kelli Taylor and Hospitality Chair Lynn Alexander surpassed already lofty expectations in their planning and execution of this year's Gala. C. Parks Catering laid a magnificent spread at three different stations that included a chef-attended bouchée station of boeuf bourgignon, seafood Newberg, and chicken Parisienne; a dinner buffet featuring wild mushroom souffle, smoked salmon, and marinated mussels; and an extraordinary selection of finger confections. Decatur Package Store offered beer, wine, and artisanal cocktails created by Herb Chereck. Adding to the atmosphere was Paul Parker and The Druid Hills Billys — which has become the Tour's house bluegrass band — joined by the Francisco Vidal Band offering acoustical favorites from the 70s, 80s, and beyond.

Ryan Graham, Tour Chair, greeted and thanked the supporters, introduced this year's homeowners, and recognized the efforts of the scores of volunteers who committed thousands of hours and millions of braincells to the 50th Anniversary Tour. Ryan later remarked, "Our vision was to pay tribute to 50 years of the Tour and 80 years of the DHCA while bringing friends and neighbors together to celebrate life in Druid Hills. The Tour celebrates the architecture, landscape, and beauty that makes Druid Hills uniquely special. The Gala celebrates the lives and relationships that flourish in this great neighborhood of ours. By these standards, the event was a tremendous success." This was Ryan's last year as Tour Chair. The reins have now been passed to Steven Mathias, this year's Operations Chair, who is expected to continue the highest traditions of the Tour while discovering new and creative ways to showcase our beautiful neighborhood.

The warmth of the crowd, the beautiful Spring evening, and excitement about the upcoming Tour kept the Gala abuzz into the evening. The spirit of the gathering was best captured by longtime Druid Hills resident Penn Nicholson: "Look around. So many people with different lives from so many different backgrounds. But tonight, we're all just here as neighbors."



(l to r) Cynthia Waterbury, David Howe, Harriett Lane, Steven Mathias, Anne Wallace



(l to r) Justin Seeby and Ryan Graham  
Photos courtesy of Lisa Hill Photography



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## Sound and Fury

By Jennifer J. Richardson

It's nearly 11:00 p.m. and the noise from the festival in the park is deafening — even inside with the windows shut. It's close to 1:00 a.m. and the neighbors' party is in full swing with riotous laughter and loud music, and your child has to be up at 8:00 a.m. to take the SAT. It's 6:00 a.m. and construction workers just arrived at the building site next door. Soon, it's non-stop bulldozers, saws, nail guns, people shouting at each other, and radio so loud that it can be heard over the construction noise. It's the weekend of Music Midtown . . . the Jazz Festival or fireworks in Centennial Park . . . a fraternity bash at the nearby university . . . a dinner-dance at the golf club. You've been inundated by loud sounds for hours, and you want to go to sleep; if only the noise would stop! Did you know that both DeKalb County and the City of Atlanta have noise ordinances that specify times for quiet, and categorize types of noise?

In general, the noise ordinances in Atlanta and DeKalb County are very similar. Both codes are divided into several categories; for this article, single family residential category is most relevant. The noise ordinance is in effect from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on week nights and 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on weekends. The kinds of noises governed include:

- Mechanical noise makers such as boom boxes, televisions, amps, musical instruments and horns
- Human sounds such as yelling, shouting, singing, speaking or arguing
- Commercial advertising sounds such as announcements from a truck loudspeaker
- Party noise
- Motorized landscape equipment such as leaf blowers and chain saws
- Animal sounds from pets or non domesticated animals,\* such as barking or howling
- Non emergency tests of fire or burglar alarms
- Construction sounds such as hammering or nailing.

Anyone may apply for a permit to exempt their group from the noise ordinance for a limited period of time (for example, an amplified rock concert in the Olmsted Linear Park that's expected to last until 2:00 a.m.). Both the City and the County require permits with detailed information, including expected noise levels measured in decibels (dB). The challenge is: How does one determine the noise level at various distances from the origin of the sound? And who measures and determines if the agreed upon dB levels are being observed or not? Who enforces that the music stops when it should?

The best way to report noise ordinance violations is to call 911. If an issue is ongoing (regular violations at the same location), you may wish to document your complaint with DeKalb County at: <https://en.seeclickfix.com/dekalb-county/categories/noise%20complaint>. For the City, call 911 or the police non-emergency number: 404-658-6666. For festivals and outdoor concerts, determine who the organizer or promoter is and name them when filing your complaint



Sound is measured in decibels (dB). A few examples of decibel levels for common sounds:

Traffic .....	85 dB
Lawn mower .....	94 dB
Rock concert or leaf blower .....	110-120 dB
Hair blow dryer .....	60-95 dB
Food processor .....	80-90 dB
Symphony orchestra .....	110 dB
Stadium crowd noise .....	130 dB
Jet plane take off .....	140 dB
Auto airbag deployment .....	170 dB

Important in understanding loudness is how far you are away from the noise. Sitting on the front row of an outdoor rock concert is much louder than being in a house three blocks from the concert. A personal music system, with standard ear buds and played at the loudest volume, would expose the wearer to 100 dB but not the people sitting 10 feet away.

because it may make it more difficult for them to get a permit next time they apply.

**\*Author's Note:** *As I finished this article, I heard the Barred Owl hooting in the magnolia tree in my neighbor's yard. He went on for about 30 minutes. The Barred Owl is a "non domesticated animal" and, though I like this guy, he's not a pet. Yet non domesticated animals are listed as noises on the County and City lists. Stay tuned for a follow-up article on: "Who do you report non domesticated animal noises to?" and "Who makes these guys stop their noise?"*



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## School News

### Fernbank Elementary School

It has been an exciting year at Fernbank Elementary School! We just wrapped up one of our favorite traditions, the BookFloat Parade. Each class dresses up like characters from a book that they've selected, and march with a "float" to the cool tunes of the 5th grade band. We've posted a video on our website if you're curious! Fernbankelementary.com is a great place for news and information — and to see what we've been up to. Check it out!

We are already looking forward to next year. We wanted to share a few important dates for those who will be attending in the fall. We are looking forward to getting to know you and your family!

- If you have a rising Kindergartner or are new to the Fernbank district but haven't already registered your child, please take advantage of our upcoming registration day on **June 18th from 8-10am**. For details on what you'll need to register, go to: [dekalbschoolsga.org/registration/](http://dekalbschoolsga.org/registration/)
- We are planning our open house from **8am-12pm on Wednesday August 1st**. You will not only find out whose class your child will be in, but also learn about buses and carpool, school lunch accounts, after school activities (including our fabulous after school care program), and more. You'll also be able to purchase our 2018-19 Fernbank school T-shirt!
- On the Saturday following our open house, **August 4th from 9am-11am**, rising PreK, Kindergartners, and First Graders are invited to join us for a "playdate" on the Fernbank playground. We will be serving bagels and coffee. This is a great opportunity for parents and children to meet each other before school starts. Families, old and new, are welcome!
- On the **first day of school starting at 7:30am**, we will have a back-to-school parent coffee. Please plan to join us!

### Ben Franklin Academy

Ben Franklin Academy celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2017-2018 and is excited to culminate the year by graduating its largest class ever! The class of 2018 has 50 students heading off to colleges and universities throughout the United States, including New York University, Emory, University of Georgia, Southern Methodist University, Agnes Scott, Georgia Tech, Rhodes College, Washington University in St. Louis, and the University of Southern California.

Although many students have been given various awards, a few stand out for their national recognition.

- **Alex Warren**, a Junior, scored in the 95th percentile on the level 5 (highest level) of the National French Contest known as *Le Grand Concours*. He will receive a "Gold" certificate in honor of his high score.
- **Savannah Henry**, who will be attending Guilford College next year, has been named a Bonner Scholar in recognition of her commitment to community service. The Bonner Program's mission is to develop and engage students' knowledge, skills, and values to foster a "commitment to act collectively in public to achieve shared purposes."
- **Adele McLees**, who will be attending Macalester College in the fall, has been selected to receive the YOU Awards International for her volunteer work with refugee children in the Clarkston community. This award is given to "youth both lo-

cally and nationally, who know no boundaries and at a young age have excelled in education/academics, sports, business/entrepreneur, fine arts, entertainment, technology or community service becoming role models and inspiring people of all ages. The program will give each honoree a trophy and a one-time monetary award to put towards school or a special project of their good works."

The Ben Franklin Academy William H. Izlar, Jr. Annual Poetry Award is given each year during National Poetry Month for the best poems entered by Ben Franklin Academy students. The top two winners received monetary prizes and the third place winners received book awards. The contest was established by the Mary Ryan and Henry G. Kurt Foundation in memory of Ben Franklin Academy's great friend and former longtime Overseer, Bill Izlar, a lifelong lover of poetry. This year's winners are: First Place—**Sophie Braxton**; Second Place—**Megan Lee Stewart**; and Third Place—**Adele McLees, Samantha Pinheiro, Emma Louise Tracy, and Ava Hannon**.

Ben Franklin Academy is the only SACS/SAIS accredited independent school in Atlanta that offers competency-based education at the Mastery level of 90% or above and provides students with a challenging, individualized college-prep education with a low student/teacher ratio. If you are interested in learning more about Ben Franklin Academy, please visit our web page at <http://www.benfranklinacademy.org> or on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/BenFranklinAcademyATL/>.

*Continued on page 21*

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School News ...continued from page 20



Two Paideia athletes have signed with Division 1 schools. Alex Ovalle-Mares committed to soccer with Lake Erie College (left). Asha Evans signed with Howard University in swimming (right)

**Paideia**

We are pleased to share the many awards earned by our students.

**National Merit Finalists:** Ella Amsbary, William Currey, William Johnson, Emma Jones, Griffin McCauley, Anna McEntee, Erin Meller, Julia Simmons, and Nailah Smith are finalists in the National Merit Scholarship competition.

**UGA Certificate of Merit:** Seven students were awarded this certificate: Josh Beskind, Jack Colton, Hunter Furman, Eliza Gallant, Alana Mermin-Bunnell, Kendall Seefried, and Alec Tubbs.

**Governor's Honors Program:** Two students were named to the program: Casey Serrano in Social Studies and Alana Mermin-Bunnell in Visual Arts.

**Atlanta Journal Cup:** Kira Harris

**Poetry Contest:** Eight students were winners in the 2018 River of Words Environmental Art & Poetry Project contest sponsored by Georgia's Environmental Protection Division. Seventh graders Jamie Propst and Wilson McConaughy won in art. Six high school students won for poetry: Ashley Aaron, Mignonne Breaux, Kaiya Patel, Nanseera Wolff, Alex Greiner, and Jada Tanner.

**Haiku Winners:** Seventh graders Jamie Propst and James Russell were among the six winners in this year's Nicholas A. Virgilio Memorial Haiku Competition. They will receive \$100 and publication in the official journal of The Haiku Society of America.

## Michael Maloof: Our Very Own “Atticus Finch”

By Jennifer J. Richardson

Legendary Decatur and Druid Hills Attorney Mike Maloof died on March 3, 2018, after a brief illness. Mike was the oldest son of Manual Maloof, bar owner and DeKalb County CEO. Manual opened his bar in 1956 just across the Fulton County line, making it the closest place to order a drink when DeKalb was dry. Manual's became a de facto Democratic Headquarters and its influence on Mike was evident in his lifelong commitment to liberal politics and Democratic ideals.

Mike was born in England, where Manuel and his wife Dolly met. He was one of eight children born to the couple. In Atlanta, Mike attended St. Pius High School, where he played on the football team. After graduating from Georgia Tech, he earned



his law degree at Emory. In 1972, he began practice in Decatur with Moulton, Carriere, Cavan and Maloof. He served as a deputy coroner for DeKalb County and, by 1983, he was a sole practitioner of criminal law with an office in Decatur. Like the fictional Atticus Finch, Maloof stood for justice for the downtrodden, taking on clients without regard for their ability to pay. He accepted some cases that were considered “hopeless” because he knew the Constitution forward and backwards and believed in equal justice for all. As word spread of his ideals, so did the demand for his services as a criminal defense attorney.

In the courtroom, Maloof could be fierce and intimidating — qualities essential to a good defense lawyer. Family and friends knew that behind this rough exterior was a big heart, a love of family, and a strong loyalty. He was married to his wife, Sally, for 42 years, and father to Mike, Jr. and Ellen Tatum. Always adventurous, Maloof liked to travel. At home, he liked to garden and once

spent a long time describing how to build a substantial and fortified tomato cage to save my tomatoes from squirrels. His tomatoes, like his legal skills, were legendary.

Mike was also a member of the Druid Hills Golf Club, loved the game of golf, and played the course frequently. Other members would join him often at the men's grill to engage in passionate debates about politics, social issues, and Georgia Tech Football.

The community and city turned out for Maloof's funeral at the Saint John Chrysostom Melkite Catholic Church. Father John Azar led the service in the atrium, now used as a sanctuary, in the beautiful former home of Asa Candler. It seemed fitting that the farewell to one Atlanta legend was held at the home of another. In addition to friends from Druid Hills and the golf club, the sanctuary was filled with the lions of Atlanta's legal community.

Mike will be missed, not only because he led the charge for equal rights for all but also because he was a decent and honorable man.

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