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# THE **DRUID HILLS** **NEWS**



## **DHCA Parents Network Halloween Party: A Huge Success!**

*by Claudia Edwards and Beth Blaney*

Furry little animals, Darth Vader, Raggedy Ann and Elmo all attended the Halloween party held in The Carrolls backyard on October 26. Everyone brought a dish to share and fun was had. The children decorated pumpkins, swung at a Halloween piñata, played with sidewalk chalk and guessed at the creepy contents of the Halloween-themed "guess what" boxes.



*DHCA Parents Network Co-Chairs Beth Blaney and Claudia Edwards with their children.*

The first annual DHCA Parents Network Halloween party was a great way for Druid Hills' residents to meet other families in the neighborhood. The weather was perfect and the costumes were fantastic! The committee was pivotal in organizing and throwing a great party! Thank you!

## **Druid Hills Day 2008**

*Neighbors enjoyed beautiful weather, music, food, fun, and each other on November 2, Druid Hills Day. Here, children enjoy the drummers.*



## **Safety Tips for the Holidays**

*By Officer Jeremy Turner*

The holidays are a special, joyous time of year. They are also a time to be especially alert to the possibility of crime. Unfortunately, criminals love the holidays, too, but mainly because it's an opportune time for crime.

Statistics nationwide reveal people are especially vulnerable to burglary, theft, and other crime during the hectic holidays. I offer these safety tips to help your family avoid becoming crime victims and to make this season safer and happier.

- Even though you are bustling around, stay alert to your surroundings. Walk confidently, head up, and stay in well-lit, well-traveled areas.
- Pay attention to people in front of and behind you. This is essential in crowded areas, such as stores and malls, favorite places for thieves and pickpockets. Don't overburden yourself with packages.
- Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Make sure purses are fastened. Put wallets in an inside coat or front pants pocket.
- Public washrooms and store dressing rooms. Avoid putting your purse on hooks or door handles.
- Cars. Store packages in the trunk. This applies to car phones, purses and briefcases. Nothing of value to you should be left in plain view.
- Returning to your car, have your key ready; avoid fumbling with packages. Be alert for anyone lingering in the area. If you have suspicions, return to the store and request an escort. Lock your car doors immediately after entering. If you plan to return to the store or mall, drive to a new parking spot. Criminals may look for shoppers who drop purchases into the trunk and return to keep shopping.
- ATM machines. Try to use them during daylight hours.
- If shopping with kids, teach them to go immediately to a store clerk or a security guard if you get separated. Never let children go to the parking lot alone or stay in the car alone. Young children should be closely supervised at all times.
- Attempt to park close to store entrances and in a well-lit area. Always close your car windows and lock the doors.
- Traveling over the holidays. Use automatic timers for lights and appliances to give the appearance of occupancy. Ask a trusted neighbor to watch your home and park in your driveway from time to time. Don't forget your mail and newspaper deliveries.
- Avoid displaying gifts where they can be seen from outside your home. Don't let your outdoor trash receptacles announce your new acquisitions. Take those boxes to a recycling center. Record gift serial and model numbers immediately.
- If a stranger is at your door...beware. Criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts. They also take advantage of the generosity of others by soliciting door-to-door for non-existent charities.

*During the holiday season, I work with several homeless shelters and families in need in our community. I need warm clothes for adults and children and holiday gifts. If you'd like to donate, contact me and I will pick up items.*



## **Emory Hospital and Clinic to be moved and enlarged**

*by Bruce MacGregor, DHCA Land Use Chair*

On September 23, the DeKalb Board of Commissioners approved height variances for a new, larger Emory Hospital and Emory Clinic, to allow moving these facilities to the east side of Clifton Road, between the Emory Law School and Children's Health Care (Egleston Hospital). A new signalized entrance will be on North Decatur Rd. between the North Decatur Building and the Law School. A 1,000 car expansion of the Clairmont Campus parking deck was also approved.

The county's approval is linked to a site plan and a series of conditions negotiated by Emory with the Druid Hills Civic Association and the Clairmont Heights Civic Association. In addition to the formal zoning conditions, Emory has committed to a series of actions and concepts to better fit the campus into its surroundings.

Your DHCA is pleased with this outcome. We believe it will enhance the quality of healthcare available, and we hope ease some of the traffic congestion related to Emory Healthcare.

Based partly on earlier discussions with DHCA, Emory switched the locations of the proposed clinic and hospital. This resulted in the clinic being placed nearer North Decatur Rd and the larger, taller hospital farther into the campus interior. Emory also changed access to these facilities to include multiple two-way access points for both hospital and clinic, to better disperse traffic.

*Continued on page 6*

### **THE DRUID HILLS NEWS**

*Newsletter of the  
Druid Hills Civic Association*

**P.O. Box 363  
Decatur, GA 30031-0363**

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### **Happy Holidays**

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DeKalb County Police Department ICP Unit  
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 First Vice President . . . Cathy Vandenburg 377-4817 . . .firstvp@druidhills.org  
 Admin. Vice-President . .Stephanie Wright .397-4251 . .adminvp@druidhills.org  
 Comm. Vice-President . . Elise Riley . . . . .434-1756 . . .commvp@druidhills.org  
 Secretary . . . . . Dick Shuey . . . . .874-0649 . . .secretary@druidhills.org  
 Treasurer . . . . . John Hudson . . . . .371-8958 . . .treasurer@druidhills.org

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Division 1 (City of Atlanta) . . . . .div1chair@druidhills.org  
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 Patricia Elam . . . . .  
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 Robert Ballou . . . . .378-6139  
 Division 3 (W. of Briarcliff & S. of University in DeKalb) . . . . .div3chair@druidhills.org  
 Robert Vicevich . . . . .249-9215  
 Division 4 (b/w Briarcliff, N. Decatur & Lullwater Ck.) . . . . .div4chair@druidhills.org  
 Lauretta Miller . . . . .377-5712  
 Dick Spangler . . . . .373-4779  
 Division 5 (Between Peavine Ck., N. Decatur, & RR Lines) . . . . .div5chair@druidhills.org  
 Julie Ralston . . . . .370-3773  
 Jeff Lesesne . . . . .373-8982  
 Division 6 (W. of Briarcliff, N. of Univ. to S. Peachtree Ck.) . . . . .div6chair@druidhills.org  
 David O'Brien . . . . .435-0278  
 Division 7 ("University" Streets west of Emory University) . . . . .div7chair@druidhills.org  
 Elliott Kyle . . . . .770-481-1960  
 Division 8 (Emory U., N. Decatur Rd. to S. Peachtree Ck.) . . . . .div8@druidhills.org  
 Ron Foust . . . . .633-9932  
 Division 9 . . . . .div9chair@druidhills.org  
 (D.H. Golf Course, Decatur fork of Peavine Ck. & RR Lines)  
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Div.	Name	Phone	Email
5	Jeff Rader	378-5070	mail@druidhills.org
4	Rolf Grun	373-5831	mail@druidhills.org
5	Bruce MacGregor	378-6040	mail@druidhills.org

## Ex Officio

## Civic Association Network (CAN) rep

Judy Yates

## Freedom Park

1 Allen Bradley 373-3711 freedompark@druidhills.org

## DeKalb Civic Coalition (DCC)

4 Judy Yates 373-2112 dcc@druidhills.org

## Neighborhood Planning Unit

1 Jim Heerin 373-3626 npu@druidhills.org

## Communication and Lifestyle

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

## Land Use

Vacant

## HP Liaison Atlanta Landmark District

1 Alida Silverman 377-9621 atlantahistoric@druidhills.org

## HP Liaison DeKalb Co

9 Chris Leeth dekalbhistoric@druidhills.org

## Greenspace Initiatives/ Peavine Watershed Alliance

1 Becky Bracewell 378-2749 greenspace@druidhills.org

## Membership

Thea Roeser membership@druidhills.org

## Public Safety

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## Tour of Homes

Mary Emma McConaughy—Events Co-Chair

Joanna Stroud—Artists Market Chair

## Transportation

Mac Platt transportation@druidhills.org

## Druid Hills News Editor

5 Mary Angela Whyte 373-0291 editor@druidhills.org

## Druid Hills News Managing Editor

Jennie Richardson 373-1837

## NPU

Jim Heerin 373-3626

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 Thomas Winn  
 Mac Platt  
 7 Mary Emma McConaughy  
 9 Alex Ortley  
 2 Carolyn Riordan  
 1 Joanna Stroud  
 7 Chris Leeth

## —Druid Hills News deadlines—

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

Advertising—February 1

Copy—February 8

Publication will be in mid-March

## Recommended Services

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

**Wilma Cevallos: Housekeeping.** Wilma has been cleaning our home and doing our laundry for the past two years. She is top notch, and has a beautiful Peruvian heart to go with her honesty, reliability, efficiency and high standards. shiquisa@yahoo or 404-438-8124. (Highly recommended by Wendy Jacobson.)

## 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.

## Recycle at Emory

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



For more information,  
 call 404-727-1796 or visit <http://www.emory.edu/FMD/web/Recycling/recycling.html>.

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

Here is how to sign up for elerts – the civic association's current means of keeping you up to date about current and impending events in Druid Hills.

The elert system replaces the paper notices you used to get in or on your mailbox. It is less expensive and more efficient.

1. Go to our website, [www.druidhills.org](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.

## THANKS!

Thanks to all Druid Hills residents who donated unneeded eyeglasses to my collection for third-world countries. Thanks to you, more than 140 people there will have improved vision. I started this project to help Rachel Friday, Druid Hills resident and director of Medical Expeditions International, a non profit medical organization for third-world countries. Thanks, too, to the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation for washing each pair and labeling the prescription. If you can donate prescription eyeglasses or sunglasses or reading glasses, call me at 404-378-9595 and I will pick them up.

Shockley Nunnery  
 (Shockley is a 9th grade student at St. Pius)

## HELP WANTED

Two Druid Hills Civic Association Committees need volunteers!

## Community and Lifestyle

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

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

## Membership

- Welcome new DH residents
  - Assist with administrative tasks
  - Create new opportunities for residents to join DHCA
- To volunteer, please contact Thea Roeser at [theaeroeser@yahoo.com](mailto:theaeroeser@yahoo.com)

The DHCA is also looking for a **Coordinator**. To volunteer, please contact Thomas Winn at 371-0670 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:

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[www.druidhills.org/news/advertise.htm](http://www.druidhills.org/news/advertise.htm)  
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 Newsletter of the Druid Hills Civic Association

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR Mary Angela Whyte

BUSINESS MANAGER Barbara Morey, [admin.druidhills.org](mailto:admin.druidhills.org), 404-523-DHCA

MANAGING EDITOR Jennifer Richardson, [JJRichar@bellsouth.net](mailto:JJRichar@bellsouth.net)

TYPESETTING & DESIGN Julie Edwards

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Faye Andresen, Claudia Edwards, Susan Merritt-Jordan, Jo Ann Herold, Bruce MacGregor, Jim Morawetz, Mac Platt, Jennifer Richardson, Dick Shuey, Jeremy Turner, Jim Waits, Mary Angela Whyte

*Your Letters Are Welcome*

## Druid Hills High School Class of 1958

by Jennifer J. Richardson, DHHS Class of '69

The weekend of October 3-5 was a festive one for members of the Druid Hills High School class of 1958: they gathered together once again to celebrate their 50th reunion.

The weekend started with a cocktail party where the class gathered to catch up with each other. The class of 1958 was a small one, and everyone present seemed to know each other.

Saturday brought a display of antique automobiles and a luncheon at the Druid Hills Golf Club. Guests were treated to an appearance of the Druid Hills mascot, the "Red Devil" and a show by some of the current Druid Hills High cheerleaders. Local historian Dr. Richard Sams presented a lecture on school history, recalling teachers, events, and 1958 hang-outs such as Jeffaires pharmacy and Horton's, which had pinball machines in the back. Bet the parents didn't know about that! After lunch, Olmsted Linear Park Alliance Board members Doug Grimm and Jennie Richardson took a group on an historical tour of Dellwood and Deepdene Parks. Along the way, historic homes and native plant were pointed out, and the recent history of the rehabilitation of the park was detailed.

Saturday evening brought a reception at the Emory Conference Center, dinner and dancing. Members of the class of 1958 who've died were remembered as each name was read and a candle lit. Five Druid Hills coaches from the 1950s had been invited to attend the dinner. (H.L. McCright, Jimmy Carnes, Terry Hodges, Bob Heck, and Elmer Morrow.) Each spoke of his time at Druid Hills High, the significance to their career. The coaches were presented with gift certificates and framed photos of how they looked in 1958.

After dinner, a DJ spun platters (well, in actuality Compact Discs) of memorable tunes from the '50s and later decades. Despite the gray hair on some heads in the room, this group still knew how to party! Dancing continued into the night.

It's easy to forget the long history of Druid Hills High, since it continues to be the public high school for the community. Built in 1928 and designed by Lewis Edmund Crook, the red brick school building has been a landmark in Druid Hills for 80 years. It continues to grow and change, with new additions planned to the historic buildings.

The reunion was organized by Doug Grimm, Buddy Harrison, Reid and Janet Hartsfield, Lee and Susan Sayre,

Jerry McGinty, Judy Davis Lewis, Anjo Strain Jones, Peggy Thraikill Miller, Judy Gaither Hall, and Nancy Kain McKinnon. Congratulations to the class of 1958 for celebrating 50 years as DHHS alums!

### Oakdale Road hosts Second Annual Block Party

More than 100 people attended the second annual Oakdale Road Block Party on June 8. There was a band, a jumpy and a margarita machine. One more reason that Druid Hills is a neighborhood of lovely homes--but mostly about the great people and friendships. We can't wait until the third annual block party!



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## President's Column

by Jim Morawetz

### The Druid Hills Civic Association Needs YOU!

On October 31, the DHCA Parents Network hosted more than a hundred parents and children for its first annual Halloween Party, and the following Sunday the Community and Lifestyle Committee drew a similar crowd for fun, games and music at the annual Druid Hills Day festival in Dellwood Park. We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to the volunteers who drive the DHCA and make these and similar neighborhood events possible.

The DHCA needs your input and involvement in a wide range of neighborhood activities and undertakings. Opportunities for service abound, from helping to organize community events such as the Tour of Homes and Artist Market, the Neighborhood Yard Sale, Druid Hills Day, the Halloween Party, and the Fourth of July Parade, to more routine tasks such as monitoring applications for zoning variances and writing articles for the *Druid Hills News*.

Time is valuable, and we all have too little of it, but we will welcome any you are able to spare to take advantage of these or the myriad other opportunities that exist to help the DHCA achieve its goals for the preservation and betterment of the community. If you are interested, please contact me at [president@druidhills.org](mailto:president@druidhills.org). Also, please join the DHCA if you have not already done so. Our Board of Directors meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., and we welcome your attendance. Please go to our web site at <http://www.druidhills.org/>, and click on "How to Join" for a membership form or "Calendar of Events" for the location of the next meeting. We would also welcome your interest in serving on the Board of Directors. Each year the DHCA membership elects eight members to serve a 3-year term on the Board.

We need your opinion, input, and feedback on how best to manage and confront the host of issues that affect our neighborhood, in a manner that protects our parks, greenspace, and historic legacy without sacrificing our vitality. Please act now!

### Olmsted funding goal reached: The transition to a maintenance fund

by Jim Waits

With the successful achievement of its fundraising goal of \$9.5 million for rehabilitation of the Olmsted Linear Park, OLPA now turns to another critical challenge: an endowment for the long-term maintenance of each of the park segments. While the City of Atlanta and DeKalb County make annual appropriations for its general upkeep, it is CLEAR that additional funds will be needed to maintain the Park at the level of quality resulting from OLPA's decade-long restoration efforts.

Reconstruction of Deepdene, the last of the six segments, should be completed within the next year. Meanwhile, the OLPA Board is considering a long-term development effort to create an endowment for Park maintenance; earlier planning has already set aside \$600,000 for this. It is estimated that \$150,000-\$200,000 annually will be needed to supplement budgeted appropriations by governmental agencies. The Board is considering several strategies to raise these funds: an annual fund/membership campaign, naming opportunities at particular sites within the Park, the annual Gala and auction, and continued investment of funds already assigned to the endowment.

The response of local foundations, corporations, and other friends of the Park to the reconstruction effort has been remarkable. Citizens of metropolitan Atlanta can take justifiable pride in all that has been accomplished in the conservation of this landmark Atlanta treasure. We hope you will join the Board of OLPA as we take the next step in preserving the historic Olmsted legacy in our city and in providing one of the jewels of green space for our entire metro region.

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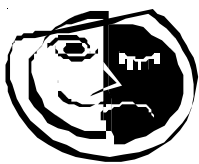
## Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour & Artist Market

Dear Druid Hills Neighbor,

The 2009 Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour & Artist Market needs volunteers and we are asking for your help. The tour dates are Friday, April 17 through Sunday, April 19. We need many volunteers to guide tour guests through points of interest in the homes and a few volunteers to help staff the Artist Market. There are five shift choices. Each shift will also need a shift chair, responsible for supervising the volunteers on his/her shift, if that interests you. Remember, all volunteers receive a free tour ticket, a \$25 value, plus you will be invited to the volunteer "Thank You" party after the tour. We can also provide seating for those volunteers who request it.

Listed below are the shift times for each date. If you are available to help, you can register one of three ways. You can mail the completed registration form at the right, e-mail, or call with your shift preference. Please register by February 27. You will be sent a confirmation of your shift via email. Thanks so much for considering the 2009 Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour & Artist Market.

Sincerely,  
Christina Hudson-Kanz  
peasandhoneyatl@aol.com  
404-371-8908



### 2009 Druid Hills Artist Market April 17, 18 & 19

Applications are being taken now online or by mail. All information about the Market, including applications, can be found at [www.druidhills.org](http://www.druidhills.org).

Application deadline is Sunday, February 15, 2009. Don't delay!

### VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I can serve as a: Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_ Shift Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Shift Choices:

Friday, 4/17 \_\_\_\_\_ 9:30am – 1:30pm

\_\_\_\_\_ 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Saturday 4/18 \_\_\_\_\_ 9:30am – 1:30pm

\_\_\_\_\_ 1:00pm – 5:00pm

Sunday, 4/19 \_\_\_\_\_ 12:30pm - 5:00pm

No preference, assign me where you need me the most \_\_\_\_\_

If your spouse or family member over 18 years of age would like to volunteer, as well, please let us know.

Please give your name, phone number, and e-mail address OR street address when you respond by phone or e-mail.

Mail to:  
Christina Hudson-Kanz, 1089 Oakdale Rd, Atlanta, GA 30307

## Theater, Anyone?

Theater Emory will host a month of exploratory workshops and new play readings as part of the biennial Brave New Works festival (February 2–22, 2009; Free Admission). The Playwriting Center of Theater Emory brings together Atlanta area actors and directors, as well as playwrights from across the country, for a month-long series of workshops and readings aimed at the creation and development of new works for the American stage. This year's festival will include a reading of a new work by Thomas Gibbons and Matthew Maguire, the creation of an anthology of ten-minute plays by young nationwide playwrights, and a collaborative project between the Atlanta-based company Out Of Hand Theater, playwright Ken Weitzman, and the Yerkes National Primate Research Center as part of the "Evolution Revolution: Science Changing Life" conference at Emory University.

The 2008-2009 season closes with Henrik Ibsen's modern classic "Peer Gynt" in an adaptation written and directed by Tim McDonough, and staged on the set of a children's playground (April 16 – 26, 2009). Of the lead character, McDonough explains, "Peer is an undeveloped self; he never grows up - even his last moment is childlike - and so it seems right that he never leaves the playground."

For tickets and information, contact the Arts at Emory Box Office at 404.727.5050, [www.arts.emory.edu](http://www.arts.emory.edu), or [boxoffice@emory.edu](mailto:boxoffice@emory.edu). Please note that all evening performances, unless specified, begin at 7 p.m.

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by Robert Hartle

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**BOARD BRIEFS**

**MAY:**

New Board Members-Division Chairs were approved unanimously by the DHCA Board: Elliot Kyle, Division #7; Robert (Bob) Ballou, Division # 2; and Steven Misner, Division #9.

Commissioner Rader attended to question the Board's position on the proposed nightclub ordinance. Jim Morawetz advised Mr. Rader he will send him DHCA's position.

The Chelsea Heights Design Guidelines were approved with one Board member dissenting.

A \$500 donation was made to the Fernbank PTA Artist Fund in memory of Katherine Armstrong.

**AUGUST:**

Emory presented their Health Care Expansion Plan, fielding questions from board members. Emory is seeking SLUPs for nine and fourteen story buildings and a 1200-space parking deck. Details and schematics are on Emory's web site. Board members' questions centered on increased traffic on N. Decatur Rd and surrounding streets; widening of roads and intersections; cut-through traffic on neighborhood streets; construction traffic; and the expansion's visual impact on the neighborhood. Emory evinced a willingness to discuss campus edges with the neighborhood.

Doug Robinson, Eagle Eye Book Shop, presented DHCA with a check for \$282, 10% of the proceeds from the sale of Robert Hartle's book on Druid Hills. Claudia Edwards and Beth Laney gave a brief presentation on the Parents Network, which has continued to grow.

The proposed Chelsea Heights Design Guidelines were tabled for three months by the HPC because of no consensus. Opposition is just against more guidelines.

*Druid Hills News* advertisers have been dropping out in favor of electronic media. Several remedial measures under consideration are seeking advertisers more aggressively; offering them acknowledgement and perhaps links on the DHCA web site; and reverting to former 8 pages (from 12) . We may need to consider more frequent electronic versions.. All are invited to send their thoughts and suggestions to the Editor.

The BOC will vote on the proposed Night Club ("Late Night Establishment") ordinance in September. It looks like it will require a SLUP for any new establishment to sell alcohol after 12:30 a.m. It is regarded as a prelude to removing the ABC distance requirements from churches and schools. We are working with other civic associations to protect our neighborhoods from this kind of encroachment. Bob Ballou reported Georgia Power is moving power poles to the sidewalk from the landscape strip in Division 2 to meet DOT's objective of poles farther from the street. He has corresponded with the County, including the HPC, to no avail.



**School News**

by Susan Merritt Jordan

The long-awaited IB K-12 continuum is complete with the news in October that Shamrock Middle School received official authorization to teach the IB Middle Years Programme. The middle school IB curriculum puts traditional subjects into global context and calls for teaching students how to learn, how to communicate and how to critically evaluate information. Fernbank Elementary School became certified for the IB Primary Years Program earlier this year, and Druid Hills High School has awarded IB diplomas for three years now.

Fans of Druid Hills High School football are celebrating the team's historic turnaround. The Red Devils broke a 20-game losing streak dating back to 2006 with a 34-14 victory over Avondale on September 5th. At midseason the team was 3-3.

The new building addition and renovation of the existing buildings at DHHS was set to begin last month, with completion anticipated in time for the start of the 2009-2010 school year.

Renovation of the existing DHHS buildings is slated for completion in time for the 2010/2011 school year.

Mary Lin Elementary hosted a visit by award-winning children's author Doreen Cronin, who was in town for the Decatur Book Festival. Cronin's latest book is *Thump, Quack, Moo: A Whacky Adventure*. Her appearance was organized as part of the school's Writer's Workshop curriculum.

For more information about our neighborhood schools, visit these websites:

- Ben Franklin Academy -- [www.benfranklinacademy.org](http://www.benfranklinacademy.org)
- Briar Vista Elementary School -- [www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/briarvista](http://www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/briarvista)
- 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)
- Mary Lin Elementary School -- [www.marylinelementary.com](http://www.marylinelementary.com)
- Paideia School -- [www.paideiaschool.org](http://www.paideiaschool.org)
- Shamrock Middle School -- [www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/shamrock](http://www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/shamrock)



A preview of the new DHHS addition. Courtesy: Perkins & Will, architects



The 2008 season also featured the debut of *Dru E. Devil*, the new DHHS mascot.

**BOOK CLUB NEWS:**

**Fabulous Fall Fares**

by Faye Andresen

Deepdene Book Club read two excellent books this fall. *The Thirteenth Tale, A Novel* should satisfy those with a craving for the classic gothic novel. This first effort by Diane Setterfield is garnering rave reviews from lovers of Bronte and Austen.

The second choice, *Vanishing Act of Esme Lennox* by Maggie O'Farrell, is a well-written story of family discovery. Imagine receiving a phone call saying the asylum is closing and you need to come get your aunt – a sister your mother never mentioned.

Wine Women & Words took on a historical narrative by Jenna Blum who has worked for the Steven Spielberg's Shoah Foundation. *Those Who Saved Us* begins with a history professor's work collecting oral histories from WWII survivors but becomes personal as it increasingly focuses on her mother's own odyssey of survival under Nazi rule. Next, they read *Friday Night Knitting Club*. This is a popular (dare I say it) yarn about domestic drama as club members' lives come unraveled.

Last Tuesday's Book Club was pleased with Lee Smith's latest, *On Agate Hill*. The discovery of Molly Petree's diary allows us to explore the characters' peculiarities and isolation experienced by Southerners in the fifty years after the Civil War – as only Lee Smith can tell it. They followed with Karen Abbott's well-researched book, *Sin in the Second City*. A history of the rough and tumble, sin-soaked world of turn-of-the-century Chicago focuses on Everleigh sisters. Their business success is a testimony to knowing what the customer wants and giving it to him. They ran the most opulent and exclusive house of prostitution in the US at the time. And for those who like to be precise, the correct phrase is "getting Leighed."

Beer and Book Club debated side dishes after reading *Omnivore's Dilemma* by Michael Pollan. It is a thought-provoking look at our food supply and the big business behind it. They moved on to the fast-paced rollicking world of sea exploration during the fifteenth century. Martin Dugard's *The Last Voyage of Columbus* is a world of political intrigue, backstabbing, and sheer exuberance as Vasco da Gama, Amerigo Vespucci, and Christopher Columbus discover new worlds while European rulers plot to maintain their old world power structure.

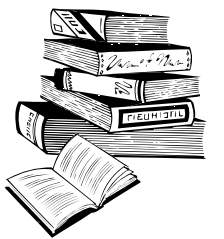
Proud Mary Book Club read the autobiography, *Infidel* by Ayaan Hirsi Ali. It is the remarkable journey, both earthly and intellectually, of a woman born into tribal Somalia, traveling through harsh Islamic fundamentalism and into modern-day western culture. She collaborated with controversial Dutch director Theo VanGogh who was assassinated by radical Muslims. The club then chose Sara Gruen's *Water for Elephants*. Told as a flashback by an elderly Jacob Jankowski, this well researched personal drama recounts the harsh realities of early circus life as Jacob bonds with the animals in his care and as he falls in love with his boss's wife.

The Harvard Road Book Club's first choice was *Three Cups of Tea*. In this ever popular book, Greg Mortenson continues to inspire readers through his work and commitment to building schools in Afghanistan. Not only for book club readers, this book should be shared with husbands, sons and daughters. *Ceremony* is a beautiful book by Leslie Marmon Silko. Silko is considered to be the most accomplished Native American writer of her generation. She weaves a story of American native Tayo, his Pueblo Indian culture and life, and the universal truths that transcend all peoples.

**The "Skeleton House" Part Two – by J.J. Williams**

The Story of the Skeleton House on Springdale is evolving into a rescue story. The startling sight of the house reduced to its studded frame sparked many questions last summer from neighbors and passers by who wondered what was happening. Following publication of the article in the last issue of the DH News, a neighborhood meeting was held to provide information about the project. It was disclosed at this meeting that a series of cascading problems discovered after work began, including water damage to the foundation and termite damage to the wooden framing and support beams, required more extensive measures to maintain the house's structural integrity than had originally been planned or anticipated. Please see the "Letters to the Editor" column of this issue for a more detailed explanation by the homeowner, Jim Boone.

Based on information provided by the owner, the architect, and the builder, it now appears the likely outcome of this project will be the rescue of an historic house whose integrity was threatened by structural problems. Please join us in welcoming Jim and his family to the neighborhood.



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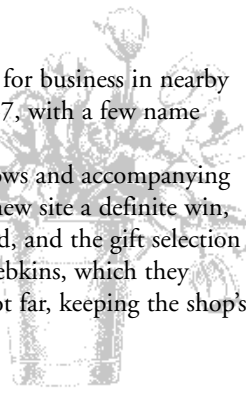
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## Where Have All the Flowers Gone?

On September 2, 2008, Emory Village Flowers and Gifts opened for business in nearby Sage Hill. The shop has been a fixture in the neighborhood since 1947, with a few name variations and in or near the Village, but always our local florist.

Lower rent, a larger clean, newly painted space with lots of windows and accompanying light, more accessible entry and plenty of available parking make the new site a definite win, according to owner Rob Schochet. More large plants can be displayed, and the gift selection better presented in the shop's new layout, including the new line of webkins, which they represent in the area. "It was time to move on," says Schochet, but not far, keeping the shop's long association with the community.

Hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30-6; Saturday, 9-4.



## Emory Hospital...continued from page 1

In Druid Hills, Emory agreed to:

- Limit Healthcare employee parking to the Clairmont campus.
- Limit campus edge building on North Decatur Rd. to 3 stories and maintain a 50-foot front-yard setback
- Install traffic calming measures on Ridgewood Dr., Burlington Rd., and Emory Dr., if warranted by increased cut-through traffic.
- Improve pedestrian access across North Decatur Rd.
- Mitigate sound and light intrusion into the neighborhood.

In Clairmont Heights, Emory agreed to an estimated \$925,000 in offsite improvements, including:

- Reworking the Clairmont/Desmond Dr./Starvine Way intersection, to improve pedestrian access and reduce cut-through traffic.
- Installing sidewalks on Willivee Dr. and North Superior Rd.
- Removing invasive species and installing bank stabilizing measures on Glenn Creek.

Additional traffic improvements may be required, based on follow-up work between Emory, DeKalb County, GA DOT and the Atlanta Regional Commission. The extent and nature of these changes is not known at this time, however.

Heartly thanks are extended to Michael Mandl of Emory and Kenneth Gibson of the DHCA for finalizing these remarkable agreements. Ken stepped up to the plate (or into the breach) while I went to France, dumping this in his lap. Mike has been responsive to our concerns and adjusted Emory's plans to accommodate these concerns. We look forward to improving the environment in which we all live.

(Editor's Note: An in-depth follow up article is planned for the spring edition of the *Druid Hills News*)

## They Did It Right

Warner and Allison McConaughy, accustomed to designing home renovations for others, recently applied their skills to their own kitchen. Instead of the "commercial" look used in many kitchens today, they were intrigued with the turn-of-the-century "industrial" kitchens they had visited in Newport, Rhode Island, and more specifically at Plum Orchard on Cumberland Island. Their 1928 Tudor residence on South Ponce de Leon, overlooking Olmsted Park, was a perfect match for this timeless look. The EarthCraft-certified energy-efficient kitchen features a modern twist on antiquity, combining an industrial look with cutting edge technology.

As avid cooks, the McConaughys avoided the large, exhausting

kitchen common today. Instead, they chose to create a manageable kitchen that is an intimate space for family and close friends, yet also designed to function well for larger events and guest chefs. The adjacent larder creates several additional workstations, or can be closed off to hide a stack of dirty dishes as guests move back to the kitchen after dinner to watch the dessert preparation.

The kitchen's visual success is in its striking use of contrasting materials, colors and textures, such as soft Italian soapstone counters and warm cherry cabinets juxtaposed with a field of white glazed tile and stainless steel.

The result is a family-friendly kitchen, compatible with their 80-year-old home, offering the best of modern convenience and technology. Obviously, they did it right.

### Druid Hills Kitchen Receives Top International Awards

Congratulations to HammerSmith for taking first place at the bi-annual Sub Zero-Wolf Kitchen Contest. With more than 1600 entries from top designers and architects all over the world, this has become one of the most prestigious award in the design industry. The first place award was given to Warner and Allison McConaughy of HammerSmith for their own kitchen on South Ponce de Leon Avenue in Druid Hills. A cooking demonstration at the house is scheduled for the Junior League Tour of Kitchens this spring.

## "Take Back Our Streets" Safety Campaign

by Mac Platt

The negative effect on quality of life and the increased danger in the neighborhood resulting from the ever increasing traffic has reached its limit. This traffic is the result of Emory and CDC employees and increased cut through commuter traffic. Excessive speeding, passing cars obeying the speed limit and other reckless driving has reached unprecedented levels and, in an effort to contain the problem, The Druid Hills Civic Association is preparing a safety campaign.

The "Take Back Our Streets" safety campaign is modeled after the successful "Take Back Our Highways" campaign run by the State Highway Patrol of Alabama. Their August campaign netted more than 20,000 traffic tickets, including speeding, DUI, and reckless driving. Highway deaths have fallen 19% through August 19 this year, compared to the same period in 2007. They are getting results and we will, too.

Following are the key components:

- 1) Set a uniform speed limit of 25 mph for Druid Hills.
- 2) Designate new and enhance existing crosswalks by adding roadside signs, on-pavement signage, and bold crosswalk marking.
- 3) Document speed of traffic in requested radar zones and communicate radar requests (act as a liaison) with Emory, DeKalb County, and City of Atlanta police departments regarding speeding and to clamp down on dangerous drivers.
- 4) Design/develop a marketing campaign for "Take Back Our Streets" that would be implemented late winter/early spring '09.
- 5) Work with Emory and the CDC for serious "buy in" in the TBOS Campaign, as well as in other transportation, bike and pedestrian issues.
- 6) Organize a neighborhood-wide driver pledge to obey posted speed limits.

As we move through winter and into spring, the campaign will be ramping up. Remember, "Drive 25!"

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<input type="checkbox"/> Olmsted Member	\$250 or more	Mail to: P.O. Box 363, Decatur, GA 30031-0363

**Letter to the Editor**

I am Jim Boone, the owner of the home at 965 Springdale Road. I am writing in response to an article that appeared in your fall 2008 issue (page 6) – “The Skeleton House” – written by J.J. Williams. Given that I was not contacted prior to publication of the article, I wish to take this opportunity to respond.

First, I would like to say that I am excited about becoming a resident of Druid Hills. For many years I have admired the architecture and historic nature of the community and consider myself fortunate to soon be a resident.

When deciding to purchase my home, I engaged the professional services of Mr. Frank Neely, president of Neely Design Associates. Frank has a sterling reputation as an architectural designer involved with historic restorations and renovations. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including two recent top awards from the City of Atlanta, and has been featured in several design/rebuild magazines. My builder is Ms. Lisa Turner, President of Angler Construction. She has an outstanding reputation for the successful renovation of several historic homes in and around the Druid Hills area and is committed to environmentally conscientious construction methods. Both of these individuals have worked tirelessly with me to preserve as much of this residence as possible while also ensuring the structural integrity and long-term soundness of the home.

Your article incorrectly states that permission was not granted for removal of stucco, half-timers, windows, doors, and a non-historic addition to the right side of the house. We had originally hoped to save much of this, but as demolition progressed, it became apparent that the house would have to be reduced to a studded frame and rebuilt. All demolition, renovation, and construction procedures are in full compliance with the certificate of appropriateness (COA) granted by the DeKalb County Historic Preservation Commission (DCHPC). Our compliance has been reviewed by Mr. David Cullison (Historic Preservation Senior Planner for DeKalb County Planning and Development) on a regular basis.

A Druid Hills Civic Association representative attended each meeting of the HPC in which our proposal was reviewed. The representative voiced approval of our plans prior to the commission’s final vote on the renovation.

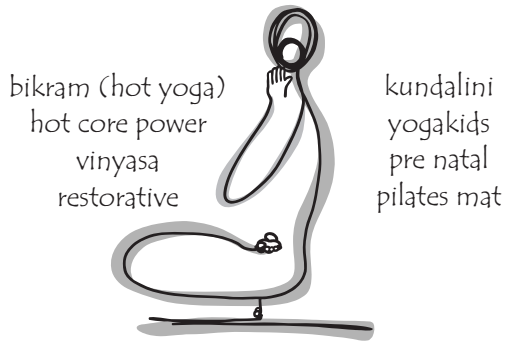
Charles and Cary Calhoun (1111 Springdale Road) held an open “town meeting” on October 1 to allow my architectural designer, my builder, and me to answer questions of individuals in attendance. I wish to thank both of them for their generosity in hosting the meeting and I also wish to thank those who attended. I believe all questions were satisfactorily answered and it was evident that we are meeting the spirit of an historic renovation in Druid Hills.

I am dedicated to completing this restoration within the guidelines of the HPC and look forward to becoming part of the community in spring 2009.

Jim Boone  
404-229-5986 (cell)

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209 CHELSEA DRIVE, DECATUR

Winner of the 2002 City of Decatur Design Award, this five-bedroom, four-and-a-half-bathroom home will wow you with its elegant renovation. This home boasts a fabulous kitchen with custom cabinetry, granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Kitchen opens to a den with fireplace and overlooks a private patio and screened porch, all perfect for entertaining. Special details of the home include custom windows, built-in cabinetry, hardwood floors and fabulous moldings. Beautiful owner's suite with vaulted ceiling offers a large walk-in closet and spa-like bathroom with whirlpool tub, separate shower and double vanities. Terrace level provides a separate entrance for an In-Law / Au Pair suite and workroom. \$699,000



208 COVENTRY ROAD, DECATUR

Just a short stroll to Downtown Decatur, this impeccable four-bedroom, three-bath Dutch-colonial is a delightful find. Perched on a hilltop on a sidewalk-lined street in the heart of Ponce de Leon Heights, this home combines the best of an older home with the luxuries of a brand new renovation. The rocking chair front porch leads you to a foyer with stairway, formal living room and dining room and a beautiful gourmet-styled custom kitchen. Kitchen with breakfast room opens to a separate den and beautiful sunroom. Upstairs offers four bedrooms and two bathrooms. This home features an owner suite with large windows overlooking the landscaped backyard, complete with fireplace. Simply elegant. \$659,000



305 LAMONT DRIVE, DECATUR

Located on one of the most sought-after streets in Decatur within walking distance to award winning Clairemont Elementary School, this classic Decatur home offers four bedrooms and two bathrooms. Living room features fireplace with gas logs and leads to large sunroom with vaulted ceilings. Enjoy the view of the beautifully landscaped, private backyard from the central dining room or the recently renovated kitchen. Private owner's suite with ample closets includes an elegant bathroom with soaking tub and separate shower. Unfinished basement with interior / exterior entrance offers ample storage. \$595,000



416 EAST PONCE DE LEON AVENUE, DECATUR

Walk two blocks to the Decatur Square for all of the festivals, shopping and dining that Decatur has to offer from this 1920's bungalow with all of the original charm. Watch the July 4th Fireworks and Parade from the rocking chair front porch or lawn. Home offers three bedrooms, two bathrooms and features updated plumbing, electrical, and HVAC. Living room with built-in cabinets leads to separate formal dining room. Eat-in kitchen features stainless appliances and granite countertops. New deck off of the sunroom overlooks professionally landscaped courtyard and backyard. \$375,000



170 COVENTRY ROAD, DECATUR

The heirloom Southern gardens greet you at the entrance of this circa 1929 sun-filled Cape-Cod bungalow. Sited on a tree-lined street that glows with cherry blossoms in the Spring and Autumnal colors in the Fall within walking distance to Downtown Decatur, this three bedroom, two bathroom home offers an additional den, sunroom and keeping room off of the kitchen. Nature lovers delight with the rhododendrons, azaleas, antique roses, poplars and dogwoods that provide a backdrop from the large windows throughout the house. Architectural details such as dental crown moldings, two sets of French doors, hardwood floors, and distinctive fireplace distinguish this home. \$459,000



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