

DRUD HILS News

SPRING, 2008 Volume 22, Number 1 CONTENTS

HELP WANTED	Pg 2
In Memoriam	Pg 2
President's Column	Pg 3
Home Landscape Threats	Pg 4
Burbanck Park Campaign Success	Pg 4
BOOK CLUB NEWS	Pg 5
They Did It Right	Pg 5
DHCA Annual Meeting Recap	PG 6
SCHOOL NEWS	Pg 7
OLPA REACHES \$9.5 MILLION GOAL	Pg 7
Georgia ING Marathon	Pg 7
Tour of Homes (cont.)	Pg 8
Artist Market (cont.)	Pg 9
DHCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION	PG 11

Druid Hills - A Perfect Home for Art

By Joanna Stroud

In our 100-year celebration this year for Druid Hills, the appropriateness of an Artist Market as part of our weekend Home and Garden Tour festivities has never been more evident. As we celebrate the genius of Frederick Law Olmsted's design and the sale of the land lots enabling Atlanta's most renowned architectural artists to design magnificent homes from mansions to charming cottages in this lush setting, I have come to realize those of us in Druid Hills live within a work of art every day! Olmsted, the ultimate landscape artist, opened the door for architects Arthur Neal Robinson, Walter T. Downing, J. Neel Reid, G. Lloyd Preacher, Robert S. Pringle, and Francis P. Smith to not only design homes for others in Druid Hills, but to design their own homes here, as well. This confirms what many of us know, that the very nature of Druid Hills provides an aesthetic haven that feeds an artist's soul and inspires an artist's work. The Artist Market now enables artists within Druid Hills to share that work and is attracting other artists from around the country to participate with us!

For the second year, the Artist Market will be enhanced by being housed in Stonehenge, now St. John's Lutheran Church, the architectural work of art designed by Edward Bennett Dougherty, built in 1914 for Samuel Hoyt Venable. As Mr. Venable owned Stone Mountain, the home was appropriately built of Stone Mountain granite. Within the mansion are original murals of woodland scenes of Stone Mountain, a mural of Chinese mythology on imported Chinese grass cloth, massive carved fireplaces of cairn stone, mahogany paneling, Venetian tile floors, beamed ceilings, and a 20 mullion leaded glass window beneath the original chandelier gracing the central Great Hall. Approximately 40 artists this year will be privileged to display their works in this extraordinary setting for the 2008 Druid Hills Artist Market.

Different from other spring artist markets in Atlanta, the Druid Hills market hosts you in an indoor setting with music flowing as you browse among media such as fine pottery, elegant jewelry, folk art, new and vintage textile designs, photography, and paintings in oils, water colors, and acrylics. The market promises treasures for sale in a wide price range, so all can purchase a special work of art for their own castle or cottage! One of this year's Tour homeowners, Mac and Melanie Platt, purchased at last year's Market a painting from artist Sandra Meyer, which Tour goers will view in their spectacular dining room. Also seen on the tour this year, in the home of Dick and Linda Hubert, is textile art by artist Joanna Stroud, vintage handkerchief and button decorative pillows available again at this year's Market.

ONLY residents of Druid Hills are invited to the free opening reception for the Artist Market this year on Thursday, April 17, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Last year's reception hosted 250 neighbors from Druid Hills who enjoyed food and drink and shopped for first selection of the many one of a kind works of art. This year, under a candlelit grand tent, the Opening Reception will again offer food and drink between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m., along with honorary guests cutting a spectacular birthday cake celebrating the Druid Hills Centennial. A surprise "ribbon cutting" will also take place as, on behalf of the Druid Hills Civic Association, the 2008 Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour & Artist Market gives back to the community. At 7:00 p.m. the Artist Market doors will open for only Druid Hills residents and invited guests of the participating artists. This is truly a delightful event, free for our entire neighborhood, and we hope many will join in the celebration at the Opening Reception. Spread the word to friends and neighbors about our wonderful Artist Market, open throughout the weekend during Home and Garden Tour hours. For more information and updates on the market, go to www.druidhulls.org.

THE DRUID HILLS NEWS

Newsletter of the Druid Hills Civic Association

P.O. Box 363 Decatur, GA 30031-0363 PRE-SORT STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE **PAID** Permit No. 515 Athens, GA



2008 Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour & Artist Market

Tour the history of one of Atlanta's most beautiful pieces of art

By Rhonda Geraci

It was 1908, the year Henry Ford introduced his Model T, Orville Wright made his first one-hour flight, and Albert Einstein published his Quantum Theory of Light, changing the way we see the world, that Joel Hurt's vision for an "ideal residential community" in Atlanta began to take shape. Interestingly enough, he had to let go of his dream before it could come true.

In May 1908, the Atlanta Journal & Constitution reported the Joel Hurt property sale as "the largest sale ever recorded here." The price for the 1,492 acres of land was a half million dollars. The buyer was The Druid Hills Company, whose president was Coca Cola millionaire Asa G. Candler. He, along with realtors Forrest & George Adair, and Georgia Railway and Power executive Preston Arkwright, developed the land using the original plan drawn up for Hurt in 1893 by the father of architectural landscape, Frederick Law Olmsted.

Druid Hills was one of Olmsted's final projects and is a beautiful representation of his genius and ultimate artistic ability to seamlessly integrate the restorative power of a natural suburb within an urban setting. By 1909, the AJC reported \$750,000 worth of lots had been committed to. In 1912, The Druid Hills Golf Club was formed, and a year later the trolley line was built along Ponce de Leon Avenue to East Lake Road. Druid Hills became the home of Atlanta's prominent citizens, businessmen, and professionals, many whose names we still see associated with great Atlanta institutions, such as Egleston and Woodruff. Some of Atlanta's most distinguished early 20th-century architects actually built their own homes in the area, including Joseph Neel Reid and Geoffrey Lloyd Preacher.

Today, the Druid Hills neighborhood remains virtually unchanged and one of the most desirable places to live in Atlanta. The U.S. Department of the Interior said Druid Hills is "significant as the finest example of late 19th and early 20th century comprehensive planning and development in the Atlanta area, and one of the finest period suburbs in the Southeast." It is not only the home of what US News & World Report recognizes as one of the country's top 20 universities, it is also the hub for the world's Center for Disease Control, and an oasis for homeowners and their families in an ever-growing city. No wonder Forbes recently listed the area as one of the "15 Best Blue Chip Real Estate Investment Areas in the Country."

And Now, View the Homes on This Year's Tour...

857 Oakdale Road Evan Lindsay & Nancy Cox

Making history and preserving history is what this lovely 1916Neel Reid is all about. As the oldest address on our tour, it has had its share of famous owners. Originally built as a wedding gift for one of the Adair family daughters, it is now owned by one of Time magazine's most influential women in the world, Nancy Cox, and her husband Evan Lindsay. This dynamic duo purchased



the home in 1989 and worked diligently to give it the incredible face lift it deserved. They renovated almost every room, adding a beautiful back porch and motor port. As testament to their dedication to maintain the historical features of the home, their contractor went so far as to mill North Georgia white oak to the exact specifications of the original flooring and track down the original roof tile in an old Boston warehouse. Even the 1916 baby grand was bought to complement this extraordinary era of architecture.

—Druid Hills News deadlines—

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

> Advertising—May 2 Copy—May 9 Publication will be in mid-late June

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- Mary Emma McConaughey
- Alex Ottley
- Carolyn Riordan
- Chris Leeth
- Ioanna Stroud

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DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF

In Memoriam

Ralph Landon passed away at the age of 100. He served on the DHCA board for at least a generation. Ralph provided a strong, yet kind and reasonable voice for neighborhood preservation of our community.

George Goldman passed away at the age of 78. George grew up in DH and graduated from DHHS. Even after he moved to Toco Hills, George was "virtual DH resident" as the former owner of much of Emory Village. He was involved in Boy Scouts, Georgia Appalachian Conservancy, Georgia Conservancy, and Sierra Club.

Recommended Services

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

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.

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

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

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

Subscribing to the Druid Hills News

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

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

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

FYI: Safety News!

Officer Jeremy Turner is our new representative from DeKalb County's Interactive Community Policing program. He's a neighbor and grew up in our area. Officer Turner proposes a revitalized Neighborhood Watch, which he will aid. He will also respond to, and direct to the proper authority, code violations or concerns, including sanitation, unacceptable upkeep (tall grass, trash, etc.).

He may be reached at rjturner28@aol.com or 404-392-

Let Us Know!

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

HELP WANTED

Two Druid Hills Civic Association Committees need volunteers!

Community and Lifestyle

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

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

Membership

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

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

Get the Most Out of Your **Advertising Dollars**

The Druid Hills News is published in April, July, September and late November. It reaches thousands of people who live, shop, and work in Druid Hills. With thousands of copies of each issue distributed in the area, the publication's advertising rates are a bargain for businesses that want to reach Druid Hills customers. For information on ad sizes and pricing:

404-523-3422 (DHCA) www.druidhills.org/news/advertise.htm email: admin@druidhills.org.htm

THE DRUID HILLS NEWS

Newsletter of the Druid Hills Civic Association

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

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President's Column

by Bruce MacGregor

2007 was an especially busy and rather bumptious year. Your Civic Association is no stranger to conflict. Were we not, there would be little neighborhood left to protect or to celebrate. Hopefully, we will always exercise vigilance regarding land use within our small piece of the world. However, there is another equally important side of the DHCA, that of community building. While there are probably 25-30 non profit institutions within our neighborhood, we are the only one dedicated solely to the betterment of all of Druid Hills. As such, we want to help identify and provide opportunity for positive neighborly experiences. We are especially interested in assisting the new parents and the older adults within the neighborhood. The sub committees for Parks, Parents Network, and "Ageing in Place" all operate as part of our Community and Lifestyle Committee, which has been ably led by Chad Henderson. In 2008, Chad plans to achieve emeritus status and will assist in training a replacement. Applications are eagerly sought. As in any volunteer organization, we are only as good as our volunteers.

Year in Review Summary

- Supported continued growth of the newly formed Druid Hills Parents Network.
- Conducted fundraising for developing Emory's Burbanck Park at Emory Village.
- Established the Druid Hills Parks Committee and are working on 501c3 (charity) status.
- Executed the first annual neighborhood-wide yard sale.
- Conducted Druid Hills Day, complete with barbecue, music and climbing wall.
- Saw 2007 Tour of Homes increase sponsor contributions over 2006 Tour with increased ticket sales.
- Participated in CCP Design Guidelines and their adjustment to better fit the neighborhood.
- Worked in conjunction with Emory on their Mixed Use Development and Graduate Student housing projects to better fit the neighborhood.
- Worked with AIEV to improve the characteristics of the Emory Village Zoning Overlay.
- Worked with the DeKalb Board of Commissioners to pass the Lot Merger Ordinance to close a major zoning loophole.
- Provided financial support to the Olmsted Linear Parks Alliance
- Provided legal assistance to defend the various legal attacks on the Historic District.

Land Use Highlights:

In 2007, we won some and lost some, but we always showed up. Some of the major issues included:

Emory Village: The Emory Village Zoning Overlay was passed on May 22. While we would have liked it to be more in keeping with the original neighborhood plan, we will continue to work with the affected parties on development aspects of the plan, such as emergency access, service delivery, and floodplain protection. A neighborhood meeting was held at the Glenn Memorial Fellowship Hall on March 13 to discuss the proposed changes to the alcohol ordinance, which would eliminate the current distance requirements from churches and schools.

Roundabout. The roundabout has been delayed several times. The most recent beginning date is between Sept 2008 and January 2009, with a construction time of 11 months. The streetscapes will presumably be constructed in this same time period.

Burbank Park: We agreed to participate with Emory in purchasing this 1.2 acre site adjacent to Emory Village for park development. Subsequently, Emory decided on a sole purchase and asked us to help with fundraising, which we have done. When we asked for a conservation easement on the property to assure its perpetual use as a public park, Emory decided to classify it as protected and restricted space in its internal land classification plan. While this classification has no legal standing, Emory's assurance, plus the fact that the park lies largely within the Peavine Creek floodplain and stream buffer, makes it unlikely that the Burbanck Park will be used for other purposes. While small, this park is strategically located on the critical edge between the Emory Village commercial area and the single family residential area.

Druid Hills Conservancy Foundation: DHCA is researching the establishment of a subsidiary entity as a 501c3, an IRS classified charity. This will allow residents to make tax free donations to the Foundation for purposes such as green space purchase, development and maintenance, street light installation, traffic triangle maintenance, and purchase of conservation easements. The first intended use will be for the installation of street lights on Springdale Rd, to complement those previously installed south of The Byway.

Lot Merger Ordinance: The passage of this ordinance closed a loophole, under which builders were demolishing a house and resurrecting multiple sub-standard "ghost lots." This ordinance "merges" adjacent lots under common ownership and use. Any future subdivision must conform to the current zoning code, as well as the ordinances governing things such as streambuffers and floodplains. This will be especially helpful in the Chelsea Heights area, which contains more than 70 substandard "ghost lots." From now on, any lot subdivision must meet the current zoning standards.

Druid Hills Master Plan: DeKalb County has adopted a new Comprehensive Development Plan and plans to develop a completely new zoning ordinance. The Clifton Community Partnership recently completed a set of Urban Design Guidelines, in order to impact building size, building setbacks, sidewalk design, and bike paths. Various zoning attorneys have attacked the legality of the Historic District. In the light of these events, the DHCA board decided to develop a master plan for the neighborhood, based largely on past planning efforts, with updates and possible changes where warranted. The plan will focus on land use and transportation.

Emory University Land Use Developments:

2007 brought a new development concept to our area, the joint venture characterized by some as "Semi-Emory" or "Emory Light." These developments are characterized by private development on land owned, secured, or swapped by Emory. Issues related to this concept include whether these areas become part of the campus, what internal Emory policies apply, their conformance to Emory's Master Plan, their conformance to the County's Comprehensive Development Plan, and maintaining the Campus-Neighborhood boundary. We have not fully learned whether to approach the new developments as we would a private land developer or as we would a major non profit institution. In addressing private developers, we have a history of nailing down details, while we tend to

take a bigger picture with Emory.

To date, these developments include the Sage Hill Graduate Student Housing on Briarcliff Rd; the Clifton Road Mixed Use Development opposite the CDC; the Hillel House on Gatewood, and the Ronald McDonald House on Gatewood. Hillel and Ronald McDonald were land swaps with no rezonings, while the Sage Hill and Clifton Road developments were rezonings for much greater density and a series of conditions. DHCA positions on the major developments include:

Sage Hill Graduate Student Housing: We supported Emory's rezoning to high density residential with the condition that there be no net loss of tree canopy and that the steep hill beside S. Peachtree Creek be protected. We believe that higher density was appropriate on this site, given its proximity to Sage Hill Shopping Center and the Clifton Corridor, and the buffer provided by Briarcliff Road and Peachtree Creek. The rezoning was approved in 2007 and construction is underway.

Clifton Rd Mixed Use Development: We supported Emory's major rezoning of 50 acres on Clifton Rd from Houston Mill Rd to Wesley Woods for a high density mixed use development. Emory agreed to protect the hill leading down to Peachtree Creek and to maintain a 75' building setback and a 2.5 story height limit along Houston Mill Rd. Our position was based on our belief that dense mixed use development was appropriate in this location, given its institutional nature, the potential for increasing work force housing in the area, and the prospect of employee and resident oriented retail development. We believe the rezoning also allows appropriate expansion of the Emory Conference Center while protecting the residential character of Houston Mill Road. The rezoning was approved in 2007 and construction is underway.

Emory Bookstore, Admissions Office and 400-Space Parking Deck: Emory asked for a building setback variance from 50' down to 15' on the site on Oxford Rd across from the Georgia Power sub-station, adjacent to Emory Village. We asked for a deferral in order to craft a compromise, but Emory's construction schedule would not allow for additional time for this. The Zoning Board of Appeals approved the variance on June 13. We support the concept of a bookstore and admissions office fronting the Emory Village, but believe the setback should have been greater, given the height and mass of the buildings.

Potential relocation of Emory Hospital and Clinic: Emory is studying three scenarios: Relocating the hospital and rebuilding the clinic on the east side of Clifton Rd; rebuilding the clinic on the east side of Clifton and rebuilding Emory Hospital in its existing location, and rebuilding both the hospital and clinic on Emory's Clairmont Campus. The DHCA Board is urging Emory to relocate the hospital and clinic to the Clairmont campus. We believe that the Clairmont location is in the best interests of both Druid Hills and Emory. It will improve access to major thoroughfares and freeways, separate the academic and healthcare components, and provide expansion room for both. It will also remove a major growth component from a tight space in the interior of the neighborhood and provide much needed traffic relief. A decision is expected in early summer.

Purchase of Homes on North Decatur Road: Emory has decided to purchase homes on North Decatur Road between Haygood Road and the CSX Railroad for the purpose of developing an improved sidewalk and a bicycle path within the front yards of the existing homes. The homes would be rented to junior faculty. The DHCA has taken the position that the issues of home ownership should be separated from issues of pedestrian and bicycle improvements. We oppose the increase of rental housing along the major corridors through the neighborhood and support increased owner occupancy in this area. We support sidewalk improvement and have taken no position on the bicycle path. We will continue to work with Emory on these issues.

In Conclusion:

The past two years have been a great ride. I have learned much and have hopefully left this place a little better (or at least no worse) than I found it. We have a great team, led by incoming president Jim Morawetz. Jim has taken over the reins (reigns?) and will do a great job. I will continue on the Board of Directors as a past president, and will assist land use issues, as needed. Dell and I look forward to finally finishing our house, doing some traveling, and spending more time with our children and grandchildren. Fittingly, we will participate in a church mission trip to East Belfast next month and hope to learn something about conflict resolution.



Home Landscape: Three Big Threats

By Jennifer J. Richardson, Georgia Master Gardener, DeKalb County

Druid Hills is known for its lovely flowering dogwoods, the Cornus florida. Most every yard has at least one dogwood, and many dogwoods are planted along the strip between the curb and sidewalk. Our native dogwoods are being attacked by anthracnose, a fungus known by the botanical name of Discula destructiva. In the spring, spots and blotches with tan centers and purple edges will appear on leaves of infected trees. These spots may also appear on blooms. Infection usually starts on lower limbs and moves to upper limbs, where dead brown leaves may be seen clinging to branches throughout the growing season. This fungus is spread primarily by birds, but may also be spread by careless disposal of infected tree parts. To give your dogwoods a better chance, avoid overhead irrigation, which causes leaves to remain damp, prune dead branches and leaves and remove them from the area in plastic bags. Be sure to disinfect your pruning shears with rubbing alcohol to prevent spreading the fungus to the next tree or shrub you prune. Finally, apply a fungicide in early spring. When replacing dead dogwoods, consider using the Cornus Kousa, a strain that is resistant to anthracnose, widely available at nurseries in the Atlanta area.

Ambrosia beetles may sound like a beetle of the gods; however, these insects are more devil-like when it comes to our aging hardwoods. The adults and larvae of Coleoptera scolyitae bore into twigs, branches and

smaller trunks of host trees, creating a system of tunnels inside the tree. The beetles also introduce a symbiotic ambrosial fungus on which they feed, and which will eventually kill the tree. Check trees to see if you observe toothpick sized white strings or spines at holes where the insect has bored, or on the ground beside the trunk. Adult ambrosia beetles are most active in March, so you should check trees then. Cut and remove infected plants or branches and dispose of them in plastic bags. Insecticide applications to the ground around the tree may be effective in killing the beetles.

Though there are only a few hemlock trees in Druid Hills (mostly in woody ravines beside Lullwater Creek), the wooly adelgid that has devastated forests in north Georgia, Tennessee, and North Carolina by sucking fluid from trees, is moving our way. It has been found most recently in southern Lumpkin County, some 60 miles north of Atlanta. The Aldelges tsugae is microscopic; however, sacs that protect eggs are easy to spot, as they look like tiny cotton balls. Check for the egg sacs in late summer or early fall. The wooly adelgid attacks both Eastern and Carolina hemlocks, and if not treated will cause limb die back, and eventually kill the tree. For mild infections, try a soap spray, or any chemical treatment containing Imidacloprid injected directly into the ground.

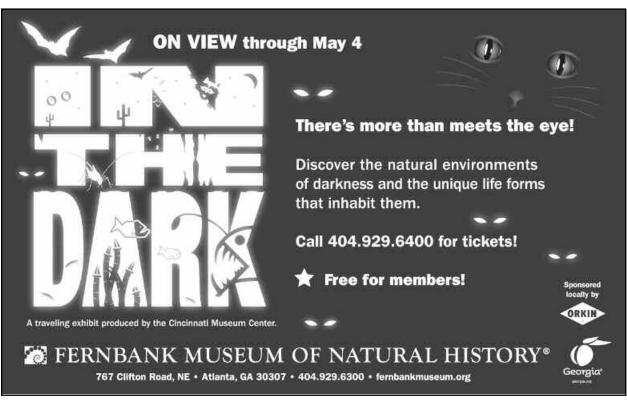
With a bit of inspection and diligence, we can keep Druid Hills green instead of brown!

Pull That Ivy!

Ivy on trees does not harm the tree unless it covers the crown, cutting off light and air to the leaves. Good news? Well, yes, in a way. The problem is it pulls trees down! Ivy is heavy, and when high winds cause the ivy_to billow away from the tree in the direction of the wind, it can pull the tree right out of the ground. Roots are wide, not deep, and if the ground is soft, after a soaking rain, those roots that have been reaching up for water during the drought are no match for ivy's strong pull. And where's a tree to go? Your house, maybe!

Ivy that can't be simply pulled should be cut a foot or two up the tree. Pull back and cut the rooted part at a distance from the tree. Kudzu's a nuisance and also a climber and can be treated the same way. Spray the tender new leaves of both with Roundup in early spring. Do not spray vines on the tree; just let them wither away.





Burbanck Park's Phase One **Development Campaign** Successful

Druid Hills' newest park, located at the edge of Emory Village, continues to evolve.

Burbanck Park is a 1.25 acre lot that Emory purchased to create a community park at the corner of Oxford and Clifton roads. In November, a group of more than 50 Druid Hills neighbors hosted "Help Green Up Burbanck Park," a successful community fundraiser, held at the home of Linda and John Robitscher, that raised \$25,000.

To date, the park's Phase I Development

campaign has collected \$50,000 from 174 donors, including the Druid Hills Civic Association, the Alliance to Improve Emory Village, and The Peavine Watershed Alliance. Emory's Sustainability Initiatives program and the Clifton Community Partnership have contributed additional funds of \$9,800 to the park's development.



This spring there will be several community maintenance events at the park (ivy pulls, iris plantings), as well as an Eagle Scout merit project organized by Druid Hills resident Candler Vinson. Vinson, a Galloway School senior, plans to build a foot path through part of the park along Oxford

Volunteer to join your neighbors for these events, plus a celebration of the first phase of improvements to Burbanck Park. For more information, visit www.cliftoncommunitypartnership.org, www.druidhills.org, or www.emoryvillage.org.



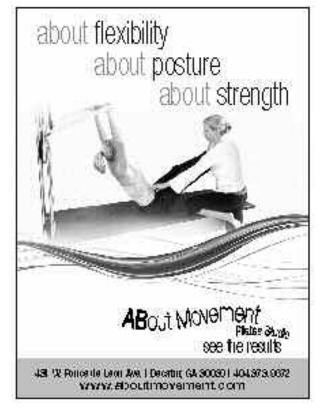


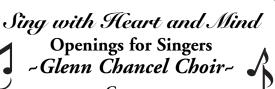


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Contact Steven Darsey, Director of Music Stevend@glennumc.org (404) 634-3936 Info: Glennumc.org/music.htm





Memories

In this, our Druid Hills centennial year, we'd like to compile memories of the old or not so old days for a column in our summer issue. Can't write? No problem. Just tell us your name and your memory or memories, and we'll write it.

They Did It Right

By Clarke Weeks

When BobThomson and Rosemarie Garland-Thomson first contacted architect David Hicks about renovation plans, David was a little worried. Bob is a trained architect, as are two of the Thomson children. David thought four architects might be a few too many, but he now says that his clients were perfect. "They knew exactly what they wanted."

Rosemarie and Bob were attracted to their 1946 minimalist bungalow because it was a rather modest house in a historic neighborhood, was close to the university, and had an incredible view to the rear of the property. Rosemarie says she wanted a house oriented to the backyard, not the front. She loves the treehouse feel from the sunroom with its high wooden ceilings and full height windows overlooking mature hardwoods and ancient

The original house was of a transitional style between the 1920's craftsman bungalows and the later 1950's ranch homes. It had some pretensions, perhaps, with its crystal chandeliers from Czechoslovakia and arched doorways, but it was a basic two bedroom house with a "dark, scary" den and a full basement that was a rabbit warren of small work rooms and halls that went nowhere. The new owners were happy to preserve the integrity and scale of the house and simply open up the space and allow the rooms to flow together.

The only change to the basic footprint of the house was the sunroom, which they opened through a new archway off the back of the original den. There had been a plain concrete patio at the rear of the house, which the Thomsons covered with flagstone, enclosed as a screen porch, and opened to the basement with French doors. The new sunroom was added above the screen porch. David designed a "hall that is not a hall." It runs from the master bedroom all the way to the kitchen along the spine of the house .When the door is closed, it is the dressing room, lined with closets. When the door is open, almost the whole house is

visible from the reading room.

The basement was reconfigured to match the upstairs floor plan with two bedrooms, a new bath, a laundry room, and a television room. Bob wanted room so the kids would not have to stay in a hotel when they came to visit. Most of the time, however, "we do not even have to go down there." Interior designer Cecelia Maxwell did a wonderful job coordinating the colors, lighting, finishes, and art work, said David Hicks. There is a slightly ironic, tongue-in-cheek feeling, according to Cecelia, that pays homage to the original house style. She says this allows an interesting, fun feeling with the contemporary furniture combined with the 1950's family pieces and objects from family travels in Asia and Europe. Cecelia says the key to color is not to have all the same colors but to have a color from one space lead you into the next space. Cecelia helped design the wheelchair accessible guest bedroom and the curbless shower "wet room." Bob designed the black and white tile work in all

the bathrooms.

Rosemarie says that they found David Cullison, the DeKalb historic planner, to be very helpful in their efforts to preserve the feeling of the original house. She enjoys the fact that the understated minimalist facade means the house does not say everything it has to say on the outside. There is still the opportunity for pleasant surprises as you move through the home. Located within walking distance of what everyone hopes will be an improved village, featuring quality craftsmanship and materials and a quiet low profile, the four bedroom, three bath home is in stark contrast to the MacMansions in the area. Thoughtful design can give us exactly what we want without excess. With the intelligent use of space, the open views from room to room as well as to the outside, and the great use of natural light, you can truly say that "They did it right."

BOOK CLUB NEWS:

Traveling North, South, East, West All Around the World

by Faye Andresen

Our neighborhood book clubs continue their love of foreign places, history, and compelling themes.

The Beer and a Book Club read *The Historian* by Elizabeth Kostova. This 650-page tome chronicles searches for Vlad the Impaler, a.k.a. "Dracula," thru clues found by a man and his daughter. A bit too long, this book has lovely images of Eastern Europe and several truly creepy passages. Next was While Europe Slept: How Radical Islam is Destroying the West from Within by Bruce Bawer. To Bawer, Europe's liberalism and political correctness are allowing radical Islamics to exploit the welfare systems, creating ghettos where Muslims plot the demise of the West. This fast but controversial read seemed too anecdotal for most in the club. Last, they read The Road by Cormac McCarthy and The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck. McCarthy's bleak tale of a father and son's survival in post apocalyptic America drew comparisons to Steinbeck's familiar work but most agreed - at least the Joads had the dream of California and a family for comfort.

Wine, Women and Words Book Club, also known as the Springdale Club, read The Namesake, Jhumpa Lahiri's follow-up to the Pulitzer Prize winning Maladies. This is a beautiful story of Gogol Ganguli, an Indian immigrant in America who is never quite comfortable in his new homeland. They followed with the revival hit of the season, Love in the Time of Cholera by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. Having won the 1982 Nobel Prize in Literature, Marquez wrote this timeless mystical novel of love in 1985. Then, traveling halfway around the world, the book club read Greg Mortenson's inspiring work of building schools in Pakistan called Three Cups of Tea. Some say this is a must read.

Proud Mary Book Club's first choice was A Woman Rice Planter or Chronicles of Chicora, a book by Elizabeth Allston Pringle, an owner of one of South Carolina's largest rice plantations. Written in the style of a personal diary, this book records the challenges and struggles of her life from the 1870's to her death in 1921. From the Deep South to the Southwest, Proud Mary chose Death Comes for the Archbishop. Willa Cather's story of Catholic clerics' efforts to establish a diocese in Santa Fe was first published in 1927 and claims a place in 20th century literature. They followed with Ann Fessler's moving history of the million and a half women who gave their children up for adoption prior to Roe v. Wade in The Girls Who Went Away.

Last Tuesday's Book Club enjoyed Charles Frazier's first work, Cold Mountain and had high hopes for his Thirteen Moons. Although they liked the tale of survival in the Carolina's Cherokee nation, many readers thought he had "over-researched" the book at the expense of plot and pace. From Carolina to Virginia, the book club read Joseph Ellis' Founding Brothers. Washington, Madison, Jefferson, Hamilton, Franklin, Adams, and Burr all have starring roles in this history highlighting six events that made all the difference to our country.

Harvard Road Book Club began in China by reading Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See. This universal story of lasting friendship is framed by the constraints and expectations of women in 19th century China. It is an enduring story of two women's ability to remain true friends even as the world around them changes. Sailing to the other end of the earth, the club read Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community and War. This 480-page history of the Plymouth Colony by Nathaniel Philbrick got mixed reviews. Last, a presentday page-turner, Intuition, by Allegra Goodman was

> discussed. Although the plot is rather transparent, scientific mystery abounds as a young researcher revels in his too-good-to-be-true discovery, a virus that fights cancer, while jealous co-workers suspect his results.

"HOGAN'S HEROES"

DHCA Annual Meeting, Feb 17, 2008

By Bruce MacGregor

For many years, retired Colonel Adellon Hogan led the DHCA in a number of capacities, including president. Col. Hogan often referred to the need to find and develop "distance runners" as opposed to "sprinters." Col Hogan has been dead for more than 20 years, but his legacy endures in this organization. Today, we would like to recognize several of Druid Hills' distance runners. These are people who have provided both leadership and just plain hard work over many years. They have done this for no pay and little recognition. Much of this work is neither profitable nor resume-building. But then they don't do it for the pay or the reward. They do it out of loyalty and commitment to our neighborhood, and because it needs to be done.

We would like to recognize the following people as "Hogan's Heroes."

The first two recipients are our legal tag-team, the attorneys tasked with keeping the barbarians from the gate:

Michael D. Terry

Mike is a past DHCA president, trial attorney, upcoming president of the Atlanta Bar Association, and father of four children. Despite an amazingly busy schedule, Mike has continued to provide pro-bono legal assistance to the DHCA. Mike has one of the greatest capacities for work that I have known. In 2007, he wrote the amicus curie (friend of the court) brief for DHCA that was most helpful in achieving a reversal of one of the Nunan property lawsuits at the Georgia Court of Appeals.

Robert H. Benfield, Jr.

Rob is also a past president, and charter member of the council of arch-druids. He periodically reminds me that his law practice took a 40% hit when he was DHCA president. Despite this, Rob has continued to chair our legal committee. In this position, he recruits volunteer neighborhood attorneys and oversees our legal responses to the numerous land use challenges we face. Rob has led DHCA's five-year defense of the five separate lawsuits over the Nunan property, including the current assault on the Historic District. While we are not out of the woods yet, without Rob's help we might well have lost these legal challenges. Rob is leaving the DHCA board, but will remain head of our legal committee.

Steven Misner

Steve is another past president who has remained involved. He has assisted us with legal help for many years on many subjects. His current endeavor has been to shepherd the Chelsea Heights Character Area through the historic preservation process, and to organize our legal defense against resurrecting the 70 "ghost lots" in Chelsea Heights and elsewhere. Steve was instrumental in the recently adopted lot merger ordinance, which closes a major loophole in the DeKalb County land use regulations. Had Steven not stepped in at a critical moment, we would likely have lost a major lawsuit in this area. He has been the "indispensable man" for the Chelsea Heights area of DH. Thankfully, Steve will remain on both the board and the legal committee.

Merle Reed

Merle was twice president of the DHCA, including a difficult year in the early 90's, when the Durand Farm was converted to the Durand Mill subdivision. Merle served on this board for more than 20 years, possibly almost 30 years. For the past 15 years, Merle has handled the membership list and the renewal notices. This is both an anonymous and a thankless task, but a critical function. Merle continued to perform this function even after he left the board in 2007. Merle's loyalty and work ethic is an inspiration for us all.

Mary Angela Whyte

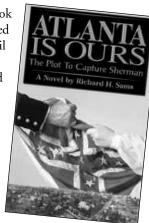
Mary Angela Whyte is a professor and writer. Mary Angela has quietly and capably edited *The Druid Hills News* for 15 years. That is more than 60 issues! DHCA is one of only a few neighborhood organizations in Georgia able to publish a quarterly newspaper over an extended time. *The Druid Hills News* goes out to almost 4,000 households. It is always professionally done and cheerfully edited. I can personally attest to Mary Angela's effective edits of the sometimes loquacious articles and letters of our erudite and opinionated writers, myself included.

Alida Silverman

Alida has been called the "North Star" of DH, because you can set your compass by her. She has served this board for decades, and has been instrumental in a host of historic preservation milestones within the City of Atlanta portion of DH. Her tireless advocacy of the Olmsted Linear Parks restoration led to the 10-year financial commitment of this effort by the legendarily frugal DHCA board of directors. Alida has records of virtually everything that has happened in the area, and can actually find them when needed. Alida is currently in charge of our negotiations with the Atlanta Public Schools for their renovation and conversion of the former Howard School on Ponce de Leon into a public elementary school. She also chairs the City of Atlanta portion of our Historic Preservation Committee, and serves on the DH Master Plan committee. Alida is taking a well deserved rest from the DHCA board of directors, but will remain on these committees.

For Sale at Artist Market!

Richard Sams' book is a fictional work based on research of the Civil War here in Druid Hills. Historically and geographically correct, it revolves around a fictional plan to capture General Sherman, whose headquarters was on nearby Clairmont Road.



The author will be present at the Artist Market at times during the Tour; autographed copies will be for sale at the Opening Reception and during Tour hours. More wildlife in intown Druid Hills!

The otter caught on camera—or was it posing—was photographed in Peavine Creek by David Dusenberry. His neighbor, Dan McConaughey, suggests the caption be

"We otter gather at Peavine Creek."



DHCA Annual Meeting Recap

The DHCA 2008 annual meeting was held February 17 at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History. Outgoing president Bruce MacGregor opened the meeting and recognized guests. After announcing the death of longtime Druid Hills resident George Goldman, former property owner in Emory Village and active in community affairs, MacGregor called for a moment of silence in Goldman's memory.

The meeting proceeded with MacGregor's recap of the previous year. He then acknowledged five "Hogan's Heroes" for contribution to the DHCA, so named in honor of Colonel Hogan, now deceased, whose awareness and protection of Druid Hills is responsible for much we value today. The recipients were Rob Benfield, Mike Terry, Steve Misner, Mary Angela Whyte, and Alida Silverman.

Mac Platt presented the nominating committee's slate and Judy Yates explained the process, calling for nominations from the floor. There were none and the following slate was accepted by acclimation: Jim Morawetz, president; Cathy Vandenberg, 1st V.P.; Stephanie Wright, Administrative V.P.; Elise Riley, Communications V.P., John Hudson, Treasurer; and Dick Shuey, Secretary. New Board members are Clarke Weeks, Thomas Clements, Marshall Orson, Catherine Howett, Paul Shanor, Kevin Steward, David Winston, Ken Gibson (Class of 2010); Nill Toulme (Class of 2009); Tim Fenbert, Thomas Winn, Mac Platt (Class of 2008).

Barbara Vogel presented a slide show for the Tour of Homes and Artist Market, reviewing Druid Hills history and showcasing the six homes on tour this April.

Committee reports followed, including information from an ING promoter (see p. 7), a proposal to create a NORC (Naturally Occurring Retirement Community), a need for a conservancy to acquire and maintain parks, circles, etc., and an introduction of Officer Jeremy Turner of DeKalb police's Interactive Community Policing (see p. 2) An article explaining NORC was promised for the summer issue of *The Druid Hills News*.

Door prizes were given and the meeting was adjourned.



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School News

by Susan Merritt Jordan

It's official now: Fernbank Elementary is an International Baccalaureate school. Written authorization to teach the IB Primary Years Programme arrived last month. The program for elementary education addresses all subjects and is described as inquiry-based and student-driven, emphasizing community service, the environment, and world cultures. Druid Hills High School already is authorized to award IB diplomas, and Shamrock Middle School's application to complete the continuum is pending.

Our last issue detailed a Kroger program benefiting local schools. This issue we take note of a Publix program that similarly links the purchases of participating shoppers to cash earnings for the schools. The Publix Partners program provides school-specific cards to be scanned at checkout at any participating Publix store. Publix donates \$250 (0.666%) of total purchases when spending tops \$37,500. Figures available by our deadline show Fernbank got a check for \$823 in the last quarter of 2007 and Druid Hills got one for \$435. Fernbank has received donations totaling \$16,585 since joining the Publix program and Druid Hills has received \$9,926 in total Publix donations.

To request a Publix Partners card for one of our neighborhood schools, contact: Briar Vista: briarvistapta@yahoo.com

Druid Hills: terrys6@mindspring.com

Fernbank: mikeallan@bellsouth.net

Mary Lin: available in front office, 586 Candler Park Dr, 30307

Paideia: schwarz.judy@paideiaschool.org

Shamrock: available in front office, 3100 Mount Olive Dr, 30033

Learn more about Shamrock Middle on Thursday, March 27, at 6pm. School administrators will be holding Open House for families with rising 6th graders and any other members of the community looking ahead at middle school options.

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

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

Georgia ING Marathon Scheduled for March 30

The 2nd Annual ING Georgia Marathon will be run on the morning of Sunday, March 30th, and like last year, a large portion of the race will be



passing through our neighborhood. The official Cheering Zone for Druid Hills will be in Emory Village, where ING's judging for the Neighborhood Challenge will take place. Please plan to join us there if you can. For more information on the race and the Neighborhood Challenge, please visit the official ING event website at www.INGGeorgiaMarathon.com, where you will find additional details as well as suggestions for how you can show your spirit the

day of the event. The runners will need our support as they take on our picturesque but very hilly streets! We are very excited to showcase our neighborhood to the thousands of runners, volunteers and spectators who will enjoy this race, and hope you can be a part of it.

OLPA Reaches \$9.5 Million Goal

By Tally Sweat

In the mid-1990's, a dream of a revitalized park circulated through Druid Hills, catching the imagination of the many who gave input into a planning process for its rehabilitation. After many hours over several years, a Master Plan for the Olmsted Linear Park was approved. The Olmsted Linear Park Alliance (OLPA) was created to raise funds and implement the plan. The Plan noted that at least \$5.5 to \$6.5 million would have to be raised for rehabilitation of the park.

Aware of its limited resources as a fledgling organization, OLPA decided to start with a single segment, centrally located Oak Grove Park. Funding came primarily from a GADOT grant, with the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation and a few other foundations providing matching funds. The Druid Hills Civic Association pledged \$10,000 over ten years.

The next phase attracted more foundation funding, including major gifts from the Arthur M. Blank and AEC Foundations, and OLPA began to receive more financial support from individuals. Support also came from the Park's three stakeholders, the City of Atlanta, DeKalb County, and Fernbank, Inc. By 2004, three more parks were completed on schedule and within budget.

Springdale followed with its dedication held in 2006. AGL Resources joined Georgia Power Company in the ranks of corporate supporters.

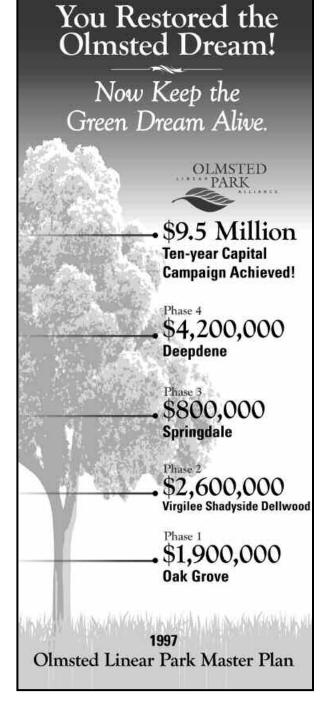
Deepdene, the 22-acre heavily wooded park to the east, is about to

undergo a transformation that Olmsted himself would approve. The Deepdene campaign was greatly enhanced by a million dollar GADOT grant and funding from two DeKalb County Parks bond issues. As in the other park segments, utilities will be buried and new Atlanta lights will line the perimeter along Ponce de Leon Avenue, tying this segment to the five pastoral segments. A promenade of landscaping and a path will lead to a multipurpose play area, and mulched paths will encourage access to the park interior and its restored stream.

The Olmsted Legacy is now reality. While no long- term goal was ever established since each Phase had its own goal based on projected income and expenses, OLPA is pleased to announce that more than \$9.5 million has been raised over the ten-year period.

This could not have been accomplished without neighborhood support and that of a host of Atlanta foundations, civic organizations, and public agencies and officials. It could not have been accomplished without the dedication and hard work of members of OLPA Board of Directors and hundreds of volunteers.

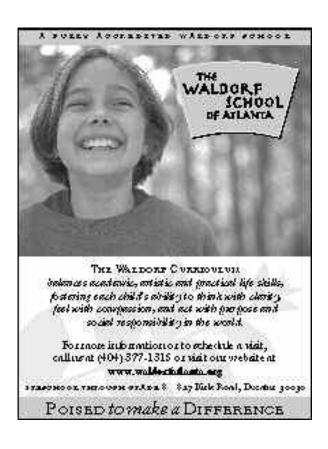
Now we must turn to sustaining the Park's upkeep through a permanent endowment for maintaining and sustaining OUR BEAUTIFUL PARK. Won't you help keep this Green Dream Alive with your donations now and into the future? Donations may be sent to P.O. Box 5500; Atlanta, GA 31107. Thank you!





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Druid Hills Tour of Homes...continued from page 1

1161 Oakdale Road Staçy & Bill Gryboski

When lightning hit this late 1920's Colonial Revival home in 1988, it set off a thunderous round of restorations. When Stacy and Bill Gryboski bought it in 1997, they continued the renovations to the carriage house, then



expanded the original format of the main house back and up, even excavating the basement for a workout room - all the while maintaining its historical integrity impeccably well. Tracking down the only white marble available in Georgia, finding beams from an old farmhouse in

Connecticut and a soapstone sink from Vermont resulted in just some of the many uncommon features the couple added. Aside from being a beautiful tribute to their good taste, it is also a haven to keep the couple's ancestors very much alive, like Grandma Ella, whose art and 1935 Schiller piano add timeless grace, along with an outstanding family collection of early American antiques dating back as far as the 1790s.

944 Lullwater Road Linda & Dick Hubert

This late 1920's Cape Cod shingle-style home is a place where time is celebrated by the authors who keep it alive, especially since Linda and Dick Hubert became the second owners in 1969. The layout of the house is basically a circle, like the round table at the Algonquin, and like that historical New York hotel, it has entertained

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many renowned writers, such as Southern greats Eudora Welty and Robert Penn Warren. However, the charm of this beautiful blue manor extends beyond its bragging rights. There are true treasures here from all over the world: timeless books, furnishings, and artwork. Many are gifts from family, dear friends, and colleagues – all with a wonderful story to tell. Continuing through the renovated section of the house, out the French doors, is a landscaped backyard with a lily pond, a quaint guest cottage, and an enchanting garden path that is sure to fill your soul in just one walk.

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1018 Oxford Road Wendy Weeks & Steven Harris

This 1923 Italian Revival home in Mediterranean mustard sets the street ablaze. Honoring history while being conscious of the future is how this couple approached their renovations.

They began by updating all of the systems with unbelievable attention to environmental concerns. The kitchen was masterminded by Wendy with an eye for detail that only an ex-caterer could have. Steven, owner of Variety Playhouse,



designed the media room with its 60 lb quiet rock and dedicated custom electrical work. Maxfield Parrish-inspired pastel walls illuminate the Italian Renaissance interiors. Unique fabrics, fixtures, and furnishings, along with an extraordinary collection of art from Georgia to Bora Bora, set the stage for this visual adventure. Following that is a peaceful tour of the outdoor living space with organic garden, yoga retreat, and spa area that represents the owners' dedication to being mindful in all they do.

1092 Springdale Road Mac & Melanie Blatt

Hawthorne trees line the entrance to this 1919 DeFord Smith home, bewitching us like their mythical lore. The front porch with its many French doors



captivates with grandeur, while inside the light from the home's many windows streams in and sparkles. When Mac and Melanie Platt came under its spell in 2006, the home's interior archways and taupe walls-in eight or nine different shadesserved as the perfect background to accentuate the couple's incredible art

collection. Though mostly local artists, many painted in provence complement Melanie's choice of furnishings. Her touch of Caribbean celebrates a favorite artist from St. Johns. Heirloom teacups, handpainted ceramic tiles and bowls, along with many antique treasures from Melanie's great-grandfather Bishop Marvin, a renowned missionary from 1860s China – fill the house with their legends. Of course, their youngest son's gray banded king snake "Grabinsky" and his fish "Hoover" offer an endless supply of entertaining tales of their own.

11



1214 Villa Drive Bryan Cooke & Bill Musso

Grand even at a glance, what once was known as Villa Miraflore immediately transports you to Roman times – complete with "points of power" and marble sculptures. If only walls could talk, you could hear the rich and fabulous history of this magnificent palace straight from its source. Built in 1925 by James L. Turner, a developer celebrated for his forward thinking on sustainability, this Villa "to watch the flowers" paved the way for Turner's pioneering Mediterranean composite construction using terra cotta cinder

blocks. When Bryan Cooke and Bill Musso moved into the home in 2004, they endured more than two years of meticulous renovations to preserve the exquisite nature of this showplace. Cypress beams from Morocco, parquet rosewood and patina porcelain floors, a 600 lb chandelier, Italian gold-leaf hand painted mosaic tile, and an Egyptian revival light fixture don't even begin to describe the breathtaking details you won't want to miss experiencing.



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7:00 PM -8:30 PM - Market Opens

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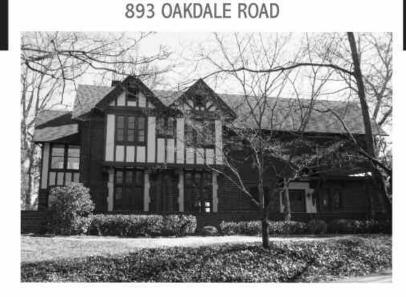
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Antebellum Paden House a piece of DH history

A report by New South Associates commissioned by Emory University on the 1848 North Decatur Road house indicates that it may very well be an ante-bellum structure. The fate of the house awaits the University's decision on the site of its planned new medical complex. If the decision (expected in early March) is the Clairmont campus, the house would not have to be moved. An excerpt from the report: "While the house has lost its physical integrity, it still has the ability to convey a sense of its history and the history of the Emory area on the local level. It is the only extant structure associated with the Paden family, who were some of the earliest settlers of DeKalb County as well as owners of most of the Emory University campus and Druid Hills Golf Club. It is an early example of a halland-parlor house type in Georgia." (p.10)





NATALIE GREGORY

Welcome to Your New Home



476 EMORY CIRCLE, DRUID HILLS

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



1411 MONTEVALLO CIRCLE, OAK GROVE

Prepare to be WOWed. Every detail in this 2005 six bedroom showplace (home of an architect/designer) sings. Custom stainless steel appliances in the gourmet kitchen overlook an eating area with fireplace and family room with built-ins. Enjoy fresh air on the vaulted-ceiling screened-in porch, read a book in the library and entertain in the formal dining room. You won't be able to resist the master suite, with not only a double vanity/separate shower bathroom, but also a separate dressing room/closet and two additional his/hers closets. Thoughtful storage throughout, including a mudroom off the double garage. Meticulous landscaping in established Oak Grove neighborhood with excellent schools. \$800,000



1268 OXFORD ROAD NE, DRUID HILLS

This circa 1929 Druid Hills gem boasts four bedrooms, three-and-a-half baths and a front and back staircase. The fabulous carriage house (circa 2000), complete with full bath and three rooms, sits atop a double garage. (Mother-in-law suite, home office, the possibilities are endless). The large eat-in kitchen overlooks the courtyard in the fenced, level backyard. You'll treasure the charming original open library at the top of the staircase. Extras include a gracious foyer, lovely formal dining room, plaster walls, separate den/television room, a butler's pantry, and an office off the living room with original fireplace, all on one of the most coveted historic streets, only one block from Emory University. \$789,000



139 COVENTRY ROAD, DECATUR

This spacious five-bedroom, four-bath brick home was fully renovated in 2006. Quality details combine the charm of the old, such as the double panel solid wood doors, with the luxuries and efficiencies of new, high-end construction. Living room with fireplace opens to a charming side porch, perfect for relaxing or entertaining. Separate dining room leads to breakfast room and gourmet kitchen that opens to a keeping/television room with built-in surround sound speakers. Two bedrooms and one bathroom are on main level while a custom grand staircase leads to three more bedrooms and two bathrooms. The spacious owner's suite includes a stunning bathroom. Full unfinished basement offers ample storage. \$689,000



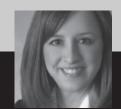
THE ARTISAN, #617, THE ARTISAN

Enjoy a stunning view of the Atlanta skyline from this 2 bedroom, two-bath condo with study (or 3rd bedroom) conveniently located in the Artisan on West Ponce, in the heart of downtown Decatur. The unit features ten-foot ceilings, two balconies and an open floorplan. State-of-the-art kitchen includes Bosch stainless appliances, granite countertops and Shaker-style maple cabinets. An oversized master bath offers garden tub, separate tiled shower and a double vanity. The home also includes an entrance foyer, oversized windows, secure separate storage unit and two assigned parking places. Property amenities include a rooftop pool, clubroom and fitness room and daytime concierge. \$459,000



388 WEST PARKWOOD ROAD, DRUID HILLS

Located in un-incorporated Dekalb County, across from a quiet park, on a lovely private lot with fenced backyard and gardens. This charming mid-century traditional home offers three bedrooms and two bathrooms plus an office. Home features a light-filled, spacious living room with a fireplace, separate dining room, an office/study with bookshelves, and attached workroom or single garage. Kitchen opens to keeping room and overlooks a private fenced backyard that serves as home to a host of birds, chipmunks and rabbits. Special features include renovated bathrooms, new windows, hardwood floors, his/her closets and detached two-car garage. Close to downtown Decatur and Fernbank. \$429,900



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