



Voices from the Past: *A History of the DHCA News, Part One*

By Jennifer J. Richardson

The Druid Hills Civic Association News is celebrating its 30th birthday! Volume 1, Number 1, issued in the fall of 1987, consisted of six pages printed in green ink on buff colored paper. The editor of the inaugural issue was Mary G. Dabbs, and her committee included Katie Baer, Allan Ballard, John Bugge, Ellen Nemhauser, Alida Silverman, and Jim White. An introduction in that first issue read, "This is the inaugural issue of a newspaper for all of Druid Hills. We hope this new venture will promote the kind of communication among the residents of Druid Hills that will result in our being better informed and more effective. We want to tap that vein of extraordinary talent and resources that exists in Druid Hills and use it to protect all that is good in our neighborhood." That

visionary statement still rings true, thirty years and many issues later.

A quick scan of the first issue covered many topics that continue to be of interest to Druid Hills residents today. One article reported that the Briarcliff mansion, former home of Asa "Buddie" Candler Jr., was being restored by the DeKalb County Health Department for use as an out-patient treatment facility for substance abusers. This is particularly interesting because, after the Candlers sold the estate, the home for several years had been known as the Georgian Clinic, the first residential treatment center in the state for alcoholics. Another article introduced a newly organized group called the Village Committee chaired by the late

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Walk Druid Hills: *The Most Active Way to Learn about Our Neighborhood*

By Pam Woodley

How many of us have a habit of zipping through our lovely neighborhood in our cars on the same streets day after day? I'll even bet most of you who frequently walk through the 'hood are often treading the same routes. I thought I knew the neighborhood very well—until I started showing up on Saturday mornings for the Walk Druid Hills gatherings. That's when I was introduced to many fascinating stories and features of Druid Hills. I didn't know Princeton Way Park even existed. I didn't know there was a community garden in Emory Grove Park. I didn't know Lullwater Estate owned sheep to help manage invasives and overgrowth. And while learning all of this, I reaped another welcome bonus: I met a lot of great neighbors!

Walk Druid Hills is the brainchild of Van Biesel, a DHCA board member. Under the aegis of the Transportation Committee, Walk Druid Hills' goal is to encourage a sense of community, exploration, and active living. Monthly walks began in August of last year and have attracted up to 30 people. Typically, each walk is led by

a resident of that walk's portion of Druid Hills, who provides introductory remarks and a bit of commentary along the way. The walks usually consist of a 1-mile loop followed by a 2-mile loop, so you can choose to walk just the first mile or the full 3 miles.

The walks are held on the second Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. Meeting places are announced on the DHCA website and the DHCA e-news.

Please join us, get some exercise, expand your knowledge about the rich history of our wonderful neighborhood, and meet interesting neighbors! For more information or to offer to lead a walk, contact Van Biesel at transportation@dhca.org.



Neighbors enjoying a walk through DeepDene Park

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Greetings from the President

By Anne H. Wallace

History Happens Here! The weekend of April 21-23, 2017, you are invited to take part in the 49th Druid Hills Tour of Homes & Gardens. The weekend is a neighborhood celebration for residents, families, and friends. We will be inviting local firefighters to enjoy the Tour this spring free of charge as part of saying "thank you for your service." The Handley home on Lullwater Road has been rebuilt after being destroyed by fire in 2013. Firefighters were on the scene for many hours that fateful night, fighting the devastating fire. Seldom do our firefighters get to witness the rebirth of a beautiful home after such complete destruction.

As we prepare to welcome visitors this year, we are already looking ahead to 2018—the 50th Anniversary of the Tour and the 80th Anniversary of the Druid Hills Civic Association. Please don't miss an opportunity to participate, volunteer, and celebrate!

Saving a bit of **History**: After many years of watching the decline of the former Candler Mansion on the grounds of Emory's Briarcliff Campus, the restoration by the Republic Property team of Jerry and Ralston Daws is imminent. The facility will be a premier location for hosting neighborhood events and visitors by 2018. I look forward to a Tour Gala

on the lawn in front of the pool house with salads, fresh fruits, and vegetables straight from the greenhouses and soft melodies floating on the breeze from the mansion's glorious music room.

One for the **History** books: DHCA and a few neighbors fought the development of the Clifton Ridge, subdivision for over 13 years. The legal battle went all the way to the Supreme Court of Georgia, where unfortunately review of the case was denied. This closes the door to any further litigation regarding the validity of seven lots at Clifton Ridge.

Preserving **History** for posterity: DHCA is contemplating the filming of Druid Hills History and Memories, a documentary of local residents and historians sharing their stories about our neighborhood. Our hope is to premier the film during the Tour in 2018. Do you have a poignant memory, historic photo, or any documents you wish to share? Would you be willing to write, edit, or contribute in some other way? If so, please contact me at president@druidhills.org.

Historic resources: If you are interested in learning more about the Druid Hills Local Historic District, you can find our Design

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Share your thoughts and write for the DHCA news! Your articles and letters are welcome! Submit to JJRichar@bellsouth.net

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Manual online at DeKalb County Planning and Sustainability under Historic Preservation (<http://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/planning-and-sustainability/historic-preservation>). DHCA commissioned this work to be done by The Jaeger Company of Gainesville, GA in 1997. *"Implementation of the design guidelines presented in this manual will*

contribute to the preservation and protection of one of Georgia's most significant residential developments and landscapes."

I hope to see many of you on Tour Weekend and around the neighborhood!

As We Go To Press

The Georgia Department of Transportation is collecting data with its consultants for traffic calming for the Druid Hills Ponce Corridor. This information will be used to inform design plans, which will take at least 12 months to develop, and will be made available for public input at that time.

1715 South Ponce (the white boarded-up house at the corner of Clifton and South Ponce de Leon) was granted a COA for rehabilitation of the single-family house and the Landmark District Preservation Committee supported that outcome.

1609 South Ponce de Leon has been sold to a developer. The Smith and Pringle home and carriage house on the property are contributing to the Landmark District along Ponce de Leon and cannot be demolished. No plans for this property have been announced. There is also a strong possibility that the same developer is finalizing a contract to purchase adjacent properties.

Emory University has announced plans to petition the City of At-

lanta for annexation of its 630 acre campus into the city. No petition has been filed at this time. There are many issues surrounding this proposal, including schools, light rail, taxes, and other areas seeking annexation into Atlanta in a domino effect. In the meantime, the DeKalb School System has filed a lawsuit against the City of Atlanta in an effort to stop parts of the annexation. "The annexation removes properties from DeKalb Schools' taxable territory, which deprives DeKalb Schools of its entitlement to funding to support and maintain the public education system in DeKalb County," the lawsuit said.

The Druid Hills Preschool, formerly located at the DH United Methodist Church, is continuing its search for a new location. The preschool had to leave its former home after the church was sold.

"Green Gables" has been purchased by an attorney named Darren Summerville for use as his law office. Plans are to restore the exterior to its former glory!

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Revisiting Durand's Mill

By Jennifer J. Richardson

Today, Durand Mill Subdivision is an enclave of large homes, beautifully landscaped lawns, and streets ending in cul-de-sacs. It's home to many Druid Hills residents. But long before the subdivision, Durand Mill had an impressive history.

Dating to the 1860s, the property belonged to the Samuel A. Durand family. Mr. Durand and his relatives operated a sawmill and furniture-making factory. The sawmill was driven by water flowing through a man-made diversion and dam in Peavine Creek adjacent to Durand Falls. Remnants of that dam can still be seen, though all the wooden outbuildings are gone. The rich floodplain along Peavine Creek provided the Durands with ample farm land and pasture for their livestock.

The mill was purchased and operated by Fredrick A. Williams, for whom Williams Mill Road (now Briarcliff) was named. Later, the mill was purchased by J.F. Wallace. During the Civil War, as Federal troops advanced on Atlanta in July of 1864, the Union Army 4th Corps crossed the South Fork of Peachtree Creek at Durand's mill and probably camped in the area to be close to a water source.

After the war, the acreage known as Durand's Mill served primarily as a woodland, farm, and livestock area. The land was said to be rich with marshes, streams, and fields. It remained untouched until 1992, when the owners sold all 36 acres for the sum of \$4.2 million. The purchaser was Parks Chewning, a developer who initially proposed 94 homes on ¼ acre lots.

The Druid Hills Civic Association (DHCA) attempted to purchase the land from Mr. Chewning and protect it as a nature preserve. DHCA, joined by Emory University and Fernbank Museum of Natural History, were unable to raise the necessary funds and their bid was rejected. DHCA then raised the issues of scale of the proposed homes, damage to wetlands, loss of specimen trees, and disturbance of historic relics in order to obtain some concessions from developers to preserve at least some of the tract. Other concerns included an increase in traffic, increase in flooding, and environmental damage. DHCA argued that the new homes would not "fit in" with the 60-year-old homes already in the area.

In addition, archaeologist Gordon Midgett found the land to be "historically significant" due to its use during the Civil War. Midgett also found evidence of pre-historic sites on the property, further enhancing his argument for preservation.

After arguments, protests, court hearings, and lawsuits, the DeKalb Planning group initially rejected then supported the development of Durand Mill Subdivision. Ultimately, a Superior Court Judge ruled in favor of the developer and stated that the subdivision could proceed. Homes were built and families settled into what is now a thriving residential community. Today, a large millstone at the entrance to Durand Mill is a fond reminder of this area's historic past.



In August of 1992, bulldozers grade land for the Durand Mill Subdivision.

Photo courtesy of the AJC photo archives at Georgia State University Library

Voices from the Past ...continued from page 1

Jim White. The committee's report stated its purpose as "...encouraging the merchants of Emory Village to beautify the area surrounding their businesses and to provide visual and esthetic relief in that small but potentially beautiful community." Their report also stated that the group wanted to "request better traffic controls for automobiles and pedestrians in the village" and to "request planting trees and shrubs along the sidewalk."

Of course, Frederick Law Olmsted was mentioned as well, in an invitation from Dick Groepper for readers



First edition of DHCA Newsletter

to join the Olmsted Parks Society. "The Society was formed in 1983 by Sally Harbaugh and six other Druid Hills residents in response to the Presidential Parkway, which threatened to destroy the Ponce de Leon Linear Park," explained historian Dana White, a professor at Emory and active member of the society." In the article, White went on to state, "The main issue now is to develop an inventory of all the parks and approaches—to get historic records and the original planting plans—so we can restore the parks to their original condition. The Olmsted parks are a unique environment."

In that first issue, as in most subsequent ones, school news was featured. Fernbank, Druid Hills, Briar Vista, Howard School, and Paideia were mentioned. A list called the "Citizens' Reference Sheet" was also included, listing names and contact information for pertinent government officials: Andrew Young was mayor; Mary Davis was Council member for District 6; Manuel Maloof was DeKalb CEO; and Sherry Schulman, Brince Manning, III, and Robert Lanier were DeKalb commissioners. Don Shoop was the president of the DHCA.

By the spring of 1988, the paper had grown from 6 to 12 pages. The first advertisements appeared and the Fourth of July Parade with the Lesser Druid Hills Marching Band was featured, now long-standing tra-

ditions of the paper. There were reports from Pierre Howard and Mary Margaret Oliver regarding the 1988 Legislature.

Many of you may recall some of the critical issues raised in 1988. One was the location of the Fernbank rose testing garden. Fernbank Museum of Natural History wanted it in Dellwood Park but, after objections that it would intrude into the Olmsted design, the selected location was in the side yard of one of the Fernbank houses. Another issue involved the May deadline given to WSB-TV and Radio to submit final plans for the "Ice Canopy" that would protect motorists on the Presidential Parkway from ice falling from tower guy lines. In a third, an unfortunate developer purchased 2.74 acres adjoining Fernbank Forest and "attempted to subdivide a single family residence." The developer found it was not going to be as easy as he imagined. According to the article, "The 17 neighbors [on North Ponce de Leon] . . . and dozens of other neighbors have been formidable opponents."

In an article titled "Major Issues Facing the Neighborhood," several DHCA officers and board members shared their opinions.

- Second Vice President Jack Boozer said, "Preservation of the area in terms of residential houses—that's the big issue. It's not a question of no growth, it's a question of orderly growth that doesn't destroy the residential nature of the neighborhood."
- Former DHCA president Merl Reed stated that "it's not just the big tracts of land that are in danger of inappropriate development, but every back lot, every square piece of land is threatened."
- First Vice President Elizabeth Jacobs commented, "Historic zoning heightens awareness of a neighborhood's uniqueness and puts an additional review process in the zoning procedure."
- Director Allan Ballard "worries over commercial encroachment and favors a greening of the neighborhood to ward off development. We should use environmental elements—trees and open spaces—to make a statement about what kind of neighborhood we have."

According to the article, the DHCA sampling of opinion "uniformly identified the number one issue of concern: maintaining the beauty and integrity of the neighborhood."

Many of these voices have been silenced by death or by moves to other cities and towns. But their words in print remind us of their countless hours of volunteer effort and dedication—and inspire us to continue in their footsteps.



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Dr. Dana Francis White: *One of the Patron Saints of Druid Hills*

By Jennifer J. Richardson

It's a daunting task to sum up a life in a few paragraphs. For Dana White, it's an impossible task. He left us too soon, in the midst of multiple projects—books, films, conversations, passions, and ideas. His loving family, students, colleagues, collaborators, friends, and admirers are bereft. Dana White was struck and killed by an automobile as he walked to his Emory office along the sidewalk in November of 2016.

Dana Francis White was born in New York City in 1934. He received a Jesuit education at Fordham Preparatory School and Fordham University, and earned his bachelor of arts there in 1956. His higher education included a Masters of Arts in American studies from the University of Wyoming, and a Ph.D. from George Washington University. White also served his country in the United States Army.

Before coming to Atlanta in 1970, White taught Urban History at The State University in Buffalo, New York, and later served a year as a fellow at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. In Atlanta, Dr. White taught jointly at Emory University, where he worked for nearly 50 years, and at Atlanta University. Atlanta University, founded in 1865, was the first institution in the nation to offer graduate degrees to African-American students.

White was a prolific author throughout his career. Two of his many books include *The Urbanists, 1865-1915*; and *Olmsted South: Old South Critic/New South Planner*, co-edited with Victor Kramer. White's Olmsted book is the starting point for anyone wanting to learn about the Olmsted Linear Park and the Olmsted legacy in Atlanta. In 1971-72, he was a member of a committee in Washington, D.C. that called for nationwide awareness of Olmsted and his work. As a result, an "Olmsted Sesquicentennial Celebration" marked the 150th anniversary of the landscape architect's birth. As part of this celebration, White organized an exhibition for the Atlanta conference, "Olmsted: A Southern Exposure." During the 1980s, Dr. White served a Co-Chair of the National Association for Olmsted Parks and was deeply involved, along with Sally Harbaugh and others, in forming the Olmsted Parks Society of Atlanta in 1983.

Dr. White acted as a consultant for several exhibitions in Atlanta that reflected his myriad interests. He worked on exhibitions at the Atlanta History Center, the Ivan Allen Jr. Braves Museum (White had a great love of baseball), Woodruff Library, and the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Among his many contributions to preserving the history of Atlanta were his eight-part video series, *The Making of Modern Atlanta*, which he co-narrated and



Dr. Dana F. White stands on the balcony of the Rose Library at Emory, with the skyline of Atlanta in the background.

co-hosted for Atlanta's PBS affiliate, WPBA. This award-winning film, made in conjunction with colleagues Timothy J. Crimmons and Chris Moser, covered the history of Atlanta from 1940-1996. Also notable is Dr. White's two-hour oral history video devoted to his research, writing, and projects concerning his half-century involvement with the Olmsted legacy.

At Emory, White was not simply a professor. He also served twice as chairman of Emory's Graduate Institute for Liberal Arts, and was named a Goodrich C. White (former

president of Emory) Professor of American Studies. In 2011, Dr. White retired from classroom teaching and became a consulting curator for Emory's Rose Library, while continuing collaborations with Emory film historian Matthew Bernstein. At the time of his death, White was at work on *Segregated Cinema in a Southern City: Atlanta, 1895-1963* and an anthology exploring the city's film culture, *Atlanta at the Movies*.

Dr. White was consistently supportive of his wife, Patricia Payne White, who founded the Peavine Watershed Alliance in 1997. The Alliance was a community-based group of citizens, businesses, and institutions dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the ecological balance in Peavine Watershed. As an Olmsted scholar, Dr. White knew about Olmsted's landscape designs in Druid Hills that preserved watersheds. He and Patricia became increasingly alarmed at the amount of paving in the watershed, leading to flooding and deteriorated stream conditions. The Alliance's work brought considerable attention to the plight of watersheds in Georgia.

Though his contributions to scholarship are mammoth, perhaps Dr. Dana White is best remembered as a person of multiple interests and vast intellect. He was a teacher, inspiration, colleague, and mentor to his many students and to fellow historians and students of urban culture throughout the world. A warm and affectionate person, he greeted everyone with a smile and encouragement. He made you want to learn, want to know more, want to make a difference. A raconteur with a wry sense of humor, he could be entertaining and educating at the same time. Whenever you spent time with him, you longed to see him again to continue the fascinating conversation and inspiration. This line from T.S. Eliot sums up his life: "*Memory! You have the key. The little lamp spreads a ring on the stairs. Mount.*" **

**From *Rhapsody on a Windy Night* by T. S. Eliot



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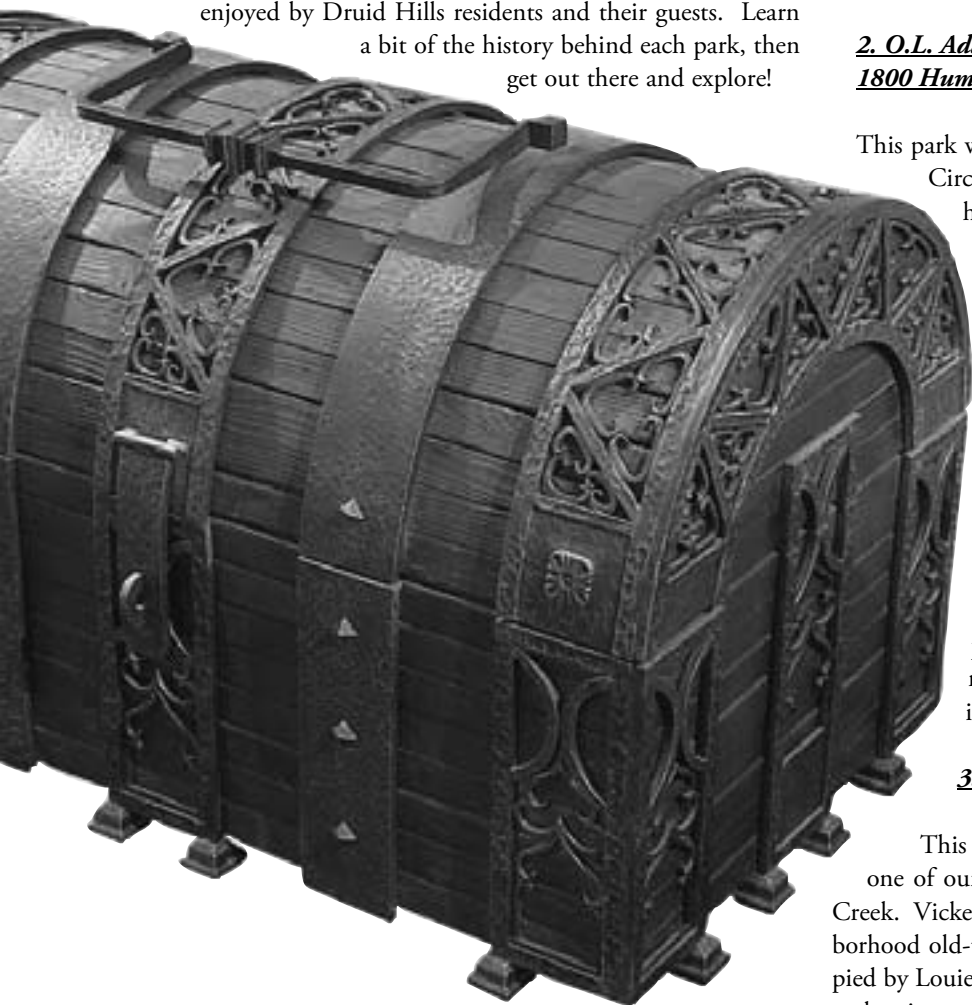
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Druid Hills' Hidden Gems: *Our Pocket Parks*

By Pam Woodley

Did you know that there are many “pocket” parks right in your own neighborhood? Each of these are true neighborhood parks, as there is no parking and no restroom facilities. They are meant to be enjoyed by Druid Hills residents and their guests. Learn a bit of the history behind each park, then get out there and explore!



1. Heaton Park – 230 Heaton Park Drive

Look sharp for the Heaton Park sign, or you'll miss the whole park—it's all “below street grade,” as the road engineers like to say. In the early 1970s, the Heaton Park Bird Sanctuary was developed and maintained by the Chelsea Heights Garden Club. The park was used for neighborhood and family picnics, and as a cut-through from bus or school to home. The park sported a large brick grill, granite benches, and a picnic table. Three bridges across the park's streams also added charm.

The park was taken over by DeKalb County in the late '70s. In the early '80s, Fernbank Elementary School teachers still brought students to the park for classes. Then the park declined for many years; fallen trees and a host of invasives overtook the former open space and some of the entrances. In fall of 2016, an energetic group

of neighbors worked to reduce the extensive overgrowth and mulch the path through the park. The group plans to have regular workdays in the upcoming years.

2. O.L. Adams Park (aka Chelsea Circle Park) – 1800 Hummingbird Lane

This park was created in 1948 with the formation of the Chelsea Circle Park Association. At that time, four surrounding homeowners either donated or sold the portions of their property that were contained in the park to the Association. O.L. Adams was the first of the four homeowners to donate property.

The Articles of Incorporation for the association state: “the park shall be used exclusively for the benefit of the residents of said subdivision...and there shall be no organized sporting or athletic activity engaged in within the park.” This intent still holds true today, and most of the land is privately owned by a neighborhood association. The county mows the park, but the neighbors hold periodic workdays to hold back encroaching vegetation and raise funds to pay the property taxes. The central grassy field has seen many softball and flag football games over the years and is frequently used by neighbors to exercise their dogs.

3. Vickers Park – 356 Vickers Drive

This is one of our smallest pocket parks—yet it encompasses one of our finest features all along its southern border: Peavine Creek. Vickers Park is referred to as the “Mann property” by neighborhood old-timers. It used to contain a cottage owned and occupied by Louie and Sara Mann, who friends remember as a delightful and caring couple. The Manns were very involved with their neighbors and Druid Hills issues such as the Freedom Parkway protests.

As Peavine Creek's water volume increased over the years due to development, the lot was subject to frequent floods. The owner after the Manns left the property in 2008, and the house fell into disrepair. Our County Commissioner Jeff Rader helped the neighborhood negotiate a sale of the property to the county in 2010, and the house was removed from the property shortly thereafter.

4. Ridgewood Park – 1812 Ridgewood Drive

This is the newest park in the neighborhood; its main design feature is playground equipment for toddlers through 8-year-olds. This property was originally owned by the Rutledge family. After being abandoned for years, the land was purchased in 2010 by the County, with the plan to turn it into a small park. Park Pride and the

Continued on page 11

Hidden Gems ...continued from page 10

County combined forces to create a joint venture project. In addition to County support, Park Pride provided a \$50,000 Community Building Grant, and the newly-formed Friends of Ridgewood Park raised over \$20,000.

Park Pride “visioning” sessions with neighbors resulted in the agreement to include playground equipment to attract the young neighborhood families; another major goal was to preserve the mature tree canopy. Neighbors worked alongside County crews for many hours to hack their way through and remove thick invasives, tangled undergrowth, and a mountain of debris (scores of old tires, some clearly from the 1930s, were underneath the soil). The site also benefited from several Eagle Scout/Troop 18 projects.

5. Princeton Park – 445 Princeton Way

Admittedly, the entrance to this park is unusual: it’s an unmarked pathway between 399 and 403 Princeton Way. Walk up the pathway and you’ll come to a large park with picnic areas, BBQ grills, and—up in the woods—an awesome Fitness Course established thanks to an Eagle Scout project.

As part of the Emory Grove neighborhood on both sides of N. Decatur Road just east of Druid Hills High School, this area was developed pre-WWII by Sam Guy, chair of the Emory Chemistry Department, to provide housing for Emory staff and faculty. Guy was influenced by Fredrick Law Olmsted and his vision of “community centered around small parks.” The ideal setting had the homes facing the street with all the back yards open to an interior park, which is what you will see here. During WWII, the Princeton Garden Club maintained a Victory Garden, and neighbors looked after the park; today DeKalb County maintains it.

6. Emory Grove Park – Two Sections: 1937 Westminster Way & 1887 Edinburgh Terrace

The story behind Emory Grove Park is very similar to that of Princeton Park. Turn off N. Decatur Road onto Westminster Way (by Emory Presbyterian), and start looking on your right for a chain-link fence between 1902 and 1803 (the numbers are not a typo). The pathway there is the entrance to Section 1 of Emory Grove Park, featuring two tennis courts, a Community Garden, and wildlife habitat area with a birdbath as a water source for birds.

After exploring this large area, go across the field and you’ll find a path leading out to Edinburgh Terrace. When you cross the street,

you’ll see a walkway into Section 2 of Emory Grove Park. This portion has playground equipment, paved walks, benches, and a picnic pavilion—ideal for a fun-filled family outing.

7. Burbanck Park – 1164 Clifton Road (at intersection of Clifton and Oxford)

This is a lovely and well-maintained park, and is different from every other Druid Hills pocket park in one major way: it is owned by Emory University, which is letting our neighborhood use it as a park. In fact, Emory has pledged to never build any structure on the site.

The crown jewel here is Peavine Creek, which runs along the entire eastern side. For decades, the site was the home of Madeline and William Burbanck. Madeline was a research associate at Emory who worked to clean the once highly polluted Peavine Creek, and William served as chair of Emory’s Department of Biology. Following the death of both Burbancks, Emory purchased the 1.2-acre property in 2006. Emory staff and Druid Hills residents participated in several Park Pride “visioning” workshops. The agreed-upon plan was for this to be a “passive” park, a “green buffer” between the residences of Druid Hills and the commercial district of Emory Village. The Friends of Burbanck Park and Emory jointly maintain the park, an arrangement that has proven to be an outstanding example of university and community partnership.

8. Lullwater Conservation Garden – 834 Lullwater Road

The Lullwater Conservation Garden is approximately five acres situated between Lullwater Road and Lullwater Parkway. The garden is an Audubon Bird Sanctuary and a National Wildlife Federation Wildlife Refuge, and has been maintained by the Lullwater Garden Club (formed in 1928) since 1931. In the 1960s, the Lullwater Garden Club purchased the Conservation Garden from Emory University. Club members continue to maintain the property to this day.

The garden has mulched trails throughout, a wishing well, several bridges across Lullwater Creek, and a Patriots’ garden honoring members of the armed service who fought for the United States in various wars. It is beloved by nature lovers, dog walkers, joggers, children, and people who want a quiet spot to commune with nature.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LULLWATER GARDEN CLUB ON THEIR RECENT ACHIEVEMENT!

Lullwater Conservation Garden, owned and maintained by the club, will be awarded the national honor of “Old Growth Forest” on April 25, 2017, at a speech and reception at Emory University.

Sage Hill: More than a Shopping Center

Part of the Hidden and Lost Treasures of Druid Hills Series

By Jennifer J. Richardson

From 1894 and 1969, Atlantans passed a wooded hill located between present day Clifton Road and Old Briarcliff Road. Perched atop the hill, surrounded by thick forest and beautiful landscaping that camouflaged it from Briarcliff Road, sat a house called “Sage Hill.” The large residence was owned by the Ira Yale Sage family, who resided at 800 Peachtree Street during the fall and winter and escaped the thick heat and humidity of the spring and summer by moving out to the “country.” The rambling property looked more like a hotel than a house—and with good reason: it housed not only the Sage family but was enlarged to accommodate their many invited guests. The 27-room wood-framed clapboard house was considered the largest residence in DeKalb County at the time.

When Sage Hill was built, it faced the South Fork of Peachtree Creek, which flowed down below. This area of rural DeKalb County was a place of thick woods, creeks, grain mills, relics of Native Americans who had resided there in the past, and dirt roads. Near the South Fork of Peachtree Creek, Atlantans sought relief from the hot, sticky summer heat by cooling their feet in the creek and walking or riding horseback along the many dirt trails through the woods.

To take advantage of the wooded site, the front of Sage Hill had a round second floor room with double windows on all sides, and a much larger round screened porch below with 20 thick, solid wood columns around the periphery. Nearby, where Wesley Woods is now located, was Watson’s Mill, the site of many picnics for the Sages, their guests, and other nearby families. The thick canopy of trees and the fresh water of the creek made the site much cooler and more tranquil than the city. In case the stream was not enough, Sage Hill also had a swimming pool fed by water pumped up from the creek.

Ira Yale Sage’s earliest ancestors hailed from Scotland. One of his relatives founded Yale University. Ira left the northeast and came south to find a wife and seek his fortune. He was a civil engineer and worked as a special consultant with railroads throughout the southeast. Some of his work involved designing tunnels through mountains and making sure railroad grades were flat enough for locomotives to pull cars up or down them.

Ira married Margaret Alexander, who quickly became involved in Atlanta’s social scene. She was a member of the Georgia Society of Colonial Dames and helped found the second oldest chapter (Atlanta) of the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1891. During the time when Mrs. Sage was a regent of the DAR, the group obtained “Craigie House” as its headquarters, located at 1204 Piedmont Road. Craigie House was named for a replica of Henry W. Longfellow’s house in Cambridge, MA, which had been built as the Massachusetts Building at the Cotton States and International Exposition at Piedmont Park in 1895. Both Margaret and Ira were listed in Atlanta’s Social Register of 1922. They raised three children in town and at Sage Hill: twins Margot and Mary, and son Ira Yale Sage Jr.

The Sages were known for elaborate entertaining in their multitude of rooms, or relaxing on one of the three porches. The home and its owners became known for wonderful parties, and friends from



Sage Hill house undergoing demolition in 1969

Atlanta loved to drive out to the country to spend weekends—or longer—at Sage Hill.

As they aged, the Sages gave up their Peachtree home and moved into the old Kimball House Hotel during the cooler months. They continued to enjoy Sage Hill the rest of the year until it became too much of a burden to maintain. The family sold the house and land to Mr. Godfrey G. Hoch Sr. (1890-1968). Both Mr. and Mrs. Hoch were devout Catholics; Mr. Hoch was a member of the Knights of Columbus and Mrs. Emma Hoch (1893-1984) was often a delegate to statewide Catholic meetings. The Hochs modernized some rooms in Sage Hill and added five bathrooms. All four of the Hoch children grew up there and continued to call it home after they were grown, married, and had started their own families. In addition, many of Mr. Hoch’s nine siblings and their families also lived at Sage Hill. Godfrey Hoch Sr. broke Sage Hill up into suites of rooms with bathrooms for his children, his siblings, and their families. Each had their own apartment complete with a separate electric meter; some had their own entrances without having to go through other portions of the house. The old rambling Sage Hill became an apartment building, though its residents were all members of the same family.

One day, the State Highway Department decided to widen and

Continued on page 13

Sage Hill ...continued from page 12

pave Briarcliff Road (now Old Briarcliff Road), which at the time was little more than a rutted dirt trail at the foot of the Hoch property. According to an article dated February 20, 1969, in the *DeKalb New Era* newspaper, written by Martha Francis Brown, the Shepherd Construction Company was to accomplish the improvements to Briarcliff Road. When workers came on Hoch's property, however, he met them with a gun and prohibited them from trespassing on his land. Then DeKalb Commissioner of Roads and Revenues, Scott Candler, intervened and Briarcliff Road was eventually widened and paved. Mr. Hoch always thought it "ruined his land." Though Sage Hill faced Clifton Road from high up on its hill, a new entrance was cut to the house from Briarcliff Road. The Hochs eventually sold Sage Hill and their land to the Shepherd Construction Company. Mr. Clyde Shepherd recalled that the land had "crepe myrtle trees [that were] as big as a man's waist." Shepherd added, "It's really too bad to tear the old place down, but it was not a fine house and it was in bad repair. It didn't have the beautiful millwork of many places built in that era." Shepherd Construction hoped to salvage the 20 solid columns from the first floor porch, some newel posts, mantles, and some banisters before demolition crews and bulldozers arrived.

In the winter of 1969, two Druid Hills High classmates and I spotted the huge but somewhat shabby Sage Hill as we passed by on Briarcliff—now clearly visible due to the lost forest. Of course

we had to investigate. Not knowing its name, we dubbed it "Old House" and went up (trespassed) to explore it before it was torn down. It was completely open and we walked through what seemed like a labyrinth from room to room, trying to imagine what kind of house it had been and why it was broken into apartments. The woodwork in the part of the house facing the creek was Victorian in design and stained a dark brown. What must have been the living room opened onto a huge round screened porch. Rooms toward the back had obviously been added later. I noted that it was in desperate need of repairs but the bones of the house were sound and could have been saved. We went back several times, the last to watch the mammoth pile of glowing embers of what had been Sage Hill after it was pushed down by bulldozers and set ablaze. As it burned, thick layers of smoke covered the neighborhood like dark gray clouds—a sad day for the three of us.

According to the 1969 *DeKalb New Era* article, "Smoke was rising over Sage Hill this week, as it did long ago from Indian fires. But now it is the shrubbery and brush and a tremendous old house that are burning." After Shepherd Construction had cleared the trees and shrubs from the grounds of Sage Hill, and the palatial summer home demolished and burned, the hill was leveled down to grade with modern Briarcliff Road. A shopping center known as "Sage Hill" would be built on the site.

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DHCA Website: *Historic Preservation Section*

By Alida Silverman

Everything you wanted to know about historic preservation in Druid Hills! Well, almost everything. RIGHT NOW here is what you will find when you go to www.druidhills.org and click on Historic Preservation.

On the Historic Preservation Home Page: an Introduction; a box with a link to the **Druid Hills Olmsted Documentary Resource**; a Timeline of Druid Hills preservation history; and links to useful information about the County and City local Druid Hills districts as well as a link to the National Register of Historic Places nominations with maps of the four National Register districts in the Druid Hills neighborhood.

If you are thinking about an addition to your home or some kind of exterior change to house or property, you will find the link to the County or City local district the best place to start. City residents can download applications for Certificates of Appropriateness from the Atlanta Urban Design Commission website. And there is a link to **Municode Atlanta** for the Landmark District regulations. County residents can click directly on the *Design Manual for the Local DeKalb Druid Hills Historic District* to find the General Guidelines for the entire District and those for separate Character

Areas. For those who live in Chelsea Heights or on Artwood Road, Character Areas developed after publication of the Manual, there are links to those Guidelines as well.

DHCA committees for the City and County process stand ready to help; their e-mail addresses are provided.

The Olmsted Documentary Resource provides a selection of the correspondence (beginning in 1890) between the Olmsted firm and Joel Hurt, who had the vision for Druid Hills. Reading through this is something like watching Druid Hills being born.

Note: If you land directly on the DHCA Home Page, you can click on "Resources" at the top and find the Historic Preservation section there.

NOW ON THE DHCA WEBSITE! A video showing Druid Hills streets in the early 1970s when our National Register District nomination was being prepared.

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21st Century STEM Academy cordially invites our neighbors to visit our new K-12 school!

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Congratulations to DHCA 2016 Award-Winning Volunteers!

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR: Steven Mathias

Steven is the type of volunteer that every organization hopes to have. He approaches each assignment with a wide array of professional acumen as well as contagious enthusiasm that inspires others. Steven was responsible for designing a Welcome Bag program that introduces our newest residents to both the neighborhood and the work of DHCA. He guided the launch of our recent Membership Campaign, which increased membership by 50% in 6 months.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT: Jennie Richardson

Jennie knows our neighborhood like the backs of both of her

hands! Her years of work on behalf of the preservation of Druid Hills have taken form in writing, advocacy, education, and historical research. She has served as a writer, assistant editor, and now Editor of Druid Hills News. She is a former president of the Olmsted Parks Society of Atlanta and board member of Olmsted Linear Park Alliance, and current president of Lullwater Garden Club.

ABOVE and BEYOND: Jenny McGuigan

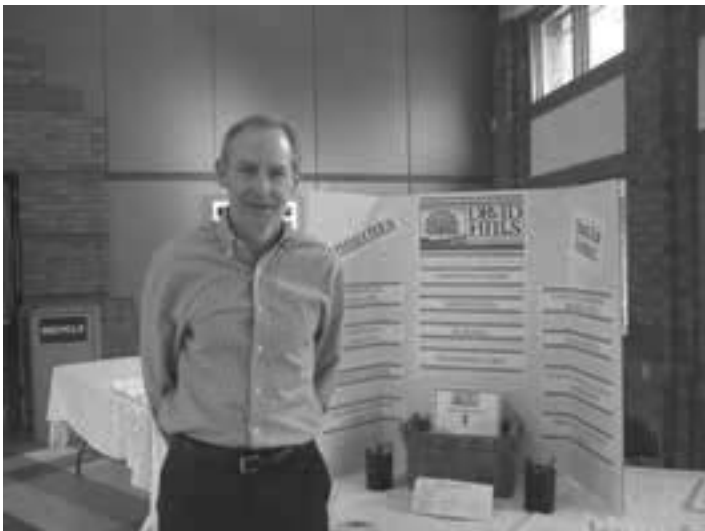
Jenny created our new website and oversaw the launch and our transition to Wild Apricot, working closely with the Board as well as the Membership & Community, Communications, and Tour committees. Jenny applies her superb skills in marketing, communications, and graphic design to the DHCA website.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE: Phil Moise

Phil shared his years of experience as an attorney advising non-profit boards. He taught us that the bylaws are our resource for decision-making. Phil brought to the Board a more well-defined process for holding meetings and discussions, and has been a true counselor and guide.



Jennie Richardson at the table for the Lullwater Garden Club and Druid Hills Civic Association News. Jennie was awarded the "Lifetime Achievement in Outstanding Community Service Award" for 2017. She is editor of the DHCA news and president of the Lullwater Garden Club.



Phil Moise, the outgoing vice president of DHCA, was honored with the "Lifetime Achievement in Corporate Governance Award" for 2017.

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History Happens Here • April 21-23, 2017

Tour Weekend Schedule

All events are free and open to the public!

History Happens Here

Ryan Graham, Chairperson, Druid Hills Civic Association Tour Committee, announces the 2017 Druid Hills Tour of Homes & Gardens and Makers Market, April 21-23, 2017. "The vibrant tradition continues as the historic Druid Hills neighborhood welcomes neighbors and visitors alike to tour homes featuring architecture from renowned architects, experience award winning interior design, enjoy southern fare, hear local musicians, see Georgia artists and explore Emory Village. 'History Happens Here' through the vibrant community culture of Druid Hills where tour goers will find inspiration, celebration, and a focus on preserving and extending the vision of noted landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted." The Druid Hills Tour of Homes & Gardens is a project of the Druid Hills Civic Association benefiting historic preservation and green space restoration.

Dates, Times, and Tickets

The tour events take place Friday, April 21, 1:00 – 5:00 pm; Saturday, April 22, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm; and Sunday, April 23, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm. Individual and discounted group tickets may be purchased in advance on the website: druidhillstour.org. Tour merchandise is also available for sale on the website: druidhillstour.org. Proceeds from the tour, events, and merchandise benefit the Druid Hills neighborhood, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

10:30am – 1pm

CDC Museum Tour 1600 Clifton Road
Free Admission

Join for a Guided Tour of the David J. Sencer CDC Museum. Catch the complimentary Shuttle @ Slice & Pint in Emory Village at 10:30am (will also provide return transportation at approximately 1:00pm). Tour begins at 11:00 and lasts for approximately one and a half hours. Photo ID required for entry.

1:00 – 5:00pm

Lullwater Garden Club Plant Sale

Lullwater Parkway and Lullwater Conservation Garden

5:30 – 7:30pm | Emory Village Plaza

Listen to the smooth sounds of local resident Michael Hoskin on saxophone, along with a rhythm section of veteran Atlanta musicians, playing a variety of classic jazz standards.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

Makers Market

Slice & Pint Parking Lot
Saturday | 10am – 5pm

Free and open to the public!

The Makers Market will feature artwork, jewelry, clothing, furniture, handmade items, baked goods and sculpture of Atlanta artists.

10:00am – 5:00pm

Lullwater Garden Club Plant Sale

Lullwater Parkway and Lullwater Conservation Garden

1 – 4pm | 1017 Oxford Road

Sample BBQ pork potato skins hosted by the Greater Good BBQ.

5 – 10pm | LIVE MUSIC

Slice & Pint Parking Lot

Start the evening with music by the Druid Hills Youth Showcase, featuring Madison Chance, Charles Eastman, Sophie Sadd, Chase Calhoun, Taylor Liebold, and others! Later in the evening, the Tour welcomes back Bradley Cole Smith, the well-known leader of Doublewide, mixing original music with crowd pleaser covers ranging from Van Morrison and The Stones, to Elvis and Three Dog Night.

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

8 – 10am

Emory Village Plaza

Patch Dash 5K Fun Run/Walk and Tot Trot
5K run/walk begins and ends in Emory Village. The Tot Trot is for kids 5 and under. All proceeds benefit childhood cancer research. T-shirts and goodie bags given to participants. Register online at <http://presonfund.org/patchdash> or onsite registration begins at 6:45am.

10:00am – 5:00pm

Lullwater Garden Club Plant Sale

Lullwater Parkway and Lullwater Conservation Garden

1 – 3pm | 834 Lullwater Road

Enjoy the music of local harpist, Jennifer J. Richardson.

Noon – 5pm | 1250 Fairview Road

Join Chef Jennifer Hill Booker who will be signing her new cookbook, *Dinner Déjà Vu: Southern Tonight, French Tomorrow*.

1 – 4pm | 1125 Oxford Road

Enjoy live music by The Obsidian Duo, a husband and wife team who play jazz, classical, and popular tunes.



2017 TOUR OF HOMES & GARDEN

One of the longest running and premiere tour of homes in the nation, the 2017 Druid Hills Tour of Homes & Gardens and Makers Market celebrates its 49th year with six homes and one garden that feature the work of master renovators and landscape designers.

Featured Homes

Dan & Honora Handley.....	Engel & Volkers - Gold
834 Lullwater Road.....	C & E Remodeling Contractors, Inc. - Silver
John & Stephanie Giegerich	Paris & Associates - Gold
1250 Fairview Road.....	Moon Bros. Inc. Architects/Craftsmen - Silver
Burt Tillman & Charlie Andrews	1200 Ponce, by Minerva Homes - Platinum
928 Oakdale Road	The Sophia, by Minerva Homes - Platinum
.....	Karafotias Realty Co. - Silver
Drs. Shannon & James Hamrick	Harry Norman, Realtors: Bonnie Wolf & Pam Hughes - Silver
1017 Oxford Road.....	Elixir Room Remedies & Home Cures - Silver
Scott & Sarah Ellyson	Hammersmith, Inc. - Gold
1125 Oxford Road.....	Mr. Mister Mosquito Control - Silver
Andrew & Emily Webb	Dorsey Alston Realtors: Harvin Green & Stephanie Marinac - Silver
1371 North Decatur	

Garden Only On Saturday

Julia Roberts
1022 Lullwater Road

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INVITATION FROM THE HANDLEYS

*Dear members of the
Atlanta Fire Rescue Department,*

Almost three years ago, 83 of you arrived at our home on a cold March night, while it was engulfed in flames at 834 Lullwater Road. Now, we are finally finished with the rebuild and the home will be shown on the annual Druid Hills Tour of Homes. Our family is grateful for your efforts, your commitment to the community, and to your profession. While only a wall and the chimneys remained, the home has been reconstructed and replicated. We saved the charred moldings, the staircase swirl, and even some keystones to recreate our home. Since you see so much destruction, and may remember this call, it may be nice to see the 'after' for a change. Please join us for a complimentary tour ticket waiting for you at our home, April 21-23, 2017. And, again, thank you for being a firefighter!

The Handley Family



2017 TOUR OF HOMES & GARDEN

834 Lullwater Road

Dan & Honora Handley

One of Druid Hills' finest examples of the Georgian style, this home encompasses more than 9,000 square feet and was built between the years 1924-1928. Construction took four years...the first time. In March of 2014, the house burned to the ground during renovations and the reconstruction took two years to complete. The architect was Druid Hills Architect Francis Palmer Smith whose original drawings of the house survive in the Georgia Tech Library. These drawings and extensive photo documentation inspired the Handleys to reproduce every architectural detail as accurately as possible. Many personal belongings were lost in the fire; however, many of their fine antiques survived while being used as staging in their previous home prior to sale. The home is a testament to the dedication and fortitude of its owners to maintain and preserve the history of Druid Hills.



1250 Fairview Road

John & Stephanie Giegerich

John and Stephanie have renovated several homes over the years. This 1918 home required extensive renovations and landscaping but revealed a rich history in the process. The home features a new master bedroom and bath, kitchen and family room, and a uniquely gated courtyard. The couple has traveled extensively, lived abroad, and has wide and varied interests. These interests and experiences have influenced their design choices and inspired their collections and décor. A father's rich military history also plays a part. This is a home

where everything has a story.

928 Oakdale Road

Burt Tillman & Charlie Andrews

While the architect's identity is a mystery, we do know that the house dates to 1921. The style of the house is a uniquely eclectic mix of European and traditional details. Mr. Andrews has admired the house since his days as an Emory law student in the early 1970s. In 2005, Mr. Andrews happened to see that the home was for sale and made an appointment with the realtor. While the quality and originality of the home were attractive, it was the extensively landscaped property behind the home that truly inspired the purchase. While the house was largely renovated at the time of purchase, the gardens continue to inspire evolving development. The partners have decorated the home in a rich combination of traditional antiques and contemporary artwork lending the home an air of sophistication.





2017 TOUR OF HOMES & GARDEN

1017 Oxford Road

Drs. Shannon & James Hamrick

The Hamricks both completed their medical residencies in San Francisco. In 2006, they came to Emory and purchased this circa 1920 home. The traditional design, beautiful neighborhood, and the proximity to Emory were all determining factors in their purchase. The house had already been renovated to a degree including a major expansion of the master bedroom suite. The Hamricks expanded the kitchen and pantry and reconfigured the back of the house creating a sunny family space for themselves and their three children.

The home is filled with family heirlooms and antiques dating from the 1860s through the 1920s. American Empire, Colonial Revival, Eastlake, Renaissance Revival and even a little Danish modern, it's all here in this eclectic and beautifully decorated home.



1125 Oxford Road

Scott & Sarah Ellyson

This elegant Druid Hills home was built in 1923 and was purchased by the Ellysons in June of 2016. They loved the home at first glance with its understated charm and short walk to Emory Village. They hired HammerSmith to design and build an interior to be a departure from the standard Druid Hills home and create a personalized experience. From the dramatic tiled wall entry to the well appointed spaces, this is a home that blurs the lines between old and new.

1371 North Decatur Road

Andrew & Emily Webb

Built in 1922 at a cost of \$7000.00, this property remained in the original owner's family until 1983. The architect of the home is believed to be Leila Ross Willburn, the leading female architect in Atlanta who was known for her mail order plan books. The house had a tile roof until 1980, the removal of which having been the biggest alteration up to that time. The house was last largely renovated in 1997 when all of the systems were updated, slate flooring added to the porches, and the kitchen remodeled. The Webbs have since renovated the upstairs once more, opened up the back of the first floor, added a deck and carport, and extensively re-landscaped the property. Having moved to the house from a contemporary tower condo, the newlyweds have instilled a modern style and way of living that blends well with the past.





2017 TOUR OF HOMES & GARDEN

1022 Lullwater Road

Garden Saturday Only

Guided Tours Limited to 25 Guests:

10:30, 12:30, 2:30, and 3:30

Julia Roberts

Druid Hills has long prided itself on homes surrounded by beautiful, lush gardens. Many of these gardens are labors of love conceived and built by the homeowners themselves. The Roberts' garden is one such oasis. When purchased in 1994, much of the property was overgrown with ivy and brush. Over the ensuing years the homeowner has slowly cleared the brush and developed multiple koi ponds and gardens. Tucked far at the top of the property is hydroponic garden where koi and tilapia comeingle under a waterfall. The fish waste, ammonia and nitrogen, are an ideal fertilizer for the garden where the water is cycled through the beds and returned fresh and clean to the pond. In return, everything from strawberries to banana trees and wintering geraniums grow to exceptional size. In addition to the gardens, there is a large treehouse and a barnyard complete with chickens, goats, and two miniature donkeys.

WILL CALL, TROLLEYS, PARKING, & RESTROOMS

Will Call will be set-up at Slice & Pint (1593 N Decatur Rd) during tour hours for ticket pick-up and purchase. The trolleys will run during Tour hours along the Tour route. For touring homes and gardens, parking availability is indicated along the tour route. Please observe "No Tour Parking" signs. Parking is also available in the Emory parking decks on Saturday and Sunday (fees may apply). Parking is not allowed in the Emory Village business lots. Portable toilets will be available at the Slice & Pint Parking Lot all weekend.

PLEASE NOTE

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



The formal entrance to the Lullwater Conservation Garden, circa 1940s

Lullwater Garden Club Annual Plant Sale

The Lullwater Garden Club will hold its annual plant sale during the upcoming Druid Hills Tour of Homes, April 21-23, 2017, during the same hours as the tour. The sale will be held rain or shine in two locations: Lullwater Parkway, closest to the formal entrance of the garden; and inside the Lullwater Conservation Garden, located between Lullwater Road and Lullwater Parkway. There will be a trolley stop immediately across from the sale at one of the tour homes, 834 Lullwater Road.

Members of the Plant Sale committee have carefully selected varieties of native and hybrid plants that are suitable for the Druid Hills area. Prices are less than what you'd pay at a nursery, and all proceeds from the sale go to help maintain the Lullwater Conservation Garden, which is owned by the Club. There will be shrubs, annual and perennial bedding plants, native plants from members' gardens, and container gardens that will make perfect gifts. Vegetables, hybrid and heirloom tomatoes, and the popular moonflower vines grown for the sale by members will also be available.

Club members will be on hand to answer your gardening questions. Treat yourself to the Club's homemade hand cream, especially soothing for gardening hands—along with a few other surprises. Come by the sale and say hello to our newest members, Connie Weimar and Sandy Kruger, who are both master gardeners!



2017 TOUR OF HOMES & GARDEN

2017 Tour Committee

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Bonnie Wolf, *Home & Gardens Chair*

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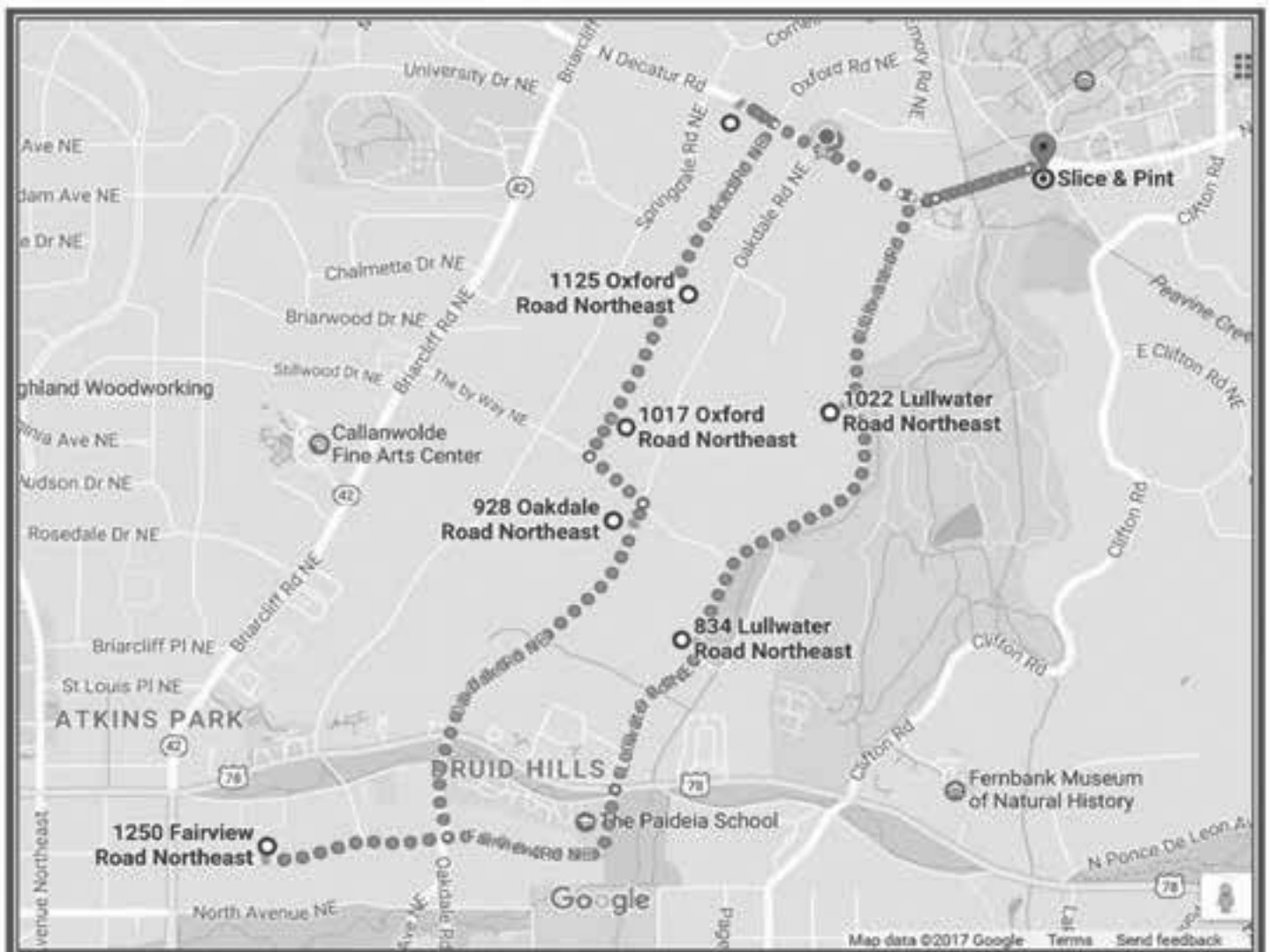
Susan Baker, *Druid Hills News*

Yvette Weatherly, *Tickets*

Cynthia Waterbury,
Sponsorship Chair

Kit Eisterhold, *Sponsorship*

Becky Evans, *Friends & Patrons*



Druid Hills Luminary: *Dr. Michael Lane*

By *Jennifer J. Richardson*

What makes a Druid Hills Luminary? Luminaries are people who have made outstanding contributions in their life's work and are scholarly, erudite, witty, and well-rounded. They have many hobbies and interests, and are frequently outspoken in their opinions, which they can defend intelligently. In Druid Hills, they are people who have given back significantly to the community here at home and sometimes throughout the nation or world. Dr. J. Michael Lane is just such a person.

Dr. Lane grew up in Newton, MA, and Greenwich, CT, and summered with his family on the "Irish Riviera" near Plymouth County and Quincy. He attended Yale as an undergraduate and received his M.D. at Harvard. He later earned his Master of Public Health degree at the University of California, Berkeley. After receiving a draft notice, he satisfied his military duty by working for two years at the then Center for Disease Control (CDC). He enjoyed working in infectious disease epidemiology so much that he remained at CDC for another 28 years.

I had an instant rapport with Dr. Lane when I met him standing in his yard. We talked about non-native invasive plants as we gazed at his back fence, which abuts the Fernbank Forest. "Fernbank has been working on ridding the forest of invasives," he said. "But they haven't gotten to this part yet."

At 81, Dr. Lane is still fit, slim, and handsome. He is energetic and talkative; if there is a stereotypical "senior citizen," Dr. Lane defies the label. Spread out on the table where we sit to talk are copies of medical and research journals and an Audubon magazine. The many books and magazines in view reflected his vast interests. I knew immediately that I could learn a great deal from this man.

Dr. Lane was part of a team at the CDC that led to the global eradication of smallpox—the first infectious disease to be vanquished. As director of the smallpox eradication unit, he worked in West Africa, Indonesia, and India. Smallpox has afflicted humankind for centuries: scientists observed signs of the disease in an Egyptian mummy that dated to 3000 years B.C. In the 1950s, there were 50 million cases of smallpox in the world, resulting in a huge death toll. Tropical countries—with their humidity, heat, unsanitary conditions, and crowded villages—were hotbeds of infection and the vaccine virus died when exposed to heat. How could smallpox possibly be eliminated in such places? The World Health Organization (WHO) and the CDC took on the challenge and organized a public health team.

"In my opinion," said Dr. Lane, "Bill Foege, who was briefly a Druid Hills resident in 1970, was the one to eradicate smallpox." A giant of a man in many ways (he was 6'7" tall), Dr. Foege adapted a



J. Michael Lane

vaccination strategy that included surveillance to identify cases and containment of the virus by vaccinating all of their contacts. Through fortitude and rigorous application of this strategy, smallpox was eliminated as a disease in 1979.

Two depositories of live smallpox virus exist: at the CDC and in Russia. (And yes, the virus is under strict controls at CDC to prevent its escape.) Annually at the WHO in Geneva, Dr. Lane advocates that the smallpox virus in the U.S. be destroyed. Because of tensions or possible chemical warfare with Russia, however, the U.S. government does not want to destroy the virus. At one point, it was rumored that Saddam Hussein had live smallpox that he intended to use against his enemies. "We knew he didn't have it," said Dr. Lane.

After serving as director of CDC's smallpox eradication unit, Dr. Lane became director of CDC's Division of Preventive Services. "Almost

all infectious diseases mutate from animals to humans," he states. "Pox viruses are not rare. We [humans] invaded the animals' habitat and now we live closely with bats, raccoons, and armadillos, for example. Humans can get diseases from these animals—as evidenced by reports of rabid raccoons found in DeKalb County."

Scientists believe that HIV is a descendant of a closely related virus, simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV), which infects monkeys. The CDC first reported a cluster of cases of individuals with a rare type of infection—Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia—in 1981. "It took two and a half years before we even knew it was a virus," said Dr. Lane. Today, he worries that too many young people are complacent about HIV. "Once you get it, it stays in your genes," he explained. "You can have absolutely no symptoms, but be capable of transmitting it to others." With more effective treatments for HIV making some people think they are cured, and with possible carelessness in practicing safer sex, Dr. Lane worries that we may see a rise in HIV cases.

"Ebola will stay around," he said. "Bats carry Ebola, and one out of every six mammals is a bat—but you must be exposed to that bat or to someone who has the disease." Avian Flu or "bird flu" also worries Dr. Lane. "We had a very bad epidemic of influenza in 1917 that killed a lot of people. With Avian Flu, that could happen again." Antibiotic resistance is another concern. "We have antibiotics that no longer work—some bacteria have become resistant to all the antibiotics we have. This is happening right now and people are dying because of it."

In addition to his professional life, Dr. Lane has informed opinions on many subjects. A clue to his political beliefs is the Bernie Sanders

Continued on page 23

Dr. Michael Lane ...continued from page 22

sticker on his car. Long a neighborhood activist, Dr. Lane headed the fundraising activities for CAUTION during the fight to stop the Stone Mountain throughway. He raised \$50,000, which in the early 1970s was a lot of money. He also wrote CAUTION's rebuttal to the Department of Transportation's Environmental Impact Study.

An avowed liberal, Lane believes that the "cigarette companies are the number one evil business in the USA." Second may be health insurance companies that attempt to dictate to medical professionals what treatment a patient may get, depending upon what the insurance carrier will cover. "And the HMOs," he says. "They got in and became middle men and got rich."

Dr. Lane believes that open communication is always the best course. Years ago, things like birth control pills, sexually transmitted diseases, and condoms weren't freely and publicly discussed. "We need to talk openly about these things—they are what is going on—why hide them? Things like sexual orientation and gender identity need to be discussed. Prescription painkiller addiction needs to be addressed. We are a lot healthier (psychologically and physically) now because we are talking about things that need to be discussed—many of us have a willingness to speak out and open society's eyes to

the way things are." Dr. Lane is definitely one to speak out.

Though Dr. Lane "retired" 15 years ago, he is definitely not retired. In addition to staying active in his field, he enjoys nature and loves to read. He served for many years on the Board of Directors for the Decatur-DeKalb YMCA, where he works out nearly every day. Having joined the Y in 1963, he may be its longest living member. Dr. Lane enjoys travel and spending time with his wife, Lila, who is a writer. He has a daughter and step-daughter and "two grandchildren, twins, I adore, who live in the Pacific Northwest."

As I depart, Dr. Lane points out a tall and robust chestnut tree in his side yard. This is an unusual sight because the chestnut blight wiped out all American Chestnuts in the 1900s. "The [chestnut] seedling was a gift from a friend," he explains. "It was an experimental hybrid which has full blight resistance. It has thrived here for 30 years and it even drops nuts." With the exception of dead American Chestnut tree logs in the woods, and the few live ones that reach about four feet tall before succumbing to the blight, I have never seen a huge live chestnut. Seeing that tree was a pure delight, and somehow seemed a fitting tribute to this amazing Druid Hills Luminary.



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Olmsted Linear Park Alliance Celebrates 20th Anniversary

By Sandra Kruger, OLPA Executive Director

It was a spectacular evening as the pre-historic dinosaurs of the Fernbank Museum of Natural History welcomed some 250 guests into a festive affair of music and dancing. The Olmsted Linear Park Alliance (OLPA) kicked off its 29th year with its annual Party for the Park on Ponce Gala Benefit on Sunday, February 12.

Guests enjoyed scrumptious cuisine selections prepared by Affairs to Remember Caterers and signature champagne cocktails. The atrium sparkled with creations designed by Philip Thompson of The Lily and Lion Floral Decorations, while the emcee, Dean Crownover, charmed the audience with his energy and wit.

"It is a wonderful time where old friends are reunited and new friendships take root," said Gala Chair, Kate Seville. "We all come together on this one evening to raise money to support the enhancement and preservation of our beloved Olmsted Linear Park."

This year OLPA presented three awards to individuals who have served tirelessly to support their community and the rehabilitation of the park. The Frederick Law Olmsted Award of Excellence was presented to Fentress and Jim Waits, who live in the Druid Hills neighborhood and have both served on the OLPA board. Gale Walldorff was presented the Olmsted Award for Public Service and Tally Sweat, OLPA's founding president,

received the Olmsted Lifetime Achievement Award. Gale contributed significantly to the preservation of the park while serving on the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners and currently serves on the OLPA Advisory Council. Tally continues to serve as the President Emerita of OLPA. We are indebted to them for their service, their tenacity, and their commitment to preserving the beautiful Druid Hills community and our historic, green gem.

Of course, the event would not be complete without the fabulous silent and live auction, in which guests quickly acquired their desired goods of dining around-town experiences and outdoor excursions. In celebration of OLPA turning 20, local jewelry artist Lainey Papageorge created a terrific line of jewelry inspired by the park. Custom items include a sterling silver linear park necklace and cultured pearl acorn earrings that can be found on her website at www.elainadesigns.com. Lainey generously pledged to donate 30 percent of the proceeds to OLPA.

The event was a tremendous success and OLPA raised more than \$75,000 to sustain the park, including covering the costs of a new tree sustainability project. This project will give OLPA the critical information it needs to monitor and treat the trees as necessary throughout the linear segments. Some of the Olmsted trees are hundreds of

years old and OLPA wants to keep them as healthy as possible.

OLPA extends a special thank you to all hosts, donors, friends, volunteers, and sponsors: Fernbank Museum of Natural History, Atlanta Gas Light, MailChimp, Affairs to Remember Caterers, Canterbury Press, Keller Knapp Real Estate & Consulting, NewFields, Tunnell & Tunnell Landscape Architects, CSX, GA Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Paris & Associates, Natalie Gregory Sold, and Personal Care. Thank you for your commitment to ensure that our community park continues to thrive and serve as a vibrant sanctuary for all to enjoy.

SAVE THE DATES!

OLPA continues the 20th celebration with a Garden Party in the park on Saturday, June 17 at 5pm. More details will be announced soon.

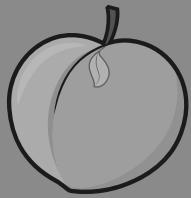
The 2018 Annual **Party for the Park on Ponce** is on Sunday, February 25, 2018. Mark your calendar now! We look forward to seeing all of you in the park and at the gala next year!



An elegant setting for this year's Party for the Park on Ponce Gala Benefit



*Rebecca Chalmers and Meredith Lorys, OLPA Volunteers
Photos courtesy of Randy McDow and Carolyn Bays*



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Emory Grove, Childhood Memories, and Snapper Lawn Mowers

By Jennifer J. Richardson

The land on which the Emory Grove neighborhood sits in Druid Hills was owned by Asa Candler in 1934. Candler's relative, Dr. Sam Guy, the head of the Chemistry Department at Emory, wanted to build suitable housing for Emory faculty and staff and chose the Emory Grove land for the project. Dr. Guy consulted Emory University Facilities Manager, Neal Smith, who soon began planning a subdivision that he called Emory Grove. Smith hired Robert and Company to lay out the streets, lots, and three interior parks; several streets were named, as Dr. Guy had requested, after famous universities: Princeton, Westminster, and Edinburgh. Then Smith supervised construction and later bought the 90 acre property.

The homes and lots in Emory Grove were smaller than in other areas of Druid Hills. Many lots had 40 to 50 foot frontage and some were 150 feet deep. These smaller Colonial Revival homes were positioned an equal distance from the street and all built as variations of the same three or four house plans. Most were brick or clapboard and in the shape of rectangles containing three bedrooms and one bath on the main floor. Some had screened side porches and some had garages. The homes were built for middle-income families and were well constructed with quality materials. In one of the earliest ads for the subdivision, Emory Grove was heralded as, "a community of durable and artistic homes owned by conservative, cultured Americans." The original asking price for many of the homes was \$7,500.

Princeton Way, on the south side of North Decatur Road, was built first in 1939. An interior park, which was used at various times as a victory garden and baseball field, was accessible by dirt paths between some of the houses. Westminster Way and Edinburgh Terrace, on the north side of North Decatur Road, were built in 1941, using the same layout and plans as those on Princeton Way. This second development had two interior parks: one with a picnic pavilion and recreation equipment; and another with tennis courts and a grassy field. The trails to these parks were similar to the narrow paths (known as Twittens), seen between other Druid Hills' streets such as Oakdale and Lullwater. The homes along both sides of North Decatur Road (except for South Westminster Way) are considered a part of Emory Grove.

Although Emory Grove had no sidewalks, it featured grassy triangles surrounded by curbing at the intersections of Westminster Way and Edinburgh Terrace. These triangles made convenient, safe places for children to wait for the school bus, which would take them to Fernbank School. Druid Hills High School was a short walk through the parks.

In addition to homes, Emory Grove boasted two structures designed by local architects: Druid Hills High School (1928) designed by Louis Edmund Crook; and Emory Presbyterian Church designed by the firm of Sayward and Logan.

Through the years, a number of notable people resided in Emory Grove. Clarence Redfern, who was the bursar at Emory University, lived on Westminster Way, as did the Felder Spivey family and their children. Also residing on Westminster Way were: Dr. Charles V. Gerkin, a chaplain and beloved professor of theology at Emory's Candler



A cultured American family in front of their durable and artistic Emory Grove home, circa 1958

School, with his wife and six children; Walter Paschall, an early broadcaster and later news director for WSB radio, and his wife Eliza, an author and civil rights icon; organist and conductor John Austin and his wife Linda, a teacher; musicians Walter and Martha Bishop; and Dr. John Spangler, a professor at Candler, and his family. Insurance agent Tom Penland, who was active at Glenn Church and with the boy scouts, lived on Princeton Way with his family. For a brief time, Thomas J.J. Altizer, made notorious by his "God is Dead" theory, lived on North Decatur Road. Presbyterian minister Peter Marshall lived in Emory Grove, with his wife Catherine, before they moved to Washington, DC.

My family moved to a one-and-a-half story red brick home in Emory Grove in the 1950s. Our house was somewhat different from the others back then: the screened porch had been enclosed with french windows; we had no garage; and two rooms in the half-story had been completed as a fourth bedroom and a play room. Our lot was deep—with a very steep hill going down to a small wet weather draw and then extending nearly to the CSX rail line. My siblings and I attended Druid Hills Elementary, Fernbank (then brand new) and Druid Hills High Schools. Our friends were children in the neighborhood and others we met at scouts, church, and school. North Decatur Shopping Center was a short walk away with the Dairy Queen and its picnic tables (removed when North Decatur was widened to two lanes), Pot O' Gold, A&P, a pizza restaurant, a coffee shop called Java House, and Stacy's Pharmacy. Stacy's was the place to buy candy and comic books and, for the girls, to try on perfume and dream of the day we could wear lipstick and foundation. Across Clairmont Road were the wonders of the Play Shop toy store (the place to purchase Barbie and Ken and their many accessories, metal trucks, plastic model kits, and horse statues) and Forrest's Five and Ten (similar to the infamous Horton's variety store). The shopping center where the Publix is located now was deemed too far for Emory Grove children to go on their own.

Continued on page 27

Emory Grove ...continued from page 26

The neighborhood of Emory Grove was quiet and peaceful. Children roller-skated or rode bicycles in the streets, frolicked in the interior parks, and played in the homes of friends. The Druid Hills High School marching band practiced every afternoon in the field beside the tennis courts during football season. The tennis courts were also where quarreling high school boys met after school to iron out their differences.

From the street, in 2017, Emory Grove looks much as it did when it was built. Some homes now have second stories, but most additions are towards the rear and cannot be seen from the front. A friend once called Emory Grove a “story book neighborhood,” one offering well-built, affordable housing in historic Druid Hills. Emory Grove was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2000.

The developer of Emory Grove, Neal Smith, has a second claim to fame. After retiring from Emory as head of maintenance and shortly after the subdivision was completed, he and his brother worked on a series of mechanical inventions. One was the first self-propelled lawn mower, which the Smiths called the “Whirler-Glider.” It was hub-shaped and painted red, and not only trimmed grass but also cut small trees and shrubs. The Smiths fitted the top of their mower with a cast iron turtle head, causing people to begin referring to the mower as the “Snapping Turtle.” The name was later shortened to “Snapper” and added to the front of the mower in white letters. Southern Saw Works in



Snapper lawn mower with snapping turtle head

McDonough, Georgia, acquired the copyright to the Snapper mowers and later became the Snapper Lawn Equipment Company. Snapper was purchased by Briggs and Stratton in 2004. You can safely assume that at least one Snapper mower has been used to trim lawns in Smith's Emory Grove.

Update on the Proposed Bike Path Along Lullwater Road

By Kim Storbeck for the Lullwater Preservation Coalition

The Lullwater Preservation Coalition (LPC) was formed in 2016 to analyze and respond to changes along Lullwater Road proposed by the PATH foundation. LPC's first step, initiated at the request of the Druid Hills Civic Association (DHCA), was to survey residents of Lullwater Road who would be most directly affected by any changes that have been suggested so far. These are the results of the survey:

- Ninety percent (90%) of the households responded to the survey—a very high response rate.
- Seventy-five percent (75%) of respondents favored the “do nothing to change Lullwater Road” option.
- Fifty-eight percent (58%) would be agreeable to a STOP sign on Lullwater at The By Way.
- Fifty-six percent (56%) would be agreeable to a “sharrow,” defined as a lane shared by motor vehicles and bicyclists (SHARED ROad Way).

Based on the key findings from the survey and subsequent conversations, Lullwater residents want to maintain the natural beauty and historical ambiance of the road. They do not want: trees cut and wetlands disturbed; additional infrastructure (concrete supports, raised decking and the like); the right of way encroached upon; and parking restricted to one side of the road.

Two representatives of the LPC Steering Committee met with the

DHCA Executive Committee (EC) on January 11, to present these results and discuss options. During this session, a resolution was presented that the EC felt was too broad for acceptance by the DHCA Board. In the meantime, the LPC will proceed with the following steps and keep the community posted on progress:

- Craft language that specifies the things we do not want on Lullwater.
- Meet with our legislative representatives to provide them with an update of the survey and our efforts to date to secure an approved resolution from the DHCA.
- Meet with the Landmark Preservation District to review our survey and our efforts with regard to the resolution.
- Meet with PATH to see what they have in mind in light of developments to date.

The LPC thanks the DHCA for keeping this issue prominently on its website under the “Important Topics” section. There are multiple articles there about the history of this process and the DHCA negotiating the removal of several proposed plans (A, B, C and D) from the PATH website. Please visit www.lullwater.org or email kstorbeck922@gmail.com for more information.

Landmark District Preservation Committee Report

By Betsy Marvin

Picture Druid Hills, 2020, in an alternate universe. You enter from the west, where a 17-story condo high-rise (with plenty of parking for residents and guests) towers over the east side of the Briarcliff/Moreland intersection with Ponce. Nearby sits a 24-hour convenience store, handy for that last minute quart of milk or six-pack. You can drive easily from one side of the neighborhood to the other, since the Olmsted Linear Park, a terrible waste of valuable land, has been replaced by four more lanes of traffic and a bike path.

Business offices, a small strip mall, and a couple of gas stations line both sides of Ponce. Near Clifton, you see a retirement high-rise across from a tall hotel at the site of the Druid Hills Golf Club. Turning down one of the broad streets, the old curves having been straightened out to promote safety for the rapid traffic going to and from Emory and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, you muse, "After all, aren't arterials at their best when they are saving precious time for residents and commuters?"

Many of the outdated 1920s homes along these streets have been modernized—with parking nearer the roadway, far fewer trees, and simplified facades. Some have given way to new, larger structures that stretch from property line to property line, economically using the full widths of the yards. Privacy walls and fences have also become popular among security-minded residents, protecting them from the prying eyes of passersby.

Is this how Druid Hills would look without a Historic Landmark Designation? Is this the Druid Hills you want to make your home? These examples have been suggested, even encouraged, in recent decades. In the City of Atlanta portion of Druid Hills, however, thanks to the Historic Preservation Committee and the Urban Design Commission, the standards that Frederick Law Olmsted and his team envisaged at the turn of the 20th century continue to maintain the neighborhood's beauty and harmony, making our community a lovely and historic place to live.

In the past year, the Druid Hills Historic Preservation Committee has been diligently at work helping homeowners, architects, and builders prepare for appropriate projects. Here are some of its accomplishments:

- During 2016, the Landmark District Preservation Committee held 16 onsite reviews for individual house/property COA (Certificate of Appropriateness) applications; half were on Fairview Road and the others on Oakdale, Lullwater, and South Ponce, including the Druid Hills Golf Club pool house makeover.
- Committee comments on each of these projects were submitted to the Urban Design Commission (UDC). Most of these applications received COAs, often with conditions. Notable among these was one for 1715 South Ponce de Leon (after multiple onsite reviews), the first time in 30 years the Committee was able to support a proposal and COA for that property.
- The Committee met several times regarding the COA application for redevelopment of the Druid Hills Methodist Church property (1200 Ponce de Leon) into a multi-family complex. With Committee and UDC approvals, the project is moving forward.
- Members of the Committee attended the UDC meetings downtown whenever projects from our Landmark District were being considered.
- In November, the Committee sponsored a special tutorial on Corporate Governance, led by Phil Moise.

Looking ahead to 2017, two projects have already captured the attention of the Historic Preservation Committee. Members held an onsite review with our DeKalb County counterpart and adjacent neighbors for the proposed Lullwater Trail by the PATH Foundation, and submitted a Memo of Record to the DHCA Executive Committee. That matter remains pending. In addition, the Committee is completing a series of onsite reviews with regard to the GA Department of Transportation Ponce de Leon Road Safety Audit recommendations with the DHCA Transportation Committee. A Memo of Record will be prepared early in 2017.

For more information on the Landmark District Preservation Committee, see the DHCA website or contact betsyw@mindspring.com.

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Digging into Garden Soil

By Paula Refi

A new conversation is occurring lately in gardening circles, and it challenges some long-held beliefs about how garden soil is understood and cultivated. It's axiomatic that soil must be somewhat loose, or friable, for tender plant roots to expand and support lush top growth. Experts, including UGA Cooperative Extension, traditionally advise thorough hand digging or rototilling to prepare beds before planting. This practice is critical in establishing new beds in Georgia's clay soils, especially in compacted soil that remains after home construction. But once planting beds have been set up—whether for vegetables, annuals, or perennials—turning over the soil yearly may do more harm than good. This change in practice stems from a new appreciation for the myriad beneficial living components of our garden soils.

Soil is not the same as dirt, defined as inert granular material in which plants grow. To adequately support plant life, soil must be fertile, easily crumbled, well-drained, and high in organic matter. Ideally, it will teem with life—not just the obvious earthworms and insects, but a microscopic population of bacteria, fungi, and other organisms. Their interaction creates a soil food web that encourages plant growth in ways not yet fully understood.

How the soil is amended to create the ideal medium will depend on local soil characteristics, climate, rainfall, etc. More than one discussion at a plant society meeting has turned heated when considering this topic. Expert advice, combined with personal experience, eventually results in gardeners arriving at a soil regimen that works. Whatever the method, the addition of organic material and something particulate are essential. Organic amendments can be compost (purchased or homemade), aged manures, shredded leaves, worm castings, and more. These products improve soil structure, enhance the infiltration of water, and supply essential micronutrients. Particulate amendments are inert and include coarse sand, granite grit, or expanded shale (sold as Permatill). They increase the quantity and size of air spaces in the soil, which are essential for healthy roots. Hence the adage: feed the soil, not the plant.

After a garden bed's initial preparation, the organic component will decay over the years and need to be replaced. This occurs quickly in the South, thanks to our high temperatures and abundant rainfall. According to the new thinking, digging organic amendments into the bed will physically alter the soil's essential food web and damage the integrity of everything from earthworms to mycorrhizal fungi. Instead, we are advised to apply organics as a top dressing and to allow the worms, insects, bacteria, and fungi to incorporate them into the soil. Obviously, this mixing occurs at a slower rate than if the beds were tilled, but a superior soil will result over time. Fall is the ideal time to top dress. This allows the organics to begin breaking down before planting time in spring.

A periodic soil test should be performed to learn about nutrient levels, pH, and specific recommendations for needed correction. For instructions, go to: ugaextension.org/county-offices/dekalb. Enter "soil test" in the search box. Your challenge will be to translate the

UGA soil lab's recommendation for additional chemical fertilizer to an organic alternative. Synthetic salt-based fertilizers can seriously harm the soil's living inhabitants. Today, more garden centers sell organic fertilizers. Or you may enjoy delving into the world of fish emulsion, blood meal, soybean meal, and mycorrhizal inoculants all on your own. This "no till" way of gardening has been practiced by organic gardeners for many years. It's easy to "get lost in the weeds" researching this topic. A thorough discussion can be found in *Teaming with Microbes: A Gardener's Guide to the Soil Food Web* by Jeff Lowenfels and Wayne Lewis.

Thinking seriously about soil, not just the flowers and veggies that everyone enjoys, takes a committed gardener—one who views soil personally, not as some product kept on life support by a prescription of chemicals. If a plant consumes a variety of foods, good health will result. That's why I apply a diversity of organic materials and never dig up my beds. Obviously, soil compaction (by the gardener!) is to be avoided at all costs.

The Soil Survey of DeKalb County Georgia is a valuable historic document that may interest Druid Hills residents. Created by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and various local agencies, it was published in 1982 for "planners, community officials, engineers, developers, builders, and home buyers . . . Conservationists, teachers, students, and specialists in recreation, water disposal, and pollution control can use the survey to help them understand, protect, and enhance the environment." More than 100 pages long, it includes aerial photographs of the entire County, overlaid with a detailed map of the soil types and characteristics of each and every neighborhood. I was able to locate Durand Drive, only to learn that my Emory Circle neighbors garden on soil that is completely different. To find this survey, Google "Soil Survey DeKalb County Georgia." Unfortunately, the online survey does not contain the aerial maps. To see them, feel free to contact me at pmrefi@aol.com.

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School News

Fernbank Elementary School

Fernbank Elementary, your International Baccalaureate neighborhood public school, has had an exciting year! Our school's population grew by about a third, with the temporary addition of students from Montclair Elementary. Under the guidance of Ms. Joan Ray, Principal, the school is operating very smoothly with these additional students and faculty.

Part of what makes Fernbank a successful school is our parent involvement and the school community's financial support. When the recession hit years ago, funding for the arts was cut. Concerned parents developed a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization called the Fernbank Foundation to raise money to support a visual arts program. Since then, each year the Fernbank Foundation has raised money to help fill gaps in state or county funding, or provide additional support where it is most needed. This year, we have been raising money to fund the following:

- Literacy and Math - Two part-time Reading and Math Enrichment Specialists and supplies
- Art Program - Art supplies and an Assistant Art Teacher
- Science Program - Science lab supplies
- Teacher Professional Development - Assistance with Gifted and ESOL Certification, International Baccalaureate (IB) training, and attendance at conferences
- Music Program - Band instruments.

Although we have successfully raised the majority of the funds needed to cover these costs, we still have a way to go. If you, or perhaps Fernbank alumni that you may know, would like to help support our wonderful school, please go to www.fernbankelementary.com and click on Fund the Fern. Remember, the property values in Druid Hills are directly linked to Fernbank Elementary! Thank you for your support. For more information about Fernbank, please visit our website at www.fernbankelementary.com.

Ben Franklin Academy

This has been a year of growth and accomplishments for the students, faculty, and staff at Ben Franklin Academy.

For the first time in over 14 years, BFA has held a Capital Campaign to expand its Science and Arts spaces, as well as to add a much-needed elevator to reach all three floors of Junior House. We are closing in on our goal of \$1.75 million through the support of our community and friends. We expect this additional space to be built and ready for our students by fall 2017.

Ben Franklin Academy stands committed to its values and goals of Mastery Education in a small, individualized setting. We've grown from the early days of the school to over 130 students in grades 9 through 12.

We are very proud of our Head of School, Dr. Martha Burdette, for receiving one of Emory University School of Medicine Dean's Teaching Awards in recognition of "superior teaching of medical and allied health professions students" for many years. Dr. Burdette has taught medical students from Emory School of Medicine for over 30 years, as part of BFA's clinic work for the community.

Ben Franklin Academy is also very proud of Ella Nelson, a senior selected as one of three Teen Volunteers by the Association of Fundraising Professionals of the Greater Atlanta Chapter. Ella has also been recognized by Atlanta InTown as a 20 Under 20 for her work to reduce the feral cat population in her neighborhood and expand this program to other communities.

Our school supports a diverse student body with a wide range of talents and interests. Each year our students graduate and head to far corners of the country and world to pursue their academic ambitions in college.

For more information, please contact Angela H. Cassidy, 404.633.7404 or send an email to acassidy@benfranklinacademy.org.

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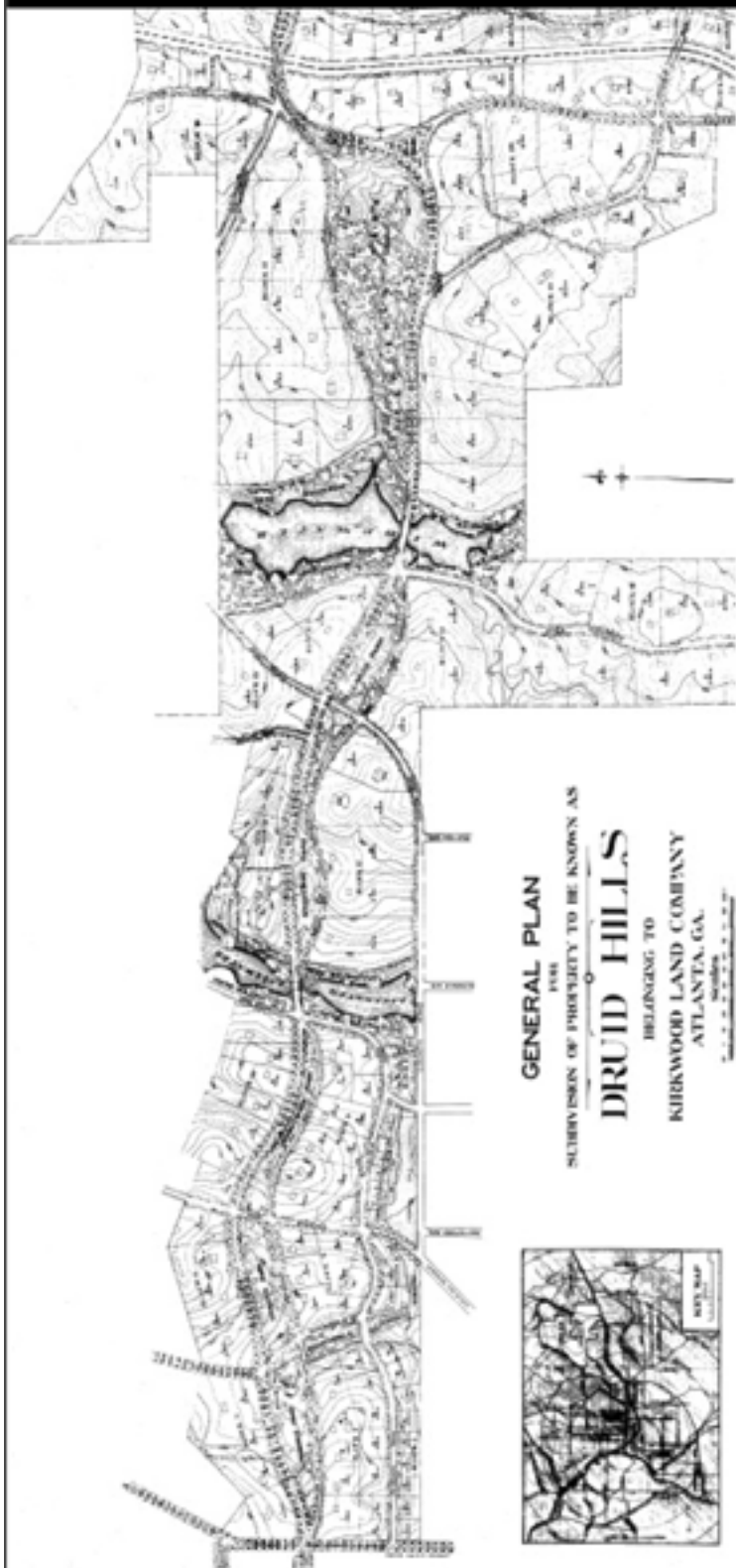


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1081 SPRINGDALE ROAD

This 5 bedroom PLUS full carriage house Tudor, done to perfection, has it all ...curb appeal galore, 5,000+square feet, dream kitchen/family room and master suite, salt water pool, carriage house, 2 car garage and more. Offered at \$2,650,000



1202 SPRINGDALE ROAD

This architectural gem, with oval shape foyer, ironwork from the 1870 governors mansion, truly GRAND living room, open kitchen/family room, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths plus carriage house and pool, is a "must see." Offered at \$1,800,000



1117 OXFORD ROAD

This Circa 1923 brick charmer with limestone accents has been owned by the same family for almost 70 years and features 5 bedrooms, 3 bath living room, formal dining room, den, 2 fireplaces and private lot Offered at \$795,000



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