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

Back by popular demand, our neighborhood yard sale!

An easy way to get rid of your unwanted stuff and keep all the money you make from your sales. No fuss, no hassle! The Druid Hills Civic Association will advertise the sale in The Atlanta Journal Constitution and the surrounding neighborhood. Plus, a yard sale sign will be provided for your yard. All you have to do is drag your stuff to your front yard and start selling!

The American Kidney Fund will have trucks in the neighborhood picking up items you want to leave on the curb at the end of yard sale day. What a deal! You make money and don’t have to take anything back into the house at the end of the day. The DHCA will also have a map locating all participating houses on the DHCA website. Registration cost is only $25.00.

Emory Village Roundabout
from the Clifton Community Partnership Newsletter

The curtain is lifting on construction of the long-awaited Emory Village roundabout and roadway project on North Decatur Road, outside Emory’s main campus entrance.

Starting Aug. 23, the $2.1 million, 10-month DeKalb County project will improve the aesthetics, traffic flow and streetscapes on the heavily traveled North Decatur Road corridor between Clifton Road and the Lil waterfall Road roundabout. Parts of Oxford Road will also be affected.

The first phase of construction, part of which will occur at night, includes the renovation of sidewalks, curbs and other streetscape features on the southwest side of North Decatur Road (between Paviine Creek/Panera Bread and Sperculen). Access to the business parking lots along this side of North Decatur Road will remain open. There will be road closures within the phase one construction area.

This first phase of construction will run approximately six to eight weeks into October, at which point, the second phase will begin (similar work on the other side of North Decatur Road).

Doings in Deepdene
by Jennifer J. Richardson, for the Olmsted Linear Park Alliance

Though work has been going on in the interior of Deepdene Park for years, it was hard to see it behind the valley sloping to the creek covered with trees. Old work includes stabilization of the stream bed, addition of paths, benches and bridges, and placement of interpretative and directional signs. Now, new activity on the periphery of the park is highly visible to the public and is attracting attention to the 22-acre park.

First, the utilities along Ponce de Leon were all placed in trenches underground. Crews carefully “threaded” utility pipes and wires between the historic trolley tracks still in place below ground at the edge of the road. Next, grading of the eight-foot-wide path along Ponce known as the “Promenade” was accomplished, and crushed gravel was applied to the path in preparation for paving. The Promenade path asphalt paving was underway in August. The path will connect to the western end of Deepdene and circle the old soccer field to the east.

Street trees will be placed along Ponce de Leon in approximately the same area as the current power poles, which will give a perfect place for outdoor festivals or the Druid Hills annual picnic.

When the rest of the work is completed, the power poles and overhead wires and transformers will come down, at long last. If you’d like to see how open the area will look after the wires are removed, check out how Ponce de Leon looks adjacent to the field to the east.

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OLPA is proud to announce to tree-lovers everywhere that the tallest tree in the metro Atlanta area is living in Deepdene Park. It’s a tulip poplar (Liriodendron tulipifera) that stands 157 feet above the forest floor.

Finally, if you see dumping of yard debris or trash or if you spot someone vandalizing a bench, sign or bridge with graffiti, call 911.

Judi Shaver led a campaign to raise funds for an Olmsted Linear Park Bench in memory of Mary Vansant Disney. The bench is located in Deepdene Park. Mary, the wife of Michael Harvey, lived on North Ponce de Leon.

OLPA now shifts its focus more toward raising money for an endowment fund that will be used to maintain the park above and beyond the grass cutting and dead tree removal DeKalb and Atlanta provide. To donate toward this maintenance fund, or to give a gift of a bench, bridge, path or landscape element in memory or honor of a loved one, contact George Ickes at 404-377-5361.

OLPA hopes that with the renewal of the park, the need for “trash-clean-up days” will diminish. OLPA now shifts its focus more toward raising money for an endowment fund that will be used to maintain the park above and beyond the grass cutting and dead tree removal DeKalb and Atlanta provide. To donate toward this maintenance fund, or to give a gift of a bench, bridge, path or landscape element in memory or honor of a loved one, contact George Ickes at 404-377-5361.

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The Druid Hills News

2010

Emory no longer sponsors recycling program, to join the County curbside recycling program, call 404-289-2800 or visit www.co.dekalb.gove

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

Sign up for complimentary E-Alerts for news, events, neighborhood updates, and more, at alert@druidhills.org.

Here is how to sign up for E-Alerts – the civic association’s current means of keeping you up to date about current and impending events in Druid Hills. The alert system replaces the paper notices you used to get in or on your mailbox. It is less expensive and more effective.

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The Druid Hills News is published in April, July, September and November. It reaches thousands of people who live, shop, and work in Druid Hills. With thousands of copies of each issue distributed in the area, the publication’s advertising rates are a bargain for businesses that want to reach Druid Hills residents. For information on ad sizes and pricing, call 404-525-3422 (DHCA) www.druidhills.org/news/advertise.htm email: admin@druidhills.org.htm

Get the Most Out of Your Advertising Dollars

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Druid Hills News

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Gardening Summer into Fall
by Jennifer J. Richardson, Master Gardener, DeKalb County

For all of you who, like me, neglected garden projects during this summer's heat wave, take heart. Fall's cooler temperatures and the possibility of rain give hope that some of the damage can be undone. My own vegetable, name-
varying day lily beds, perennial, shrub and annual beds are an embarrassing mess. It's what happens when the gardener faces 85 degree temperatures at 5:30 in the morning and opts to go back to bed. Now it's time to address the mess and put things back in order. First, make a serious effort to rid your garden of weeds before they go to seed. This will save you hours of work next spring. If your weeds have already gone to seed, gently pull them, attempting to keep as many weed seeds on the plant, and dispose of them in a lawn-leaf bag not in your compost pile. I don't have to tell you what kind of problems weed seeds in your compost will cause you next year.

Next, walk around your garden and observe which shrubs are the most unruly. Now's the time to trim shrubs except for the ones that have already set buds for next year. For example, you don't want to trim native azaleas now, or they won't thrive. For those of you who've put houseplants outside to enjoy the summer, be sure to keep an eye on the weather. Plant tissue begins to freeze at 40 degrees. Bring all houseplants in when warned of a freeze. This includes any plants that may be lining up to get my "extras" as soon as I get around to dividing my plants. Friends are lining up to get my "extras" as soon as I get around to dividing my plants. Any thick ground covering will do: pine bark chips, leaves, compost from your pail, pine straw, and even black plastic with a few holes punched in to allow water to seep to the roots of the plant under an attractive cover. One caution: if you have ivy, there are a few with the tiny round leaf that thrives on the base of the tree with no mulch. This is so your vines can breathe. On the subject of mulch, I continue to emphasize the back yard compost pile or compost tumbler. But given the coyotes and other varmints in the neighborhood, I no longer use my pile for kitchen scraps—just for yard trimmings. Open compost piles with food scraps attract undesirable creatures! Instead, look into a closed compost tumbler that turns with a crank. You don't need a pickllock for this device, and since the food scraps are contained, your backyard wildlife can't get to them.

Now's the time to fertilize trees and shrubs, and perennial gardens. Your county extension agent can provide you with a soil test kit and will analyze it for you. The results tell you how much, and what types of fertilizer to use in your garden. If you have bulbs or tubers, this is a good time to divide them and use them yourselves for landscaping or to share with friends. If you don't divide day lilies, hostas, and dahodlls every year or so, they won't be prolific bloomers. Friends are lining up to get my "extras" as soon as I get around to dividing my plants.

Late September and October are good months to add to your garden. Plants are going dormant and less damage will occur to them when you plant or transplant. If buying shrubs or trees from the garden store, remove the plant, dirt and all, from the container. Dig a hole approximately two times the size of the root ball. Take a trowel or knife and gently cut or "score" the root ball all around and loosen dirt and roots with your fingers. Mix some compost in with the dirt you removed from the hole, and you're all set. Be sure to water at least every other day for the next week or so.

Dead-heading is the process of cutting off spent blooms. I drop my dead-heads right in the garden, in hopes some of the seeds from the flowers will grow next spring. Or, if I want to start a new colony of coneflowers or Shasta daisies, I collect and drop the dead heads in the new area and scrape the dirt with a bite. When you're done are building, and their foliage is dry, pull them up and add them to your compost to enrich it.

For those of you who've put houseplants outside to enjoy the summer, be sure to keep an eye on the weather. Plant tissue begins to freeze at 40 degrees F. Bring all houseplants in when warned of a freeze. This includes any plants that may be floating on your pond. You can over-winter pond plants in glass fishbowls set in your windows and enjoy them all winter. Finally: grass and non-native exotic plants. There's no mention of grass here. Two years ago, I ridded my entire yard and house of grass. The result now is a garden of native wildflowers and grasses where my lawn once was. No more mowing! No more weed control issues. We continue to seek creative solutions to control issues. We continue to seek creative solutions to drivers speeding through our neighborhood, putting all of us, especially our children, at risk, and illegally parked cars on our streets and sidewalks.

So, to answer my son's question: the Druid Hills Civic Association is a community-focused association dedicated to supporting our neighborhood residents, its families and quality of life. We are focusing our work on the input of community members and their volunteer efforts on our committees, such as the Parks and Greenspace Committee, and the Transportation Committee. Are we fulfilling our objectives and meeting current needs? We think so;—let us know your thoughts on our community!
New life for an historic neighborhood mansion
by Sally Sears

Thousands of cars a day pass Clifton Road on Ponce de Leon. Most of the drivers recognize they are passing stately mansions. Few know the life that’s growing inside the very oldest home on the block in front of the Fernbank Museum of Natural History, at 1788 Ponce. The buff-colored brick house was home to four prominent Atlanta families, including newspaperman and state Senator William McWhorter of the DeKalb New Era.

Ken Thomas, former archivist with Georgia’s Department of Natural Resources found descriptions of the house calling it a unique blend of American Prairie style design and popular Italian Renaissance revival architecture. For the last few decades, it has housed teachers from Fernbank Science Center upstairs. But last fall, Olmsted Linear Park Alliance manager George Ickes set up an office in a broad, glassed library on the main floor.

“The OLPA board was encouraged to apply for money to make the building more energy and water efficient,” says development chair Sally Sears. “The Community Foundation and SouthFace have a wonderful program called Grants to Green, which helps non-profits like ours reduce our impact on the environment. Once we realized how pleasant the house could be for board and committee meetings, we all pitched in to begin simple renovations right away. None of our park money, raised so carefully for years from so many generous neighbors, is going into this office project. We’re raising the money for the office restoration separately.”

Out went the tired green carpeting on the stairs. Board member Quigg Fletcher ripped it up in great gusts of energy, revealing heart-pine steps underneath. “We are being careful with landfill demands,” Fletcher said, “but this stuff had to go. We are restoring most of the window curtains and sheer drapes instead of replacing them right away. And when we can find the money, we’ll restore the stairs and floors, too. Meanwhile, we’ve put a big de-lumidifier in the basement, working on fighting the mildew and protecting the structure from more moisture.”

The house and most of its neighbors on the block are the property of Fernbank Museum. The museum also owns Deepdene Park and most of Dellwood, leasing them to DeKalb County for public use.

Olmsted Linear Park Alliance raised the money to restore these parks, and pays for maintenance above what the county and city of Atlanta provide for their citizens. “We appreciate Fernbank Museum’s stewardship of these fine old mansions,” says OLPA president Kirk Elifson. “The Museum knows the work we’ve done restoring the park land they own, and are generous to allow us office space in this house. We look forward to renewing what we can afford, and bringing this home back to life as an office and comfortable place for our volunteers to meet. Nowhere in Atlanta is history cherished like Druid Hills. We’re being good neighbors with the park restoration, and now with one of our fine old homes.”

Upcoming Events at Ben Franklin Academy:
Please support BFA SPIRIT Night at Brusters-Toco Hills on Thursday, September 30, 2010, from 5:00-7:00 PM and BFAI Fall Play on Tuesday, November 16, 2010, and Wednesday, November 17, 2010, at 7:00 PM in the BFA Carriage House.

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

Briar Vista Elementary School:
www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/briarvista
Mary Lin Elementary School:
http://set.3atlantapublicschools.us/lin/site/default.asp
The Paideia School:
www.paideiaschool.org
Ben Franklin Academy:
www.benfranklinacademy.org
Druild High School:
www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/druild
Fernbank Elementary School:
www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/fernbank
Shamrock Middle School:
www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/shamrock
Springdale Park Elementary School:
http://set.3atlantapublicschools.us/springdale/site/default.asp

If you have news and events to share about your school, please contact Brad Myers at myersfamily4@comcast.net

Tales from the Carpool Line – Back to School 2010
by Brad Myers

Even if you never saw a calendar, you just know school is back in session. Traffic is heavier, juice boxes and Nutty Bars are in short supply, and depending on the ages of the children in your life, your car and/or home has the faint odor of some combination of sharpened pencils, new backpacks, and tear among other things.

In the midst of tightening budgets, educators, parents, students, and volunteers work together to maintain the standard of excellence and innovation in community-school partnerships which Druid Hills is recognized for.

Here is a sampling of some of the activities going on at community schools:

A Garden Grows in Candler Park
In the heart of Candler Park, Mary Lin Elementary continues a tradition of community involvement in protecting the environment. After a major workday in 2009, a full-scale garden—including raised beds and an outdoor classroom—was constructed on school grounds. The students planted everything from tomatoes to corn to sunflowers, raising them from seeds to harvest. The beds were auctioned off for the summer, and dedicated parents tended the beds so the students could come back to a bounty of fresh veggies. For the 2010-11 school year, Mary Lin plans to continue the garden initiative, using this hands-on teaching tool to inspire kids to care for their environment.

Green Shoots from the Ashes
After a fire damaged the historic Mother Goose building last October, the Paideia School recently began a partial renovation of Python Hall and rebuilding the Mother Goose building. The Python Hall renovations follow LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) guidelines and best practices and include an expanded elementary library, improved art instruction space, upgrades to more energy efficient lighting systems, HVAC systems, windows, recycling of construction materials, and use of low-VOC materials in the finishes. Paideia’s goal is to achieve Silver LEED Certification for the new Mother Goose building. Python Hall’s renovation is expected to be completed by October 2010 and the construction of the Mother Goose Building is expected to be completed by Spring 2011.

What’s Red and Black and in the Top 2% of its Field?
Each year, Newsweek magazine looks at more than 25,000 public high schools nationwide to see how many are challenging students with advanced-placement college-level courses and tests, such as the International Baccalaureate programme. Of the 1,600 schools which met the magazine’s criteria, Druid Hills was placed 479th on this list, meaning DHHS, an International Baccalaureate school, is recognized as being among the top 2% of all public high schools in the country. DHHS was one of 54 high schools to make the list from Georgia. To view the report, please go to http://www.newsweek.com/feature/2010/americas-best-high-schools/list.html

Looking to SPARK Your Love of Science?
Do you work in a science-related field, love science, or want a cool volunteer opportunity at SPARK? If so, you won’t want to miss Springdale Park Elementary (SPARK) “Family Science Night” on Tuesday, September 21, from 6:00-8:00 PM in the school library. Volunteers can include being a Giant Presenter or Event Volunteer. Guest Presenters provide a brief information session on a particular science topic of their expertise and Event Volunteers assist guests and coordinate setup among the classrooms. For more details and to sign up, please contact Jherusha Lambert at rushlamb@yahoo.com.

Start Practicing Your Dunk Tank Aim Now
Interested in supporting Fernbank Elementary School? Tomorrow, Thursday, October 7, the Fernbank Elementary PTA is hosting a Fall Festival. The Family Fun Day features the Dunk Tank! The PTA is seeking dunk tank donors to donate their services with a little water in their tanks. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Stacie Gyertson.

Get swept away!

Some experiences you can’t download.

Get swept away! water opens October 2, 2010.
Visit fernbankmuseum.org/GETREAL to plan your visit.

Fernbank. GET REAL.
DHCA Parents Network
by Sara Blanchard

Parents’ Fiesta Fantastical;
Next, Halloween Family Fun!

The DHCA Parents Network hosted a fiesta the evening of August 21 to help Druid Hills parents meet, greet and have fun together. The Blanchards happily opened their home and people flowed in and out throughout the night. Thanks to everyone who came and thanks to Willy’s on North Decatur who catered the event.

For those of you not able to come (and those who came), please plan to bring the kids and attend our third annual Halloween party. This year, we are holding the party in conjunction with Druid Hills Days on October 24 at Delwood Park. Of course, costumes are always welcome and encouraged! Stay tuned for more details.

The park efforts are still underway. We recently sent Commissioner Jeff Rader a letter acknowledging our serious and devoted interest in seeing a park/playground built in Druid Hills. Who doesn’t like to play on a swing? Young or old!

If you’re not on our email list, but would like to get involved, please email us at communication@druidhills.org.

DHCA Parents Discussion Forum
Please visit our new community discussion forum, open to all Druid Hills residents.

http://www.druidhills.org/forum

Current forum topics include:
- General Discussion
- Community Events
- Contractor Recommendations
- Crime Alerts
- Emory Village
- Historic Preservation
- Our Parks
- Parents Network (DHCA Members Only)

You will need to register to post to the forum and once you’ve registered you can be automatically notified on new postings by clicking the “notify” button on any individual discussion forum. Please e-mail commvp@druidhills.org with any feedback or issues with the forum.

BOOK CLUB NEWS:
Catching Up With the Others
by Faye Andersen

Sometimes books are so good they make the rounds of almost all the book clubs. Several faves are continuing to cycle through our neighborhood groups.

The Emory University Women’s Club read the The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and The Help by Kathryn Stockett. They followed with The Nine by Jeffrey Toobin. Deepdene Book Club also read The Nine and Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese. Straying into new territory, they read The Imperfectionist by Tom Rachman. Garnering a stellar review from the New York Times, this book was a disappointment to the club members.

“T was like getting several small plates but never getting to the entrée.”

Wine Women & Words gave two thumbs up to Cutting for Stone but it was a split decision for The Reliable Wife. Hosting a friend from Ames and having friends in the city, it was a natural for the club to read and thoroughly enjoy Girls From Ames. Readers felt the story is a testament to the power of friendships including the work, commitment and payoff of those relationships.

Harvard Road Book Club caught up with the crowds by reading the hottest book of the season, Girl with a Dragon Tattoo. They then chose David McCullough’s warmly received biography Truman. A Beer & Book Club read Carlos Ruiz Zafón’s Shadows of the Wind, a Spanish tale of books and betrayals and thought it highly entertaining.

Last Tuesday’s Book Club read The Reliable Wife by Robert Goodrich but took a real turn by reading The Sociopath Next Door by Martha Stout. This was a real eye-opener for some; others realized they had met this kind-of next door neighbor face-to-face.

Save the date for the Next Olmsted Linear Park Gala
“Dream in Green” Gala is Sunday, March 6, 2011

Travel along Ponce de Leon Avenue in Atlanta and you’ll experience the lovely, green linear park designed by Frederick Law Olmsted in the late 1900s. This historic resource is supported by an annual gala, which raises funds for restoration and maintenance of this treasured green belt and is spearheaded by the Olmsted Linear Park Alliance. The next annual Party for the Parks on Ponce will be held Sunday, March 6, 2011, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Fernbank Natural History Museum.

“Dream in Green” captures the vision of a multi-year restoration of the historic park, including the completion this fall of the final park in the series—the 22 acres of Deepdene. The evening will feature a live and silent auction, delectable hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, and live jazz. For information about tickets, visit www.atlantasonlinear.com, call 404-790-7087, or email olpa.atl@att.net.

UPDATE on COA process for Druid Hills Local Landmark District (City of Atlanta) Residents

Certificates of Appropriateness (COA) are needed before any external changes to properties in the Druid Hills Landmark District are made. The most common Types of COAs are Type II (minor changes) or Type III (major changes, e.g., an addition). Type I is for repairs where, for example, replacement of a roof (or part of it) is necessary but the same material is going to be used i.e. no changes.

The staff takes care of these; no hearing of the full commission is necessary.

Submission Times: Applications for Certificates of Appropriateness are now being taken by the Planner on duty in the Office of Planning reception area (3rd floor, next to Urban Design Commission Office) on the following schedule: Monday, 8:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 8:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.; Fridays, no intake.

Applications can be downloaded from the City website, Atlanta Urban Design Commission pages, which also give a wealth of information about the process, the Types of COAs, hearing schedule, deadlines, and economic incentives (tax credits). There is a direct link to the City website from the DHCA website, “Historic Preservation” page, City of Atlanta section. You can still call the AUDC office for information: 4/ 330-6201 (the last digit has changed; DHCA website to be updated).

1645 Ridgeway Drive - Druid Hills - $1,497,000
John Williams built home with the conveniences of today within the character of historic Druid Hills.
5 Bedrooms, 4 Full Baths, 2 Half Baths – a Wonderful Home for Family and Large Scale Entertaining.
Gourmet Kitchen and year-round infinity pool spilling into the woodslands. - Stunningly Now-

Bonnie S. Wolf
Resident of Druid Hills for 25 years
Chairperson of Sponsors for the Druid Hills Home & Garden Tour
and Aunt Macy’s 99 and fit.
404-451-6081 Diners 404-750-2909 Office

Harry Norman
Real Estate
367 W. Ponce de Leon Ave., Suite 10 • Decatur, GA 30030 • 404.375.9672
www.AboutMovement.com

About Movement Pilates Studio
see the results
The Ansley Park 17th Biennial Tour of Homes Celebrates the Artistry of Architect J. Neel Reid

The Ansley Park Civic Association will present its 2010 Tour of Homes fundraiser Saturday and Sunday, October 2nd and 3rd with a very special tribute to one of the South's premier architects, Joseph Neel Reid (1885 - 1926). This year's tour, christened "A Walk Back in Time," will showcase homes in Ansley Park designed by Reid, including the Della Manta building at 1 South Prado where Margaret Mitchell's apartment will be featured.

In all, six historic Ansley Park homes and two beautiful condominiums will be open to guests during the tour from 12 noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday-Sunday. As an added bonus, guests may join a complimentary "Cultural Landscape Walk" through Ansley Park hosted by Tunnell & Tunnell Landscape Architecture.

To celebrate Reid's birthday in the month of October, the Tour of Homes Kick-off Party will be held at the Piedmont Driving Club on Friday, October 1st. The party is open to the public. One of the evening's highlights will be a presentation and book signing by Mr. William Hentz, Reid's predecessor in the Piedmont firm of Architect J. Neel Reid, Reid & Adler. Portraits of the Ansley homes on the Tour, by Atlanta artist Gilbert Young, will also be on display.

Tour tickets are $20 in advance and $25 on tour dates. Kick-off Party tickets are $125 each and include dinner, cocktails, a tour of the Piedmont Driving Club, and valet parking in the ticket price. Tickets are available at www.ansleypark.org/tourofhomes2010, in local outlets, and in the neighborhood on tour dates.


Druid Hills e-Newsletter Signup

Subscribing to the DHCA e-Newsletter will enable you to receive quick updates on the hottest issues facing the Druid Hills community, upcoming Board meetings, and other events of interest. There is no cost to subscribe, and you can cancel at any time. Your subscription is kept completely confidential and your email address will not be given to any outside party for any reason.

In Remembrance of Marian Kuntz

By Alida Silverman

"They just don’t make them like that anymore." This declaration fits Marian Kuntz, longtime resident of Druid Hills, who died this summer. I knew her as a fellow Druid Hills-in-the-City neighbor who stood up for Druid Hills in front of City boards whenever needed. And what presence she had! When she spoke, her distinctive voice something between a viola and a cello, everyone’s attention was riveted on her. (She saved her liberally sprinkled “Honeys” for us neighbors.) A former model, she was a classics professor when I first came to know her. She taught, she wrote books and articles, and she spent a good part of the year in Venice for her research. She lived here long before I did, appropriately in a Philip Shutze house that she clearly loved. She had her home on the Druid Hills Tour three times, the first time the year that the Civic Association resumed being a sponsoring organization (1994). And she loved being on the linear park - "her" park - and seeing it come to life. I will miss her.

Janice Benario, Woman of Mystery

by Mary Angela Whyte

I knew my neighbor, long time Druid Hills resident Janice Benario, was a Latin scholar and esteemed Professor Emerita of Latin and Greek at Georgia State University. Her academic credentials are a BA in Latin (Phi Beta Kappa) from Goucher College and a MA and PhD from The Johns Hopkins University. Recently, her life achievements were recognized at Goucher’s May graduation ceremony, as her alma mater conferred on her her honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, Honoris Causa. Impressive credentials, significant academic honor, but there’s another side to Janice Benario: she has a hidden past.

As a senior at Goucher, Janice was invited to take a special secret course in cryptography, one the US Navy was offering at seven women’s colleges. This enrollment changed her life and postponed graduate work for several years. After graduation, she joined the Navy’s women’s division, the WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service). An indoctrination period completed, she was given an enigma’s rack and cleared to handle top secret material, specifically Top Secret Ultra. That classification was given to the messages encoded by the Germans on their ciphering system Enigma.

The communications she handled were intercepted and decoded German naval intelligence: reports, orders, and U-boat positions. Her job also meant keeping track of enemy positions, total secrecy was a must, as success lay in keeping Germany ignorant of the fact that Enigma had been decoded. The work Janice and her co-workers did, with their attention to detail and their discretion, is said to have aided in determining deployment of men and supplies on D-Day.

Her office closed in 1945 and she was discharged in 1946, now a lieutenant junior grade, with the World War II Victory Ribbon, the Battle of the Atlantic Victory Ribbon, and the Navy Unit Citation Ribbon.

Although Ultra was made public in the 1970s, Janice still did not feel free to discuss her Navy experience in WWII until much later. In 2002, she began speaking to groups about her wartime involvement. Now, there’s a woman who can keep a secret!

The Druid Hills News
Fall 2010

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The Artists Among Us

By Jennifer J. Richardson

 Druid Hills’ self-taught artist Joanna Stroud has worked in different media over the years. For many artists, being collectors often goes hand in hand. As collectors, they recognize beauty found in relics such as handmade items with detailed workmanship not found in today’s world. For Joanna, collecting vintage textiles and buttons led to her current artistic endeavors. Everlastings, the cottage industry name for Joanna’s vintage textile creations, incorporates vintage handkerchief and button pillows, and newer designs. Precocious Pinafores is the name Joanna chose for her one-of-a-kind pinafore creations. “I love designing and sewing these adorable pinafores” says Joanna. The designer pillows and pinafores show exceptional attention to detail, color, and mood. The heirloom pinafores worn over empire waist dresses are made entirely from vintage linens and buttons, with new ribbons and hand embroidered accents. The pinafores, sized for infant to dress size eight, have matching “Buttoned Bows,” essential accessories for little girls! Joanna credits her mother for her sewing and embroidery skills. “Mother embroidered exquisite linens for our Episcopal Church in Alabama, says Joanna. “She used fabulous metallic gold thread to outline crosses and filled them with satin French knots. French knots were my favorite stitch and I’ll practice them for hours!”

Neiman Marcus considered Joanna as a vendor for their 2010 holiday trunk show. “It was an honor being considered by such an incredible retailer, but I’ve decided not to go retail. If supplying stores in Atlanta, Dallas, and New York, one must mass produce. I’d LOVE to be a ‘starving artist,’ but it’s not all about money!” I enjoy making the pinafores entirely myself, insuring quality and affordability. I can then supplement the income of refugee women who sew the dresses worn under the pinafores. It’s gratifying to meet mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and friends who purchase my pinafores directly from me. Client photos sent of the girls wearing them are icing on the cake!”

Joanna feels submersing oneself in creating can be positive energy for anyone. “Many artists create for themselves and then begin sharing their designs with others. Even if you never sell a single piece of your work, seeing it on your own wall or kitchen windowsill can bring a sense of accomplishment and pride every day! Never feel you have to stick with one medium. Art is a growing process, never stagnant, often ‘out with the old’ and ‘on with the new!’” She gives talks on vintage textiles to various groups on topics relating to textiles. “Handkerchief history is fascinating! Older hankies served utilitarian and educational purposes, having graphics and texts with moral messages. Early 1900’s designers such as Jean d’Orly of Paris featured handkerchiefs as ‘Hankie of the Month’ advertisements in McCall’s magazine. English artist Mabel Lucie Atwell, whose drawings appear in J.M. Barrie’s Peter Pan and Wendy, created a series of handkerchiefs. Then came Kleenex in the 1950’s and goodbye to the handkerchief industry! Now highly collectible, it’s ‘the thrill of the hunt’ for me to find pristine vintage hankies to use in my designs!”

The creator and chair of the Druid Hills Artist Market, Joanna offers her designs there each April and in November at the All Saints’ Episcopal Church Fall Festival Market. For inquiries about these markets, scheduling talks on vintage textiles, or to visit Joanna’s home studio for purchases, email everlastingpillows@comcast.net. The Everlasting Pillows website, www.everlastingpillows.com, will soon have a link to Precocious Pinafores. Holiday and everyday Precocious Pinafore styles are now available!

We look forward to continued articles on Druid Hills’ artists. Learn of talented neighbors and perhaps find an artistic treasure not far from your own back door! You may even be encouraged to find your own, undiscovered artistic talents! (The Artists Among Us will be a regular article in the quarterly Druid Hills News. Artists who reside in Druid Hills interested in being considered to be featured in upcoming articles can contact Jennifer Richardson at jrichar@bellsouth.net.)

Precocious Pinafores!

Vintage Textile Creations for Little Girls

See one of a kind designs including holiday styles!

For appointments contact Joanna Stroud at everlastingpillows@comcast.net

SAVE THE DATES: OCT. 23 & 24!

Inside Candler Park
at the corner of McLendon Avenue and Candler Park Drive
• half a mile east from Little Five Points •
• accessible from Candler Park MARTA station •

Noon-9 pm, Saturday, Oct. 23, and Noon-8 pm, Sunday, Oct. 24

Festival highlights
• Halloween events for people of all ages
• Welcome home, Francine Reed, Atlanta’s most acclaimed jazz singer
• Stellar hand line up
• Amazing kid’s activities
• A high-quality artists’ market with nearly 100 booths
• Great food and Sweetwater Beer

Plus a weekend full of activities
• Fall Ball, 7 pm - 11 pm, Friday, Oct. 22
• Fall Fest 5k starts 11 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 23
• Candler Park Tour of Homes: noon-6 pm, Sunday, Oct. 24

Candler Park Fall Fest 2010

The creepiest festival yet!

For more information, go to http://www.candlerpark.org/fallfest.

“Like” our Facebook Group here to get the latest news. And if you have questions, contact ken@mygreenatl.com. - SAVE ME FROM THE LEAF MONSTER! -

11th Annual Trees Atlanta Tree Sale

October 9th • 8 am – 2 pm

Trees Atlanta Kendara Center, 225 Chester Avenue, Atlanta

http://treesatlanta.org/

The 11th Annual Tree Sale will be held at Trees Atlanta’s headquarters (225 Chester Avenue, 30316, in Reynoldstown). The sale will feature more than 1,000 native and unusual trees and plants. In celebration of the 25th anniversary of Trees Atlanta, we will offer 25 species and varieties of trees, shrubs, and forest-safe vines never offered before at any of our other Tree Sales! A few of these trees include baldcypress, butternut, Weeping Forest Pansy redbud, Emerald Knight fringe tree, Invincible Spirit hydrangea, and Devil’s Walkingstick. Non-invasive, unusual/exotic tree and plant varieties include Henry’s Dwarf, Parrotia, Colossus Oyama magnolia, Halka Ginkgo and Arnold’s Promise witch hazel. Trees Atlanta donors of $500 or more are invited to attend a preview shopping night the evening before the Tree Sale from 4–6 p.m. And EVERYONE is invited to the new Trees Atlanta headquarters on October 9th for the best Tree Sale in the south!
One of the most frequent issues that comes up in a historic building rehabilitation, whether it’s dealing with a home or commercial building, involves windows. The tendency of the owner, architect, or contractor is to view the windows as something that needs to be replaced, which can be for a variety of reasons. Often the reason cited is to improve energy efficiency.

Since saving energy is part of conservation and being “green,” which are good things, why would replacing “bad” windows be a preservation issue? Three key aspects of the answer to this question include historic integrity, understanding sustainability (being “green”), and putting energy efficiency into context.

Historic Integrity

One of the underlying principles of preservation that is outlined in the National Park Service’s Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation is maintaining a historic building’s physical authenticity. Physical authenticity is a component of a property’s historic integrity and is demonstrated by retaining character-defining features. Windows are a character-defining feature; their loss diminishes historic authenticity and integrity and, therefore, should be avoided.

Sustainability

Being “green,” which might more correctly be defined as sustainability, is essentially about the wise and efficient use of resources for the benefit of current and future generations. Sustainability brings to mind things like reducing waste streams and landfill needs, recycling, natural resource and energy conservation. These concepts also intrinsically include minimizing and avoiding the use of new resources. One way to do that is to use existing resources. Preservation and rehabilitation are fundamentally about using existing resources. Retaining and repairing existing features is fundamental to rehabilitation. Since historic windows are existing features of a building, retaining them fits the “green” definition as compared to their replacement, which requires disposal and the depletion of resources represented by the new windows.

Energy Efficiency

Historic window energy efficiency is the poster child argument for their replacement with new, “energy efficient” windows. Factually, no window is energy efficient. When converting the measurement used for windows (U-value) to that used for other building components (R-value), a historic window in well-maintained condition will measure about R-1, and adding a storm window will raise it to about R-2. A high-quality modern thermal-glazed window will measure about R-3. Obviously, neither does very well measured against the standards set by insulated walls and floors (R-11), or attics (R-38). So from a purely “energy efficiency” standpoint, windows should be avoided altogether. However, they also serve other important functions, including providing natural light and ventilation, and have aesthetic value. Another consideration is the return on investment. Studies commissioned by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and others have concluded that the cost of window replacement, through reduced power bills for a typical house, takes at least 40 years to recoup.

Taking all these factors into account, the appropriate treatment of historic windows to realize preservation, “green,” and energy efficiency goals is to maintain or repair them to quality operational condition where possible and add storm windows, if needed. Repairing historic windows is relatively straightforward. To learn more about the repair of historic windows and conserving energy in historic buildings, refer to the National Park Service’s Preservation Brief No.3: Conserving Energy in Historic Buildings; Preservation Brief No.9: The Repair of Historic Wooden Windows; and Preservation Brief No.13: The Repair and Thermal Upgrading of Historic Steel Windows, which are available at www.nps.gov. Additional information about maintaining your windows is available from the National Trust for Historic Preservation at www.preservationnation.org.
Druid Hills Hills Open Volunteer Positions for 2011: by Becky Evans, Debbie McDonald, and Joanna Stroud

The DH Tour of Homes and Artist Market Planning Committee is looking for fresh volunteer leadership. While most of our positions are filled, we do have important job openings for the 2011 Tour, big and small. This is a great way to serve your community, connect with your neighbors, and have some fun!

- **Revenue Co-Chair:** Co-chairs the 2011 Tour and AM with three other Co-Chairs: Events and Home Selection - Bonnie Wolf, Operations – Debbie McDonald; and Artist Market – Joanna Stroud. The Revenue Co-Chair is over Tickets, Sponsors, Publicity, and Friends and Patrons. The Tour & AM revenue goes to support historic preservation and green spaces in Druid Hills.

Strong project management and interpersonal relationship skills are required in this job, perfect for someone with a marketing and management background. Able to take this position to a higher level. The Revenue Co-Chair needs to attend tour planning meetings, from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, beginning in September. The biggest time commitment periods are the last two weeks of October and the first week of November, to prepare for the Sponsor Breakfast in early November, and mid-January through mid-February, working with Publicity and Sponsors to finalize all tour and sponsor publicity. The Revenue Co-Chair is a leader, and should be familiar with our tour and tour weekend and need to be on-site throughout the weekend.

- **The Sponsor Chairs and Friends and Patrons Chair positions for 2011 are filled.**

**Following are open positions under Revenue:**

- **Tickets Chair:** Distributes tickets and collects money to and from ticket outlets and homes; reconciles tickets sold, money collected, and attendance over the tour weekend. This job begins in January and is busiest on the tour weekend and the month preceding the tour.

- **Publicity Chair and Committee:** Responsible for all promotion and publicity for the Tour and Artist Market. This job can be broken down according to the skill sets and availability of the volunteers. Tasks that need to be accomplished and/or positions that need to be filled:
  - **Publicity Chair:** Manages the tasks/positions listed below: creates the “Look and Feel” of the tour each year; works with tent sponsor on tent size and set up on Wednesday, April 27, prior to the tour; publicizes tour and AM via social media and works with Communications VP to update DHCA and Tour web-site; writes AM description and promotes AM; edits and releases all final copy of Tour and AM text; writes the docent note cards used in each home to detail home’s interior and exterior history and architectural spaces.

- **Logistics Coordinator:** Plans and maps route of the tour; arranges transportation; secures police security; coordinates production and distribution of signage for tour, homes and sponsors; coordinates delivery of tables, chairs, and supplies; arranges for recycling stands from DeKalb Beautiful.

- **Docent Note Cards Preparer:** Writes the docent note cards used in each home to detail home’s interior and exterior history and architectural spaces.

**The following positions are open under Operations:**

- **Volunteers/Docs/Staff:** Recruits and assigns 250 – 350 volunteers to serve as Shift Chairs and Docs for the homes, gardens; sends solicitation letters in early January to last year’s volunteer list; recruits and credits organizations to become home staffing sponsors, staffing a home for a shift, day or entire weekend. This job requires e-mail proficiency and ability to have Excel file on home computer. Intensive January through the tour weekend.

- **Booth Marking:** Monday or Tuesday, April 25 or 26, measures and marks interior and exterior booth spaces at Artist Market site, St. John’s Lutheran Church.

- **Child & Teen Art Committee Chair:** Coordinates teen and child art via email announcements through the Druid Hills Civic Association Communications VP handles art display setup and take down weekend of the tour.

**Questions? Interested? Please contact Becky Evans at BeckyEvans@midwestpring.com regarding Revenue positions; Debbie McDonald at debmcdon@bellsouth.net regarding Operations positions; and Joanna Stroud regarding Artist Market positions at jsstroud@comcast.net.

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**Kudzu: Hate It Or Eat It!** by Mary Angela Whyte, kudzu warrior

If you don’t know what kudzu is, you aren’t from the South! Old timers call it “foot a day” and we natively swear if you stare at it for a few minutes, you’ll see it move. It’s the broad-leaved green vine that covers hills, trees, buildings, and slow moving people. Well, the jury may be out on that last one, but it can’t be discounted.

How did we get the plant we love to hate? We asked for it! Thinking to stop erosion on our farms and highways, during the Great Depression, we actually planted the Chinese/Japanese import, naively thinking it would stay where put. It, however, took one look around and ran for the hills… and everywhere else. Now, we wage an endless war against a vine whose root can grow to the size of a human—try digging that up—and whose vine can grow 60 feet in one growing season. From Depression savoir to 1953 designated weed—how fickle is fate!

It does have some uses, however. Since its favorite spot is an open field, particularly a highway, parents on long trips with children can make it work for them. Forget counting cars and license plates, when kudzu monsters are available. Give M & M’s to the child who has a vine grow an inch. This sightseeing will be hard to document and fights will likely break out, but they will anyway on a long trip; at least the postenations will be entertaining.

In China, the root has always been used for medicines, including the treatment of alcoholism. The results of studies seem a bit mixed, to me, but at least the Chinese aren’t any taller, though perhaps more sober. The rats in studies here, all alcoholics, do seem to desire less alcohol; there was no note, however, of their disposition.

The fragrant purple summer flowers are the vine’s survival ploy, curbing our urge to destroy, but they also can be steeped and made into kudzu jam or jelly. The vines are made into beautiful baskets (step by step instructions on the web for the crafts obsessed) and, as everyone knows, the leaves are edible. I still lean toward lettuce and spinach and have not been tempted to forage in my lower yard for young kudzu leaves, but to each his own. The internet has many recipes you might surprise your guests with (“The greens? Kudzu from my very own patch!”). I’m including a couple ofinternet recipes found by kudzu gourmands, but many more await you. Just Google “kudzu recipes” and fire up your printer.

I’m renting a goat.

**Kudzu Quiche**

Makes 4-6 servings.

- 1 cup heavy cream
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup chopped, young, tender Kudzu leaves and stems
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Ground pepper to taste
- 1 cup grated mozzarella cheese
- 1 nine-inch unbaked pie shell

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix cream, eggs, kudzu, salt, pepper, and cheese. Place in pie shell. Bake for 35 to 45 minutes until center is set.

**Dried Kudzu**

Dry only the smallest leaves. Place them between paper towels to absorb the moisture and microwave for 30 seconds, then repeat until the kudzu leaves are crisp. Crush between a pan and a rolling pin and repeat until dry. Leave are easy to burn, so watch carefully. Crumbled leaves can be used in your favorite bread or pasta recipes. Freeze them for longer storage.

**Kudzu Candy**

Melt almond bark or flavored candy melts from a craft store in a double boiler. Add raisins, nuts and crushed, dried kudzu leaves. Spread on a cookie sheet; let cool completely and then break into pieces. Or pour candy into molds and cool completely.

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**Nutritional Information Fresh Kudzu Leaves**

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The Civil War looms large here, too. The Lion of the Confederacy watches over the otherwise unmarked mass grave of the dead fallen in the Battle of Atlanta. Across the way are rows of 2500 Confederate graves with, here and there, 16 Union soldiers buried with their foe, all differences unimportant. On a rise, a plaque marks the spot from which Confederate General Hood watched Atlanta burn. And the 65’ Confederate obelisk was once (1874) the tallest edifice in Atlanta.

Another reminder of that period and, unfortunately, beyond is the black section, where prominent blacks are buried, but separate from the whites. The Jewish section is not separate because of discrimination but because that piece of land was consecrated. This also explains the crowded graves, a result of many wishing to be buried there.

No cemetery stroll would be complete without noting the elaborate carvings on tombstones. This isn’t just artistic expression; it’s a wordless statement. A cross, a dove, a lamb, an angel, a Star of David are obvious religious symbols, but many others are found. A tree trunk represents a life cut short too soon, and the ubiquitous urn stands for sorrow. An urn, opened means death while an upright urn means eternal life. A shell, often on a child’s grave, is for baptism or, as with a butterfly, resurrection; an anchor is for hope. Obelisks, like urns, are common, and stand for eternal life, while the egg and dart motif is life (egg) and death (dart).

For me, seeing all the children’s graves, many laid out like little stone beds for a sleeping child, is a sad reminder of how many were lost to illness, such as diphtheria. The sadness of all is the Bloomfield obelisk. On each of the four sides is a named child’s birth and death date—four all girls dead within ten months. On a happier note, every flower has a special meaning, some of which I’ve listed in the sidebar.

History, art, beautiful trees and shrubs, and a calm, peaceful atmosphere! It’s been years since my last cemetery stroll, and Mayor Maynard Jackson and Atlanta historian Franklin Garrett have since moved in. It’s time I went back.

Dalai Lama Returns in October

Source: Kelly Gray, Community Partnership

Since the last visit by His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama in October 2007, Emory has strengthened the ties of the Emory-Tibetan partnership and has been committed to bringing together the best of the Western and Tibetan Buddhist intellectual traditions for their mutual enrichment and the discovery of new knowledge for the benefit of humanity. A return visit from the distinguished Emory professor again this October provides many opportunities to an even more exciting range of conversations, discoveries and knowledge that may benefit individuals and society.

Some events include:

Sun., Oct. 17: Interfaith Summit on Happiness — The Dalai Lama will participate in a forum at which religious leaders and scholars discuss the concept of happiness in today’s society.

Mon., Oct. 18: Compassion Meditation Conference — Researchers will review current findings about the practice of compassionate meditation and potential applications with the Dalai Lama.

Tues., Oct. 19: Artists in Conversation with the Dalai Lama about Spirituality and Creativity — Pulitzer Prize-winning-author Alice Walker and award-winning composer Philip Glass, among others, will talk with Dalai Lama about creativity.

Tues., Oct. 19: International Conference on Tibetan Buddhism — Buddhist leaders, teachers, scholars and translators from the East and the West will discuss the current state of Tibetan Buddhism in the modern world.

Tues., Oct. 19: “The Professor’s Office Hours” — The Dalai Lama will field questions from students and members of the Emory community. The session will be moderated by President James Wagner. This event is not open to the public.
Druid Hills Civic Association
Not yet a member of DHCA? Use the form below and join today!
Join online at www.druidhills.org/join/memberform.htm

DRUID HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION—MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please [ ] enroll me [ ] renew me as a member of the Druid Hills Civic Association (DHCA).

PLEASE PRINT:

Name(s):___________________________________________________________________________________
Address:____________________________________________________________________________________
City:__________________________________________________   State:_________  ZIP:_________________
Home phone:_________________________________    Work phone:__________________________________
Mobile phone:________________________________    Fax:_________________________________________
E-mail:_____________________________________ Occupation:___________________________________

Membership Involvement and Interests
Please indicate your level of interest in the following areas on a scale from 0 to 10.
(0 = Not at all interested     5 = Neutral     10 = Very interested)

____Public Relations/Communications ____Newsletter
____Historic Preservation ____Membership Planning
____Traffic/Urban Design ____Land Use/Zoning
____Tour of Homes ____Flyer Distribution
____Peavine Watershed ____Other—specify______________________________

[ ] Please feel free to contact me for help

Annual Dues (Check one:)

____Individual/Family Member $25 - $49 Amount Paid: $___________
____Sustaining Member $50 - $99
____Druid Member $100 - $249 Please make checks payable to Druid Hills Civic Association.
____Olmsted Member $250 or more Mail to: P. O. Box 363, Decatur, GA 30031-0363

The overall project will replace the multi-dimensional intersection with a roundabout, and add a “road diet” on North Decatur Road through the Village. This will allow for one lane of through traffic in each direction, center turn lanes, bike lanes, improved pedestrian access and sidewalks.

These improvements will moderate traffic flow through the area, and support it as a “village” community gathering spot.

The construction project is scheduled for completion next June. During construction, all lanes on North Decatur Road are planned to remain open, but traffic is expected to be more congested than usual during peak travel hours.

“The finished project will be one that Emory, Druid Hills and the Village merchants and patrons will be proud of,” says Lois Berthaume, president of Alliance to Improve Emory Village, a nonprofit group dedicated to improvements in the Village. “We encourage patrons of Village merchants to continue to visit shops and restaurants during the construction phase.”

Drivers should prepare for traffic congestion through Emory Village and be mindful of pedestrians and bicyclists in the area.


**LOST CAT:**
big handsome two-year-old male Ragdoll with thick silver/grey fur, black face, blue eyes, and white paws is missing from East Clifton Road. He had lost his name-tag and may have been mistaken for a stray by a neighbor. Please, if you know or have seen or are sheltering a cat that looks like this, call 404-713-8107.
Natalie Gregory, Welcome to Your New Home

319 Huron Street, Decatur
Located in the Great Lakes on an extra deep lot, this quality new construction confidently combines old world charm with modern conveniences even including an elevator. Arts and crafts workmanship, period detail and trim, graceful archways, and hardwood floors throughout are just a few of the handsome details. A butler’s pantry connects the spacious formal dining room to the gourmet kitchen. Kitchen that opens to a family room, casual dining area, and screened porch make it perfect for entertaining. Owner’s suite upstairs offers a large walk-in closet and a spa-like bathroom. Laundry room is conveniently located next to the three other bedrooms upstairs. Attached two-car garage at basement level leads to a recreation room and office. An elevator serving all three levels makes this home ultra convenient. $799,000

945 Clairemont Avenue, Decatur
Located on approximately one acre within walking distance to Emory/CDC and downtown Decatur, this brick estate home has been renovated and expanded. Elegant iron gates at the entry welcome you to a spacious formal living room with built-ins and fireplace. Entertain like a pro with a banquet sized dining room and gourmet custom kitchen with solid cherry cabinets, Emerald Pearl granite, and professional appliances. Large family room off of the kitchen offers vaulted ceiling, built-in cabinetry flanking the fireplace, and a wall of floor to ceiling windows with view of the large level backyard. Spacious owner’s suite on main level features walk-in closet and large private bathroom. Second bedroom on main level adjoins a sunroom / office overlooking the professionally landscaped front yard. Upstairs provides a guest or teen suite and more room for expansion. $589,000

536 Moreland Avenue, Little Five Points
This completely renovated and restored four bedroom, three-and-a-half bath Craftsman bungalow is located across from the PATH bike trail. This stylish home features a luxury kitchen with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, pot filler, walk-in pantry, and double dishwasher that opens to a formal living room with fireplace. The dining room includes built-in shelving, an elegant fireplace, and wine chiller. The main floor offers an owner’s suite with private bathroom, two additional bedrooms, and one-and-a-half bathrooms. Large bonus area on the second floor is perfect for an office or playroom and includes a fully renovated private bathroom. $499,000

241 Cheslea Drive, Decatur
Conveniently located between downtown Decatur and Emory University, this four bedroom, three-and-a-half bathroom home has been completely renovated. A formal living room leads you to a sunroom, separate dining room, large kitchen with breakfast room, and separate den. The owner’s suite on main level offers a private bathroom and walk-in closet. Main level offers two additional bedrooms, hall bath, and powder room. Terrace level features a guest bedroom, bathroom, storage room, and drive under garage. French doors off of the den bring you to a large deck with views to a private, fenced backyard and beautiful stone patio. $699,000

461 Durand Drive, Druid Hills
This beautifully renovated 1930’s bungalow in Druid Hills offers incredible privacy with the convenience of in-town living. Flagstone walkways wind through a stunning, natural garden leading to this four-bedroom, two-bath home with a new Vermont-style covered bridge garage. Architectural details such as the hand-carved mahogany entry door, graceful archways and built-in china cabinet distinguish this lovely home that was made for entertaining. Butcher block counters and hand-made maple cabinets make this kitchen unique. A newly renovated basement with play room, laundry room and plenty of storage make living easy. $495,000

1792 Dyson Drive, Druid Hills
Located in the Chelsea Heights neighborhood just one block to Fernbank Elementary, this four-bedroom, two-and-a-half bathroom newly renovated home fits the bill. Spacious kitchen features granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, a breakfast room, and opens to a large separate den with fireplace. Owner’s suite features a private bathroom with a separate whirlpool tub and shower, and spacious walk-in closet. Multi-level deck overlooks fenced, level backyard. Upgrades and special features include new thermal pane windows, new roof, recessed lighting, built-in speakers with surround sound, custom built-ins, crown molding and gleaming hardwood floors. $450,000

Natalie Gregory, Your Home Marketing Specialist
404 550 5113 direct • 404 564 5560 office
NatalieGregorySOLD.com • NatalieGregorySOLD.com
315 West Ponce de Leon, Suite 100, Decatur, Georgia 30030

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