

THE DRUID HILLS NEWS

HELP WANTED	PAGE 2
RECOMMENDED REPAIR PEOPLE	PAGE 2
AMBROSIA BEETLE KILLS TREES	PAGE 2
DHCA BOARD BRIEFS	PAGE 3
THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN	PAGE 3
2006 HOME & GARDEN TOUR	PAGE 4
WALKABLE COMMUNITIES	PAGE 5
BOOK CLUB NEWS	PAGE 5
HISTORIC PRESERVATION	PAGE 6
FERNBANK ELEMENTARY PLAYGROUND	PAGE 7
COMMUTER REWARDS PROGRAM	PAGE 7
HIDDEN TREASURES OF DRUID HILLS	PAGE 8
WELCOME TO WINTER	PAGE 9
AIEV QUARTERLY NOTES	PAGE 9
CULTURAL EVENTS IN DRUID HILLS	PAGE 10
ART IN FREEDOM PARK	PAGE 11
2005-06 DHCA CALENDAR	PAGE 11

Sun Shines on Druid Hills Day

by Judi Shur

Perfect weather highlighted Druid Hills Day, held on November 6 in the soccer field, soon to be known as The Mead, in Deepdene Park, the easternmost segment of the Olmsted Linear Park.

The event was sponsored by the Druid Hills Civic Association and planned by the newest DHCA committee, Community & Lifestyle. The Sunday afternoon included everything from cotton candy to Pilates mat classes, with lots in between. Attendees could choose from such activities as trolley tours of Druid Hills, complete with guide, to three-legged races. Highlights of the day included bluegrass music and Old Style American Community Dancing, played by Full Circle, and guided nature tours of the 22-acre old growth forest known as Deepdene Park.

The children attending had a great time, whether bouncing in the Dino Hide & Slide, playing tug of war, or digging in the sandbox treasure hunt.

At Druid Hills Day, DHCA President Jeff Rader made a presentation of a \$10,000 check to Olmsted Linear Park Alliance (OLPA) Vice President Brian Bowen. This gift represents part of a 10-year commitment on the part of the Druid Hills Civic Association to give a total of \$100,000 to OLPA for restoration of the linear parks on Ponce de Leon Avenue.

This event couldn't have happened without the generosity and hard work of many. DHCA expresses its gratitude to HammerSmith, Inc., Studio Lotus, Billy & Carolyn Hall, Lydia Ogden, Thomas Winn, and Carole Ory for their donations.

Whole Foods Market on Briarcliff and Panera Bread on North Decatur donated delicious sweets for the neighborhood. Special thanks to all of the volunteers who worked at the event and to the committee members (Carri Barish, Matthew Bunting, Linda Grant, Billy Hall, Carolyn Hall, Chad Henderson, Lacy Henderson, Valencia McClinton, Lydia Ogden, Carole Ory, Howard Ory, Judi Shur, Alida Silverman, and Thomas Winn) who made this event happen.



Druid Hills Helps Evacuees

Compiled by Ellen Nemhauser

Like communities all over the country, Druid Hills lent collective and individual helping hands to evacuees from Katrina and Rita. Many residents responded to e-mail requests for their stories. Here they are, in three categories—schools, churches, and families. We know full well that there are many others we don't know about. A collective thanks to all contributors to this report and best of luck to "our" evacuees.

Churches

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) received more than 100 disaster kits prepared by congregants at Glenn Church. Also in conjunction with UMCOR, our local Boy Scout Troop 18 is helping Louisiana troops rebuild and restock equipment. The program is called "100 Boys Helping 100 Boys."

Druid Hills Presbyterian is hosting a family in the church building.

The Intown Community Church Association is also working with displaced families.

continued on page 8

Second Annual OLPA Gala Set for February 19

"Talking and laughing with neighbors I hadn't seen for a while, looking at all the terrific auction items and deciding what to bid on, enjoying delicious food and drink...it was a great evening, and yes, I want to go again!"

That's how one partygoer summed up last winter's Parks on Ponce Gala and Auction and her interest in the 2006 event—set for Sunday, February 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the atrium of the Fernbank Museum of Natural History. The evening will benefit the Olmsted Linear Park Alliance (OLPA) and its effort to renovate Deepdene and complete a long-term maintenance fund for all six park segments.

"More than 300 people attended the first Gala, and we hope even more neighbors will join us in

2006 to celebrate our special community and support our beautiful park," said Joni Winston, OLPA board member and event chair. The evening will feature both silent and live auctions as well as an IMAX movie and special music and entertainment.

Volunteers are needed to help with every aspect of the event—publicity, catering arrangements, acquisition of auction items, catalogue preparation, and logistics and set-up. Winston asks anyone with even a few hours to contribute between now and February to email her at joniwinston@mindspring.com. Offers of auction items may be sent to the same address.

Offers of auction items may be sent to the same address.

Tickets will be available for \$75 each at several neighborhood outlets, beginning in January. To purchase a holiday gift certificate for tickets, send a check payable to the Olmsted Linear Park Alliance to OLPA, Box 5500, Atlanta, GA 31107. Orders must be received by December 17 for Christmas delivery.



The 2006 Olmsted Linear Park Gala will be held at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History. Fernbank CEO Susan Neugent (left) met with Gala Chair Joni Winston and OLPA Board member Roland Ingram to discuss plans.

THE DRUID HILLS NEWS
 Newsletter of the
 Druid Hills Civic Association
 P.O. Box 363
 Decatur, GA 30031-0363

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Email: Jacqueline.McRae@comcast.net

Call Jacqueline McRae, 404-633-5225

Get the Most Out of Your Advertising Dollars

The *Druid Hills News* is published in April, July, September and December. It reaches thousands of people who live, shop, and work in Druid Hills. With thousands of copies of each issue distributed in the area, the publication's advertising rates are a bargain for businesses that want to reach Druid Hills customers. For information on ad sizes and pricing, please call 404-523-3422 (DHCA).

CIVIC ASSOCIATION OFFICIALS

Officers

President.....	Jeff Rader.....	378-5070
First Vice-President.....	Bruce MacGregor.....	378-6040
Admin. Vice-President.....	Tricia Elam.....	373-3255
Com. Vice-President.....	Pam Terry.....	687-0395
Secretary.....	Walter Saunders.....	634-4467
Treasurer.....	Rolf Grun.....	373-5831

Division Chairs

Division 1 (City of Atlanta)	vacant.....	
Division 2 (Ponce Corridor in DeKalb)	Clarke Weeks.....	327-4195
Division 3 (W. of Briarcliff & S. of University in DeKalb)	Robert Vicevich.....	249-9215
Division 4 (Between Briarcliff, N. Decatur & Lullwater Ck.)	Lauretta Miller.....	377-5712
Division 5 (Between Peavine Ck., N. Decatur, & RR Lines)	Jim Morawetz.....	378-3784
Division 6 (W. of Briarcliff, N. of University to S. Peachtree Ck.)	Dee Daly.....	876-2951
Division 7 ("University" Streets west of Emory University)	Greg Robisch.....	373-3923
Division 8 (Emory U., N. Decatur Rd. to S. Peachtree Ck.)	Jeremy Moeser.....	325-9930
Division 9 (D.H. Golf Course, Decatur fork of Peavine Ck. & RR Lines)	Rebecca and Randy Moore.....	687-8082

DHCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Past Presidents

Div. Name	Phone	Email
1 Chuck Palmer	373-7762	charles.palmer@troutman.sanders.com
5 Philip Lee	320-1727	pal@philiplee.com
5 Michael Terry	378-3438	terry@bondurant.mixon.com
4 Debbie McDonald	373-0998	debmcndon@bellsouth.net

Ex Officio

Freedom Park	1 Riccarda Heising	373-9077	rheising@pgfm.com
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DeKalb Civic Coalition (DCC)	4 Judy Yates	373-2112	jjates@greatoakmtg.com
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Neighborhood Planning Unit

1 vacant

Tour of Homes

1 Tricia Elam	373-3255	pelam898@bellsouth.net
1 Barbara Vogel	377-1667	blv812@comcast.net

Druid Hills News Editor

5 Mary Angela Whyte	373-0291	mak_shs@yahoo.com
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Class of 2007

2 Tara Adyanthaya	377-1569	tadyanthaya@kslaw.com
2 Charlie Bleau	371-4087	thebusydruid@scimeasure.com
9 Natalie Di Santis	371-8097	nzdisantis@yahoo.com
7 Becky Evans	378-5288	beckyevans@mindspring.com
1 Dennis Leftwich	378-5776	djleftwich@comcast.net
5 Paul Shanor	373-9889	pshanor@shanor.net
1 Alida Silverman	377-9621	ssilverman@mindspring.com
4 David Winston	373-0266	davewinston@mindspring.com

Class of 2006

1 Krista Brewer	378-6428	kristabrewer@bellsouth.net
1 Jay McMullan	377-1363	jay.mcmullan@comcast.net
9 Steve Misner	373-1523	steve.misner@zurichna.com
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7 Jack Prestia	377-3508	jack@thebigchandelier.com
7 Merl Reed	378-1460	fsmer01@earthlink.net
7 Cynthia Tauxe	377-3331	tauxecyn@aol.com

Class of 2005

7 David Adelman	370-0803	raclopton@sablaw.com
5 Allan Ballard	377-0803	aballard@ix.netcom.com
4 Jim Earhart	373-5830	earhart9@bellsouth.net
4 Tom Gryboski	377-2003	tgryboski@mmmlaw.com
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2 Carolyn Riordan	378-2507	riordanatl@aol.com
2 Judi Shur	378-9775	judishur@hotmail.com
1 Joanna Stroud	377-6329	rojoal@comcast.net

Tiny 'Ambrosia beetle' kills Druid Hills trees

Warning: Your neighborhood could be endangered by an insect that has already killed oaks and other trees in the Olmsted Linear Park and on the grounds of the Druid Hills Golf Club and the Paradiso townhouse complex.

The culprit is the ambrosia beetle, which makes pin-sized holes as it bores into the sapwood. Each hole is stained with fungal growth, which is referred to as "ambrosia" and serves as food for the larvae and adults. Signs of infestation may include piles of whitish boring dust that accumulate around the base of the tree or stands of the dust that protrude from the bark and look like toothpicks.

Trees can be treated and sometimes saved if an infestation is caught in time. Symptoms usually don't become visible until too late, however. Infested trees then must be removed and carefully disposed of, and surrounding trees can be sprayed with an insecticide to prevent further attack.

The gaunt trees at the corner of Ponce de Leon Avenue and Clifton Road show the beetle's lethal effect in Shadyside Park. In October, the trunks of nearby trees in the park were sprayed as a contribution to the Olmsted Linear Park Alliance by Arboguard, Inc., whose owner is Druid Hills homeowner Spence Rosenfeld. The Atlanta Department of Parks has responsibility for cutting and removing the dead trees.

Recommended Repair-people

Do you know the perfect plumber? An extraordinary electrician? A colossal contractor? Are you willing to share this person's name? The *Druid Hills News* hopes to start a list of reliable repair-people. If you know someone of this ilk please send the name, phone number, profession, and an optional little description to the editor of this paper, Mary Angela Whyte, at mak_shs@yahoo.com.

Computer services, Bill Moore (Tech Pro) is the best computer tech I've ever known. 770-736-7271, www.peachbits.com, Techpro@peachbits.com (Marie Morgan)

I highly recommend **David Larimore** for **general and electrical contracting**, as well as **new construction**. He rewired our entire house and worked with architect Cynthia Tauxe on our beautiful kitchen renovation. He is a skilled consummate professional, reliable, punctual, and honest. 678-642-5502 (Lorre B. Cuzzee)

Leonard Blackwell. 770-337-1348—Remodeling, painting and tile work. (Priscilla H. Padrin)

I highly recommend **Mark Hauck of Home Maintenance Company**. Phone: 404-292-7558. He has worked for me for 10-15 years and can install or repair most any appliance (refrigerator, dishwasher, oven, A/C, etc.) very knowledgeable, skilled, personal, prompt. (Donna Brogan)

Recycle at Emory

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



For more information,
call 404-727-1796



or visit <http://www.emory.edu/FMD/web/Recycling/recycling.html>.

HELP WANTED

The *Druid Hills News* offers an opportunity for Druid Hills residents to list needs for services. Here division chairs can list streets needing delivery persons, localized causes can list issues needing workers, enterprising teenagers can mention their skills at babysitting, lawn care, etc., needy parents can advertise for enterprising teenagers, and on and on. It will be what you make it. Please send a description of your needs and/or willingness to volunteer to Sue Heerin at jheerin@aol.com or call our voicemail at 404-523-DHCA.

The Druid Hills Civic Association is looking for volunteers to work on the new **Community and Lifestyle Committee**. We need people to do the following:

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

If you would like to help and, at the same time, meet your neighbors and have fun, please contact Judi Shur at 404-378-9775 or judishur@hotmail.com.

The Druid Hills Civic Association is looking for volunteers to assist on the **Membership Committee**. We need people to:

- Welcome new DH residents
- Assist with administrative tasks
- Create new opportunities for residents to join DHCA

If you would like to volunteer for the Membership Committee, please contact Dee Daly at 404-876-2951 or deedaly3@comcast.net.

Is the Historic Druid Hills sign that tops your street sign damaged, in the wrong place, even missing? Please call the DHCA hotline and report the problem so it can be remedied.

Distributor Needed: Looking for a neighbor to deliver occasional flyers to:

- N. Parkwood and Lakeshore Dr.

ARE YOU NEW TO DRUID HILLS?

If you have not received your welcome/information packet, give your division chair a call.

Division chairs are listed on this page.

THE DRUID HILLS NEWS

Newsletter of the Druid Hills Civic Association

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

Published by Volunteers

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Photos: Ellen Nemhauser, Julie Ralston, J.J. Williams

CIRCULATION MANAGER Clarke Weeks

Your Letters Are Welcome

Druid Hills Civic Association Board of Directors Meeting

by Walter Saunders

July 20, 2005

- Work on the website is ongoing. Once content is determined, graphic design will begin.
- The Community and Lifestyle Committee is working on Druid Hills Day, November 6, in Deepdene Park, and on a possible Druid HillsDirectory.
- A resolution passed to insist sidewalks on Oakdale south of Fairview be installed on the west side, as planned. Current installment is on the east side.
- 1189 Ponce de Leon (Golden Key Property): the Atlanta City Council granted a special use permit with 16 conditions for use of this property by REMAX Metro Atlanta Cityside and Builder Developer Services, ignoring Landmark District ("LD") ordinance requirements.
- Paideia COA: The Urban Design Commission granted a COA with 10 conditions to the Paideia School for redevelopment of the corner lot on South Ponce at Oakdale Road.
- Nunan Property: Since the Board of Appeals denied the variances required for the developer's current "flag lot" plan, he filed suit against DeKalb County. The DHCA has filed to intervene in the suit. The developer has filed a new COA for a cul-de-sac plan to be heard by the Historic Preservation Commission on August 15.
- Springdale Road Street Lights: Neighbors on Springdale between the By Way and the City of Atlanta have petitioned for street lights. Georgia Power provides only cobra arm lights on telephone poles and the lantern type in Durand Mill. The Preservation Committee will address setting street light standards.
- Special Task Force (strategic redevelopment issues): Emory Hospital is planning to move to the land currently occupied by Emory Clinic and parking decks. The Haygood Triangle is to be green space.

August 17, 2005

- Web Site Update : The goal is to have the new pages by September 1, keeping the DHCA tree logo.
- Appeal of Paideia COA to Superior Court: The issue is a difference in interpretation. The UDC and City of Atlanta interpret the legislation to not prohibit the merger of lots while the DHCA contends it does. This is not a lawsuit against Paideia School.
- Maintenance of Traffic Islands: The County will give excess construction funds for landscaping. The landscaped circle will be shrunk because trucks run into the grassy area. Thomas Winn, a local realtor, agreed to fund the landscaping maintenance.
- Nunan Property: The Historic Commission denied the COA. An appeal is expected.
- Transportation Committee: The CCTMA has given their recommendations to the County.
- Nominating Committee: Julie Ralston has agreed to chair the Nominating Committee
- Special Task Force (strategic redevelopment): The taskforce has finished their report on land use over the next 15 years in conservation easements, the Ponce Corridor, redevelopment of garden apartments, and Emory development, including the Haygood Triangle and Briarcliff campus.

September 21, 2005

- Landscaping and Maintenance of the Lullwater Roundabout : Joanna Stroud will design plantings. The County has agreed to provide a water source.
- Nunan Property: The DeKalb County Historic Preservation Commission denied a COA for the cul-de-sac plan, under appeal. The property is for sale with a possible buyer contemplating five houses.
- Transportation Committee: The County has included the CCTMA recommendations in their Comprehensive Transportation Plan, including widening intersections around the neighborhood.
- Nominating Committee: Julie Ralston, chair, David Adelman, Tom Gryboski, and Judi Shur.
- Board Member Resignation: Deb Stone. She is now Chairman of NPU-N.

The President's Column

by Jeff Rader

This edition of the President's column brings me to the year's-end review of the activities of the Druid Hills Civic Association. I can't be sure, but it seems like a normal year, with our wonderful volunteers accomplishing much, and of course, with a great deal to be done in the future. The one thing that a year's experience does impart is a little perspective, which I'd also like to share, for what it's worth.

But first the accomplishments! The miracle of spring that is the Tour of Homes and Gardens was again a success. Our all-volunteer committee and volunteers make it look effortless, and with interesting houses and great weather, this year's tour seemed to be a standout. Our new Community and Lifestyle Committee gave a lift to the Fourth of July Parade, with refreshments and prizes, and in November resuscitated Druid Hills Day as a real fall festival, with music and activities, in the perfect setting of the Deepdene Mead.

Our website, www.druidhills.org, has been retooled and is now available to DHCA committees and neighborhood organizations as a one-stop shop for community information. And speaking of communications, the *Druid Hills News* should now be reaching every mailbox in the neighborhood with delivery by the US Postal Service.

The important business of Land Use activism was met with steady representation of neighborhood interests before the DeKalb Historic Preservation Commission and the Atlanta Urban Design Commission, and when necessary, your Civic Association took legal action to preserve our unique environment. Our members also engaged in transportation and planning issues in DeKalb and Atlanta, and established policy on looming redevelopment possibilities in the neighborhood.

In short, we've done what our volunteer and financial resources allow, and see the DHCA as ready to face the new year. But, as I said, I learned a valuable lesson I think worth sharing.

Those of you following the news know that it has been an active year in the land use department. That's to be expected. Like other close-in neighborhoods throughout DeKalb and the Atlanta region, Druid Hills is feeling the steady economic pressure of escalating property values driving infill, subdivision, and teardowns. So long as the housing market stays strong, we can expect that the neighborhood will have to remain vigilant against commercially driven change.

What I didn't expect and what is perhaps more challenging is the insistent pressure of institutional growth across our neighborhood. Perhaps because they are conceived for a "public purpose" and because they can claim the patronage of neighborhood residents, many institutions in Druid Hills project a message that their goals and objectives merit special consideration

beyond what their residential neighbors can expect. They are "economic engines" and "pillars of the community," which in their minds entitles them to special consideration.

And they often get it. With powerful Boards and supporters, and staff resources dedicated to their objectives, our resident institutions can gain the ear of elected and appointed officials alike. All of this is to be expected, given the mindset of "grow or die."

The problem is that institutional growth presents the same challenges to the community commercial growth does. Accordingly, I believe residents and our governments should give institutional proposals the same scrutiny as private development. In the future, the bulldozers you are most likely to see coming over the hill will be draped in the cloak of "mission." But they're still bulldozers, and just as surely as a condo or retail development, they need to contribute to what makes our community great and mitigate their impact. In so doing, we can preserve the neighborhood for all.

Thanks for your support. It's been a year to remember!

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS For Druid Hills Civic Association Officers and Board

The 2005 DHCA Nominating Committee is now accepting nominations for officers and board members. The DHCA slate of officers includes the following:

- President
- First Vice President
- Administrative Vice President
- Communications Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Officers are eligible to serve for two years. In addition to the officers, there are slots for 24 members of the Board of Directors, with 8 slots available each year. Directors are asked to make a 3-year commitment.

If you or someone you know is interested in serving as an officer or director, please let us know! Call any current officer or board member for more information (a list and contact information can be found in the *Druid Hills News* or on www.druidhills.org). Send your nominations in writing by email or U.S. mail to Nominating Committee Chair Julie Ralston at ralstont@bellsouth.net or the following address:

Druid Hills Civic Association
P.O. Box 363
Decatur, GA 30031

New officers and board members will be elected at the DHCA Annual Meeting in early 2006. Thank you for serving your neighborhood!


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2005 STATISTICS:

- ◆ 33 average days on the market
- ◆ 97.5% average sold to list price
- ◆ Top 1% Nationally
- ◆ #2 DeKalb Board of Realtors
- ◆ #10 Atlanta Board of Realtors



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Druid Hills Home & Garden Tour

Save the Date!

April 21-23, 2006

Winter may be upon us, but the promise of spring is just around the corner. So mark your calendar for one of Atlanta's premier spring events—the Druid Hills Home & Garden Tour.

Once again, the Frederick Law Olmsted designed neighborhood of Druid Hills will showcase an exciting collection of its most outstanding homes, some built before 1920. These large, gracious homes, situated on well-maintained landscapes, demonstrate the best in historic restoration to accommodate the needs of contemporary families.

Homes include a fabulous Mediterranean villa with a romantic outdoor dining room within the boughs of a giant Southern magnolia. Another enjoyed a cameo appearance in an Academy Award-winning movie, while two others stand among the treasured homes designed by noted Atlanta architect, Neel Reid. Tour-goers will also be able to shop at an expanded Artist's Market, featuring a wide range of media from Atlanta area artists.

Plan now to spend a glorious Atlanta spring day with us! Visit the tour web site, www.druidhillstour.org, for updates and more information. For tickets, call 404-524-TOUR (8687) or write P.O. Box 363, Decatur, GA 30031-0363. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 on the days of the Tour. Group rates are available.

Proceeds from the tour are used towards preservation of this historic neighborhood, its parks, trees, streams, and historic character. Companies interested in joining as a sponsor should contact Tricia Elam at 404-373-3255 or pelam898@bellsouth.net. If you'd like to volunteer to help with the tour, please contact Becky Evans at 404-378-5288 or beckyevans@mindspring.com.

Thanks for your support!



2006 Druid Hills Artist Market

The 2006 Druid Hills Artist Market will be held in conjunction with the Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour, Friday through Sunday, April 21, 22 and 23. It will be a juried market and adult artists do not have to reside in Druid Hills. A booth for children ages 12 and under who live in Druid Hills will again be part of the market; a child may display or sell one piece of work. New to the market will be a junior artist booth for a small number of artists ages 13 to 18 who must reside in Druid Hills and who wish to sell their work.

Please check our website at www.druidhillstour.org/artistmarket for detailed information about the market, as well as for application forms for artists wishing to participate.

Sponsor Highlight

The Tour of Homes Committee is highlighting our Gold and Platinum level sponsors of the 2006 Tour donating \$2500 or more. Our first profile is of Gold level sponsor HammerSmith. We will profile other sponsors at these levels in future issues.

Warner McConaughy of HammerSmith recently shared why he sponsors the Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour.

"As a Druid Hills resident and owner of HammerSmith, I am proud to have sponsored the Druid Hills Home Tour for more than ten consecutive years. HammerSmith does not advertise, but rather uses its marketing dollars to support local schools, parks and neighborhoods. We believe that by improving the quality of our living environment and making our neighborhood a better place to live and work, we are creating a win-win situation for HammerSmith, our clients, our employees, and everyone in general.

HammerSmith is one of Atlanta's top design and renovation firms specializing in older intown homes. We have successfully walked dozens of Druid Hills clients through the Historic District Preservation Ordinance, and are sensitive to the historic integrity of all neighborhoods."

We thank Warner and HammerSmith for their continued support of the Tour.

For additional information about HammerSmith and to see hundreds of project photos and client testimonials, please visit their website at www.hammersmith.net.

For information regarding sponsorship opportunities, please contact Tricia Elam at adminvp@druidhills.org.

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Walkable Communities

By Ellen Nemhauser

Back in September, Emory University invited a few Druid Hills members to its workshop on walkable communities. Emory is trying to become one and the surrounding community, namely us, wants to be one, too.

But it's hard. According to a Clifton Corridor Transit System (CCTS) study, the area under consideration has a daytime population of 43,000 people. North Decatur, Clairmont, LaVista, and Briarcliff bound the area. About 7,000 of these people, roughly a sixth, live within a two to three mile radius of the Clifton Corridor. Do all of them need to drive their own cars or is there a better way?

So far, Emory has made several improvements unilaterally. Among them are 33 traffic lights in the area with a contract to synchronize them. The county has promised to implement these improvements by the end of 2005. Emory is also studying the shuttle service, which is currently fraught with problems. The effort to improve it has been contracted to the same group that created the Georgia Tech shuttle, which is highly effective. The university's hopes for the future include expanding the boundaries of the traffic free areas and adding sidewalks and bike lanes.

The CDC, too, is involved in promoting walking and biking as forms of transportation that can reduce obesity and create healthier lives.

Charles Gandy, an expert in livable communities, was the main speaker. A former member of the Texas legislature and an avid biker, he stressed the importance of creating environments that send a clear message to drivers: This is a biking and walking environment.

Gandy used Seattle as a shining example of what can be done when innovation is encouraged. In the 1970's, the downtown, called the Central Business District, was dead. The local government changed the name and the concept. Now it is the Central Neighborhood District and 40% of the people who live there work there. Seattle isn't alone. Fort Worth went from stagnant to vibrant. In its downtown or "Destination Zone," driving is limited to 20 mph. Orlando stripped the concrete from many streets, revealing the original bricks. Property owners had to pay surtax at first to cover costs, but the price of charm is high; there's now a waiting list for houses on brick streets.

What are some of the little things that make an area livable and desirable? Gandy listed several:

- Change unused rail line to biking and walking paths. In some areas, walking paths adjacent to homes added 10% to their value. Walking paths are now in higher demand than swimming pools and tennis courts in newly developed areas. Such trails are seen as symbols of quality.
- Provide shade on sidewalks. Allow for sidewalk cafes and other places for people to relax, people-watch, and meet others.
- Make public spaces inviting by personalizing sidewalks with mosaics, having kids decorate bus shelters (they're not about to spray graffiti on their own work), or even embed dance steps in the concrete.
- Make crossing the street a lot easier. Signs are relatively impotent. Crosswalks need to be zebra striped and the paint jobs kept up. Use overhead signage. Pedestrian activated crosswalks are an excellent idea, especially where there is a lot of pedestrian activity. Countdown signs are ideal. Standing signs in the middle of a crosswalk are extremely effective. When there's no sign, 30% of drivers stop; with a sign, 80% do.

Road diets are also ways of making streets easier to cross. A four-lane street can be changed into a three-lane one, with the middle lane reserved for turning and the outer lanes reserved for bikes. To insure that the middle lane isn't used for additional traffic, big flower boxes can go in—in tonier circles, there are "chicanes." The excuse that emergency vehicles can't navigate such streets is specious. Fire trucks can be only 10' wide. Traffic circles can also be even cheaper, and more effective, than signals. See the article about our traffic circle on page 10.

After classroom time we had lab time. Lab time was a little stroll on Clifton Road where we watched drivers, 99 out of 100 of them in single passenger vehicles, speeding down the street. We doubted that all of them were medical doctors rushing to take care of emergency situations. And we watched throngs of Emory students jay-walking to get to the campus. Clearly, there is a lot of opportunity for change if the area is ever to match Gandy's ideas of a walkable community.

Book Club News

by Faye Andresen

There are books that seem to flow naturally from one reader to another, that flow from one book club to another. Popular books making the rounds in our neighborhood run the gamut from the historical fiction of *The Other Boleyn Girl* to the modern day cautionary tale of *The Kite Runner*. Our non-fiction tastes range from the simply stated *Tipping Point* to the suspenseful and compelling *The Devil in the White City*. And then we can't help but branch out on our own.

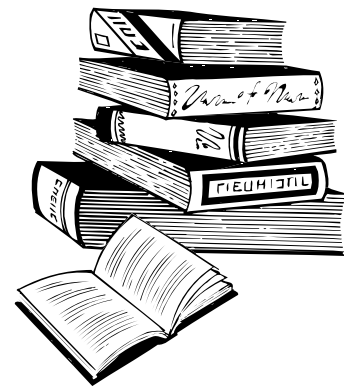
The newly reconstituted North Decatur Book Club read Ian McEwan's *Saturday* and thought it a superb book. They feel McEwan is an extremely tight writer, choosing every word with the care and precision that the protagonist of the book, a brain surgeon, applies to his profession. The book generated much conversation and they were fascinated by the medical details of the story.

The Harvard Road Book Club read the popular *Tipping Point* by Malcom Gladwell, followed by *Mao's Last Dancer* by Li Cunxin. *Mao's Last Dancer* is an autobiographical rags-to-riches story of a peasant boy in China rising to international fame as a ballet dancer. Next they read *The Daughter of the Queen of Sheba* by the NPR foreign correspondent Jacki Lyden. Growing up in the dysfunctional world of manic depressive parents, Jackie tells her story of the fear, helplessness, and heartbreak she felt as a child, loving a mother she could not save.

A Beer & a Book Club kicked off their fall reading with the beautifully written *Love in the Time of Cholera* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez followed by *The Kite Runner*. Their November book was the *The Known World* by Edward P. Jones. It is a fascinating story that explores the contradiction of black slave-holders in antebellum Virginia and gives the reader a look at the multi-layered world created by slavery.

The Last Tuesday's Book Club read *Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson and *Jane Austen's Book Club* by Karen Joy Fowler. K. J. Fowler offers us a glimpse "in the mirror" as she reveals the personalities, problems, and lives of the six members of the all-Jane-Austen-all-the-time book club. Taking the show on the road, the Last Tuesday's Book Club spent a weekend at the beach and in the midst of a lot of fun discussed *City of Fallen Angels* by John Berendt.

Wine, Women & Words Book Club started with *The Other Boleyn Girl* by Philippa Gregory, followed by the *The Tipping Point: Sea Glass*, by Anita Shreve, their most recent book, is the third of a trilogy set in a large old New Hampshire house. The old house is perfect for this newly-wed couple as they begin their lives together in 1929. Unfortunately, events and personalities soon spin out of control, requiring both husband and wife to change and adapt in order to survive.



School News

by Katherine Davey

As of press time, the only news we had received from the schools was of their involvement with Hurricane Katrina relief efforts, as outlined on page 8. For more information on what's happening in our neighborhood schools, visit their websites, listed below:

The Howard School
www.howardschool.org

Shamrock Middle School
www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/~shamrock

Paideia School
www.paideiaschool.org

Fernbank Elementary School
www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/~fernbank

Mary Lin Elementary School
www.marylinpta.org and www.apskids.org/lin

Druid Hills High School
www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/~druidhills

Birar Vista School
www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/~briarvista

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Historic Preservation Quarterly Box Scores

By Jim Earhardt, DHCA Historic Preservation Committee

NEW HOUSE, ROOF ANTENNAE, BELL TOWER, BRIDGE, and ... Yes, the DeKalb County Historic Preservation Commission dealt with applications for all of the above, and many other items, between March and October of this year, and with 114 other applications for Certificates of Appropriateness in the unincorporated portion of Druid Hills, which called for 139 separate actions. It has been a busy time for your Druid Hills Historic Preservation Committee and for the County HP Commission as well. Fortunately, for the Commission, Soapstone Ridge, in South DeKalb County, is the only other designated Historic District, which also requires Certificates of Appropriateness; most of the activity, when there is some, is more archeological than building.

New houses: 11 applications, most all of which were approved, but not on the first go round. Size, massing, and height are the main issues which almost always have to be dealt with.

Roof antennae: 3 applications for such on the roof of the old GHMI building on the Emory West Campus. All were approved resulting in, we hope, better cell phone reception for many of us.

Bell Tower: and, a major addition to St. Elias Greek Orthodox Church, also approved, will really enhance the corner of Ponce de Leon and East Lake Road.

Bridge: no, not one for cars but for people when we stroll through Deepdene Park across Ponce from St. Elias, as part of the restoration of that marvelous place which many of us walked through on Druid Hills Day early in November; it was approved.

In addition to the 11 new homes, there were applications for 15 major additions and 10 more for full second stories on existing homes. In addition to these, the greatest number of applications included new or enlarged decks and porches, walls and fences, driveways, walks and patios, and new or replacement windows and doors. New garages and carports were high on the list, as well, and one applicant even scaled down her application from a 3-car to a 2-car garage because, so the applicant said, "It was just too big and took up too much room;" that was smilingly approved. The Commission also wrestled with new dormers, the demolition of older homes in order to get the new ones (not all were approved, by the way), street lights, signage in Emory Village, awnings, a fountain, the replatting of lots on Clifton (not yet resolved), siding, and roof materials.

So, how did it turn out in terms of the actions taken by the Commission in the last eight months? Just short of 70 percent of all applications for Certificates of Appropriateness were approved—maybe not the first time, but after reworkings, most were. Of all applications, 17.5% were deferred so the applicants could rework them, based on the Commission's comments in relation to the Historic Preservation Guidelines for the Druid Hills Local Historic District. Of all applications, 13.1% were ultimately denied as being in conflict with the Guidelines.

Therefore, when you are planning a renovation or an addition, or even what may appear to be a repair, give us (the local Druid Hills Committee) a call or check out the Guidelines. They can be found on the DeKalb County website under Historic Preservation and will, in time, be on the Druid Hills website, noted on page 11. Our Committee will be glad to hear from you and to guide you in any way we can.

They Did It Right

Clarke Weeks

When Jane Walker Herndon decided it was time to expand her 1921 craftsman home from its original two bedroom/one bath configuration, she was determined to maintain the integrity of the home. The first people she talked to insisted that the only solution was to "pop the top" and add a second story. It was not acceptable to her to lose the Ludowici terra cotta tile roof or the classic style of the house. She also did not want anything that would not match the yellow brick and stucco half-timbered gables of the house.

In conversations with her favorite real estate agent, she came up with a plan that would give her the space she needed and maintain the look and feel she loved about her home. The back of the house faced south but had few windows to look at the garden. She needed a sun room with plenty of glass. She had a large attic but no access, and a hip roof limited the space available. She gave up her pantry to add an open stair to the new second floor and changed the hip roof to a new gable with large windows for light and a view of her trees. A local architect, Gene Schmidt, worked with her to get her ideas on paper so she could start work with the historic commission and hire a contractor.

She chose Sims Contracting and was very happy with them. They did a good job, she said, and, working from very simple, basic plans, they finished ahead of schedule. They constantly looked for ways to use all the available space and to plan for future systems maintenance, making the house as practical as possible to live in. They were able to add two bedrooms, a bath, and a walk-in closet and to keep everything under the original roof.

Jane and her contractor were able to find matching tile to complete the roof of the new sun porch. New dual pane windows that match the original style were ordered and installed. Oak floors blend the old areas with the new. The total effect is such that it is difficult to tell that the double hung windows in the new sunroom were not installed when the house was new. You can truly say that she did it right!

Acquiring Historic Preservation Guidelines and COA Forms (how to purchase, review on site, or find on the web)

Forms and other information can also be found on the DeKalb County Planning Department website.

The Design Manual for the Druid Hills Local Historic District can be reviewed in The Planning Department office or at the reference desk of the Decatur Library. Copies may be purchased from the Kinko's located at 2088 North Decatur Road (northwest corner of the intersection of North Decatur Road and Clairmont Road). Kinko's phone number is 404/321-3990.

Directions to Druid Hills Design Manual on the website.

- Go to www.co.dekalb.ga.us/planning
- Click on link in first paragraph that says "Historic Preservation."
- Click on button near upper right labeled "Historic Preservation."
- Under the heading "Historic Preservation" click on button labeled "Druid Hills."
- In second column under "additional links" click on "Design Manual."

The manual is in Adobe Acrobat format. It has been divided into several sections. Click on the one you want. You may print a full section or you may choose which pages you want to print. You can also download the document to your computer.

Directions to Certificate of Appropriateness application form on the website.

- Go to www.co.dekalb.ga.us/planning
- Click on link in first paragraph that says "Historic Preservation."
- Click on button near upper right labeled "Historic Preservation."
- Click on second document icon at the bottom of the page under "Documents and Forms."

The form is in Adobe Acrobat format.

Know Your Neighborhoods~Who Am I?

By Lynn Speno

I am a small part of Druid Hills. My single street is a cul-de-sac boasting an array of revival and eclectic style domestic architecture. While small, I am a National Register neighborhood. My cul-de-sac represents the earliest documented use of this now ubiquitous planning feature found in Atlanta. My street was laid out all at one time and developed during a short time, which was similar to how other neighborhoods were being developed. Joel Hurt, the original developer of Druid Hills, had reserved this land for himself, but never built upon it. The architect who was responsible for building half of the houses and planning the subdivision as a whole was H.W. Nicholes. Nicholes was also responsible for building homes in other parts of Druid Hills, as well as in nearby Atkins Park. Using alternate lots, with another Druid Hills developer, Kuniansky, taking most of the other ones, Nicholes used my street as a staging ground for building materials while he also worked on other nearby homes. He filed for bankruptcy in 1926 when I was half-finished, but it is not known whether I caused the bankruptcy or whether it was seen by him as a last resort to maintain solvency. However, several builders completed my street in the next few years according to Nicholes' plan.

I am very proud of my stone entrance pillars. I think they evoke a very nice formal effect and are quite distinctive. Lawns on the


street are informally landscaped with adjacent sidewalks and granite curbs. Tastes in the 1920s ran to irregular, curvilinear street layouts just like mine, so I was very much in style.

Who am I?


If you guessed Cameron Court, then CONGRATULATIONS! You know your neighborhoods!

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Eagle, "I can see in all directions" Round Mask, William Kufinley (Nuu-chah-nulth).
Photograph by Jackie Beckett © AMPH. Parrot Mask Necklace by Lambert Homes, Sr. (Zuni);
Dahlia L. Thiesen collection.

Fernbank Elementary Playground Renovation Project

The Fernbank Elementary School PTA has established the Playground Renovations Committee to develop a plan to design and fund improvements to the playground area. For two decades, the school's outdoor facilities have been well used by students and community groups. In-school fundraising began in September, raising \$8,500 of the projected \$150,000 needed.

Proposed improvements include:

Phase I - top priority

- removing the concrete circles and replacing the 17+ year-old play structures with new ADA compliant play structures.
- resurfacing the basketball court - used by community leagues

Phase II - as funds permit

- renovating the pagoda
- replacing railing and water fountains, adding benches
- landscaping the entrance way and stairs to the playground
- adding a woodland classroom with a native fern garden
- reworking the soccer field and baseball diamond
- laying out a double-looped lap track
- painting the concrete bleachers with a design that instills school and community pride

These goals can be realized! The Playground Renovations Committee's site plan of the 12 acres is online...Google "Fernbank Elementary."

After reviewing project profiles (amount raised through direct parent donations, fundraisers, community business partnership, and successful grant applications) of similar recent renovations, the PTA is confident our community has the means to undertake this much needed renovation. Volunteers are needed for grant writing, fundraising, community relations, and business partnership. If you can offer assistance or information, please e-mail us at Fernbankplays@yahoo.com.

Make a donation! Make checks payable to Fernbank PTA, noting "Enrichment Fund B-Recreation." and mail to:

Fernbank Elementary School
157 Heaton Park Drive, N.E.
Atlanta, GA 30307
Attn: The Myers - Enrichment Fund

(Donations are tax deductible in accordance with the PTA's 501(C)status. Donations over \$250 will receive a written receipt.)

Denise Garlow
Fernbank Playground Renovations Committee

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North Decatur Road Block Party

The annual block party was at its usual time—Halloween weekend—at the home of Cliff Lietch. Cliff has an ideal indoor-outdoor room, complete with fireplace, so the group is hopeful that he'll be willing to be a permanent host. One of the problems, albeit very minor, is the lack of flat driveways and gardens.

The group followed its normal practice. Ad hoc social director Jiffy Page sent out a "save the date" e-mail a month in advance. Her assistant, Taylor, joined her to create and distribute fliers a week in advance.

Then everyone showed up on Sunday afternoon, bringing drinks and finger food to share. The group includes neighbors on the west side of North Decatur (across Briarcliff) and Villa, so it is small, but it makes up for its size in liveliness and sense of adventure. One of the topics of conversation was recent travel and this was truly far-flung, ranging from Ecuador to Corsica to Sicily. As usual, everyone had a fine time and looks forward to next year's effortless event.



Commuter Rewards Offers Relief to Metro Atlanta Commuters

How do you spell relief from high gas prices? The Clean Air Campaign® spells it C-A-R-P-O-O-L! The Clean Air Campaign and the region's eight transportation management associations are offering a full-fledged "relief" effort for thousands of commuters through its unique Commuter Rewards program. Commuter Rewards provides cash and prizes for people who live or work in the 20-county Atlanta area who use commute alternatives such as carpooling, taking transit, vanpooling or teleworking. The concept is simple: clean up your commute, log how you did it, earn cash and win prizes.

Cash for Commuters

Start carpooling, teleworking, using transit, walking or bicycling to work and earn \$3 per day, up to \$180 over three months. Cash for Commuters registration runs through December 31.

Commuter Prizes

Already using an alternative commute? Register for Commuter Prizes and get rewarded. The more you log your clean commutes, the greater your chances of winning monthly drawings of \$25 gift cards. Participants may also win \$100 value SpotLight Awards.

Carpool Rewards

Currently carpooling? Carpools with three or more people can earn monthly gas cards—the more carpool partners you have, the bigger the reward.

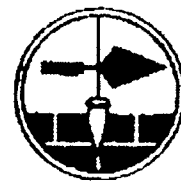
Check out the current program offerings by logging on to cleanaircampaign.com, sign up for the one that's right for you and reap the benefits of a better commute.

Commuter Rewards is a region-wide program drawing on the strengths of the nine organizations in metro Atlanta working to reduce traffic congestion by increasing the use of commute alternatives. These organizations include The Clean Air Campaign, BATMA, the Clifton Corridor TMA, CobbRides, Commuter Club, Downtown TMA, the Hartsfield Area TMA, Midtown Transportation Solutions and the Perimeter Transportation Coalition.



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Druid HillsHelps Evacuees continued from page 1

Schools

Due to the huge impact of Hurricane Katrina local schools took upon themselves some major relief efforts. All DeKalb county schools participated in Dollar Day. Each student was asked to bring in \$1 and each faculty member \$5 to contribute to the cause. At Fernbank, students participated in this fund raiser, as well as brought in stuffed animals for "Tubs of Love" and toiletries for emergency kits. At Shamrock, the Red Cross Club also collected books and helped in the county's effort to collect school supplies for students coming into the DeKalb system. Druid Hills raised money as a school, and the newspaper, SPOTLIGHT, raised extra funds and interviewed displaced students new to the School, giving them a forum to share their experiences.

Druid Hills took in a handful of students, many of whom have been fortunate enough to get back home.

Paideia took in 16 students and waived tuition for their stay at the school. At press time, eight remained. Paideia students and staff assembled personal needs kits for families, the junior high kids held a breakfast sale and collected goods, and high school students raised more than \$500 and collected 400 pounds of food and clothing for relief efforts.

Families

A popular former Fernbank teacher, whose minister husband had been transferred to New Orleans, came back to the neighborhood and bunked with an old friend on Emory Road. Even though she's no longer at the school, and the circumstances leading to her return were wretched, her many former students were happy to see Susan Cortez Cram again.

Four families on Oxford Road and two on Springdale are hosting swimmers from the University of New Orleans (UNO) Women's Swim Team. UNO wasn't hit hard by the hurricane but the campus is now housing military personnel. It plans to reopen in January.

The team relocated to Atlanta to attend classes at Agnes Scott and practice swimming at Emory. The coordinator of the effort was overwhelmed with the response to her plea for housing; within two days, just from phoning and e-mailing, she had offers from more than 30 families! And she has an ongoing compliment, too—a swimmer designated her as honorary grandmother in the distant future.

Many families who aren't housing swimmers have provided other hospitality such as dinners and providing a little pocket money by employing the girls as baby sitters. The picture was taken at an Oxford Road barbeque for the girls. It's not hard to understand how boys from the host families, now out of town for college, have become temporarily more interested in visiting home more often than usual.

A three-generation family now has a Florida beach house. Part of the family was evacuated without too much drama but other members were rescued from a rooftop. The family found the owner of this vacation home through a website helping displaced people. A neighbor at the beach helped the family settle in, including enrolling the three-year-old in a nearby pre-school program. The family has the house for free until April.

An Oakdale Road resident found a condo in Decatur for some old friends displaced by the hurricane. But squeezing eight people into a three-bedroom apartment was more than cozy. The family hoped for more space but dreaded being separated. A neighbor asked if she could help. "Sure," said the host, and mentioned off the cuff that she could use a two-bedroom apartment in the same complex. The neighbor responded, "My parents own a condo there and they're not using it." So, the family ended up together with more than adequate space.

Another three-generation family is living rent-free on North Decatur, with household items donated by neighbors and social life augmented by the annual block party.

But not all the stories are so sweet and heartwarming. A sympathetic Druid Hills woman listed her North Georgia log cabin on a hurricane relief website. She said it was free, long-term, and could sleep up to five. She received numerous phone calls and e-mail responses but no one wanted it. Why? Because it had no television! In fact, one family had the temerity to request the host to install a satellite dish. She refused and the cabin remained empty.



Hidden Treasures of Druid Hills

Dances With Wood: The Bowls of Sam A. Williams

By J.J. Williams

The turning of wooden bowls is both a craft and an art. Sam Williams first became interested in turning bowls from friends, and soon learned that one of the best woodworking stores in the southeast was located around the corner from his Springdale Road home. Mr. Williams began taking woodworking courses at Highland Hardware, located on North Highland, the same place former President Jimmy Carter took classes.

Williams then began studying with Nick Cook, a bowl turner famous in woodworking circles, and a former leader in the American Woodworkers Guild. Mr. Cook died a year ago, and his craft is being continued by his son and grandson, as well as students like Sam Williams. "I spent days training with Nick Cook," stated Williams. "He became both a teacher and a mentor."

Creating a bowl from a piece of wood is a laborious process. First, the turner must find the kind of wood he wants. There are many different kinds of wood found in Georgia alone and each tree has specific qualities that will instill unique beauty in the finished bowl. Mr. Williams often comes home to find an interesting log in his driveway, left by well-meaning friends, or he'll choose a piece of unusual wood collected by Mark Sillay, a mail carrier in Decatur who sells to wood workers. The location in the tree where the wood came from, which will affect the grain and patterns of the wood, must be considered. For example, wood from a fork or twisted limb will have curved lines, while wood from a straight limb will have a rectilinear grain. Sometimes a disease, insects, or a fungus will give a piece of wood unique designs or colors. First, the wood is sliced with a chain saw, then roughly cut into a round shape with a band saw. (It seems ironic that Mr. Williams' full initials are "SAW.") While the bowl turns on a lathe, a series of four to six chisels—filed razor-sharp—are used to shape the bowl. The final cuts on a bowl are called "angel hair" because they're so fine. Finally, the bowl is sanded and rubbed with linseed or tung oil to bring out the color and grain of the wood. "I don't use stain on the bowls because I like the natural color of the wood to show," stated Williams. Occasionally, a final step in bowl construction includes application of beeswax to bring out sheen. A finished bowl represents 15 or more hours of labor.

Mr. Williams has long been a fixture in the leadership of Atlanta. He worked for Mayor Ivan Allen, with Central Atlanta Progress, and with The John Portman Companies. He's currently the President of The Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce. He serves on boards of the Olmsted Linear Park Alliance (OLPA), the Georgia Tech Advisors, Emory, and the Carter Center, to name a few. In addition to turning bowls, his hobbies include fly fishing, astronomy and gardening. Though one of his many accomplishments was helping Atlanta get ready for the 1996 Olympics, he's quick to list his greatest achievement: "Raising my two daughters," he said with pride.

All of the bowls created by Mr. Williams are given to friends or charity. Last year, Mr. Williams crafted a large bowl from a piece of White Oak that had fallen in Olmsted's Virgilee Park. He donated the bowl to the OLPA Auction and Gala and it fetched a handsome price of \$675.00. This year, he intends to donate a bowl cut from an oak that fell in Springdale Park to the Auction, which will be held at Fernbank Museum on February 19, 2006.

Though he may have design ideas in the beginning of a project, Williams lets the wood dictate the size and shape of the bowl. "Ed Moulthrop (another famous woodworker) always says, 'A bowl is hiding in the tree—your job is to find it,'" stated Williams. "It takes a lot of trial and error, and you have to consider the grain, texture, color, and strength of the wood." Applying the chisel to the wood requires fluid and rhythmic movements as the bowl turns, the chisel grinds, and the chips fly. "Nick Cook always said it's like a dance with wood," said Williams. That dance is gracefully reflected in the lines and burls of Williams' bowls. "It's said when you finally become an artist," quipped Williams, "you no longer have a workshop—you have a studio." Sam Williams definitely has a studio and it's one where he dances with wood.

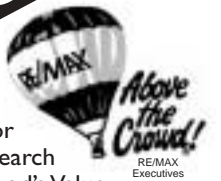


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Be Careful Out There...

by Sheila McIntosh

The phone woke me early on Wednesday, November 9. "Boy, am I glad to hear your voice." It was my massage therapist. Strange. Then she explained. A runner had been killed crossing North Decatur Road at 6 a.m.; the victim's description sounded a lot like me.

I didn't bother to tell her that I'm not that dedicated. A 6 a.m. run in the dark and often cold is just not enough to get me out of bed. But for Patti Foell it was. And the convergence of a few small errors that day cost her her life.

The running community has lost several of its members in the past few years, but none has hit me quite like this one. My neighborhood, my roads, my team, and the cars and apathy I curse at nearly daily.

The papers said she wasn't wearing reflective gear. The driver apparently "never saw her." She "came out of nowhere." We'll probably never know the facts. We do know the outcome, the scenarios that led to such tragedy.

I am amazed by the habitual behavior of drivers in this city. I'm even more amazed at the carelessness of pedestrians. With shaky legs I made myself run that day. At the intersection of Haygood and North Decatur, three cars ran the red light. The night of Patti's death I saw a student crossing Clifton in front of the hospital. He walked in front of a bus. Wearing ALL black.

How do we change this? How do we get ourselves and others to think more, react less? There are a few rules we should review.

You are not the most important person in the world. Even less important is your meeting, lunch, client, soccer game, watch time or the cool sound of your engine at 3500 rpms.

The smallest errors can lead to the biggest regrets. Think about it. Remember that time you looked down at your coffee cup and slammed into the car in front of you? That was one pricey latte, wasn't it?

Those are the "macro" rules and apparently the hardest to grasp. Cut these out. Paste them on your dashboard, in your exercise log. Re-read as often as necessary.

As they relate to pedestrians and their safety, let's review the "micro" rules.

Walkers, runners, skaters:

You are pedestrians. You should be on the sidewalk. If not, you should be facing traffic. There are a couple of exceptions, like where the oncoming traffic simply cannot see you. An example of this is The By Way between Oakdale and Lullwater.

Many of us must run in darkness during some part of the year. BE REFLECTIVE. I mean this in the literal and ethereal sense. Many products are on the market that make you very visible—Scotchlite vests, blinking red lights that clip to your clothing, itty bitty LED flashlights, Illuminite clothing.

With a little attention and prevention, we can safely share the road.

Alliance to Improve Emory Village, Inc. ~quarterly notes~

The Alliance to Improve Emory Village (AIEV) is a nonprofit organization with a mission to create a safe, economically viable, walkable, and compact (mixed use) business community that is compatible with and a resource to the Druid Hills neighborhood and Emory University. AIEV's priority is the revitalization of Emory Village through a series of traffic calming, environmental and community improvement measures.

AIEV launches fundraising campaign—Community contributions vital

AIEV is preparing for the launch of a fundraising campaign. The Alliance is partnering with the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) and DeKalb County on key elements of the revitalization plans. But to ensure the plan is implemented fully, private funding is needed.

Here are some of the projects requiring private money

- The removal and burial of overhead wires
- A feasibility study to explore environmentally sensitive options for the Village, including a project to capture rooftop water and recycle it for irrigation at Druid Hills Golf Course
- Water quality systems that would filter out pollutants in storm water runoff before it reaches Peavine Creek
- Trees, lighting and benches
- Long-term maintenance of the streetscape improvements

Here's why you should contribute

In addition to the obvious values of the projects, donations from the community are important, valued, and tax deductible. Foundations are more likely to support AIEV if they see that stakeholders, including Druid Hills residents, step forward to contribute to the revitalization of Emory Village.

To make a charitable contribution to the Alliance to Improve Emory Village, please mail to:
AIEV c/o Mark Goldman, 1179 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA 30307
(Checks should be made out to AIEV)

Welcome to Winter

By Paula Refi

It's a good thing there's a winter; otherwise, some plants might never be noticed. The brilliant display of autumn was nice while it lasted. Now it's a bit of a relief to see the garden pared down to its essential elements. This is the time when the landscape's permanent features, both living and manmade, are revealed.

Woody plants—the trees and shrubs—comprise what designers like to call the "bones" of the garden. Without the distraction of summer's flowers, any errors in plant placement or selection are exposed. Conversely, choice specimens come into their own. Just one variegated broadleaf evergreen—"Gold Dust" aucuba, for instance—becomes a focal point. "Spring" Chinese holly displays areas of creamy yellow on its foliage. It grows to ten feet or more and tolerates part shade. "Goshiki" osmanthus (*Osmanthus heterophyllus*) has distinctive green flecks on a gold background. A slow grower, it would be content in a container for many years. Use either plant to punctuate a mixed border, brighten a dull corner or emphasize an entry.

Conifers with distinctive form and color are equally arresting. Nearly-blue "Boulevard" falsecypress (*Chamaecyparis pisifera*) is softly conical. "Swane's Golden" cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) is narrowly columnar and slow growing. Goldthread falsecypress (*Chamaecyparis pisifera* "Golden Mop") is aptly named. It retains its color all year and holds up in Georgia's heat. Keep in mind that conifers require at least a half-day of full sun and a well-drained location.


Deciduous plants also contribute to the winter landscape. Some, like contorted filbert (*Corylus avellana* "Contorta"), actually look their best without foliage. The filbert's twisting limbs are prized for indoor arrangements. And don't overlook the aspects of bark. Korean stewartia (*Stewartia koreana*) is valued for its white blossoms in summer and fall leaf color. Then, in winter, older specimens reveal their flaky bark in tones of orange, gray and red-brown. The paper maple (*Acer griseum*) is a small shade tree with extraordinary peeling bark of cinnamon-red.

Some trees and shrubs produce ornamental fruit that persists well into winter. "Winter King" hawthorn (*Crataegus viridis*) is a densely rounded small tree. We admire its white blossoms in May, but the birds prefer its bright red, half-inch fruit in winter. Deciduous hollies deserve wider use as winter ornamentals and in wildlife landscapes. Among the most desirable is winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*).

Although native to moist areas, it adapts to ordinary garden situations. Birds prefer to wait until frost has softened the fruit. Winterberry "Winter Red" holds its berries long into the season. Just be sure to purchase both male and female shrubs, and plant them in plenty of sun to guarantee maximum fruit set.

Don't overlook perennials when planning the winter garden. Two selections with evergreen foliage, golden sweetflag (*Acorus gramineus* "Ogon") and autumn fern (*Dryopteris erythrosora*), make an attractive shade combination. In sunny perennial beds, leave the sturdy seedheads of purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*), black-eyed-Susan (*Rudbeckia*) and sedum "Autumn Joy". Meanwhile, the blades of ornamental grasses fade to amber and contribute textural interest.

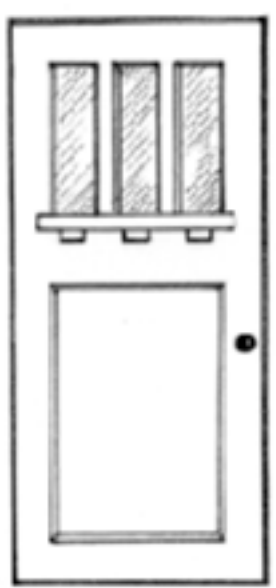
Poring over the new crop of garden catalogs is a time-honored winter pursuit. Internet gardening is a more recent activity, but one especially amenable to this time of year. Just avoid spilling cocoa on the keyboard.



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Example: Craftsman Style

Roundabout News

By Sally Sears

The new Lullwater Roundabout is getting credit for increased safety and better traffic flow from neighbors and DeKalb County's transportation director John Gurbal.

The traffic change where Lullwater Road runs into North Decatur Road just west of Emory Village began last winter, when neighbors and the county agreed to try a new solution. Speed and a curving intersection were the main safety problems.

"We had a steep learning curve," admits Gurbal. "Not all the drivers in Druid Hills, or anywhere in DeKalb, were used to roundabouts." Every weekday, surveys show, 15,000-20,000 cars navigate the circle. Today, Gurbal's office receives praise from drivers, particularly bicyclists appreciating the slower speeds. He says several other metro traffic engineers are asking for blueprints.

Circles are widely praised by engineers and urban planners for increasing safety and improving traffic flow. Circles eliminate stop lights and long lines of cars, and are often cited as "improving civility."

But not all drivers are careful navigating the turn at Lullwater, and passersby are frustrated by frequent tire tracks through the grass. Gurbal blames that on infrequent large construction trucks, and, more commonly, trucks pulling trailers.

"We designed the circle smaller than usual, to save many large trees nearby, which the whole neighborhood wanted," he says. "We made it possible to enter and exit easily, and even to turn 270 degrees. The trucks doing the damage are using the circle as a U-turn, and it's not designed for that."

Landscapers from the Druid Hills Civic Association feared they'd lose more of the inner grassy circle to pavement if the u-turning trucks were allowed to continue. For now, Gurbal says county commissioners and the neighbors encouraged him to try landscaping solutions instead of more pavement.

He's considering adding a sign forbidding U-turns in the fragile roundabout, and enforcing it with DeKalb police officers until trucks get the message.

AIEV: ANOTHER ROUNDABOUT!

The roundabout planned for a few hundred yards east, the large five-way circle where Oxford Road intersects North Decatur at the gates of Emory University, is benefiting from the experience at Lullwater. Construction is expected to begin in August 2006, and will take several months to complete.

"We think our drivers will know what to expect," says Alliance to Improve Emory Village co-chairman Davis Fox.

DeKalb transportation director John Gurbal agrees. "It really helps the Oxford Roundabout planning to have the Lullwater Circle in first. It gets people used to the idea. We think we've had a training class at Lullwater." Details of the design for the Oxford Roundabout are online at www.emoryvillage.org.

Cultural Events in Druid Hills

Winter 2005

by Virginia Kippelen

CALLANWOLDE
980 Briarcliff Road, NE
404 872-5338
www.callanwolde.org

The Nutcracker
December 3, 10; 9:30 & 10:45 a.m.

Join the Callanwolde Dance Ensemble as they present two 45-minute performances of excerpts from the seasonal ballet classic in the courtyard at the mansion. A "Land of Sweet" will complement the performance. Tickets: \$5 on sale, beginning November 15.

Children's Holiday Event:
Teddy Bear Tea
December 11; 1:00 & 3:00 p.m.

Sing-a-longs, book readings, elaborately decorated table tops and a visit from Santa will be the highlight of this delightful afternoon for children and parents. Tea will be served along with tea sandwiches, cakes, cookies and candies. Children are encouraged to bring their own teddy bear as there will be teddy bear march to the "Teddy Bear Picnic" song. Tickets: \$20 per person; (Only 4 children per adult, please, and children should be age 4 and above.)

EMORY UNIVERSITY
www.arts.emory.edu
Art at Emory Box Office: 404-727-5050

Atlanta Celtic Christmas Concert
December 17 & 18, 2005; 8p.m.

One of Atlanta's most popular holiday traditions celebrates Christmas with the mystical beauty and heartfelt warmth of Celtic and Appalachian music, dance, poetry, song and story. Under the direction of James Flannery, director and host. Schwartz Center, Emerson Concert Hall; \$25; discount available.

Michael C Carlos Museum
404-727-4282
571 S. Kilgo Street on Emory Campus
www.carlos.emory.edu

Through November 27
Excavating Egypt: Great Discoveries from the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology,
University College London

Through January 15, 2006

The Objective Eye:
Photographs from the Rozycki-Cromwell Collection
Includes the 19th-century pioneers David Octavius Hill and Robert Adamson, as well 20th-century figures Paul Strand, Alexander Rodchenko, Josef Sudek, Leon Levinstein, Garry Winogrand, Larry Fink, and Michael A. Smith

FERNBANK MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
Clifton on Ponce de Leon
404 929-6400
www.Fernbank.edu/museum

Through January, 2006
Totems to Turquoise
Native North American Jewelry Art of the Northwest and the Southwest
More than 500 pieces reveal the richness, complexity and diversity of Native American artistry, providing a historical perspective of the techniques, materials and styles that have evolved over the past 100 years.

Showing at the IMAX Theatre
Through February 10, 2006
Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets
A unique glimpse of the canyon's awesome history, from the original Native American inhabitants to the Canyon's great explorers.

Through January 1, 2006
Mystery of the Nile
For 114 days, a team of explorers led by Pasquale Scaturro and Gordon Brown make their way along all 3,260 miles of the river to become the first in history to complete a full descent of the Nile from source to sea.

FERNBANK SCIENCE CENTER
156 Heaton Park
678-874-7102
<http://fsc.Fernbank.edu>

Holiday Traditions Around the World
November 25 - December 30, 2005
Thursday & Friday: 8:00 p.m.
Friday, Saturday & Sunday: 3:00 p.m.
Additional weekday shows, December 21-23, 26-30: 3 p.m.
Closed December 24 & 25.
In the clear winter skies of the holiday season, the stars seem exceptionally bright. This show takes you on a trip around the globe and looks at holiday traditions past and present. Come enjoy the beauty of the winter constellations under the planetarium night sky.



Just who is keeping an eye on the traffic in Emory Village?

No one has a better view, day and night, than the tall, thin metal person who for weeks supervised the flow along North Decatur Road and Lullwater. The statue pointed a long finger straight east on North Decatur up through Emory Village and into the belfry at Glenn Memorial Church. Briefly, the Druid Hills High School football team contemplated making him or her a Red Devil for homecoming. But then the statue disappeared! For much of September and October, it was gone. Then, on October 27, in time for Halloween, it reappeared.

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2005-06 DHCA Calendar

NOTE: Refreshments begin at 7:00 p.m.
Board Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.

DECEMBER

December 21: December Board Meeting if necessary
(Location TBA)

JANUARY 2006

January 18: January Board Meeting—St. John's Lutheran

FEBRUARY 2006:

February 12: 2006 Annual Meeting—2:00–4:00 p.m.

**WE HAVE
A WEBSITE!**



The new DHCA
website is up
and running!
Check it out at
www.druidhills.org

**Art in Freedom Park
Comes to an End**

As most of you have noticed, the art has slowly been disappearing from Freedom Park. Soon, all of the temporary art will be removed, but we are fortunate to be left with "The Bridge" by Thornton Dial, located at the corner of Freedom Parkway and Ponce de Leon. September 18, 2005, marked the official end of Art in Freedom Park 2005. The day was celebrated with an afternoon of performances on the hill just east of Moreland.

So what happens next?

We have been asking ourselves the same question. We consider Art in Freedom Park 2005 to have been a great success. There was good press coverage and a wide enough array of pieces for everyone to have several favorites. To generate the same excitement as this year's event, plans are already under way to expand the reach of the show to include artists from all over the country. Ultimately, we would like Freedom Park to be an outdoor gallery on par with any sculpture park in the country.

Unfortunately, we have a lot of plans but not enough money or volunteers. We are, therefore, looking for people with the interest and resources to help us move Art in Freedom Park forward into 2006. We can't do it without your help. Specific skills needed include fundraising, grant writing, public relations, bookkeeping, and volunteer coordination. We are also looking for people interested in working on one task, such as setting up for an event, cleaning up after an event, or maintaining the area around the art.

Lastly, if you enjoyed Art in Freedom Park and want it to continue, then we need you to contact your local representatives (Atlanta City Council, Fulton County Commissioners, and the mayor's office). The City of Atlanta Bureau of Cultural Affairs Public Art Program, the Fulton County Commission under the guidance of the Fulton County Arts Council, Atlanta Fulton County Arts Council, and the Georgia Council for the Arts all contributed financially to Art in Freedom Park 2005. This project was also supported, in part, by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art. We need continued support from all these organizations as we go forward.

Please contact Eric Dusenbury at dusenbur@bellsouth.net or 404-522-7130 if you are interested in helping with Art in Freedom Park.

Druid Hills Civic Association—Member Benefits

Not yet a member of DHCA? Use the form below and join today!

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)

<input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations/Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Urban Design	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Zoning
<input type="checkbox"/> Tour of Homes	<input type="checkbox"/> Flyer Distribution
<input type="checkbox"/> Peavine Watershed	<input type="checkbox"/> Other—specify _____

Please feel free to contact me for help

Annual Dues (Check one):

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Family Member	\$25 - \$49	Amount Paid: \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Member	\$50 - \$99	
<input type="checkbox"/> Druid Member	\$100 - \$249	
<input type="checkbox"/> Olmsted Member	\$250 or more	

Please make checks payable to Druid Hills Civic Association.
Mail to: P.O. Box 363, Decatur, GA 30031-0363

Essential Phone Numbers

- DeKalb County Government404-371-2000
- Non-Emergency Police
(dial 911 for emergencies)404-294-2000
- Homeland Security404-297-4572
- Animal Control404-294-2996
- Board of Education404-297-1200
- Board of Health404-294-3700
- Chamber of Commerce404-378-8000
- Code Enforcement404-417-1240
- Family & Children Services404-370-5000
- Keep DeKalb Beautiful404-371-2654
- Parks & Recreation404-371-2631
- Roads & Drainage Emergency404-297-3840
- Maintenance404-294-2523
- Sanitation404-294-2900
- Senior Affairs404-687-7117
- Senior Connections770-455-7602
- Sheriff's Department404-298-8100
- Tax Assessor's Office404-371-2509
- Tax Commissioner—Auto Tags404-298-4000
- Voter Registration404-298-4020
- Water/Sewer Billing404-378-4475
- Water Emergencies404-270-6243
- Women's Resource Center404-688-9436

Membership Levels and Benefits:

All membership levels are eligible for discounts from area merchants participating in the DHCA Merchant Program, and all membership levels are entitled to a free Druid Hills Walking tour by the Atlanta Preservation Center on designated DHCA days. Higher membership levels receive additional benefits as described below:

Member—\$25-\$49

Merchant discounts and Druid Hills Walking Tour, plus a \$5 coupon towards a ticket to the Druid Hills Tour of Homes*

Sustaining Member—\$50-\$99

Merchant discounts and Druid Hills Walking Tour, plus two \$5 coupons towards tickets to the Druid Hills Tour of Homes*

Druid Member—\$100-\$149

Merchant discounts and special "Druid Member Day" Druid Hills Walking Tour, plus three \$5 coupons towards tickets to the Druid Hills Tour of Homes* and special recognition in the Druid Hills News (if desired). A great recognition for organizational or business members.

Olmsted Member—\$250 and up

Merchant discounts, special "anytime" ticket for the Druid Hills Walking Tour, four \$5 coupons towards tickets to the Druid Hills Tour of Homes*, and "extra special" recognition in the Druid Hills News highlighting neighborhood projects that benefit directly from these donors' contributions. Especially appropriate for organizational or business members.

* All discounted Druid Hills Home Tour tickets must be bought from a DHCA Division Chair or Board Member.

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1185 Lanier Boulevard



4 Bedroom / 4.5 Bath New Construction in Morningside, \$1,195,000

565 Cresthill Avenue



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511 Toombs Street



5 Bedroom / 3.5 Bath 1885 Victorian Home in Palmetto, \$499,000

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4 Bedroom / 4 Bath Atlanta Architect Henri Jova's Midtown residence \$1,195,000

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5 Bedroom / 5 Bath Upgraded Home on Great Lot, \$1,635,000

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3 Bedroom / 2.5 Baths Beautiful Craftsman Home in Midtown, \$899,900

2299 Colonial Drive



5 Bedroom / 5.5 Bath Superior Quality Construction in Brookhaven, \$709,900