Turtle Eggs and More
by Suzanne Ledoux

Cloudy skies and the threat of rain did not discourage these park lovers! Neighborhood families gathered at Rutledge Park on Saturday, April 27, for the first annual Turtle Egg Hunt, hosted by the Rutledge Park Community Outreach Group. Committee members stuffed and hid more than 700 “turtle eggs,” colorful toy eggs filled with candy and prizes. The upper tier of the park grounds was completely strewn in color by the time the hiding was done.

And when it came time for the finding, kids were gathering them by the grocery bag full! There were also refreshments and rice crispy treats to share, as well as educational handouts on an indigenous reptile park resident, the eastern box turtle. The handout decorating, instructions on installing a bat house, and a neighborhood potluck. Dates for future park events, please visit: www.RutledgePark.org.

The Rutledge Park Community Outreach Group was recently formed to promote park awareness, as well as to create fun, free family activities. Future events will include a backyard birding expedition, a morning of tree identification, birdhouse building and decorating, instructions on installing a bat house, and a neighborhood potluck. Dates to be announced.

Excitement is growing among Rutledge Park enthusiasts since the design phase for the park has begun. Dekalb County has selected the local firm AMEC to provide landscape, and a preliminary design for the park entrance, playground, and upper terrace trail will be submitted in mid-spring. A public meeting will be held in mid-summer to seek community input. A clean-up day will be held in June, focused on educational handouts on an indigenous reptile park resident, the eastern box turtle: The handout on the eastern box turtle can be downloaded at www.RutledgePark.org.

For more information about Rutledge Park, to make a donation, or to submit ideas for future park events, please visit: www.RutledgePark.org.
**DHCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Past Presidents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Zedd</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jzeudd@bellsouth.net">jzeudd@bellsouth.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claudia Keenan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:claudiakeenan@druidhills.org">claudiakeenan@druidhills.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffery Baer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jefferybaer@druidhills.org">jefferybaer@druidhills.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Division Chairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Chair</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 City of Atlanta</td>
<td><a href="mailto:drchair@druidhills.org">drchair@druidhills.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Ponce Corridor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:har@druidhills.org">har@druidhills.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Dekalb County</td>
<td>dekalbc <a href="mailto:citizenship@druidhills.org">citizenship@druidhills.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Peachtree</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Peachtree@druidhills.org">Peachtree@druidhills.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Stone Mountain</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stromain@druidhills.org">stromain@druidhills.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Important Numbers**

- Ambulance/Fire Medical Services: 911
- Police – Emergency: 911
- Administrative/General Info: 404-294-2605
- Criminal Investigations: 404-294-2550
- Center Precinct: 404-294-2580
- East Precinct: 770-482-8000
- South Precinct: 404-286-7911
- Animal Services: Stray Animals: 404-294-2996
- After Hours: 404-294-2015
- Atlanta Legal Aid – Dekalb: 404-377-0701
- Board of Education – Dekalb: 678-476-1200
- Board of Health – Dekalb: 404-294-3700
- Business License: 404-371-2462
- Chamber of Commerce – Dekalb: 404-378-8000
- Citizen’s Drainage Program: 404-297-3840
- Conventions & Visitors Bureau: 770-492-5000
- Code Enforcement: 770-724-7940
- Deaf Tele-type: 770-492-2677
- DeKalb Community Relations (Police): 404-286-7955
- DeKalb Medical Center: 404-501-1000
- DeKalb Medical Center – Hillandale: 404-501-8000
- DeKalb Rape Crisis Center: 404-377-1428
- Drainage Problems: 404-297-3840
- Driver’s License (State): 470-415-8400
- Drug Hotline: 770-522-2540
- Economic Development: 404-687-2730
- Elections: 404-297-4630
- Family & Children Services (DFACS): 404-570-5000
- Gov. Office Of Consumer Affairs: 404-556-3790
- Human & Community Services: 770-522-2950
- Keep DeKalb Beautiful: 404-371-2625
- Law Department: 404-371-3051
- Marriage License: 404-371-2262
- MRTA-Complaint Line: 404-848-4800
- Mental Health Emergency: 404-492-4664
- Mobile Crisis Unit: 404-299-0499
- Motor Vehicle (TAGS): 404-298-4000
- Neighborhood Watch: 470-486-7959
- Planning & Development: 404-371-2155
- Pot Holes – DeKalb: 404-297-3840
- Records Office: 404-371-2383
- Recycling, Pot Holes: 404-509-0368
- Automated Assistance: 404-371-3272
- Records (Police Information): 404-294-2512
- Recreation, Pot Holes: 404-297-2631
- Roads & Drainage: 404-297-3840
- After Hours: 404-292-2523
- Sanitation: 404-298-2980
- Speed Humps: 470-492-5200
- Street Lights: 470-492-5200
- Storm Water Management: 404-297-2579
- Tax Assessor’s Office: 404-371-2509
- Tax Commissioner: 404-298-4000
- Traffic: 404-298-4000
- Traffic Signal Malfunction: 404-297-3925
- Trees Down: 404-297-3840
- Voter Registration: 404-371-2932
- Water Billing: 404-378-4475
- Water: 404-297-3840
- Water – Billing: 404-378-4475
- Emergency: 770-270-6243
- Women’s Resource Center: 404-688-9436
- Zoning: 404-371-4915

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

The Druid Hills News is published in March, June, 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, 404-525-3422 (DHCA) www.druidhillsnews.org/news/advertising.htm email: admin@druidhills.org.htm

**HELP WANTED**

Two Druid Hills Civic Association Committees need volunteers!

**Community and Lifestyle**

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

To volunteer, please contact admin@druidhills.org.

**Membership**

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

To volunteer, please contact Claudia Keenan at membership@druidhills.org.

The DHCA is also looking for a Coordinator. To volunteer, please contact Mike Hester at 212-1855 or email admin@druidhills.org.
Greetings to all of my Druid Hills neighbors. My name is Justin A. Critz, and I am the new president of your Druid Hills Civic Association.

Before I address the current neighborhood news and what I would like to see happen in the coming year, let me tell you a little bit about myself. I was born and raised in the Druid Hills neighborhood. I attended the Out Of Doors School on Oakland as a child and swam as a Druid Hills Dolphin. My mother still lives on Springdale and my brother lives on Lullwater. After finishing numerous years at various institutions studying the Classics, I wound up back at Emory Law. This was fortuitous, as my wife Robin and I were expecting our first child, and I knew that I wanted to raise my family in the Druid Hills neighborhood. Since then, we moved onto Fairview Road, into the old Quaker meeting house, and we have rounded out the family to four daughters, six hens, and a black lab puppy (a girl, of course). Needless to say, life is busy and full, but I am honored to have been selected for the job of president of the Civic Association, and I look forward to guiding the organization in the coming year.

As many of you know, a major issue is coming very fast down the pipe, one that will have a profound and fundamental effect on the neighborhood: Cityhood. In the wake of the incorporation of the City of Brookhaven, the Lakeside City Alliance formed in order to advocate for the incorporation of those areas of unincorporated DeKalb County in the north of us. The map they have finalized does not include Druid Hills or Emory, but it does include Toco Hill. If the City of Lakeside does incorporate, unincorporated DeKalb County would shrink to include Druid Hills and the neighborhoods to the east of us in central DeKalb and the two districts of southern DeKalb.

In response to the Lakeside proposal, an alternate map is being explored, which would encompass Druid Hills to the south and go north to I-85 and northeast to I-285. Some people feel this to be a more organic configuration for a new city. Because of the timelines involved, the Civic Association has taken a lead in exploring this option and has already designated a significant amount toward the $30,000 required to perform a necessary feasibility study by the UGA’s Carl Vinson Institute.

At the same time, members of the Civic Association and other concerned neighbors are meeting with representatives of the City of Atlanta to explore the possibility of annexing into the City. There has also been talk of annexation into Decatur and the formation of a small city comprising only Druid Hills and the neighborhoods to the east of us in central DeKalb and the two districts of southern DeKalb.

Turning to other matters, as we all know, we live in a historic district, and one of the principal functions of the Civic Association is to protect our neighborhood from intrusive development that is out of character with the rest of the neighborhood. Historically, the Civic Association has a positive record in this regard, and I thank everyone who has worked and continues to work so hard to preserve the beauty and integrity of Druid Hills. However, preservation is not the Association’s only function. Another goal laid out in the by-laws is to promote the general welfare of the community. The Civic Association has also performed this function admirably, for example, by advocating for the acquisition of green space and contributing to neighborhood projects like the Oakland street lights, OOLPA and AIEV. Nevertheless, I would like for the Association to do even more in the way of community improvement projects. In particular, I have in mind a long-term project to repair our crumbling sidewalks. If this or another project interests you, and you are not a member of the Association, I urge you to sign up, come to meetings, and get involved. Of course, if you are already a member, I thank you and urge you, too, to come to meetings and participate. This is our neighborhood. It is important that the Civic Association take the lead in making it the type of place we all want to live in.

I wish everyone a healthy, happy summer, and I look forward to seeing you around the neighborhood.
Hundred of visitors flocked to the 46th annual Druid Hills Home & Garden Tour, which started inauspiciously in cold rain on Friday, April 19, but revived with bright sunshine through the weekend. The tour featured five homes, the Lullwater Conservation Garden, and Parkwood Park. “If the tour had a theme this year, it would be ‘adaptive use,’” noted Home Selection Committee chair Barbara Vogel. “We were particularly interested in the ways that the homes were reconfigured to meet contemporary needs. Yet each reflects the history of Druid Hills.”

The oldest home on the tour, 1366 Ponce de Leon Avenue, started life as a mansion built for Clyde King and his wife Clara Belle in 1910. Having made his fortune as a farm equipment manufacturer, King enjoyed the mansion with his family (including his daughter’s wedding to George Woodruff) for nearly three decades. In 1954, the sorority Alpha Delta Pi purchased the mansion for its international headquarters and added office and meeting space behind it in 2004. “If the tour had a theme this year, it would be ‘adaptive use,’” noted Leslie Fight, “a dedicated army of volunteers worked countless hours to create a welcoming, interesting, diverse, and enjoyable Tour.”

The hilltop home at 886 Lullwater Road replaced a ranch house that owners Andrew and Diana Farley purchased in 2006. The gray shingled home with its vintage refrigerator? What’s with this plain white refrigerator? Even I have one of those!”

Within Operations, Lynn Alexander (Logistics), Ryan Graham (House Management), Jenny McGuigan (Staffing), Moist Reeves, and Rod Pittam. Gold sponsors were Fight’s Feast, Fernbank Museum, Home Rebuilders, Sharian Rug Cleaning & Sales, Dovetail Craftsman, HammerSmith, Inc., and Rich Printing, Inc. Benefactors were Arborguard Tree Specialists, Sherlock’s Wine Merchants/Cook’s Warehouse, Briarcliff Frames, Intown Ace Hardware, Moon Bros, Inc., Intown Revival Construction, Callanwolde Fine Arts Center, and Rich Printing, Inc. Benefactors were Arborguard Tree Specialists, Sherlock’s Wine Merchants/Cook’s Warehouse, Briarcliff Frames, Intown Ace Hardware, Moon Bros., Inc., Pinnacle Custom Builders, Haydenscape, and Dovetail Craftsman.

At St. John’s Lutheran Church, long a center of activity during the tour, a classic car show sponsored by the Dogwood Chapter of the Lamba Club International featured such beauties as the 1949 Cadillac Sedanet used in “Driving Miss Daisy,” a 1955 Cadillac Fleetwood, a 1957 DeSoto Station Wagon, a 1965 Cadillac convertible, and a 1976 Pontiac Grand Prix. More than 250 people volunteered to be docents and 1,050 tickets were sold. The event, which involved - – - nine months of intensive planning by the Tour Committee, was led by co-chairs Leslie Fight (Operations), Kim Storbeck (Revenue), and Barbara Vogel (Home Selection) with Thomas Win, who served as liaison to the board of the Druid Hills Civic Association for which the tour is the sole fundraiser. Scott Storbeck served as treasurer during the planning phase. Within Operations, Lynn Alexander (Logistics), Ryan Graham (House Management), Jenny McGuigan (Staffing), Moist Reeves, and Rod Pittam. Gold sponsors were Fight’s Feast, Fernbank Museum, Home Rebuilders, Sharian Rug Cleaning & Sales, Dovetail Craftsman, HammerSmith, Inc., and Rich Printing, Inc. Benefactors were Arborguard Tree Specialists, Sherlock’s Wine Merchants/Cook’s Warehouse, Briarcliff Frames, Intown Ace Hardware, Moon Bros., Inc., Pinnacle Custom Builders, Haydenscape, and Dovetail Craftsman.

The hilltop home at 886 Lullwater Road replaced a ranch house that owners Andrew and Diana Farley purchased in 2006. The gray shingled home with its vintage refrigerator? What’s with this plain white refrigerator? Even I have one of those!” The hilltop home at 886 Lullwater Road replaced a ranch house that owners Andrew and Diana Farley purchased in 2006. The gray shingled home with its vintage refrigerator? What’s with this plain white refrigerator? Even I have one of those!”

The hilltop home at 886 Lullwater Road replaced a ranch house that owners Andrew and Diana Farley purchased in 2006. The gray shingled home with its vintage refrigerator? What’s with this plain white refrigerator? Even I have one of those!”

The hilltop home at 886 Lullwater Road replaced a ranch house that owners Andrew and Diana Farley purchased in 2006. The gray shingled home with its vintage refrigerator? What’s with this plain white refrigerator? Even I have one of those!”

The hilltop home at 886 Lullwater Road replaced a ranch house that owners Andrew and Diana Farley purchased in 2006. The gray shingled home with its vintage refrigerator? What’s with this plain white refrigerator? Even I have one of those!”

The hilltop home at 886 Lullwater Road replaced a ranch house that owners Andrew and Diana Farley purchased in 2006. The gray shingled home with its vintage refrigerator? What’s with this plain white refrigerator? Even I have one of those!”

The hilltop home at 886 Lullwater Road replaced a ranch house that owners Andrew and Diana Farley purchased in 2006. The gray shingled home with its vintage refrigerator? What’s with this plain white refrigerator? Even I have one of those!”

The hilltop home at 886 Lullwater Road replaced a ranch house that owners Andrew and Diana Farley purchased in 2006. The gray shingled home with its vintage refrigerator? What’s with this plain white refrigerator? Even I have one of those!”

The hilltop home at 886 Lullwater Road replaced a ranch house that owners Andrew and Diana Farley purchased in 2006. The gray shingled home with its vintage refrigerator? What’s with this plain white refrigerator? Even I have one of those!”

The hilltop home at 886 Lullwater Road replaced a ranch house that owners Andrew and Diana Farley purchased in 2006. The gray shingled home with its vintage refrigerator? What’s with this plain white refrigerator? Even I have one of those!”

The hilltop home at 886 Lullwater Road replaced a ranch house that owners Andrew and Diana Farley purchased in 2006. The gray shingled home with its vintage refrigerator? What’s with this plain white refrigerator? Even I have one of those!”

The hilltop home at 886 Lullwater Road replaced a ranch house that owners Andrew and Diana Farley purchased in 2006. The gray shingled home with its vintage refrigerator? What’s with this plain white refrigerator? Even I have one of those!”

The hilltop home at 886 Lullwater Road replaced a ranch house that owners Andrew and Diana Farley purchased in 2006. The gray shingled home with its vintage refrigerator? What’s with this plain white refrigerator? Even I have one of those!”
Dearborn, Crescent, or Evergreen?

by Jennifer J. Richardson

Primitive phone service came to Atlanta in 1877 with one line, and was expanded in 1879 using names only. The operator connected you to the person you requested rather than a number, and the Atlanta telephone directory had names only. By 1884, there were 370 people in Atlanta with telephones and a call from Atlanta to Decatur was long distance, costing fifteen cents for five minutes.

In 1889, there were two competing telephone companies: Southern Bell System and the Atlanta Standard Telephone Company (later Atlanta Telephone Company). Atlanta Telephone advertised that it offered lower rates and better service than Southern Bell. People with Atlanta Telephone could not call patrons of Southern Bell and vice versa. Southern had some long distance service; Atlanta did not. Therefore, most wealthy citizens in Atlanta had service from Southern Bell.

Bell bought out Atlanta Telephone in 1919.

Gardening with Chickens

by Judy Keenan

We recently brought home five baby chicks. So why, you may ask, am I telling you about chickens when I'm supposed to be writing an article related to gardening and the environment? First, chickens are farm animals and farming is about gardening, right? Second, what could be more environmentally friendly than the prospects of fresh eggs from happy, free-range hens? What I have learned in my research on chickens actually has quite a bit to do with gardening and the symbiotic relationship animals have with the earth, when permitted a certain amount of freedom.

Chickens love Japanese Beetle grubs. When I find some, which happens all too frequently, I toss them to the chicks and they go at it like children to a broken piñata. They will scratch and turn the soil looking for anything and, apparently, everything to eat. Another favorite treat for chickens—ticks. So it turns out my chickens will not only give me eggs, but also will prevent Lyme disease and save my roses.

But that's not all. Chickens poop. In the past, I have actually paid good money for chicken poop. Not just any chicken poop, but chicken poop wrapped in a big plastic bag and shipped in gas-guzzling trucks from far away to the local Home Depot. Poop with a carbon footprint. By having my own chickens, I now will have free poop. What could be better? Chicken poop is one of the best fertilizers known to vegetables. It is very high in nitrogen and has good phosphorus and potassium levels, too. It must be well composted, however, in order to mellow the naturally high nitrogen levels so that they will not burn your plants. Many gardeners let their chickens range on their vegetable beds during the off season. The chickens naturally turn the soil and eat potential pests while directly composting the field. They serve as pest control, fertilizer and rototiller all in one.

Finally, chickens are really cute and they give you eggs, Not just any eggs, but organic eggs that are much higher in good stuff, like omega 3 fatty acids and other nutrients, such as beta-carotene and vitamins A, D and E. Meanwhile, they have less of the bad stuff, such as cholesterol and saturated fat. And as we gardeners know, fresh always tastes better.

Piedad Senior Awarded Princeton Prize in Race Relations

Berenice Rodriguez, a senior at Paideia, has been awarded the 2013 Princeton Prize in Race Relations for the Atlanta Region. The award is given to honor students who work to improve race relations, and Rodriguez has worked hard to do just this.

She is the co-founder and president of the Student Dreamers and Allies, a Paideia High School club that raises funds for supplies for farm worker families. As a regional winner of the Princeton Prize, she was invited to attend a symposium on race relations at Princeton University April 25-27. She will receive her award at a ceremony in Atlanta along with other students receiving honorable mention for their work to improve race relations.

For more information, contact: Jennifer Hill, e-mail: hill@paideiahschool.org and 404-270-2339

Paideia is a nonsectarian school located at 1509 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Atlanta, Ga. 30307, serving students ages three to 12th grade.
Blasting at Emory Hospital
adapted from Druid Hills eNews

The crew working on the Emory University Hospital construction conducted the first “Test Blast” at noon on June 1 to allow for everyone to become familiar with the “feel” etc. They will then be collecting all feedback, questions or concerns to help modify the blast plan as needed.

By Monday, June 10, blasting will occur on a DAILY basis at 6:00PM or 6:30PM. Each blast is only 42ms (Millisecond); the second time slot is only a backup but should be planned in case there is any issue with the first blast. The blasting will continue for 3 months, including June and July, and completed during August. Vibration monitoring equipment has been set-up around the construction site. It is not anticipated that Clifton Road will need to be closed during the blast.

Perennials to Prolong the Season
by Paula Refi

Come autumn, I’m more of a menace behind the wheel than usual. I like to keep one eye trained on sunny fields and another on roadside ditches, looking for fall wildflowers. As the days shorten, Mother Nature showers her pastel crayons to the back of the box, and she draws her flowers with primary colors—yellow, purple, and blue. These beauties consort with ripening grapes, now tinted wine-red and amber. It’s a look that’s easy to mimic in the garden, using both native and non-native perennial plants.

The so-called “short day” plants of autumn are genetically programmed to set flower buds when there are fewer daylight hours. Chrysanthemums are familiar examples. Beginning in September, they bloom in a range of hues. Garden-type mums (“mum” being a term of endearment) grow into soft mounds that sprawl a bit, and they make good cut flowers as well. Chrysanthemum ‘Ryan’s Yellow,’ named for Decatur gardener luminary Ryan Gainey, is lemony. ‘Ryan’s Pink’ mum has probably been cultivated in local gardens for generations.

More than 40 asters inhabit Georgia’s sun-drenched natural areas. They bloom abundantly in blue, purple, and pink. But they can be lanky and are susceptible to foliage diseases. Look for more-tidy, disease-resistant selections—those with descriptive names. Asters ‘Wood’s Pink’ and ‘Wood’s Purple’ stay under two feet. The lovely lavender-blue aster ‘English Countryside’ isn’t English at all. It’s a selection of a reliable Georgia species named for Ann English of Athens. Druid Hills gardener Susan Muller grows a non-native, but dependable, fall aster—the ‘Gatian’ aster. In her Springdale Road garden, it reliably displays erect four-foot stems and lavender flowers.

With their bright yellow centers, asters are stunning planted with goldrods. It’s best to avoid the aggressive roadside goldrods. A selection of the better-behaved native rough goldrods, Solidago ‘Fireworks,’ is less assertive and shorter at about 30 inches. Arching stems produces sprays of yellow that are perfect with fall asters and look great in a vase.

Perennial sunflowers (Helianthus) are native to Georgia, and their warm yellow daisies invariably make me smile in fall. Swamp sunflower (Helianthus angustifolius) is adapted to wet ditches, but it also flourishes with average moisture. This statuesque perennial (expect six feet) produces hundreds of two-inch flowers in September and October. An introduction from the legendary nursery Goodness Grows in Athens, ‘Marc’s Apollo,’ is equally tall with lemon yellow flowers. Another native sunflower, Jerusalem artichoke (Helianthus tuberosus) produces spritely yellow daisies and a potato-like edible root. Clara Redmond always grew it (and enjoyed the tubers) around the bend from me in her Emory Circle garden. Today, people pay real money for Jerusalem artichokes at Your DeKalb Farmer’s Market. Go figure.

Native grasses really hit their stride in fall. Their slender blades and billowing foliage complement just about any bloomer. Grasses undergo an amazing transformation in autumn. Their blossoms—feathery, fan-shaped, or bottlebrush—command our attention. Muhly grass makes a 30-inch mound of slender green blades. In late August, it blooms with reddish plumes. In winter, the entire plant looks like spun straw. American switch grass (Panicum) is a slender, upright species that’s easy to tuck into any sunny garden border. ‘Shenandoah’ switch grass displays tinges of red in summer and turns purple in fall.

With all summer to grow, fall-blooming perennials tend toward the tall side. Cut them back early in the season to produce shorter plants and to encourage branching. Make the last pruning by August 1, so they bloom on schedule on your Druid Hills homemade meadow.
Dear Editor,

On April 15, I had my fifth meeting with the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) at the Maloof Auditorium in regards to my home renovation project. My case had been approved with the exception of a small metal roof over a non-historic bay window. I had filed an appeal with the Board of Commissioners and they sent me back to the HPC.

The motion denying the approval of my small metal roof over the bay window cited “Substantial adverse impact on the historic district and area of influence,” with the consequence of withholding the Certificate of Occupancy that would allow me to “legally” occupy my house. As part of the documentation I submitted to the commission for review, I included pictures of at least 10 different metal roofs and bay window roofs in my area of influence, which to me clearly showed it was not a significant architectural detail in Emory Grove. I also included signatures and comments of 46 families in my area of influence who did not feel my small metal roof, in size and shape similar to the existing roof (with the exception of four standing seams) posted a substantial adverse impact on their properties and neighborhood in general.

During the meeting, one of the volunteers appointed as Historic Preservation Commissioner scolded and reprimanded me in front of more than 30 attendees for gathering my neighbors to support my application. I was told that my approach to “rally the neighbors against them” was negative and inappropriate, that neither I nor my neighbors get to vote on these matters, and that they would review my application in spite of my actions. I was not allowed to reply. If I had been, I would have said that if the volunteers at the Historic Preservation Commission feel that a detail on my property poses a substantial adverse impact on my neighborhood, I believe I and my neighbors should have the same opportunity to say why we do not agree. After all, our property values and our lives are the ones affected.

I would have also liked to add that even though I do not vote on the appointment of the volunteers to the Historic Preservation Commission, I DO vote on the Commissioners appointed as public servants (and I intend to continue doing so) representing me and my neighbors’ interests.

If the HPC’s role, which I wholeheartedly support, is to maintain the integrity of the historic district and the health, prosperity, and general welfare of the residents, some of its members failed to do so yesterday by limiting the voices of those they are supposed to represent.

Finally, I felt reprimanded, and I find the approach of a few members of the commission was arbitrary and disrespectful to me and the neighbors who took the time to review the application, fill out comments, and sign the petition.

As a long time volunteer for a diverse number of organizations, I know it takes time and commitment to maintain an active voice and to be part of the volunteers at the Historic Preservation Commission. I am grateful to those who made an effort to listen to me and try to find a middle ground and a resolution to the issue. However, being scolded in front of a group of neighbors for doing nothing illegal, wrong, or disrespectful, simply dissenting with the motion, does not elevate the discussion or open the door to collaboration.

I have only good things to say about Chris Leeth and Walter Saunders from the Druid Hills Civic Association. They provided me and my architect with assistance and guidance from the beginning of this process in 2012, going through many revisions of my plans. I am grateful for their time and patience.

Gigi Pedraza
508 Princeton Way, NE

HISTORIC PRESERVATION
FAST FACTS

A Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) is needed for exterior changes to houses/properties. Why? To maintain the ‘look’ of Druid Hills. It’s self-protection. DeKalb County Druid Hills Historic Districts

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) hears applications for COAs and approves or denies based on the Druid Hills Historic District Guidelines. There are General Guidelines and there are Character Area Guidelines (certain specific areas). For more information, go to the Civic Association website’s links to downloadable application forms www.druidhills.org

Note: A committee of neighbors reviews applications and comments to the HPC. Committee members are well versed in the Historic Preservation guidelines and are a helpful resource to help the uninitiated move through the process. dekalbhistoric@druidhills.org

City of Atlanta Druid Hills Landmark District

The Urban Design Commission (UDC) hears applications for COAs and approves or denies based on the Druid Hills Landmark District regulations (Chapter 20B of the City zoning code). More information about the process is available on the UDC section of the City website (www.atlanta.gov), including downloadable application forms. This link may be found on the Civic Association website.

Note: The Landmark District Preservation Committee (LDPC) is a committee of neighbors that comments on applications to the UDC after on-site meetings. Consider them a helpful resource. atlantahistoric@druidhills.org
NATALIE GREGORY
WELCOME TO YOUR NEW HOME

1049 CLIFTON ROAD, DRUID HILLS
This 1920’s gracious brick two-story features handsome architectural details including high ceilings and heavy moldings. The front entrance leads to a music room or study/formal living room with elegant fireplace, and side sunroom where you can relax and enjoy views of the beautifully landscaped garden. The generously-sized dining room is ready for large gatherings and leads to the breakfast room with original butler’s pantry and entrance to the deck and patio with fire pit below. A well-appointed kitchen with stained cabinets and granite countertops offers a breakfast bar and opens to a family room. Central staircase with beautiful banister leads to the upstairs where you will find a master bedroom with two walk-in closets and newly remodeled master bathroom that includes a double vanity, soaking tub and separate shower. Upstairs you will find two more bedrooms plus a sleeping porch and office.
$849,000

1798 DURAND MILL DRIVE, DRUID HILLS
This elegant home with soaring ceilings and classic-modern architectural features is better than new. The inviting floor plan is perfect for entertaining with a spacious central great room that has French doors leading to a pavilion-like landscaped courtyard featuring a pond and cascading waterfall. Gourmet kitchen, with all of the upgrades, features a large center island and breakfast or keeping room with built-in entertainment cabinetry. Spacious bedrooms on the main can be used as two master suites and both include large walk-in closets. Spa-like bathroom features two separate vanity areas. Large windows provide lots of light and views to the lush gardens. Attached two-car garage is reached by the rear-aliy access that brings you into the private, gated backyard. The terrace level offers two more generously-sized bedrooms, one that is currently used as a media room and even an exercise room.
$750,000

618 SYCAMORE STREET, DECATURE
This rare circa 1940 Georgia Vernacular Craftman is located on historic Sycamore Street in downtown Decatur. The expansive wrap-around front porch melds the warm interior with the outdoors to create comfortable, inviting living space. This sun-dappled interior features soaring ceilings, heart pine wood floors, fire cozy fireplaces and numerous hand-crafted architectural details. Its functional design combines turn-of-the-century charm with modern flair to accommodate your 21st-century lifestyle. The original rooms are spacious in size and the expanded and renovated kitchen opens to a dining room that seats more than twelve guests. The attractive, updated master suite and guest bedroom (currently used as an office) are located on the main level, while three more bedrooms and a full bathroom are upstairs. A large deck on the back of the home flows to a relaxing screened porch.
$650,000 UNDER CONTRACT

2087 DESMOND DRIVE, DECATURE
You can walk to Emory, the VA Hospital, the CDC, and Iss B. Melton Park from this newer-construction two-story, executive home. The open main level, with backwood floors and architectural details throughout, includes a formal dining room, formal living room, family room, and gas fireplace and spacious kitchen. The beautiful kitchen is appointed with granite countertops, rich wood cabinets, and a convenient breakfast bar that overlooks the family room. You can step from the family room to a spacious screened porch and deck that overlook an expansive sunny backyard. A bedroom and bath are also on the main level. Head upstairs to find the huge master suite which features double walk-in closets, sitting area, dual vanities, a separate tub and a separate shower. Besides the master suite, the second floor includes three additional bedrooms, two full bathrooms and a convenient laundry room. Your family can spread out in this home that also includes a finished basement with four additional rooms and a full bathroom.
$649,000

1329 THOMAS ROAD, DECATURE
This spacious Craftsman offers three levels above grade plus a playroom and wine cellar in the basement. The elegant dining room, with coffered ceilings and butler’s pantry, leads to the spacious kitchen, with commercial Viking appliances. The kitchen opens to a breakfast room, large great-room with fireplace, and a deck that overlooks a large private backyard. Also on the main floor is a guest bedroom and full bathroom. The second level provides two master suites with fireplaces and two more guest bedrooms that share a Jack-and-Jill bathroom. The third level includes a bonus room and full bathroom. Upper and lower porches on the front and back of the home provide a great view of the professional landscaping and a place to relax and enjoy this peaceful, quiet street.
$499,000 NEW PRICE!

1987 MASON MILL ROAD, EMMORY PARC
Located in the sought-after Emory Park subdivision, this custom-built, meticulously maintained John Willis home offers views of the central park. The front porch leads to a sunny entry hall on the main level, which features an open floor plan. French doors flanked with windows open to a formal living room that shares a double-sided fireplace with the spacious dining room. The well-appointed kitchen offers ample cabinets, an island, and a breakfast bar that is adjacent to the family room. From the family room you can enjoy views of the lovely low-maintenance back yard, or you can step through the French doors onto this deck and immerse yourself in the outdoors. The master suite is located upstairs with a sitting area and a fabulous walk-in closet. Two additional bedrooms upstairs share a Jack-in-Jill bathroom. A drive-under, two-car garage leads to a mudroom and basement that has a full bathroom plus more to expand. Emory/Park is a wonderful community located in walking distance to the tennis courts, public library, and the new PATH.
$585,000

NATALIE GREGORY, Your Home Marketing Specialist
404 550 5113 direct • 404 564 5560 office
Natalie@NatalieGregorySOLD.com • NatalieGregorySOLD.com
315 West Ponce de Leon, Suite 100, Decatur, Georgia 30030
#1 Real Estate Sales Team for DeKalb County 2009-2011