City looks to convert center into urban wetland

BY KATHERINE JORDAN

The City of Durham is again considering the purchase of the former Duke Diet and Fitness Center (DDFC) on the 800 block of West Trinity Avenue.

While previous plans sought to renovate the original YMCA structure for use as a public recreational facility, it was derailed by funding issues and complicated by the fact that the facility rests partially within a floodway and the entire site inside the 100-year floodplain.

The City now proposes removing the building and its surface parking and turning the 9-acre property into a constructed wetland to collect and treat stormwater from the Trinity and Downtown basins (230 and 255 acres each).

The proposal also includes educational and public amenities such as instructional signage, viewing areas with seating and additional trailhead parking off of Dacian Avenue.

In a City Council work session on May 10th, Public Works estimated that the project would reduce stormwater loads by 480-960 pounds per year (30-60% of the City’s 1,600 lb/year nitrogen and phosphorus load reduction goals for Falls Lake and a similar percent reduction in phosphorus load).

Estimated project costs are $7 million which Public Works believes will save $7-20 million in alternative downstream stormwater reduction costs.

As with all City projects, there are differing opinions on what should be done and how.

TPNA’s goal is to disseminate information, gain a better understanding of the proposal and the concerns raised by it in order to develop a consensus-based opinion, and to collaborate in organizing a multi-neighborhood process for working with the City.

Anyone interested in volunteering with the Urban Planning Committee on this topic should contact Katherine Jordan at 919-475-7263.

The presentation to City Council can be found on http://www.durhamnc.gov.

In this issue:

Home Tour 2012 Update...............2
Perc Clean Up Begins...............2-3
Protecting TP Trees....................3
Community Events......................6
TP Foundation Revival..............4
Contact Info and Calendar........5
TPNA 2012 Budget Report...........7
TPNA Membership Form...........8
TPNA COMMITTEE UPDATES

Neighborhood Home Tour Four Months Away
BY NICOLE BAXTER/SUSAN PRATT

As we all look forward to this summer, the Home Tour Committee is busy planning the 2012 home tour, to be held on Saturday, October 6th.

This year’s highlights include the newly-renovated middle school at DSA, as well as a vendor fair in the park, where you will be able to meet with a few of the contractors who have helped to restore some of our neighborhood’s favorite houses.

Aside from the painstaking renovations that have happened, some of the home owners, like Clay and Sarah on Trinity, have taken a green approach with geothermal energy—something that seems like an anathema with older homes. They did it, and we hope you come out to learn how.

As the tour winds down and we prepare for the vendor fair, our park will play host to many of the area’s favorite food trucks, as well as Kidz Notes, who will provide wonderful music and welcome all participants into the park for the fair.

The committee is very impressed by the generosity and level of design in this year’s homes. The secrets these houses hold is truly a delight.

One house has incredible Victorian Gothic antiques, another was furnished with pieces from Habitat ReStore, and another has an altar. I was especially impressed with the house that’s landscaped with espaliered fruit trees and a chicken coop. We always knew our neighborhood was special, but this really shows us how special it is.

Docents and greeters are needed to be at each of the houses to talk to visitors, explain certain aspects of the house, check tickets and provide general information about the tour. The tour runs from 1 to 5 p.m.

Docents work shifts (one-and-a-half to two hours long) that are convenient for them and receive a free ticket so that they can visit the houses during the times when they are not working.

Generally there are a couple of docents per shift at each house. It is a fun way to learn about the houses, meet people, and contribute significantly to the tour. We cannot do it without docents! For more information and/or to sign up as a docent, please email Susan Pratt at prattse@yahoo.com.

Remediation of Former BB&T Site
BY PHILIP AZAR

By the time the newsletter goes to print, the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) should be well underway in implementing its Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for the former BB&T site.

As the NCDENR website states: “The BB&T Site in Durham, North Carolina is the site of a former dry-cleaning business that operated from 1963 until 1975. Soil and groundwater at the site are contaminated with the dry-cleaning solvent tetrachloroethene (also called “perc”) and its breakdown products. The site is currently in the Dry-cleaning Solvent Cleanup Act (DSCA) Program, a voluntary program administered by [NCDENR] that oversees the remediation of contaminated dry-cleaning sites.”

In order to achieve remediation goals, NCDENR’s consultants recommended a RAP that calls on DENR to:

A. Excavate PCE impacted soils with concentrations of PCE greater than 2.1 mg/Kg, where excavation can be achieved, while providing an appropriate level of protection for the foundation of the Triangle Family Church building;

B. Prior to backfilling the excavation, place Adventus-DARA-MEND remediation substrate into the bottom 10 feet of the excavation backfill to enhance the conditions required to produce an environment for in-situ chemical reduction;

C. Construct passive soil vents in the backfilled excavation to relieve any positive pressure in the backfilled excavation relative to atmospheric pressure changes so that soil vapor pressure gradients do not result in further migration of the soil vapor plume with time;

D. Replace all disturbed surfaces on the BB&T site with a layer of asphalt pavement; and

E. Inject Adventus EHC into the shallow groundwater aquifer to promote in-situ chemical reduction (ISCR) of the PCE.

One statistic stands out as to the expected level of construction-like activity. Approximately 3,500
tons of soil will be removed.

Apparently, proximity to the adjoining building limits the ability to remove the balance, and the use of Adventus and DARAMEND products is intended to promote the breakdown of remaining contaminants.

Most of the work is scheduled for June and July, with post-excavation activities and intensive monitoring continuing at least into late Fall. (The best way to keep up to date is to go to NCDENR.gov and search on BB&T.)

TPNA would like to thank Laura Drey for bringing the neighborhood’s attention to this matter and keeping that attention focused, Janice McCarthy and Michael Lowry for leadership and involvement in the ad hoc group calling themselves the “Perc Committee,” and a “cast of thousands” that included local officials, staff and faculty from Duke and UNC, and concerned citizens, especially those who showed up for one or more of the public hearings hosted by NCDENR.

Protecting Trinity Park’s trees
BY SHELLEY DEKKER

Each year after our willow oaks and other street trees leaf out in the spring, the City’s urban forestry department surveys the neighborhood, looking for dead limbs and other signs of trees in decline.

As many of our trees approach their 80th year of life, the arborists are finding a greater number of trees that need to be pruned of deadwood or removed completely. This spring and summer, the City will be removing 10 large trees and pruning another 16 they feel are in decline.

The rate at which we are losing our neighborhood’s tree canopy is alarming, and we must continue to plant and care for new trees each winter or the “tree-lined streets and avenues” of Trinity Park will be no more.

A great way to support our tree planting efforts is to make a tax-deductible donation today to the Trinity Park Foundation (see more info on the foundation on page 4). Send your donation to The Trinity Park Foundation, Inc., PO Box 725, Durham, NC 27702 and add “tree planting” on the memo line. One-hundred percent of the money will be used to plant new street trees in our neighborhood this winter.

Help Trinity Park protect the beauty of our neighborhood trees!
Revival of Trinity Park Foundation Brings Park Improvements

BY JULIA BORBELY-BROWN

The Trinity Park Foundation, Inc. has been reactivated and we have rededicated the Foundation to its mission and purpose:

1. To encourage and promote community pride in the neighborhood by providing a focus for neighborhood activity,
2. To preserve and enhance the physical character of the neighborhood by encouraging maintenance, revitalization, and beautification of buildings and grounds (including shade trees), and by encouraging the renovation of existing buildings rather than their demolition and replacement,
3. To acquire and maintain such properties or real estate as the Trinity Park Neighborhood Association deems of interest or as contributing to the overall character of the neighborhood.

Our recent fundraising outreach to a small group of neighbors was very successful. We are now reaching out to the neighborhood for financial support of our specific goals.

In the next month we will install and maintain an electrical outlet in Trinity Park so that the wonderful events held there can be even better. Your donation will help us pay for the power installation in the park.

We plan to add trees in key locations. Our neighborhood has been fortunate to receive focus from the City of Durham and Alex Johnson, City Arborist, but our trees require annual efforts of funding to maintain its beauty.

We will also add to a general fund to preserve the park. The City of Durham has generously agreed to repair the gazebo this summer and the neighborhood garden club has been fantastic about caring for the park. We can guarantee money is available for future enhancements.

Please send your generous contribution of $100, $50 or $25 to: The Trinity Park Foundation, Inc., PO Box 725, Durham, NC 27702. We are a 501(c)(3) organization and your contribution is tax-deductible. Indicate your area of support on the memo line: Power in the Park; Tree Planting; or General Park Maintenance. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Trinity Park Foundation Board of Directors include: Julia Borbely-Brown, Germaine Brewington, Jody White, Philip Azar, Michelle (Shelley) Dekker, Natasha Nazareth-Phelps, Linda Wilson, and Mathew Palmer.
Summer Events

TPNA HOME TOUR
Saturday, October 6: Save the date! Tickets will be on sale in late summer/early fall. Businesses interested in sponsorships should contact the Home Tour Committee (see page 2).

FOOD TRUCK RODEO IN THE PARK
Time TBA, July 8: Bring a chair, blanket and/or picnic and join us at the Food Truck Rodeo. Plans include fun games for kids too!

TPNA BOARD MEETINGS
7:30 p.m. Aug. 1, Sept. 5: PLEASE NOTE: TPNA will not meet on July 4th. Join us at George Watts Montessori for updates on things impacting our neighborhood.

PLAYDATE MEETUPS AT THE PARK - SECOND SATURDAYS OF THE MONTH
10-11:30 a.m., July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 8: Join your neighbors and their children the second Saturday of each month at The Park! Email jmvickery@gmail.com for more info. See the listserv for inclement weather updates.

Want to get involved in Trinity Park?

• Attend TPNA meetings on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at George Watts Montessori Magnet School.
• Visit http://trinitypark.org and join one of the TP email listservs — general neighborhood, crime and safety, and parents listservs exist for you to join and keep up to date on all things Trinity Park!
• Join a TPNA committee and meet more of your neighbors!

“The Fridge List”

If you see something suspicious or have an emergency, please call 911.

Police/Non-emergency
Northgate Substation  560-4582
Main Phone Line  560-4600

Prevention & Citizens Patrol
Dial 560-4582, then * 29400.
(Home checks and inspections.)

Duke Off-Campus Affairs  684-6859

Poison Help  800-222-1222
Fire Station #2  560-4251
(Ninth Street/non-emergency)
Animal Control  560-0630
Nuisances  560-7800
Tree Maintenance  560-4185
Seniors Staying Put  687-0518
Report a street light is out...

TPNA 2012-2013
Board of Directors

Officers
President, Julia Borbely-Brown
Vice-President, Jody White  308-0851
Treasurer, Germaine Brewington
Secretary, Mathew Palmer

Board Members
Marie Baker  428-5058
Nicole Baxter  632-3723
T.J. McDermott  641-9003
Jeff Porter  564-6462
Rachel Raney  682-5778
Jena Vickery  381-6563
Heather Wilson  749-3622

Past President
Philip Azar  491-6002

Newsletter
Editor
Marie Baker  428-5058
Business Sponsor Liaison
Dan Jewell  683-2563

COMMITTEES
Bylaws
Julia Borbely-Brown
Finance
Germaine Brewington
Home Tour
Nicole Baxter  632-3723
Community Building and Membership
Jeff Porter  641-9003
Jena Vickery  381-6563
Jody White  308-0851

PERC Clean-up
Philip Azar  491-6002
Communications
Marie Baker  428-5058
Safety
Jo Darby  632-3954
Urban Planning
John Swansey  682-5778
Traffic
Rachel Raney  564-6462
Trees
Call to order street trees!
Shelly Dekker  680-2855
Trinity Park was again home to several fun community events this spring, and plans for a picnic and food truck rodeo are underway for the summer.

For the second year in a row, TPNA’s community building committee partnered with Duke University’s Alpha Phi sorority, as well as the Trinity Heights and Old West Durham neighborhood associations, to host a massive egg hunt on the grounds of Duke’s East Campus. There were more than 1,000 eggs hidden for kids to find.

In addition to the hunt, Alpha Phi provided extra entertainment in the form of games, activities, a visit from the Easter Bunny, and a 5K run. Proceeds from the activities went to the Durham Crisis Response Center.

This year’s turnout far exceeded last year’s and we are already making plans for a larger crowd next year. All the eggs were collected after the hunt to reuse next year (we accept any eggs that neighbors would like to donate).

Special thanks go to all of our neighborhood volunteers, as well as the DSA Service Club and Sam Miglarese, the Director of the Duke-Durham Neighborhood Partnership, for his assistance in allowing the use of Duke’s space.

Thanks to your TPNA membership dues, neighbors enjoyed nearly perfect spring weather for the Durham Symphony Pops in the Park concert on April 14. The symphony played great selections and instruments were on hand for children to try out. Many thanks to Ellen Dagenhart for her continued co-sponsorship of this event!

Please mark your calendar for the evening of Sunday, July 8, when the community building committee will host a summer picnic/food truck rodeo in the park. We also hope to supply a few fun water games in the park for kids (and kids at heart!).

Watch the listserv for more information. And please contact Jena Vickery (jmvickery@gmail.com) or Jeffrey Porter (jeffreymichaelporter@gmail.com), co-chairs of the community building committee, if you want to get involved.
**TPNA Budget Report**

Below is the final Trinity Park Neighborhood Association Budget for fiscal year 2012, which is updated from what was presented at the Annual Meeting in April.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Budget FY2012</th>
<th>Actual FY2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
<td>$4,439.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Sponsorship and Ads</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
<td>$4,795.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Tour Sponsorship</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Tour Tickets</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden Tour</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cookbook and other printed items Sales</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$131.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luminaria Sales</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
<td>$729.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halloween Bags</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$477.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Tree Sales</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocoa and Cider Sales</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>$350.00</td>
<td>$237.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,850.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,069.32</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Expenses**                                 |               |               |
| Community Building                           |               |               |
| Events                                       | $150.00       | $737.24       |
| Block Party                                  | $500.00       | $0.00         |
| Durham Symphony                              | $1,500.00     | $1,500.00     |
| Luminaria                                    | $150.00       | $0.00         |
| House Tour Expenses                          | $0.00         | $0.00         |
| Miscellaneous                                | $500.00       | $0.00         |
| **Total Expenses**                           | **$2,800.00** | **$2,237.24** |

| Communications                               |               |               |
| Newsletter                                   | $5,200.00     | $3,504.41     |
| Web Site                                     | $350.00       | $0.00         |
| Web Site hosting/maintenance                 | $0.00         | $60.00        |
| Flyers and Printing                          | $500.00       | $0.00         |
| Membership Brochure and letters              | $0.00         | $0.00         |
| **Total Communications**                     | **$6,050.00** | **$3,564.41** |

| Neighborhood Beautification                  |               |               |
| Tree Planting                                | $1,000.00     | $1,000.00     |
| Public Space Plantings - Garden Club         | $100.00       | $0.00         |
| Neighborhood Clean Up Events                 | $400.00       | $0.00         |
| **Total Neighborhood Beautification**        | **$1,500.00** | **$1,000.00** |

| Miscellaneous                                |               |               |
| Legal                                        | $0.00         | $0.00         |
| Board & Annual Mtg. Expenses                 | $300.00       | $155.29       |
| D&O Insurance                                | $744.00       | $744.00       |
| Supplies & Postage                           | $50.00        | $257.59       |
| **Total Miscellaneous**                      | **$1,094.00** | **$1,156.88** |

| **Donations**                                |               |               |
| INC Membership                               | $25.00        | Gift In Kind  |
| Watts PTA-Space                              | $500.00       | $1,000.00     |
| Local PTAs                                   | $1,000.00     | $0.00         |
| Kids Voting                                  | $0.00         | $0.00         |
| Luminaria Donation                           | $0.00         | $729.00       |
| Other Donations                              | $250.00       | $0.00         |
| **Total Donations**                          | **$1,775.00** | **$1,729.00** |

| **Total Income**                             | **$6,850.00** | **$11,069.32**|
| **Total Expenses**                           | **$13,219.00**| **$9,687.53**  |
| **Net to Reserves**                          | **$1,381.79** |               |
You love Durham. You love Trinity Park.

Renew your Trinity Park Neighborhood Association membership!

Have YOU joined the Trinity Park Neighborhood Association? For just $15 per year (discounts available for multiple years!) you will be supporting the initiatives that make living here, in the heart of the city, so wonderful. Some neighborhoods require residents to pay homeowners association fees, but Trinity Park Neighborhood Association is a voluntary group that relies on your financial and personal support for its activities. We encourage all residents—homeowners and renters—to join.

TPNA supports our neighborhood in many ways—with donations to neighborhood schools and organizations and by sponsoring great community events, like the Durham Symphony’s Pops in the Park, the Halloween party, the Spring Egg Hunt, a biennial Home Tour, and clean-up days.

In addition to paying dues, please consider signing up to help with one of our events and efforts, or consider joining a TPNA committee. Some efforts require only a couple volunteer hours each year. Simply complete the form below and the committee chair will contact you! TPNA and its residents are the reasons for the success of this neighborhood. We continue to make progress and improvements and your membership and involvement will assist us in doing so.

We encourage neighbors to become actively engaged with our community — take the first step today by becoming a member! If you have questions about your membership status, email tpnamembership@gmail.com.

Name(s): ____________________________

Address: ____________________________
Durham, NC 27701

Phone: ___________ Email: ___________

Send to: Trinity Park Neighborhood Association
PO Box 725 • Durham, NC 27702

Select one:

☐ One year = $15
☐ Two years = $25
☐ Five years = $50
☐ Magnolia Sponsor = $200 (Lifetime membership)

Thank you for supporting your Trinity Park Neighborhood Association!

Show your Trinity Park pride!

T-shirts...Bags...Hats....Drinkware
www.cafepress.com/thetriinityparkshop

The Trinity Park Neighborhood Association, with assistance from Trinity Park-based design firm Indigo Envelope, has opened a shop on Cafe Press. Check out all the great items available for showing your neighborhood pride by visiting www.cafepress.com/thetriinityparkshop. There’s something for everyone, including kids and pets!

A small percentage of the proceeds will support your TPNA.