



Trinity Park news

Trinity Park Neighborhood Association

www.trinitypark.org

September 2011

Neighbors weigh in on M^cPherson Hospital



BY ADAM HAILE

For almost eighty years, the M^cPherson Hospital operated on the southern edge of Trinity Park, specializing in healing the eyes and ears of area residents. Yet for the last five years, the hospital has itself become something of an eyesore, a half-demolished building surrounded by construction fences.

Fortunately, recent developments may have the hospital seeing another eighty years. An agreement between the Trinity Park Neighborhood Association and the developer of the site, Concord Hospitality, will see a 143-room Marriott Residence Inn built on the property, with the preserved hospital as its central architectural element.

Discussions over the site began last October, when Concord Hospitality began circulating a new set of plans among residents and area stakeholders. Prior proposals had mixed hotel and commercial use on the property but the financial downturn caused the previous project to be put on hold in 2009, just after the initial round of demolition.

The new design proposed using the entire property for a large extended-stay hotel, as funding was more available for such projects.

To respond to the new proposal, TPNA organized an ad hoc committee, the "M^cPherson Subcommittee," with three main goals: to thoroughly canvas neighbor opinion about the

proposed development; to serve as a conduit of those opinions back to the developer; and to negotiate with the developer enforceable conditions which would insure that neighbors' concerns were addressed.

Buchanan Boulevard resident John Swansey chaired the committee, which held two meetings to gather residents' concerns. Both meetings were advertised on the listserv, via pamphlets to all houses within 600 feet of the development and, when timing availed, in this newsletter.

After gathering opinions, the committee took them back to the developer, who made a number of changes in response: the historic

("Hotel" continued on page 7)

TPNA COMMITTEE UPDATES

BB&T Site Demo'd

BY JANICE M^CCARTHY

We finally have some good news of progress to report on the former BB&T site. The building demolition was completed at the end of July.

There were no complications, and air quality at the site is well within acceptable limits. DENR has performed additional soil contamination assessments, and they are in the process of reviewing this data.

The target for unveiling a site remediation plan is September or October. This would include a 30-day public comment period and meeting before implementation. Remediation activities may begin around January 2012.

For additional information, please visit http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wm/dsca/bbt_updates. Or you may contact the project manager, Billy Meyer at (919) 508-8415 or billy.meyer@ncdenr.gov.

Neighborhood Home Tour Coming Fall 2012

BY SUSAN JAKES

The Neighborhood Home Tour Committee met for the first time to begin planning the next home tour. The decision was made to host our tour during the fall, as has been done in past years.

This decision was made to help decrease the competition of the spring home tour frenzy with the Preservation Durham tour and many other neighborhoods who have begun tours in the spring months.

Additionally, our home owners won't have to worry about tour attendees leaving yellow pollen

tracks all over their homes!

The Trinity Park Neighborhood Home Tour is the biggest fundraiser for TPNA and occurs only every other year. Your support is pivotal to its success.

The tentative date is October 6, 2012. There are many ways to get involved and it takes plenty of volunteers to make this event happen.

If you want to help plan the tour, please contact Susan Jakes at drmom2u@gmail.com.

If you would like to be a docent, contact Susan Pratt at prattse@yahoo.com. Docents will serve a two-hour shift in a home and will also receive a free tour ticket.

If you would like your home to be considered for featuring on the tour, please contact Julia Borbely-Brown at Julia.Borbely-Brown@self-help.org.

We are excited to start planning and look forward to seeing you all at the 2012 Trinity Park Neighborhood Association Home Tour!

Safety Committee in Search of Chair

BY JENNIFER FRANKLIN

Jennifer Franklin has stepped down as Chair of the Trinity Park Neighborhood Association Safety Committee to focus her efforts as Coordinator for the Trinity Park Neighborhood Watch, therefore the Safety Committee is currently without leadership.

If you are passionate about increasing safety in our neighborhood and are organized and action-oriented, we welcome

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TPNA COMMITTEE UPDATES (CONT'D)

your leadership.

Now that Franklin is focused on building our Neighborhood Watch program, we'd like to focus on other strategies for improving safety and reducing crime in our neighborhood.

Please contact Jo Darby at jdarby002@nc.rr.com or (828) 252-2711 if you're interested in chairing the Safety Committee.

City Tree Vandalized

This summer, a four year-old City oak tree on Buchanan Boulevard was cut down by a tree vandal. The tree, worth \$400, was donated to Trinity Park by the Durham Council of Garden Clubs.

This was sad news for those who have worked so hard over the years to restore the diminishing tree canopy in Trinity Park. When

asked who owns these street trees, urban forestry manager, Alex Johnson, response is as follows:

The big, beautiful trees lining Durham's streets are publicly owned assets, like fire hydrants and light poles. They thus belong to everyone and exist for the benefit of all.

They are living organisms, which shed branches and leaves, and send their roots into places we might not prefer. The adjacent property owners often bear the major impact of their seasonal gifts as well.

The City has a branch of its General Services Department specifically devoted to the preservation, maintenance, and replacement of these assets.

If you have an issue with the tree next to your house that can be addressed through the application of sound arboricultural practices, then it's just a matter of making a

phone call.

Durham One Call (560-1200) will forward your request appropriately and you will at least get a call back. Your concern will be addressed as long as you are asking for something that is supportable by our maintenance best management practices.

For those who prefer to take matters into their own hands, the Urban Forestry Division has a Manager at its helm, responsible for protecting the City's trees, and an ordinance to back him up. Permits can be issued to allow work on a City tree under various terms and conditions, and he can fine those who undertake unauthorized work, including removal.

If you see anyone mutilating or destroying a tree, please let the City or the Tree Committee know.

Keep Trinity Park beautiful!

Fall Festival



*Come celebrate
the fall season
with us!*

**Sunday, October 9
1-5 PM**

- Antique Car Show
- Your favorite beverage provided by Fullsteam brewery
- Live Music
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Jazz and Blues Musicians

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John Dee Holeman 2 - 3 PM
BDS band 3 - 4 PM
Harvey Dalton Arnold 4 - 5 PM

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Exciting Neighborhood Events Coming Soon

BY JENA VICKERY



The Trinity Park Neighborhood Association's Community Building committee is excited to announce the dates for several events taking place this fall in our neighborhood.

On Halloween night, Monday, October 31st, we will be hosting our annual costume contest and celebration in the park. Please join your neighbors at 5:30 p.m. in the park before your little ghosts and

goblins head out to trick-or-treat.

We are in need of additional volunteers: this is Trinity Park's biggest event each year by far, when hundreds of children from the neighborhood and nearby areas arrive to trick-or-treat. Stock up on candy!

If you can help in advance or the day of Halloween, email Jena Vickery at jmvickery@gmail.com or Jeff Porter at jeffreymichaelporter@gmail.com.

In addition, please mark your calendars for the evening of Sunday, November 13th for a Food Truck Rodeo in the park. We will invite Durham food trucks to set up near the park and collect canned goods to donate to the Durham Rescue Mission.

Then on Sunday, December 4th, we hope to light up the neighborhood, and the park, with

our annual Luminaria celebration. We will be selling all the materials to make luminaria bags for your sidewalk—all proceeds will go to *Share Your Christmas*. We'll also host a get-together at the gazebo the same evening. Watch the listserv for more details!

These and other neighborhood events are only possible with the support and time of neighbors like yourselves.

If you are not a member of the neighborhood association, please join—your dues go a long way to helping us create a more fun and community-minded Trinity Park. See the membership form in this newsletter.

And if you'd like to volunteer or have ideas for other ways to make our neighborhood events better, please email Jena or Jeff at the addresses previously mentioned.

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TRINITY PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Fall/Winter Events

OCTOBER

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

NOVEMBER

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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DECEMBER

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

9:00 a.m. - noon, Sep. 24: Bring materials to the corner of Dacian Ave. and Watts St. See back cover for details.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Oct. 31, Halloween; Nov. 13, Food Truck Rodeo; Dec. 4, Luminaria (see page 4).

TPNA BOARD MEETINGS

7:30 p.m. Oct. 5, Nov. 2, Dec. 7: details below.

GARDEN CLUB WORKDAYS

10 a.m., Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13: Contact Dale Gaddis - 687-4324 or dale.w.gaddis@gmail.com.

PLAYDATE MEETUPS AT THE PARK

10-11:30 a.m., Sep. 10, Oct. 1, Nov. 6, Dec. 3: Join us in Trinity Park for a play date! Email jmvickery@gmail.com for more info. See the listserv for inclement weather updates..com.

NEIGHBORHOOD NIGHT OUT

5:30-8:00 p.m., Sep. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 22: Location sent via TP listserv or email marie.e.baker@gmail.com. No Dec. meeting!

TPNA 2011-2012 Board of Directors

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President, Adam Haile	442-8783
Vice President, Julia Borbely-Brown	
Treasurer, Adam Dickinson	452-3751
Secretary, Sarah Musser	688-1722

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Jeff Porter	641-9003
Rachel Raney	564-6462
John Swansey	682-5778
Jody White	308-0851
Jena Vickery	381-6563

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Philip Azar	491-6002
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Newsletter

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COMMITTEES

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Adam Dickinson	452-3751
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Jeff Porter	641-9003
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Jody White	308-0851
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Janice McCarthy	530-8258
Communications	
Adam Haile	442-8783
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

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.
- Join the Community Building Committee and help with a neighborhood event — jmvickery@gmail.com or jeffreymichaelporter@gmail.com.
- 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.)

Durham One Call 560-1245
(Questions about city services)

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...

http://www.durhamnc.gov/departments/transportation/streetlight_report.cfm

Classical musicians begin Trinity Park Salon Series

BY MARC MOSKOVITZ

Our fabulous neighborhood is about to become home to a unique venue: classical music concerts in our homes. Marc Moskowitz, a professional cellist and Trinity Park resident, is launching a series of salon concerts to take place in neighborhood houses.

"I've performed in a wide variety of settings, from local schools to Boston's Symphony Hall but it's within the intimate surrounding of the home where I feel most connected to what I do and who I do it for," Moskowitz recalls.

Such was the inspiration for the Trinity Park Salon Series (TPSS). Moskowitz hopes neighbors will come out in support of this unique and exciting endeavor—one more thing that makes our neighborhood so distinct.

Moskovitz founded the TPSS with two other Trinity Park residents, Amy Greensfelder, the series' president, and Nate Massey, vice president and treasurer. Together they are hoping to build significant interest in the series, which launches Tuesday, November 15th at the King's Daughters Inn.

At the inaugural concert, Moskowitz will be joined by

violinist Dovid Friedlander, associate concertmaster of the North Carolina Symphony, and Yoram Youngerman, a violist who has performed internationally and currently lives in Chapel Hill. Next May, Moskowitz will be joined by cellist Elizabeth Bielman, also of the North Carolina Symphony, for a program of dynamic cello duos.

Concerts are open to all Trinity Park residents and friends. While programs are free, there is a suggested donation of \$15.00. Each concert will last about an hour, including brief insights into

the music performed and will be followed by light refreshments.

The TPSS is still searching for a home for its May concert. If you are interested in hosting the event, or simply want to read more about the TPSS, please visit our website: www.salonseries.org.

The organization also needs modest sponsorship dollars to help pay the musicians for their talents and time. If you work for a local business that may be interested in supporting these efforts, please contact Marc at sponsorship@salonseries.org.

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Hotel

(continued from page 1...)

McPherson Hospital building, which initial designs had slated for demolition, will now be preserved as much as feasible; the hotel's design now "looks like Durham," borrowing the brick facades of our historic tobacco warehouses; illuminated signs will be limited to the Main Street side and not visible from the neighborhood; the transition from commercial to residential space will be eased by an increased setback on the most impacted corner — Buchanan and Main; and sufficient parking will be provided for hotel guests.

Thanks to these changes, the TPNA board held a special meeting on June 23rd which drew unanimous support for the project and the conditions negotiated between the McPherson Subcommittee and

the developer.

The final step in the process came on August 23rd, when Durham's Board of Adjustment (BOA) met to decide whether to grant the developer a permit for the hotel and, most importantly for the neighborhood, whether to attach to that permit the conditions we had negotiated.

The BOA approved both requests and, based on new information made available at the hearing, even strengthened a few of the proposed conditions. A violation of the conditions will trigger a revocation of the hotel's permit, thereby putting the force of Durham's Planning Department behind the neighborhood's agreement with the developer.

The developer has about three months of engineering before construction begins. If all goes on

schedule, that should be around the first of the year, finishing up in the first quarter of 2013.

All these negotiations took a tremendous amount of volunteer time, and Trinity Park is extremely lucky to have so many highly-skilled people willing to give their time.

Along with John Swansey, Philip Azar, John Hodges-Copple, Nathan Isley, Ken Luker, Tina Moon and Linda Wilson sat on the committee and devoted hundreds of hours to gathering neighbor opinion, researching how the City's approval process works, and negotiating with the developer over the precise language of the conditions. We owe them all a tremendous thank you for their efforts on our behalf.

Look for another update in the December newsletter.



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Living in Trinity Park

Did you grow up in Trinity Park? Did your parents, grandparents, or great-grandparents live here in the early years of the neighborhood?

In follow-up to this year's TPNA Annual Meeting, we are looking for more stories of the neighborhood. We hope to develop a *Living in Trinity Park* series of newsletter articles.

If you would like to share your stories, please contact Julia Borbely-Brown at juliaborbelybrown@yahoo.com.

Subscribe to the TP Listserv

Send a blank e-mail to TrinityPark-subscribe@yahoo.com

Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Trinity Park Neighborhood Association (TPNA) will hold a hazardous waste collection day on Saturday, September 24th, 9:00 a.m. to noon. Bring your items to the corner of Dacian Avenue and Watts Street. TPNA will transfer them to the City of Durham collection site at 1900 E. Club Boulevard.

Please read the information below from the City's website so that you are well-informed about what materials TPNA can/cannot and will/will not accept.

Acceptable items from households only include: dry cell batteries, fire extinguishers (dry chemical only), florescent light bulbs, household cleaners, oil-based paints *only* (fully-dried latex paints may be placed in trash bins), garden chemicals and fertilizers, and mercury thermometers.

Unacceptable materials include: medications, used needles, or other medical wastes; commercially generated hazardous waste; garbage, recyclables, or yard waste; radioactive materials, including smoke detectors; explosives or ammunition (contact the Police Department); unknown or unlabeled materials. Cooking oil, motor oil, and antifreeze are not accepted at the facility. However, these items may be taken at no charge to the Transfer Station at 2115 E. Club Boulevard. TPNA will **not** be collecting cooking oil, motor oil or antifreeze for this event.

Be considerate and please remember we are volunteers helping to make our neighborhood a better place. Massive quantities of disposables may be rejected and other reasonable limits may be imposed at our discretion.

If you are willing to volunteer on Saturday, September 24th, please contact Julia Borbely-Brown, TPNA Vice-President, at juliaborbelybrown@yahoo.com.

You love Durham. You love Trinity Park.

Renew your Trinity Park Neighborhood Association membership!

You love Durham. You love Trinity Park. But have you joined your Trinity Park Neighborhood Association? For just \$15 per year (or \$25 for two years) you will be supporting the initiatives that make living here so wonderful. Most neighborhoods require its residents to pay homeowners association fees. Since Trinity Park is in the heart of the city, it does not collect required fees. But we encourage all residents — homeowners and renters — to join.

The TPNA supports our neighborhood with donations to neighborhood schools and organizations and by sponsoring great community events — Durham Symphony's Pops in the Park, Halloween party, Easter Egg Hunt, clean-up days and more. TPNA and its residents are the reasons for the success of this neighborhood and we need you to help us keep Trinity Park as one of Durham's finest neighborhoods.

We continue to make progress and improvements for our neighbors and your membership will assist us in doing so. Your address label should indicate your membership status. If you have not paid your dues this year, please consider joining today. For association voting, dues must be paid prior to the annual meeting in April.

Select one:

Name(s): _____

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☐ Two years = \$25

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Thank you for supporting your Trinity Park Neighborhood Association!