



Trinity Park news

JUNE 2015

Carnival-goers enjoyed games, music, food, and just a few rain drops at annual Watts Carnival & Silent Auction

by Emily Daly

If you walked down Watts Avenue on Saturday, April 18, you likely heard the sounds of happy kids and friends and family enjoying George Watts Montessori Magnet School's annual Spring Carnival & Silent Auction. This year's event was a tremendous success, raising over \$16,000 that the PTA will use to support school programs such as Writer's Workshop, the Edible Garden, science and cultural awareness projects, field trips, classroom and Montessori supplies, and after-school get-togethers.

This year's Carnival-goers enjoyed the tried and true games and activities – face painting, relay races, and bounce houses are perennial favorites – along with more recent additions, including a treasure dig, a coin drop (yes, it really is harder than it looks to land a penny in a jar inside a water-filled aquarium!), a candy walk (think cake walk, but with candy), and a soccer shoot. For the first time this year, kids of all ages could take home their very own poems courtesy of the Poetry Fox, adorn their hair with feathers at the Spa, or send boats down a chute in Rain Gutter Regatta.

Attendees enjoyed a line-up of talented musicians, including a number of Watts parents, teachers, and friends – special thanks to Kathleen Klotz and bands LiLa, Plan B, and Baron Von Rumblebuss for keeping things lively and festive. Carnival-goers also enjoyed yummy treats from Liv's, Dang Good Dogs, and Pelican Snoball, not to mention tamales and homemade goodies of all sorts from the kitchens of Watts friends and families.

The Silent Auction raised nearly \$9,500, making it the most successful Watts auction yet. Artfully crafted class projects and special activities with teachers were popular again this



Photos by Susie Post-Rust

Continued on page 2

Carnival, *continued from page 1*

year, as were specialty items including a week at a beach house, dinner catered by a Trinity Park couple, photography sessions, summer camps, spa services, DPAC tickets, and a night at Trinity Park's King's Daughters Inn. And for the first time this year, all auction winners also received a pass for a free Smoothie King smoothie.

Silent Auction bidding ended, and kids were collecting their hard-earned prizes from the impressively stocked Prize Table right as the first rain drops began to fall, cutting this year's

Carnival short by a half-hour. Even with the slightly shorter timeframe, the event was a smashing success – and Watts teachers and students will reap the benefits with new classroom supplies and special activities next school year.

Huge thanks to the many sponsors, vendors, teachers, staff, volunteers, parents, friends, and kiddos who helped make the George Watts Spring Carnival & Silent Auction fun for all. We look forward to seeing Trinity Park residents at next year's event!



Cankercworm Q & A with Durham Urban Forestry Manager Alex Johnson

Trinity Parkers ask Alex Johnson their questions about controlling cankerworms.

What do you think about spraying Bt to get rid of cankerworms, and what is its known effect on all the other beneficial insects?

Bt stands for bacillus thuringiensis, a naturally occurring soil-borne bacteria that is toxic to insects in the order Lepidoptera, but is also known to impact Diptera (flies) and Coleoptera (beetles). Lepidoptera includes moths (like the cankerworm) as well as butterflies. Bt is applied as a liquid spray. Its mode of activation is through the digestive tract, so it must be ingested. This is achieved by spraying it on plants that are being fed upon by cankerworms. If you have

a butterfly garden or have plants in the treatment area that have eggs, larva or adults of non-target moths or butterflies, you may want to reconsider applying this agent to those plants (milkweed, fennel, dill, etc.). I don't know about residual effects or how long the organism persists. Most of the environmental concern over Bt's use stems from its inclusion (through gene splicing) to crops such as corn, which has a huge impact on native non-target species through pollen cross-contamination. The Bt that's used in commercial formulations have been selectively bred or manipulated to increase the efficacy of their insecticidal

Continued on page 3

Cankerworms, *continued from page 2*

properties – perhaps narrowing the range of target insects. In any event, any pesticide agent “natural” or synthetic will carry a very specific warning label. I encourage anyone considering using any pesticide to read and adhere to the labeled instructions.

Is Bt what Charlotte sprayed, and what kind of cankerworm season did they have after spraying?

My understanding is that it was a formulation of Bt that was applied. From what I’ve read or seen, they sprayed at least twice. First application was small in scale and was followed by a larger-scale application using crop-duster planes. It was a public relations fiasco from the video clips I saw. I’m not sure about the efficacy. They still have the problem years after, but the years immediately following the treatment, I don’t know. The question is a bit vague – damage is hard to quantify in measureable terms. Bad? Better?

Regarding banding trees: Should we band earlier? Use wider bands? Two bands? What IS the banding window?

Earlier is not necessarily better.

Wider is probably better. Two bands helps us understand how many get past one band, but might not be that practical for everyone.

The banding window is completely dependent on the emergence of the adult moths from their cocoons, which in turn hinges on variables that are not completely understood, but appear to be driven predominantly by weather – cold temperatures. I’ve noted different emergence dates for each of the past 3 years, but the practical variable here is leaf drop. You can band the tree whenever you want. But the tanglefoot needs to go on after the majority of the leaves have fallen from the willow oaks, otherwise your traps become ineffective.

I made a big effort to apply the goo to the bands before last years’ early cold snap (in late November, if I recall), but the cankerworms didn’t show up for another 2 weeks, and when they did they were slow in building up to the numbers we ultimately saw in January.

In general terms I’d say band trees after the first hard frost, but you have a few weeks to get it together before they start to really emerge. Another good tip is to band one tree early and be ready to band the rest when you see the first one on the trap.

I’ve seen a young tree that has been defoliated both this year and last, although the large oaks beside it were banded. Should this young tree receive some special care? Fertilizer, for example?

I often caution against fertilizing trees. Adding nitrogen to a

tree’s diet makes it allocate more of its resources to leaf growth without a corresponding investment in roots or defensive chemicals (tannins). The end result is the tree is then vulnerable to drought (increase leaf area = greater need for water) and more vulnerable to pests that feed on leaves (succulent new growth is more palatable).

Trees only need two things: water and sunlight. If either are lacking, feel free to provide. Pruning mature trees to allow for new ones to thrive is a bit much to ask for (but you asked), but watering in times of drought is always a good practice.

The large willow oaks in urban neighborhoods have been hit hard by cankerworms during the last few years, and yet we drive out into the country and see no signs of their devastation on trees. Why is this?

Multiple reasons, but the short answer is biodiversity. Urban areas are less biodiverse than rural (typically). We have lots of willow oaks and lots of grass, but the environmental niches that support a healthy population of predators and parasitoids that would normally keep cankerworm populations in check are lacking. These are typically in your shrub, mid-story and ground level vegetation layers. Cankerworms need three things, something to lay eggs on and then eat (trees and then whatever else they land on), and someplace to hole up for the summer (lawn). Birds, parasitoids, mice, beetles and other predatory insects need places to breed and other things to eat after the cankerworm bonanza is over in order to sustain a population poised to eat next year’s crop. What does your yard have to offer?

If the trees eventually leaf out again even after being defoliated, why is it necessary to take these banding precautions? It seems like the trees recover on their own.

There you go. What’s all the fuss about?

Trees do recover, but they do so at a cost. Young vulnerable seedlings and transplanted trees don’t have reserves to draw from to keep regenerating leaves. Old trees that are responding to environmental pressures are also at a disadvantage due to the nature of old trees – they have to support a lot of non-contributory tissue (so-called “heartwood”), to wall off decay, to continue to pump fluid up and down longer and more constricted vascular bundles.

Those leaves are an investment of stored carbohydrates that it took the previous year’s leaves to generate. Strip those away and you lose weeks of sunlight and photosynthetic potential while they grow leaf crop #2. To put it into layman’s terms, they are adding one more straw to the camel’s back or nail to the coffin, making them more vulnerable to the next pathogen, injury or environmental stress that comes along.

Safety in Trinity Park

by Steven Falzarano

One of the most wonderful things about living in Trinity Park is the relative safety that we all enjoy. This is not to say that we do not have occasionally have some issues and concerns. However, one of the most effective tools we have to promote safety in our neighborhood is our individual constant vigilance, a small, yet quite effective price to pay to promote safety. It always amazes me how quickly a potential safety or crime concern is posted on the listserv, from reports of theft or damage, to suspect behavior by an individual. Each of us is responsible for neighborhood safety.

As the new TPNA Safety Committee Chair my goal is to continue to build upon the safety practices that already exist in our wonderful neighborhood. First and foremost though is for every one of us to recognize that safety is the responsibility of each and every one of us. It should become second nature and habitual in our everyday lives.

And it is always good to have a reminder of some of the basic safety precautions that each of us can take to further minimize incidences in our neighborhood. One thing of particular concern that I see when walking the neighborhood is the ability to see into homes from the sidewalk. I am often able to see computers, electronics, and other valuables without even making an effort. I know we like to be able to

look out our windows and to let the sunlight in, but we should also be aware of what a thief can see from just walking down the sidewalk. Following are some easy things that we all can do to improve neighborhood safety and to further reduce opportunistic crime in the neighborhood.

As I read about the crime reports in the neighborhood, so much is preventable.

- If you see someone you don't recognize who appears to be looking at homes or cars, and if you are comfortable, ask them in an authoritative voice if you can help them. Look them directly in the eye and challenge them. If not comfortable doing this, just let them see you and let them know you are watching and that they have been noticed. Take out your phone to take a picture or as if you are calling the police.
- Draw blinds and curtains, especially when not home. Blinds can be positioned to let light in but prevent someone from seeing into the house, and sheer curtains can also prevent someone from seeing home contents.
- Keep computers, electronics, and other valuables hidden from view through windows.

Continued on page 5



*Your neighborhood
plumber since 1947.*

636 Foster St. Durham, NC 27701
(919) 688-1348

ACMEPLUMBING.COM

Est.  1947

**Marie
Austin**
REALTY COMPANY

**Serving Durham since
before it was cool!**
est. 1960

919-286-5611

1204 Broad Street • Durham, NC 27705

Safety, *continued from page 4*

- Keep hedges and brush trimmed in front of windows and doorways. Don't give someone a place to hide.
- Keep yard and property clean and well maintained.
- Eliminate easy access to second level windows, and lock windows that can be easily accessed.
- When workers are in your home, close all doors to rooms they should not enter and hide any valuables. Also check all door locks and windows when they are gone. Even a contractor you trust may have an employee that you don't know. The same precautions should be taken if you have a party or other people in your home with whom you are not familiar.
- Do not invite anyone into your home that you do not know, especially if you are alone. Have a conversation through the door or step outside.
- Do not advertise when you are away from home on the listserv, Facebook, or other social media. Just tell the neighbors you trust. Ask them to watch your house and collect mail and packages for you.
- Do not put sensitive information in your trash. Use secure shredding when possible.
- Use a fireproof safe to store your valuables.
- Install motion lights.
- Secure garages and don't leave valuable items sitting out for someone to see day after day, such as mowers, tools, etc...
- Install dead bolt locks, especially on doors with small window panes that can be easily broken for someone to reach in and unlock the door.

Remember, safety is our individual and collective responsibility. If we each do our part, the entire neighborhood will benefit for all.

Durham Symphony fills Watts gymnasium with beautiful music

by Jody White

On Saturday, May 2, the Durham Symphony returned to Trinity Park to play a beautiful collection of works, including pieces from the movie soundtracks of Star Wars, The Sound of Music, and Superman. The audience also listened to Maestro William Henry Curry tell a brief story on Louis Armstrong before leading the musicians through a jazz tribute collection. A wonderful surprise was the introduction of the young composer G. Oakley Lyon, who led the symphony through his piece "Evolution", an orchestral piece that included styles of modern dubstep. Although the concert typically is set in the park the concert was moved into the George Watts Montessori School gymnasium due to

the threat of rain. The gym seating was filled with many patrons standing at the back or sitting in the front. The free event was co-sponsored by the Durham Symphony, Trinity Park Neighborhood Association, and long time neighbor and TPNA member Ellen Dagenhart. Many volunteers helped clean up the park before the event, and although the park venue was not used, the clean up made the park look terrific. Several other Trinity Park neighbors volunteered their time to help set up chairs in the gym and to pack them back up after the concert had finished. A huge thank you goes to all the volunteers who generously gave their time to make this another wonderful concert for the neighborhood.

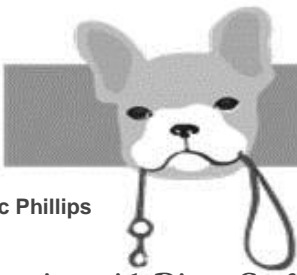


WE LOVE DURHAM!



MORGAN Imports

113 S Gregson St 919.688.1150 www.morganimports.com
Mon-Sat 10a-9p Sun Noon-6p



by Marc Phillips

An interview with Diane Groff

What 3 things would you like Trinity Park residents to know about The Other End of the Leash?

The 3 things that you need to know about *Other End of the Leash* are that we are a community resource, we carry quality products, and we are a fun store to visit.

When LeAnn and I first envisioned opening up a pet boutique, we wanted to create a space that was more than just a store that “sold pet stuff.” We wanted to be a community resource that focused on the well-being of pets. We wanted to be the type of resource that we so desperately needed when we were muddling through the mass amount of information, and sometimes misinformation, we used to make a decision about our dog’s health issues that resulted from a near fatal overdose of dark chocolate. LeAnn, Cindy and I are all resources for you and are here to help you find the answers you need. If we can’t help right away, we will do some research and get you the answers you need.

In addition to being a community resource, we want to do the hard work and research needed to ensure the quality of the products we sell. One of the best ways to ensure quality was to commit to only sell products made in the USA or a free/fair trade country. We quickly learned however, that simply stamping “Made in the USA” does not ensure quality. We had to dig deeper to ensure that the ingredients in our pet products were free of toxins and the 3 “D’s” commonly used in pet foods. The 3 “D’s” mean dead, diseased or dying. As disgusting as that sounds, it is the reality of the pet industry. We do the research to ensure that the products we sell for dogs and cats are human quality and free of toxic ingredients that can cause your pets harm. Furthermore, high quality does not have to mean a high price! We search hard to find affordable quality foods. Because of the quality of the ingredients, some of the foods can be spendy. However, we also have basic quality foods that cost around \$1.10/lb. which is comparable to, or less expensive than, grocery store brands and the popular foods sold in your vet’s office. We can find foods to match most of our customers’ budgets and all of the foods that we carry have a frequent feeder loyalty program that is not available in the big box stores or through online merchants.

Lastly, we want to have fun when we are in the store. We love baking homemade dog treats and serving them to the pups that come to visit every day. There are some dogs that refuse to walk by the store without stopping in for a treat. Actually there are a few human customers who enjoy the homemade treats more than the dogs. We also love to host

events and activities that benefit local organizations such as Triangle Pets Alive and the Coalition to Unchain Dogs.

There is nothing like a Yappy Hour to bring the community together for the benefit of our fur children.

Why did you choose Trinity Park to open your store?

We love the vibe of Trinity Park and downtown Durham. We were looking for a space where we could display our merchandise in an interesting “antique meets warehouse” type of space. We also HAD to have the convenience of on-site parking. We were so fortunate that a unit opened up at 1000 West Main Street at the time that it did. It has everything that we wanted including exposed brick walls, wood floors, and high ceilings. The walls have served as a great backdrop to display the work of local artists such as Jewel Conway and Barbi Bailey-Smith. It is also within walking distance to a bunch of very cool dog friendly restaurants and bars. We have a ton of customers who will stop in with their dogs on the way to grab a beer at the Social Gameroom or an awesome burger and fries at the Fed or Satisfactions.

What has been the biggest surprise or unexpected result since you opened for business?

The biggest surprise has been how much support we have received from the community. We truly feel like we have become friends with many of our customers. We knew we were going to meet a ton of cool “Durhamites” but the reception and amount of growth we have experienced is more than expected.

Are you planning any changes to the store in the future?

We are still relatively new having only been open for 20 months. For now we are trying to ensure that we maintain the quality of our service. The one area that we will begin promoting a bit more in the future is our ability to make cakes to celebrate special occasions with your pets. We only use “gluten free” ingredients and can make special flavors that dogs love such as bacon apple, carrot, trail mix, or peanut butter and banana cakes and “pupcakes”. We just ask that you order your cake at least 2 days prior to the event so that we have time to bake and decorate.

Any additional comments?

Thanks for all of your support Trinity Park! You have been amazing to us and we really appreciate it.

Other End of the Leash Pet Boutique & Bakery is Durham’s locally owned source for the highest quality, fairly traded pet supplies, holistic nutrition and wellness product expertise. Independently owned by longtime Durham residents Diane Groff and LeAnn Hinson.

Durham Bike Co-Op is Moving

by Matthew Yearout

The Durham Bike Co-op just launched phase II of its' fundraiser, making it one step closer to a new home in Duke Park. Having been approved in March to move to the former Durham Parks and Recreation Maintenance Facility, the Co-op has a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to move to a larger and more suitable new space with a long-term lease.

Founded in 2007, most of the Durham Bike Co-op's existence has been right around the corner from Trinity Park, tucked behind the old Napa Auto Parts, just a stone's throw from Stone Brothers. Commuters, students and bike enthusiast alike have enjoyed the Co-op's low-cost or earned memberships, that comes with access to the shop, tools, parts and a community of cyclists sharing knowledge and skills. Last year, 480 members and/or customers received bicycle repair assistance from the Co-op's volunteer mechanics or did their own "DIY" bike repairs, and 118 people earned or purchased refurbished bicycles. Relying on used bicycles donated by the community, the Co-op either puts the bikes back into use or if beyond repair, salvages

parts and recycles the rest. Last year alone the Co-op kept over four tons of scrap metal out of the landfill!

While the Co-op has enjoyed being tucked away between Trinity Park Neighborhood and the blossoming Central Park, it will still be close by. Ride north on the Perl Mill Trail, then catch the connecting trail east of Washington St, and voila, the Co-op's future home in Duke Park. However, in order to relocate the Co-op must up-fit the facility with an ADA-compliant restroom and a retrofitted workshop. Which is why the organization has launched a capital campaign on Razoo. Any neighbor or local business owner can donate to the Co-op's capital campaign by visiting: <http://www.razoo.com/story/Phase-II-Workshop-Building-Retrofit>.

The Durham Bike Co-op hopes to be officially moved by late summer. In the meantime please feel free to visit them online or in person. For updates and/or more information about the Durham Bicycle Cooperative, visit www.durhambikecoop.org.

The Library in The Park

by Julia Borbely-Brown, with input from Katie and Sue Concannon

The Little Free Library in The Park has been getting lots of use since it opened last summer. This is a great asset for The Park and for the entire neighborhood. We appreciate the many generous neighbors who donate books on a regular basis. Katie and Sue Concannon – our "founders" – check the library every other week. They routinely bring a batch of children's books every time they stop by. We continue to be grateful for their care and dedication.

A few reminders to us all:

The basic policy is to take a book and leave a book. Please keep that in mind as you are browsing the shelves. If you do not have one to donate at that moment, stop by again and leave a book.

There is a special need for children's books. If you have children who have outgrown pre-school or elementary level books, check your bookshelves and see if you can add some items to the Little Free Library. The patrons of our library include the very young and adults from other neighborhoods. That worn and well-loved book might be a treasure to a family helping a child, or an adult, with language development and reading.

If you are moving or downsizing at home, consider the Little Free Library as you thin out your bookshelves. If you have a box of books, we can arrange temporary storage and then feed the shelves as space is available. Send an email to juliaborbelybrown@yahoo.com to see how to accommodate your needs.

Continued on page 8



Your full service, AAHA accredited veterinary hospital for all of your pet's life stages.

Donald Hoover, DVM
Practice Owner Since 1992

Maia Broussard, DVM, CVA, CCRP



Ask about our **Wellness Clinic:**

No office fee for well pets

\$6 Canine Rabies Vaccine

\$15 each for other vaccines

Wellness Clinic appointment times are limited. Please call to schedule.

Offering **acupuncture** and **therapeutic laser** services.

Experienced, individualized, progressive care for your pets.



The Standard of
Veterinary Excellence



919-383-5578
www.westsideanimal.com

Library, *continued from page 7*

Please take care as you open and close the doors of our beautiful structure. We want it to last for ages! Recently one of the doors had to be repaired. We ask you to be gentle and mindful as you continue to enjoy this neighborhood resource. And we thank you for not stepping on the dedication marker and for respecting the landscaped beds around the library.

News from The Foundation

by Julia Borbely-Brown

The Trinity Park Foundation, Inc. ("The Foundation") had a successful workday in The Park on April 25. Thank you to all who came by to help move mulch and tidy up the right of way and sidewalks along Watts Street and Trinity Avenue. It is amazing what seven people can accomplish in two hours! Please keep this in mind as requests are made for help in the future – even one or two hours can make a big difference as we work together to beautify the public spaces in our neighborhood.

Benches have been ordered for The Park and should be installed by the time you read this article. The large bed around The Little Library has been redone by Meadowsweet Gardens. Plans are in process for improving the other beds this fall and for creating a bed or two along the southeast section of The Park. Please encourage people and pets of all ages to stay out of the landscaped beds. We are talking with Parks and Recreation about ways to improve the lawn area and we hope to install a gate or fencing along the alley to provide a safer entry for both children and adults.

The Art Committee is continuing to investigate ways to add signs and art to the neighborhood. The process is not a speedy one because placement will require coordination at several levels of local government. If you have any interest in assisting with this effort, please send a message to juliaborbelybrown@yahoo.com.

The medians continue to command attention as The Foundation works with the City and Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association (ECWA) to redesign the large median on Markham Avenue. The Trinity Avenue median presents a special challenge, but we will continue to explore ways to improve that. Look for a fall work day to tidy up the three circles in the north end of the neighborhood – one or two hours would get the job done, if we have enough volunteers!

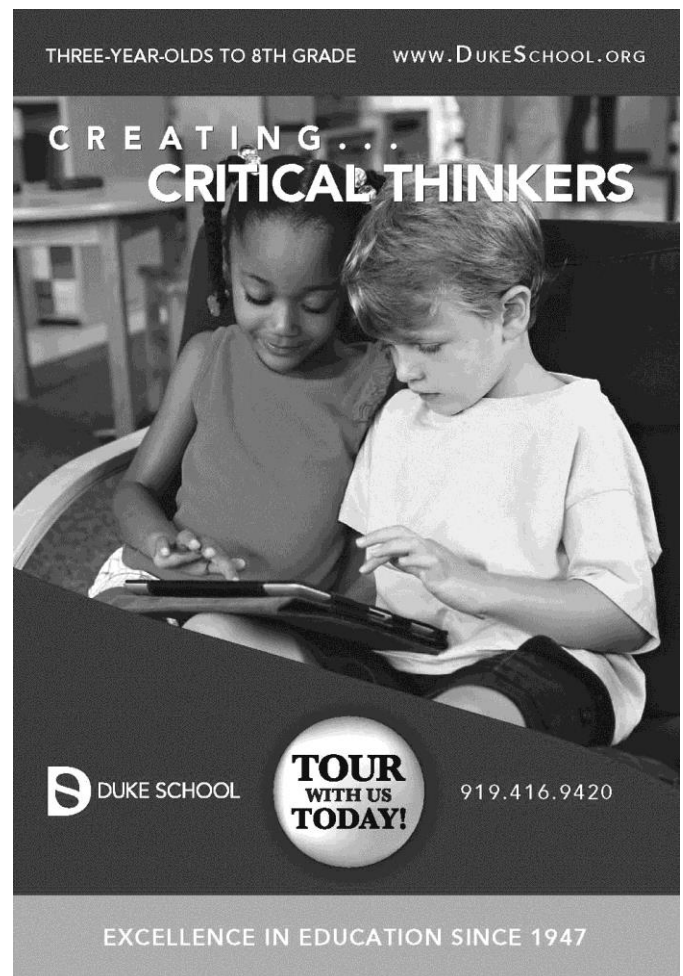
The Foundation is also working with ECWA on ways to mitigate stormwater impact on the watershed, especially in the northeast quadrant of Trinity Park. If you live north of Markham Avenue and east of Watts Street and are thinking of installing a raingarden in your yard, reach out to us to see if we can provide some support.

Look for other updates in this issue of the newsletter on trees and the cankerworm problem. The Foundation is

In April of this year, Katie found an envelope in our Little Free Library addressed to "A LFL Steward in North Carolina". Inside was a beautiful handmade card with a note. The return address was *Peter Turley and Penny Richards and Family, Redondo Beach, CA 90278*. They too are stewards of a Little Free Library. It is nice to know we are part of a network that spans the continent!

checking on areas in need and on the costs of planting larger replacement trees. The Foundation is also considering ways to partner with the City of Durham and others to help band trees this fall. That effort could include spending money for supplies and helping to organize volunteers for block by block deployment.

Donations to The Foundation are tax-deductible. We welcome a gift of any amount to continue our work. **Make your check payable to The Trinity Park Foundation, Inc. and send it c/o Julia Borbely-Brown, 1013 Watts Street, Durham, NC 27701.** We thank you in advance for your support and generosity.



THREE-YEAR-OLDS TO 8TH GRADE WWW.DUKESCHOOL.ORG

CREATING...
CRITICAL THINKERS

DUKE SCHOOL **TOUR WITH US TODAY!** 919.416.9420

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION SINCE 1947

Playground Renovation at George Watts

by Sarah Musser

The George Watts PTA Leo Bortiri Memorial Fund subcommittee is in the beginning stages of a major playground renovation at George Watts. The PTA is grateful for the financial assistance provided by the Trinity Park Neighborhood Association for this project.

Leo was a beloved member of the Watts and Trinity Park communities who died tragically last school year, and his parents have generously designated the school for his memorial funds. Improving the playground has been a focus of how best to honor Leo, who played on the playground every day after school and many times on weekends.

The PTA has been awarded a matching grant from Durham County's Open Spaces program and has proposed 5 areas for improvements to the playground:

1. New, pirate-themed fossil-digging and play space
2. Updated basketball area with new half-court concrete surface and adjustable goal
3. Expanded rain gardens designed both to mitigate runoff and to serve as natural play spaces
4. Renovated soccer/play field with new grass (Leo particularly loved soccer)
5. New labyrinth

The PTA is seeking offers to assist with this project. We hope to begin work this summer. If you are able to help in any way, please contact Sarah Musser sarah.musser@duke.edu or 919-688-1722.

You May Not Know—Sidewalks in the neighborhood

There is often confusion about the responsibilities regarding sidewalks and public spaces around your property. Durham city ordinances state that the occupant of a lot is responsible for keeping the sidewalks clear. ("The occupant of a lot abutting on any street shall keep the sidewalk clear and the gutter open and free from the obstructions as far as such lot extends.") The owners of apartment *buildings* are responsible for keeping the sidewalks clear around their property.

This duty applies to ice and snow, leaves and trash, overgrowth (such as ivy or other groundcover), limbs that have fallen onto the sidewalk and dirt that has accumulated as a result of vegetative growth. It also means that if a load of soil or mulch is delivered to you and covers part of the sidewalk and gutter, you have a duty to clear it away as quickly as possible.

The requirements apply to those who rent, as well as to those who own a house or duplex. If you rent your dwelling, unless you have a special agreement with your landlord, you are responsible for keeping the sidewalks clear. Check your lease to see if there are any exceptions about this.

Failure to keep the area clear could result in a notice from the City and you are then obligated to correct the situation within twelve hours of receiving the notice. The consequences as far as citations and fines are not addressed in this article. The purpose here is to encourage us all to make our neighborhood safe for all modes of movement.

More than an issue of aesthetics, this space should be safe for pedestrians. There are areas throughout Trinity Park that barely allow a small child or pet walk. The ivy or vegetation, as well as the soil that holds it, has taken over most of the sidewalk, and all that remains is twelve inches or less. It is difficult enough for one person to walk but even more challenging for a parent pushing a stroller or taking a toddler

in hand. It is nearly impossible for an older person with a cane or anyone in a wheelchair to navigate these areas. The problem with overgrowth becomes even worse after it rains.

It is also your responsibility as the occupant renter or owner to keep the gutter clear. In simple terms, this means that you are not permitted to rake leaves into the gutter or move snow, limbs or trash from your sidewalk into the gutter.

"It shall be unlawful for any person to obstruct or impede travel in the streets or sidewalks of the city or to place or allow to exist any natural or artificial object in a city right-of-way that could create an unsafe condition for pedestrians or motorists, as determined in the sole discretion of the department of public works. It shall be unlawful for any person to place or maintain any wood, coal, brick, stone, boxes, barrels, rubbish, trash, snow or other obstruction on any of the sidewalks or streets, or public ways of the city; provided, this section shall not apply when the proper permit has been obtained for same, in which case such owner or building, contractor or permittee shall keep displayed and maintained proper and sufficient notice or warning, including barricades and lights, on such obstruction to warn the traveling public of the existence and danger of such obstructions."

There are some renters and homeowners who may need help with compliance with these regulations. Can we as neighbors assist others with shoveling in the winter, clearing leaves in the fall, and clearing the vegetation and dirt that impedes safe travel? Are there folks, young or old, who want to earn extra income by hiring out for snow duty or leaf raking and sidewalk sweeping? Can we work together to create safer paths for pedestrians, bike riders and motorists? If you have thoughts on how to assist with sidewalk upkeep in Trinity Park, send a message to info@trinitypark.org.

Annual Meeting

by Don Ball

It was a glorious spring afternoon on April 19th, and despite the allure of gardening, biking, picnicking and a surprise torrential downpour minutes before the appointed time, a committed group of neighbors joined the board and me in the Media Center of the George Watts Montessori School for the annual meeting of the Trinity Park Neighborhood Association.

A new slate of officers and directors for 2015 was presented: President Don Ball; Vice President Marc Phillips; Treasurer Janene Tompkins; Secretary Deb Dobbins; Past President Jody White; Directors for Class of 2016 Derek Jones, Pam Swinney, and Elizabeth Parish; Directors for Class of 2017 Paul Stinson, Jennifer Valentyn, Steve Falzarano; Directors for Class of 2018; Kevin Davis; Joan Austin; Ted Snyderman. Approval was unanimous.

Additionally, the 2015 budget was presented by Janene Tompkins and approved. Board members presented committee reports. Julia Borbely-Brown provided a report on the actions of the Trinity Park Foundation that include upgrades to the Park with new benches and equipment, as well as other plans for future neighborhood enhancements.

An amendment to the bylaws to change the executive committee terms of office from one-year to two-year terms was presented and approved.

A suggestion was made to change the bylaws to allow our annual meeting to be held earlier in the calendar year to coincide with our fiscal budget, as well as to provide a better opportunity for members to attend. A process has been developed to enable us to facilitate this need; more information will follow later this autumn.

Chris Dreps, executive director at Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association and Peter Raabe, NC conservation director at American Rivers offered an exciting discussion about plans for green infrastructures and sustainable water management. Information was shared on how residents may partner with them and the Trinity Park Foundation to create multi-functional stormwater/beautification projects to assist in the restoration of Durham's streams and rivers.

Lastly, and most importantly, the officers who completed their terms of service in 2014 deserve a round of applause. Germaine Brewington, Heather Wilson, John Swansey, and Jeff Porter—your collective, unselfish efforts made us better, and we are grateful for your years of service and dedication to the neighborhood we love. Thank you!



MAKE YOUR
SUMMER MEMORABLE
#NGSUMMERMEMORIES

BEAT THE HEAT AT NORTHGATE

WITH SUMMER-LONG ENTERTAINMENT FOR KIDS

BEAVER BOG'S ICE CREAM CAROUSEL CHEERLEADING CLASSES CHILDREN'S RIDES CINNAMONSTER	DAC CLAY STUDIO DISCOVERY NOOK HÅAGEN-DAZS HO-B RC PARK MARBLE SLAB	PRETZEL TWISTER SAFARI ADVENTURE TRAIN SKY ZONE SUMMER MOVIE CAMPS KID'S EVENTS ALL SUMMER!
--	---	---

NORTHGATEMALL.COM

For Home or Office

Quality Unfinished Furniture at the
Best Prices in the Triangle



- Entertainment Centers • Rockers & Gliders
- Desks • Bookcases • Hutches
- Dining Tables & Chairs • Cabinets • And More

Rock Wood
ready to finish furniture

Custom Finishing Available

www.rockwoodunfinishedfurniture.com • **919-401-5004**
University Green Shopping Ctr. • 2501 University Dr., Durham • Mon.- Fri. 10-6 • Sat. 10-5

TRINITY PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Summer Events

June

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				

July

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	

Aug

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					

TPNA BOARD MEETINGS

First Wednesday of the month, 7:30pm.
All Trinity Park residents are invited and encouraged to attend monthly TPNA board meetings, typically held on the first Wednesday of the each month in the George Watts Montessori School Media Center. Come join us to greet your neighbors and learn about events and issues important to our neighborhood.
Note: No meeting in July

Fall Clean Up and Hazardous Waste Collection

Is there energy for and interest in a Fall Clean Up and Hazardous Waste Collection Day? If you are willing to work two or three hours one Saturday in September (9 AM to noon), please email Julia Borbely-Brown at juliaborbelybrown@yahoo.com. The exact date will be determined after we assess if there ARE willing volunteers.

TPNA Board and Committees

Officers

President, Don Ball
Vice President, Marc Phillips
Treasurer, Janene Tompkins
Secretary, Deb Dobbins

Board Members

Joan Austin
Kevin Davis
Steve Falzarano
Derek Jones
Elizabeth Parish
Ted Snyderman
Paul Stinson
Pam Swinney
Jennifer Valentyn

Past President

Jody White

Newsletter

Editor, Elizabeth Parish

Business Sponsor Liaison

Dan Jewell

Committees

Finance

Janene Tompkins

Communications

Marc Phillips

Community Building

Open

Membership

Jody White

INC Representative

Philip Azar

Urban Planning

Julia Borbely-Brown
Para Drake
Linda Wilson

Traffic

Martin Steinmeyer

Trees

Shelley Dekker

Safety

Steve Falzarano



Membership Form and Volunteer Information

You love Durham. You love Trinity Park.

Become a member of the Trinity Park Neighborhood Association!

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!

To join or renew your membership, make checks payable to TPNA and send with a completed form to: TPNA Membership, P.O. Box 725, Durham, NC 27702. You can also join online at: <http://www.trinitypark.org>

If you have questions about your membership status, email tpnamembership@gmail.com.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Durham, NC 27701

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Select a Membership Payment Option

- ☐ One Year = \$15
- ☐ Two Years = \$25
- ☐ Five Years = \$50
- ☐ Lifetime Membership = \$200

Please contact me about volunteering – check all that apply:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Building (Event organization) | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety/Neighborhood Watch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Association Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance/Budgeting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Delivery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Pedestrian Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Contact me as needs arise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> House Tour/Garden Tour | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | |
| (newsletter, website, social media) | |