



Trinity Park news



Come on the Trinity Park Home Tour Sunday Oct. 16!

Tickets on sale now at trinitypark.org

By Karalyn Colopy

Home Renovations - Fresh Ideas in an Historic Neighborhood

Sunday October 16, 12 - 5 pm

Since 1975, the Trinity Park Home Tour has encouraged neighbors to open up their unique, historic, urban homes for everyone to enjoy and visit. While we normally hold the Tour every two years, we took a break in 2020 due to the pandemic. During quarantine, while some of us whiled away the hours baking bread, adopting puppies, learning to zoom, and even doing frontline work, others found the inspiration and motivation to tackle major home renovation projects.

Come on out on October 16 and see what's new in your neighborhood! This year's Tour theme is renovation, featuring 10 homes, originally built between 1906 to 1999, that have been beautifully updated over the past several years. Trinity Park is a diverse and dynamic neighborhood, so you'll see how a wide variety of folks adapt to and evolve in this place, bringing new life to enduring, history-filled structures. And you'll learn the stories behind each one. Be sure to visit the gem that was home to Mutt Evans, beloved



1319 Watts is one of the 10 recently renovated homes on the tour

Mayor of Durham from 1950 to 1963. And don't miss the contemporary Wheatland condominiums, formerly home to the historic Erwin Apartments Beauty Salon.

Advance tickets (\$20) are on sale now until October 15 at trinitypark.org. On October 16, the price increases to \$25. You can also purchase tickets on the day of the tour, October 16, starting at 12 noon, at the Trinity Park gazebo. If you buy tickets online, bring your receipt to the gazebo at the start of the tour to pick up your

tour booklet. The booklet includes a map, as well as photos and colorful background information to enhance your tour. The tour is self-guided, with docents at each site for support.

Tour proceeds will benefit the Trinity Park Foundation, which maintains our neighborhood's public resources like the Park and medians, and Families Moving Forward, which helps Durham families in the crisis of homelessness to find their way home.

Thanks for your support!

Our Neighborhood

George Watts Gets Some Solar Wattage

By Thibault Worth

This summer, you may have noticed a strange new object on the George Watts school playground: a pole-mounted array of solar panels. Visible from both Dacian Ave. and Urban Ave., the array will produce solar energy for the school and will help students learn about renewable energy from an early age.

I'm a George Watts parent, and I think about climate change probably more than is healthy. It's the issue that, more than any other, worries me about our collective future. In 2020, I learned about NC Greenpower, a Raleigh-based non-profit that provides grants for solar educational projects at K-12 schools.



The author and his 2nd grade daughter Isadora under the new panels

With help from school administrators and several other parents, I submitted an application on behalf of George Watts to receive a 5 kW solar array. Unfortunately, we weren't selected that year. But I renewed our application the following year.

George Watts was ultimately selected in 2021 as one of 15 schools around the state to receive a solar array. As part of the deal, we had to raise \$12,000 to help defray the cost. Fundraising was a daunting challenge, especially since, due to the pandemic, parents were not allowed into the school building that year and we were all less engaged, both with the school and with each other. Nevertheless, dozens of parents stepped up, and donations trickled in steadily. We met our fundraising goal and proceeded with the installation in the spring of 2022.

The panels include a weather monitoring station and a data link that transmits solar energy production data into the school. The grant also covers an annual training to give teachers ideas on how to engage students on the subject of renewable energy in age-appropriate ways.

I was heartened to be a part of this collective effort during a very challenging time. Though it will take much more work to slow climate change, the installation of this solar array is a small step in the right direction that gives me

hope for my daughters' futures.

Feel free to visit the playground, outside of school hours, and take a closer look at this new addition.

Hyper-local Hunger Relief Efforts with PORCH

By Katy Barron

Amy Jones, Executive Director of PORCH-Durham, recently visited Trinity Park to meet with neighbors and to boost enthusiasm for our monthly food drives. PORCH is a nonprofit that supports hunger programs, such as food pantries at Durham public schools.



PORCH-Durham Executive Director Amy Jones

Amy talked about how the pandemic (fewer donations) and inflation (rising prices) have taken a toll on the food system. More and more families are seeking supplemental food assistance.



In August, neighbors gathered to learn more about hunger in our community from PORCH-Durham.

The PORCH model addresses the problem hyper-locally, with more than 50 Durham neighborhoods hosting monthly food drives. Nonperishable food is collected, then distributed that same day to schools and other local partners.

PORCH makes it easy to make regular, ongoing contributions. Just add a few extra items to your grocery list and drop it off on a neighbor's porch. Every donation makes a difference.

Trinity Park has a long history of contributing to PORCH to help alleviate food insecurity in our community. Let's keep it that way! If you're interested in joining our neighborhood drive, please email Katy Barron, our neighborhood coordinator, at katysbarron@gmail.com, and she'll add you to her list. Word-of-mouth is the best marketing for PORCH. We have lots of new neighbors, so please spread the word!

Jerry and Neighborhood Hazardous Waste Pick-up

By Julia Borbely-Brown

Several times in the past decades I have organized a hazardous waste collection morning to save you the time and effort of driving to Durham's Solid Waste site on E. Club Blvd. On the morning of Saturday July 23, I did this again, but with a twist.

I partnered with Jerry Reese and his large truck in an effort to assist him as I assisted you. Jerry has been a trusted helper in a variety of jobs over the years for many of us. This summer Jerry needed to repair his truck, which cost more than \$1,600, as well as to move with his family, including his grandchildren. Rental housing in Durham is expensive, and landlords require a large deposit plus 1-2 months' rent in advance.



So I invited you all to bring your hazardous waste, but also asked you to join me in making a monetary donation to compensate and assist Jerry as he hauled off our waste. The event was a success. Neighbors filled Jerry's truck with things like aerosol cans, fluorescent light bulbs, household chemicals, batteries, oil based paints (NOT latex paint*), cooking oil, motor oil, and antifreeze, so that they could be safely disposed of. And I am pleased to say that enough money was raised to pay for Jerry's truck repairs and put him and his family on a more solid footing.

Can you help next time? Looking ahead to the spring, I would love help to plan a future hazardous waste collection day, or perhaps an electronic e-cycling day. It's a simple event, it just requires a truck and a little time to spread the word. Contact me at juliaborbelybrown@yahoo.com if you might be interested. I will send out another request for help in several months.

* With a little preparation, latex paint can just go in your regular trash bin. Mix in some kitty litter, sawdust, or sand. Allow it to dry thoroughly in the sun. Then place the can, with lid off, in your regular trash.

As of mid-September, Jerry is still in need of work and housing. Please call Jerry at 919-358-7918 if you would like to hire him for odd jobs or know of rental opportunities for him and his family.

Our Neighborhood

Wetlands on West Trinity Ave.

By Scott Doron

In May, I attended a public information event about the South Ellerbe Creek Restoration project at 808 W. Trinity Ave. I wanted to learn more about the kinds of plants, landscaping, and amenities that will eventually be installed on the site. I knew that some features in the original plan had to be cut back due to budget constraints. So I wondered, will there still be trees? Can kids play there? What can we expect in terms of aesthetic and recreational add-ons to the basic function of the wetland? Here's what Megan Walsh, PE, Public Works Department, City of Durham, shared with me:

- In the stream and wetland areas, a variety of native plants will be planted to take up pollutants, provide biodiversity, and create wildlife habitat.
- Along W. Trinity a bioretention area, also planted with a variety of native species, will be installed to pre-treat stormwater from the street before it enters the site, and educate the public about the benefits of wetlands. Street trees will be planted along W. Trinity, and additional trees will be planted around the perimeter of the wetland and streams.
- The public will be able to enjoy a variety of recreational activities, like biking/ walking on a loop trail, which will be connected to the South Ellerbe Creek Trail and the future Durham Rail Trail; observing birds and other wildlife; and picnicking and relaxing on the lawn.

Recycle or Landfill?

Sometimes rumors spread about recycling that can make you wonder if recycling actually “works.” TP neighbor Matt Todd, Senior Consultant with Resource Recycling Systems (RRS, www.recycle.com), has worked in recycling for 25+ years, and assures us that recycling is as important and effective as ever. “Over the past year, the value of recycled plastic was the highest it’s ever been. Durham has a great local processor for all our curbside recycling. And here in the southeast, there are plentiful regional end markets for all our recovered curbside materials. Your recycling - especially your paper, metal, and plastics - is needed, it’s wanted, and it’s responsibly managed.”

Next time you’re wondering how to dispose of a particular item (recycle? landfill?), check out Durham’s “Waste Wizard,” at <https://www.durhamnc.gov/832/Solid-Waste-Management>

**Marie
Austin**
REALTY COMPANY

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

919-286-5611

1204 Broad Street • Durham, NC 27705

What is the South Ellerbe Creek Restoration Project?

The City is constructing a wetland and stream restoration at 808 W. Trinity Ave. to help remove pollutants from our urban stormwater, which flows from Durham through Ellerbe Creek to Falls Lake (the drinking water for many communities, including Raleigh). Stormwater runoff from downtown Durham and nearby neighborhoods will:

- 1) enter the wetland through two pipes along W. Trinity Ave.,
- 2) then flow northward through two restored stream channels that meet near the center of the wetland, and
- 3) finally flow through an outlet structure at the northern end of the wetland into a tributary of South Ellerbe Creek.

During big storms, the streams and wetland will fill up with water, then slowly release it through the outlet over 2-3 days. The City will fund ongoing maintenance with its stormwater utility funds.

In addition to cleaning the water, the wetland and stream restoration will create a natural area for us all to enjoy.

For more info, including status updates, videos, and technical information on the project, see <https://www.durhamnc.gov/1616>

Update on Northgate Mall Re-development

By James Dobbins

On the evening of August 25, Northwood Ravin, the developers of the Northgate Mall property, held a Zoom community meeting during which they presented a current plan for that parcel. The prior plan proposing a mix of commercial, retail and residential has been abandoned. Instead, the developers are contemplating an office and commercial use plan.

Their concept is to rezone the mall to the more flexible Commercial General designation and make the facility conducive to Life Sciences businesses and Creative office space. No prospective tenants have committed or been identified, as it is too early in the process. The renovations to the mall itself will be limited and the Shops at Northgate would get a “facelift,” retaining its current tenants. A small park area would be created near the old Sears area.

The parking decks would remain, but some of the internal roadway will be redirected to make it easier to traverse the parcel without exiting to Club Boulevard.

In addressing questions regarding affordable housing, the attorney for the project, Patrick Byker (919-590-0384 or pbyker@morningstarlawgroup.com) said that under current regulations, an affordable housing component was not feasible. Mr. Byker resides in

and has deep local ties to Durham, and welcomes discussions with the community.

This latest incarnation of the redevelopment is still in its early stages, and it could be years before it is completed. We encourage anyone with questions or concerns to contact Mr. Byker.

Traffic update

By Mollie Flowe

Now that the I-885 connector is open, neighbors who live along or near Duke and Gregson have anecdotally reported lighter traffic, though it’s possibly fewer vehicles going at higher speeds. We are in conversation about a meeting to gather neighbors who are interested in what possibilities lie ahead for calming traffic through our neighborhood, particularly on Duke and Gregson. If interested, contact Mollie Flowe (mollieflowe@hotmail.com), TPNA Traffic Committee Chair.

Update on Local Historic Designation

Thanks to all who are engaged on the question of Local Historic Designation in Trinity Park. Several neighbors have expressed interest in continuing the research process to determine the best course of action. If you would like to participate in this group, please email info@trinitypark.org

Our Neighborhood

Some TLC for Ellerbe Creek

By Karalyn Colopy

In the coming year, Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association (ECWA) will be conducting a stream enhancement project at Pearl Mill Nature Preserve, along a 500-ft stretch of South Ellerbe Creek and the Strayhorn Branch, which flows into it. These two streams have become severely eroded and polluted over the years, since they drain 11 acres of downtown Durham, and each new storm carries more sediment, debris, and pollution into the waterways.

"The good news is that we can intervene to help slow down the flow of stormwater, reduce erosion, and make the streams cleaner and more hospitable for aquatic life," says L.A. Davis-Durante, ECWA Community Engagement Coordinator. The stream enhancement project will stabilize the eroding stream banks, plant native pollinator-friendly species, and build a trail so that we can view and enjoy the stream more closely.

Construction will begin in early- to mid-2023 and should last ~3 months. Neighbors and trail users should expect some disruption when construction gets underway. We may see heavy equipment used for moving soil and regrading the stream banks. We'll also notice some vegetation being removed, with new plantings taking some time to become fully established.

"We want neighbors to know that any disruption you'll see is temporary and is for the good of the stream. Invasive plant species will be replaced with pollinator-friendly native plants. We'll minimize erosion during the regrading process, using sediment control practices designed specifically for stream enhancement projects. And the project will not create any new impervious surfaces (like roofs or roads) that increase stormwater runoff."

Thanks to ECWA for taking these big steps to improve our waterways!

For updates about this project and other news and upcoming events, follow ECWA on Facebook: @EllerbeCreekWatershedAssociation and Instagram: @Ellerbecreeknc

Duke Durham Neighborhood Partnership Grants + New Opportunity!

By Karalyn Colopy

In a small ceremony on July 21, the inaugural Ellerbe Creek Hall of Distinction sign was re-installed along the trail between Knox Ave. and Club Blvd., after having been removed to correct an error. Check it out and learn about some of our distinguished neighbors who grew up here.

The installation was the result of research efforts by local historian Algin Holloway and Pubilc History Professor Charles Johnson. It was paid for with a grant awarded by Duke Durham Neighborhood Partnership (DDNP) jointly to TPNA and Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association.

A leading gallery of contemporary and modernist jewelry by designers from the US and abroad. Right here in your own backyard.



Brightleaf Square, downtown Durham
919-683-1474 • HamiltonHillJewelry.com

Hamilton Hill
amazing you.



This fall we once again have an opportunity to apply for a neighborhood grant from DDNP. With these grants, Duke hopes to empower neighborhood associations, addressing quality of life issues and interests. To be eligible for a grant, a

project must fall into one or more of the following categories: Equity and Justice, Health and Safety, Education, Neighborhood Communication Tools, People First Development, Respect and Preserve History. Duke will award up to \$2,500 to each

neighborhood for projects that are driven by the neighborhood association, and possibly more for a project in collaboration with another neighborhood or local non-profit.

Ellerbe Creek Watershed

HALL OF DISTINCTION

Historic African-American neighborhoods in the Ellerbe Creek watershed include Walltown, East End, Albright, East Durham, Merrick-Moore, and Bragtown. Residents and former residents of these neighborhoods have not only greatly contributed to our local community, but have created important legacies through their careers and service to our country. Each of our Ellerbe Creek Watershed Hall of Distinction honorees grew up in our watershed.

A grant from the Duke University Doing Good program made this sign's creation and production possible.



Dr. Elmira Mangum

Dr. Elmira Mangum was the first permanent female appointed as president of Florida A&M University (FAMU) in the 130 year history of the University. As president, Dr. Mangum helped obtain the largest individual gift in the institution's history and led the acquisition of the single largest land transfer from the USDA to a land-grant institution - 3,800 acres. Her recognitions include being on Ebony magazine's "Power 100" list and Diverse: Issues in Higher Education naming her "Female HBCU President of the Year" in 2015 and also "Outstanding Female Leader."

Born in Durham, North Carolina, Dr. Mangum grew up in the Walltown community. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from the Department of Geography at NCCU in 1974.



Steve Wilson

Steve Anthony Wilson is a former National Football League (NFL) defensive back and a Black College national championship football coach. Wilson grew up in the Bragtown community and was a standout wide receiver and defensive back for Northern High School. He is still the all-time leading receiver and kick returner at Howard University in Washington, DC, his alma mater.

Wilson played professionally for the Dallas Cowboys and the Denver Broncos. He was a member of the Broncos in 1988 when they played in Super Bowl XXII. In 1989, Howard University hired him to be their head coach. Wilson recruited future NFL quarterback Jay "Sky" Walker to Howard. Wilson coached the Bison to two Black College National championships: 1993 and 1996.



Maj. Ellison Capers Wynn

1st Lt. Ellison Capers Wynn received the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism during a military operation in the Korean War. A former resident of the historic Walltown community, Wynn was born on December 30, 1914.

On the evening of November 25, 1950, with Wynn in command, Company B of the 9th Infantry regiment captured a strategic position near Kunnu-ri, Korea. When two additional companies of enemy soldiers launched a fierce counterattack on what remained of Company B from an adjacent hill, Wynn single handedly held them off by returning fire until he was out of ammo, at which time he began to strategically throw grenades. Wounded during the fighting, Wynn held the position until ordered to withdraw.

The deadline for grant applications is 1/31/23. Projects must be completed by May 2023.

Contact Karalyn Colopy (karalyncolopy@gmail.com) if you have a potential project in mind and would like to help with the application.

The Ellerbe Creek Hall of Distinction along the trail near Englewood



We Can Help!

Referrals to programs

Financial Assistance Information

Tools to help with your search

Call
1-855-327-5933
childcareservices.org



a program of



Child Care Referral Central
855-327-5933

a nine county collaboration between
Durham, Orange, Wake, Johnston, Claymont, Person, Franklin, Granville, Vance
Partnerships for Children

Tips for Choosing Child Care & Afterschool Programs

Meet Your Neighbor

Luke Murphy

Interviewed by Stacy Murphy

NAME AND FAMILY MEMBERS:

I'm Luke Nathaniel Murphy and I live with Stacy Murphy (mom), John Utz (step-dad), my sisters Shannon and Sam, two dogs (Lana & Gus), two cats (Salt & Pepper) and I have two older step sisters (Em & Rachel Utz) who are out of the house but still hang out a lot.

OCCUPATION: Plumbing, heating and air

ADDRESS: Corner of Demerius and Dollar

WHY DID YOU MOVE TO TP? I didn't have a choice. My parents moved here from Burch Ave. when I was four months old.

THE ONE THING I LIKE BEST ABOUT TP IS... It's not a cookie cutter suburb. It's a historic neighborhood, close to downtown, with interesting architecture. It's a real community with nice, friendly people.

IF I COULD IMPROVE ONE THING ABOUT TP, IT WOULD BE.....

I would increase the number of local businesses within the neighborhood, like the original Watts Grocery store. I wish there were less tear downs. Trinity Park is filled with beautiful historic homes. You can't just go out and pay someone to make you a historic home.



Acanthus Construction

Est. 2005

Specializing in old home renovations in Durham.

Renovations. Additions. Built-in Cabinetry. Custom Carpentry.

1109 Huntington Ave., Durham, NC
jonfish@acanthusconstruction.net
919.308.3393
Living Wage Employer

Neighborhood Challenge!

Take the TP Geography Challenge!

How well do you know your neighborhood? Match each of these famous Trinity Park sights with its location. *Answers on page 10.*

Location	Picture
A) Watts & Urban	= # ____
B) Duke & Demerius	= # ____
C) Watts & Markham	= # ____
D) Watts & Green	= # ____
E) Dacian	= # ____
F) Dollar & Knox	= # ____





Membership

You love Durham. You love Trinity Park. Join TPNA.

TPNA brings the neighborhood together for activities and initiatives that improve our community and make living in the heart of Durham so wonderful. One of the oldest and most active neighborhood associations in Durham, TPNA has been integral in preserving historic architecture and open space, working with the city on smart development, and most importantly, building community. Your membership dues and active involvement make all this possible.

TPNA is for all Trinity Park residents. Our urban neighborhood is a diverse mix of ~40% homeowners and ~60% renters. We encourage ALL residents, homeowners and renters alike, to contribute to our vibrant community by joining TPNA.

How to join TPNA?

Online via Paypal:

<http://trinitypark.org/wordpress/membership/>

Prefer to send in a check? No problem. Print and mail the Membership Form found at the above website and a personal check to TPNA at:

TPNA Membership Chair
PO Box 725
Durham, NC 27702

One year membership.....\$15

Two year membership.....\$25

Five year membership.....\$50

Lifetime membership.....\$200

TP Geography Challenge Answers:

A = 2: Rainbow flag at Watts St. Baptist Church

B = 6: Radar speed sign at bottom of hill on Duke St. at Demerius

C = 3: Food donation box at Beth El Synagogue

D = 4: Sunflowers at Farm Church's garden

E = 1: New solar array on George Watts' playground

F = 5: Traffic circle at Dollar and Knox

What's your TP IQ?

0-1 correct: You need to get out more. Let's go for a walk!

2-4 correct: Not bad. You seem to get around.

5-6 correct: Congrats! You're hired to come up with the next game.

National Night Out

On Tuesday August 2, TPNA hosted National Night Out (NNO) at Trinity Park. NNO this year was celebrated in thousands of communities across the country, including many in Durham, as a way to promote positive community building between law enforcement and local neighborhoods. Longtime community event organizer Steve Falzarano again organized the festivities, bringing pizza, snacks, and drinks, and grilling up hot dogs for the ~75 people who attended. Several Durham police officers came to the event and spoke with community members, while enjoying the hospitality of TPNA volunteers.

Many families, both new to the area and lifers, came to the park and the playground rang with the sounds of excited children, still getting used to being able to play together. Meanwhile Julia Borbely-Brown collected school supplies for Durham Public Schools, as part of the "Fill That Bus —Crayons2Calculators" drive. Many bags were filled with pencils, rulers, notebooks, crayons, and more; donations can still be given at www.crayons2calculators.org. All attendees enjoyed the return to normalcy and getting a chance to chat with neighbors.

The next TPNA community event will be Halloween — check the listserv for more info!



Upcoming Events

TRINITY PARK

HOME TOUR 2022

Sunday, October 16

Advance tickets (\$20) are on sale now
until October 15 at trinitypark.org.

Halloween in the Park Monday October 31

Luminaria Sunday Dec 18

TPNA MONTHLY MEETINGS

1st Wednesdays @ 7pm

OCT
5

NOV
2

DEC
7

*All Trinity Park residents are invited and encouraged to attend.
Look for confirmation of meeting details, including zoom link, on the
Trinity Park listserv and Facebook*

STAY CONNECTED!

Listserv: <https://groups.io/g/trinityparkdurhamnc/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/trinityparknc>

Website: trinitypark.org

Email: info@trinitypark.org



*Your neighborhood
plumber since 1947*

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

ACMEPLUMBING.COM

TPNA Board and Committees

OFFICERS

President, Karalyn Colopy

Vice President, Mollie Flowe

Treasurer, Bill Brown

Secretary, Missy Crawford-Smith

BOARD MEMBERS

Annie Ambrose

Caroline Black

James Dobbins

Scott Doron

Tiffany Florestal

Mimi Kessler

Beth Sheppard

Laurie Williamson

Waugh Wright

PAST PRESIDENT

Diane Amato

COMMITTEES

Finance

Bill Brown

Communications

Scott Doron, Bill Brown

Community Building

Steve Falzarano

Listserv Owner/Moderator

Mimi Kessler

Membership

Beth Sheppard

INC Representative

Mimi Kessler

Social Media

Missy Crawford-Smith

Traffic

Mollie Flowe

Trees

Shelley Dekker

Safety

Ron Gallagher

South Ellerbe Creek Wetlands

Scott Doron, Mollie Flowe

Urban Planning

Derek Jones

Newsletter Design

Kevin Kearns