



# Trinity Park news



SUMMER 2025

## *Kathleen DuVal Wins Pulitzer Prize*

*“I love the sense of community in Trinity Park”*

By Tim McNulty

“I love the sense of community in Trinity Park, Watts school, and our closest neighbors and friends,” said Kathleen DuVal who has lived in the neighborhood for 22 years. DuVal certainly knows about community as she has spent much her academic career studying native culture in North America and, this year, won a Pulitzer Prize for her work titled *Native Nations: A Millennium in North America*.

When the Pulitzer board announced her selection as winner of the 2025 prize for history, neighbors around her W. Knox Street home came over armed with champagne and good wishes. Not to be outdone, the publisher sent a \$400 bottle of champagne to celebrate the occasion. A history professor at University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, DuVal teaches early American history and Native American history, but she also spent nine years in her spare time researching and writing what *The New York Review of Books* described as “a magisterial overview of a thousand years of Native American history.”

Her remarkable theme throughout the 718-page book is that Native American culture many centuries ago

was urbanized, just not in the European manner. Long before the first settlers from Europe, Native Americans organized economic, diplomatic and political structures.

DuVal traveled across the country tying together the historical research, combing through government records, interviewing tribal leaders and academics who contributed to the complex record of what existed before the settlers started arriving in the 17th century.

Writing in a relaxed, conversational style, DuVal explains how indigenous peoples built large carefully organized cities outside what are now heavily populated American cities such as St. Louis. Large mounds of earth are what remains physically of that concentrated civilization. Structures as high as 10 stories existed but deterioration over the centuries and wooden construction materials made those buildings and religious gathering houses vulnerable. Before European culture began to dominate and the United States began to move westward, for centuries “Mohawks closely controlled trade, Quapaws manipulated colonists,



and Kiowas regulated the passage of settlers across their territory” according to the publisher’s note. There are some 500 Indian nations that descended from those earlier nations and survive to this day

DuVal’s husband, Marty Smith, is a professor at Duke who specializes in environmental economics, especially the economics of the oceans, including marine ecosystems, fisheries,

**Continued on p. 6**

# Join TPNA

## GET INVOLVED

Our monthly meetings (1st Wednesday each month) are open to all. Meeting and committee participation is encouraged so that issues important to you can be voiced.

## JOIN or RENEW

Our urban neighborhood is a diverse mix of approximately 40% homeowners and 60% renters. We encourage all residents to contribute to our vibrant community by joining TPNA.

**Check your membership status or join online:**

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

## Pay Online or via Check to:

TPNA  
PO Box 725  
Durham, NC 27702

Questions? Contact:

[tpnamembership@gmail.com](mailto:tpnamembership@gmail.com)

Thanks for making the March Membership Madness contest a success. 17 neighbors joined TPNA or renewed their membership during March and April. This includes 7 first-time members and 10 renewals.

Congratulations to our lucky drawing winners! New members Liz and Jan Ziolkowski (bottom) joined with a lifetime membership. Our current member winner, Linda Wilson (top), joined with a lifetime membership in 2004. Both families received \$25 gift cards to Yonderlust on Gregson St.



## Trinity Park Merch

You asked for it, we got it!

New swag available for purchase! T-shirts, stickers, mugs, and more, in a variety of logo options.

Check it out and buy a gift for yourself, your family, or your neighbor.

To access our shop, go to

<https://www.cafepress.com/shop/tpna/products>, then click on your desired logo. You will see a range of products from which to choose. (This is not a fundraiser. All proceeds go to CaféPress but all pride goes to the neighborhood!)

Below you can see Xiomara Colopy,

Trinity Park Logo Contest Winner, wearing her very own Trinity Park t-shirt and button.

Get Your Merch Today!





## El Centro Hispano Helps Vulnerable Populations

By Scott Doron, President TPNA

At the June 4 TPNA meeting, representatives from El Centro Hispano described recent activities to help vulnerable communities including Hispanic/Latino/Latinx in Durham. Pilar Rocha-Golberg, President & Chief Executive Officer, and Emilia Ismael Simental, Development & Strategic Partnership Director, detailed efforts in community health, education, economic development, leadership, and civic support.

Meeting attendees greatly appreciated the frank appraisal of current conditions and admired the organization's

thoughtful responses. El Centro follows relevant legislation at the state and federal levels. Some of the organization's government funding is in doubt, so they are looking to expand their funding streams. A new Spanish Immersion Institute provides language and cultural awareness courses in general and in specialized areas such as emergency response, business, and medicine. A new Civic Resources Center provides civic support and workshops for those in need of legal information and referrals.

Trinity Park neighbors can assist El Centro in a couple of ways. They can donate to make up for lost revenue



at the organization's website (hit the DONATE button at <https://elcentronc.org/>), or can assist as English-speaking volunteers at upcoming events:

- June 14 Carrboro Orgullo Pride
- Aug 3 Fiestas en la Calle -Durham
- Aug 24 Fiestas en la Calle -Carrboro

## Pub Crawl



By James Dobbins

The Second Annual TPNA Pub Crawl was held on May 15, with a good turn out! Our first stop at The Can Opener had a full bar,

but also a wide variety of beers on tap and in cans, and a strong wine list. Our crowd was able to select from three different food trucks for dining. The group then moved on to Dram and Draught,

where we were able to enjoy the beautiful inside bar as well as the outside patio. Thanks to all who came out, and we hope to continue this next year!

# Neighborhood Graduates

Trinity Park families and friends celebrate our graduates. We look forward to the next steps in your journeys.

Congratulations!

## **Alma Solis**

PhD from Duke

You're amazing, Alma, we're so proud of you!

## **Sadie Ambrose**

Lakewood Montessori Middle School  
So very proud of you! Love, Mom and Dad

## **Elise Blackinton**

Club Blvd Elementary

So much good lies ahead! Love, Mom, Dad, & Margot

## **Teddy Loeser**

Pre-K at Asbury Preschool

We're so proud of you! Love, Mom, Dad, Maggie, Thomas & Helen

## **James Dennis**

George Watts Elementary

You are an amazing kid, and we couldn't be more proud of you!

## **Coby Chambers**

Asheville School

You did it!!! Well Done!

## **Josie Sanfelici**

UNC Asheville

We are so proud of you!

## **Kate Sanfelici**

Durham School of the Arts

Proud parents of a soon to be tar heel!

## **Eleanor Cole**

Bryn Mawr College

Staying in Philly to work at a historical library

## **Maggie Chambliss**

UNC

We're so proud of you and we know you're going to go do amazing things!

## **Porter Somers**

Watts

Well done! We are proud of you.

## **Luca Zignego**

Kindergarten graduate from George Watts

We love you! - Mom, Dad, and Emma

## **Eva Flowe**

University of South Carolina with a major in journalism

Your fam is so proud of you!

## **Ayla Fish**

Class of 2025 at UNC-Chapel Hill.

She is the daughter of Jonathan and Christina Fish and the granddaughter of Peter and Barbara Fish.

## **Ella Cohen**

Riverside High School

We are all so proud of you!

## **Hazel Bock**

Lakewood Montessori Middle

School! We can't wait to see all the things you do at Riverside! We love you, Mom, Dad & Ada

## **Jack Andrews**

Lakewood Montessori Middle School

Good luck next year at Riverside High School! Love always, Mom (Janelle), Dad (Ben), and Tilley

## **Violeta Flores**

Lakewood Middle School

AND

## **Azalea Flores**

George Watts Elementary

Nice work, girls!!

## **Elijah Parish**

UNC-Chapel Hill

Mama is very proud and excited for your next chapter!

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# *Durham School of the Arts: Did You Know...?*

By Marcie Porter

With June comes graduation season for primary, middle, and high school students. Among the many schools attended by students in our neighborhood, a big one (literally!) is Durham School of the Arts. How much do you know about DSA?

## **The School**

Durham School of the Arts is a magnet school for grades 6-12 focused on arts and academics. It opened in 1995 in the former Durham High School (Main Building) and Julian S. Carr Junior High School (Carr Building, pictured). Students apply to DSA through a lottery system open to all of Durham County, and there is no attendance zone or priority zone. Current enrollment is approximately 1,700 students.

Durham Public Schools recently named Donald Jones as the new principal for DSA starting in July 2025. Mr. Jones served as principal intern and assistant principal at DSA in 2017-2021 and principal of Lakewood Montessori Middle School since 2021.

Arts concentrations at DSA range across performing arts such as theater, chorus, music, and dance, and visual arts like writing, painting, sculpture, photography, and film. Students and alumni of DSA contribute to the arts in the local community and beyond. To paraphrase DSA alum Pierce Freelon (Indy Week op-ed May 21, 2024), they perform in venues around Durham, put art in galleries, paint murals, lead Dia de Los Muertos celebrations, and are rappers, poets and beat makers.

Besides the arts, DSA is known for



academic excellence and student and faculty engagement. Walk by the school on Gregson Street in the late afternoon and you may see a soccer match, a track meet, or a festival being set up. A high proportion of graduates go on to a four-year college or community college.

## **The Campus**

Durham School of the Arts sits on over 16 acres of land at the southeastern edge of the Trinity Park neighborhood adjacent to downtown. The urban setting gives students walkable access to downtown Durham, public transportation, after-school jobs, and surrounding neighborhoods.

The school is located within and contributes to the National Register-listed Trinity Historic District (DH0927). According to the NC Historical Commission, the Durham High School Building (built in 1922) and the Middle School Building (built in 1926, formerly known as the Carr Building) in particular “are pivotal/contributing

to the Trinity National Register Historic District.” Notable architectural features include cornices, keystones, belvederes, and on the Durham H.S. Building, a three-story bank of five pairs of windows adorned with a stone balcony on scroll consoles.

In all the campus contains eight buildings, a track around a soccer field, a softball diamond, tennis courts, and parking. The space is well-used and inarguably in need of upgrading. As a DSA parent, I have experienced school cancellations due to HVAC repairs and attended meetings in dungeonlike classrooms in the basement under the gym.

## **The Next Chapter**

A big change lies ahead for Durham School of the Arts. Last year, Durham Public Schools finalized a decision to construct a new school in lieu of renovating the existing buildings. Construction has begun on a new campus

**Continued on p. 6**

# Stories, cont'd

## Pulitzer (from p. 1)

seafood markets and coastal climate adaptation.

Climate change is also important to DuVal's history of native American life. Climate change was the force that caused urbanized communities to fracture into smaller tribes, spreading out to adapt to a changing world. And this happened hundreds of years before small bands of European migrants began settling on this continent.

Other than teaching, DuVal, who is 55, enjoys taking "field trips" to Native American communities. She especially likes to hear the stories that people tell. She relishes teaching at a public university, where DuVal

spends two or three days a week teaching and lecturing to classes with as many as 180 students.

When not working, DuVal likes walking through the Trinity Park neighborhood, riding on her tandem bike with Marty and their two sons, Quentin DuVal-Smith and Calvin Smith. The sons both attended local schools: Watts, Lakewood, Riverside and Hope Creek Academy. Originally from Arkansas, DuVal's parents, both academics, are still there though she hopes they will eventually move closer.

There are many challenges to identifying tribes throughout the country, a thorny one involves the Lumbee

Tribe of North Carolina, recognized by the state but not yet by the federal government. In a personal afterword, DuVal describes how painful it is for her Lumbee students at UNC to recognize that despite being part of the state's largest indigenous population, they still must patiently explain their Nation's' history and identity.

Among dozens of accolades, the *Wall Street Journal* called her work "an essential American history." Her previous works include *Independence Lost*; *Native Ground: Indians and Colonists in the Heart of the Continent* and she is co-author of *Give Me Liberty!* And co-editor of *Interpreting a Continent: Voices from Colonial America*.

## DSA (from p. 5)

for DSA at 3000 Duke Homestead Road, which sits between Guess Road and Broad Street, north of the North Pointe Shopping Center. The project is estimated at \$240 million.

When DSA moves to the new campus, the current campus will be left behind. According to the NC Historical Commission, "[Without] an identified preservation-oriented alternative and robust mothballing of the school's facilities to protect the school from degradation from lack of use and to prepare them for adaptive reuse, the potential for damage to the historic buildings through neglect and/or their loss or sale for future development is likely and foreseeable."

Durham Public Schools has not made any decisions yet or shared any plans for community input on the future of the current campus. Will the historic buildings be maintained? Will the campus continue to be a space for learning, arts, and community? Or will the land be sold to a developer? If there is a process for community input, Trinity Park residents may want to participate. I know I will.



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## Stay Informed

**Next TPNA  
Meeting  
(on Zoom)  
Wednesday  
August 6**



# Trinity Park Foundation

By Karalyn Colopy

## Plans for 2025

The Trinity Park Foundation recently re-activated its Park Committee to address the many park maintenance and improvement projects, large and small, on our to-do list. One task, already finished in April, was rehabbing the Little Free Library with new doors and stain. Thanks to Julia Borbely-Brown for coordinating with Jeff Goll and Matt Danser on that job. Other projects include:

- Pruning the Park trees
- Treating the two large Ash trees for emerald ash borer
- Spreading wood chips in Trinity Ave. right-of-way
- Mulching and planting in the garden beds
- Removing invasive plants on the north slope of the Park, and replacing with natives
- Aerating and re-seeding the lawns
- Repairing the gazebo (significant wood rot in the roof's rafter tails)

## Thanks to Park Committee members

Shelley Dekker, Julia Borbely-Brown, Chris Jewell, Jenny French, Sarah Hodder and Sue Concannon for their hard work and dedication in caring for our Park, keeping it healthy, safe, and beautiful.

## How You Can Help

Whenever you pass by the Park, take a moment to notice the pretty garden areas along the Park's edges, bordering the sidewalks. Gorgeous orange lilies are in bloom now! These gardens beautify our neighborhood, offer peaceful places to sit, and attract birds and pollinators. The volunteers of the Blossom Garden Club have been caring for these gardens for 20 years. Unfortunately, the volunteers are finding that the plantings are



regularly trampled by Park visitors walking across or playing in the garden areas. We can all help simply by making sure that we enter and exit the Park via the walkways (i.e., don't short-cut through the gardens) and teaching our kids do the same.

And if you have ideas for Park or other neighborhood improvements, please email the Foundation Board at [trinityparkfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:trinityparkfoundation@gmail.com). If you would like to contribute financially to help the Foundation's work, please send a check to The Trinity Park Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 725, Durham, NC 27702, or visit [trinityparkfoundation.org](http://trinityparkfoundation.org). Your donations keep us going. Thank you, neighbors, for your support!

**The Trinity Park Foundation, Inc.** is the neighborhood's 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable foundation. It was formed in 1980 to purchase the land at the southeast corner of W. Trinity Ave. and Watts St., which

became The Trinity Park. Now, in agreement with the TPNA, the Foundation oversees maintenance of the Park, coordinates care of neighborhood medians and traffic circles, and installs and maintains public art. The Foundation's Board of Directors meets three times a year, while several neighbors do hands-on work behind the scenes all year long.

## 2025 TP Foundation

### Board of Directors

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Sarah Hodder, Secretary  
Shelley Dekker, Treasurer  
Buster Black, at large  
Chris Jewell, at large  
Scott Doron, ex officio, TPNA President  
Mollie Flowe, ex officio, TPNA Past President  
Annie Ambrose, ex officio, TPNA Treasurer

# Know Your Trees

## SOUTHERN MAGNOLIA

by Karalyn Colopy

Do you have a favorite tree? Maybe one you climbed as a kid, or one that has colorful leaves in the fall, or gives the best shade in the summer?

I've appreciated many trees in my life, but when I moved to North Carolina, I met the Southern magnolia. And it was love at first sight.

While there are many kinds of magnolia, both evergreen and deciduous, the evergreen Southern magnolias, *Magnolia grandiflora*, are "your 'typical' mags that you think of along with grits and sweet tea," says Alex Johnson, Urban Forestry Operations Manager for the City of Durham. "Magnolias have a lot going for them, aesthetically."

The Southern magnolia is a big, beautiful playground of a tree. They dot Trinity Park lawns and East Campus fields, where they have plenty of room to grow to their full glory--60-80 feet tall, with big, dark green glossy leaves from floor



to ceiling. Here and there a leaf will twist and show its contrasting underside, rust-colored and downy. The long, sturdy limbs sprawl out near the ground, inviting a climb. In the late spring come the giant bowl-shaped flowers, creamy white with a rich citrus-y fragrance. After the flowers fade, we get the cone-shaped fruits, bursting with bright red seeds. What's not to love?

Well, says Johnson, "They don't keep their leaves forever, and people hate them for their leaf-litter, being difficult to manage in combination with lawns. They are considered 'messy' for their petals, leaves and fruit." They're also not a good choice for street trees due to their dense and low-growing foliage that blocks visibility up and down the street. "If pruned for visibility I personally think they look mutilated. The wood of the species is prone to decay and it's not as good at closing over wounds as other species, so leaving big cuts on the main stem can lead to early structural compromise," adds Johnson. I guess nobody's perfect!

A similar but smaller evergreen, Sweetbay magnolia (*M. virginiana*), is sometimes planted as a street tree in Durham. It grows to only 20 feet tall, so it won't tangle with overhead power lines. And its foliage is not as dense, so it doesn't reduce visibility on the road. There are several Sweetbay magnolias as street trees in Trinity Park, including on the 1400-1500 blocks of N. Duke, 900 block of W. Knox, and 1000 block of Watts St.

## Join Your Neighbors This Fall Activities at The Trinity Park

- **Second Annual Rock the Park  
Sept 14**
- **National Night Out Oct 7**
- **Halloween Oct 31**



By Mimi Kessler

## Municipal Elections

The decisions that affect most of your day-by-day life are made by the city or county leadership. In October there will be a Primary and in November there will be City Council and Mayoral elections (not county offices). There are four seats on City Council up for reelection. The Mayoral election will include incumbent Leo Williams and one other candidate has filed as an opponent (as of this writing). The three council seats are the "Ward" seats. Candidates live in the ward they represent, but the whole city votes on them. All incumbents are running as far as we know. We live in Ward 1 and our current councilwoman is DeDreanna Freeman. Ward 2 is served by Mark Anthony Middleton and Ward 3 by Chelsea Cook.

The candidate registration period is July 7- 18. After that, we will have a full list of who is challenging the incumbents.

- **Voter registration** ends September 12.
  - **Early voting for the Primary** is from September 18 to October 4.
  - **Primary Election Day** is October 7.
  - **Election day** is November 4.
- Voting will require a photo ID issued by the state, a local university, or a passport. You can vote by mail, but you need to make a request to the Board by September 23. For more information, check out the Durham Board of Elections website at <https://www.dcovotes.dconc.gov/>

## Safety First!

This month starts the hurricane season (and I am not talking ice hockey!) and local officials want us to be

prepared for a disaster. As the folks in Asheville can tell you, you never know when it will happen or how it impacts you. But forming a plan and laying in supplies can help you get through it.

The City and County Governments (and soon also Durham Schools) have declared that the seven-day period between June 28 and July 4th as Disaster Preparedness Week. **Tips for Building a Go Bag:**

Consider Your Personal Needs:

- **Tailor the contents of your go bag** to your individual and family's needs and the specific risks in your area. Prescriptions, diapers, hygiene supplies, portable radio, extra batteries, power cords for cell phone, etc. The list of nutritional needs is long, but 1 gallon of water for every person in the household is the minimum.

- **Keep it Accessible:**

Store your go bag in a readily accessible location, such as a backpack or a designated box. (There are backpacks you can buy which have all the first aid supplies, but it does not include Personal Needs.)

- **Check and Update Regularly:**

Regularly inspect your go bag to ensure that supplies are not expired and to update the contents as needed.

- **Practice:**

Familiarize yourself with the contents of your go bag and how to use the tools and equipment it contains. Involve your kids in this practice. Agree on a place to meet in case you get separated.

- **Stay Informed:**

Learn about emergency preparedness resources in your community and how to respond to various emergencies.

By preparing a go bag and following these tips, you can increase your family's preparedness for emergencies.

## New "UDO" Project Update

The rules for constructing buildings are covered in the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). The city is reviewing and rewriting this important document. It is a long project, but it is nearing its end. This spring they presented a section of the draft to the community and they are revising as necessary.

This installment included:

- Pedestrian and bike considerations,
- vehicle access to buildings of all types,
- parking lots and space design,
- transitions between zoning district where there is a shared lot line and consistent frontage elements,
- Landscaping and lighting which included signs.

To see an outline of what is covered in this 4th installment, visit the TPNA website at [TrinityPark.org](http://TrinityPark.org).

For more information or to see the draft topic described, go to <https://www.engagedurham.com/35/New-UDO>. Scroll down and find recordings and documents of the latest update to the public.

There were community feedback sessions offered in May, both in person and two via Zoom. However, the Planning Department is conducting "Office Hours" in the public library branches every week for people to go take a look or ask questions.

Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions: [mimikessler1@gmail.com](mailto:mimikessler1@gmail.com)

If you want to reach out to the Planning department on your thoughts/concerns, you can email them at [NewUDO@DurhamNC.gov](mailto:NewUDO@DurhamNC.gov) For detailed information on the UDOs and they affect you, visit the TPNA website at [TrinityPark.org](http://TrinityPark.org).

# Know Your Real Estate

By Matt Lawing, local realtor

People often ask me how an agent determines the price for a house when they are going to put it on the market for a seller, and though there are a lot of moving parts, the process is decently simple. We essentially do an abbreviated version of an appraisal and there are a few steps:

**1. Find “comps.”** This means that ideally, you can find 3-5 properties that are less than a mile away, similar in style, and have sold recently. If you are selling a single family ranch style home, you don’t want to compare it to a townhome, a condo, or even a completely different style home.

**2. Make price adjustments.** Square footage, number of bathrooms, acre-

age, garages, and lots of other things have value. The house you are selling likely won’t have one across the street that’s exactly the same floor-plan, especially not in a neighborhood like Trinity Park. Because of this, adjustments are made. If the house you are selling has a garage but a comp doesn’t, you add value to that comp.

**3. Average out the prices and use judgment.** Although the average of \$725,000, \$750,000 and \$776,000 may be \$750,333, your agent will use their experience and judgment to use the data and come to a price. For example, if the numbers suggest a price within \$10,000 of \$800,000, my belief is that pricing at \$800,000 (as opposed to \$799,999) is the best strategy because there is potential to show up on searches for buyers looking in the \$700,000-800,000 range and also the \$800,000-900,000 range whereas pricing at \$799,999

misses the \$800,000 and above crowd. The judgment is also based on the condition of the house. A recently renovated house will have more value than one that hasn’t been updated recently. This value isn’t dollar for dollar with the amount spent for the renovation though, so talk to an agent about which things can give you the best return on investment.

At the end of the day, agents don’t have a crystal ball and this pricing, despite expertise, is a best estimate. It may be put on the market and go in 3 days for over asking price or it might not sell for 2 weeks or more and your agent may talk to you about a price drop. The point is, there is always a conversation to be had if you think the price is a little bit less than you were expecting. If it’s way less than you were expecting, just ask the agent to go over their math with you to see how they came to their number.

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## Traffic Safety Update

By Mollie Flowe

Good news on street safety! The draft city budget for FY26 includes funding for the next portion of design to make Roxboro and Mangum two way, and it also includes money for the next step in redesigning Duke and Gregson. Changing traffic on these street pairs is a slow and arduous process both because they are owned and controlled by the state Department of Transportation, and also because changes will involve a significant expense to the city.

City transportation staff continue to see work on Roxboro/Mangum as a guide for col-

laborating with DOT on Duke/Gregson, but they will move forward with steps on both pairs while the R/M process plays out. The (state) DOT requires a feasibility study followed by a multi-step design process before approving plans and allowing construction (with city funds) to begin. As the traffic committee understands it, the feasibility study for D/G is underway now, and the design process for this pair may involve looking at faster, cheaper options for slowing traffic besides returning them to two-way.

We appreciate CM Carl Rist for championing this work, and Bike Durham for their tireless advocacy work. However, we’ll have to keep the pressure on City Council and city staff to keep progress going.

# Duke Durham Neighborhood Partnership

By Susan Jakes

The Trinity Park is much more than a playground and place to hold birthday parties and community events. It is a garden and the home of beautiful public art. To truly appreciate how many artists and neighbors worked together to make the latest improvements at the park, it helps to know some of the story. It takes a whole community to make the many projects that all work together to form this remarkable space.

Over the past two years, TPNA and the Trinity Park Foundation worked together to make major improvements to the easternmost park entrance on W. Trinity Ave. In 2024 we rebuilt the dilapidated brick and timber steps, and in 2025 we added a railing for improved safety and accessibility. We were able to do this important work in our community thanks in part to two Duke Doing Good Housing and Neighborhoods grants.

Shelley Dekker, past president of the Trinity Park Foundation, whose mission includes Community Art, wanted to do railings that were functional art and would complement the Andrew Preiss untitled sculpture in memory of Max Rogers that is located at the top of the new stairs. This sculpture is looking great thanks to the installation of a native plant garden that really complements and makes it more visible. This native garden was conceived, funded and implemented as a part of Sue Concannon's Master Naturalist Certification Program through Durham County Cooperative Extension and designed by Rachelle Roake of Reconnect Landscapes in Chapel Hill.

Shelley, an admirer of local artist Al Frega, hoped he would be willing

to create the handrail. Known for his creative use of found materials, Al is the artist behind the amazing railing work at the previous locations of Parker and Otis and Morgan Imports. Unfortunately, Shelly learned Al was retired. However, Trinity Park neighbor and fellow artist David Solow connected Shelley with his longtime friend and Al agreed to take on the project.

The results are spectacular! Be sure to check it out. Pictured to the right is Al Frega with the new railings. For more information on the Duke Doing Good Housing and Neighborhoods Grant, see [trinitypark.org](http://trinitypark.org).



By Steve Unruhe

In addition to new railings for the park, the Trinity Park Neighborhood Association partnered with Reality Ministries on a Duke Durham Partnership Grant to research, update, and install a new A/V system for their gathering space.

Reality Ministries is located at the southern edge of the neighborhood, on the corner of Gregson and Lamond across from DSA. Reality's sound

system is used every day during the week by their community of friends with and without disabilities AND on the weekend and in the evenings by many other groups including a local church, wedding parties, a square dancing group, and a yoga group.

The new sound system will benefit not only Reality's community of 600 friends with and without disabilities but also ALL these other communities that use the space.



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