

Around the Park

An InterNeighborhood Council member neighborhood



PARK

Neighborhood

Association

President's letter November 2016

Dan Read

Back in 2002 when we had a severe ice storm power was out in the neighborhood for about a week. Hanukkah and Advent overlapped, as they do every year, and Sally Hicks and Richard Hart invited a bunch of neighbors over for a holiday dinner. Maria and I brought our Advent wreath. In the unheated house the crowd of people and a wood fire made the room tolerably warm. First we lit our Advent wreath and then Richard lit the menorah. Both sets of candles celebrated the season and the gratefulness we all felt for the miracle of light and the gift of life. The darkness outside was intense but the candles drove it back, in the room and in our hearts. In this darkest time of the year I cherish that image and pray that all of you find such light and warmth in your families and friends. You all know me, so I am sure it is no surprise that I admit that for me part of the gloom I feel is from the recent election and the likely continued polarization of our civic culture.

Turning to a more positive happening, the City has been moving forward following the NA decision in September to back their plan for the Bill Anderson Pavilion. P & R has submitted the project for budget approval and has asked us, the neighborhood, to help fund the renewal of the old bath house into a modern pavilion. We don't have to raise a huge amount of money—\$10,000 will probably be plenty to show our good faith. Please think about donating as the tax year winds to a close. The Duke Park Preservation Initiative is already in place to accept tax-deductible donations. See the article inside.

New development in the downtown area is making our neighborhood ever more attractive.

The dog park continues to move forward. We have a bunch of new board members and new families are moving into the area. Even in the darkness of winter there burns a lot of light and hope for a better tomorrow.

Bill Anderson Pavillion Fundraiser

The Parks and Rec department has submitted the design plan for the remodel of the Bill Anderson pavilion (the old bath house) for budget review. This is the first step toward actually getting the project funded. In our conversations with Tom Dawson of P&R, he has made it clear that the City Council is much more likely to fund a project where there is neighborhood support. That is where you (and your checkbook) come in. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 in the neighborhood, which is a small fraction of the total cost, but which if we can raise it will be politically important. More detailed fundraising ideas and grant possibilities are being developed. Stay tuned for those. But the Board is sending this out now with the hope of getting the ball rolling. Pledges and checks will be gratefully accepted. Tax-deductible contributions can be made to the Duke Park Preservation Initiative, our 501(c)(3) arm. Mail them to Daniel Read, DPPI treasurer, 1424 Acadia Street, 27701.

Holiday Party! Saturday, December 3

The annual holiday party will be Saturday, Dec. 3 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the home of Brian and Lina Nealon at 1818 Glendale Avenue.

The Association will provide soda and water, and napkins/plates/paper goods. You bring a dish to share, beer, wine or liquor if you want to, and a warm heart ready to socialize.

Want to Improve Duke Park? The City of Durham Wants to Help!

Charlene Reiss

Have an idea to spruce up our neighborhood? Want to bring more neighbors together to create something beautiful? Know a wall that could use a mural? A plot or path that needs some plantings? A spot that needs some TLC? The City of Durham wants to make your idea a reality. The Neighborhood Improvement Services (NIS) department has launched a new Matching Grant Program to make Durham neighborhoods more livable.

The program's purpose is to build neighborhood pride and resident involvement to (1) leverage resident involvement and resources, (2) develop community--City government partnerships and (3) empower neighborhoods to solve local problems. Allowable projects include public art, play areas, youth programs, special events, block parties, energy/sustainability projects, and more. Projects must be within the city limits, free and open to all, and achievable within three months. Neighborhoods must match the grant funds (up to \$2500) with volunteer labor, in-kind donations, or cash. The next round of funding opens January 1 with applications due January 31. Fire up your creative Duke Park spirit and find more information at <https://durhamnc.gov/2907/Neighborhood-Matching-Grants>.

New Accessible Icon at Duke Park!

Charlene Reiss

Have you noticed something different in the Acadia Street parking lot? Thanks to the Durham chapter of the Accessible Icon Project, Duke Park has an updated image on its accessible parking space. The new icon depicts an active and independent person using a wheelchair, replacing the traditional static symbol designed more than 30 years ago. The Accessible Icon Project is working with the City of Durham to replace the icons at parks and municipal facilities all over the city. For more information on the Accessible Icon Project, check out: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H31puUbjBhg>



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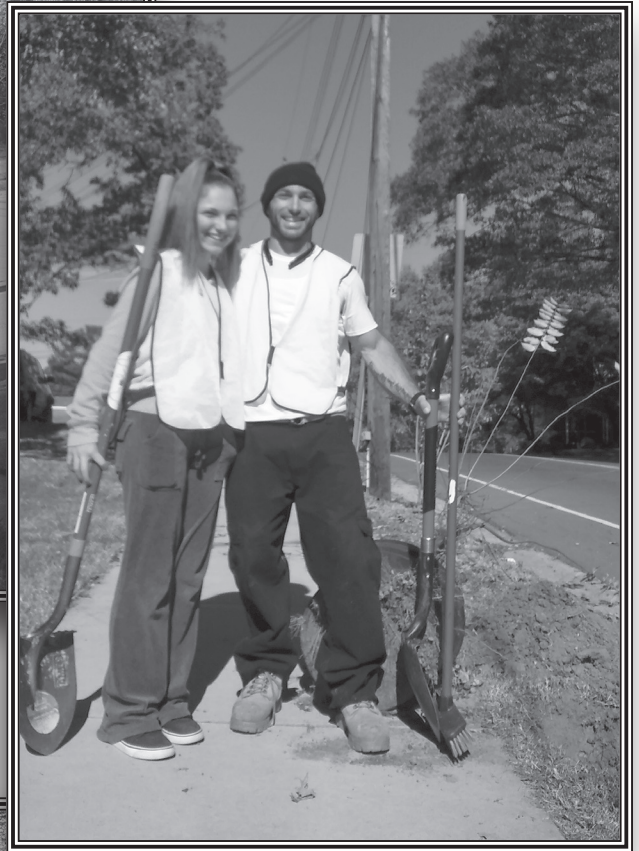
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Volunteers planted 43 trees along Green and Washington Streets in early November.



Thanks to all the volunteers who helped us make our Dule Park Neighborhood greener and more beautiful!



DUKE PARK Night of Lights *and* Our ANNUAL Membership Drive!

Duke Park Night of Lights Sunday, December 11th@ 4PM

(rain/wind date December 18th)

Duke Park neighbors and friends, every year as part of our annual fund-raiser, the Duke Park Neighborhood Association lights our streets and the perimeter of our beloved Duke Park with luminarias (those candles in white bags with sand), surrounding the park and most of the pathways. Volunteers needed to set up the park at 3:30pm. Our Night of Lights is an evening to stroll to Duke Park and take in the beauty of our neighborhood.

Sale Dates:

Dec. 10th - 10AM to 2PM and **Dec. 11th** - 10AM to 3PM @ 405 E. Markham Avenue (the corner of E. Markham & Shawnee St.) and 1424 Acadia Street ~**look for signs**~

Kits cost \$8 and consist of 10 bags, 10 candles and sand. Sand pickup is at the sand pile on the empty lot of 1707 Shawnee St. behind 405 E. Markham Ave. – **please bring a container**. There will be some scoops and a measuring bucket. **Luminarias kits make a great gift for neighbors, too. Light your street and enjoy the magic!**

Duke Park Neighbors, please come out and support your neighborhood association by joining in the Duke Park Night of Lights and renewing your membership. Make a \$10 contribution to the upcoming dog park for maintenance. **DPNA membership fees:** \$5 singles & seniors, \$10 family/household.

Co-coordinators: Esther Bent and Dan Read
Questions/volunteers: ebent@nc.rr.com or 919-599-0108 readlaw@aol.com or 919-323-0073

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Democracy in Action

David and Kathy Bartlett

The Democratic ground game came to Acadia Street for three weekends during the election, and it was inspiring and amazing to watch. It started on our front porch and then moved inside as canvassers and phone bankers needed more time and space. What was amazing was the diversity of volunteers—young and old, neighbors, Durham residents and out-of-towners who came to North Carolina to help out. We were led by one of David Price's former staff members as well as other volunteers from Durham and New Jersey. Many thanks to our neighbors who seemed to enjoy watching the parade of people and were so patient with traffic and parking. It was Durham at its best!



Checking voter lists.



Bartletts' front porch--hub of election activity!




Matthew Young
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Duke Park Contact INFO:

Keep in touch with your neighbors.

Duke Park Neighborhood Association:
<http://Dukepark.org>

Listserve: Dukepark@yahoogroups.com
facebook.com/Duke-Park-Neighborhood-Association-258308077041/


Duke Park Neighborhood Association

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____



Membership is \$10/year per household. \$5/year for seniors and singles.
Please send your dues with this coupon to:
Brian Green, DPNA Treasurer, 401 W. Markham Ave, Durham, NC 27701

For your records: YES! I Paid my Duke Park Neighborhood Association dues for 2017

Date paid _____

Holiday Parade

The Durham Holiday Parade is back! Saturday, December 10 at 10:00 a.m. Parade route will be from the Health Service Building at 400 E. Main Street straight down Main to the Duke East Campus. There will be several performance venues along the route.

Holiday Fun Fest

The Durham Parks & Recreation Department will be hosting a fun fest on Saturday, December 3, from Noon to 4 p.m at the Stadium Practice Field at 750 Stadium Drive. Events include Peppermint Plunge (sleds will be provided, please do not bring a sled), two snow play areas, Santa Claus Meet & Greet, a crackling campfire (2 p.m. – 3 p.m.) and food and vendors.

Kwanzaa Celebration

Friday, December 30, at the Holton Career and Resource Center, 401 N. Driver St. Time and details TBD. Info Alberto Carrasquillo or call 919-354-2750-<http://durhamnc.gov/1651/Kwanzaa>.

Recycling Notes

Recent advice from City Solid Waste division is that we can recycle plastic bottle caps and jar lids even if they do not have a triangle symbol. Apparently, manufacturers are using these now. And stay tuned for a post-Christmas tree recycling/e-waste/shred day at the Stadium. If you have recycling questions contact Michelle Hart-Leak, customer service director, Michelle.Hart-Leak@durhamnc.gov.

Digging On Knox Street

The ravine at the end of Mangum Street along Knox has been the scene of some major clearing and digging in recent months. First, the sewer line that runs down the ravine needed to be maintained and fixed, then the pipe that runs under the sidewalk needed to be replaced. Looks ugly now but hopefully by spring it will be green again. Our history buffs tell us that there used to be a seam of low-grade coal there which was mined out in the late 19th-early 20th centuries.

Fido Gets Christmas Too!

Santa Paws at the Durham Armory, Friday, December 9, 6-8 p.m. Free. <http://durhamnc.gov/1644/Santa-Paws>

It's Tree Banding Time

Those little green canker worms/inchworms LOVE to eat willow oak leaves. Many of our older oaks are at or past their peak, so any additional stress is dangerous for them. That is why it is time to put out tree bands, those sticky bands that trap the females as they go up into the canopy to lay the eggs. (Even what looks like a crummy job, like I did last year, will still catch a lot of bugs.) City arborist Alex Johnson recommends putting up the bands up when 90% of the leaves have fallen or before the first hard frost, whichever comes first.

The traditional method is you band your trees with a paper or burlap strip, then coat it with Tanglefoot, a gooey substance that the bugs try to cross and get stuck in. You do it about 4-6 feet off the ground—low enough for you reach comfortably, but high enough so Junior and/or Fido cannot reach. Stone Brothers has the stuff including Tanglefoot, which was in short supply last year. If you have questions about technique you can watch a video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q-2HE6Oqi70> or check out this fact sheet at <http://durhamnc.gov/Document-Center/View/953>.

