

# Dunwoody CIVIC ASSOCIATION North

DUNWOODYNORTH.ORG · OCT 2019

## Artists Challenge

2020 is an election year. Also in 2020, DNCA will publish a new Dunwoody North Community Directory {Register or Login to your DNCA account to update your details today}. And, we are holding the 2nd Cover Art Contest!

### The 2020 DNCA Neighborhood Directory Cover Art Contest!

This is a chance for kids younger than sixteen to showcase their work on the directory cover for the next three years. The main requirements: the design should depict something of importance to the artist about Dunwoody North, it should be in color and should be vertical to fill the directory front cover.

The Dunwoody North Civic Association Beautification Committee will nominate up to seven drawings and post them on [DunwoodyNorth.org](http://DunwoodyNorth.org). Everyone registered on the site will be able to view and vote for their favorite - 1 vote per registered member. The most favored artwork will go on the front cover. Space allowed; the four highest voted entries will be included inside the directory. 2016's top four are on page-10 of the directory. Eleven-year-old Emily Grant said about her winning entry: "I drew this after school one day, and when my mom told me about the art contest, I decided the picture was a good representation of our neighborhood. There are lots of great families, beautiful trees, and nice pets (especially my guinea pig, Pedro). I'm glad you liked my drawing!"

For more information and updates, go to: [DunwoodyNorth.org/CoverArt](http://DunwoodyNorth.org/CoverArt)

Voting will be held in mid-November; results posted in December. Submissions go to: Gerri Penn, 2714 Amberly Way, Dunwoody, GA 30360 and must be received by Sunday November 3, 2019.



### DNCA Awards College Scholarship



After at least 30 years, the DNCA Board voted to restart awarding an annual College Scholarship to a Dunwoody North Neighborhood High School Senior. Lyn Coltman and Gerri Penn co-chaired this new endeavor. The winning essay is in this newsletter and was written by Annie Solomon and she received \$1,000.00. One other essay by Davis Cooke was also excellent and so we presented him with an Amazon Gift Card. We are going to continue awarding annual Scholarships. Please look for the announcement in the winter Newsletter.

You may be wondering how DNCA is able to pay for a scholarship. It is only one of the things we count on from the dues we collect. Please pay your annual \$20.00 to help us to continue the things we do.

SCHOLARSHIP, Continued on back...

# President's Message



By Thomas O'Brien - DNCA President  
President@DunwoodyNorth.org

Hello Neighbors!

With summer ending and fall approaching, we are entering a beautiful time of year in our corner of the city. The neighborhood kids are back in school once again, leaves begin turning, and the weather takes a milder turn. This fall, changes are underway in City leadership. The City of Dunwoody is holding elections for several key city posts including the Office of the Mayor, and the "at-large" City Council positions for each of the three districts. At-large council positions are elected by the entire city regardless of district, so now is a good time to become acquainted with the candidates and their positions.

This has been an exciting year for Dunwoody and our neighborhood specifically. Construction on future Brook Run amenities continues with the multi-use fields now being graded and drainage pipe being laid. All these steps lead toward the building of a great lawn with a stage and seating, multi-sport fields with concession stands and parking, a new picnic pavilion and a disc-golf course.

Dunwoody Senior Baseball has now been operating for more than one year in the neighborhood. Their new home, immediately adjacent to Peachtree Charter Middle School and Brook Run hosts an amazing number of games and teams, with baseball being available for the viewing public throughout the year.

Right around the corner from Dunwoody North, the Marcus JCC hosted the Maccabi Games in late July and early August. More than 1,600 participants competed in this Olympic-style sporting competition which is held each summer in North America. This was only the second time that Atlanta played host to this national sports program, which encourages compassion and community service.

The Dunwoody city leadership continues to make news as well. In the interest of gaining more oversight regarding Dekalb School projects, and with crowding and planning issues being brought to light, Dunwoody voted unanimously to revoke a 2017 memorandum of understanding with Dekalb Schools. This step was taken to ensure that Dunwoody is more closely involved with construction, maintenance, and repair that takes place on school facilities within the city.

In a move sure to make life more convenient for Dunwoody residents, The City of Dunwoody has also improved the permit and inspection process. Residents can now visit <https://dunwoodyga.gov/permits> to apply for construction/demolition permits, land disturbance permits, sign permits, and trade permits. The new online portal will allow the processing of applications, submission of supporting documents, and payment of fees.

These past several months have not all been easy for Dunwoody North residents. There were a series of break-ins to both homes and vehicles at an unusually high rate within Dunwoody North this summer. The increased level of crime got the attention of the Dunwoody Police Department and city leadership, who appeared at a July meeting convened by the Dunwoody North Civic Association. This well-attended meeting allowed Dunwoody North residents to speak directly with the police, share concerns, and get advice about prevention. Later in July, the DPD announced that Detective Maldonado, in conjunction with Sandy Springs PD, arrested a suspect who was involved in at least one of the burglaries.

Crime will always be present in communities that are desirable and centrally located, but there are things we can do to prevent this from being a regular occurrence. Knowing your neighbors, spending time outside, and reporting unusual activity are all steps that everyone can take to reduce crime. Also, getting involved with your Neighborhood Watch is a great way to be proactive and informed about local crime prevention. Additionally, there has been a lot of discussion around adding license plate cameras to neighborhood entrances and exits. This tool could be exceptionally helpful to law enforcement but will require additional discussion regarding expense and location.

As always, I want to encourage all Dunwoody North residents to get involved! Volunteers and yearly dues of \$20 strengthen our community, fund neighborhood watch communications, provide scholarships and support to local causes, and help make Dunwoody North a wonderful community in which to live. Please join the DNCA and get involved.

I finally wish to offer my thanks to the DNCA board volunteers for their consistent involvement. As a volunteer driven organization, we rely on the time and talents of neighbors who are passionate about our community. Thank you to these engaged individuals, and have a wonderful fall!

Your Neighbor, Thomas

# Neighborhood Watch

As the leaves

begin to fall signaling the passing of another year, one tends to reflect back. Unfortunately, this summer was not as peaceful and crime-free as in past years. There was a series of house and car break-ins in our neighborhood which culminated in a well-attended neighborhood meeting to present community and home-owner options for preventing and detecting crimes. (For more about the meeting, see: [DunwoodyNorth.org/Meeting](http://DunwoodyNorth.org/Meeting))

This year we are again gearing up to produce a new Neighborhood Directory, available to all paying DNCA MEMBERS. In this day and age, when we no longer have the ubiquitous White Pages phone book, just getting the name, address or phone number of a neighbor can be quite a hassle. Recently I got a call from a resident whose neighbor had a problem which the caller could only partly solve. She called me and I used the Directory to look up residents on her street to find someone I knew who also knew the lady in question. I called and the other resident went to her aid. Without the Directory, this could not have been accomplished so easily.

To update the Directory, we need your help and cooperation in one of two capacities: as a Block Captain to confirm or correct the information we have on file, or as a resident providing your current contact information. You can request that your phone number not be listed in the directory and know that your email address is strictly for DNCA use, we do not share this information with anyone else. Please contact me if you are willing to serve as a Block Captain - it does not entail much of your time.

Your Neighborhood Watch now has three methods for contacting residents: 1- **CallingPost** (a 70 second recorded phone message which costs almost \$100 per call), 2- **Email** notifications (allow long-detailed messages and pictures and currently costs the DNCA nothing), and a new 3- **Text messaging** system (which has a variable cost depending on the length of the message).



Financial support for all these alerts is provided exclusively by the DNCA.

Neighborhood Watch is only as effective as the residents utilizing it. Please, if you see a crime, suspicious activity, or vehicles, call 911 immediately, and then call me at (404) 402-9354 or email me at [jrmh@bellsouth.net](mailto:jrmh@bellsouth.net), so I can spread the word. When calling 911, if you don't want to get involved, you don't have to. Just stay on the phone long enough to give the operator the pertinent information, and that you are calling from Dunwoody. If you do want to know the outcome, you need to tell the 911 operator you want the police to stop by your house to let you know the result. Please give your neighbors the same consideration you would want extended to you if they saw your house being burglarized.

Membership in the DNCA is only \$20/year and provides the financial support for the Neighborhood Watch which benefits our whole community. The DNCA also supports many other activities like the Police and Fireman's Holiday Meals, Neighborhood Beautification and Monument maintenance, donations to our local schools and the production of the DNCA website, Community Directory, and these Newsletters.

Sometimes, the only way to resolve a nuisance is to report it as a code violation. However, if you see an actual crime being committed on any of these properties **call 911**.

The current head of code violations is: **James Lemoine**, 4800 Ashford Dunwoody RD, Dunwoody, 30338. 770-296-5400 and, [james.lemoine@dunwoodyga.gov](mailto:james.lemoine@dunwoodyga.gov)

The compliance office also has a hotline: 678-382-6890 and email: [compliance@dunwoodyga.gov](mailto:compliance@dunwoodyga.gov). Complainants do not have to leave their name. The preferred notification procedure is to send clear photographs (preferably time stamped), showing the violation in situ, i.e. where it sits on the property, etc. Include a concise explanation, the address of the violation and your contact information. He does not give out complainants' names.

Georgia has adopted the 2012 Property Maintenance Code and copies of it are available at City Hall. You can make an appointment to review the code to determine if what annoys you is actually a violation. A copy can also be purchased from the International Code Council: [www.iccsafe.org](http://www.iccsafe.org).

To keep abreast of all crimes committed in Dunwoody, not just what is reported to me or the local papers, go to the Dunwoody Police Blotter at: <https://p2c.dunwoodyga.gov/dailybulletin.aspx> or [Spotcrime.com](http://Spotcrime.com).

Thank you, Judy Hofer - Neighborhood Watch Chairwoman  
404-402-9354, [NeighborhoodWatch@DunwoodyNorth.org](mailto:NeighborhoodWatch@DunwoodyNorth.org)

# Holiday Decorations Contest

Will you volunteer to manage the Holiday Decorations Contest? It's an extremely popular event but the contest is on hold and may not take place this year unless someone steps up to coordinate it. The contest chair puts together a small team to browse the neighborhood, photograph and nominate homes on both sides of Tilly Mill and coordinates with the web designer to hold the vote and publicize the winners.

Will you help? Contact Gerri Penn: 770-457-2474



## SCHOLARSHIP - The Winning Essay

MY OVERWHELMING PASSION IS MY LOVE FOR DANCE. DANCE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A SIGNIFICANT PART OF MY LIFE. I STARTED DANCING WHEN I WAS 4 YEARS OLD. WHEN I BEGAN KINDERGARTEN AT CHESNUT, I JOINED DAN AND COMPANY STUDIOS, AND I AM STILL DANCING AT DAN AND COMPANY TODAY. AFTER 13 YEARS, I HAVE MADE IT TO THE PRE-PROFESSIONAL COMPANY (THE HIGHEST COMPANY OFFERED). I DANCE FOR A MINIMUM OF 10 HOURS A WEEK AFTER SCHOOL, WITH ADDITIONAL FULL DAY REHEARSALS ON MANY WEEKENDS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WEEKS LEADING UP TO PERFORMANCES. I TAKE BALLET, JAZZ, TAP, HIP-HOP, LYRICAL, AND ACROBATICS CLASSES. I PERFORM IN LOCAL SHOWS AND ATTEND COMPETITIONS, INCLUDING THE NEW YORK CITY DANCE ALLIANCE CONVENTION/COMPETITION HELD IN NASHVILLE THIS PAST DECEMBER. EACH MONTH, VARIOUS CHOREOGRAPHERS COME IN TO TOWN TO TEACH US DIFFERENT STYLES AND DANCES, IN ADDITION TO OUR REGULAR DANCE TEACHERS/CLASSES.

AS A SOPHOMORE, IN ORDER TO FURTHER MY LOVE FOR DANCE, I FOUNDED THE DUNWOODY DANCE CLUB TO GIVE STUDENTS A DANCE OPTION IN HIGH SCHOOL, AS DUNWOODY HIGH DID NOT OFFER ANY DANCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS. I HAVE GIVEN STUDENTS A CLUB TO LEARN A NEW ART WHEN THEY MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO AFFORD THESE CLASSES AT A STUDIO. AFTER CHOREOGRAPHING/TEACHING A DANCE, WE PERFORM AT A LOCAL ASSISTED LIVING HOME, BRIGHTON GARDENS OF DUNWOODY. THE RESIDENTS LOVE OUR SHOWS THAT WE PUT ON FOR THEM, REQUESTING MORE DANCES AFTER EACH VISIT. AFTER DANCING, WE HAVE THE CHANCE TO DEVELOP CONNECTIONS WITH THE RESIDENTS THROUGH A FEW HOURS OF CONVERSATIONS AND ACTIVITIES. THE RESIDENTS ARE DELIGHTED TO SHARE STORIES OF THEIR PAST WITH US, AND WE ARE EQUALLY EXCITED TO LISTEN. THE BOND AND RELATIONSHIPS THAT WE HAVE DEVELOPED WITH THESE COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE THE MOST REWARDING PART OF STARTING THIS CLUB. NO MATTER WHERE I AM, MY LOVE FOR DANCE SHINES THROUGH. PEOPLE AT SCHOOL ASSOCIATE ME WITH DANCE. I EVEN GAVE MY TOASTMASTERS SPEECH IN MY FINANCE ACADEMY CLASS ABOUT MY LOVE FOR DANCE. DANCE IMPACTS MY SCHOOL EXPERIENCE, AND MY VALUES AS A STUDENT IMPACT MY DANCE. THROUGH DANCE AND SCHOOL, I HAVE LEARNED TEAMWORK, DEDICATION, HARD WORK, FRIENDSHIP, AND TIME MANAGEMENT (LOTS OF TIME MANAGEMENT, AS I OFTEN CANNOT START MY HOMEWORK UNTIL AFTER DANCE CLASS AT 9:00 AT NIGHT!). I HAVE CARRIED OVER THESE VALUES TO OTHER PARTS OF MY LIFE, ALLOWING ME ALSO TO BECOME PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY, WORK AS A SUNDAY SCHOOL FIRST GRADE TEACHER, INITIATE A VOLUNTEER TUTORING SERVICE AT CHESNUT ELEMENTARY, AND GRADUATE IN THE TOP 10% OF MY CLASS.

Read the full essay at: [DunwoodyNorth.org/Essay](http://DunwoodyNorth.org/Essay)

## Beautification Update

Pat Cloud has been the Chair for many years. Pat and her committee members did an amazing job with our monuments, Yard of the Month judging and the Holiday Decoration contest. Pat retired from the Chair position and Gerri Penn is stepping up to Chair the Beautification Committee. The Committee will for right now only be judging Yard of the Month starting in April 2020. Please contact Gerri Penn at 770-457-2474 if you are interested in joining the Committee.

Neighborhood markers or monuments and their maintenance are an important part of a community. The Civic Association Board voted to hire a landscaper to maintain our monuments with weeding, trimming and plantings. This obviously is an added expense and we really need you to pay your annual \$20.00 dues to support this effort. It is important to those who live here as well as those trying to sell their homes.

## Cheer & Thanks!

Every year the DNCA expresses its gratitude to Fire Station 18 on Barclay Drive by providing a meal. This year we are planning something a little different. We are looking for volunteers to bring some festive food of your choice directly to the firefighters during the week of December 2-8, 2019. It could be cookies, cakes, cheese platters, donuts, etc. The important thing is that they experience our thanks on a more personal level. Thank you cards will be provided to accompany your treat.

If you would like to participate in thanking the special firefighters of Station 18, please contact Pat Cloud, 404-316-2057.