

Dunwoody North

CIVIC ASSOCIATION

DUNWOODYNORTH.ORG • MAR 2020

Volunteers Needed!

Your Dunwoody North Civic Association does a lot for our community. A great example was seen this past fall when the DNCA coordinated with neighborhood representatives to voice concern about the proposed redistricting plans that split the Chesnut Elementary attendance area along the Tilly Mill corridor. This division of the Dunwoody North community was overturned but there is always more to do and the Association needs your help.

For 2020, we need to fill several critical board positions. Elections are March 3rd (See inside for details):

Open positions are: President (or co-presidents), Vice President, Recording Secretary and there may be 'At Large' board positions available as well.

Please consider volunteering to help guide your neighborhood into a bright future. We cannot do it without your help! Contact outgoing DNCA President Thomas O'Brien – President@DunwoodyNorth.org.

Thank you to the following for their work and support on the redistricting issue:

John Heneghan, Dunwoody City Council Post 6 (District 3 at Large), Daren Boaz, HOA President of Madison Subdivisions, Angela Renals, Neighborhood Representative of Briers North, Mark Stephenson, HOA President of Brafferton Subdivision, Phil Boudewyns, HOA President of Chestnut Landing Subdivision, Gil Wood, Vice President of the DNCA, Thomas O'Brien, President of Dunwoody North Civic Association

2020 SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

The Dunwoody North Civic Association is once again awarding a \$1,000.00 Scholarship for the winning essay to a 2020 graduating senior. The topic is:

"What is the contribution you would like to make?"

The essay should be approximately five hundred words in length and correct spelling, grammar and punctuation will be taken into account. Deadline for submission is Saturday, May 16th 2019 and the winner will be notified by Sunday, June 30th 2019.

Please send your essay to both of the coordinating Board members:

Lyn Coltman: lyncoltman@bellsouth.net

Gerri Penn: pennfam@bellsouth.net



Dunwoody North

Annual Meeting & Elections

*Enjoy some neighborly social time,
Meet our New Mayor:*

Lynn Deutsch

ALSO

Officer Anwar Sillah

will provide an update from the Dunwoody Police

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

**Dunwoody North Driving Club Clubhouse
4522 Kingsgate Dr. 30338**

{Activities begin at 6:30pm}

See insert for details and an absentee ballot

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



Hopefully everyone had an enjoyable Holiday season. Fortunately, there were to my knowledge, no major home burglaries, although porch pirates and mailbox thefts were a continuing problem. Again,

reasonable precautions should always be taken. Don't leave mail in the box overnight and arrange to have packages left at your back door.

Again, if you see suspicious activity or vehicles or a crime being committed, please call 911 immediately, and then call me at (404) 402-9354, so I can spread the word. If you don't want to get involved, you don't have to give your name, just stay on the phone long enough to give the 911 operator the pertinent information, and tell them 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 outcome. Please give your neighbors the same consideration you would want them to extend to you if they saw your house being burglarized.

As a result of the series of burglaries last year, we held a security meeting where the possibility of individual homeowner security

systems, e.g. Ring or Blink, strengthening of doorways to minimize access to the house, and neighborhood LPR (License Plate Reader) camera systems, such as Flock, were discussed. As a consequence, The Madisons have had Flock cameras installed, but not Briers North or Brafferton, nor has Dunwoody North. The difficulty is the expense of \$2,000 per camera per year. Dunwoody North has 10 entrances which would all have to be covered to be effective. In addition, a few cameras are being installed by the City of Dunwoody on the entrance roads to Dunwoody in our vicinity. A camera is already in place on North Peachtree, no doubt because that's where two schools reside, and the DPD have just concluded an agreement with flock to install two more, one on Tilly Mill and one on N. Shallowford Rd.

The Dunwoody Police Force has instituted a new program called Silent Partners, a new initiative to fight crime with new crime-fighting technology, such as LPR's, home security cameras and merchant's video surveillance. This video footage can be shared and streamed on a voluntary basis to help fight crime. They have created a secure mapping system called the silent partners portal. Visit the following link for more information: <https://www.dunwoodyga.gov/silentpartners>.

This year the crimes have become more sophisticated. The number of scams, hacks and frauds have greatly increased. My email was recently hacked so I know from first-hand experience. It is a nightmare for the individual being hacked and potentially devastating to those who don't recognize the scam and respond to it. The DPD immediately put out a warning about scams posting the one used on me as an example, as three police officers also received that bogus email. They held a free special seminar on February 20 to educate Dunwoody residents about such scams and how to recognize them.

Do not ever give out bank account numbers, social security numbers, or passwords, no matter who claims they are calling. No bank, the IRS or the Police Department will ever call you and ask for that kind of information, and nobody legitimate will ask you to buy iTunes cards, or any similar item, and instruct you to contact them with the pin number. If you do that the money you spent to purchase that card will be permanently lost with NO HOPE OF RECOVERY. Also beware of slightly different email addresses as the return addresses. Telephone or text the person you think you're helping. Do not email, as that has already been compromised. In my case, the hackers got into my email settings and



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

President's Message

Hello Neighbors!

Once again, we find ourselves keeping warm during a cold and rainy winter, with thoughts of the spring that can't come soon enough. The City of Dunwoody is in the midst of change as well, having just elected a new mayor and two new city councilors.

In other notes of change, construction is nearing an end at Brook Run Park, with the addition of athletic fields, a great lawn, and a new picnic area. Recent word is that the amenities will be complete sometime in the second quarter of 2020. Though this construction effort has been significant, Dunwoody has made significant efforts to respect the land and trees. This diligence was recently recognized by the Atlanta Regional Commission's Green Communities Program, who awarded Gold level recognition and noted Dunwoody's ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship and leadership in sustainability practices.

On a more polarizing front, the past several months have seen a flurry of activity regarding Dekalb County's elementary school redistricting efforts. Early proposals included an unwelcome suggestion of splitting the neighborhood school assignment along the Tilly Mill Corridor, but it appears that the voices of Dunwoody North were heard, and all indications are that the neighborhood will stay intact from an elementary school perspective. With all of this said, overcrowding and school system accountability remain substantial issues at every level of public schooling from elementary to high school.

On the subject of fighting crime, Dunwoody continues to address how best to make use of traffic cameras and license plate readers. Many of these devices are still quite expensive, but the city has installed 20 of its own readers as of February, 2020. Also of note is the initiation of the DPD Silent Partners program. This program is completely voluntary, and allows residents and businesses who maintain private cameras to register their locations for the purpose of assisting police with investigations. This program is voluntary and does not involve giving the police carte blanche access to cameras, but rather allows them to know where private cameras may be when investigating criminal activity. The police may then request footage from certain dates and times.

In closing this letter, 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.

Your Neighbor, Thomas

re-directed responses to a different email address. Change your passwords frequently and beware of strange requests. Be suspicious when you receive something from someone that is so out of character because it's probably not from them.

If you have questions, would like to assist with Neighborhood Watch or have something to report, please contact me:

Judith R. Millner-Hofer - Neighborhood Watch Chairwoman
NeighborhoodWatch@DunwoodyNorth.org 404-402-9354



Beautification

YARD OF THE MONTH



The DNCA Beautification Committee will be judging Yard of the Month again starting April 1 and continuing through September. We pick two winners every month, one from each side of the subdivision. We will place a Yard of the Month sign for each month in the winning yards with the owner's permission and pictures will be posted on the DNCA web site. We are judging on well-maintained lawn, shrubs and trees. Winning yards should have colorful plantings. Driveways should be free of newspapers and yard debris.

Please contact Beautification Chair Gerri Penn if you are interested in volunteering to be a judge: pennfam@bellsouth.net.

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON FOR DUNWOODY'S POLICE

DNCA volunteers were given high accolades for hosting another very successful December lunch for the men and women of our police force. Attending the event were Judy Millner-Hofer, Gerri Penn, Suzy Durkis, Robert Durkis and Cindy Dennis. They were assisted with additional desserts by Barbara Bowman, Louise Jackson and Kirsten Fitzgerald.



Holiday Decorations

The Holiday Decorations committee had a wonderful time driving every street of the Dunwoody North neighborhoods and seeing all of the decorations people use during the holidays. This was our first year and we chose homes that we felt the owners spent a lot of time and energy working on. We also looked for "looks" that seemed well planned and put together. Some homes aren't as elaborately adorned, but are still beautiful. Even the simplest holiday décor can make a home look festive.

Every home we chose was in the "over the top" category, we are trying to think of ways to incorporate some of the more classic or simply decorated homes in to the contest in the future. More to come on that later!



Thank you everyone who put out any decorations, overall our neighborhood looked wonderfully joyful!

Contact:

Beautification@DunwoodyNorth.org

