

Dunwoody CIVIC ASSOCIATION North

DUNWOODYNORTH.ORG · NOV 2020

The Best Community

We hear every day about all of the bad things that have happened in 2020. Fortunately we live in a community that has made the best of 2020. Dunwoody North has truly come together as a neighborhood and taken advantage of the time that we have spent at home this year. We have gotten to know our neighbors better and even taken care of each other in ways that we never did before. I want to share just a small sample of good things that have happened that make our neighborhood such a great community.

At the very beginning of the pandemic, neighbors displayed teddy bears and rainbows in windows or front porches to bring a smile to those walking through the neighborhood. Teenagers put on numerous scavenger hunts for younger kids throughout the neighborhood. At 5:00 on Friday nights in April, neighbors walked or biked through the neighborhood greeting those who waved from their driveways.

Over 20 decorated cars drove through the neighborhood celebrating the class of 2020 while neighbors cheered. There have also been numerous Birthday and Anniversary drive by celebrations for both young and old to bring joy to those not able to celebrate with family and friends.

When two favorite 4th of July traditions were cancelled, Dunwoody North Driving Club came to the rescue by organizing events for families to participate. In the early morning of the 4th of July, over 75 neighbors participated in a 5K neighborhood walk/run. Participants left in waves from DNDC to keep socially distanced and safe. A 4th of July Parade made up of decorated cars, golf carts, bikes, strollers and even a couple of motorcycles was escorted through the neighborhood by the Chamblee police.

Many neighbors participated in a Kingswood Kindness Rock Project sponsored by Kingswood United Methodist Church. Neighborhood kids and even adults painted rocks with bright colors and words of encouragement and randomly placed them throughout the neighborhood to bring a smile to anyone lucky enough to spot one of these special rocks.

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Holiday Decorations Contest

Will you volunteer to manage the Holiday Decorations Contest? It's an extremely popular event but we really need someone to take the reins and make it better than ever. 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



President's Message



Daine Pearson
DNCA President Pro Tem
DNCA_Tech@DunwoodyNorth.org

Hello Dunwoody North Neighbors!

The origin will likely never be settled, Chinese proverb or simply a creation from the American 20th century, but whether you take it as a blessing, curse or just irony, I think everyone will agree that we are absolutely living in very interesting times. I have always believed that reality is more unbelievable than fiction and I've seen some crazy stuff but I'll admit that this incredibly bad "B" movie that we are all starring in is far more than I ever imagined possible, even for reality.

While some of this has been building for a while, 2020 has really taken some awards. Let's see - we've got a crazy election rubbing up against political divisiveness, an extreme number of storms with massive destruction causing more climate questions and more flooding in Dunwoody North than I've ever heard of, eye opening civil action and what seems to be a realization that our world is not as equal as some think, a dizzying financial and job market where many are hurting and a few are winning bigger than ever. And oh yea, a viral pandemic, the likes of which we've never seen, that was anticipated for decades and has changed just about everything in just a few long months. All this makes it more obvious than ever just how great a community we have here.

One of these days my wife and I will have to move. When that happens I will sorely miss the location; near Atlanta in a quiet wooded area, good schools, tons of services and unique businesses nearby, an area quite well connected by highways and trains, in a neighborhood defined by the concept of being neighborly.



It's that idea of being neighborly that I want to encourage. We are in challenging times and that can sometimes make it even more difficult to open up and volunteer but that is what your DNCA needs from you. Whether your contribution is small or big, as is said, many hands make light work. A great example is Clyde McClain renewing the Dunwoody North signs. Wind, rain, sun, they get quite some abuse so he is cleaning, patching and repainting to give them new life. It will take some time to get them all done and it doesn't change the world but it does make ours just a little brighter.

If you haven't already, please consider joining and paying the small \$20 dues but most importantly, let us know that you would like to step up and contribute your time. We need fresh minds with new ideas for what we can do to continue making Dunwoody North an even better community. We need project leaders and board members, website managers, writers and photographers, we need you so get in touch today!

You can email me directly as DNCA_Tech@DunwoodyNorth.org and easily contact others via our contact page <https://dunwoodynorth.org/contact/>

Remember, DNCA is your organization for representing your community in city, county and state matters. In many ways, even more important, it is an organization run by you and your neighbors to help make every day better for each of us. DNCA should be doing what you want it to do but cannot without your direct involvement. So get in touch today and if you have not yet registered, please do so at: <https://dunwoodynorth.org/signup/>.



2020 Scholarship Winner

For 2020, the DNCA scholarship team received multiple great essays so again selected a \$1,000.00 winner (Ben Alterman) and a runner up (Annie Sheran). Lyn Coltman and Gerri Penn co-chair this activity that will continue in 2021 so if you know a rising senior, watch out for our notifications. You can start reading Ben's winning essay in this newsletter. And remember, this scholarship is just one of the many things DNCA does with the support of your \$20 membership dues.

Neighborhood Watch

Judy Hofer - Neighborhood Watch Chairwoman, 404-402-9354
NeighborhoodWatch@DunwoodyNorth.org

2020 certainly earned many adjectives, interesting being on the mild side. Fortunately, I've had few reports of crime in the neighborhood, probably because many more people are at home.



There was a recent incidence of an attempted burglary from an open garage of a backpack blower near Norwalk and Riverglenn. Fortunately the homeowner observed the thief and went outside. At that point the older black male dropped the backpack, jumped in the passenger side of a faded blue older Ford Explorer, and the driver quickly backed out of the driveway and got away. The police were called. I sent out an email alert. Please be aware that most of the thefts in the past year have been from open garages, unlocked house, car and yard gate doors. Please lock your doors at all times.

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 or email me at NeighborhoodWatch@DunwoodyNorth.org, so I can spread the word. You don't have to give your name if you don't want to get involved, just give the 911 operator the pertinent information, and tell them you are calling from Dunwoody. If you want to know the outcome, you need to tell the 911 operator you want the police to stop by your house. Please give your neighbors the same consideration you would want them to extend to you if they saw your house being burglarized.

There has been a proliferation of scams. Please, please, please never buy gift cards or give out any banking, health or credit card information from unsolicited offers. Do not click any links, contact the source directly, to confirm whether the offers are legitimate.

Many activities we have engaged in in the past have been adapted to the current pandemic conditions. This includes holiday activities, like Halloween, and no doubt Thanksgiving and Christmas/Chanukah/Kwanza. Most of you already know, Briers North will not be hosting their annual Halloween event, so neighbors in Dunwoody North have organized to create a Halloween Treat Map to indicate who will be providing Trick or Treats to our neighborhood children. You can view the map, and add your location if you wish to participate, at <https://halloween-map.com/>. This year has been particularly hard on the kids. There need be no contact with Trick or Treaters. One can provide wrapped candy on a table at the door. One can greet the kids at a distance or not at all. In addition to Dunwoody North Trick or Treating, The City of Dunwoody is sponsoring a Halloween Spooktacular drive thru on Thurs Oct 29 from 6-9 pm at Brook Run Park 4770 N. Peachtree Rd, enter from Peeler Road and exit onto N. Peachtree Rd.

At this stage we are still planning to host our annual Police and Firefighter luncheons in early December.

I want to thank all the block captains who diligently canvassed their neighbors to update our neighborhood contact information and help us get out the 2020 neighborhood directory. Since then, a few block captains have moved away and need to be replaced, plus there are still some sections that have no block captains. We need block captains for the following streets:

Brookhurst Drive #3 (2401-2452), Dunhaven Ct, Dunhaven Road #1 (4404-4443) and #2 (4450-4474), Kings Point Dr #4 (2293-2320), Laurelwood Rd #2 (2696-2705), Ledgewood Dr, Madison Place Lane, W. Madison Drive, E. Madison Drive, Madison Commons, N. Peachtree Rd. #2 (4601-4705), Old Orchard Ct, Pyrenees Ct, Riverglenn Cir #3 (2549-2570), Sharon Valley Ct #1 (4507-4556) and #4 (4693-4705) and Tilly Mill Rd.

I provide a complete chart of all the houses in your section with the current contact information. All we ask is that you occasionally verify that the information is current and accurate. If anyone moves, dies or changes their contact information you update the chart. If you're new to the neighborhood, being a Block Captain is a great opportunity to meet your neighbors. This is a very active and supportive community. We work together to keep everyone safe and informed.

DNCA is planning our annual holiday appreciation event for **Bring Cheer & Thanks!** Fire Station 18 on Barclay Drive. We are asking volunteers to deliver a festive food item of your choice to the dedicated firefighters during the week of December 7th through the 13th. Our goal is to get at least one treat hand delivered each day during that week. There is nothing like expressing your appreciation in person. The schedule is flexible and can be arranged at your convenience. To volunteer or for more information contact Pat Cloud, pbcloud@bellsouth.net or 404-316-2057.

Ben Alterman's Winning Essay

IN ANSWER TO THE QUESTION, "WHAT IS THE CONTRIBUTION YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE?", BEN WROTE:

I AM EXTREMELY EXCITED TO HAVE ACCEPTED MY OFFER TO STUDY GEOGRAPHY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL IN THE UK. IN THIS INCREASINGLY FRAGILE, RAPIDLY CHANGING ENVIRONMENT, UNDERSTANDING THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN EARTH'S PHYSICAL FEATURES AND HUMAN ACTIVITY IS CRITICAL. GEOGRAPHERS UNDERSTAND SUCH INTERACTIONS AND I PLAN TO HELP MITIGATE THE GROWING ISSUES OF GLOBAL WARMING AND OVERPOPULATION. STUDYING GEOGRAPHY AT THE WORLD-RENOWNED UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL WILL ALLOW ME TO ENGAGE WITH THE CONTEMPORARY ISSUES THAT EXCITE AND MOTIVATE ME; FROM THE SPREAD OF NOVEL CONTAGIONS TO "WATER WARS" BETWEEN NATIONS. I'VE BEEN FASCINATED BY ONE SUCH WATER CONFLICT BETWEEN OUR HOME STATE OF GEORGIA AND THE STATES OF ALABAMA AND FLORIDA, WHERE THE GROWING POPULATION OF METRO ATLANTA HAS CAUSED PROBLEMS FOR THE DOWNSTREAM STATES REGARDING SUPPLY. I INTEND TO GO INTO ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AS A WAY TO DIRECTLY HELP MANAGE THESE ISSUES. THE TOOLS PROVIDED BY BRISTOL'S MULTI-FACETED AND HOLISTIC GEOGRAPHY PROGRAM WILL UNIQUELY PREPARE ME TO DEVELOP SOLUTIONS TO COMPLEX MATTERS SUCH AS THESE.

Read the full essay at: DunwoodyNorth.org/Essay

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION HAS BEEN A PASSION OF MINE THROUGHOUT MY HIGH SCHOOL YEARS. THROUGH DUKE UNIVERSITY'S TALENT IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM, I...

Beautification Update

Although this is a difficult time for all of us, DNCA still worked on Beautification.

- ☞ We hired someone to clean out weeds and trim bushes at the Binghamton Monument.
- ☞ Clyde McClain is in the process of repainting all of the monument signs. DNCA owes Clyde a big thank you as he has always painted these signs for us and does a great job.
- ☞ We were not able to do a normal judging for Yard of the Month due to the pandemic so instead took nominations. Thanks to all who participated including my helpers, Cherie Clement Andrews, Sarah Sanke and Nicki Thomas. Here are the winners:
 - ☞ June: the Hansons and Ramos
 - ☞ July: the Lawrences and Trantows
 - ☞ August: the Bolts and the Racines
 - ☞ September: the Veljovics and the Van Hoys

We want to thank the anonymous resident who did beautiful landscaping at the Meditation Center monument on Tilly Mill this past Spring. If you or anyone else wants to adopt one of the four monuments, please contact me! The monuments at Binghamton and on N. Peachtree by the Dunwoody Village Apartments really need cleaning up and all of them need winter plantings. DNCA can certainly reimburse the cost of any plantings and pay for gas for trimmers. Thanks so much in advance.

We are hoping that we can resume normal activities this Spring. If you want to volunteer to be a Yard of the Month judge, please email me.

Gerri Penn - Beautification Chair - Beautification@DunwoodyNorth.org

The Best Community continued

Taking advantage of needs created by Covid19, a DHS senior made and sold 450 high quality masks to raise money for her Finance Academy project. Another young entrepreneur made and sold hand sanitizer when it was hard to find at the beginning of the pandemic. Both of these young people advertised on the Dunwoody North Facebook page and were supported by our great neighbors.

Multiple storms and heavy rain have caused flooding and fallen trees throughout Dunwoody North. There are too many examples to name of our neighbors who joined together to help each other recover from the damage. Not only have neighbors shown up to help with clean up and repairs but also offered meals and moral support.

In this time of social unrest, a peaceful march was organized by neighbors in support of Black Lives Matter. This brought together neighbors seeking to understand each other better and embrace our differences.

We have all spent more time at home and in our neighborhood than ever before and many have come to appreciate a simpler and less hectic lifestyle. This pandemic has made us appreciate the great community of people that we have in Dunwoody North. Let's all strive to keep this sense of community and kindness going long after the pandemic of 2020 comes to an end.

Ellen Mauldin