

Dunwoody North

CIVIC ASSOCIATION

DUNWOODYNORTH.ORG • FEB 2021

THE MANY FACES OF DUNWOODY NORTH

By Sylvia Worsnop

Did you know there are four Facebook groups/pages that cater specifically to Dunwoody North residents? Whether you're looking for a notary in the neighborhood, a handyman recommendation, some gardening advice, or the owner of an escaped pet, these groups can help connect you with neighbors in the know. **Dunwoody North Neighborhood**, **Dunwoody North Garage Sale group "the new beginning"** and **Dunwoody North Garden Club** are all private Facebook groups that require you to become a member. Only members can see who the other members are and what is posted. Becoming a member is easy if you have your own Facebook account. If you aren't already on Facebook but would like to take advantage of these resources you would need to set up a Facebook account first. **Dunwoody North Civic Association** is a Community Organization page that can be viewed by any Facebook account holder and does not require membership.



being neighbors.

Dunwoody North Neighborhood was the brainchild of Cathy Blasdel Iconis and friend Christen Ramo. They set it up in September 2016 and later roped in husbands Mike Iconis and Devin Ramo to help with admin. It was created in an effort to connect neighbors who might not all be members of the Dunwoody North Driving Club. The group is for neighbors 17 years of age and older living in the Dunwoody North Neighborhood and is a forum for people to get

recommendations, request help with a problem, share information, etc. It is secular and non-political and is not intended for buying and selling (see Dunwoody North Garage Sale group below). The group's purpose is to give *"the great people of the Dunwoody North neighborhood a place to come together and get to know one another. We are a group with different beliefs and backgrounds, and it is our hope that we can embrace these differences, self-moderate, and get along."* To become a member either: 1) have a current neighbor and member invite you to the group. (That member then also needs to send one of the admins a message confirming that you live in Dunwoody North.) or 2) request access to the page and answer the single question "what is your street address?" The administrators use this information to validate that you live in the neighborhood, as a lot of people mistakenly think the group is for anyone on the north side of Dunwoody.

752 members

**GARAGE
SALE**

Dunwoody North Garage Sale group "the new beginning". Since the Dunwoody North Neighborhood is not a forum for trading, the Dunwoody North Garage Sale group was set up by Jessica Falk in March 2018 to fill that niche. As its name suggests it is a page for people to post items they want to sell, or to browse if they are looking to buy. It's a perfect resource

(Continued on page 4)

Dunwoody North

Virtual Meeting

Socialize, Listen, Participate...

Guest Speakers:

Dunwoody Mayor - Lynn Deutsch

District 1 Commissioner - Robert Patrick

District 6 Commissioner - Ted Terry

Tuesday, March 2nd, 2021

Join us on Zoom

Meeting ID: 963 6711 8031 Passcode: 176279

**{Activities begin at 6:20pm}
See page 6 and the insert for more info.**

GUEST SPEAKER BIOS

Lynn Deutsch



Beginning in 2011, Lynn Deutsch served as a Dunwoody City Council Member and was elected mayor in

November 2019. After graduating with bachelors' degrees in Government and Journalism from the University of Texas at Austin, she earned a master's degree in City Planning from the Georgia Institute of Technology and a graduate certificate in Gerontology from Georgia State University.

Lynn has worked tirelessly to improve her community. Before her election to the Dunwoody City Council, Lynn served on the Dunwoody Planning Commission and boards of her neighborhood Women's Club as well as

the Dunwoody Homeowners Association. Lynn was Council Chair at Chesnut School and served in a variety of leadership roles at Chesnut, Dunwoody Elementary, Peachtree and Dunwoody High School.

She has been married to her husband, Barry, for 32 years. They have three wonderful children: Benjamin, Michael, and Rebecca, and a rescue dog Boomer.

Robert Patrick



As the newly elected Commissioner for District 1, Robert Patrick brings extensive experience to the DeKalb County Board of Commission. Prior to his victory, he served for over eight years as a councilman for the City of Doraville. As a professional city planner, Commissioner Patrick understands the need for an efficient and effective government and how to address complex issues.

As the representative for District 1, some of his priorities include:

- Infrastructure investments for increased economic opportunities
- Assisting the County in stopping the spread of COVID-19
- More collaboration & increased responsiveness

Robert holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Georgia. He and his wife, Mary, have been proud residents of DeKalb County for over a decade. Together they share three wonderful kids: Robert Jr, Kate, and Sylvia.

Ted Terry

In 2020, Commissioner Terry was elected to serve as the Super District 6 Commissioner of DeKalb County. His district includes half of the county with portions of South, Central and North DeKalb, totaling approximately 350,000 residents. Commissioner Terry focuses on affordable housing, transit equity, DeKalb Green New Deals, DeKalb voting rights, and criminal reform.



Daine Pearson - President pro tem
DNCA-Tech@DunwoodyNorth.org

President's Message

Hello Dunwoody North Neighbors,

Wow, do you get the feeling we are on a roller coaster that's running downhill during an earthquake? It seems like the world is crazier than ever, moving faster than ever, and yet we are still stuck in the expanding quagmire of a pandemic and economic downturn. I can personally attest to this as, over the last few months, more people very close to us have become infected, a long-time friend's dad sadly succumbed to COVID-19 and I've been looking for a new position without success. On the bright side, the longer I live here, the more I realize we really have a great neighborhood.

For 2020 I have been holding the position of DNCA President (pro tem), while also fulfilling my Communications Manager tasks, administering the technology behind the DNCA. This includes things like the website and email back end, our bulk email systems, SMS/MMS text messaging system, and most recently, the DeKalb County COVID-19 vaccination availability monitoring system.

The need to constantly monitor a web site occasionally came up in the past but seeing the frustration of my wife, who is part of the current COVID-19 vaccine Phase 1a+, really got me thinking. For days she had been refreshing the county's web page in the hope of hitting a time when the registration form was available and there were actually appointments to be had. A few hours later, I had a plan and the pieces for monitoring the DeKalb County Board of Health's vaccine page. It took a few days to work out the kinks (again, apologies for the redundant emails) and it is still only semi-automatic, but it works quite well. When one of the DeKalb Health Department's registration / scheduling forms comes available, I get an email notification. I manually confirm the form is really there and then trigger a sending of about 900 emails. Looking at it from both sides, I'm grateful we have a neighborhood organization that has the capability and finances to offer this kind of service and, as a resident, I'm glad my wife was able to take advantage of it and actually make an appointment.

Completely unrelated is the neighborhood's reaction to the explosion just before Christmas. While it's difficult to tease out what was specifically done and given by our Dunwoody North neighbors, the outpouring of support for the afflicted residents of the Dunwoody Village apartments is extremely gratifying.

This is a circuitous way of saying thank you to **you**, our members who support the DNCA with your annual \$20 membership dues. The funds help pay for the many services provided by the DNCA. Payment is not a requirement for membership so, please, register today to take advantage of what we offer (www.DunwoodyNorth.org/Signup) and if you can afford it please send in your \$20 for 2021.

I am on the ballot for 2021 President so if you are something of a web-tech and especially if you are familiar with WordPress, MailChimp, cPanel, PHPList, CSS, PHP and the like, we need you so please consider joining up and helping out.

I hope you and yours continue staying safe, healthy, and as sane as possible in this crazy time.

Daine Pearson
DNCA President pro tem

(Ted Terry - Continued from page 2)



After being elected, Ted was appointed to serve as Chair of the Operations (OPS) and as a member of the Public Works and Infrastructure (PWI). He will also serve on the Resilience Advisory Board and Large Urban County Caucus with the National Association of County Commissioners (NACo).

Prior to this election, Ted Terry served as the mayor of the most ethnically diverse square mile in America: (Clarkston, Georgia) from January 2014 – March 2020.

As mayor of Clarkston, Ted successfully oversaw the implementation of a \$15 minimum wage for city employees, the decriminalization of simple marijuana possession, an expansion of after school programs, and a commitment for Clarkston to utilize 100 percent clean energy by 2050.

when minimalizing or spring cleaning! To become a member simply ask to join. If you are already a member of the Dunwoody North Neighborhood Facebook page you will be added without question. If not then you might be asked for your street address to confirm your location.

301 members



Dunwoody North Garden Club.

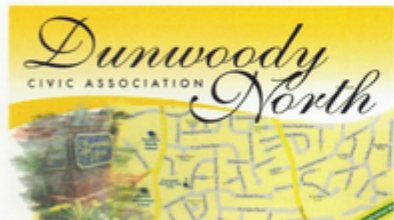
Sarah Sanke is a nature lover and gardening enthusiast. In summer 2019 she noticed that many members of the Dunwoody North Neighborhood group were showing an interest in nature and gardening, sharing photos of visiting wildlife, asking for help identifying a plant in their yards, offering up some of their bumper crop of peppers, etc. In her

words: *"There was a small, but passionate group of nature lovers that shared more often and answered questions readily. I thought it might be a good idea to have a separate space where those interested could discuss gardening and local wildlife without bogging down or boring the hundreds of others in the larger group. A nature lover myself, I had just finished reading several books and publications on the importance of native plants in our landscapes and thought others might be interested in hearing what I'd learned. And so, Dunwoody North Garden Club was born. It has been great to see the group grow. I hope people have found it inclusive and informative, and have been inspired by the beauty that surrounds us here."*

To become a member, just click "Join" on the page. You'll be asked for your street name, which is used solely for verification purposes to confirm you live in one of the DNCA neighborhoods (Dunwoody North, Andover Estates, Laurelwood Farms, Dunwoody Trails, Brafferton Square, Briers North or The Madisons).

133 members

Dunwoody North Civic Association Facebook page



was created in July 2011 and is now administered by DNCA board member Jay Kapp. This Community Organization page is an extension of the DNCA

website. All new posts on the website are automatically cross posted to this page, and Jay will periodically add other, relevant, community information. This is a great place for residents to interact and comment on local, city, county, and state issues that affect our community.

\$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP



ATTENTION!

ANY HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR GRADUATING IN 2021 WHO LIVES IN THE DUNWOODY NORTH COMMUNITIES

DNCA offers you the opportunity to compete for a \$1,000 Scholarship by submitting a 500 word essay entitled:

"2020 - Its Effect on Me"

We look forward to reading your positive and/or negative thoughts and feelings and how your future may be impacted.

Punctuation, spelling, and grammar will be taken into account. The submission deadline is Sunday, May 23, 2021.

The winner will be notified by Sunday, June 27th, 2021.

Please send your essay to DNCA board members, Lyn Coltman and Gerri Penn.

EMAIL TO: SCHOLARSHIP@DUNWOODYNORTH.ORG

From 2019 Scholarship Winner

ANNIE SOLOMON



I was so grateful for the opportunity to participate in the Dunwoody North Scholarship competition last year. The money that I received helped me to attend the University of Georgia, where I experienced the best ¾ of my freshman year that I could imagine before COVID-19 sent us all home. I took wonderful classes, met the most amazing friends, lived in such a cool dorm, and overall loved my first year of college. There are a million stories that I could write in

this article—it would probably fill the whole newsletter. Instead, I am going to share with you an overview of my UGA freshman year experience.

(Continued on page 6)

EXPLOSION AT DUNWOODY VILLAGE

By Pam Berkosky



On December 21st, just days before Christmas and the end of a year filled with twists and turns, a terrifying explosion occurred at the Dunwoody Village apartment community. The explosion happened around 4:30 pm and was heard and even felt by many in Dunwoody North and surrounding areas. I thought to myself that it felt like an enormous tree had just been felled somewhere very close by.

Dekalb Fire Rescue and Atlanta Gas Light were on the scene prior to the blast, going door to door evacuating residents after a gas leak was discovered. Miraculously they were able to get everyone out before the explosion but, sadly it was reported that some residents did not have time to retrieve pets from inside their homes before leaving. The source of the leak was later identified as related to a nearby construction project.

The extremely hot fire burned for hours and destroyed the homes and possessions of 10 families before it could be extinguished by DFD.

Two Atlanta Gas Light employees and two Dunwoody Village residents were burned in the explosion and resulting fire. A woman went into labor during the emergency and was also taken to the hospital.

Dunwoody Mayor Lynn Deutsch was also there, helping wherever she could. The following day, a gift card drive was organized by Mayor Deutsch at Malachi's Storehouse, a community outreach of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church. The community showed up in droves to bring donations. Two other local businesses, Soho Office and NFA Burger, also volunteered to help collect donations for the displaced residents.

Given the residents could not re-enter their homes and it was just days before Christmas, Mayor Deutsch encouraged gift card donations so that the victims could purchase familiar items like their favorite toiletries, shoes or clothing items, as well as meals.

The Dunwoody community's outpouring of support amassed cash and gift card donations totaling approximately \$50,000, which also gave these families the opportunity to enjoy some Christmas cheer despite the traumatic and unfortunate event they endured. They were immensely grateful to all of those with giving hearts this past holiday season.

Despite the difficult year our community and our country faced, the response was a beautiful example of how humanity can come together in the wake of tragedy.

DNCA CELEBRATES DUNWOODY'S POLICE AND FIRE FIGHTERS



Every year the DNCA sponsors meals to show our appreciation of the Dunwoody Police Department and Dunwoody Fire Station #18 on Barclay Road.

This year, despite the pandemic, we still held our Annual Police Luncheon on Tuesday Dec 1, 2020. Shane's Bar-B-Que provided the delicious food.

Thanks also go to Beth Berghoff, Marcia Hauler, Pat Cloud, Lyn Coltman, and Judy Hofer for preparing the home baked

(Continued on page 6)

I will start with my dorm. I lived in one of the biggest high rises, Russell Hall. Russell Hall became my home and my favorite place in Athens. I lived on the 9th floor and became best friends with the other freshmen on my floor. We would hang out in the common areas on our floor and talk all night. I never wanted to sleep! I had an amazing roommate too. We coordinated everything in our room to a pink and gray theme. The best part of our room was the view overlooking the stadium. I was so lucky that all of my best friends lived in Russell too. My sorority sisters, high school friends, and dance friends were all just floors away.

A major part of the freshman year experience was the dining halls. I was on the meal plan, so I was able to eat at any dining hall I wanted, any time of day. The main dining halls I went to were O-House and Bolton. O-House had an amazing Mexican bar. I would order huge quesadillas. Bolton had any food you could imagine, but the all-day breakfast was my favorite. The dessert station was dangerously near the exit, so I would take an ice cream cone to-go many days of the week. Even in the cold, I would eat my cone and walk up the hill back to Russell.

I also wanted to mention my classes because that is, of course, the reason we go to school (not solely for the dorm, friends, or the food). I was undecided in my major, so I took many elective courses in all fields. Some of the classes that I took were German, Food and Nutrition, Sociology, Chemistry, Educational Psychology, Public Relations, and Dance Appreciation. All of these classes were very interesting, and I was able to build relationships with professors from all around UGA. Every freshman is required to take a one-hour seminar class called a Freshman Odyssey. My odyssey class was all about the architecture of the old buildings in Athens and on campus. This class let me be a part of something that I did not know could be so fascinating. During class time, we would walk around campus, and our teacher would explain each building. This year I have chosen a major, Human Development and Family Science, so I am excited to start my major specific classes. I plan to go to grad school to study occupational therapy.

My experience at UGA has been the experience of a lifetime so far. I was so sad when we could not come back to campus after spring break, but I am so happy to be back here now. I am currently living in the sorority house with all of my sorority sisters. I am again so appreciative of the Dunwoody North scholarship and am looking forward to seeing the next group of freshmen in Athens.

(Dunwoody Police & Fire — Continued from page 5)

desserts and salads.

Despite the pandemic, the luncheon was well attended, although the officers were obliged to take their meals back to their desks. Nonetheless, our efforts were greatly appreciated.

Shortly after that, Dunwoody North Civic Association designated December 7th through the 13th, 2020, Bring Cheer and Thanks week to honor our Dunwoody Fire Station #18 on Barclay Road.

Volunteers baked and bought a variety of treats from sweet to savory, delivering something special each day during the week. The treats were accompanied by a holiday card expressing our gratitude for the dedication of these first responders. Our volunteers repeatedly commented that they were touched by the opportunity to personally thank these fire and rescue officers and staff.

DNDC would like to thank the following volunteers: Debbie Maguigan, Sylvia Ratchford, Jackie Willey, Audrey Henderson, Gerri Penn, Lisa Roebuck, Kelly Hixon, Melissa Lekan, Elizabeth Hyman, Heather Ceryan, Andrea Waters, and Pat Cloud.

Watch for your opportunity to participate in the 2021 Bring Cheer and Thanks event which will be publicized in the fall DNCA newsletter.

DNCA MEETING DETAILS

The DNCA will be holding its annual membership meeting virtually, for the first time in its history! The meeting will be held via Zoom at 6:20pm on Tuesday, March 2, 2021.

Please go to www.DunwoodyNorth.org/Meeting to RSVP. Let us know you plan to attend so we can plan accordingly. Meeting details are on page 2 of the newsletter and if you login, meeting details can also be found on the above web page. This meeting is specifically for the Dunwoody North communities so please do not share the meeting information. Those outside Dunwoody North can view a live stream here:
YouTube Primary Live Stream: <https://youtu.be/sj26A3jwgtk>
YouTube Backup Live Stream: <https://youtu.be/g6Jx7GOz66g>

Please start joining by 6:15pm. You may enter a waiting room for a brief period before being admitted. Once admitted, you will be assigned to a breakout room. We will be using these smaller gatherings at the start to allow you a chance to chat with neighbors you may not have seen for months and to get to know others you've never met. For those of you with membership questions, DNCA Treasurer Julie Horowitz will have a breakout room for answering many of your questions.

After the breakout rooms, we will have about a half-hour for general DNCA business. That will be followed by our three speakers and a Q&A session. If you have questions for Mayor Deutsch, Commissioner Patrick or Commissioner Terry, you may pose them by email in advance to: Meeting@DunwoodyNorth.org. During the meeting you can pose questions in the chat box to "Julie Kegley". Julie will

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

This past year has been tumultuous. Between the COVID-19 Pandemic, the presidential election, and a local catastrophe (the explosion and fire in the adjacent Perimeter Village Apartment Homes complex), it has not been a comfortable time.

Not surprisingly, our neighborhood has been relatively peaceful with the exception of vandalism of some political signs. That was uncharacteristic of our residents and hopefully will not be repeated. Not a lot of opportunities for crime when everybody is home all the time.

The community came together with a very heartwarming, substantive response to support the displaced families of Perimeter Village Apartments. Fortunately, things like this are rare in Dunwoody. This was a first for me, and I've lived here for 40 years. It's reassuring to live in such a compassionate community.

For those of you who missed it, the Dunwoody Police department ran a very enlightening program about the Police Use of Force. Very informative. Catch it the next time it's offered.

As always, if you see a crime or experience one, call 911. Also please call me at 404-402-9354 so I can issue an alert, if appropriate.

One of the side benefits of the Neighborhood Watch is that with maximum participation in the neighborhood, there is a comprehensive email list, which enables us to get in touch with as many neighbors as possible in a very short period of time. This has been especially true this year. I was able to provide timely information with respect to the census, COVID-19, fireworks, and the apartment explosion because of our list. We do not share this information with anyone.

Please register your contact information at the neighborhood website dunwoodynorth.org and update it if it changes. That also includes telephone numbers, as many of you are eliminating your landlines. Please consider joining the Dunwoody North Civic Association to help support all the activities done for the neighborhood. In addition, your \$20 annual dues will also provide you with our latest neighborhood directory. This is very handy when telephone numbers are so difficult to obtain. If you are interested in participating in the Neighborhood Watch as a block captain, which primarily entails the updating of neighbor contact information, please contact me by telephone or at website.

Judy Hofer
DNCA Neighborhood Watch Chair
NeighborhoodWatch@DunwoodyNorth.org
(404) 402-9354



(DNCA Meeting Details — Continued from page 6)

consolidate the questions and try to get as many answered as possible. Please indicate which speaker(s) should address your question(s).

For large portions of the meeting, we will be muting everyone's audio however we may miss someone so please be aware of your microphone setting and assure you are muted when you are not speaking. 'Mute' and 'Unmute' can be found in several places. When using the Zoom app on a computer, it will be at the lower left of your screen.

The meeting will be recorded, which may capture your video. Of course, we want to "see" all of you, so please leave your camera on if you can. However, if you don't want to be seen on the recording, you can turn off your camera by clicking the camera icon 'Start Video / Stop Video' on the bottom left of your screen.

Closed captioning will be provided during the general meeting (but unfortunately not in the breakout rooms). To turn on captions, click on the CC button on the bottom of your screen and then click 'Show Subtitles.'

For those of you who may be new to Zoom, it is highly recommended to download and install the Zoom application on the device you will be using for the meeting. Note: In most cases, using a computer will provide a better experience than a phone. Additionally, you may want to sign up for a free Zoom account as, in many instances, it gives you access for adjusting your sound and picture before even starting to join a meeting.

Please reach out to Help@DunwoodyNorth.org if you have meeting questions. We look forward to seeing you all on March 2nd!

Beautification & Yard of the Month

ADOPT A MONUMENT

We have four monuments, two on North Peachtree and two on Tilly Mill. Dunwoody North resident, Clyde McClain, did a great job repainting them. Thank you, Clyde! Right now, we have no winter plantings. I hope to have enough volunteers adopt a monument so I can have four for Winter planting and four for Spring. Please volunteer! Email me at Beautification@Dunwoodynorth.org.



Spring will be here soon

The grass will be green,

Daffodils in bloom

Beautification judges

Will be on the scene.

I am not Amanda Gorman

Poetry isn't my thing

Just trying to get your attention

For preparing for Spring.

In all seriousness, we will be taking nominations for Yard of the Month in March until March 31st. You can nominate your own yard or another yard you admire in the Dunwoody North communities.

Judges will also nominate yards. Each month we choose a winning yard for each side of the subdivision. Yards that won last year are not eligible this year. Please email me (Gerri Penn) if you want to be a judge. Beautification@Dunwoodynorth.org.

6TH ANNUAL DNCA 2020 HOLIDAY LIGHTS DECORATION CONTEST

Congratulations to the Dunwoody North Civic Association's 6th Annual Holiday Lights Decoration Contest winners. This year's first place winners were the Ringlers at 2471 Old Orchard Court; the second place winners were the Dennises at 4376 Huntington Circle; and the third place winner is the Quarles family at 2557 Binghamton Drive.



The Ringlers won with a gingerbread house-like design, a beautifully decorated tree out front, and candy canes galore. This house wowed us all! Hear from Carrie about how they approach decorating for the holidays:

"We try to decorate for all holidays if possible! It's fun! As a kid, I used to love driving around and looking at holiday lights (I still do!). I want to make sure our daughter has happy holiday memories and lighting up the house is a part of it...and if I can bring joy to others along the way, then bonus! We are lucky to live in such a wonderful neighborhood! So many people decorated this year...all of Dunwoody North looks so beautiful and festive! Thank you so much for organizing this event!"

FOR ALL OF THE STORY, GO TO: WWW.DUNWOODYNORTH.ORG/DECORATIONS



2020 was the first year Julie and Rebecca were a part of the Holiday Lights Decoration contest. We were both looking for a way to get involved and give back to the neighborhood we love. It is such a fun tradition that Dunwoody North organizes each year and when we saw in the neighborhood newsletter that DNCA was looking for volunteers, we both signed up.

This year, the Holiday Lights Decorations Committee nominated 5 houses from each side of Dunwoody North for a total of 10 nominations. As you can imagine, it was very difficult narrowing down the nominees to only 10 houses. We were looking for a variety of decorations and creativity – lights, blow ups, and that wow factor! From these 10 nominations, the houses who received the first, second, and third most votes won. Each winner received a coffee mug and a yard sign showcasing their winner status.

We'd love to see increased participation next year. This is a wonderful way for our Dunwoody North community to showcase their holiday lights and for our neighbors to spend a night or two driving around with their families and friends to see the twinkling, magical lights. If you are interested in volunteering with the 2021 Holiday Lights Contest, please reach out to Rebecca Parker and Julie Kegley at: Decorations@DunwoodyNorth.org.

DNCA extends a thank you to the Holiday Lights Committee of Rebecca Parker, Julie Kegley, and Sean Racine!