



"The color of springtime is in the flowers, the color of winter is in the imagination." — Terri Guillemets

"The first fall of snow is not only an event. It is a magical event. You go to bed in one kind of a world and wake up in another quite different, and if this is not enchantment then where is it to be found?" — J. B. Priestly

BE A PART OF EK POWE

HELP OUR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL BE A GREAT PLACE TO GROW

—MEREDITH EMMETT

Have you checked out our neighborhood school lately that is bubbling with activity? The library was selected by Target as one of 32 schools across the country for a library makeover. The brightly colored room is now a space where any child will want to curl up and read a book. In many classrooms you'll find Duke students sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm through tutoring. Peek in the food pantry on a Thursday afternoon and you'll find some of your WHH neighbors loading backpacks with food for students whose families have a hard time buying all the food their families need. Most importantly, look into the faces of the students and teachers. You'll see lots of people you know.

EK Powe Elementary is a vital part of our neighborhood. The WHH neighborhood association would like to encourage all neighbors, those with school-age children and those without, to consider becoming involved in EK Powe. Here are just a few ideas. To find out more, talk to the parents and teachers on your block or stop by the school's office. To volunteer, the Durham Public School asks that you complete a volunteer application found at <http://www.dpsnc.net/community/get-involved/volunteers>.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Powe has a **community garden** and is always looking for new plants and garden-related curriculum ideas. This fall parents are leading several outdoor workdays to weed as well as build compost bins and garden structures.
- If you have a special hobby, PLEASE help start an after-school club to assist in teaching students new skills
- Other volunteer opportunities include: become a reading buddy; help with the Book Fair in November and with Field Day and Teacher Appreciation week in the Spring; assemble backpacks once a week for the food program (see article on page 3), and proctoring the End of Grade tests in the Spring.

How To Make Donations

- Tax deductible financial contributions can be made to the Powe PTA to support field trips and staff development.

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FOCUS

DECEMBER 19th; SHINE A LIGHT ON THE BEST 'HOOD' IN DURHAM

More Than A Quarter Century of WHH Night Of Lights & Contributions to the Durham Community Kitchen – Luminaries still only 50 cents

—WENDI GALE

The 2010 Night of Lights (NOL), scheduled for December 19, marks more than a quarter century of the Watts-Hospital Hillandale neighborhood offering symbols and songs of hope and joy in the dark of winter. NOL is an evening opportunity to participate in the symbolic and actual illumination of our neighborhood streets; to provide luminaries for those unable to do so; to sing winter songs with friends, family, and neighbors; to share the festive treats of multiple nations; to rekindle the touching neighborhood tales of olde, and to appreciate and learn about the multiple and diverse winter holiday events that Watts' residents celebrate. NOL is also an annual neighborhood event meant to encourage a graceful parting with autumnal air and colours, soon to invite the winter solstice (December 21, 2010), being reminded that we each and all have one another and that none of us is alone.

The WHHNA luminary sets made from a candle, sand and paper bag at only 50 cents per set might not sound like much, but no price would be high enough to capture the breathtaking and heartwarming cumulative effect of these lights making sparkle the walkways and front yards of hundreds of WHH homes. Do not miss the warmth, joy or fun of this event! Everything you need (or your friend or neighbor unable to make a purchase) - bags, candles, and sand - will be on sale at the southern end of Oval Park at the picnic shelter at the following times:

(Continued on Page 8)

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PARADE is the newsletter of the Watts Hospital-Hillandale Neighborhood Association. It is delivered quarterly to the 1,350 households in the neighborhood. The association is a private nonprofit established in 1984 to preserve and enhance the residential character of the area. Membership is open to every adult who owns property or resides in the neighborhood. **Editor:** Wendi Gale — wendigale@gmail.com. **Art Director:** Candy Webster. **Advertising Director:** Marian Place. **Web Site Host:** Chris Church, flyingfred0+whhna@gmail.com. To subscribe to the neighborhood association listserv, please go to "<http://www.rtpnet.org/mailman/listinfo/whhna-list>".



If you know a new neighbor or are one yourself, please contact Wendi Gale: wendigale@gmail.com

Emerson Beyer, Michael Bruno and their dog **Gunnhild** and cat **Peaches** moved on Labor Day weekend to WHH from their nearby mill house in North Durham. Three years ago they moved to Durham from New York City to follow career opportunities. Emerson and Michael were drawn to WHH from their earliest visits to Durham (often detouring down West Club Boulevard), and were thrilled this summer to find a house that perfectly fit their love of hosting dinner parties and weekend visitors. Emerson is a fundraiser at Environmental Defense Fund in Raleigh, and Michael is a postdoctoral fellow in biochemistry at UNC-Chapel Hill, as well as a visiting professor at NC Central University. They say their commutes to the other corners of the Triangle are a drag, but their love of Durham so deep, they would not ever consider moving closer to the office. Instead, they try to work at home as often as possible and spend all their leisure time in the Bull City.

Darren Boss and Karen Cranston moved to 1431 Pennsylvania Ave at the end of September. Before arriving in Durham, they lived in Chicago, IL but originally hail from the Great White North (a.k.a. Canada). They moved to escape Chicago traffic and midwestern winters, and for Karen to start a new job at Duke. On weekends, you may catch their two furry felines sporting harnesses on the front lawn and looking for scratches behind the ears. A horse also traveled with them from Chicago, but you won't find her in the backyard shed, yet???!.

Ila and Jim Broyles recently moved to 2515 Englewood Avenue for the beautiful homes, walk able community, and proximity to friends, . They moved to the area for Ila to attend graduate school at UNC Chapel Hill from a wonderful neighborhood on Capitol Hill, Washington, DC. When Ila isn't treading 15-501 or in class, she enjoys cooking with a glass of wine, grabbing a novel, and exploring the restaurants and amenities of Durham. When Jim is not working for his family's business, he enjoys watching LSU and Saints football, playing his guitar, and discovering the architectural history of Durham.

Henry and Liz Sappenfield on Englewood Ave welcomed their son **George Trotter "Trot"** Sappenfield on November 4th. They and their dog **Dutch** look forward to seeing everyone as they stroll around the neighborhood.

Heather and Alex Gudac are both NCSU graduates who are still warming up to the idea of living so close to Duke! They looked for about six months before finding the perfect first home at 2307 Alabama Avenue which they moved into on July 15th. Alex is a process improvement engineer with Unifi, a textile specialty firm in Reidsville. He is an avid soccer player and fan, and hopes to find some pick up games very soon! Heather is the operations

specialist and office manager for Financial Symmetry Inc, a growing independent financial planning and investment firm in Raleigh. Heather and Alex enjoy traveling to the beaches and taking the occasional trip to the Blue Ridge Mountains. As new homeowners, they have also taken up the hobby of gardening, although Heather notes, "The chipmunks seem to be tunneling through everything we plant!" Heather and Alex are looking forward to meeting new neighbors in WHH! Be on the look out for them walking their beautiful dog, **Sweetie!**

Karen and John Heffernan are happy to announce the arrival of **Emily Hansa Heffernan!** She arrived Thursday, October 28th at 8:30 pm, weighing in at 7 lb 5oz and measuring 19 3/4 long inches. **Claire and Nora** are as excited about having another sister as Karen and John are about having three daughters to raise!

Elizabeth, An, Cate (19 months) and Asher (4) Nguyen moved into 2011 W. Club Blvd. in May. They have been so busy unpacking, caring for one another, and meeting all their wonderful new neighbors that they are just now telling us of their arrival. An and Elizabeth own *Atelier N Fine Jewelry* on Perry Street just down from Cosmic Cantina. They are extremely thankful to live somewhere where An can be at work in less than 2 minutes. An is a third generation jeweler who grew up in Paris, France. Elizabeth is a North Carolina native who left to live in New York City for 10 years before returning to NC to meet her charming husband and have a family. Elizabeth stays at home with Cate and Asher and look forward to getting to know many more neighbors at Oval Park in the years to come.

Bryan Vaughn and Brigitte Gavin moved to Indian Trail in June when Brigitte accepted a new employment opportunity and was finally able to join Bryan who moved to Durham in 2007 to attend the business school at Duke. They both absolutely love the neighborhood and are getting to know it even better with Hurley, their newly adopted canine addition. Both Bryan and Brigitte enjoy duke sports, Durham quirkiness, jogging on local trails, and now, projects on their new home on Indian Trail. Glad to be a part of our wonderful neighborhood, they look forward to meeting many more neighbors soon

Many Thanks To Past Board Member, **Josh Allen**

MEMBERS NEEDED RIGHT NOW!

—TOM MILLER

Your Watts hospital-Hillandale neighborhood association wants you, Right now! Dues are still just \$5 per adult, just as they have been for the last 26 years. **Everyone who lives in the neighborhood or who own a home in the neighborhood should join!** Members mean strength and a strong neighborhood association means a better Watts Hospital-Hillandale neighborhood. Memberships run from October to October which means that each year we must rebuild from scratch. If you have not joined or renewed your membership since October 2010, now is the time! Please send in your application provided in the newsletter insert and your dues right away!

Food-4-Families

—HELEN COMPTON

If you want a job that makes you smile, try working with E.K. Powe Food-4-Families! Over and over, we are amazed by the generosity of our WHH neighbors—it truly warms our hearts.

The Food-4-Families program provides backpacks of food for kids over the weekend and also a small pantry for Powe families who have emergency needs for food or clothing. Food-4-Families is sustained entirely by donations that mostly come from Watts Hospital Hillandale and Old West Durham neighborhoods. This year Heather Gavilan and Helen Compton are organizing volunteers and donations for this program.

So many great things have happened so far this year!

- We are able to purchase milk very economically through the *Interfaith Food Shuttle* with the funds from the *Pepsi-Refresh project*. Thanks for all those web votes last year!!
- Over the summer *Target* refurbished the storage closet and pantry at the school as part of the grant awarded to EK Powe for a makeover of the library.
- Once we started packing 20 Weekend Backpacks, our food inventory started depleting, FAST! After putting out an email call to the neighborhoods—Watts Hospital Hillandale, Old West Durham, and Trinity Park—we have been steadily receiving food donations for the Weekend Backpacks and emergency food pantry. This helps so much!
- Through *Communities in Schools of Durham* and the *EK Powe PTA* we have been able to accept tax-deductible financial donations for the project this year. This charitable funding lets us fill in gaps in food donations, support communication with the Powe community, and take advantage of some good deals on foods we need.
- Heather Gavilan is the captain of the two backpacking teams—one made up of four students from Robin Kirk’s Human Rights class at Duke and another made up of neighbors—Nell Mincey, Galia Goodman, Linda Dudley, and Lauren Miller.
- Many neighbors help us by donating food and clothes for the pantry. The staff at Powe calls you ‘their Angels.’

We have a couple of items on our wish list right now.

- With winter on the way, we are looking for new or gently used coats, gloves, scarves & warm hats, and underwear & long pants sizes 4T through 12
- Your continued food donations for the Weekend Backpacks and the pantry ~ We have 5 front porches where you may drop off donations in the neighborhoods: 2215 West Club, 1038 Oakland, 2018 Sunset, 2039 Englewood, and 2306 Green.
- Volunteers ~ Come January, we lose our Duke Human Rights backpack packers and will need more packer volunteers this spring semester, and someone to wo/man the food pantry during its “open hours” on Tuesday and/or Thursday afternoons from 3:00 to 3:30 pm.
- A working digital bathroom scale that we can use to weigh filled backpacks in order to keep their weight reasonable for young children to carry home.
- Consider hosting a food drive for the program on your street, in your office, at your book club or place of worship. Heather and Helen are happy to outfit you with necessary fliers, lists of needs, and grocery bags, and are also happy to pick up the donations you collect.

Thank you so much for all your support! The staff, families, and especially the children at EK Powe thank you for your support.

Board Members, 2010

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To contact the board members as a group, please email:
WHHNA_Board@googlegroups.com

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Dec. 21 Neighborhood Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

At the home of Marian Place
1112 Oval Drive

Jan. 20 Neighborhood Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

At the home of Kelly Perin
1700 Maryland Avenue

Feb. 17 Neighborhood Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

At the home of Tom Harris
3306 Sprunt Avenue

Mar. 17 Neighborhood Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

At the home of Susan James
2305 Wilson Street

*All meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month.
If you need a ride, please call one of the
board members and s/he will be glad to
pick you up and take you home.*

The Heart of the

Visit Watts Hospital-Hillandale on the Web at <http://www.whhna.org/>

Ninth Street Area Rezoning Moving Forward

—TOM MILLER

Two years ago, the city adopted the Ninth Street Plan, a comprehensive plan to create a new land use and appearance regulatory area in Durham. The plan calls for a unique regulatory approach for the area that focuses as much on how future development will look as much as how the land is used. In October, the Planning Department rolled out its concepts for the first step in implementing the plan, new zoning regulations.

The area under consideration stretches east from Broad Street to Trent Street and north from the freeway to the back lot lines of the parcels on the north side of Hillsborough Road. It also includes the blocks between Markham Avenue and Green Street. The planning process involved many meetings of city planners and business and residential stakeholders. The discussion centered on finding the right balance between increasing the density of development to support transit and preserving the special character of the Ninth Street that makes it so popular. Ultimately the plan was adopted with the support of all the participants.

For the most part, the planning staff's outline for the new regs is faithful to the adopted plan. However, there are several departures that concern neighborhood advocates and Ninth Street merchants. One of the most difficult points of contention among the stakeholders during the planning process was the height limit for new buildings on the west side of Ninth Street opposite the historic shops on the east side. The compromise called for in the plan is for an even mix of three- and four-story buildings. The regs now being planned by the staff would scrap the plan on this point and allow four-story buildings along the length of the street.

Another area of concern is the staff's proposal to allow developers to blow past the height and density limits in the adopted plan with "density bonuses" for "amenities"

ties" like public art, vertical integration of uses, and parking. While neighborhood advocates approve of these amenities, they were not discussed during the planning process. The height and density limits in the plan were hard fought and represent the limit to which the neighborhoods were willing to go. The adopted plan already contemplates the most intense development allowed in Durham outside of downtown. Neighborhood advocates were dismayed when they saw that the Planning Department now proposes to allow even taller buildings and increased density of development than what was discussed during the planning process.

The Old West Durham and Watts-Hillandale neighborhood associations are working together to study and respond to the planning staff's outline for the new Ninth Street zoning regulations. Actual drafts of the regulations haven't been made available yet. The implementation of the Ninth Street Plan is becoming increasingly important as large new projects, like Ninth Street North and the Crescent Resources apartments at Erwin Square move from the drawing board to the approval process.

Traffic Calming

—JOSHUA ALLEN

As residents of Watts Hillandale know, crossing Club Blvd. as a pedestrian can sometimes feel dangerous. Because it once accommodated both cars and a trolley, Club Blvd. is a very wide street. The trolley is long gone, but the wide road gives drivers the feeling that they can drive faster than they should on a residential street. The wide road also takes longer to for pedestrians to cross. Unfortunately, the revered and beautiful large trees along Club Blvd. makes it difficult for drivers to see pedestrians, and vice-versa.

For more than a decade, the WHHNA has been working on a traffic-calming plan for Club Blvd. to make it safer for both pedestrians and drivers. In 2000-2001, the City hired a consultant to meet with

the neighborhood and develop a plan for calming traffic along Club Blvd. The first phase of that plan – the median at Oval Park -- was implemented in 2007. The City of Durham is ready to implement the final phase of the project using funds from the 2007 bonds for traffic calming. This phase includes neck-ins and crosswalks at the intersections along Club Blvd. between Maryland Ave. and Hillandale Rd. These strategies include a narrowing of the road and cross walk indicators to alert drivers that they are in a pedestrian area providing obvious visual cues to reduce speed and drive more slowly. Most importantly, the neck-ins provide pedestrians a place to stand where they are able to easily see oncoming or other traffic and also easily seen by drivers. The City is now working on the final engineering details of the plan, which the WHHNA Board needs to provide a final approval of, and will put the contract out for bid in early 2011. Construction is expected to begin soon thereafter and be completed in 2011.

Street Bonds to Repave Watts-Hillandale Streets

—TOM MILLER

In November, Durham voters approved \$20,000,000 in bonds for repaving streets all over town. Wasting no time, City Manager Tom Bonfield has already begun the bidding process so that work can begin as soon as the weather warms in the spring. About 20% of the streets in our neighborhood are on the city's list for resurfacing. Here's a list:

Englewood from Rosehill to Edith

Virginia Avenue – 1100 block

Par Place

Alabama – 1500 block and north of Indian Trail

Sprunt – 2100 and 2300 blocks, the block from Broad to Pennsylvania, and the westernmost block

Delaware Avenue

Sunset – 1900 and 2000 blocks

Wilson – 2000 block

Neighborhood

**NOTABLE
HAPPENINGS
IN OUR NECK OF
THE WOODS**

Albany north of Perennial
Bellevue south of Sprunt
Stroller Avenue

‘Hope you love the smell of asphalt in the morning! The good news is that it should be 20 years before these streets should need paving again.

Clements Funeral Home Update

—TOM MILLER

In the last number of *PARADE*, we told you about Clements Funeral Service’s plans to expand their business on Broad Street to the gray building just to the north of the funeral home parking lot. The neighborhood association at first objected to Clements’ plan because their drawings showed a new building with a pyramid roof more than double the height of the current structure. As designed, the building would have been entirely out of proportion with nearby homes and businesses. Board of Adjustment proceedings was put on hold while Clements and neighbors met.

Using sketches provided by neighborhood association board member and architect, Bret Horton, Clements’ architect redesigned the roof of the building, making it significantly lower. Clements also agreed to screen the property to the rear with additional fencing and to limit lighting. Clements and neighbors also used the opportunity to discuss some other issues that have long worried area residents. These talks also yielded fruit as Clements assured neighbors that they would sell the empty house and the vacant lot the firm owns on Iredell Street. In the past, the lot has been used for spill-over funeral parking in violation of the zoning code. The house, further up the street, has been unoccupied and neglected for months. If sold, both properties could be turned into new homes for new neighbors.

When the Board of adjustment resumed its consideration of Clements’ request, the neighborhood association supported it. It is unknown when Clements will begin rebuilding the commercial building

which will be used as a meeting place for bereaved families and for display area for caskets, etc.

Charlotte Developer Rolls Out Plan for More Apartments at Erwin Square

—TOM MILLER

Crescent Resources, a Charlotte-based apartment developer with projects in North and South Carolina, has announced plans to seek rezoning of a 6.7 acre portion of the “grassy field” at Erwin Square to accommodate 280-300 rental units. Although no particular plan has been settled upon, the developer’s representatives say that the building or buildings will be 4-5 stories in height – similar to or a story taller than the Station Nine project across the street. Like Station Nine, the buildings will be wood-frame construction, but the developer promises the project will have a more “historical feel,” drawing inspiration from the old Erwin Mill building to the east.

At a recent meeting with area residents, Benjamin Collins, the manager for the project, could not articulate just how the new structure would complement its century-old neighbor, but he said that his firm had hired Historic Concepts, an Atlanta firm specializing in historic architecture to design the project. The developer’s conceptual plan showed buildings arranged so that none would be more than two-units deep. The buildings were organized to surround an interior parking structure and several courtyard spaces. At least one courtyard appeared to contain a swimming pool and another a fountain or other water feature. Of course, the plan was merely designed to illustrate what the developer might do. It did not represent any sort of enforceable promise.

The units will be mostly one bedroom and studio apartments, Collins explained. He said that the market currently favors such units for young professionals. No two or three bedroom units are planned.

This caused at least one Old West Durham neighbor to posit that the real market was students. She also argued that with little or no open space, the design was not neighborhood or family friendly. There was no place, even, for a dog to pee, she said. Indeed, the developer’s conceptual plan showed essentially no buffer between the apartments and the surface parking lots planned for the Hilton Garden hotel planned for the parcel to the north and the grocery store which may occupy the parcel to the south. Collins took great pains to assure neighbors that the project would be a quality project, consistent with the Ninth Street Plan and the larger feel of the Ninth Street area. He urged everyone at the meeting to look at photos of his employer’s other projects posted at www.crescent-resources.com.

The project will require a development plan, a zoning requirement for certain projects which will allow the city to nail down as commitments important details such as the number of units, building heights, parking arrangements, and even architectural design elements and plans. The size of the project will also require a traffic impact analysis which, depending upon the project’s anticipated impact on local streets, may require the developer to pay for improvements like turning lanes and traffic signals. All of this is in the future, however. As yet, the developer has not filed for the rezoning.

Watts-Hillandale and Old West Durham will monitor the project as it goes through the planning process. Watch *PARADE* for more news.

Inter Neighborhood Council to Examine ABC Permits

—TOM MILLER

In light of a number of incidents relating to neighborhood crime, the Inter Neighborhood Council has begun to look into the connection between crime and liquor sales. The council has invited enforcement staff from the North Carolina


(Continued on Page 8)

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NEWCOMER: YES OR NO?

I have lived in a downtown Durham neighborhood for over 25 years, and have recently relocated about 1.5 miles to the little street that runs straight through between 9th and Broad (that would be Iredell). Iredell, Iredell...on many a trip to western North Carolina that required a trip on I-40 I would pass the signs for Iredell County, and countless upon thousands of times have passed or driven down Iredell Street and would vaguely muse: where in the world did that name come from? Well, since I was going to live on it I was finally spurred to do the research that delivered a lovely explanation, which is that it comes from the Scottish Ayre Dale, which means "valley of flowing air". A sweet image, and thankfully, due to the new energy efficient windows in my apartment, will symbolize only great cross-ventilation in summer and not icy drafts this winter.

Having been a long-time downtowner I was amazed at how very different life feels over here, and daily I think about why it is such a profound shift. It could be that a change, having been in the same house and street for so very long, has shaken up my awareness and I am just paying more attention! But my current thinking is that the size of the houses here lend themselves to a very different streetscape, vibe and community life. For starters, more people can afford smaller houses, and this creates a wider range of folks from a variety of backgrounds, adding to the richness. Lots more older people can manage the scope of these houses and have stayed on, and have great stories to tell. There are people of widely varying income levels and occupations, and students. Its lively and friendly, and also amazingly quiet.

Also, since the houses are smaller there just more of them and in my endless, wonderful walks I see so many different takes on architecture, gardening, and outdoor expression. People seem interested in their homes but relaxed and not fussy. There are the big beauties on Club, the shaggy and sprawling student houses on 9th street, the modest bungalows, the wonderful porches, the little mill houses all over. Unbound by major thoroughfares, a route can take many different directions, and I greatly look forward to learning more about this part of the world.

I have met a lot of my neighbors: the children next door, the couple across the alley that have lived on the corner since 1962, the little Italian woman who walks her dog twice a day and the new litter of kittens in the next block.. I check in a few times a week on various on-going restorations and yard projects, and am secure and cheered each evening by the reflection of light from the tower on top of the 9th street fire station. I have a new neighborhood coffee shop, a pool hall and a restaurant that was reviewed in the New York Times all within walking distance. Opening new chapters in our lives is a strenuous undertaking, but I think I will be very happy here.

For this submission one is supposed to state one's occupation. Well, I do have a job that pays me money, but this is what I do and who I am: I take walks, and I pay attention."

—MARY CLEARY, IREDELL STREET

HISTORIC DISTRICT REMINDER

—TOM MILLER, ADAPTED FROM A MESSAGE FROM LISA MILLER, DURHAM PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Durham has seven local historic districts that were created to protect and preserve the historic character of these areas as new development and redevelopment occur. These districts are: Cleveland Street, Downtown Durham, Fayetteville Street, Holloway Street, Morehead Hill, Trinity Heights, and Watts-Hillandale. Each district is a zoning overlay district that applies to the property.

The Watts-Hillandale district includes all of the properties facing Englewood Avenue between Broad Street and the street's western terminus, all of the properties on West Club between the reservoir and Broad Street, most of the properties on Woodrow Street between Carolina and Alabama Avenues, All of the properties on Maryland between Club and Sprunt Avenue, and the all of the properties on Iredell, Ninth, Carolina, Virginia, Alabama, and Georgia between Englewood Avenue and Woodrow Street.

Changes to the exterior appearance of properties in the historic districts require review and approval to ensure that the change is in keeping with the historic character of the district. That review is conducted through an application to the Durham Historic Preservation Commission for a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA). When an application for a COA is submitted, the proposal is reviewed for consistency with the criteria in the preservation plan adopted to guide appropriateness review in the Watts-Hillandale district.

Property owners are often unaware of this requirement, what changes require review, and their responsibility for compliance. For instance, replacement windows or siding, removal or planting of trees in the front yard, installation of signs, demolition of any structure, site work, fences or walls, and installation or relocation of mechanical equipment all require a COA. Minor repairs require only an administrative review. Major changes, like new additions, major repairs, and window replacement, require review by the full Historic Preservation Commission. Painting, however, requires no approval. Failure to obtain the necessary review and COA is a zoning violation.

The trade-off for this regulatory process is the state's historic preservation tax credit program which is available to homeowners in the historic district. This program, the first of its kind in the nation, allows homeowners a 30% credit against their state income taxes for historically sensitive rehabilitation projects. A \$25,000 project would yield around \$7,000 in tax credits. Approved projects include not only restoration work like the removal of aluminum siding or restoring interior plaster, but also more prosaic projects like waterproofing leaky foundations and fixing damaged roofing. The approval process is remarkably simple and the staff at the State Historic Preservation Office is very helpful.

If your property is in a historic district and you plan to make any exterior changes, contact the Planning Department at 919-560-4137 to begin the COA application process. For more information, please visit the City's website for Historic Preservation: http://www.durhamnc.gov/departments/planning/historic_preservation.cfm. For more information on historic preservation tax credits, contact either Tim Simmons (tim.simmons@ncdcr.gov), 919-807-6585, or David Christenbury (david.christenbury@ncdcr.gov), 919-807-6574 at the state historic preservation office.

BE A PART OF EK POWE—continued

- Support (tax-deductible) classroom projects found at www.donorschoose.org
- Give new and gently used books for the Fall Book Fair or for teachers to distribute to students who don't have enough books at home.
- Our neighbors are the energy behind Powe's Weekend Backpack, Food Pantry & Clothes Closet programs. Please read the article on pg. 3 for details.
- Powe also operates a clothes closet and is always looking for new and gently used children's clothing.

Help Secure Donations from Others

- Register your Food Lion MVP card in the Classroom Rewards program at: http://www.foodlionmvpwards.com/mvp_registration/cardno.php. Be sure to link your card with E.K. Powe's school code: 212903
- December 7th is EK Powe night at Elmo's. This neighborhood restaurant donates a portion of the day's proceeds. Eat out at Elmo's on Dec. 7th.
- Look for other ways to encourage donations from others. By voting early and often, neighbors recently helped secure a \$2500 grant to buy milk for the Weekend Backpack Program from the Food Lion/Pepsi Refresh Everything campaign.

Attend Events

- Multicultural Night is scheduled for December 14th between 6 and 8 pm. This event is a school favorite with lots of performances and good eats.
- Check out the message board on the lawn of the school to find notices of other school events.

Share the Good Things You Hear about EK Powe with Your Friends and Neighbors

- There are lots of good things happening in our neighborhood school. Help others learn about the fabulous teachers, dedicated parents, and creative students who make our neighborhood school, EK Powe Elementary, a great place for children to learn and grow.

FOCUS—continued

Saturday, December 18th 1 pm - 5:00 pm
Sunday, December 19th 1 pm - 4:30 pm

Please volunteer to help sell luminary supplies. It's a great way to meet new neighbors and help continue a wonderful neighborhood tradition. If you are available to help, please email susangeorgejames@gmail.com or call 286-9931

Par tradition, WHHNA will again support the **Durham Community Kitchen** through the collection of donated canned food, other non-perishable staples (e.g., paper

goods), and/or checks on the NOL sale nights listed above. **PLEASE dig deep into your hearts and cupboards to generously contribute to the Durham Community Kitchen.**

A **WHHNA membership table** will also be present for WHH new neighbors to become members and pay the nominal and longstanding \$5.00 per year dues, or for long time members who may wish to renew membership for the Oct. 2010 - Oct. 2011 term.

Heart of the Neighborhood Inter Neighborhood Council —continued

ABC Commission to address the group at an upcoming delegates' meeting.

The most recent incidents concern an employee of an Old North Durham convenience store who is alleged to have received property stolen from homes in the neighborhood. Additionally, there is the shooting incident that occurred at Desirees, a restaurant and bar on Hillsborough road in Old West Durham. In the latter, the exchange of gunfire led to a car chase through Old West Durham and Watts Hospital-Hillandale ending, at least for the occupants of one vehicle, in a collision with parked cars near Oval Park. The occupants, presumably still armed, fled on foot. Neighbors report that it was the second incident involving firearms at the watering hole in its short existence.

Under the state's ABC laws, the owners of establishments where liquor is sold can lose their licenses if they are unable to control the behavior of their employees and patrons. Durham neighborhood advocates plan to ask the ABC Commission to help rid Durham's neighborhoods of establishments that seem to be centers for criminal activity and unable to control their patrons.

Neighborhood T-Shirts for the Holidays!

—TOM MILLER

Not sold in stores, WHHNA T-shirts are the rare and always welcome holiday gift that only Watts residents can give to friends, family or others. Rolled up with a ribbon around it, the neighborhood T will provide a gift of love or light for people who celebrate either Bohdi Day, Chinese New Year, Christmas, Eld ul-Adha, Hanukkah, Kwanza, Pancha Ganapati, Winter Solstice or other winter or holiday celebrations. Use another shirt as soft packing for the gifts you mail off to your kids who grew up here, but now live miles away, or to your family members who remain behind. We have never had more styles and designs to choose from of neighborhood shirts, all-cotton or mostly so, and the price is still only \$12 apiece. To get yours, call Tom Miller, our man in underwear, at 286-3730, or e-mail him at tom-miller1@nc.rr.com. He will fix you up with a neighborhood commemorative undergarment in no time at all.

If You Plan To Burn With Wood...

PLEASE DO SO RESPONSIBLY AND PLEASE review the archived article from the December 2009 issue of PARADE titled *WINTER BURNING OF WOOD IS CONCERNING THE HOOD & MOST OF THE REST OF THE GLOBE*. Thank you.
—Warmly (no pun intended), Wendi Gale.