



"The smallest patch of green to arrest the monotony of asphalt and concrete is as important to the value of real estate as streets, sewers and convenient shopping." —James Felt

ALERT! - HELP SAVE THE BILLBOARD B TO PROTECT WHH & OTHER I-85 NEIGHBORHOODS

Please read the full article on page 4 to understand why it is critical for YOU to immediately take the following steps to help save the Durham billboard ban? Write a brief, polite, but unequivocal e-mail to all the members of the Planning Commission, the City Council, and the Board of County Commissioners telling them that you support Durham's current ban on billboards. Tell them Durham's neighborhoods come first! You can e-mail all the members of the Planning Commission at durhamplanning-commission@durhamnc.gov. You can write to the city council at council@durhamnc.gov and the county commissioners at commissioners@durham-countync.gov. If you can, please also follow up with a real letter. The street address for the planning commission and the city council is 101 City Hall Plaza, Durham, NC 27701. The address for the county commissioners is 200 East Main Street, 2d Floor Old Courthouse, Durham, NC 27701. Send your letters and e-mails right away! The time is now!

WATTS-BUSTERS OFFERS A GREAT DEAL - SUBSIDIZED IMPROVEMENTS



WHHNA Watts Busters encourages YOU to take advantage of an important and valuable opportunity via Clean Energy Durham and Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009. Starting in April Watts-Busters volunteers will be walking around the 'hood' to invite at minimum 50 qualifying home owner residents (owner occupied home; single story 2,000 sq. ft or less; without vented gas appliance or furnace inside the heated part of the home, and without major structural, moisture, or hazardous materials issues) to sign up for a subsidized improvement of the energy efficiency of their home.

Once 50 qualifying residents/homes are enlisted, a certified professional contractor will install a total of approximately \$1,800 of attic insulation, seals for HVAC ducts and cracks in floors, ceilings and walls, and programmable thermostats. The cost to the WHHNA is only a one time payment of \$200.00. This project is funded by the American Recovery &

(Continued on Page 8)

FOCUS

Let's Come Together To Clean Our Neighborhood

—JAZMIN VARELA

SATURDAY APRIL 3rd
FROM 8:00AM – 12:00PM

The WHHNA and Keep Durham Beautiful are co-hosting a neighborhood wide clean-up day. Supplies including trash bags, gloves, and safety vests will be provided at the following four locations:

- School of Science and Math
- Indian Trail Park
- Westover Park
- Oval Park

Refreshments provided

Unámonos en la Limpieza de Nuestro Vecindario

SABADO 3 DE ABRIL
DE 8:00AM HASTA LAS 12:00PM

La Asociación de Vecinos de Watts-Hillandale Hospital y Keep Durham Beautiful auspiciara una limpieza del vecindario. Bolsas para recoger basura, guantes y chalecos de seguridad serán proveídos. Usted puede recoger los materiales el día de la limpieza en cuatro diferentes lugares:

- Escuela de Ciencias y Matemáticas
- Parque Indian Trail
- Parque Westover
- Parque Oval

Refrigerios



If you know a new neighbor or are one yourself, please contact Wendi Gale: wendigw@verizon.net

✿ In Memoriam ✿

Rex K. Booth

Tuesday January 26th Mr. Rex K. Booth Sr. died in his home at age 86. He was my friend and wonderful next-door neighbor since my arrival in Watts-Hillandale in 1993. I admired Rex above most anyone I have ever known; he was a humble man of the highest caliber, character, honor, ethics, dignity, and respect.

Rex served his country in World War II in the U.S. Army, 82nd Airborne and was also part of the D-Day Invasion at Normandy, deployed behind enemy lines. But more importantly, Rex was a wonderful and much loved husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, and great great grandfather. He worked for Clegg's Pest Control for 28 years and loved to play golf in his spare time. Even after he became legally blind he was able to shoot hole-in-ones on several occasions!

Rex was a great person, family man and war hero - a truly amazing human being in every way. Many generations of his family shall love and miss him dearly. To me Rex is a True Legend and Hero, a one of a kind role model and a dear friend who shall never be forgotten.

May you rest in peace my dear friend...you are greatly missed.
Mark S. Corts

Paul Scagnelli

Paul Scagnelli March 16, 1932 - January 16, 2010 "His family, tennis, and writing gave him much pleasure." Paul will be missed by so many of us.

In July 2009, **Ethan Geyer** and his beloved wife **Katherine** were wed in West Virginia. In early December 2009 they moved with their 1+ year old bloodhound mix pup named **Jethro** to 1400 Pennsylvania Avenue. Katherine matriculates in the ABSN second-degree nursing program at the Duke School of Nursing while Ethan attends the Art Institute of Raleigh Durham at the American Tobacco Campus majoring in web design and interactive media. Ethan is meanwhile available to local businesses and neighbors for freelance web design work. "We are loving it here so far, but look forward to the spring warm up! It's been chillier than we expected, not that we aren't used to cold winters, but we thought we would be in for a sunny change in NC," says Ethan.

Jane Lake and her Golden Retriever, **Bailey**, recently moved from Florida to Alabama Ave. to be closer to her 1-year old grandson **Andrew**, daughter **Elizabeth**

Peebles, and son-in-law, **David Davis** who live at 2316 Club Boulevard. Andrew and his parents are thrilled to have Grandma Jane living near them in the WHH neighborhood and are especially grateful for her role as the caregiver to Andrew. In addition to being a loving Grandmother, Jane likes to swim and also to design and make stained glass objects.

In June 2009 **Jarred Martin** moved to the WHH neighborhood from upstate NY to serve as the new Duke University Assistant Field Hockey Coach. Jarred shares his home at 1613 Maryland Ave. with artist **Erica Harris** from Cary, a graduate of ECU with a focus in photography. Erica's Yorkie dog, **Maddox**, is thrilled that Jarred found on Duke's campus an abandoned Akita-mix puppy, Hunter, with whom to keep company. Jarred encourages WHHN residents to provide Blue Devil support by attending as fans the field hockey games that occur directly across from Whole Foods off Broad Street. In addition to coaching field hockey and playing on the US men's national field hockey team (WOW), Jarred loves playing all types of sports including running, basketball, and tennis. Jarred is glad and proud to be a part of the Watts neighborhood, especially following receipt of the December issue of PARADE that focused COMINGS & GOINGS, Night of Lights, safe wood burning tips, and Seniors Staying Put.

In December **Henry and Liz Sappenfield** bought the house at 2502 Englewood that they have been renting since February 2008. They love the neighborhood so much that they never imagined looking for a home to purchase elsewhere. Liz is a staff member with Preservation NC, and Henry is an attorney with Kennon Craver here in Durham. They invite you to join them and their bullmastiff for drinks on the porch this summer.

Newest WHH Board member **Nina Sperber** and her husband **Darrell Fruth** moved here from San Francisco (SF) four years ago. They had already heard all about the WHH neighborhood from someone who had just made the reverse move. Ultimately Nina and Darrell chose WHH because they wanted to live in a neighborhood that is walkable and sociable. In addition, they like the character of the neighborhood with the mature trees and historical homes. Today, their five year old daughter, **Beatrice**, and two year old son, **Evan**, are loving growing up in the Watts neighborhood while Darrell and Nina continue to enjoy getting to know WHH neighbors. Nina looks forward to serving Watt's residents as a board member. She is especially eager to foster the relationship between the neighborhood and its neighborhood school, E.K. Powe. Nina has nearly completed a graduate program in Public Health - Health Behavior and Health Education - at UNC. Her specific interests are in applied research; evaluating community-based health promotion and chronic disease prevention programs.

Spring Events at E.K. Powe: YOUR Neighborhood School

—WENDI GALE

You have most likely noticed the beautiful gardens leading up to the E.K. Powe Elementary School front door. All this beauty is the result of a volunteer community effort. **E.K. Powe needs YOU** to help at the next gardening workday scheduled for Saturday, March 6 from 9-1. Please bring gardening tools, including wheelbarrows, tillers, shovels, and smaller hand tools for planting. Not only is **childcare provided**, but also **the event will culminate with a delicious community "meal"**. If you are not a gardener (or even if you are), perhaps you will want to contribute a dish to share. The rain (snow?!!!) date will be Sunday March 7 from 1-5. Please RSVP to Michele Kloda (kloda@mindspring.com) so we have a headcount for refreshments and jobs

E.K Powe Science Night

will be held on Wednesday, March 17th from 6-8pm.

It is an evening of hands-on activities where parents and other neighbors may experience science learning with E.K. Powe students. Activities include a Morehead "Portable" Planetarium, chemistry demonstrations by Dr. Ken Lyle and students from the Duke U. Chemistry Dept., water quality testing demonstrations by the City of Durham staff, and many other science activities led by E.K. Powe teachers.

The 2nd Annual E.K. Powe Writer's Expo
will be held on Saturday, May 15 from 11am-1pm
at the Regulator Bookshop on 9th Street.

Students will read from their own writing or from a favorite author. E.K Powe will offer baked goods for sale and will also receive 20 percent of proceeds from purchases made at the Regulator during the Expo hours.



Preservation Durham Award Nominations

—SARA DAVIS LACHENMAN

Preservation Durham is currently seeking nominations for its *Annual Preservation Awards* that seek to recognize excellent preservation and restoration projects throughout Durham. To nominate a project please download a form by visiting www.preservationdurham.org and click on the Awards & Plaques tab. To answer your questions or to nominate a project, please contact Heather Wagner (hmariewagner@hotmail.com) or Sara Davis Lachenman (sara@four-over-one.com) with the project address and details.



—MELLANYE LACKEY

The WHH Budding Gardening Group utilizes its local gardens to discover plenty of gardening interest, questions & solutions. The group meet semi-monthly at each others' homes to browse, appreciate, and discuss each other's garden spaces and to exchange information regarding bugs, compost, vegetable gardens, ornamentals and more. Recent meetings have included seed and plant exchanges, hosting Frank Hyman (local gardening expert), manure reconnaissance, and a potluck dinner with veggies and herbs all locally grown by members. The group is open to all neighbors interested in sharing information and queries regarding flower, fruit and vegetable gardening. If you are interested in joining or have questions please email Lauree Hersch Meyer (lauree.hersch@gmail.com).

The Heart of the

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

ALERT! - Help Save the Billboard B to Protect WHH & Other I-85 Neighborhoods

—TOM MILLER

Right after last November's city council elections the billboard industry led by Fairway, its biggest Durham operator, asked the city and county to lift Durham's 25 year-old ban against billboards. The formal request for an ordinance change is now winding its way through government channels toward a vote possibly this Spring.

Fairway owns about half of the 90 or so big signs still standing in the community and want to be able to relocate old billboards to new positions along Interstate-85, Hwy 147, US 15-501, and other streets. If they get their way, many of the relocated signs will be the brightly lit digital variety that flash a new message every eight seconds. Neighborhoods along these corridors should be alarmed.

Durham banned new billboards back in 1984 when 200 of the giant signs cluttered our highways and business districts. Now, thanks to the ordinance and attrition caused mainly by highway expansion, very few billboards still remain along I-85 or the Durham Freeway. The new changes sought by the industry will allow them to gather up their old signs and replace them with new ones, many to be digital (brightly lit flashing ads for everything from car insurance to adult entertainment right in their windows), oriented toward the traffic on the highways that skirt established neighborhoods like Watts Hospital-Hillandale.

The industry's proposed changes allow up to five billboards a mile along the targeted streets and highways. Billboards could be located as close as 500 feet to a historic district and 200 feet to a residence. Billboards could be upgraded and existing billboards on wooden poles are likely to be rebuilt on tall steel masts with modern lighting. **But the most important issue**

that the industry never mentions is that the current billboard ban will be undone. Billboards now on borrowed time will become permanent.

The billboard industry offers little to Durham and pay next to nothing in taxes. None of the major operators have employees in Durham. In return for dismantling the billboard ban the industry has offered to devote a certain amount of time on digital billboards to public service messages and non-profit groups. While it is laudable for billboard owners to donate advertising for worthy causes there are no mechanisms in place to allow the city and county to enforce an ordinance purporting to require such donations. This enticement is simply not worth new billboard blight in Durham.

The Durham Convention and Visitors' Bureau recent survey shows Durham citizens oppose lifting the billboard ban by as much as eight to one. But Fairway's attorneys and lobbyists are relentless and are pressing every elected official for support. Perhaps not surprisingly, the most recent Board of Elections reports reveals that Fairway executives and lobbyists are by far and away the most generous donors to Durham city council campaigns. It remains to be seen whether ordinary citizens can match the Fairway's influence. Read page 1 to learn **what you can do to help save the billboard ban?**

Monument's Secrets Revealed

—TOM MILLER

Just before Christmas this year I received a card from Pat Coman. An old friend, Pat grew up in the neighborhood on Club Boulevard and Virginia Avenue. Pat is a local historian and a terrific source of information about Watts Hospital-Hillandale. With her card, Pat enclosed a clipping from the Durham Morning Herald that described how the little memorial that Erwin Mills erected to honor its World War II dead came to be in Oval Park. It's a story that deserves to be retold.

"We of Erwin Mills" the plaque reads, "dedicate this in lasting memory of our employees who lost their lives in World War II." There follows the names of eighteen men. While Erwin Mills was a big employer, eighteen is a terribly high number. Presumably they were all young, all friends, and probably all from right around here. The monument used to sit on Main Street, underneath the flagpole in front of the company's offices. By the mid-1980s Erwin Mills had become a J. P. Stevens plant and the little monument's bronze had ripened into a bright vertigris.

Problem was that Stevens was closing the mill down. What was to become of the memorial to these young men who had given their lives in the great world war? Blair Goodman, a manager at the plant, called Pat's husband, Bill Coman, who was then president of the Historic Preservation Society of Durham. It was Bill's idea to put the monument in Oval Park. He called Alex Gilleskie, director of the city's Parks and Recreation Department, and Shannon St. John, president of the newly organized Watts Hospital-Hillandale Neighborhood Association and brokered a deal. If the city would allow the memorial to be put in Oval Park, would the neighborhood take care of it? The answer from both was "yes."

And so the little granite and bronze marker found a new home in the park at the corner of Club and Oakland. For 25 years neighbors have walked past, sometimes stopping to admire the flowers planted there, to straighten the little flag, or to read the names, those haunting eighteen names. Who were these men? Where did they live and how did they die? These were questions that bothered me for years. Once I even communicated with National Archives and the service branches to find out. It turns out that the records center in the Midwest had burned during the 70s and the government was still sifting through the ashes. The research would take years, I was told, and might turn up nothing. Because I was not kin to any of the men whose names I had listed, I would

Neighborhood

NOTABLE
HAPPENINGS
IN OUR NECK OF
THE WOODS

have to pay hundreds of dollars with no guarantee of success. I gave up and reconciled myself to the mystery.

But here was Pat Coman's Christmas card with its newspaper clipping listing those eighteen names again. In her card, Pat wrote that she had known a couple of the boys, and they were just boys, at Durham High. Here was a link at last to at least a couple of those dead from so long ago. I called her and she told me her recollections of a shy young man who wrote in her yearbook. And then she told me something else - she told me that during the war, a group of Durham women carefully clipped every newspaper article and notice about every Durham serviceman and pasted them in to scrapbooks. The books, seven of them, are now preserved on microfilm in the Durham County library. My hope of solving the mystery, even for just a few of the names on the plaque, was revived. I was standing at the library door when it opened the next morning.

Hours later I had something about all but three of the men on the plaque. The search was heartbreaking. This was something that I had not foreseen, but in hindsight, I realize that such a search had to be heartbreaking. This was not detached history form a book or a class, but the real thing, as it happened. Here was a notice of a boy shipping overseas. In the next volume, a report that he has been listed as missing in action and, finally, an article that his mother, living maybe on Perry Street or maybe Hillsboro Road, has been notified that her son died in the service of his country. Here were pictures - some of the faces serious, but most smiling. All of the men in the photos were slender and wearing uniforms that look too big for them.

If it was hard for me to look at these faded clippings from more than 60 years ago, imagine how difficult it must have been for those Durham ladies to assemble these books. Every day, lovingly cutting the articles and reports from the paper. Reports about kids they undoubt-

edly knew. Sons of friends and relatives. Kids from Sunday school. Maybe their own children. What strength it must have taken to create this fragile memorial.

There is not space in this number of PARADE to share the stories I found, but in coming issues, with the editor's permission, I will give you one or two. When next you walk past the little monument, straighten the flag, read the names, and think of the terrible loss.

Multicultural Influences & Happenings at E.K. Powe

—NINA SPERBER

Winter often evokes images of dark and dull days, but the 2009-2010 cold and snowy season actually enhanced the vibrancy for E.K. Powe families through multiple multicultural events. Leading up to and on December 17, 2009, teachers and parents worked together to transform the interior school environment to reflect a global village in order to celebrate Multicultural Night. Classrooms by day became international and cultural destinations at night. Participants moved from holiday craft making in Germany to watching an Indian sitar performance to battling Mexican piñatas to drumming Brazilian congas to cheering Capoeira dance. The E.K. Powe Latino Parents Group, local restaurants, and many families provided a delicious and varied spread of international delights. The school community and neighbors together sampled amidst festive singing and guitar playing by Gary Mitchell, a local professional musician. This one event raised over \$700 for the E.K. Powe PTA.

Students celebrated the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. throughout the month of January. Students learned about the life of Dr. King through the reading of many books that included his speeches and also via multiple discussions about what peace and diversity actually mean. A contingent of more than 25 students, families and teachers represented E.K. Powe Elementary at the Martin Luther

King Parade and celebration themed *Yesterday's Dream, Tomorrow's Reality*, that took place on January 16 in the Hayti Cultural District. Students from all grades marched together down Fayetteville Street with handmade signs advocating peace and unity while Ms. Brown, the school's music teacher, led the group in song. Parent Beth Sanderson said, "Ms. Brown did a great job of finding several versions of the song, 'The Welcome Table' and by carrying the CD player in the march. The music gave me goose bumps, as did our beautiful children singing and walking arm in arm."

E.K. Powe's commitment to connect community members and students through these types of events enriches our children's education about the communities in which they live. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character". By experiencing diversity in these fun and memorable ways our children learn to both appreciate and bridge cultural differences and to continue to make the WHH neighborhood a caring and strong one. Please see page 3 for upcoming E.K. Powe community events.

Garnering Support for Durham CAN Priorities

—WHH CAN TEAM

Accountability" is likely the most appropriate middle name for Durham Congregations, Associations and Neighborhoods (CAN). On October 18, 2009 approximately 300 Durham residents including many neighbors representing WHHNA as a Durham CAN member organization sought public commitments from Durham City Council and mayoral candidates on the following issues:

- Considering strategies that contribute to improving residents' ability to more safely walk and bicycle, thereby making Durham a healthier city (a WHH prior-

(Continued on Page 8)

THESE BUSINESSES ARE SPONSORING THIS NEWSLETTER. PLEASE SUPPORT THEM AS THEY SUPPORT US.

PLEASE CONTACT MARIAN PLACE, PLACESENSE@YAHOO.COM TO RESERVE SPACE FOR YOUR AD

The Palace International



AUTHENTIC AFRICAN CUISINE

Vegetarian Friendly • Select Beer & Wines • Full Service Catering
Sundays: Buffet 11-4, Live Music 12-2
1104 Broad St. • Durham • 416-4922 • thepalaceinternational.com

Hillandale Massage Clinic

J. Timothy Sullivan

Dealing with muscular pain and dysfunction for over 20 years

Nationally certified/NC license #915
919-309-1219

1911 Hillandale Rd. Suite 1230. Durham, NC 27705



Web Design
Web Application Development
Database Programming
Flash Design/Programming
Project Management

(919) 404-9894
info@redbrickwebdesign.com
http://www.redbrickwebdesign.com

Laying the foundation for your business on the web

HOME • BABY • BATH • GIFT • SODA FOUNTAIN

Ox & Rabbit SODA AND SUNDRIES

732 NINTH STREET

OPEN TUESDAY-SATURDAY 10:00AM TO 6:00PM,
SUNDAY 12:00PM TO 5:00PM, CLOSED MONDAYS

BULL CITY FENCING



Ben Baker
Owner

812 Rosehill Ave.
Durham, NC 27705
Telephone 286-5516

YOGA

in the Hood

Imagine being able to walk to
yoga class and walk home.

It's in the neighborhood!!



Daya@yogainthehood.net
www.yogainthehood.net

Daya Breckinridge
286-9929



728 NINTH STREET, DURHAM
Mon-Wed & Sat 10-6
Thur & Fri 10-8 • Sun 12-5
286-3911

Espresso & Coffee Bar • 1104 Broad St.



Joe Van Gogh™
the art of the break

FREE 8OZ COFFEE
when you buy any
locally-made pastry

valid 6- close only
Expires 4.30.2010

Spelling Bee Night!
March 13th @6pm

286.4800
JoeVanGogh.com

PIANO LESSONS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

Kurt Melges, BA. Music, UNC-CH

Instruction covers Classical,
Jazz and Pop.
Ages 10 and up welcome.

919-286-5946 • kmelges@netzero.net



BLOK ARCHITECTURE

Sasha Berghausen, AIA
> 919.627.1103
> sasha@blokarchitecture.com
> www.blokarchitecture.com



The Summit Church

WE GOD • LOVE EACH OTHER • LOVE OUR WORLD

The Summit: West Club Campus
Every Sunday at 11:15AM

(corner of W. Club Blvd.
& Carolina Ave.)

www.SummitWestClub.com



WESTSIDE
**ANIMAL
HOSPITAL**

*Experienced
Individualized
Progressive*

Veterinary care for your pets.

383-5578

www.westsideanimal.com

Donald Hoover, DVM, Practice Owner &
WHHNA Neighbor Since 1992



Coming
Soon!

Visit us at durhamcentralmarket.org
Send inquiries to info@durhamcentralmarket.org



Like Mother, Like Son – Meet the Newsomes

Jessie Johns Newsome and her son, **Robert (Bob) Newsome**, together rekindled for me many memories of the Watts neighborhood of old. Jessie is an elegant and quintessential southern woman who will celebrate her 91st birthday in April. She still prepares Sunday evening meals for all her extended family each week in her little-changed kitchen at 1501 Oakland Avenue. Jessie was born in 1919 and has lived for nearly 60 years in the Watts-Hospital Hillandale neighborhood. Her late husband, John Newsome, grew up on Woodrow Street beginning in 1929.

John Newsome and Jessie Johns were married in 1942, the same year that John graduated from the University of North Carolina (UNC) with a degree in Chemistry (very few such graduates at the time) and Jessie completed her degree at the Watts Nursing School. In 1951 John and Jessie bought a house on Englewood when their only child, Bob, was just a few months old. In the early '60s they moved to 1501 Oakland Avenue where Jessie still resides today. John died in 1976 after working for 25+ years at the Liggett and Myers research lab as a chemist, along with WHH neighbor Tom Walker. Jessie served as a head nurse at Duke Student Health beginning in 1965, when there were still separate clinics for blacks and whites, men and women, and staff and students, until her retirement in 1982.

A number of Jessie's neighbors on Oakland when the Newsome family first moved there, were the original owners. Her home was built in 1948 and many of the houses around her were from the same time period. "Very few of the old families still live here," says Jessie. She goes on to tell me that her happy and long life is due to her love of family and neighbors. She is especially fond of the young couples and people moving into Watts that keep the neighborhood fresh and vibrant. She has participated for more than 15 years in the annual Oakland Avenue street party, where she keeps abreast of neighbors and friends.

For decades leading to today, Jessie has played bridge on a regular basis. At 90 years old, Jessie still plays in two clubs and is one of the first choice substitute bridge players for other regular local bridge groups that have absences. In addition, Jessie is an avid gardener as reflected by her magnificent back yard gardens. "You gotta' make a life for yourself; gotta' reach out and be kind," says Jessie. And Jessie is obviously a generous and kind soul.

Bob Newsome eventually returned to his childhood neighborhood and has lived for the past 18 years right around the corner from his mother, at 2217 Club Blvd. Bob is a

clinical social worker and lives with his partner, **Mike Van Fossen**, a librarian at UNC.

Bob has exciting memories of playing in Oval Park which until its recent renovation has changed very little from his childhood. The biggest difference is that back then when traffic was minimal; kids walked everywhere and were most often at the park without any parents.

The **Fourth of July Parade** began a few years before Bob was born but he has very early memories of being in the parade. In the early days the parade started at the Walker's house at the corner of Club and Virginia, went down Club to Oakland to Englewood to Virginia and back to the Walker's house. Then there were refreshments, singing and the pledge in the Walker's backyard. Jessie and Bob both agree that they decorated bikes, wagons, etc's, with lots of red, white and blue crape paper - much more festively than now done. "The tradition of adults marching in the parade did not begin until perhaps the 70s ... in the old days it was just us kids, with adults lining the streets to watch. Bob says, "I always loved the 4th when I was a kid. Still do."

One of the best days of every week of Bob's childhood was the day the **Bookmobile** stopped in front of the Walker's house. The driver was a friendly woman who joined the moms for coffee in Alice Walker's kitchen while the kids picked out books. One of Bob's favorite places to go was **The Children's Museum**, located at the north end of Georgia St. (which was a dirt road north of Club Blvd) in an old Victorian era farmhouse. There were animals outside that kids were permitted to pet, and interesting displays inside that later became the beginnings of the current Museum of Life and Science. Woods with trails, and the golf course surrounded the house. Behind the museum was a fairly steep hill on the golf course. Bob says, "this was my favorite place to go **sledding** when it snowed. In those days Sprunt St. was open between Alabama Ave and Hillandale Rd. The hill we sledded on ended at that part of Sprunt St."

Most often the Newsome family shopped at **Scarboro's** that was located on 9th St. where Magnolia Grill is today. Jessie says, "It was an old-fashioned mom and pop place that allowed purchases on credit and was willing to make deliveries." And since all kids walked to and from school, they loved to stop after school (E.K. Powe) for penny candy at either *Scarboro's* or at a much smaller market (now a home) at the corner of Knox and Carolina. If students lived too far to walk to junior high and high school, they took **public transportation**. It wasn't until the city and county schools consolidated sometime in the '70s that school buses were provided for the city schools.

Both Mother and Son concur that Watt's has always been a wonderful place to live ... and that it is even a better place to live now than in the 50s/60s. Back then, there were only a handful of progressive families in the neighborhood. They welcome the diversity and progressive mind-set that makes the WHH neighborhood Durham's best!

WATTS-BUSTERS—continued

Reinvestment Act of 2009 to the City of Durham and to the local non-profit group, Clean Energy Durham.

If you think you may qualify for this program or would like to volunteer to help collect signatures of qualifying homeowners please send an email to durham.energy.retrofit@gmail.com or call one of the project co-leaders: Robin Magee @ 416-3194 or Erin O'Reilly @ 698-8821.

Heart of the Neighborhood

—continued

from the July 4th voting in Oval Park!)

- Increasing young people's participation in the Mayor's Summer Youth Work Program
- Addressing safety and other issues identified through a recent neighborhood assessment conducted in the areas surrounding North Carolina Central University
- Increasing accountability regarding Durham's stimulus money use

Pointing to the important role CAN plays in Durham, seven of the eight City Council and mayoral candidates attended and committed to the above priorities. In addition to providing his support for the above-mentioned issues, **U.S. Rep. David Price** also addressed those assembled on topics ranging from health care for all to a consumer-friendly financial regulatory agency to address immigration reform.

These twice per year citywide CAN "assemblies" are chock-full of local residents sharing stories of personal and community struggle, vision, success, and research-driven information. Many talented and committed WHH residents served as exemplars during this particular assembly. WHH neighbor **Mark Dessauer** urged the city to develop a deeper community-level commitment to improved opportunities for resident physical activity and health that may be manifest in improved collaborative efforts to create safe biking and walking routes, and also bans on unhealthy foods at schools. WHH neighbor **Mike Woodard** also spoke as a Council candidate for re-election, supporting and expounding upon the issue of walk ability and bike ability among other topics. WHH neighbor **David Dodson** painted a compelling picture of the improved opportunity to invest in disconnected youth who might otherwise have very limited chances of securing meaningful employment and functioning as fully-participating members of society. Other CAN members showcased a broader effort to address sky-high interest rates on credit cards, etc.

CAN provides many opportunities and much inspiration for WHH residents to get involved (in big or small ways) by taking concrete steps that assist Durham to overcome its greatest challenges and to identify and make use of its ample opportunities. If you are interested in more information about CAN's work or any of its Action Teams (Youth Opportunity, Active Living, Housing and Neighborhoods, Immigrant Families, or Economy), please contact neighbor and WHH CAN member extraordinaire Shanon Schuster (shanon@alumni.cmu.edu).

Board Members, 2009

MEMBERS

President

Joshua Allen allen.joshua@gmail.com
2417 W. Club 225-8914

Vice-President

Marian Place placesense@yahoo.com
1112 Oval Drive 286-2606

Secretary

Eric Strother estroth@aol.com
2310 W. Club 416-1663

Treasurer

Larry Chapman larry.chapman@gmail.com
1400 Alabama 416-4455

DIRECTORS

Meredith Emmett meredith@thirdspacestudio.com
1301 Alabama 286-0084

Bret Horton brewerhorton@hotmail.com
1409 Maryland 619.2258

Susan James susangeorgejames@gmail.com
2305 Wilson 286.9931 (h) 491.0682 (c)

Debra Kelly debrakelly@hotmail.com
1105 Alabama 286-3621

Ned Kennington nkennington@juno.com
1415 Pennsylvania 286-9519

Jo Pelligra 286.9530
1105 Iredell

Nina Sperber nsperber@gmail.com
1308 Virginia 286.0056 (h) 672.2280 (c)

Jazmin Varela jvarel@gmail.com
2005 Carolina

Seth Vidal skvidal@gmail.com
2309 Woodrow 225-0895

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

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Mar. 16 **Neighborhood Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**
At the home of Joshua Allen
2417 West Club Blvd.

Apr. 20 **Neighborhood Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**
At the home of Nina Sperger
1308 Virginia

May 18 **Neighborhood Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**
At the home of Meredith Emmett
1301 Alabama Avenue

Jun. 15 **Neighborhood Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**
At the home of Larry Chapman
1400 Alabama Avenue

*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.*

Te Queremos!!!
Hazte Miembro de la Asociación
de Vecinos del Vecindario
Watts-Hospital Hillandale (WHHNA) Ahora!

We Want You !!!
Become A Member of the Watts-Hospital Hillandale
Neighborhood Association (WHHNA) Now!

The WHHNA 26th Neighborhood Membership Drive is now in full swing! WHHNA is off to a really good start but still needs **YOUR** help to achieve a milestone in its membership numbers. Last year we had 685 members, giving the WH-HNA the largest membership of any voluntary neighborhood organization in Durham. Strength comes in numbers and the WHHNA has faith in **YOU** and the advocacy it provides **FOR YOU** to trust and know that we will secure even more memberships this year.

WHHNA memberships expire annually each October when the Association must again rebuild from scratch. Membership is open to every adult who owns property in the neighborhood or who resides there. If you have not yet joined the WHHNA or renewed your membership since September 2009, **PLEASE** fill out the little membership form included with this newsletter and deliver or mail it with a check for your dues (for 25 years, still **ONLY** \$5 per adult person) to 2110 Englewood Avenue, Durham, NC 27705. **PLEASE** step up and help make this our best membership year ever.

Watts Hospital – Hillandale Neighborhood Association
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Member # 1

Member # 2

Address

Email

Telephone

Children in the family and their ages

I'm interested in helping with the following committees and events:

- Traffic
- Trees
- Parks
- Neighborhood Safety
- Zoning
- Fourth of July
- FestOval
- Night of Lights
- Newsletter (delivery)

Please send application and \$5.00 dues per adult (checks payable to WHHNA) to 2110 Englewood Avenue, Durham, NC 27705.

Membership is open to every adult who resides in or owns property in the neighborhood.