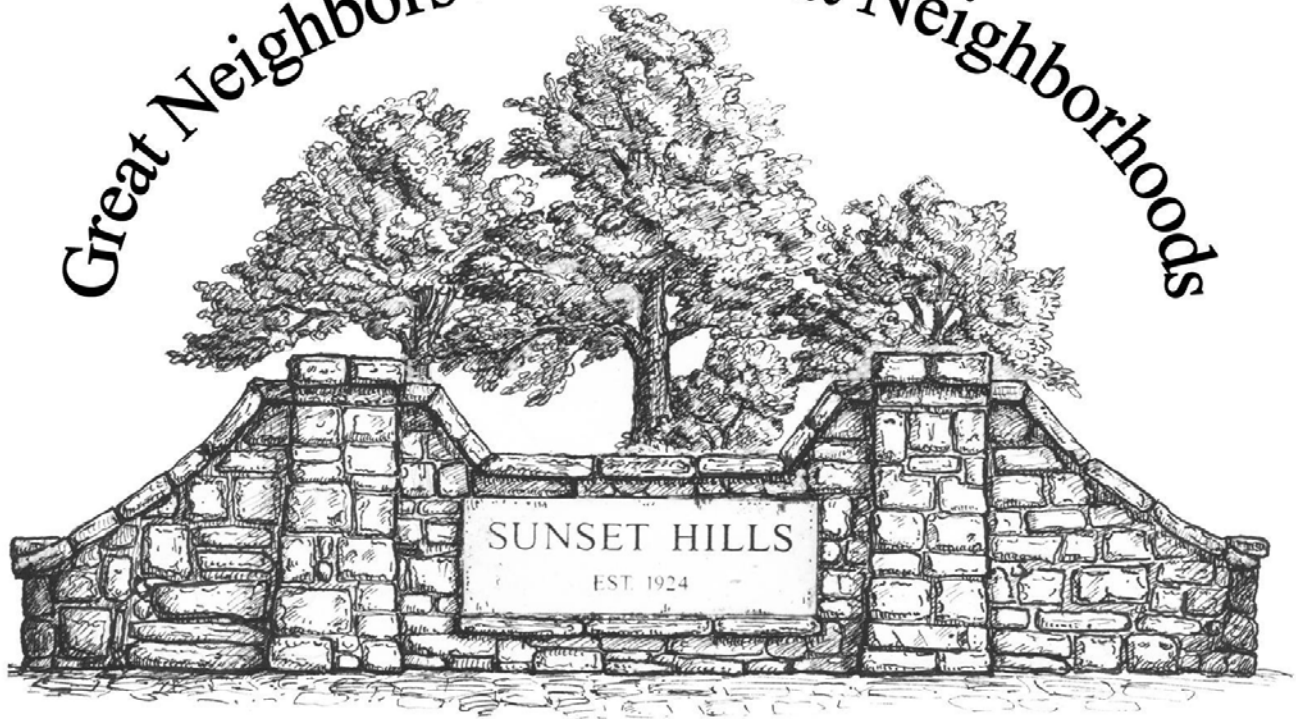


Great Neighbors Make Great Neighborhoods



Sunset Hills October 2020

Greensboro, North Carolina

Annual Neighborhood Events

January
February
March
April
Easter Egg Hunt
Great American Clean-up
May
Annual Pig Pickin'
June
July
July 4th Parade and Picnic
August
National Night Out
September
Big Sweet Potato Festival
October
Neighborhood Meeting
Halloween Party in the Park
November
Lighted Christmas Balls
Running of the Balls

Calendar for non covid 19 time

President's Message

It's approaching my favorite time of the year in our neighborhood. This is always a great place to live, but it's particularly beautiful in the autumn as the leaves on the trees change colors. It's such a pleasure to stroll through the streets of our neighborhood as the temperatures dip and the acorns fall.

And it won't be long until it's Lighted Christmas Ball time! That's our annual gift to the city of Greensboro and such a special time in our neighborhood. So many events are tied to this beautiful tradition that gives so much back to our community.

These are the things I try to focus on during these strange and challenging times. The things we have to look forward to. We have so many positives in our lives because we live in Sunset Hills.

Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hannukah, and all the other upcoming Holidays promise to be very different this year. But we have to focus on the positives, make adjustments, and keep going. I think we have all learned that this year. Being adaptable may be the most important characteristic for this special time.

In this newsletter, you will find some suggestions for how to adapt for Halloween. We have been talking to the folks who plan the "Running of the Balls" and they are trying to work out how to adapt this extremely important event to make it feasible and manage the risks. As we go to press, we don't know

(Continued on Page 4)

Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association Board of Directors

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Social Events

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Sarah Purcell

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Easter Egg Hunt -

Cindy Ramsey
Judy Villela

Fourth of July - Open

Halloween in the park -

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Annual Pig Pickin -

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Representative to the Neighborhood Congress

Mike Pendergraft, Gerry Alfano

• • • • •

Sources of Neighborhood Information

The Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association has a website, Facebook page, and a listserv. Many pictures of neighborhood events appear in color on the website and on the Facebook page.

Get to know your neighbors in text and print and learn the news: <http://www.sunsethillsneighborhood.org>. If you are not on the new Google groups listserv send an email to Adam Graham-Squire (adam.grahamsquire@gmail.com) and you will be added. The listserv is monitored. The neighborhood Facebook page is:

<https://www.facebook.com/SunsetHillsGSO>

When you have a question about tradespeople, spot a stray dog or cat or note something unusual, submit a message to the listserv and the message goes out to all the members. The listserv is monitored to keep the messages relevant to this area and on topics about the neighborhood. You must have paid your 2020 dues to submit a non-emergency message to the listserv.

• • • • •

DUES are due in January. However, it is never too late to pay for the current year. Please remit your \$10 directly to the treasurer, Elaine Brune at 2504 Sylvan Rd. Checks for more than \$10 will be accepted as donations to the Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association.



The early voting sites will each have an outdoor tent for those who do not feel comfortable going indoors to vote.

Early Voting	Election Day Voting
<p>October 15-31, 2020: 8 am to 3, 5 or 7:30 PM (check Guilford County website below)</p> <p>May register and vote on the same day.</p> <p>May vote at any of the 25 locations in Guilford County.</p> <p>Curbside voting for the disabled</p> <p>Outdoor tents for those who do not want to vote indoors.</p>	<p>November 3, 2020: 6:30 am- 7:30 pm</p> <p>Must be registered to vote by 5 pm on 10/9/2020.</p> <p>Must vote at your assigned precinct.</p> <p>Curbside voting for those who are unable to enter the voting place without physical assistance due to age or disability. Curbside voting is not allowed for the able-bodied.</p> <p>No outdoor tents</p>
<p>What to expect whether early voting or election day voting: Please wear a mask (provided if you need one) and practice social distancing. There will be plastic standup shields. Election day workers will have gloves and voting booths will be sanitized between voters. Instead of stickers, every voter will get a pen. Precincts may be configured differently this year, so look for signs as you enter.</p> <p>Helpful websites: https://www.ncsbe.gov/voting/vote-mail/absentee-ballot-tools https://www.guilfordcountync.gov/our-county/board-of-elections </p>	



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Add \$10 if your dues are not up-to-date. Contact Marlene (see Newsletter Team on page 2) to arrange for an ad. Then send your check to Elaine Brune, address on page 2. Thanks to our advertisers for helping to offset the cost of this newsletter.

Ad and Photo Submission

Adobe InDesign is used for layout of the newsletter. All ads, photos and graphics that are submitted should be high resolution (300 dpi plus). Photos should be sent as jpeg images. High resolution pdf is also good. Remember, it is always easy to change to 72 dpi for the web, but not as good to change low resolution to high resolution. Please submit ads in the actual size you want.

If you have questions, please contact me at :
cclindse@gmail.com and I will be glad to help.



(Continued from Page 1)

anything definite except that they are working very hard to find a way to make it happen. The Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association Board keeps meeting via Zoom, and we are working to help anyway we can to keep these events going.

So, that's what we do. We go on day by day. Control what we can. Adapt what we must. Appreciate what we have.

And remain grateful that we live in such a beautiful, wonderful neighborhood where people continually focus on helping others, as we work our way through these special times in which we live.

Enjoy the autumn and the winter holidays. Let's remember we are all in this together and try to have patience and understanding as we navigate all the changes, challenges and uncertainties.

Be safe. Be kind. Be positive!

Music In The Great Outdoors

Brad Reaves

My ringtone sang out alerting me I had a message. "PLEASE CAN WE DO A LESSON IN YOUR STUDIO?"

..... My last studio lesson was in late February. Our daughter, a nurse in the Women's Wing at Cone Hospital, had sounded the alarm early. "This is going to be a lock down so go ahead and move your students to online lessons".

I did and she was right. Then, the student calls, texts and emails singing the "Zoom Everyday Blues" began. So I set up what we christened "Studio 2". No better time than a pandemic to begin music or inject new stuff into your skills if you are already a musician.

Studio 2 is a private, covered, outdoor spot with chairs 12 feet apart and fans blowing any human breath on diverging paths. Instrumentalists can get away with masks, maybe, but singers really can't. We use headphones for electric instruments so the neighbors won't gather.

As the days grew shorter, lights were added and, recently, heaters were added for chilly sessions. Rain hasn't



been a problem. I anticipate some lessons will temporarily move back online when the weather fails to cooperate, but it's a good year for a late summer and students have enjoyed being outside.

My "beyond commuting distance" students have never been to Studio 2 (California and NYC students, for example). They never complain about Zooming but we do wistfully talk about playing "chair facing chair", (12 feet apart), fans keeping the air safe and heaters blowing warm air.

Sylvan Road Studios is still folking, funkng and rocking. Surfaces are sprayed after each student leaves. Bring your own headphones or earbuds if we're plugging in.

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means so
much to me.

Greensboro and Sunset Hills
have been in my heart forever.
Macy Gray and I are so fortunate
to call this neighborhood our
home. Buying or selling, you've
got my support and I'll take the
very best care of your investment
and of this wonderful community
we share.



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Slow Street Pilot Project

By Nicole Lindahl

On May 15th, the Greensboro Department of Transportation (GDOT) and Bicycling in Greensboro (BIG) installed a Slow Street on W. Greenway Dr. from Walker Ave. to Market St. The purpose of this pilot project is to provide people with additional space for bicycling and walking. This is accomplished by discouraging through traffic and creating driver awareness that cyclists and pedestrians are using this stretch of road for recreational and commuting purposes. Residents who live along the street are, of course, permitted to drive to and from their homes, receive deliveries, etc. as they would under ordinary circumstances, while maintaining awareness that pedestrians and cyclists are using the street as well.

As a representative of BIG, I feel that it is of the utmost importance that the majority of Sunset Hills residents look on the Slow Street project as a positive experience that is benefiting the community. Gauging this has been a bit tricky in the midst of COVID since canvassing is not an option. However, we have made an effort to engage with residents who are using the Slow Street and those who live along the street.

A survey was also conducted by BIG and sent out through the neighborhood email list towards the end of June. This helped BIG and GDOT determine if the project was being utilized and if the residents on the email list were enjoying the additional space. 169 residents responded!



Results indicate that at the time:

- 84% of people had used the Slow Street and 16% had not used the Slow Street out of the 162 who responded to this question. Those who responded that they have used only the sidewalks were included in the 16%.
- 77.51% of respondents will use the Slow Street in the weeks ahead, 15.38% will not use the Slow Street, and 7.1% chose "other" with an explanation.
- 72.02% would like to see the Slow Street in place for an extended period of time, 17.86% are not in favor of having it for an extended period of time, and 10.12% chose "other" with an explanation.

We received many additional comments within the survey, both positive and negative. Here is a summary of concerns that were shared by multiple people:

- The Camden Rd. and W. Greenway Dr. intersection was by far the most voiced concern. This intersection is a 2-way stop, instead of a 4-way stop, and cross traffic on Camden does not stop. To attempt to address this, GDOT installed 2 cross traffic warning signs on the stop signs at this intersection. Representatives with BIG, the organization that has been monitoring the Slow Street daily, have been writing a warning in chalk on W. Greenway on either side of the intersection (which is great so long as it doesn't rain!)

Several residents have suggested the need for stop signs on Camden at this intersection regardless of whether the Slow Street is in place or not. The city is not in favor of doing this because of current guidelines for stop sign placement and I have been told that petitions are not considered when evaluating the need for traffic control infrastructure. However, they have agreed to evaluate other ways to make the intersection safer. Please consider filling out this 2 question survey about the Camden intersection at: <https://forms.gle/jH5GTjaRvJ9iukUJ7>



- A second concern that was voiced several times was that W. Greenway Dr. has sidewalks and does not need additional space. However, cyclists are not supposed to ride on the sidewalks and there is a current need for room to social distance.
- Improved signage at intersections: visibility and signage clearly stating the suggested rules and purpose of the Slow Street. GDOT is currently looking into a grant which to help with improvements such as these.
- One person who lives on W. Greenway Dr. has noted that some people who use the street for bicycling and walking have given him and his family a hard time for driving to their own home. This should not happen, of course. Putting out signage with suggested rules will hopefully help resolve this, but in the meantime, we are hoping that this article will encourage everyone to treat each other kindly and with courtesy.

Several people have asked how long the Slow Street is intended to stay in place. For now, the neighborhood association can decide to keep or remove it, contingent on people continuing to use it, but it will have to come down in the winter regardless.

Have comments, questions, or concerns about the Slow Street on W. Greenway Dr.? Please feel free to contact Nicole Lindahl, Projects Coordinator with BIG, at nicole.lindahl@bikego.org. We would love to hear from you!

**Due to Covid-19 safety concerns,
the usual Lighted Christmas Ball
Workshop event will not be held
this year.**



When I Fell in Love

by Nora Martinek-Jenne
as told to her Grama Kathy

"It started in 2nd grade at Brooks Global Studies. Our teacher brought in an incubator with eggs and they hatched 12 baby chicks. We were all crowding around trying to get a good look. All my friends loved them. But I.....I was totally in love with them. We picked them up and played with them. We put them in a bin and when they were older they went in a bigger bin."

"And one day our teacher, Ms. Lynn, said we could take a few home overnight!"

Having grown up in a Chicago suburb I was naive about chicks. "GRAAma, they hatch in an incubator. We made our own at home with a lamp, water for humidity and a heater. A farmer gave us eggs for free and we put them in our homemade incubator."

"After 21 days we watched for them to hatch. They're soooo adorable. We let them dry out in the incubator a few days, and it's good they can go a while without food. Once they're fluffy enough and the eggs have all hatched, we take them out and put them in the bin. I kept the bin on my dresser, but it's hard to sleep with them peeping, so we put them in the sunroom."

"And then... I got a real incubator for my 8th bd!"

"We got 24 more eggs from our farmer friend. Four hatched and 1 didn't make it. We have a tombstone over there in the garden."

Do the chicks make a mess? "Oh, yes. But it doesn't bother me."

Are you in charge of all this? "Well...(sounding a little nervous), we're all gonna have to help because chickens are a lot of work! And they make a mess. But it'll be good for the soil and we can put it in our garden."

This is a pretty good science lesson for you (and me), Nora. Are there other animals that are similar to chicks laying eggs? "Snakes and" What about birds, Nora? "GRAma, a chicken IS a bird!"

"Our farmer friend says the hens have a certain clucking sound when they're nesting and another round of different clucking sounds when they lay their eggs. We have six now. I named them all. I really wanna have a farm when I grow up. I might bring one with me to college," said Nora, as she scooped up her favorite, LeBron, into her arms.



MARY KAY

June Curlott
Independent Sales Director

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Jo's Kombucha

Make a gallon of regular black or green tea. Add 1 cup sugar. Cool and put in gallon container with a SCOBY (symbiotic colony of bacteria and yeast). Cover with coffee filter or cheesecloth and rubber band. let brew (ferment) for about 2 weeks. Check the kombucha for flavor. It should be slightly sweet, slightly tangy and a little bit fuzzy. You can do a second fermentation adding flavors, etc. you can look on the internet or ask Jo how to do that.

What is kombucha, you ask?

Excerpt from webmd.com "Kombucha is a fizzy sweet-and-sour drink made with tea. Many people say it helps relieve or prevent a variety of health problems, everything from hair loss to cancer and AIDS. There's little scientific evidence to back up the claims, but some elements of the drink may be good for you.

Kombucha has been around for nearly 2,000 years. It was first brewed in China and then spread to Japan and Russia. It became popular in Europe in the early 20th century. Sales in the United States are on the rise because of its reputation as a health and energy drink."

All this to say I finally started a SCOBY hotel with all my extra SCOBYs, so if you want to get started making your own brew, please contact me for a FREE SCOBY to start. If I don't find a home for some - My husband wants me to collect rent!

Donna Plyler
336-337-0774



JERRY PIFER WATERCOLORS

Jerry's interest in art has been inspired by his parents' creativity and the artistic achievements of his sister and grandmother (both of whom were painters), nurtured by his university classes in Art History, and guided by instruction received from local artists Robert Harris, Chuck McLaughlin, Joe Miller, Maggie Fickett, and Alexis Lavine. Although Jerry has been pursuing his interest in watercolor painting for many years, it is only since his retirement from the Federal Government that he has enjoyed the luxury of devoting himself fully to his art.

A native of Colorado, Jerry has always appreciated the beauty of the natural environment and has been driven to capture this beauty in his landscapes and florals. Several years of residence within walking distance of the National Gallery of Art provided Jerry ample opportunities to savor the masterpieces of the world's greatest painters. In pursuit of his passions for bicycling, skiing, hiking, and paddling, Jerry has found innumerable subjects for painting in the North Carolina countryside.

Week-long workshops in Umbria and Provence with renowned watercolorist Janice Russell Beck has elevated Jerry's painting to a new level. The incredible beauty of these European regions has provided Jerry with dozens of inspirations for future paintings.

Jerry has been an active participant in Greensboro's annual Artstock Artist's Tour since 2008 and in local exhibitions in Greensboro.

Autumn in Sunset Hills By Jerry Pifer

Goblins and monsters, some witches and clowns,
Carefully-carved pumpkins with smiles and frowns.

Political yard signs that number more than a few,
Many houses with flags flying the red, white, and blue.

Historic old houses and some that are new,
Gigantic front porches with a neighborly view.

The parks and the playgrounds, the trails and the trees,
The cloudless blue sky and the soft autumn breeze.

With walkers and runners enjoying the day,
It's a great place to live! What more can I say?

SEASONS GREETINGS

To each and every Sunset Hills
Neighborhood resident, to the incredible
Smith family and our dear pal Nick Loflin,
and to all of the volunteers who make the
holiday season such a magical experience
year after year.

May your hearts be filled with gladness
from the joy you bring to so many.

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Would you like to be more involved in the neighborhood? Interested in the activities of the Greensboro Police Department? Please consider representing Sunset Hills at the Citizens Advisory Committee. It is helpful to have two neighbors share this position. The time commitment involved includes 1 monthly meeting (for 10 months), the second Monday of each month from 6:00-7:00PM and easy planning for the National Night Out each August. This is a very easy and interesting way to be involved in keeping Sunset Hills a great place to live. Feel free to call Mary Schwarz at 651-788-0751 for more information.

Due to COVID-19, the Greensboro Police have decided to cancel this year's National Night Out event. Usually held the first Tuesday in August, it had been postponed to the first Tuesday in October this year. It is now cancelled for 2020, and the GPD look forward to celebrating with us next August, 2021.

When driving, please: Put your phone down! Slow down! And use seat belts!

**The nicest post office in
Greensboro**
By Lee Zacharias

I don't know if the person who paid for the post cards I was buying this afternoon at the Friendly Center post office lives in Sunset Hills, but in case he does, I hope the listserve will post this. I had driven to the Arboretum this morning and put my wallet in a pocket pack, then forgotten to put it back into my purse. Only after I handed over a request for my great uncle's military records from World War I, which needed extra postage, and requested a number of post cards because I am mailing citizens urging them to vote did I discover that I had no money, no credit card, no ID. When I told the postal service employee behind the counter to cancel my request for the post cards and was fishing around the bottom of my purse for change to pay the 70 cents in extra postage for my letter, the customer at the next window said, "Let me take care of this." He paid for my letter and for all of the post cards. This is a kindness I will certainly pass on. It also brought me to tears, because it gives me faith in Americans at a worrisome time. If you live in our neighborhood, you cannot imagine how much I thank you. If you do not, then I want everyone in this neighborhood to know what kind of kindness still exists.



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**“The environment is where we all meet; where all of us have a mutual interest;
it is the one thing all of us share.” – Lady Bird Johnson**

By Erin Reiss

Climate change. Global heating. The greenhouse effect. Whatever you call it, it's the constant white noise worry in the background of my life. The thing that has terrified me since I saw Al Gore speak some 18 years ago. The thing that motivated me to study what I studied in grad school and law school. The thing I want to both read everything about, and avoid reading about. The thing that ever so slightly clouds each joyful moment I share with my kids, knowing their future won't be so rosy. The thing I'm afraid to tell them about. The thing that, for as much mental energy and happiness as it has taken from me, I can't seem to figure out a way to tackle. Short of retreating to the woods to live alone, I don't know how to stop contributing to climate change.

Last fall, I finally decided it was time to do something about this. I knew I couldn't do it alone. What good would my staircase-walking, clothesline-using, hybrid-buying, beef-boycotting, thermostat-programming do if my coworkers were letting their SUV's idle in the parking lot for 30 minutes? Even if I ceased to exist this moment, it wouldn't change greenhouse gas emissions. I needed to organize something - a group, a collective action to benefit the climate. And then I saw that the Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association needed an Environmental Affairs person. Here was my chance!

And at the first Neighborhood Association meeting I clammed up. I was afraid to talk about my ideas for a group climate action, afraid no one would be interested. And then the coronavirus hit. And the shutdowns and lockdowns began. And amidst the grimness of the pandemic, I heard about cities around the world suddenly air pollution-free. How wildlife was returning to Venice now that the tourists had gone. How Los Angeles had lost its smog. How seismometers were working better without worldwide traffic. I read that the unusual and sharp decline in carbon emissions during the shutdowns was only temporary, that it wouldn't put a dent in global heating, that it was evidence of economic hardship, that as soon as lockdowns ended the pollution would come roaring back. And, for the most part, that has happened. But still. A big collective action had occurred. Millions of people had changed their behavior overnight. Such a thing was possible.

I knew the change was short-term, forced, and before long, people would start to rebel against it. But the fact that it happened at all gave me hope that people would be able to make the necessary changes to our lives to try and stop greenhouse gas emissions to fight climate change. So many things that seemed impossible at the beginning of the pandemic are now part of everyday life. When schools first shut down, I could not imagine working at home with my kids underfoot. But we adjusted. I could not imagine every activity we had planned for the spring and summer being cancelled. But we adjusted. I grew to love the quiet evenings with my family on the side porch, playing board games, braiding my daughter's hair. When I wasn't sure it was safe to go to the grocery store, I relished the challenge of putting together meals with whatever we had in our pantry and freezer. Without having to commute to work, or drive the kids to school or other activities, weeks became months before I refilled my gas tank. My family was lucky in that we could stay home, stay employed, and stay relatively healthy. On top of that, we were saving money and energy, which brought me some comfort.

As did so many others, my family took evening walks through the neighborhood. Ours often included a stop at Sunset Hills Park. The kids couldn't play on the playground, so they jumped in the creek instead. They had the time of their lives. This also brought me comfort - the thought that maybe the shutdown would bring people back to nature. If the safest place to socialize was outdoors, maybe we would start to appreciate the outdoors again.

(Continued on Page 14)

There was hope in the way our community seemed to come together, at least in the beginning. We understood that just one person taking action was not enough - we all had to sacrifice for the common good. We stayed home. We raised money for local hospitality workers and donated to food drives. We wore masks before it was mandated, before we knew it would protect ourselves as much as others. We united to fight a common enemy, at least for a little while. If the coronavirus could bring us together in this way, could cause us to literally change our lives to protect other people, maybe the climate change fight could do the same thing.

This hope lulled me into worrying less about climate change. Covid slipped in to fill the void. For a while, protecting myself and my family from the virus was my primary concern, global warming on the back burner. But then came the hyperactive hurricane season. The wildfires in California. The Antarctic glacier detachment. The derecho in my husband's home state of Iowa. Climate change isn't some monster lurking in the future, waiting for us when the pandemic is over. Climate change is here now.

My recap of the summer and its massive problems in need of collective action is incomplete without mentioning the murder of George Floyd and the national reckoning with racism that has followed. When I was in law school, my work on environmental justice with the Center for Civil Rights is part of what turned me away from environmental law, towards affordable housing work. Systemic racism in our country has made people of color more vulnerable to the impacts of pollution and climate change. But I am heartened to see increased attention toward anti-racism in the environmental movement. The fight against racism can align with the fight against climate change; it doesn't need to be either/or.

I welcome any and all neighbors to join me (remotely, for now), and any and all ideas for collective action to fight climate change. They could range from a pledge from everyone in the group to reduce energy consumption in a measurable way, to a community solar panel installation to benefit the neighborhood. If you too are concerned about climate change and want to do something about it, if you too were inspired by the way our community came together to fight the coronavirus, if you too want to recreate that unity to fight global heating, please contact me at erin.reis.1@gmail.com and let's make a plan!

Meanwhile, here are some individual actions you can take to reduce your energy consumption:

- As we head into the lighted Christmas balls season, purchase a timer for your lights. Set it to turn your lights on at dusk and off 6 hours later, rather than leaving them on all night (and potentially all day). Each incandescent ball uses roughly 50 watts per hour, so you could save thousands of watts every day, and at 10 cents per kWh, the timer would pay for itself in two years or less. Not to mention the energy saved, with very little negative impact on our neighborhood holiday tradition. (Thanks to Adam Graham-Squire for this helpful calculation!)
- If you are planning to add to your lighted Christmas ball collection this year, purchase LED lights! LED lights consume 80-90% less energy than incandescent bulbs, and last up to 100,000 hours, versus 3,000 hours for incandescent. They too will pay for themselves over time!
- Adam Graham-Squire and I are two Neighborhood Association members that I know who have researched rooftop solar panels and purchased plug-in electric vehicles. If you have questions about either of these things, please feel free to contact us.

There are many more things that individuals can do to cut down on their energy use. But the impact will be greater (and possibly more fun) if we take action together as a group. I look forward to hearing from you!

Boo! Celebrating Halloween during a Pandemic

By Sarah Cox Purcell and Leah McCoy

So many birthdays, reunions, graduations, and similar events have been postponed in 2020 due to the ongoing worldwide pandemic we are facing. And in the midst of it all, we continue to try to find a balance between staying as safe as possible while working hard to find a sense of normalcy for our families, children first and foremost. The air is getting crisp and Halloween is quickly approaching, and while it will undoubtedly look different this year, I know many of us will look for ways to safely celebrate the holiday.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has recommended to avoid traditional door to door trick or treating, in which children may come into close contact with those passing out treats. Here is the link to the CDC's full recommendations:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html#halloween>



In light of their recommendations however, there are countless ways to enjoy the festivities of Halloween, while continuing to minimize a potential COVID exposure. Based on your own risk tolerance, here are a few ideas.

Simply placing your candy bowl on your front porch and allowing kids to grab and go would be an easy solution. Or better yet, the Lemonade stand approach, in which you would individually wrap candy in goody bags or small dixie cups and place at the end of your driveway/sidewalk for very easy grab and go. Light the fire pit

and watch from a far, wishing trick or treaters a Happy Halloween as they pass by.

Create a candy chute! This could be a great way to get your kids to use their engineering minds and come up with some unique ways to distribute candy while maintaining social distance. One Sunset Hills neighbor, Nicole Naviglia, shared the below image as her inspiration for her proposed candy chute. Be inspired by the photo below to create your own!

As opposed to traditional trick or treating, setting up a hide and seek or scavenger type candy hunt right at your own home is a fun way to allow children to enjoy the treats of the holiday while avoiding exposure from others.



(Continued on Page 16)

(Continued from Page 15)

Participate in the Annual Sunset Hills Pumpkin Wall! Last year our neighborhood introduced a new Halloween tradition with a pumpkin wall. Simply carve your pumpkin and bring to the tennis courts on Friday, October 30th to be put on display. Weather permitting, we plan to light the pumpkins at 7pm on Friday, October 30th and again on Halloween night for all to enjoy.

Locally, there are numerous organized events being held to celebrate as well. With proper social distancing and mask use, these can be safe alternatives or additions to the holiday. See below for just a few.

-Drive thru haunted house (*Haunted Hills Terror Drive* in Pittsboro, NC and *Granville Haunt Farm* in Oxford, NC)

-Pumpkin Patch & farm visits (*Alpha & Omega* in Hamptonville, NC, *J.Razz & Tazz Farm* in Gibsonville, NC and *Millstone Creek Orchards* in Ramseur, NC)

-Corn maze (*Kersey Valley* in High Point, NC)

Lets not let the restrictions of our current situation prevent us from continuing to enjoy the season. And as always, if you simply do not feel comfortable participating in trick-ortreating no problem! Just remember to turn out your front porch lights as a national do not disturb during prime Halloween trick or treating hours.

Have a safe and happy Halloween neighbors!



First Moravian Church and the Pandemic: Serving Our Community, Committed to Candle Tea

By Sam "Chip" Cook

We may know some of these words to describe the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic:

Unprecedented - - New Normal - - Uncertain - - Trying Times

The congregation at First Moravian Church has another word for this experience... opportunity! Your neighborhood community of Moravians decided to use this

period to renew its campus, serve the community, and reaffirm commitments to Christian service and traditions.

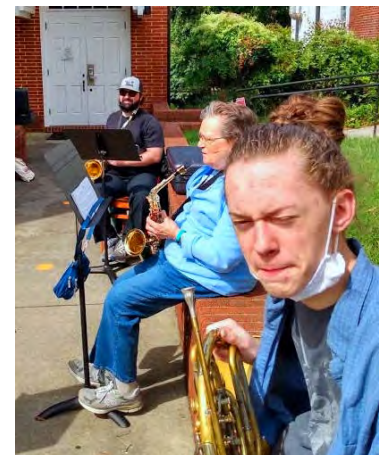
Worship Services and Safety

As it happens with many churches over periods of time, First Moravian is in a pastoral transition. The church's board of elders and board of trustees, working together as a joint board, has stepped up lay person leadership in guiding the congregation forward. And one of the first challenges of the church during this time...how to continue Sunday worship services and make safety a priority.

Like other church congregations, First Moravian turned to video conferencing to virtualize worship services, using Zoom. Fortunately, First Moravian already had a dynamic husband & wife "technical team," Meredith and Greg Cohoon, to step in, set up, and manage the Zoom platform. Sure, there were a few Sundays with technical challenges at the onset, but it has since become a very stable platform.

What First Moravian did not count on with using Zoom, was the opportunity to reconnect with former members of the church who had moved away from Greensboro due to career changes, or with members whom, prior to the pandemic, could not physically attend church because of chronic health issues. It has been an unexpected reward in seeing friends and family of the church community once again taking part and engaging at First Moravian.

With the platform in place to maintain virtual worship services, First Moravian was next tasked with making sure church facilities were prepared for returning to in-person services and usage of facilities. At this time, the church is still limited with inside building usage, but procedures are in place to ensure safe cleanliness



and effective airflow of facilities. For example, the church's choir is pre-recording music in the sanctuary for Sunday Zoom services following guidelines for social distancing (and using masks).



Campus Renewal

During this period with campus facility use being limited, the church's Women's Fellowship voted to refurbish the floors of the sanctuary. For the first time in decades, the sanctuary's main floor is no longer carpeted, and now presents a beautiful refinished hardwood flooring.

Prior to the pandemic, the church was installing a new pipe organ and chimes. According to the organ specialist involved with the project, the removal of the carpet will help increase the amplification of sound from the updated organ.

Outside the campus at First Moravian, the Women's Fellowship decided to renovate the Moravian "bonnet" roofs that adorn the main entrances for the sanctuary, New Fellowship Hall, and Old Fellowship Hall. The roofs have now returned to a stately black covering, and will protect from rain, wind, and provide shade in summer heat. Elsewhere on the campus, Ron Small did fantastic work with renovating the landscaping protecting the playground area and rear grounds sloped locations near the New Fellowship Hall.

Serving the Community

First Moravian has also used this period to help serve our community. One opportunity has been with The Corner Farmers Market in providing a physical space for the pre-order pick-up service. After Fishbones re-opened, the market needed a new site. The program provides the safest way to get market goods for the community, including fresh produce, meat, poultry, seafood, as well as baked and prepared goods. First Moravian offering its campus for this service helps people in our community with nutritional food offerings and aids local farmers and small businesses with getting their products to market.



As part of the Moravian Day of Service, and in honor of church's 112th anniversary in Greensboro (on October 5), a "Drive-Thru Food Drive" was held on September 19th and 20th. The goal was to collect 1,120 pounds of food to benefit the One Step Further Food Pantry and support struggling families during the pandemic. The church met its goal, with over 1,300 pounds of non-perishable items donated through a "contactless collection." And, the Moravian Band performed during part of the morning on Saturday, September 19th, for folks making donations.

Commitment to Candle Tea

For over 70 years, First Moravian Church in Greensboro has hosted the Candle Tea, a festive celebration of food, music, and traditional crafts to herald the beginning of the Advent and Christmas season. This year, First Moravian will host a Virtual Candle Tea the first weekend in December with musical performances and craft demonstrations available for viewing on our website.

Favorite Moravian foods and holiday items such as cookies, sugarcake, chicken pies, beeswax candles, lighted stars, and more will be available for pre-order online starting October 15 to November 20 through our Virtual Candle Tea Store (CandleTeaStore.com). Contactless pick-up for pre-ordered items will be held in the church parking lot at 304 S. Elam Avenue on Friday, December 4th and Saturday, December 5th during our Virtual Candle Tea weekend. Keep in mind, the website for Candle Tea won't be fully online until October 15.



A Living Nativity and performances by the Moravian Band will be featured on the church lawn during pick-up hours. Visit our website (GreensboroMoravian.org) for more information.

It's a strange time, but a time for opportunity. First Moravian is committed to reaching out to our community and we welcome our neighbors who want to join us for our events and worship services.

The Moravian motto: In essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty, and in all things love!

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Gingerbread Houses ~ A Family Tradition

By Betty and Robert Arms

My husband and I made a simple Hansel and Gretel gingerbread house for Christmas in 1987. Bob and I enjoyed the creative challenges so much that we have continued it as an annual tradition for 33 years. Our sons enjoyed eating the gumdrops we used to fill the chimney. When the boys grew older, they joined in the decorating, and entered their own creations in a local contest and won a prize.



Our largest and hardest project was a castle. It had turrets, a draw bridge, portcullis, moat, and a royal marzipan family overseeing their "kingdom". Each year I took our latest creation into the elementary school where I worked as a nurse. The children were always excited to see the latest gingerbread construction. Then we would give it to the retirement center where my father was living so many others, young and old could enjoy it.

When we moved to Greensboro three years ago, we thought about dropping the tradition but once the holidays got closer, we realized how much we loved the creative process and sharing the magic of our creations with others. They usually take the two of us 20-30 hours. The castle took about 100 hours!

We start thinking about what we are going to make in October and come up with a pattern before Thanksgiving. There are many books with patterns and some are available on line. We like to finish decorating by the first week in December so there is time for the other fun part - sharing it with others.



Over the years we have made a lighthouse, grist mill, church, barn yard, train station, replicas of a 100-year-old Rectory, a B&B, and replicas of the three homes we have lived in, including our current home on Woodbine Court in Sunset Hills.

We started the replicas by taking pictures, making a to-scale pattern with poster board, baking all the pieces and then constructing the buildings with Royal Icing. Each year we try new techniques ~ baking round pieces, creating a stain glass window, making igloos out of sugar cubes, or designing a manger scene for the front yard, a brick or stone chimney, large windows with a Christmas tree, presents and fireplace inside the house, a light for the lighthouse, animals for the barnyard, a pond with skaters, a covered bridge, Santa in his sleigh, and lots of marzipan figures. We truly go to sleep with thoughts of sugar plums dancing in our heads!!

(Continued on Page 20)

Gingerbread Recipe for houses and cookies

Suggestion ~ bake pieces a day or so before assembling. The pieces will store well for a week. Prepare pattern ahead of time to make baking day go more smoothly.

- 1 cup shortening *
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup molasses (regular, not blackstrap)
- 2 Tbs. water*
- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 4 tsp. ginger
- 1/4 tsp. cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg (these are optional)
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- Parchment paper to roll out dough

Use a stand mixer or a sturdy hand mixer to beat the shortening* and sugar together until light and fluffy. (2-3 min) Add molasses and water* and beat until incorporated. Scrape down the bowl and beat again for another 30 seconds. In a separate bowl, whisk dry ingredients together and then add all at once to the mixer. Mix on slow speed until the dry ingredients are mixed and the dough appears crumbly. When you press the dough with your hands it will stick together. Press into a ball. You are ready to roll out the dough to 1/8-inch thickness using parchment paper taped to the counter. Cut dough ball in two pieces and roll out, one at a time.

Copy house pattern to poster board and cut out. Lay pattern on rolled dough leaving half an inch between pieces and cut out with knife being careful not to cut parchment. Remove excess dough and save to roll again. Remove tape and transfer parchment to flat cookie sheet for baking.

Bake at 350 degrees for 13-15 minutes. Check the pieces with the pattern and trim carefully any edge that has risen. Do this only while the pieces are still warm. You may need to return them to the oven to warm a bit so you can trim without cracking pieces. This will make sure your house goes together easily. Remove to a flat cooling rack. If you find the cool pieces are soft at all return to the oven for 2-4 minutes. They need to be very hard to hold up the candy roof! Store in an air tight container until assembly day.

*If butter is substituted, use 1 cup butter and eliminate the 2Tbs water.



(Continued from Page 20)

Build the house on a sturdy base, especially if you are going to transport it anywhere. A wooden tray, foam board, or plywood cut to size will all work. Keep in mind how much yard you want to have for decorating with trees, snowmen, etc. Cover the base with heavy duty foil and tape it on the underside. An average size would be 10"X10" or 12"X12".

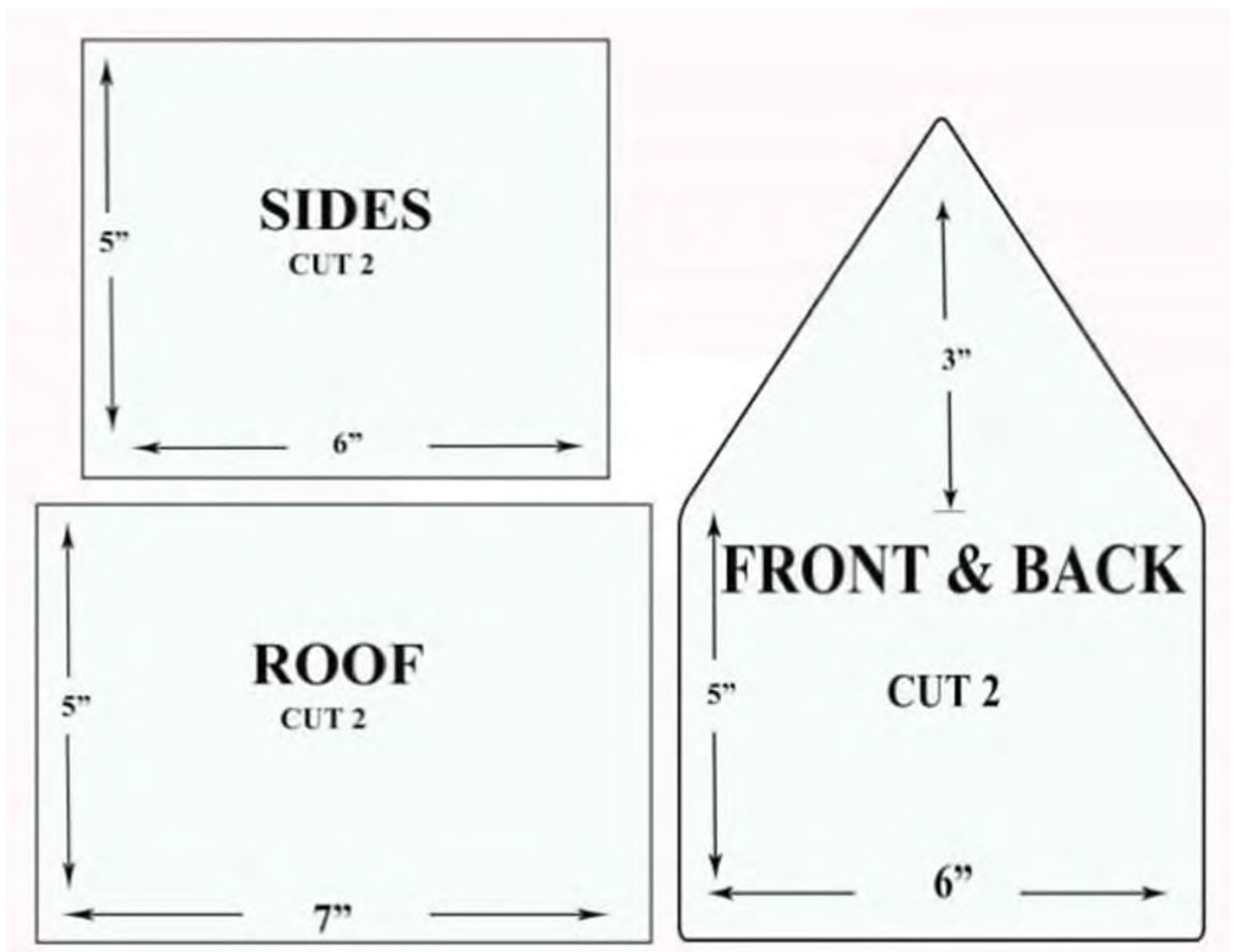
Note: to make very large houses you will need to use a construction quality dough that looks good but does not taste good. I will share this if you are interested.

Royal Icing (your construction mortar)

This recipe is essential to building a house that will hold up to all the decorating you will do! It can easily be found on line. Do not use butter cream frosting.

Book recommendations:

How to Build a Gingerbread House ~ A Step-by-Step Guide by Christina Banner (clear how to pictures) 2008
The Magic of Gingerbread ~ by Catherine Beddall (great directions and step by step patterns for most holidays during the year) 2016



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Greensboro Neighborhood Congress Hosts Meeting on Systemic Racism in Our City

By Gerry Alfano

The Greensboro Neighborhood Congress (GNC) held the organization's first zoom membership meeting on August 29th at 10 am. The meeting was a forum to discuss methods to dismantle Systemic Racism. Several participants mentioned the effectiveness of discussing racism in small group meetings, as well as participating in short-term outdoor activities in which diverse individuals work and play side-by-side. It was also suggested that we can initiate discussions within our own families and our neighborhoods. Walking, biking, and riding City buses bring us out of our private vehicle comfort zone, increasing opportunities to engage with persons different from ourselves.

While many of Greensboro's neighborhoods remain racially segregated, our children are more likely to interact with diverse populations at school. Local universities host public discussions, such as UNCG's History of Racism in America. The GNC may invite our Greensboro Police Chief and our Guilford County Sheriff to present at a future GNC meeting to discuss how to reduce officer's racial bias through local law enforcement hiring and training.

Members should consider participating in the following local and/or national organizations.

- Guilford Anti-Racism Alliance (GARA). "An anti-racist, information-sharing, collaborative, discussion-and action group, consisting of three partly overlapping caucuses (People of Color Caucus, White Caucus, and Joint Caucus) which provide safe spaces to challenge individual, institutional, and cultural racism and to develop sustaining networks so that we may continue working towards a more anti-racist society."
<https://www.meetup.com/Guilford-Anti-Racism-Alliance/>
- The Partnership Project. "Establishing structures that respond to, empower, and facilitate communities defining and resolving issues related to racial disparities."
<http://ThePartnershipProject.org/index.html>
- Racial Equity Institute. "An alliance of trainers, organizers, and leaders devoted to creating radically equitable organizations and systems, helping individuals and organizations develop tools to challenge patterns of power and grow equity."
<https://www.RacialEquityInstitute.com/groundwaterapproach>
- Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) -- "a national network of governments working to achieve racial equity and advance opportunities for all". <https://www.racialequityalliance.org/>

These resources have been added to the GNC website. www.GreensboroNeighborhoodCongress.org

In coming weeks, the GNC Executive Committee (GNC EC) plans to generate action plans toward reducing systemic racism. GNC internal recommendations to combat systemic racism include:

- 1- GNC Committees themselves should evaluate racial equity issues from each Committee's Perspective.
- 2- The GNC should ensure our efforts equally impact minority/majority neighborhoods.
- 3- The GNC should support local race equity groups by sharing their announcements and participation.

To join the GNC e-mail listserv, contact GNC.GSO.NC@gmail.com. You will receive notices of future meetings as well as information that is important for Greensboro neighborhoods.

Why Selling this Fall May Be Your Best Move

Contributed by Leslie Stainback

If you're thinking about moving, selling your house this fall might be the way to go! Take a look at why **now** is the time to sell.

1. Buyers Are Actively in the Market

Current data shows that buyer traffic jumped 60.7% compared to this time last year. That's a huge increase. Buyers are ready, willing, and able to purchase – and they're looking! It's not uncommon have multiple buyers competing for the same property. Take advantage of the buyer activity currently in the market so you can sell your house in the most favorable terms.

2. There Are Not Enough Homes for Sale

Reports show that 1.49 million units are available for sale in the US—down 18.6% from this time last year. This means there aren't enough homes for sale to satisfy the number of buyers. Due to the health crisis, many homeowners were reluctant to list their homes earlier in the year. As the economy continues to recover more houses will hit the market which means more choices for buyers! This means the sooner you get your house on the market, the better for you.

3. The Process Is Going Quickly

Today's ultra-competitive environment has forced buyers to do all they can to stand out from the crowd. Buyers are getting pre-approved which is one step beyond pre-qualified and are ready to make an offer and close quickly. This makes the entire selling process much faster and simpler! Reports show the time needed to close a loan currently is only 30 days!

4. There May Never Be a More Important Time to Move

You've likely spent much of the last six months in your current home. Perhaps you now realize how small it is, and you need more space. If you're working from home, your children are doing virtual school, or you just need more space, your current floor plan may not work for your family's changing needs.

The housing market is prime for sellers right now, so let's connect to get the process started this fall. If the timing is right for you and your family, the market is calling your name!

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Back to School...Almost.

By Ashleigh Reier

Looking for a way to give back to the community? Last month our neighborhood elementary school Lindley Elementary kicked off our third year in the campaign to get a smartboard in every classroom. We still have eight smartboards to hit this goal. The cost per smartboard is \$3,000. Many neighbors have already donated personally or through their business. To all those people we would like to send a big thank you!

What are the benefits of smartboards? There are so many tools these smartboards provide for the teachers both for online teaching and in classroom instruction. Not only do they allow the teachers to do interactive lessons they also provide teachers access to the smart lesson's library. Smartboards allow the teachers to be more creative and allow for more student engagement. To find out more please visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZvVGnxqkRzY>

Testimonial from Ms. Whitt a second grade teacher at Lindley Elementary.



During these times when students and teachers are having to navigate through the world of virtual learning, I found that having a smart board is incredibly beneficial. While I'm teaching live lessons to students through Microsoft Teams, using a smart projector allows me to display interactive PowerPoints and webpages for the students to see. Throughout the lessons, I am able to use the smart projector tools to model strategies and I can navigate the screen simply by the touch of a smart marker. This is very helpful because I do not have to constantly go back and forth to my desktop computer and allows me to stay visible to students. When I am showing students

how to find certain assignments on our online platform, Canvas, I can simply click through the steps by using the touch features of the smart projector. Throughout virtual learning, I have found the smart projector to be my most valuable resource.

Once we return to in-person learning, I know that the smart projector will continue to be incredibly useful. I am excited to give my students the chance to use technology to interact with and manipulate lessons and activities. Smart projectors provide the opportunity to use more creative ways to help students become more efficient 21st century learners. I am very grateful to have a smart projector in my classroom and I am excited about the possibility of providing this excellent resource to all Lindley teachers.

You may be surprised by these stats for Lindley Elementary.

- 40% of families are eligible for free lunch
- 15% of families are eligible for reduced lunch
- 55% total of families eligible for free or reduced lunch
- Diverse school community with FIVE different languages spoken at home

The start of this school year has followed suit in true 2020 fashion. Many of us have found ourselves at home with our kids and reminded that being a teacher is a true gift. The hours others spend forming the foundation for our little kids is priceless. We want to be able to give our neighborhood school and its teachers all the tools to succeed.



If you are interested in helping us finish out this campaign you can click <https://lindley.new.memberhub.store/store/items/26712> or send a check to Lindley Elementary PTA, 2700 Camden Road, Greensboro, NC 27403.



Remote learning from around the neighborhood. Individual families plus Lindley learning Pods.

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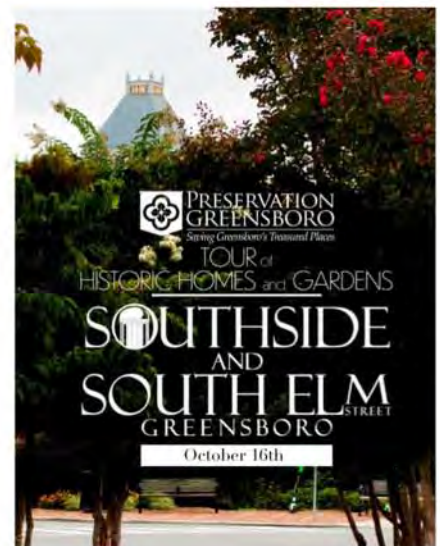
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A change for the better!

By Mike Pendergraft

If you lived in Sunset Hills five years ago, you probably remember the anger that bubbled up among residents when Duke Energy's contractors began trimming and cutting trees in our neighborhood. While the goal is a good one, to remove branches that can pull down electric lines, poor communication led to resentment for many neighbors.

This year the story is a very different one. In September, Jason Combs, a Vegetation Management Specialist, contacted me and a representative from Westerwood to outline their plans, and asked us to share them with the neighborhood. He recognized the importance to Sunset Hills of the lighted Christmas balls display, and made our trees the first in this area to be assessed and trimmed. He assured us that printed material describing the steps Duke is taking would be delivered to each house in Sunset Hills at least a week before work began.

He also shared a map of the area that is under discussion. When we raised questions about the significance of specific lines and symbols on the map, he explained them clearly.

Finally, he explained, "I have shared with Asplundh [the tree service] the importance of being done with the majority of the work in Sunset Hills by Mid-November to not have any conflicts with lighted ball installation/display."

If you have experienced problems with this process, please let me know. (Michael Pendergraft mrp_mlp@bellsouth.net) This year Duke Energy recognizes the value of collaborating with residents.

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October 2020 Treasurer Report - Membership List

By Elaine Brune

As of October 3, 309 households have paid their neighborhood association due. Annual dues run from January 1 to December 31 and are \$10 per home. These dues cover the cost of the listserv, our website, (<http://www.sunsethillsneighborhood.org>), events, tree replacement project, etc. It is never too late to join! Send to Elaine Brune 2504 Sylvan Road GSO 27403 or by PayPal found on our website under the calendar tab.

We have had many new members this year and we welcome all our new neighbors to Sunset Hills! Below are those who paid for 2020. Names in bold and * indicate they paid above and beyond the \$10. Thank you for your additional contributions.

Thanks to all our neighbors who have paid their dues.

Elaine 336 601 5719

2020 Members (Bold and marked with * indicate donations above the membership dues.)

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Mike & Audrey Albright
Diana Alexander
Jack & Mia Alsup
Ellen Ammirato
Dominick & Vicki Amendum
Jennifer Jones & Jon Anderson*
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Tom & Brittany Blue*
John & Mary Ellen Boelhower
Philip & Brenda Bowman*
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David & Ellanore Brauneis
Lee & Betsy Brodeur*
Joseph & Katharine Brower
Julie Brown
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Kip Corrington & Marin Burton
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Diane Cashion*
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207 W Greenway Dr N	4	3.5	\$725,000	\$705,000	4/20/2020	8	4,183
2200 W Market St	4	4.5	\$699,900	\$678,000	4/29/2020	282	4,152
1061 Bunting Rd	3	2	\$199,999	\$200,000	5/21/2020	11	1,715
407 Ridgeway Dr	5	5.5	\$489,900	\$470,000	6/4/2020	163	4,568
1701 Friendly Ave	4	2.5	\$259,900	\$259,000	6/8/2020	18	1,800
2427 Camden Rd	4	4.5	\$588,000	\$590,000	6/12/2020	0	2,928
101 S Tremont Dr	3	2.5	\$275,000	\$275,000	6/16/2020	0	2,323
318 Warren St	3	2	\$329,500	\$350,000	6/26/2020	2	1,656
401 S Chapman St	4	4	\$549,900	\$537,000	6/26/2020	38	2,901
701 Mayflower Dr	4	2	\$279,900	\$270,000	6/29/2020	28	2,223
309 S Chapman St	3	1	\$195,000	\$210,000	7/28/2020	4	1,518
2303 W Market St	5	3.5	\$559,500	\$550,000	8/10/2020	9	3,210
2209 Pinecrest Rd	5	5.5	\$935,000	\$935,000	8/10/2020	1	5,985
207 Mayflower Dr	4	2.5	\$359,900	\$340,000	8/21/2020	52	2,492
308 N Chapman St	4	2.5	\$475,000	\$475,000	8/21/2020	1	2,845
113 Kensington Rd	4	3	\$539,900	\$515,000	9/18/2020	33	2,860
1803 Rolling Rd	3	2.5	\$369,000	\$369,000	9/22/2020	10	1,890
312 S Chapman St	4	3	\$500,000	\$500,000	9/22/2020	21	2,318
309 Waverly Way	4	2	\$399,900	\$385,000	9/23/2020	142	2,089
211 S Tremont Dr	3	2	\$399,900	\$400,000	9/28/2020	55	2,720



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