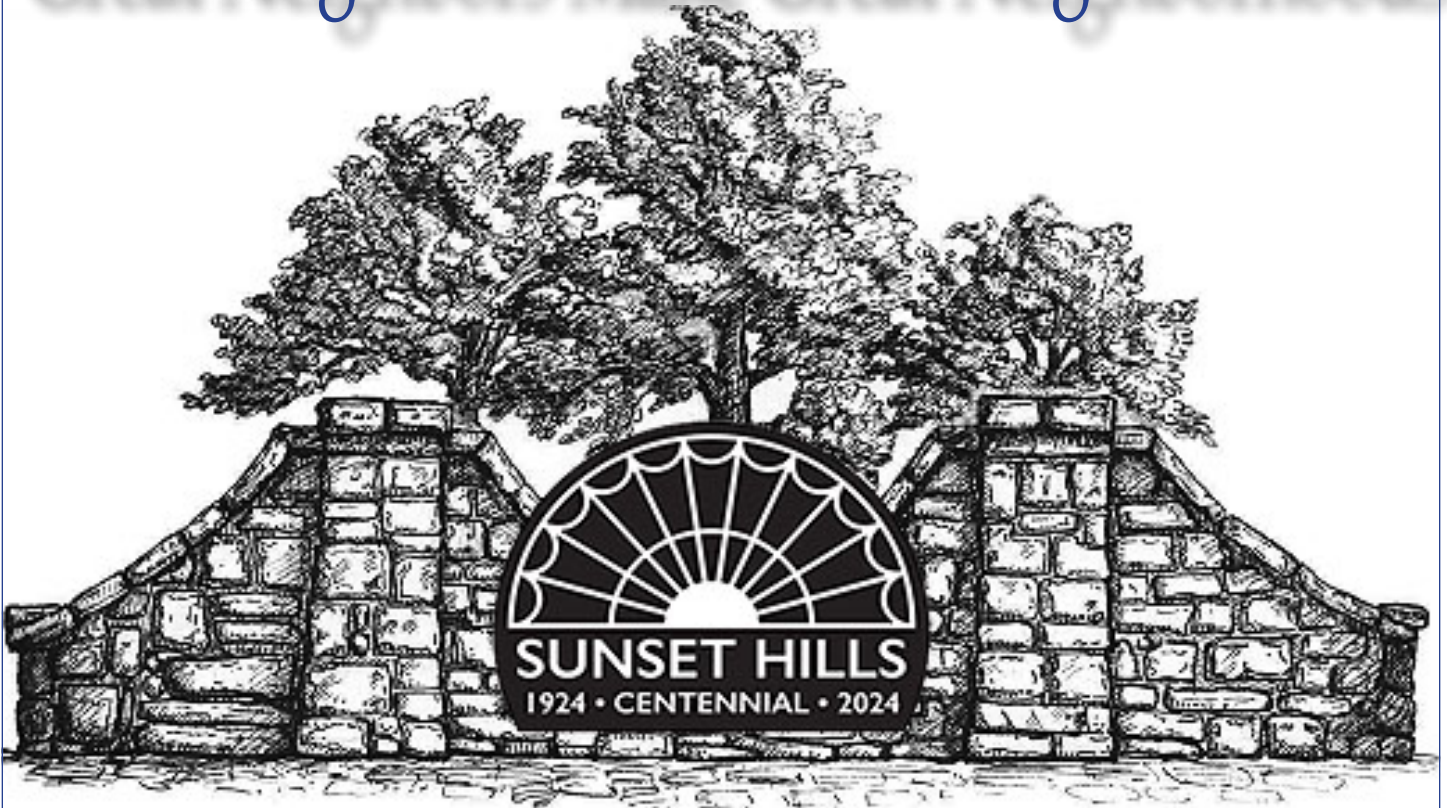


Great Neighbors Make Great Neighborhoods



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Scott Michaels

A

s I write this, we just “survived” our latest snow scare and the temperatures remain cold. However, I keep reminding myself that Spring is just around the corner. Daffodils are already starting to emerge and crocuses are blooming. It won’t be long until we have azaleas, dogwoods

and cherry trees in bloom. And Rock the Block resumes!

This is such a beautiful neighborhood regardless of the season. And the beauty is more than “skin deep”. It’s beautiful how we gift the City with our annual Christmas Balls display, but it’s even more beautiful that we are able to contribute to those less fortunate. Please always remem-

ber, our neighborhood efforts bring money and food for the food pantries. We have had another successful year of giving back!



Part of the beauty of Sunset Hills is due to our parks. Both parks were brilliantly lit this year for the holidays. Many

What’s Inside:

- *Rock The Block announces lineup for 2025 - page 14*
- *Parafencer Update from Abe Kaplan - page 12*
- *Plunge for Elodie is here - page 8*
- *David Rock is featured neighborhood craftsperson - page 4*
- *Traffic Safety is a major concern in Sunset Hills - page 16*
- *Greensboro Parks Foundation features SH Centennial Statue - page 13*
- *Help with plans for SH Park by taking the Assessment Survey - page 27*
- *Read about our community in the Community Vitals Report - page 7*
- *Alternative ways to fight mosquitos this summer - page 11*

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Thanks to our advertisers for helping make this newsletter possible!

A Letter From The President

(continued from page 1)

thanks to everyone, especially John Kelly, who worked so hard to make it so beautiful.

And we will be paying even more attention to the parks going forward. Erin Reiss has been appointed our liaison with the City of Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department. It will be her responsibility to work with the city and the Sunset Hills Garden Club to continue to improve our parks. A lot of people have done some great work in removing invasive plants and planting native plants. We look forward to partnering with the City to continue to improve our parks.

The parks will also be the focus of our Spring Meeting for the entire neighborhood. We are

working to have someone from the city speak at our meeting. We also need and want your input. There will be a survey going out shortly to get your thoughts and feedback.

Speaking of our Spring Meeting, please keep an eye on the List-Serv for details. It will be in late April but the exact date, time and place have yet to be set. We should be able to announce it shortly.

I also want to take a moment to recognize and thank Carole Lindsey-Potter. Carole recently stepped down from her role coordinating this newsletter. For many years, she was the person who really made this work. Bob Holden will be doing double duty until Carole's position is filled.

Please let us know if you are interested! And many thanks to Bob for stepping in temporarily and for his great work and ideas to improve this newsletter.

The Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association is a completely volunteer organization. I want to thank all the people who work tirelessly to make this such a great neighborhood! And I want to remind everyone that we are always open to suggestions and feedback. Also, we would love to have you join us on one of the committees. The Board Members contact information is always in this newsletter and on our website. Just let us know if you want to join us!

_____ shna _____

A Note From Your Treasurer

by Elaine Brune



Now collecting 2025 Dues!

Happy New Year! Neighbors, as the end of

the year comes we start collecting dues and contributions.

The neighborhood association dues of \$10 cash, \$11 through PayPal for the 2025 calendar year are now being accepted. Please consider paying dues so we can continue to provide activities in our parks, tree plantings, and more! We also helped pay for the new



centennial sculpture on Greenway and Madison.

Send or drop off checks to SHNA c/o Elaine Brune at 2504 Sylvan Road. I will have the little red post box on the table or drop it off

through the slot in the red door! We accept contributions as well.

PayPal link: <https://www.sunsethillsneighborhood.org/duesanddonations>

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Questions? Email me at sunset-hillsgsonc@gmail.com

_____ shna _____

Stay In The Loop

You can follow along with regular happenings, updates, and news by following us on our Facebook page and on our website.

You can also join our community email listserv by emailing Adam Graham-Squire at adam.grahamsquire@gmail.com

Please note that only current members who have paid their annual dues may send non-emergency messages to the community listserv.

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_____ shna _____

Another In Our Semi-Regular Series On Neighborhood Craftspersons

David Rock: A Craftsman's Journey From Brick To Wood

by Carl Phillips



David Rock is a man whose hands have built legacies—first with brick and mortar, and now with wood and craftsmanship. For 40+ years he owned and operated a successful brick and masonry company in Savannah, Georgia, earning a reputation for quality, precision, and dedication to preserving and restoring history whenever possible. However, as life's priorities shifted, David and his wife Annette made the heartfelt decision to move to Greensboro, North Carolina, to be closer to their daughter and grandchildren. While he may have left the brick-and-mortar business behind, his passion for working with his hands never waned.

After purchasing their home in Sunset Hills, they quickly went about transforming the home to meet their needs. Bringing along David's passion for preservation, he required his architect to incorporate old windows into the new room additions. When he discovered that the old garage would not work for his new wood shop, he saved as much lumber as possible to be used for future projects. When visiting their home it's not easy to tell the old structure from the new addition.

A skilled woodworker by hobby, David possesses a vast knowledge of wood species, furniture building, and decorative wood turning. His expertise is not just technical but also deeply rooted in an appreciation for the art and history of woodworking. Whether it's selecting the perfect type of wood



Above: David Rock passionately works on another quality project in his workshop

for a specific project or mastering intricate details in furniture design, David approaches his craft with the same commitment that made his masonry business a success.

Beyond his own work, what truly sets David apart is his willingness to share his skills with anyone eager to learn. His enthusiasm for

teaching and mentoring has made him a beloved figure in the community. Whether guiding a novice through their first woodworking project or exchanging ideas with seasoned artisans, David fosters an environment of collaboration and growth. His generosity extends beyond the workshop, as he regularly introduces like-minded individuals to one another, strengthening bonds and creating a network of craftsmen and enthusiasts.

For those lucky enough to spend time with David, woodworking is more than just a craft—it's a way to build friendships, create lasting memories, and pass down valuable skills. His presence in the neighborhood has become a source of inspiration, bringing people together through shared interests and a mutual appreciation for the art of working with one's hands.

David Rock's journey from masonry to woodworking is a testament to the enduring power of craftsmanship. Whether laying bricks or shaping wood, he remains dedicated to his artistry and to the people who share in his passion. His story serves as a reminder that skills, like friendships, can be passed down and cherished for generations to come.

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Have you read the 2025 Community Vitals Report?

by Jessica Levco



When I traded Chicago’s skyline for Sunset Hills’s tree-lined streets during the pandemic, I knew I’d be telling different kinds of stories. As a freelance writer for Action Greensboro, one of the biggest projects I tackled was putting together the [2025 Community Vitals Report](#).

While I’m still learning the intricacies of my new home, writing this comprehensive study has given me an appreciation for Greensboro’s history and the challenges the city faces. Here’s what struck me most about the data:

- First, we need to increase civic engagement. I was concerned to learn that only 15-16% of voters participate in local elections.
- Second, we must ensure economic growth benefits everyone — the data shows troubling disparities, with White residents earning nearly 80% more per capita than Black residents and 136% more than Hispanic or Latino residents.
- Third, the report shows concerning gaps in health insurance coverage in East Greensboro,

where between 12.4% and 34.5% of residents lack coverage.

Housing affordability caught my attention too, as my family and I recently bought a home in Sunset Hills.

Because I do a lot of writing for Greensboro small businesses and non-profits, I was also interested in the chapter about workforce data. While our workforce participation rate of 79% for residents aged 20-64 matches national averages, our growth rate of just 2.7% over the past decade lags behind other North Carolina counties. As more residents approach retirement age, we’ll need smart strategies to attract and retain talent.

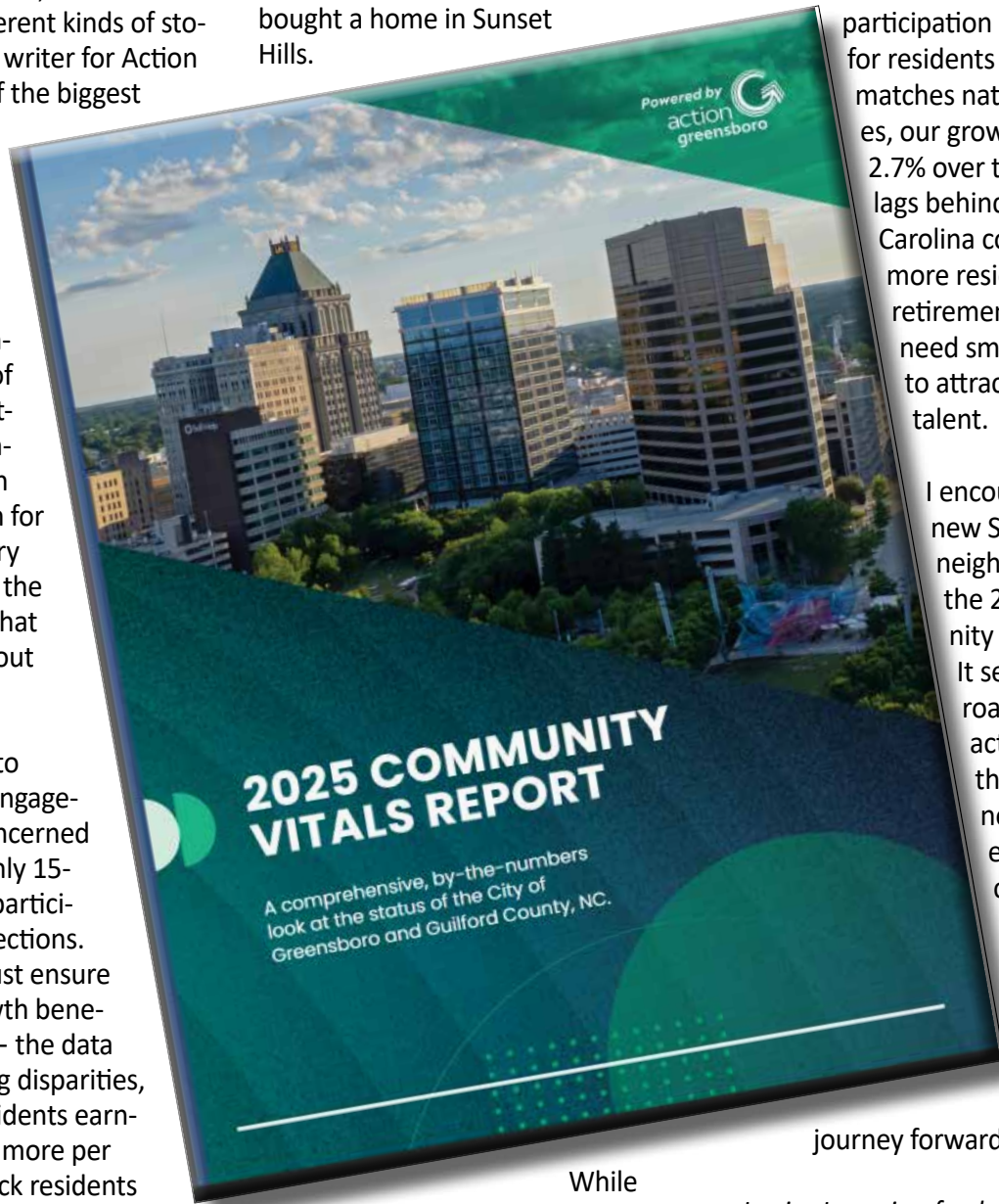
I encourage all my new Sunset Hills neighbors to read the 2025 Community Vitals Report. It serves as our roadmap for action, providing the insights we need to build an even stronger community. As someone who chose to make Greensboro home, I’m excited to be part of this

journey forward.

While Guilford County’s homeownership rate stands at 60.2%, we need more housing options across different price points, including multi-family units, townhomes and apartments.

Jessica Levco is a freelance writer for small businesses and non-profits. She can be reached at jlevco@gmail.com.

_____ shwa _____



Below is updated information regarding an article that appeared in our December **Sunset Hills Newsletter**. The article described how EB (Epidermolysis Bullosa) has affected Sunset Hills neighbors Annie Kendrick and her son Brooks and the efforts to raise money for EB Simplex research through the local Plunge for Elodie.

Announcing: **Greensboro, NC** Plunge for Elodie **In Honor of Brooks**



Meet **Brooks**

Brooks is a five-year-old boy with EB Simplex. He was born with large areas of totally missing skin, mostly on his extremities. To see him now it may not appear that he is in any way different from anyone else but he has scarring, missing nails and his skin blisters and breaks with every bump and fall. He is the strongest, sweetest, stubborn and most determined little boy with the cutest dimple! We pray these traits will allow him to do anything he sets his mind to in life.

All proceeds from the Plunge for Elodie go directly to EB Research Partnership (EBRP). EBRP is the world's largest nonprofit dedicated to finding a cure for EB. Over the past 15 years, they have raised over \$70M to fund 150+ EB research projects all around the world, including the first-ever FDA approved EB treatment!

About **EBRP**



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Learn More & Donate

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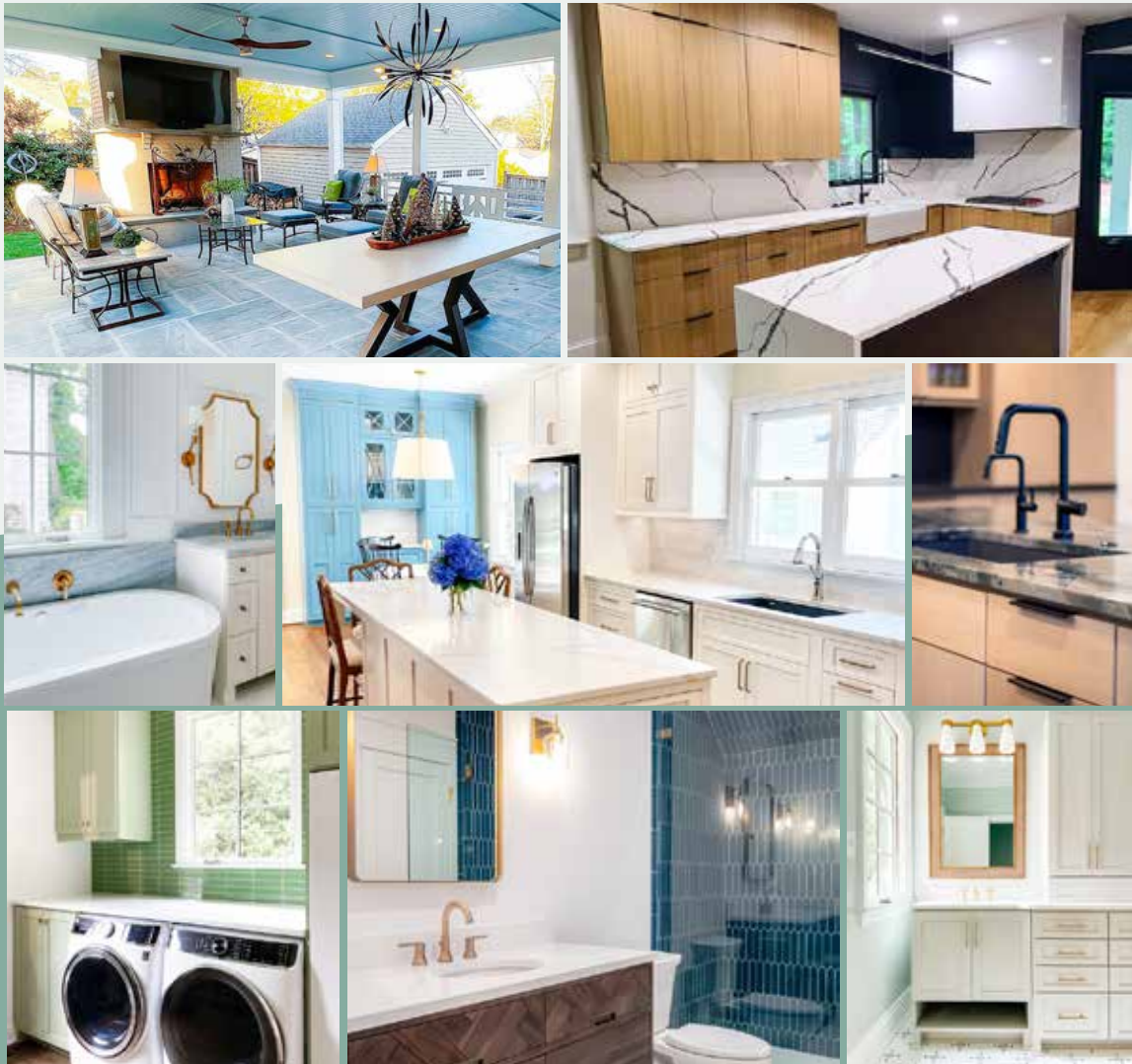
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Consider Natural Ways to Deter Mosquitos This Season

by Caroline Moseley



We will soon be in the thick of mosquito season. While there have been a number of below freezing nights, it may not have been enough consecutive freeze days to kill all those pesky insects like ticks and mosquitos. As you are reading this, you may be preparing to spray for them. But if you haven't, I urge you to consider natural ways to deter them.

I am an avid butterfly conservationist. I spend a lot of my free time searching for these creatures both in the woods/ fields and our neighborhood. I am part of a network that monitors them so that scientists will have a better idea of how climate change and pesticide use is contributing to habitat loss. I wonder if you, like me, have noticed a steady decline in butterflies in our neighborhood. The last year I can remember regularly seeing butterflies in our yard

was about 2014. Ten years ago. This is despite us arranging our yard to attract them through the planting of nectar and host sources. Butterflies are an essential part of a healthy planet. They pollinate much of the food we eat. As we lose more and more species of these creatures, we are ultimately endangering our food supply. I know that sounds drastic, but it's coming folks. CNN has reported that 30 percent of all the food we eat is linked to pollinators. This could mean a loss of many of the foods you enjoy or them becoming so expensive that they are financially out of reach for many of us.

It is well known in the scientific community that one of the reasons we are seeing fewer and fewer butterflies within city limits is the use of insecticide and herbicides (Michigan University Extension. US Geological Survey). The New York Times recently ran an article about a study that clearly linked the use of insecticide to the decline in the Monarch popu-

lation. Spraying yards for mosquitos has become quite common, and our neighborhood is no exception. Use of these chemicals has become the main way people ensure that they can enjoy their yards throughout the summer without being bothered by insect pests. I get why people do it. My child happens to be one of those people who has extreme allergic reactions to mosquito bites. She gets huge welts that itch for weeks. No one wants this for their children. Kids should be playing outside all summer long. I know. But these chemicals are not only bad for butterflies they may also be bad for humans. The commercial companies that spray for mosquitos call their chemicals a "proprietary blend," which means they are not going to tell you what it is. They report that the chemicals they use are approved by the EPA. And I am sure that is true. However, there are plenty of chemicals that were initially approved by the EPA that we later found out are not safe for humans

(continued on page 23)

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Our Neighborhood Parafencer Continues To Ascend

by Abe and Karen Kaplan



ello Neighbors!

It's Abe Kaplan again, writing to give everyone an update on my latest parafencing news. For those of you who may not know me, I am 16 years old and I have lived in Sunset Hills with my family for eight years. I had a stroke at birth and live with right-sided hemiplegia. I started parafencing, seated fencing, about two years ago and my goal is to qualify for the 2028 Paralympics. I have been updating my neighbors periodically on my progress.

When I last wrote, I was preparing to go to Sao Paulo, Brazil for a Parafencing Zonal/Pan Am Championships. It was my best International performance, highlighted by a top 8 finish in epee. As a result, I was chosen to be on the US Men's Team that brought home Silver medals in Foil, Epee, and Sabre. I also traveled to Pisa, Italy in November 2024 for a World Cup event where I increased my world rank in all three weapons, getting me a little closer to qualification for LA 2028.

Nationally, I won a Silver medal in Sabre and Bronze medals in Foil and Epee at the 2024 National

Parafencing Championships in Salt Lake City. I won Gold in all three weapons at the North American Cup in Atlanta, Georgia in December 2024 and I brought home a Gold, Silver, and Bronze medal from the North American Cup in Kansas City, in January 2025.

World Cup this February and I will travel to LA for the 2025 National Parafencing tournament in April. In between competitions, I continue to train hard, almost daily, and I have been invited to an elite training camp at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs in March.

Like most Olympic and Paralympic hopefuls, my parents and I have been seeking out grants, donations, and sponsors to help us with the cost of this dream. I am so grateful to all of our community donors. I am honored to have received a

\$4000 grant from the Hope for Hemiplegia organization. We would also like to recognize the team at the Compassionate Healing Collaborative in Greensboro for providing sponsorship and expertise in the field of mind and body wellness.

As I progress towards my goal, I will need to continue attending National and International



Above: Abe at the World Cup event in Italy
Left: Abe proudly wearing some of his medals



Above: Abe with other team members proudly displaying USA flag

I am now preparing to go back to Sao Paulo, Brazil for another

tournaments to qualify for 2028. We continue to look for additional donors and sponsors to help me reach my Paralympic goal. If you are interested in making a tax-de-



Top: Abe preparing for competition



Above: Abe attacks his opponent

ductible donation to the Piedmont Fencer's Alliance Parafencing Program, all proceeds go towards my training, equipment, tournament, and travel expenses.



You can also follow me on Instagram @abekaplan_fencing. Thank you again for reading my story and supporting my parafencing journey. Please feel free to contact my mom and dad if you have any questions. karenjbrown77@yahoo.com or esk6988@gmail.com

shna

Below Is An Excerpt From An Article Published On The Greensboro Parks Foundation Website

Sunset Hills Centennial Sculpture Project: A Community's Legacy and Inspiration

In 2024, the Sunset Hills Neighborhood celebrated its centennial anniversary with a project that not only commemorates its history but also looks forward to the next hundred years: the Centennial Sculpture Installation. Spearheaded by Cindy Ramsay and the Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association's Centennial Committee, the project brought together neighbors, local artists, and the Greensboro Parks Foundation to create something truly monumental—a sculpture symbolizing the neighborhood's deep connection to its natural environment, alongside the planting of 112 trees to rejuvenate the park's canopy. This initiative stands as a shining example of what can be accomplished through grassroots organizing and community partnerships. Cindy's experience reveals how passion, collaboration, and creativity can come together to make a lasting impact on a public space, offering inspiration to anyone who dreams of improving their parks and recreational facilities.

From Vision to Reality

The Centennial Sculpture Project began in 2021, when the Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association formed a committee to brainstorm ways to mark the neighborhood's 100-year anniversary. Ideas ranged from constructing a shelter or amphitheater to smaller commemorative pieces, but the committee ultimately decided on something that



Above: The Sunset Hills Centennial Sculpture at its dedication on November 21, 2024

would be both visually striking and deeply meaningful. "We wanted something monumental, something that would last," Cindy explained. Inspired by the neighborhood's history—as outlined in a 1920s real estate brochure that highlighted its lush trees—the committee envisioned a sculpture that would symbolize this natural legacy. Artist Lawrence Feir, known for his tree-inspired works, was brought on board. Feir, who once lived in the neighborhood, quickly captured

[Read More At The Greensboro Parks Foundation under News](#)

Rock The Block: Sunset Hills' Favorite Outdoor Concert Series Returns For Year Five!

by Emily Morgan, Rock the Block Committee



Get ready, Sunset Hills! Our beloved outdoor concert series, **Rock The Block**, is back for its fifth year—bigger and bet-

ter than ever! Originally founded by a small group of neighbors during the pandemic, **Rock the Block** became a beloved occasion to bring our community together with great music. The event is led today by John Kelly, whose passion for music has kept the tradition alive. He has worked

hard to bring us a diverse lineup of bands and food trucks.

Why You Don't Want to Miss It
Rock The Block isn't just about

music—it's about community. It's the perfect opportunity to meet neighbors, support local businesses, and celebrate the spirit of Sunset Hills. Each event will feature live music, food trucks, and plenty of space to relax and enjoy the evening. This is also a family-friendly event! With the road closed to traffic and the park available, kids will have plenty of space to run around and play safely while parents enjoy the music and camaraderie. Just bring a chair, your favorite beverages, and a smile!



Top: The 2024 Rock The Block concerts brought out a wide range of neighbors to enjoy great music, meeting old friends and making new ones

Above: There were a wide range of food trucks and vendors to choose from at the 2024 Rock The Block events

Above: It was a great time for sharing with friends and family at the 2024 Rock The Block concerts

A Community Effort

Events like **Rock The Block** wouldn't be possible without the incredible support of our corporate sponsors and generous neighbors. From hiring talented bands and renting a stage to providing necessary amenities like portable restrooms and sound engineering, there are significant costs

involved. We encourage everyone to support our sponsors—they do amazing work in our community, and their contributions make this event possible!

Keep Up To Date

To stay in the loop with all

group called **"Sunset Hills Rock the Block"**. Request access to join the private group.

Want to Get Involved?

There's still time to become a sponsor and help keep **Rock The Block** thriving. If you or your business are interested, we'd love to hear from you! Your support makes a direct impact on the success of this neighborhood tradition.



Above: 2024 Rock The Block brought out fans of all ages to enjoy a great time



Above: Food, friends and music were at the forefront of the Rock The Block concerts in 2024

Rock the Block activities, please join our private Facebook

Mark your calendars, bring your chairs and drinks, and join us for an unforgettable time at **Rock The Block**. We can't wait to see you there!

_____ shwa _____

2025 ROCK THE BLOCK EVENTS

	<p>MAY 8:</p> <p>JUNE 12:</p> <p>JULY 10:</p> <p>AUG 21:</p> <p>NOV 22:</p>	<p>Camel City Yacht Club</p> <p>Mackenzie Roark and the Hotpants</p> <p>Hot Like Mars</p> <p>The Runaway Groomes</p> <p>The ROAR</p>	
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Traffic Safety In Sunset Hills

by Gerry Alfano, Sunset Hills Transportation Chair



ast summer the Greensboro Department of Transportation (GDOT) instituted a new program – **The Neighborhood Traffic Management**

Program (NTMP). It was designed so that residents could report problems on neighborhood streets such as speeding, not stopping at stop signs, etc. Residents were able to apply to have the street assessed for the program on an interactive map. The application process ended on August 31st of last year. We recently received the first communication from the GDOT about the status of the program. They reported that they have been overwhelmed by the positive response to **NTMP** and have spent the

last several months collecting and evaluating data. They have released



Above: First street for NTMP evaluation, Walker Ave. facing West from S. Tremont looking towards S. Elam

the first set of project scorecards. As much as one can tell from the map, it looks as if they may only be a quarter or so done with the eval-

uations of the applications. They are far behind in the initial schedule that they had proposed which had them completing the evaluations last fall and developing the projects this spring. They have not released an updated schedule.

The evaluations that applications for streets in

Sunset Hills have received so far are not very promising. Six of the applications were assessed as ineligible. Two of the submitted streets did not meet the distance minimum (1320

(continued on page 17)

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Traffic Safety In Sunset Hills

(continued from page 16)

feet), two did not meet the speed limit requirement (30 mph or less), and two involved only intersections, which are also not eligible for **NTMP**. Two of the Sunset Hills applications are currently under evaluation and three have not been evaluated yet. There are six applications that have been evaluated and have scores. Only two of those streets meet the minimum requirement of a score of 40 or above out of a total possible score of 100. Those two streets are N. Elam from W. Friendly to W. Market and Walker Ave. from S. Elam to S. Tremont. Only streets that have a score of 40 or more will be included in the

program. Residents can check the project location map at gsontmp.org for updated project status as more of the applications are evaluated.

traffic problems. As long as we have speeding on major roads, we will continue to have speeding within neighborhoods. For Sunset Hills, that means they need to reduce speeding on W. Friendly Ave. and W. Market St. We had digital speed signs on W. Friendly, but they have been removed. One was moved to N. Elam and W. Friendly and one stopped working. Before the pandemic, we had some traffic enforcement on W. Friendly, but that seems to be nonexistent. If GDOT really wants safer streets, they need to take a much more aggressive approach and they need to work with the police department on increased traffic enforcement.

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Above: Second NTMP street for evaluation, N. Elam at Friendly Ave. facing south towards W. Market St.

I don't think this program is going to resolve many of the issues that we have with traffic in the neighborhood. I believe the GDOT needs to take a more systematic approach to

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Irving Park Historic Neighborhood

2025 Tour of Historic Homes & Gardens



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May 17th & 18th
12pm-4pm

Preservation Greensboro's 15th Annual Tour of Historic Homes & Gardens will be held in Irving Park, a picturesque downtown suburb, planned and developed in the early 20th century to be Greensboro's ultimate park community.

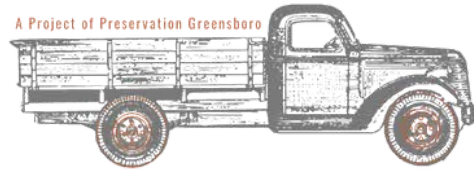
The Tour of Historic Homes & Gardens is Preservation Greensboro's largest fundraising event. *Come out and support this incredible organization and get your fill of local history!*



Since 1966, Preservation Greensboro has preserved historic sites, neighborhoods, and street scapes, providing the Gate City with a unique sense of history and place.

With your donations, Preservation Greensboro works to maintain the city's distinctive sense of heritage and create a tradition of adaptive reuse, renovation, and recycling.

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PreservationGreensboro.org



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Emeritus Society: Spring Courses



Emeritus Society, a lifelong learning program affiliated with the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, provides stimulating noncredit opportunities for adult learners. The program creates a learning community that affirms the unique attributes that adult students bring to the classroom—delight in the joy of learning, intellectual savvy, and substantial life experience. Emeritus Society participants are encouraged and supported in pursuing their intellectual interests with like-minded peers. Our courses are designed to satisfy a hunger for intellectual nourishment without the pressure of tests and grades.

Spring 2025 Courses:

- He Said/She Said: Three Masterpieces Regular price\$ 120.00 USD
- Emeritus at Tanger Course - Neil Diamond: A Beautiful Noise Regular price\$ 40.00 USD
- Europe, Before and After Rome Regular price\$ 120.00 USD
- Cognitive Health: Maintaining Memory, Thinking and Creativity Regular price\$ 15.00 USD
- Profs Do the Movies: From Here to Eternity (1953) Regular price\$ 20.00 USD
- Express Yourself: Art for AI Regular price\$ 60.00 USD
- Smoke, Mirrors and Memories: Legacies of the Soviet-Afghan War Regular price\$ 25.00 USD
- Emeritus at Tanger Course - Mormonism: America's Homegrown Religion Regular price\$ 100.00 USD
- Presidential Leadership in a Polarized Era Regular price\$ 120.00 USD
- The Heart and the Chip: Our Bright Future with Robots by Daniela Rus and Gregory Mone Regular price \$ 15.00 USD

- Let's Go to Europe! Tales of Travel by Henry James, Elizabeth Spencer and Elizabeth Von Arnim - UNCG ALUMNI COURSE Regular price From \$ 0.00 USD
- Do Plants Have Minds? Regular price\$ 25.00 USD
- Eat Your Words: The Covenant of Water with Special Guest, Indu Gargeya Regular price\$ 60.00 USD
- The Arab-Israeli Conflict in Film Regular price\$ 120.00 USD

Registration Information

Please be sure that the email address you provide is current. That email will be used to send you a course confirmation with more details and invite you to enter Zoom meetings (if applicable). In the weeks before classes start, you will be sent an introduction to Zoom materials. In addition, staff will be available a half-hour before the first class for orientation help.

(continued on page 23)

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Emeritus Society: Spring Courses

(continued from page 21)

Emeritus Society courses are open to people of all ages and educational backgrounds. The program is a self-supporting arm of the University. Class fees, not tax dollars, are used to meet costs for the program. The cost of each course depends on the number of sessions. Courses consist of 3–8 sessions at \$20 per session

You are registered only when payment is received. Register early to avoid inconvenience. Late registrants could miss important announcements such as last-minute changes in location. Instructors may not have enough materials for those registering late. Registration is on a first come, first served basis. If the class you

want is filled, we keep a waiting list. Partial registrations to attend portions of the classes cannot be accepted. Detailed information on class location and parking will be supplied upon confirmation.

Please note: The charge will appear on your statement as being from Spartan Strategies, Inc.

Trouble Registering?

If you experience any issues registering please call (336) 740-0211 or email us at emeritus@spartanstrategiesinc.org.

_____ shna _____

Consider Natural Ways To Deter Mosquitos This Season

(continued from page 11)

or pets. These companies claim that these chemicals are safe and that they only spray places in the yard where mosquitos are frequenting. This may be true, by these chemicals travel by wind. If your neighbor sprays and you don't, their chemicals will end up in your yard.

So what to do? You want to be rid of these pests so you can enjoy the outside during the summer, but you want to protect the butterflies. There are some natural solutions. Below is a list of suggestions on Treehugger's website ([How to Get Rid of Mosquitos Naturally \(treehugger.com\)](http://www.treehugger.com)):

- Eliminate standing water. This is where mosquitos breed. Get rid of your bird baths or change the water frequently. Don't leave things out that capture water like children's sand pails.
- Use a fan outside.
- Make your own repellent. There are lots of remedies out there that you can research. There are too many to list here.
- Plant repellent plants. Some suggestions of herbs are basil, lavender, lemongrass, peppermint, rosemary, and dill. Flowers include marigolds, and lantana (which the butterflies LOVE). Mint, dill, lavender are all loved by butterflies.
- Use products that contain a soil bacteria called bacillus thuringiensis, israelensis,

I hope you will consider safer ways to keep ticks and mosquitos out of your yard this summer.

_____ shna _____

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- Q. What distinguishes a local, high-touch Realtor from a large, high-volume firm?**
- A.** Local Realtors offer personalized service, deep community knowledge, and a commitment to your needs. Large firms prioritize quick sales and volume, meaning less individual attention.
- Q. How does a local agent's network benefit me as a seller?**
- A.** A well-connected local agent has trusted relationships with vendors, contractors, stagers, and inspectors – helping you get the best service and results. National firms can't offer these hyper-local connections and referrals.
- Q. Why does local knowledge matter when pricing my home?**
- A.** A local expert knows the real value of your home based on neighborhood trends, history, and demand. Large firms rely on generic pricing models that may leave money on the table.



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2025 Membership List

Neighbors paying dues as of February 10, 2025

* indicates contributions above membership dues.

Thanks to all who paid! It's never too late!

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Sunset Hills Neighborhood Park Needs Assessment Survey



The Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association Board is considering developing a Landscaping Plan for the Sunset Hills Park. The purpose of the plan would be to clarify what neighbors want from their park in terms of landscaping and then better coordinate that with the City. We are seeking input from Sunset Hills Environmental Affairs (SHEA), the Sunset Hills Garden Club and neighbors.

To begin, we'd like some preliminary information about how you use the park and how you would like to use it. You can fill this out and deliver it to 2504 Sylvan Road, use the link that will be posted on our website and sent out over the neighborhood listserv, email environment.sunsethills.gso@gmail.com, call and share your thoughts at 336-312-2647 and/or come to the April neighborhood meeting to share your feedback on the park.

Your Activities

Below is a list of things you might do in the park. Please check all that apply to your current use of the park and write in any we didn't think of in the space provided.

- Use the playground equipment:
 - South of Market
 - Near tennis court
 - Swing set near Friendly
- Play tennis or pickleball on the court
- Use tennis/pickleball court for other activities (i.e. children playing)
- Attend Rock the Block and/or other neighborhood events (i.e. Easter Egg Hunt)
- Drive around or walk through the lighted Christmas balls
- Walk or run around the park
- Walk or run through the park
- View plant and animal wildlife
- Picnic/Sit on benches
- Rest and Relax
- Other _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Survey continued on Back Cover

Park Features

Sunset Hills Park is a linear, primarily passive park, with some areas designated for specific activities (like the playgrounds and tennis court) and others left more “natural.” Please check which of the following park features you use and/or appreciate and add any we have forgotten.

- Playground Equipment:
- South of Market
- Near tennis court
- Swing set near Friendly
- Landscaped areas
- Benches
- Dogi Pot Litter Bag Dispenser
- Stream
- Blue Bird Houses
- Other _____
- Shade trees
- Tennis/pickleball court
- Little Free Library
- Environmental library kiosks
- “Natural,” less-landscaped areas
- Picnic tables
- Trash receptacles
- Stone bridges

What Would You Like?

The focus of this plan will be to clarify what neighbors want from their park, and to suggest landscaping changes and improvements, not new construction. Please check features you would like to see added and/or enhanced in the park and fill in other ideas in the space provided.

- Nature/walking path (unpaved)
- Additional benches and picnic areas
- Community garden
- More trees
- More landscaped/plant beds
- Fruit trees
- Other _____
- Gazebo
- Pollinator garden
- Group activity spaces
- Fewer trees
- More natural/native areas
- Butterfly houses

Other Comments

Do you have special expertise that you would be willing to contribute to our park plan efforts? Do you have other comments or concerns relevant to the park plan? Please share below. Identifying yourself is optional, but necessary if you would like for us to contact you.

When completed please tear off/cut and return your survey to 2504 Sylvan Road