

MORE



NEWS

A Morehead Hill Neighborhood Association Publication

Winter 2004

Officers Needed for 2005

The November meeting is the time for election of officers. Once again we have some openings and would like to invite you to nominate yourself or someone else to fill the open slots. The Board of Directors consists of a President, President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, Interneighborhood Council representative, and three at-large members. The Board meets monthly on the third Wednesday each month, usually for a brief meeting.

Give something back to your neighborhood!

CURRENT MHNA OFFICERS

POSITION	HELD BY/EMAIL	TELEPHONE
President:	Melanie Eberhart melanie_eberhart@hotmail.com	667-0532
Pres.-Elect:	NEEDED	
Secretary/ Treasurer:	NEEDED	
INC Reps: (shared)	Paul Cornsweet Bobbe Deason	682-5284 682-9074
At-Large: Member 1	Lynn Kohn marissa78@earthlink.net	683-2069
At-Large: Member 2	Libby Webb	
At-Large: Member 3	NEEDED	

Come to the Winter Social Event on Sunday, December 5th!



Morehead Hill Neighborhood Association Board of Directors is sponsoring a winter social event for the entire neighborhood. Please bring a covered dish to share, and join us for another all-neighborhood potluck at Morehead Manor (corner of Vickers and Morehead), Sunday, December 5th, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Some of the items we will be discussing at the meeting/potluck include:

- Elections for 2005 officers (You must be current in your MHNA dues to vote. You can pay at the meeting)
- Bylaws discussion regarding changing the required number of meetings from 2/ year to 1/ year.
- Updates from INC, Quality of Life and PAC III.

See you there!

Interested in Neighborhood Watch Groups?

Members of an Neighborhood Watch Groups (NWG) agree to be observant and report suspicious activity to the NWG block captain and/or 911, as appropriate. To form a watch group, identify willing residents from about 10 nearby homes. Email our Crime Prevention Officer, Chad Blanchette at cblanchette@ci.durham.nc.us or call him at 560-4583 extension 231 to set up a training session. After the training session, call Bobbe Deason at 682-9074 to have your group registered with the MHNA NWG network.

DISTRICT 3



Partners Against Crime

District 3 Partners Against Crime meets the second Saturday of each month at the Community Family Life and Recreation Center at Lyon Park, 1313 Halley Street at 10:00 a.m. Police officers and members of other city and county departments are available for information exchange and problem solving.

Morehead Hill Local Historic District

The Morehead Hill neighborhood recently concluded an 8 year effort to achieve two goals:

The establishment of the Morehead Hill Local Historic District Overlay Zone. Durham City Council took that action in 2001.

The expansion of the Morehead Hill National Historic District boundary. This expansion doubled the number of homes by including properties not originally identified in the 1986 application that was initiated by the City of Durham. The National Park Service approved this expansion by posting the expansion on their National Registry at: http://www.nr.nps.gov/iwis-api/explorer.dll?IWS_SCHEMA=NRI S1&IWS_LOGIN=1&IWS_REPORT=10000044. To find the listing of the original historic district and now the expanded district, search on NC and Morehead Hill on the National Park Service web site. Enclosed is a copy of the certificate from the State of North Carolina.

The establishment of the Local Historic District and the expansion of the National Historic District, carry with them benefits and responsibilities.

First, the IRS tax code allows owners of historic homes that are used in business and which are located in a National Historic District to deduct a portion of home rehabilitation expenses from their business income. As you might guess, there are a lot of conditions that property owners must meet. See IRS Form 3468, Investment Credit, for more detail.

Second, the State of North Carolina allows a tax credit for a portion of the rehabilitation expenses of an historic home (does not have to be

used in business) on income tax returns. See NC Department of Revenue Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits (Article 3D of Chapter 105) for more information.

Applications and pre-approval are required before these tax credits are available. The good news is that they are available. Be sure to research IRS and NC rules to understand how to apply and obtain approval.

Beyond the tax benefits of owning an historic home (generally built before 1936) in a Local or National Historic District are benefits of the partnership among residents of Morehead Hill and City/County Government. The intent of establishing a Local Historic District is to encourage preservation of historic (sometimes called contributing) structures in the district. Residents of Morehead Hill share an objective with the City of

Durham to preserve the historic nature of Morehead Hill. Residents also have the notoriety of living in an historically significant neighborhood that is recognized on the National Register. Appropriate signage to highlight the significance of our neighborhood is something we should pursue.

As with most things, there are responsibilities. Each of us who owns a home in the Morehead Hill Local Historic District must apply for approval of any change planned to the external appearance of the home (except for paint color) or its building lot, before the change is accomplished. The process starts with a call to Steve Cruse (560-4137, x236) at City/County Planning to obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness for the planned change. Steve can approve changes to non-contributing (non-historic) properties over the phone. He can also verbally approve simple changes to contributing homes, over the phone. Steve will tell you if your home is contributing or not. Some changes to contributing homes will require a sketch and a more in-depth discussion with Steve and other members of the Planning Department.

In any event, the long journey of 8 years is now over. Many thanks go out to all of the neighbors who participated and contributed to this very significant, grass roots effort. Heavily involved in this effort have been Bobbe Deason, Liz McGuffey, Lynn Kohn and Blaine Butterworth. Thanks also go out to many other people who helped. They are all greatly appreciated for their efforts and perseverance.



State of North Carolina
Department of Cultural Resources
Office of Archives and History

This is to certify that

**MOREHEAD HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT
Boundary Expansion - Durham
Durham County**
has been entered in
THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

by the
United States Department of the Interior
upon nomination by the State Historic Preservation Officer under
provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-665).

The National Register is a list of properties "significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture - a comprehensive index of the significant physical evidences of our national patrimony." Properties listed therein deserve to be preserved by their owners as a part of the cultural heritage of our nation.

John S. Jones
Deputy Secretary, Office of Archives and History
and
State Historic Preservation Officer

June 2, 2004
Date Entered

Durham's New Yard Waste Program Compatible with Beautification, Environmental Goals

The City of Durham's Department of Solid Waste Management is working to get information out about its new yard waste program. In August, approximately 16,000 yard waste customers received a letter informing them of the new yard waste fee, payment options and new service guidelines. We will have copies of the *Unabridged Yard Waste Recycling Instructions* at our Winter Social Event (see page 1).

The City's 2004-2005 budget, approved by City Council on June 21, 2004, includes a \$10 increase to the annual yard waste fee - from \$50 to \$60. The increase was necessary to cover the cost of the program which includes weekly curbside collection of yard waste and up to 8 cubic yards of bulky brush materials per year.

"If the feedback I've received from citizens about the new yard waste program is any indication of the program's appeal to residents, I feel comfortable that we will retain and hopefully even grow our customer base," says Solid Waste Management Director Alfred Davis. This

month Davis has been out in the community introducing the revised program to various citizen groups. "The most commonly expressed concern was the need to relax some of the new guidelines during times when yard waste is heavy," adds Davis. "We are considering

how to address this need in a cost-effective manner."

Many of the new guidelines will immediately support the City's beautification goals or aim to ensure Durham's compliance with state law that prohibits mixing yard waste with household trash. For example:

- To help prevent spillage or exposure to adverse weather conditions, the yard waste cart lid must be closed completely or the cart will not be serviced by the solid waste crew.
- To minimize yard waste contamination from other solid waste, household garbage (trash) carts can no longer be used for overflow yard waste.

Additional changes to achieve operational efficiencies are slated for January 1, 2005. Yard waste will be collected on the same day that the yard waste customer's garbage and recycling are collected. Also next year a \$10 return trip fee will apply to all collection service requests received after the Solid Waste crew has serviced the street.

Did you know?

Little known city ordinances:

Residents are required to store trash carts and recycle bins in their side or back yards. They may be rolled to the curb the night before your scheduled collection day then returned the following evening.

Grass clippings, leaves and other yard waste must not be blown into the street. They clog storm drains and are fed directly into our drinking water.



Morehead Manor B&B | discount coupon

MHNA Friends & Family Discount
Receive **10% off** regular rates for a 1 night stay or
20% off 2 or more consecutive nights stay

(certain restrictions apply)

Call 919-687-4366 for reservations - Mention Coupon

Offer Valid 11/01/04 thru 3/31/05

www.moreheadmanor.com

Treasurer's Report



The Morehead Hill Neighborhood is made up of 450 households. Only 20 households, that is less than 5% of residences, are dues-paying members of the neighborhood association. We intentionally keep annual dues at a low, affordable rate so that everyone can participate.

MCNA is operated by volunteers who have no agenda other than the protection and improvement of the neighborhood we all share. All of your Board of Directors work but still find the time to support this worthy organization. Board members attend City Planning Committee and Interneighborhood Council meetings to keep us aware of what is happening elsewhere and to make our concerns known to the larger community. The association provides a voice for everyone and everything is done voluntarily.

Dues are used to pay for basic supplies, such as plates, utensils, drinks, and ice for our three meetings and for getting out the newsletter. Please support MCNA by joining and paying our low yearly fee.

Individual: \$10 • Family: \$15 • Business: \$25

If you pay at our November meeting, it will include 2004 and 2005. What a deal! Bring your checkbooks.

THANKS !

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yes, I want to support my neighborhood!

Our household realizes that this small membership fee to the Morehead Hill Neighborhood Association helps pay for: (1) this newsletter, which keeps us informed about the current issues that affect our community, (2) neighborhood meeting essentials (paper plates, utensils, beverages, etc.), and (3) reserve funds for important updates and unforeseen emergencies.

Please check any that apply:

- \$10.00 for individuals \$15.00 for families \$25.00 for businesses
- I/We would like to make a donation to the MHNA: \$ _____

NAME(S)

ADDRESS

E-MAIL ADDRESS

DAYTIME PHONE

NIGHTTIME PHONE

DATE

This information will NOT be shared with ANYONE outside the Association. Please fill out this coupon and return it with your dues to: **Liz McGuffey, 908 Vickers Ave., Durham, NC 27701 OR bring it with you to the Winter Social Event** (see front page).

Make out your check to: **Morehead Hill Neighborhood Association.**

Questions about Durham?

Surfers

www.ci.durham.nc.us has loads of information on Durham city services. Check out the interactive maps, particularly the Durham Spatial Explorer! You can see your home from space, see topographic lines for planning drainage or landscaping, and apply tax value overlays, just to name a few!

For Durham county services, try www.co.durham.nc.us

Luddites

Dial **560-1200**; you will get an answer or a referral to the appropriate department.

Durham Prepares for the Future

Durham prepares for the future with the Durham Comprehensive Plan and the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). The Comprehensive Plan describes long range goals for private development and requirements for public services and facilities. The UDO defines development and use of land and property. The Plan is used for guidance when applying the definitions of the UDO. Both documents are nearing the end of the approval process, but there is still time to submit comments. You may download these documents as PDF files from the Planning Department page in the city's web site, or you may purchase the documents (disk or hardcopy) from the Planning Department's front desk.