

# MORE



# NEWS

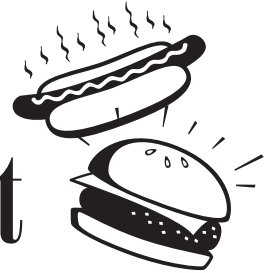
A Morehead Hill Neighborhood Association Publication

Spring 2004

## Signs at Major Neighborhood Entrances

**W**e are looking for some sign ideas for the major entrances to Morehead Hill: Duke Street at University/ Lakewood Avenue, Vickers Avenue at the NC-147 bridge, Lakewood Avenue at Forest View/ Carroll Street, and Morehead Avenue at S. Duke Street and/ or Arnette Avenue. We would like to celebrate our historic neighborhood status, and our diversity. The Board of Directors will narrow the proposals to the top three and submit them to the entire membership for final consideration. Please submit your ideas to any MHNA Board Member by June 10, 2004.

## Sunday, April 18th Spring Social Event



**M**orehead Hill Neighborhood Association Board of Directors is sponsoring a spring social event for the entire neighborhood. Please bring a covered dish to share, and join us for another all-neighborhood picnic at Orchard Park (corner of Cobb and Duke), Sunday, April 18,

from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. MHNA will pay for (and cook on the park's new grills) the hamburgers and hot-dogs for your enjoyment. Come see how our park looks in its first spring since renovation, and give us your feedback on additional improvements you'd like to see implemented. See you there!

## Morehead Hill Reps Needed

**1) Southwest Central Durham Neighborhood Council** – The council coordinates activities with the six Southwest Central Durham neighborhoods for our mutual benefit and improved communication. The SCDNC also coordinates the annual CommUNITY Festival. The volunteer will serve for one year under the guidance of and report regularly to the MHNA Board of Directors. Please contact Melanie Eberhart at [melanie\\_eberhart@hotmail.com](mailto:melanie_eberhart@hotmail.com), or 281-2943 (days) if interested in volunteering for this position.

**2) Lyon Park Advisory Board** – This board oversees the operation of the new Lyon Park Community Center, and has a space reserved for a representative from Morehead Hill. This position has never been filled by the MHNA. The volunteer would represent the MHNA Board of Directors at the Lyon Park Advisory Board meetings and report back to the MHNA Board on a regular basis. The position is available for a one-year term. Please contact Melanie Eberhart at: [melanie\\_eberhart@hotmail.com](mailto:melanie_eberhart@hotmail.com), or 281-2943 (days) for the application.

**3) MHNA Block Captains** – We have been discussing the need for Block Captains to serve as facilitators between residents of Morehead Hill and the Board of Directors. A Block Captain would communicate their neighbors' questions, concerns, and ideas to the MHNA Board of Directors and the Board's responses back to their neighbors. Block Captains would serve for a one-year term. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Melanie Eberhart at [melanie\\_eberhart@hotmail.com](mailto:melanie_eberhart@hotmail.com) or 281-2943 (days).

## CURRENT MHNA OFFICERS

POSITION	HELD BY/EMAIL	TELEPHONE
President:	Melanie Eberhart <a href="mailto:melanie_eberhart@hotmail.com">melanie_eberhart@hotmail.com</a>	667-0532
Pres.-Elect:	NEEDED	
Secretary/ Treasurer:	Liz McGuffey <a href="mailto:ecm908@aol.com">ecm908@aol.com</a>	683-8567
At-Large:	Blaine Butterworth <a href="mailto:bbutterw@us.ibm.com">bbutterw@us.ibm.com</a>	683-3285
At-Large:	Michael McGuffey <a href="mailto:jmm908@aol.com">jmm908@aol.com</a>	683-8567
At-Large:	Lynn Kohn <a href="mailto:marissa78@earthlink.net">marissa78@earthlink.net</a>	683-2069

# Neighborhood Watch Update

**M**orehead Hill residents are forming Neighborhood Watch Groups (NWGs) to reduce criminal activity in our area. There are currently 2 active NWGs; the first covers the 1000-1100 blocks of Arnette; the second includes the 800-900 blocks of Vickers and the 600-700 blocks of Parker.

## What does an NWG do?

Members agree to be observant and report suspicious activity to the appropriate authorities. Criminal activity is reported to 911 and the NWG block captain. Suspicious activity is reported to the NWG block captain. The NWG block captain activates the NWG phone tree and the MHNA NWG network to spread the word.

## How do I start an NWG?

Identify willing residents from about 10 nearby homes. Call the Crime Prevention Officer at your District police sub-station to schedule a training session for NWG participants (District 3 – Lakewood 560-4583, District 2 – Northgate 560-4582). At the training session, appoint a block captain who will collect names, addresses and phone numbers of participants. This information will be compiled into a phone tree; distribute the phone tree to members of the NWG. After the training session, call Bobbe Deason at 682-9074 to have your group registered with the MHNA NWG network.



# Crime Report

**W**e have had several incidents of concern in the past several months. We have had gunfire in the 700- and 800-blocks of Shepherd Street. A murder victim's stolen car was set on fire in the 600-block of Shepherd Street. A house was penetrated by a bullet, narrowly missing the resident, in the 1200-block of Vickers Avenue. Several automobiles have been stolen on Arnette Avenue. An increase in drug trafficking has been seen in the West End and western Morehead Hill along Carroll Street from W. Chapel Hill Street to Lakewood Avenue; along Buchanan Street from W. Chapel Hill Street to Jackson Street; along Arnette Avenue from W. Chapel Hill Street to Jackson Street; and at Vickers Avenue and Lakewood Avenue. (source: www.durhampolice.com - crime mapper and personal communication)

As spring arrives, please be more vigilant as you are out walking, sitting on your front porch, or working in your yard. If you hear gunshots, call 911. If you see something suspicious, call 911. Do your part to make Morehead Hill crime-free! Working together we can make a difference!

Let any MHNA Board member know if you would be interested in having the DPD District Three Crime Prevention Officer conduct a Block Watch 'how-to' session.



# Historic Homes Tour

**O**n Saturday May 1st, the Historic Preservation Society of Durham will host its eighth annual Old Durham Home Tour. This year's tour should be especially interesting and convenient to Morehead Hill residents, as it is located in near-by Forest Hills. The tour, which will last from 10a.m to 5p.m., covers eleven houses and their gardens. The houses which date from the 1920s to the 1960s are in a wide range of historic and contemporary styles.

Forest Hills, which lies just to the south of Morehead Hill, was developed about a generation later, and many houses there were built during the years between the World Wars. For those interested, there will be a free pre-tour lecture on Tuesday, April 27th at 7:00 p.m. in the Forest Hills Club House.

Tickets may be purchased in advance for \$15 at Morgan Imports and the Regulator Bookstore and are \$20 the day of the tour. For more information, call 682-3036.

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# Tips to Research Your Old House

**M**any residents in “Historic Morehead Hill” live in older homes, some of them dating to the early years of the twentieth century. If you live in one of the neighborhood’s vintage houses and want know more about the history of your home, you can find many resources available in the Durham County Library.

It is helpful to do a bit of homework prior to visiting the library. First explore and examine your house and its environs. Talk to longtime neighborhood residents, who can tell you about your home, its previous residents, what changes they made to the property, and other useful information. You may want to take photos of your house and neighborhood.

Then after collecting as much basic data as possible—address, previous owners, and date of construction—look to see if your residence is already part of a survey. The *Durham Architectural and Historic Inventory* in the North Carolina room has a sampling of houses in historic Durham neighborhoods. Information on homes featured includes: the year the property was built (approximate in some cases), original owner, architect if known, and a physical description of the house and its architectural style. *The Durham Architectural and Historic Inventory* places houses in the context of their social surroundings and appreciates that Durham is a city of “many vital neighborhoods.” Its companion volume is *The Durham County Historic Inventory* which lists properties outside the city limits. Also available in

the North Carolina Room is *Historic Resources of Durham*, which has information on houses and districts nominated for the National Register of Historic Places.

If your house has not already been researched, begin with the library’s primary sources, including *Durham City Directories*. Look up your address, listed alphabetically by street name, to learn who lived in your house over the years. Volumes after 1961 are available in hard copy and from 1887-1960 are on microfilm in the periodicals room. Also on microfilm are back copies of Durham newspapers—the *Durham Herald-Sun*, *Durham Morning Herald*, *Chapel Hill Herald*, *Durham Daily Globe*, and several others. Old newspapers have many features from obituaries to real estate ads that are useful to individuals interested in learning more about the history of their houses.

Among other resources are: Durham maps, available on request in the office of the North Carolina Room and *The Durham Historic Photographic Archives*, available on the library web site. (Search by key word.)

There are many reasons to learn more about the of the house you live in—to get your property on the National Register of Historic Places, to get tax credits for restoring a historic house, or just for personal interest or fun. Whatever your purpose, there are many resources available at your local library. For more information call the North Carolina Room at (919) 560-0171 or go online at [www.durhamcountylibrary.org](http://www.durhamcountylibrary.org).

## Historic Home: 614 Arnette Ave.

**T**he historic home at 614 Arnette Avenue continues to show improvement. In mid-March, a dedicated group of volunteers from Morehead Hill and the Durham Historic Preservation Society got together for a workday. They cleaned the yard of this restoration project home of all the construction and demolition debris. Then they landscaped the front and back yards, planting shrubs, trees and flowers, and moving a mountain of mulch to protect the plants and prevent erosion of the yard. If you have not been by in a while, it is worth a special trip to see how great this former eyesore looks. It is still for sale, so if you know a handy soul who is not afraid of a challenge, encourage them to stop by and pick up the sales flyer.

## Coffee with the President

Third Saturday of the Month at  
Fowler’s Gourmet Grocery

I will be at Fowler’s for coffee at 9:00 a.m. on the third Saturday of the month. Come on by and say ‘hello’, share your ideas, concerns, stories of the neighborhood.

Melanie S. Eberhart



## Update: American Tobacco Campus

**W**ithin three years Durham will be the scene of “the largest historical renovation in the history of North Carolina,” according to Bill Kalkhof, president of Downtown Durham, Inc. The American Tobacco Campus is now “actively under renovation.” Phase I will open in June and will consist of some 500,000 square feet, mostly office space for Duke, GlaxoSmithKline, and other Durham institutions. Phase II, scheduled to begin this fall, will be more mixed use – restaurants, a hotel, residential projects, and more office space. However it may be as long as three years before this phase of the renovation is finished and all the spaces are occupied, says Mr. Kalkhof. Once completed, the American Tobacco Campus will be “a major destination location in the Triangle for working, living, and entertainment.”

Traffic impact on Morehead Hill should be minimal, because “the major corridor will be from Duke Street to the east,” and local residents will benefit from having restaurants, coffee shops, and other venues within easy walking distance of their homes. More details are available at [www.downtowndurham.com](http://www.downtowndurham.com).



# Treasurer's Report

As of January 20, 2004 \$396.43 on hand

For 2003, 30 households in Morehead Hill Neighborhood Association renewed their memberships bringing in \$205.00 in dues, and \$117.00 in additional contributions, for a total of \$322.00 for 2003. This represents only 7 percent of the 450 households in Morehead Hill. While it is not unusual to see 20 percent of the people in volunteer organizations do 80 percent of the work, our results are substantially under the norm. Each newsletter we publish costs the neighborhood approximately \$100.00. We would like to publish at least four issues per year, but cannot support that level with our current dues and membership levels. In addition, the association provides the supplies, drinks, and some foodstuffs for each of the neighborhood meetings and picnics. Therefore, the Board has voted to increase the dues for 2004 in an effort to cover our anticipated increase in expenses. If you already paid your 2004 dues ahead at the fall picnic, you are covered for the entire year. Thanks to all our members and future members! We cannot succeed without you.

Please take a few minutes to fill out the form below and help support the neighborhood. The dues for 2004 are as follows:

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

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 Spring Social Event** (see front page).

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

## Water Conservation

- 1) Remember to water your lawn and garden in the morning.
- 2) Set your mower blade as high as possible to improve your lawn's water use.

## Con Active in MH

Please be on the look out for a forty-ish, African-American male. Some of our neighbors have been conned by this man who is using the names of other neighbors in an attempt to sound legitimate and extort money from them. Sometimes he claims his car ran out of gas and that his credit card isn't working, but he needs to get to the hospital to see a neighbor who is very ill. Other times he will claim he has to get prescriptions filled for his sick children and / or wife, but needs some more money. He is not very well spoken, and stumbles in his speech. Please call the police immediately if anyone unknown to you asks for money, even if they use a neighbors' name.

## The Straight Poop

Pick up your pet's waste when taking it for a walk! It's simple, and it will reduce the largest growing contaminant of North Carolina's drinking water! Here's how:

- 1) Just carry a plastic grocery bag or newspaper bag in your pocket, or tied to your pet's leash when you go for a walk.
- 2) When your pet is done with their 'business', place your hand inside the bag like a glove, pick up the waste and 'strip off your glove' inside out, leaving the waste inside.
- 3) Tie the bag closed and dispose of the waste in a garbage receptacle.



It's that easy – if we all pick up after our pets it will make our neighborhood neater, and we'll be doing our part to protect our drinking water.