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Dilworth Quarterly

September 2022

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Don't Miss

Meet the new DQ editors. **Page 4**

Yiasou Greek Festival returns. **Page 5**

Addressing erosion in Latta Park. **Page 7**

Dilworth Home Tour Special Section. **Page 9**

The beauty of Dilworth's tree canopy. **Page 21**

Meet sign language teacher Kelly Bobrowski. **Page 26**

Lots to do at Tom Sykes. **Page 28**

Check out Dilworth's free art gallery. **Page 31**

What kind of owl are you? **Page 33**

Dilworth mid-century homes. **Page 34**

The origins of the Dilworth Home Tour. **Page 34**

Dilworth Church Celebrates 125 Years

by Kelly Hofstatter

Dilworth Church is celebrating its 125th anniversary in November with a goal of sharing its mission of *“being a sign of Christ’s love for the world, starting locally and reaching beyond.”*

Using the theme “Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors” the celebration is not only a metaphorical cornerstone of Dilworth Methodist Church’s values, but also the words engraved in stone near an entry of the building at 605 East Blvd.

The words reflect the church’s aspiration and its legacy of social justice, and inclusion for all people since the church was founded in the 1890s, when Charlotte grocer and part-time pastor John Butt built a one-room frame church in Dilworth to serve nearby families.

Since its inception, Dilworth Church has strived to be an integral part of the neighborhood. From humble roots, membership grew and a church was built at Cleveland and Worthington avenues in what later became the Bonterra restaurant. While other church denominations were meeting in this new “suburb,” the Methodists built its first structure in 1896.

Growth occurred quickly, prompting development of the Gothic-style East Boulevard sanctuary that was completed in 1926 with major funding from tobacco magnate J.B. Duke. He is best known as a principal supporter of Duke Energy and Duke University.

The church and adjoining education building, completed in 1941, were constructed by famous Charlotte contractor J.A. Jones. Jones was a philanthropist and an active church

member who served for many years. While the education/fellowship building was replaced in 2005, it still bears his name.

The Jones family also owned the mansion on East Boulevard – as well as and the city block across from it, which was later acquired by the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in the 1950s.

Adhering to its legacy of community outreach, Dilworth Church added a children’s education building to the campus in 1961. Now home to Dilworth Child Development Center (DCDC), it enjoys a five-star rating as well as a strong community reputation.

Dilworth Weekday School, a separate, half-day preschool program for children ages 2 to 5, is also offered from September to May.

continued on page 8



September 16-17

It’s back! Dilworth Community Association and Crazy Jane’s bring you the 48th Dilworth Home Tour.

Special section begins on Page 9.

Table of Contents

- 4 DQ's New Editors
- 5 Yiasou Greek Festival
- 7 Erosion in Latta Park
- 9 Dilworth Home Tour
- 21 Dilworth's Tree Canopy
- 23 Charlotte Art Collective
- 25 Dilworth Soup Kitchen
- 26 Our Schools
- 28 Tom Sykes Recreation Center
- 31 Free Little Art Gallery
- 33 Owl Spotting
- 39 Did You Know?

Deadline for Next Issue:

Ads: October 15

If you are interested in advertising in the Quarterly, email Mary Beth Sensabaugh at msensabaugh@carolina.rr.com. Rates and sizes can be found on dilworthonline.org.

Articles: October 22

Articles and ads received after the deadline may be held for a later issue.

Dilworth Quarterly is written by volunteers and published under the direction of the Dilworth Community Association. It is mailed four times per year to nearly 6000 households and businesses in the Dilworth community. While we make every reasonable effort to verify the integrity of our advertisers, we do not endorse products or services unless specifically stated.



Autumn in Dilworth

Much of this edition of Dilworth Quarterly is dedicated to the Dilworth Home Tour – truly one of our marquee events and the Dilworth Community Association's only general fundraising event of the year.

The Home Tour this year represents a fantastic slice of Dilworth life. I hope you'll take the time to dig into the previews and join us on September 16-17 for the event. A huge "Thank You" goes out to our gracious homeowners – many of whom have agreed to keep their homes on the Tour despite a full year's delay since they committed.

Seeing what being a Dilworth resident means through the lens of each of these homes is one of the coolest opportunities of the year, and I look forward to meeting many of you there!

I would also like to thank the DCA's Home Tour Committee for their tireless work over the past two years. The challenges and delays surrounding COVID made planning for and hosting this event a challenge, and without the dedication of this team it would certainly not have happened.

The 2022 Home Tour is the result of hard work, months of planning and a continuous eye on returning the Tour to prominence. This type of event works only because the neighbors who volunteer with the DCA genuinely love our community and are excited to add their passion to it. Nothing here happens by accident, and the individual volunteers who make up our Community Association continue to provide us – the residents of Dilworth – with an amazing quality of life.

I am convinced there are many people reading this who would like to be a part of ensuring Dilworth remains the very best neighborhood in Charlotte, as well as some who feel we could be doing even more to improve our position as Charlotte's most hospitable, family-friendly, front-porch community.



Nathan Leehman
DCA President

If this sounds like you, please consider becoming a part of our community organization.

The knowledge and passion our board members and committee volunteers bring to Dilworth is unmatched, and if you're taking the time to read this letter, you definitely have something to add to the mix.

The Dilworth Community Association wants and needs each of you to be a part of our efforts to define the future of Dilworth. Large or small, your contributions are a necessary part of our ability to move forward with the excitement and success we have enjoyed in the past.

We have opportunities to add value in areas including Latta Park sustainability, the future of the Dilworth Jubilee, how our streets and pedestrian environment are managed, and how to best reach community members like yourself - including content creation in forums such as the Dilworth Express email newsletter, social media platforms, and even this Quarterly!

I wish I had known how easy it was to find out about the DCA when I first moved to Dilworth. We hold public meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at the Tom Sykes Center, and we would truly appreciate seeing you there.

Our meetings provide an overview of the specific items on our radar and provide opportunities for all Dilworth residents to make their voices heard.

Can't make those meetings? No problem – my email is below. Send me a note, let me know your interests and concerns, and I'll either be in touch with you directly or get your information in the hands of a committee member with hands-on interest in your issue.

Meeting times (and a ton of other information) is available at dilworthonline.org.

Thank you all for choosing Dilworth as your home – we can't wait to see you at the Home Tour and a future DCA meeting!

- Nathan Leehman
president@dilworthonline.org

2022 DCA Officers

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Valerie Preston
Secretary

Board Members

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	Keely Edwards	Sis Kaplan
	Liz Lewis	Thomas Walker
	Sarah Curme	Valerie Preston

2022 Home Tour Committee

Fran Miller and Stacy Hartley
Co-Chairpersons

DCA Board Meetings

Stay tuned via Dilworth Express
DCA Board Meetings are open to the public, 6:30pm, the first Wednesday of the month at the Tom Sykes Recreation Center, with time allotted for Q&A.

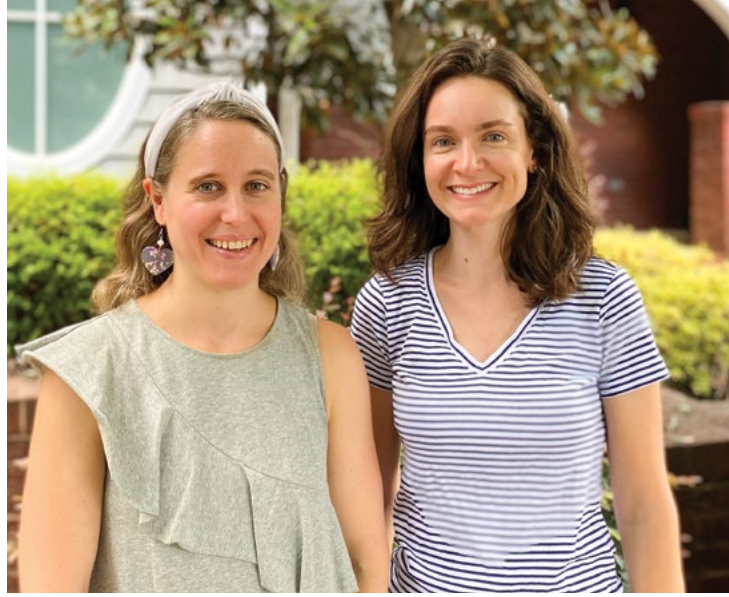
Dilworth Quarterly Staff

Sarah Kuljevan + Sarah Ritzer *Co-Editors*
Mary Beth Sensabaugh *Advertising Sales*
TM Petaccia *Design*

Thanks to this issue's writers:

Liz Lewis	Sally Higgins
Mathew Demetriades	Sarah Kuljevan
Nathan Leehman	Sarah Ritzer
Nikki Campo	Shauna Powell
Ruth Ann Grissom	Tom Bradbury

Meet the new DQ Editors!



Dilworth Quarterly co-editors (L-R) Sarah Ritzer and Sarah Kuljevan.

Sarah Kuljevan

I am originally from York, Pennsylvania. I graduated from Penn State University with degrees in Spanish, International Politics, and International Studies. I have worked in international sales support for a wallcovering manufacturer, as a yoga instructor and most recently in commercial sales for an energy company. Right now, I stay at home and am a proud mom to our two boys. I moved to Charlotte with my husband, Francisco, and now three-year-old son, Noah, in January 2020. We were fortunate to find a place in Dilworth, not knowing the area at all before committing to it. We have since welcomed our second son, Jordi, just a year ago. He is the only one of us that is a true Charlottean!

We have been living in Dilworth for almost three years now and our experience of the neighborhood, the walkability of the area and the beautiful spaces continue to exceed our expectations. Dilworth is a special place.

We are lucky to be here, and I so look forward to my new role as co-editor of Dilworth Quarterly. ■



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Charlotte Observer 2020 Real Estate Rising Star Award Recipient

Sarah Ritzer

I moved to Dilworth in 2010 with my husband, Mike, as he began a new job in Uptown Charlotte. At the time, I was working remotely and from home, leading me to become acquainted with the city through creative means.

I relied on consistent reporting from Dilworth Quarterly on history, practical information, and connections; friendly exchanges on walks; and relationships formed while attending church at Dilworth United Methodist on East Boulevard, shopping at local businesses, and dining out. Twelve years later, I spend my time as a wife and mom.

Outside of those roles, I enjoy volunteering, mostly through Dilworth Church, both campuses of Dilworth Elementary School where my children Graham and Sydney will be in third- and second- grades this fall, and other local organizations such as Promising Pages and Girls on the Run of Greater Charlotte. I delight in connecting friends and strangers alike to local resources, believing that intentionality and kindness go a long way in this world.

The new adventure of Co-Editor of The Dilworth Quarterly is one that I am embracing with open arms, planning to deepen the sense of home I feel in the Dilworth community. ■

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Charlotte's Annual Yiasou Greek Festival is back!



by Mathew Demetriades

Since 1978, the Yiasou Greek Festival at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral has been providing food, entertainment and fun for families throughout the Charlotte area.

In the last forty-four years, the Yiasou Festival was voted Best Ethnic Festival (Creative Loafing in 2000, 2003, and 2004), Best Annual Festival in Charlotte (About.com 2012), Best International Event, Charlotte Magazine (2009), and others.

Food is the main attraction at the Greek Festival. Being Greek, I will go ahead and give you my food preferences which are as follows:

For lunch or dinner, spanakopita (spinach pies), pastichio (Greek baked pasta dish with ground meat), and dolmado (stuffed grape leaves). For dessert, loukoumades (doughnuts served warm drizzled with honey and sprinkled with cinnamon and sugar) and diples (pastry drizzled with honey syrup and chopped walnuts). Whatever your preferences, all of the food and desserts are great!

As in years past, you will be able to eat full meals inside the Fr. C hall and a la carte servings outside. Inside the hall, you will have many choices including baked chicken, lamb, fish, and Greek plates including pastichio, spanakopita, dolmado, and a side salad. You can also go almost all green and order a large Greek salad plate, with lots of Feta cheese and Greek dressing of course. With full plated meals, drinks are included.

Outside, under the tents, you can order gyro or chicken pita sandwiches, french fries, pizza, spanakopita, tiropita (cheese pies), and more.

continued on page 22

Yiasou Greek Festival

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
 600 East Boulevard • Charlotte • 28203

Friday, September 9: 11 am - 10pm

Saturday, September 10: 11 am - 10pm

Sunday, September 11: Noon - 6pm

Pets are not allowed on the festival grounds except for service dogs.

Parking: Limited parking is available on side streets in Dilworth. Please adhere to posted parking guidelines. Do not block driveways.

CATS Lynx Light Rail: The church is less than one mile from the East/West Boulevard stop.

Website: yiasoufestival.org



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Addressing Erosion in Latta Park : An Update

by Ruth Ann Grissom

When Nancy Nicholson and I started the Latta Park Project in 2015, erosion was one of our top concerns. It's virtually impossible for our volunteers to address these problems on our own, but fortunately Park and Recreation staff members, in conjunction with private contractors and the Conservation Corps of North Carolina, have recently begun the process of stabilizing some of the slopes in our park.

We realize many people have had questions about the work that's being done, so we wanted to share some information provided by Bryan Joyner, manager of the Central Park Region.

"The high and low density coir logs you see throughout the park are an effort to create an immediate erosion barrier. Simply put they are being placed strategically to control watersheds as a temporary solution. Left for short periods of time (a couple of months) they begin to allow silt and soil deposits to firm up at the base, giving consistency to the sediment zones, bank up, and allow them to potentially settle in and hopefully begin to cultivate vegetation. They begin to break down and blend with the soil (as they are made of natural organic materials).

"This will aid us in manually reshaping the landscape and protecting the vulnerable creek from sediment overload. While



Coir logs are sediment control products made from all-natural, organic coconut. The word "coir" refers to fibers from the outer layer of the coconut fruit.

they may not be "pretty" to look at, they are highly effective when properly placed and aided with plantings and additional soils to create banks and deposits, they work.

"These are the first steps to changing the landscape at Latta with regard to watershed. Unfortunately the topography at Latta Park is essentially a bowl. Not very conducive to allowing for natural growth, therefore some effort on our part in the form of erosion controls and plantings is needed. We are working to stress the importance of some capital money to be set aside for park grading improvements. Until then, it's on the park operations workforce.

We strongly feel the long term benefits will outweigh the short term aesthetic inconvenience."

Nancy and I still have many questions about this process. When will the green coir logs be removed? Will coir logs and seed matting be installed in additional areas, such as the eroded slope near the picnic tables? Will permanent fencing be installed to replace the orange mesh?

We hope our volunteers can assist in these efforts by doing what we do best – spreading mulch and installing native plants. We hope this will be the focus of our afternoon workday on November 5, 2022. Keep an eye on the Dilworth Express and bulletin boards at the park for more information.

We'll also be holding our First Thursday morning work days on September 1 and October 6.

If you'd like to join our distribution list to stay up to date, please email Nancy at nancyenicholson@gmail.com. ■

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Dilworth Church is part of the United Methodist denomination of 13 million members worldwide. While continuing to support missions throughout the world, its members and clergy have always been focused on serving Charlotte. The church helped start several local community service nonprofits.

In 1974, after parishioners saw children sleeping on benches along East Blvd and in Freedom Park, they created a shelter in the church basement that became The Relatives. Dilworth Church was also among the churches that founded Crisis Assistance Ministry in 1975 and housed it during its first years of operation.

Current outreach includes hosting Room in the Inn guests, Habitat for Humanity, support of Reid Park Elementary, and sending mission teams for domestic and international relief programs. Their community theater program, the Dilworth Players, led by church member, Wes Curry, has recruited talent from across the region in addition to Dilworth members to produce and direct top-quality musical productions that are open to all and annually attract large audiences.

To commemorate and honor its 125th Anniversary, Dilworth Church will have a weekend celebration of the church's past, present, and future planned for November 18-20.



Dilworth Methodist Church postcard, circa 1926.

Friday Nov. 18 at 6pm: A BBQ dinner will complement an entertaining program involving music, stories, tours, and a presentation by historian Tom Hanchett. The entire community is invited for a festive evening.

Sunday Nov. 20 10am: The Dilworth Church service will feature special music and a message from Bishop Ken Carter, who leads the United Methodist denomination in both western North Carolina and Florida. A Southern-style covered-dish lunch will follow the service.

For more information on Dilworth Church and upcoming anniversary events, visit dilworthchurch.org.



**Friday, September 16:
6pm-9pm**

**Saturday, September 17:
10am-4pm**

Advance tickets: \$30

Available at:
Dilworth Drug & Wellness
Park Road Books
Paper Skyscraper
Ultra Running Company
Or buy online at dilworthonline.org

Days of the tour: \$40

Don't wait to get your tickets

The 2019 tour sold out and we know there is pent up demand for this exciting event!

We're back!

After a two year absence, The Dilworth Community Association and Crazy Jane's are proud to present the 48th Dilworth Home Tour.

This much anticipated event welcomes guests to tour Charlotte's first Streetcar Suburb. Explore our front porch way of life and enjoy our many local businesses.

The Home Tour is the primary fundraiser for the non-profit Dilworth Community Association (DCA). Proceeds support both the DCA's efforts to serve the Dilworth community and the current Dilworth Care Campaign Recipient.

Six beautiful homes and a unique East Boulevard business will be open for viewing on Friday, September 16 from 6pm-9pm and on Saturday, September 17 from 10am-4pm.

As always, these homes represent some of the broad diversity of Dilworth living. Explore architectural styles from classic Craftsman bungalow to Victorian to new builds! ■



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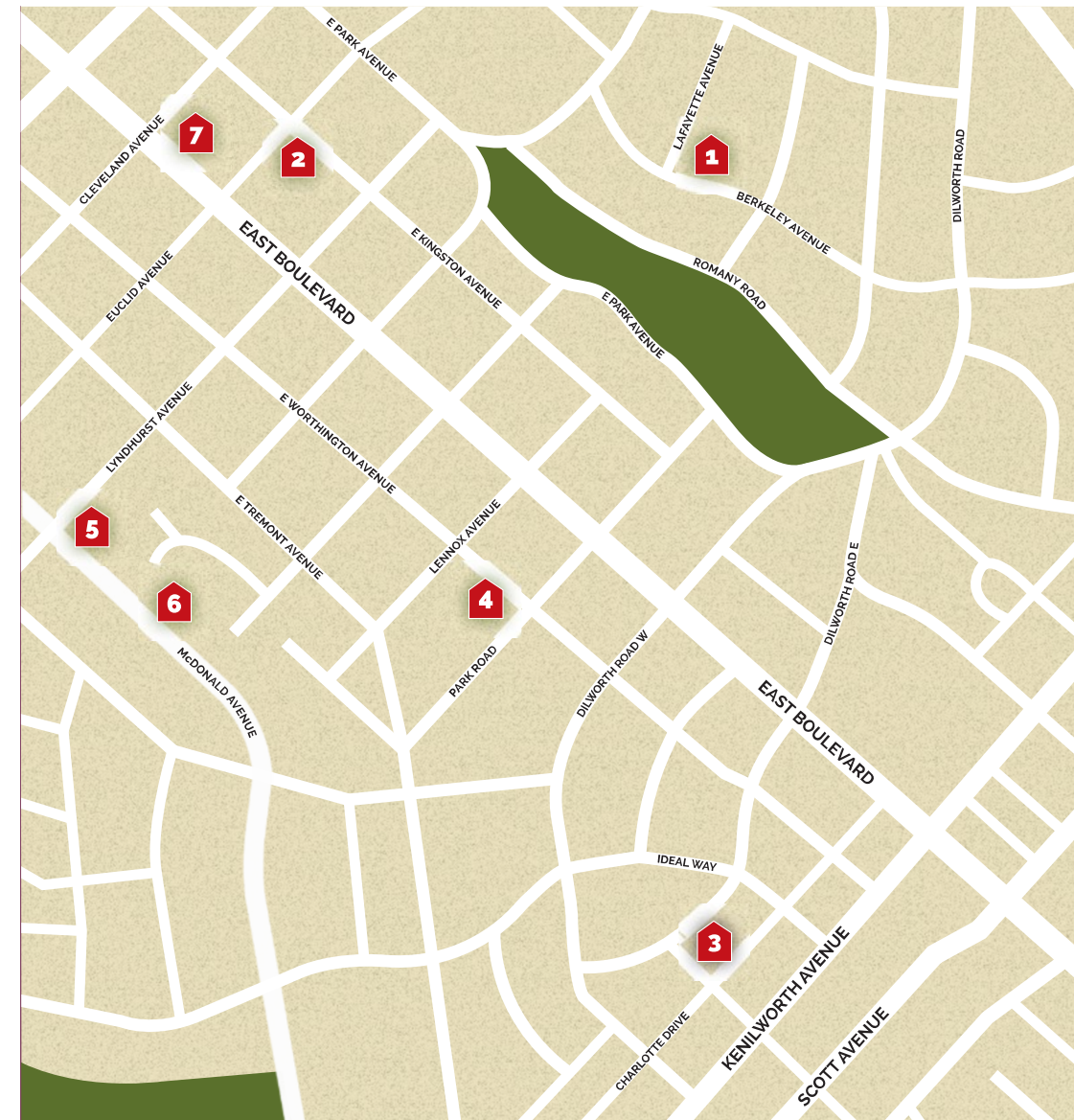


CRAZY JANE'S

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Your 2022 Dilworth Home Tour Map



- 1. 728 Berkeley Avenue**
Paula Stathakis & Patrick Canupp
- 2. 400 E. Kingston Avenue**
Claire & Chrishon McManus
- 3. 2033 Charlotte Drive**
Alexis & Bob Warren
- 4. 828 E. Worthington Avenue**
Mary Helen & Justin Davis
- 5. 400 McDonald Avenue**
Heather Mackey
- 6. 500 McDonald Avenue**
Joe & Courtney Franco
- 7. StudioWorks Art Collective + Gallery - 307 East Blvd**
The historic Crutchfield-Bomar-Brem House





728 Berkeley Avenue



Paula Stathakis and Patrick Canupp purchased their Dilworth home six years ago after living in Plaza Midwood for over twenty years. Drawn to this home because of its unique architecture and updated layout, the warmth and coziness of the home was also a selling point.

The home has a unique Charlotte history. Built in 1928 by a man who was an automobile dealer in town (Otway Fogus), the longest residents to live in the home were the Mitchell family who acquired the house in the 1950s and remained there until the 1990s. The Mitchells owned Mitchell's Tuxedo Rentals and Sales which started in Charlotte in 1947, and expanded throughout the southeast. Mrs. Mitchell always had a bowl of candy at the front door earning her the name "The Candy Lady." She also published a cookbook and guide for new brides titled "A Treasury of Favorite Niceties" which had pictures of the home on the dust jacket.

The home now has over 5,000 square feet and boasts five bedrooms and four and a half bathrooms. The house was built in a Tudor Gothic revival style which was a popular architectural style in the 1880s to 1940s. It is masonry constructed in brick and stretcher bond. Other unique architectural elements include the slate roof, arches, decorative motifs, wood front door with leaded glass inset, diamond shaped granite ornaments on the façade above the porch entrance, and granite windowsills throughout.

In 2001, the home was extensively renovated with an addition onto the back of the house as well as a basement renovation, and sunroom enclosure. During the 2001 renovation, two outdoor patios were built and most recently a traditional English garden was installed in the front of the home. The owners say that they love all parts of the home, but spend a lot of time in the rear family room and sunroom. ■



Fran Miller



400 E. Kingston Avenue



Claire and Chrishon McManus became the next caretakers of the Mallonee-Jones House in December of 2021. While new to Dilworth they are very familiar with historic homes and just fell in love with the historic features of this amazing home. They moved to Charlotte from Washington, DC and prior to that were residents of Los Angeles.

Chrishon, a native Charlottean, had long admired Dilworth and wanted to live here. Claire was specifically looking for a neighborhood that did not require her to own a car to get around. She also grew up in a Victorian house in Pittsburgh and always wanted one of her own.

There are many things about this 2800 square foot Victorian home that they love including many of the original features. The home has four bedrooms, two full bathrooms, and one half bathroom. The home was built in 1894 and first occupied in February 1895.

There have been no major renovations since that time. Some small renovations include the addition of the conservatory, and the conversion of a butler's pantry into a bathroom.

The Mallonee-Jones House has had only five owners since 1894. J.N. Mallonee was the building contractor for the house, and first resident. The second owners were Charles and Cora Jones who purchased the home in 1899. Charles passed away in 1924 and Cora continued to live here until her death at 100 years old in 1974. The house was designed by C.C. Hook, Charlotte's first resident architect and the same architect who designed the Duke Mansion and the Belk Mansion.

The Mallonee-Jones house was likely the second house designed by C.C. Hook in Charlotte. The house is one of two remaining Queen Anne Victorians designed by Hook. The house was part of the Dilworth Tour of Homes in 1975 and 1984, before returning in 2022. ■



SARAH MARTIN





Alexis and Bob Warren have lived in this charming bungalow for two years and previously lived in Madison Park. They chose Dilworth because they wanted to be within walking distance to their favorite restaurants and shopping. They were immediately drawn to the white brick exterior, the rounded door, and the architectural charm of the home. The quietness of Charlotte Drive was a huge factor for them when they looked at the home.

The home is 1460 square feet with three bedrooms and two full bathrooms. It was built in 1942 and has been renovated and updated through the years. Since they have lived there Alexis has put her amazing interior designer touches on the home by renovating the kitchen and creating an open galley and also expanding their primary closet to a walk-in closet. The interior has been designed to stay true to the historical traditional cottage style and architecture. The design style is very traditional with pops of modern creating a young, vibrant,

lived-in aesthetic. The breakfast nook in the kitchen was custom designed by Alexis, creating a window seat with bookcases surrounding the window, for a relaxed and non-formal sitting area. All of the art in the home was collected from the owner's favorite galleries, artists, trips, etc., which makes each piece special with a story behind it. When selecting furnishings, they took a more deliberate approach - adding pieces over the years resulting in a more curated and inviting design. They are very lucky to have a larger backyard with a screened-in porch where they spend a lot of time. Last year, they added grass to the backyard, which was previously fully mulched, creating an oasis.

According to Alexis, it's hard to pick just one favorite place in their home as each space is extremely special. *"I would say our most used space is our breakfast nook in our kitchen as that is where we sit with family and friends for dinner, drinks, laughing and game nights!"* ■



Mary Helen and Justin Davis, along with their dogs Boo and Chief, have called 828 E. Worthington Avenue home since November 2020. Mary Helen grew up in Charlotte and has always loved Dilworth.

The way the old trees canopy over the streets, the homes full of charm and character, the people out walking; it's always been one of the prettiest parts of Charlotte. This 2188 square foot home has three bedrooms, two bathrooms, tall ceilings and an open vibe throughout. Built in 1914, this home was one of the original five homes on Worthington Avenue. Although renovated through the years, much of the original 1914 home is still visible. The kitchen was renovated before the Davis family bought the home.

They recently renovated the bathrooms, closed off a wall to create a true primary bedroom and bathroom, built a laundry room closet, replaced many light fixtures, refreshed the paint and put turf in the backyard.

The few parts they did not touch were the old hardwood floors, pocket doors, and quirks of the home. They did not want to lose the age and cool history.

But the wrap around front porch is what truly sold it for them! The front porch is the best spot in the whole house. Sit on the swing or couch and just relax and watch all the neighborhood has to offer. ■





Heather Mackey and her three daughters, Cameron, Liza, and Caroline, moved into their home in August of 2020. Heather, a realtor, is very familiar with Dilworth and when she saw this home it spoke to her heart for herself and family. They relocated to Dilworth from Myers Park.

They chose this home in particular because of the energy of Dilworth and the amazing walkability of the area. She saw the potential the home had and simply loved the floor plan and overall flow for her and her three girls.

The newer bungalow style home is 3500 square feet with four bedrooms, three full bathrooms and one half bathroom. The home was built in 2008 and Heather has undertaken renovation over the last couple of years to make it her own with a fun mix of old and new.

Loving art and color she has a mix of antiques and newer pieces. According to Heather there isn't one favorite place for her – it's the whole home that is her favorite! ■



Dilworth | Wellness Center



The Franco Family includes Joe and Courtney and their two children, Beau and Mac, along with their dog Dutch. The Franco's started building the home in November of 2020 and moved in in January of 2022. Prior to building, they literally lived across the street and were able to walk to the new house to check on progress daily which was both a blessing and a curse!

The Francos are longtime Dilworth residents. They started in historic Dilworth across from St. Pat's. This home is their third house in Dilworth since 2011. They love the walkability of Dilworth whether it is to East Blvd or the South End side. They were looking for a lot to build on and were fortunate enough to find one "under the radar" – before it hit the market – and they quickly scooped it up.

They especially loved the larger size of the lot which enabled them to build a large home of 6400 square feet with six

bedrooms – four allocated as bedrooms with one as office and one as playroom – four full bathrooms and two half bathrooms. The style of the home is Contemporary Craftsman and is finished in a modern style with a traditional undertone. Courtney loves to decorate with a funky, yet functional, style that is both beautiful and livable for an active family.

Some of the interesting features are: the double glass, temperature-controlled wine cellar separating the living room from the dining room. The primary bathroom features a wetroom that includes the bathtub into the shower area. The finished basement includes a cigar smoking lounge with a hidden, walk-in humidor. The home opens via large sliding patio doors onto the back patio overlooking the pool. Courtney loves "sitting on the chaise lounge near the cellar at night with the ambient light from within." ■



7 StudioWorks Art Collective + Gallery



Point of Interest

Built in 1903, The Crutchfield-Bomar-Brem House at 307 East Blvd. is an official Charlotte Mecklenburg Historic Landmark and one of the oldest houses on East Boulevard.

Tammy Langdon purchased the house in August 2020 and StudioWorks artists moved in October 2020.

Dilworth and South End are vibrant, exciting neighborhoods with so much activity. *"The house spoke to me as soon as I stepped on the front porch. It felt like home. I walked in the*

door to gorgeous light flooding through the windows and could immediately envision how this location would support the growth of the artist collective.

"The Dilworth community, and this inspiring house, is the perfect location for our art business."

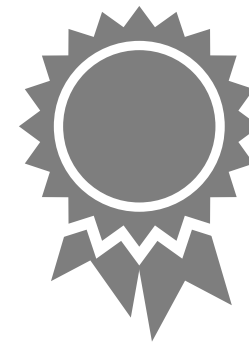
Ten studios occupy various rooms in the 2800-3000 square foot home. Stop in to see the home, the art, and their possible friendly ghost. ■



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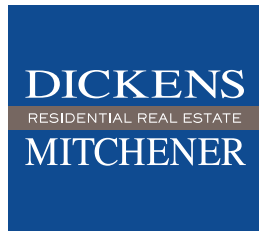


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Dilworth's Tree Canopy: The Unofficial Part of the Dilworth Home Tour

by Liz Lewis

What doesn't get much mention during the Dilworth Home Tour, and yet is an integral part of the beauty and attraction of the homes on the Tour?

Stumped? The answer is ... Dilworth's tree canopy.

We have lots of trees in Dilworth. But with storms, development, disease, and the maturing of many of the trees here, we're also losing our trees.

To give you some idea of the magnitude of our situation, Dilworth lost 12% of its trees over a recent six-year period (source: UNCC's Urban Institute).

The good news is the Dilworth Community Association is working through its Tree Canopy Committee to replace and replant trees in our community. The Tree Canopy Committee has two fundraisers: the Share the Shade fall fundraiser and the Tree Tribute Program which runs all year long.

Thanks to both of these efforts, money is raised that goes toward planting street trees throughout Dilworth. Over the past three years, we have added almost 100 large trees to our neighborhood's canopy and have advocated for several hundred more thanks to the City of Charlotte.

But the tree losses keep coming. And so again this year we are looking to plant even more trees and need your financial help by contributing to our tree funding initiatives.

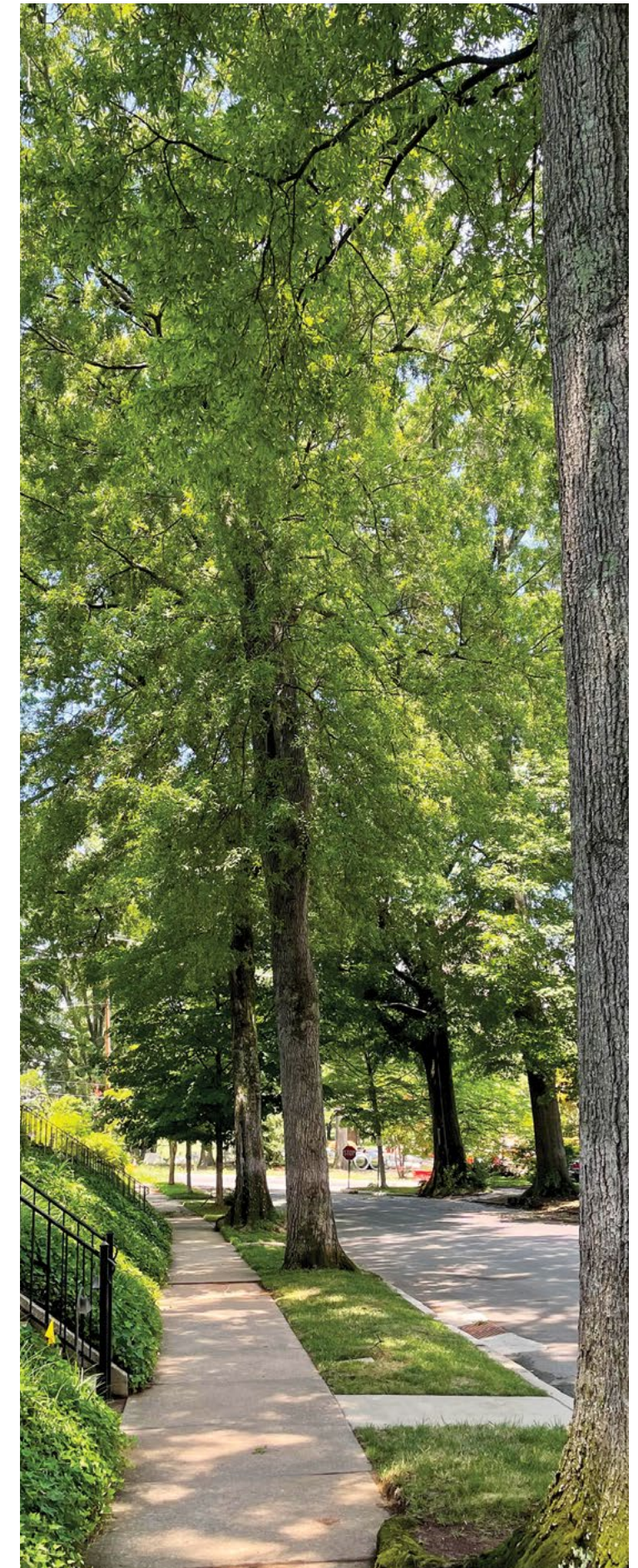
The Share the Shade tree canopy fundraiser officially kicks off in November - in time for year-end giving and late fall/winter planting. You can also donate today on our Dilworth website. Donations will fund this year's round of street tree plantings.

So as you enjoy the amazing homes on the Dilworth Home Tour this year, enjoy the shade and beauty of our neighborhood and be a part of the tree planting solution.

We're going out on a limb and predicting that this will be a banner year for adding to Dilworth's tree canopy.

If you'd like to get involved in DCA's Tree Canopy Committee, we'd love to have you! Our next meeting will be in early October.

To join in or with any questions, email Liz at express@dilworthonline.org, and for more information and details on DCA's tree efforts, visit dilworthonline.org. ■



Outside, you can also order a drink to include soft drinks, water, beer, and wine.

If you do not have time to come to the festival to eat, you can utilize the drive-through. Located on Winthrop Avenue between East Boulevard and E Worthington Avenue, the drive-through is a great choice for those who are in a hurry. For even faster service at the drive-through, you can print and complete the drive-through menu and present it to the attendant. The menu can be found at yiasoufestival.org.

To top off any great meal, dessert is a must.

The Greeks are known for their delicious pastries. At the festival, you can try some of the best. Baklava (layers of phyllo sweetened and held together with syrup and filled with chopped nuts) is one of the most famous Greek desserts.

There will also be baklava sundaes (baklava with vanilla ice cream), loukoumades, and several Greek cookies - not to mention that "sturdy" Greek coffee.

You can even take home a Taste of the Yiasou Greek Festival by purchasing the award-winning cookbook "A Taste of Greek Tradition" that was compiled by the Holy Trinity Ladies Philoptochos Society.

The cookbook can be found in the Hosanna Bookstore and all proceeds from the sale of the cookbook go to the philanthropic



projects of the Philoptochos on local, national, and international levels. Don't forget to check out the Greek grocery store and wine tastings outside, too.

Entertainment at the Greek Festival is always popular. Young members of the church begin practicing their Greek dancing months before the festival to put on a show for you.

In addition, there will be live music and cultural events. Check the festival website for the band and dance schedule.

At the festival, you will also find unique Greek inspired jewelry, religious books, and many beautiful paintings in the shops located in the Sunday School hall.

Do you ever drive or walk by the church and wonder what the inside of the church looks like?

Come view the beautiful iconography inside the cathedral where you can also enjoy a lecture about the Greek religion and beliefs, and get information on the history of the Greek church and Greek community here in Charlotte.

Tours will take place each day, and Choral Performances will be offered as well.

Young festival attendees will not be disappointed in the children's playland located outside by the front gate. Face painting, caricatures, wax hands, and games are just a few of the activities that children should not miss.

If you have questions, please contact the church office at 704-334-4771 or visit the Yiasou festival website: yiasoufestival.org.

See you at the festival! ■

Charlotte Art Collective's Annual Holiday Show Slated for November 19

An annual tradition, The Charlotte Art Collective will be showcasing a wide variety of eye-catching functional and decorative works by local artisans at its Holiday Art Show Saturday November 19 at the Avondale Family Life Center, 2821 Park Road.

The show features paintings, photography, and pottery, jewelry, book art, print making, woodturning, fiber arts, glass, handmade soaps, whimsical sculptures, and more.

Also an annual tradition, and as part of the Dilworth Cares initiative, there will be a raffle benefiting a local nonprofit. This year, it's The Relatives. The winner will receive a basket filled with original artwork created by CAC members.

Charlotte Art Collective began in the early 2000s as an informal group for artists to gather, socialize, and present their work. Today, many CAC artists are full-time professionals who are represented in galleries. Others are committed to making art and offering it through in-person and online sales.

CHARLOTTE Art COLLECTIVE

Many members have won awards and commissions; some have sold their work to collectors across the world.

As a group the CAC makes art accessible to many people through its upbeat, enjoyable shows.

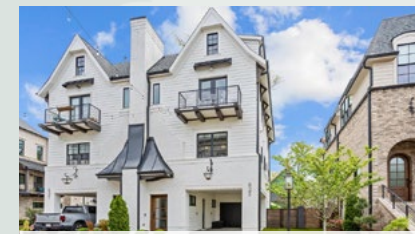
Learn more about the Charlotte Art Collective, its artists, and its mission at its website charlotteartcollective.org and via @charlotteartcollective on both Facebook and Instagram. ■

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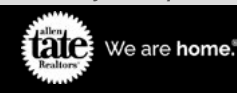


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Dilworth Soup Kitchen Feeding Folks with No Questions Asked for over 14 Years

From its inception in 2008, the Dilworth Soup Kitchen's goal has been to provide free, nutritious and delicious meals to anyone, with no requirements or questions asked.

Operating from First Christian Church at 1200 East Blvd., Dilworth Soup Kitchen is a nonprofit organization providing hot, nutritious take-out lunches every Monday and Friday of the year to Charlotte-area guests. It also provides meals to homeless groups as well as disadvantaged Charlotte Mecklenburg School students.

Its all-volunteer team prepares and provides up to 200 high-quality lunches twice a week. Fresh food, as well as a broad range of groceries, are generously donated by local partners – individuals, organizations, businesses, and corporate donors.

Volunteers are always needed. If you are interested, reach out to info@dilworthsoupkitchen.org. ■



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Our Schools

Meet Kelly Bobrowski: Sign Language Teacher

by Nikki Campo

Kelly Bobrowski grew up as the child of a deaf adult (CODA). She moved to Charlotte in the fall of 2021 and landed a new position as a sign language teacher for all first graders at Dilworth Elementary School. She spoke with *Dilworth Quarterly* about what it's like to grow up signing and speaking, how she finds joy teaching others to sign and to better understand deaf culture, and how to learn the language.

DQ: How did you first learn sign language?

Bobrowski: I learned from my mom, who was born 100% deaf. Hearing aids and cochlear implants wouldn't work with her because she doesn't have hair cells in her ears we do to absorb and send sound signals to our brains.

I have an older sister, a younger sister, and a younger brother. Our mom taught us all. Sign language is my first language. I had a pretty severe delay in my speech. I had a really tough time with my identity. I thought, Why can I hear certain things, but my mom can't? I knew that she was deaf, I just didn't understand that I wasn't. So it was hard for me to speak because I wanted to be like my mom: she is my person, my hero. So once I figured out I wasn't and wouldn't be deaf, I turned to asking what can I do to support my mom and the deaf community and culture?

DQ: What was it like to grow up signing and speaking aloud?

Bobrowski: Growing up, we were always in the deaf community. So we were all CODAs (children of deaf adults). We were always with our mom's friends and her friends' kids. A lot of the kids were deaf, too. So we were signing all the time. But I didn't really think it was anything different: it just felt normal.

I would come home from school and sign with my mom. It was a normal day for me. I remember always translating in my head or catching myself watching a movie or listening to a song.

Even now, I'm like, "How would this translate from English to sign language so I could share my favorite song with my mom?"

I remember one time we were at a grocery store and I was



Dilworth Elementary sign language teacher Kelly Bobrowski along with first grade students Ruby Schoper (L) and Anna Skidmore (R).

maybe 7. My mom forgot something and asked me to grab it really quick. Someone came up to yell at us because we were messing around. So I went to my mom and said, "I think I got in trouble." And she said, "If someone is yelling at you and you're not hurting anybody, just pretend you're deaf. They'll just leave you alone."

Looking back now, I'm sad because people just don't know what to do [when they encounter someone who is deaf], so they disengage. So that's why I love sharing deaf norms and culture with everybody I know.

DQ: What's it like teaching six- and seven-year-olds how to sign?

Bobrowski: When I was asked if I would teach sign language as a special [like music, art and PE], I was so excited. I called my mom right away. I said, "Isn't this epic?" It ended up working out perfectly.

The kids are so accepting of the language. They are so eager to learn. They're like sponges, especially if they love it. They come back the next week and tell me their whole family knows the signs. Every day, someone raises their hand and asks how to say

something, so I always leave five minutes at the end of class for random words. They ask how to say "rabbit" or "flower," then go home and tell their parents. I like to think how every time they see that thing in the world, they'll think of the sign.

DQ: Have you seen the recent movie CODA (about a young hearing girl whose family is deaf)?

Bobrowski: I have. Overall, the movie made me feel very seen. The [hearing] daughter was always interpreting, which I love to do for my mom and don't even notice I'm doing it anymore. It was also funny their house was such a loud place: door and cabinet door slamming, how they talk to each other, and I felt like, Yep, my mom does that, too.

The movie showed us that blunt conversation is not rude in the deaf community. It's encouraged. For example, if someone has gained or lost weight, and you don't point it out, it's like you're not paying attention. I remember a friend once came over and my mom said something and they got very upset. I had to explain to my mom in the hearing world, that's considered rude. But in her world, it would be rude not to say something.

One thing that was a little tricky about CODA was that they portrayed being deaf as something that was tragic. They made it seem like the burden [of having a deaf family] fell on the daughter, as if the others had to depend on hearing people to help. And that's just not true.

The only thing different about deaf people is that they can't hear.

DQ: What are some other misconceptions people have about people who are deaf and/or about sign language?

Bobrowski: Everyone thinks deaf people are professionals at lip reading. Some are. My mom has gotten good at it. With COVID and masks, it was a tough few years for the deaf community.

Some people assume that deaf people can't use their voices. But many deaf people go to speech therapy and can speak. Some choose not to. Some people think talking louder around a person who is deaf will help, but it doesn't. The biggest problem or misconception though is around intelligence. Hearing has no effect on how you learn or perform. The stigma can really hurt the deaf community in finding jobs, for example.

I used to have a lot of people ask me if my mom could drive. Driving is very visual, so yes she can drive. Also, a lot of people think that deaf people can't listen to and enjoy music, which is not true. My mom loves music, it just has to be very loud or the bass has to be on so that she feels the vibrations. It makes you have a different appreciation for music and dancing.

DQ: If people are interested in learning sign language, are there resources or classes you would recommend?

Bobrowski: The internet is a great option. There are some great creators on YouTube. I'm available, too, if people in the community are looking for in-person classes. ■

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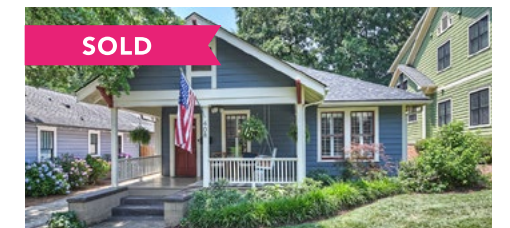
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Tom Sykes Recreation Center

Compiled by Shauna Powell

Pre-registration is required for all programs.

Register online at parkandrec.com, by calling Tom Sykes Recreation Center at (980)314-1113, or stop by the center.

For more information about all of Tom Sykes Recreation Center programs contact TomSykesRecreationCenter@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

Preschool Programs

Music Together of Charlotte

Music Together is children and their grownups joyfully sharing songs, rhymes, movement, and instrument play, both in music class and in their daily lives. A pioneer in early childhood music and movement education, Music Together offers classes in which parents and caregivers actively participate.

When: Monday - Saturday

Ages: 8 months - 5 years

Contact: musictogetherofcharlotte@gmail.com

After School Programs

Monday - Friday • 3-6pm

Ages: 5-12 • \$7.00 per class

Email tomsykesrecreationcenter@mecklenburgcountync.gov for the form with programs listed.

You do not have to attend Dilworth or Sedgefield Schools to participate – all are welcome.

CMS School Day Out & Early Release Days

School Day Out Day Camp

\$25.00 per child • 9am-6pm

Early Release Day Camp

\$13.00 per child • noon-6pm

Please call for specific dates.

Youth Programs

Youth Basketball League

Recreational coed league play whereby age appropriate modifications are utilized to ensure safety, fun, and skill development based on maximum participation, balanced teams, positive coaching, and sportsmanship.

Season: December - Feb

Ages: 5-12

Pricing: \$70-residents/\$84-non-residents

Registration begins September 5

Basketball Lessons – Private/Group Lessons

Whether your player is new to the game or is looking to work on specific skills and techniques to enhance their basketball game, private and group lessons at Tom Sykes Recreation Center will help them achieve the goals they set! Call 980-314-1113 to schedule an appointment.

Ages: 5-12 • \$15.00/hr

Youth Volleyball – Private/Group Lessons

Whether new to the game or looking to work on specific skills and techniques, private and group lessons at Tom Sykes Recreation Center help achieve set goals. Call 980-314-1113 to schedule an appointment.

Availability based on gym schedule

Ages: 8-17 • \$15.00/hr

Adult Programs

Pickleball Private Lessons

Learn fundamentals to help everyone from the seasoned veteran players to the newbies. These lessons are great as a refresher course and can be a very good opportunity to sharpen skills before playing competitively. General focus of these lessons will be proper technique, footwork & overall strategy.

Thursdays • 6-7pm

\$15 per session

All Age Programs

Badminton

Pickup games weekday nights from 5:30-7:00pm. Three courts available. All ages and skill levels. Call for availability.

Pricing: \$2.00 Adults • Free for youth

Biking Lessons

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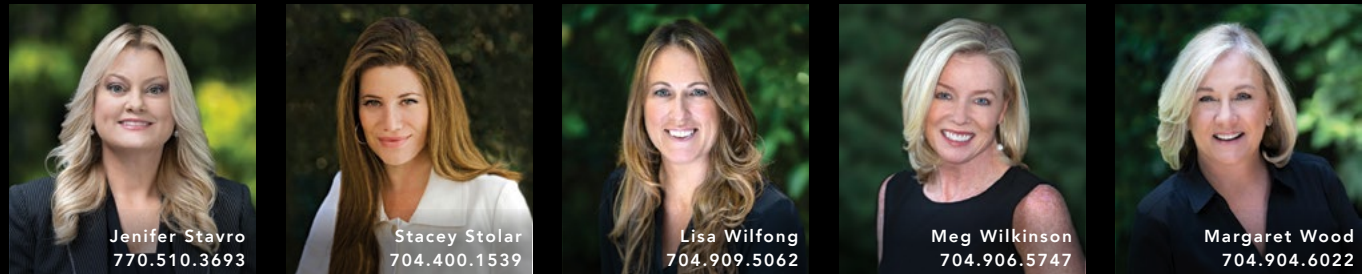
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Dilworth's Free Little Art Gallery: A Charlotte First

by Sally Higgins

Dilworth now hosts Charlotte's first Free Little Art Gallery, or FLAG, located at 307 East Boulevard.

Following in the tradition of Free Little Libraries where neighbors swap books, FLAGs began popping up around the country during the pandemic as many galleries and other opportunities to enjoy art were closed or limited. Anyone can view, take, or leave small works of art in all manner of styles and media.

This FLAG is hosted by the eleven artists of StudioWorks Artist Collective + Gallery, who offer smaller-than-usual creations from their Dilworth studios to passers-by, in hopes they will enjoy an accessible and unexpected art experience.

StudioWorks moved into the Crutchfield-Bomar-Brem House on East Boulevard in October 2020. Within the house are the artists' working studios, plus gallery spaces. Exhibitions change each month in time for the First Friday South End Gallery Crawl.

The beautiful building is one of the oldest homes on East Boulevard and is an official Designated Historic Landmark. The home is featured on History South's Self-Guided Walking Tour of SouthEnd/Dilworth: "This exuberant residence boasts a corner tower and asymmetrical massing characteristic of Queen Anne Victorian design. Its initial owner was a railroad agent, followed by Reverend Edward Bomar who led fledgling Pritchard Memorial Baptist a few blocks up South Boulevard. Walter Brem, one of the city's leading real estate men, moved here with his family after tiring of their Colonial manse at 211 East Boulevard."

In 1977 the home was converted to offices, an adaptive reuse that left the architecture of the historic home intact. Original windows, doors, floors, and architectural details remain, including six fireplaces with neo-classical mantle decoration.

Mary Alice Dixon Hinson of the UNCC College of Architecture wrote in 1981, the charming home "is a well-preserved and



The Dilworth FLAG art collection on a recent day included submissions from StudioWorks artists, a San Antonio artist, and Charlotte Montessori School.

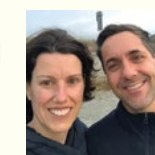
robust example of the domestic Queen Anne style popular in American architecture at the turn-of-the-century."

The house will be featured as a point of interest on the Dilworth Home Tour on September 16 and 17, 2022. StudioWorks is also open by appointment. Learn more about the collective and its artists at www.studioworksgallery.com.

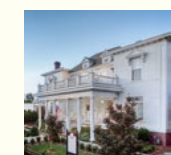
Meanwhile, as you walk the streets of Dilworth, stop by the FLAG to see what is on view. Artists from around the country have mailed in art works, and many local artists—amateur and experimental, professional and preschool—have made contributions. Everyone is invited to participate. All art is welcome. Experiment with your own mini works (no larger than 5x7ish) and treat the next FLAG patron to your original creation. Follow the FLAG on Instagram @freelittleartgallery.charlotte. ■



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While strolling through the park one day ...

Last May, Dilworth resident Larry Powers was walking through Latta Park with his daughters Neve and Sloane, along with pet dog Lula, when they heard a loud screech.

They looked up and there it was, an owl in high branches of a tree.

Typically most owl species are nocturnal which means they sleep during the day, but this isn't always the case, especially here.

Overall, owls fall into three types of sleep patterns:

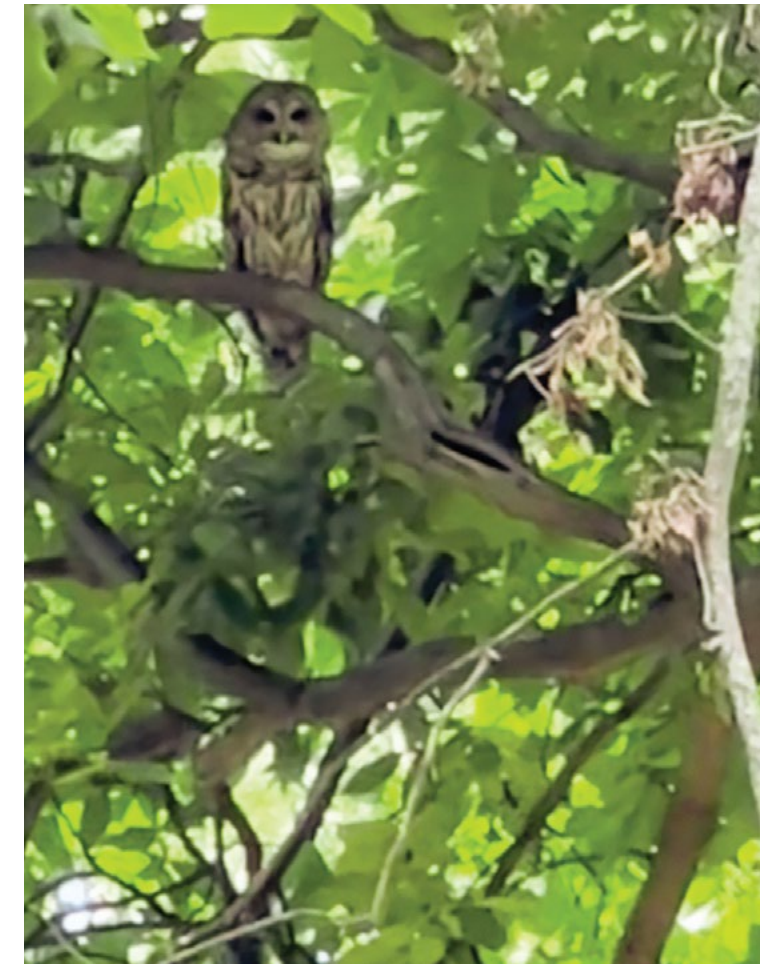
Diurnal – Active during the day, sleep at night.

Crepuscular – Sleep during the day, become active at dusk and dawn. (Ever wonder when the sun is going down, all the birds in the neighborhood seem to be going berserk? Usually, it's because one has spotted an owl and is warning the others, and the other birds join in on the alarm. Yes, owls will eat other species of birds.)

Nocturnal – Sleep during the day, active during the night.

Same can be said for many humans.

What kind of owl are you? ■



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19 Homes were sold in the Dilworth neighborhood in the second quarter of 2022.

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Data compiled from Canopy MLS Fast Stats, recorded in Q2 2022.

Information is deemed reliable, but not guaranteed





Historic District Commission

Early to Mid-Century Charlotte Architectural Styles

by Cindy Kochanek

Do you ever wonder about the different house types and styles and how they all came about?

Dilworth includes a variety of architectural styles and house types. This should come as no surprise since the neighborhood originally started in the 1890s. Continuing our architectural styles and types series this article will focus on the early to mid-20th century. Like many regions around the country, in Charlotte some architectural styles and house types may have been built earlier or later than the stated date ranges.



Dilworth bungalows like this were built between 1915-1940. Photo: Google Maps.

The early to mid-20th century architectural styles and types include the English Cottage, Tudor Revival, Bungalow and Colonial Revival. The English Cottage, Tudor Revival, and Colonial Revival are true architectural styles with the Bungalow as more of a cross between an architectural style and house type. House or building types refer more to the plan or layout of the structure, including its shape, the number of stories, and if there is a specific floor plan that defines the type.

Architectural style is mainly distinguished by special characteristics of the building or applied ornamentation.

The English Cottage (1920-1940) is a smaller, often simpler version of the Tudor Revival style. Both styles took their cues from earlier medieval English styles. Typically, one or two stories, these houses have asymmetrical facades, steeply pitched roofs, and large, prominent chimneys. Windows are tall and narrow sometimes with diamond panes. Doorways are often arched and accents on the style include quoins, keystones, and chimney pots. 1100 Ideal Way is an example of this style.

The Tudor Revival style (1920-1940) is a larger version of the English Cottage with many of the same style cues. Typically, this two-story version is found with faux half-timbering using stucco and wood. Brick tends to be the prominent material used on the first floor. Complex gable roofs, decorative brick or stonework and paired or triple windows are all part of the vocabulary of this style. Berkeley Avenue in Dilworth has a large concentration of this style. 728 Berkeley Avenue and 801 Berkeley Avenue are model examples of this style; a Tudor arch wraps the entry at 728 Berkeley Avenue.

The Bungalow (1915-1940) is found in abundance in Dilworth. The Bungalow is typically a one or one-and-a-half story house with a low slung, sprawling presence. Brackets, exposed rafter ends, deep eaves and a mix of materials are often found on the Bungalow. Front porches tend to extend for most of the front of the house and are supported by square or tapered columns on piers. Dormers and paired windows often make an appearance on the Bungalow. The Bungalow may often borrow details from Arts & Crafts, Tudor Revival or Colonial Revival styles. In Dilworth, 2144 Park Road, 412 E Tremont Avenue, and 405 E Kingston Avenue are examples of the Bungalow.

The Colonial Revival House (1910-1940) is another popular style in Dilworth. This style is a revival of the earlier Federal and Georgian styles from the United States and includes a sub-category of the Dutch Colonial Revival style. Typically, a rectangular plan with two stories and a symmetrical façade this house is clad in brick or wood siding. Gable roofs are typical of the Colonial version and gambrel roofs for the Dutch Colonial version. Detailed entrances may include sidelights and fan lights for doors, classical columns, and porticos. This house type is situated all around Dilworth including 726 E Kingston Avenue, 901 Mt Vernon Avenue, 905 Romany Road, 1226 Myrtle Avenue and 1709 Park Road.

As always, please feel free to contact HDC staff if you have any questions on specifics relating to architectural style and building types or any other questions or concerns regarding the Dilworth Local Historic District. HDC staff can be reached via email at charlottehdc@charlottenc.gov. Check out our social media posts on Facebook and Instagram @cltplanning. ■



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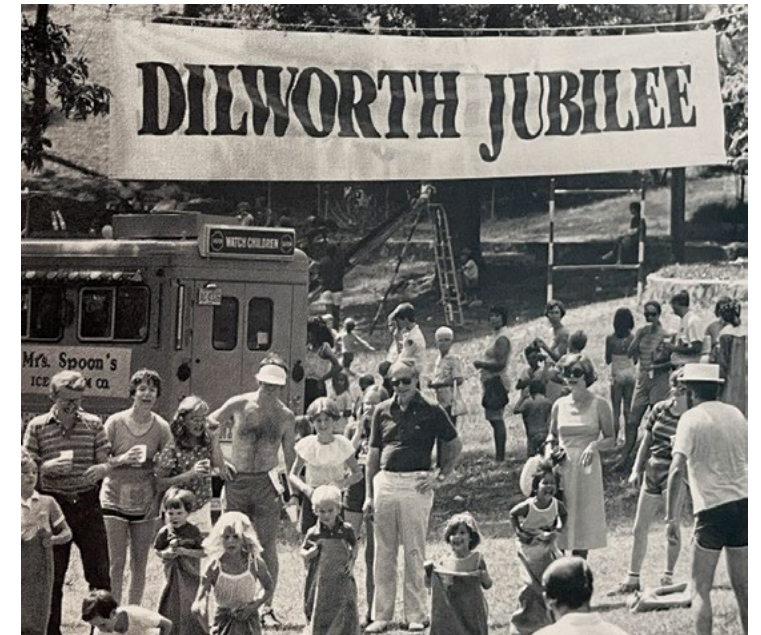
Did you Know?

The Dilworth Home Tour Began as an Offshoot of the Dilworth Jubilee

Excerpted and edited from "Dilworth: The First 100 Years" by Tom Bradbury

The Dilworth Jubilee began in 1973 as a celebration of [the Dilworth] community.

It grew out of a DCDA (Dilworth Community Development Association) planning committee headed by architect Michael



Dilworth Jubilee 1980.

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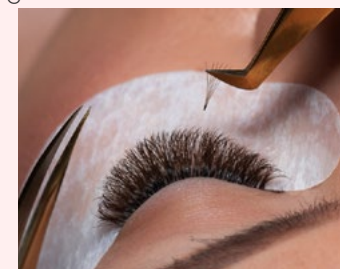
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Finch. D'Etta Leach, who co-chaired that first Jubilee with Finch, said the aim was to raise money for planning and to show the city ... what a jewel Dilworth was.

It was a stunning success on all counts, and continues to be. For decades, except for the years during the pandemic, the Jubilee brought in folks from the rest of the city to see the neighborhood's spirit — as well as the renovated houses on the popular, and profitable, Dilworth Home Tour.

The Dilworth Criterium bicycle race around Latta Park, first begun as part of the Jubilee and later moved to another weekend, was also an enduring success.

As an editorial column in The Charlotte News said, "It was not just an effort to show off, but to share; the home tour, for example, was intended not only to display the products of renovation, but to pass on the secrets and perhaps infect visitors with the enthusiasm to try it. The city was invited to see not a waxworks or museum, but a work very much in progress.

"The celebration was not just of the place that is Dilworth, but of the human energy that is trying to make of it a community." ■