



# Dunleath News

March 2021

## SUMMIT AVENUE STREETScape UPDATE

*David Wharton*

On Tuesday, March 16, the Greensboro City Council approved the contract for construction of the Summit Avenue Corridor streetscape project. That means more than \$7 million of investment in our pedestrian-oriented infrastructure, which we started advocating for over 15 years ago, will be under construction this spring.

Old timers will remember that this was a bottom-up effort from the beginning: we had lots of help from planners and city staff, but the roots of the project were from neighborhood folk. We had incredible neighborhood engagement over many years.

It's a huge accomplishment, and unique in the city of Greensboro. It took far too long, but we did it. Hooray for us! Hope we can get together soon to celebrate our accomplishments.

### **Neighborhood Branding**

The board is moving forward to refine the preliminary plans for gateway and monument features submitted by Designature, and updated landscaping plans for the Max Thompson bridge and other areas are expected in the next few weeks.

Some black metal fences were installed on the sidewalks leading from the Downtown Greenway to Percy and Chestnut Streets. ADA requires handrails at these locations because of the slope of the sidewalks, but the board is exploring handrail options that would be more in keeping with plans for installing arched gateways at these locations. We are communicating with the city and with the Downtown Greenway staff on these issues.

## COMMUNITY GARDEN FUNDRAISER UPDATE

*Becky Muich*

The Dunleath Community Garden Council would like to sincerely thank the neighborhood for its generosity in helping us to raise funds for our garden expansion project! We succeeded in reaching our goal, and are excited to share our next steps.



The clearance was done on Saturday, March 13, so drop by to check out the progress! The council has begun drafting plans and proposals for innovative new uses for the space, including a Little Seed Library and community plots to grow produce free for the community.

The council is looking forward to working with the neighborhood to find new ways to make this special place even more special.

## LAWN LIBATIONS

**Join your neighbors and friends!**

*Mebane Ham*

It's a very simple and fun idea. Once a month neighbors will gather in the lawn of the "host" to share beverages of your choice and conversation. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and enjoy some fresh air. The whole family is invited!



- Days and Time: Lawn Libations will be held on the third Sunday of each month from 4-6 pm (April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15, September 19, October 17, November 21, December 19).
- Host Responsibilities: Provide a lawn and perhaps a cooler with ice. Anything more than that is left up to you. If you want to provide snacks, drinks, sidewalk chalk, or chairs – that's okay.
- Guests Responsibilities: Bring yourself. Anything more than that is left up to you. If you want to bring something to drink, a snack, or a chair, please do.

I will be hosting the first Lawn Libations on Sunday, April 18th from 4-6 pm at 675 Percy St. Hosts are needed for the other months. We will post the locations and host in the list serve and in our newsletter. Email me at [mebane@mebaneham.com](mailto:mebane@mebaneham.com) if you would like to host a Lawn Libations.

Looking forward to everyone on April 19th, 4-6 pm. It's been a long, unusual year. Let's have some fun and reconnect. Please remember to wear your mask.

## SPRING LITTER CLEANUP

**Saturday, April 17; 9 am-12 noon**

We hope to cover all the streets in our neighborhood, plus the Swann Middle School campus, the fence line around the school, areas around the tunnel, and any other areas that need a little cleanup.

Please note that in light of the continued challenges of the pandemic, we will be unable to get trash bags, gloves, and grabbers from Greensboro Beautiful, as we have in the past. We will be asking neighbors to please supply their own bags. While they're much smaller, plastic grocery bags could work very well for our cleanup. I'm happy to provide those. If you have your own gardening or other gloves, please plan to use them. We may explore the possibility of the neighborhood purchasing grabbers, and provide one for each household to use in neighborhood cleanups.

We'll be sending a signup link to the listserv soon, or you may sign up on the website at [dunleath.org/events](http://dunleath.org/events). Thank you so much for offering to help!

## DUNLEATH BOOK CLUB

Samuel Johnson

The Dunleath Book Club continues to meet monthly and be a great source of pleasure for its regulars. We would love to expand.



During the winter because of the pandemic, we've been using Zoom to meet. Last Summer we had delightful outdoor meetings, maintaining social distance, and we hope to be doing that again soon.

We read fiction and non-fiction, controversial books, fun books and thought provoking books, old books and new books. We have recently been able to take advantage of books in the Greensboro Public Library's book club collection, which has allowed everyone to get the book from that source.

Whatever book we choose, we take into account its availability, including whether the Greensboro Public Library has it and/or the NC Digital Library has it and/or it can be bought inexpensively electronically or in paperback. We usually pick our book two meetings in advance, and we're always open to any suggestions.

Our next meeting will be Monday, April 19, and we'll be discussing *Half Broke Horses* by Jeannette Walls, the retelling of the life of the author's grandmother, who lived in the Mid-West and West in the earlier part of the 20th century. Some of the stories are apparently family legend, but it seems the grandmother was quite a person. This book is a Greensboro Public Library book club book, and copies are available to borrow.

At our May 17th meeting, we'll discuss *8 Perfect Murders* by Peter Swanson. A location for the meeting will be chosen later.

Anyone interested in borrowing a book or attending a meeting should contact Mebane Ham at [mebane@mebaneham.com](mailto:mebane@mebaneham.com).

## PLANS UNDERWAY FOR DUNLEATH PORCHFEST

We are proceeding with plans for Dunleath Porchfest 2021, scheduled for Saturday, June 12 from 12-5 pm. Please note that event planners will be mindful of all Covid-19 restrictions in place at the time of the event, and with respect to those guidelines:



Spread Only  
Music & Goodwill

- Conditions and circumstances could change and it may be necessary to revise plans accordingly.
- All event participants will be expected to adhere to those restrictions.
- Additional measures may be taken to emphasize that event attendees must adhere to all restrictions in place at the time of the event.

Participation information has been shared with the neighborhood and prospective performers, and a number have signed up to participate!

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the past for helping make this such a fun and successful event for our neighborhood! For our neighbors who do not yet feel comfortable hosting a porch performance, please know that it will be completely understood.

If you would like to host a porch performance, please visit the website at [Dunleath.org/porchfest-participate](http://Dunleath.org/porchfest-participate) for signup information.

## NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD

David Wharton, *president*  
[David.Wharton@gmail.com](mailto:David.Wharton@gmail.com)  
(Percy Street)

Brian Gillies, *vice president*  
[BrianJGillies@gmail.com](mailto:BrianJGillies@gmail.com)  
(Park Avenue)

Rebecca Muich, *secretary*  
[RMMuich@gmail.com](mailto:RMMuich@gmail.com)  
(Fifth Avenue)

Andrew Evans, *treasurer*  
[Andrew.Evans.d@gmail.com](mailto:Andrew.Evans.d@gmail.com)  
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(Chestnut Street)

Cristian Nunez  
[HeatherandCris@gmail.com](mailto:HeatherandCris@gmail.com)  
(Percy Street)

Herb Peterson  
[hlpeterson3@gmail.com](mailto:hlpeterson3@gmail.com)  
(Leftwich Street)

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

Mon., Mar. 29, 6:30 pm

Mon., Apr. 26, 6:30 pm

*Meetings will be held via Zoom. All neighbors are welcome to attend. Please contact David Wharton if you are interested.*

## STAY CONNECTED

### Website

[Dunleath.com](http://Dunleath.com)

### Listserv

Dunleath-

[News@googlegroups.com](mailto:News@googlegroups.com)

*(please contact David Wharton to be added to the listserv)*

### Facebook

[@DunleathNeighborhood](https://www.facebook.com/DunleathNeighborhood)

## HELP DUNLEATH WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

Heather Adams Nunez

Dunleath hopes to reach out to new neighbors to provide a welcome letter and bag as well as some important resources (like printed historic district guidelines). This welcoming effort is one way that our neighborhood remains connected and unique. Thanks to neighbors who support these efforts and especially those who have provided goodies to share. Susan Elliott, Chris Williams, Jon Enos, we appreciate you!

Please share the news of incoming Dunleath neighbors by emailing me at [heatherandcris@gmail.com](mailto:heatherandcris@gmail.com). Providing an address is especially helpful and prevents anyone being overlooked.