



Dunleath News

October / November / December 2021

UPDATES GREENWAY BENCH COMING TO DUNLEATH

submitted by Heather Adams Nunez

Neighbors, it is exciting to see the Greenway being constructed around downtown Greensboro and so close to Dunleath. The aspect of the Greenway that I am most anticipating is the installation of a piece of public art—a Greenway bench—that will be located between the two neighborhood entry points to the paved loop at the ends of Chestnut and Percy Streets. The bench is a commissioned piece by Charlotte artist Nico Armortegui.

This past summer, Nico and his family visited Dunleath several times to get a better sense of our neighborhood. Nico's first visit involved an informal walking tour. He listened to neighbors, learned about our historic designation, and discovered what we think is distinctive about Dunleath. The second visit, during PorchFest, allowed Nico to experience our community as many others do when they attend this signature event. Nico and his family also generously invited Dunleath folks to visit his home workshop in Charlotte and to see his various creations and mediums. Across these times of sharing, much was evident: Nico's warmth, his familiarity with historic structures, his deep ties to his native Colombia, his love for North Carolina, and his creativity in making art that tells stories of joy, fortitude, and love.

Cristian and I recently went to the Red Dog Gallery in Winston-Salem to see Nico's current solo exhibit. As we walked through the downtown area, we were thrilled to notice more work by Nico—public art on display that we hadn't known to look for but that now caught our attention. During another quick trip to Charlotte, we grabbed lunch at a restaurant and encountered a mural-size installation that—we could tell from first glance—was another Nico original. I'm becoming aware of the extent to which Nico's art contributes to public life in these other cities. It is gratifying to imagine how residents of and visitors to Greensboro will enjoy Nico's bench and how some will likely draw connections between it and other pieces of Nico's

art around the state. Nico is committed to making art for the people—art to be enjoyed in community and often from the street. I now see his work as a colorful thread that connects our communities.

Visiting Nico's studio helped me appreciate how his work is not only inspired by some timeless and significant artists of the past, but also from his ongoing efforts to visit and learn from living artists around the world. It is a special gift to have a piece of public art so near our homes that will be an expression of the varied and rich traditions from which Nico draws as he produces his original pieces.

By following Nico on social media (@nico_malo1) I have deepened my appreciation for the vibrancy of his pieces, which tend to reflect bold (sometimes sobering, sometimes playful) themes rendered in saturated colors, sweeping lines, pronounced shapes, and dynamic arrangements that explode from the canvas or clay. Nico's art is full of life. Together, we have endured the realities of the pandemic and the individual and collective challenges, even losses, of the past several years. I hope you agree that art that celebrates life in full color and with great vigor will be a welcome addition to this corner of Greensboro and a testament to Dunleath community through time and at this particular moment in history.

NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP

Thank you to everyone who came out for good food and fun at the neighborhood's National Night Out picnic in August. And thank you to Brice Watkins for grilling the hot dogs.

At the event, we voted for the neighborhood's board of directors. New members are Gordon Hafley (Park Avenue), Amanda Hepler (Cypress Street), Elizabeth Jernigan (Cypress Street), and Robert Rogers (Chestnut Street). A full listing of all board members and their email addresses can be found on the back of this newsletter.

Upcoming board meetings are Monday, October 25th at 6:30 pm, and on Monday, December 6th at 6:30 pm. Meetings are currently being held via Zoom. All neighbors are welcome to attend. If you would like to join us for any of the meetings, please contact david.wharton@gmail.com.

SUMMIT AVENUE UPDATE

Work on the long awaited Summit Ave Streetscape improvements are underway. The project will unfold in many phases. Presently, the water line, the sanitary sewer, and the storm sewer all run down the middle of Summit. This infrastructure will need to be moved before the median could be planted. A new water line is currently being installed on the west side of Summit Ave. New sewer lines will follow. Once this new infrastructure is installed, that is when work will begin on replacing the center of the avenue with planted medians.

UPCOMING EVENTS LAWN LIBATIONS

Join your neighbors for the next Lawn Libations! Bring your beverage of choice, snacks to share (if you want), and a smile. The whole family is invited.



Sun., November 21; 4-6 pm

Hosts Lars & Elizabeth Farabee; 711 Percy Street

Sun., December 19; 4-6 pm

Hosts Megan Gunderson & Griffin Orlando; 507 Park Avenue

DUNLEATH BOOK CLUB MEETINGS

For more info, contact Samuel Johnson at sbjmath1@aol.com to get on the e-mail list for the book club.



Mon., November 15th; 7 pm

Host Carol Velez; 739 Park Avenue

CANDLES & CAROLS

Sunday, December 12; 6-8 pm

Candles and Carols is Dunleath's annual luminary display and caroling stroll. Neighbors can purchase luminaries through the neighborhood association. Once luminaries have been placed and lit, we plan to gather for a caroling stroll along the candle-lit streets of the neighborhood. To purchase your luminaries, visit <https://www.dunleath.org/events>.



NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD

David Wharton, *president*
David.Wharton@gmail.com
(Percy Street)

Brian Gillies, *vice president*
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(Park Avenue)

Gordon Hafley, *secretary*
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Herb Peterson, *treasurer*
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Cristian Nunez
HeatherandCris@gmail.com
(Percy Street)

Robert Rogers
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(Chestnut Street)

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

December 6, 6:30 pm

Meetings currently being held via Zoom. All neighbors are welcome to attend. Please contact David Wharton if you are interested.

STAY CONNECTED

Website: Dunleath.org

Listserv: Dunleath-News@googlegroups.com
(please contact David Wharton to be added to the listserv)

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. Providing an address is especially helpful and prevents anyone being overlooked.