



Dilworth Community Association
 PO Box 36023
 Charlotte, NC 28236-6023



Dilworth Quarterly

March 2021



Just Listed

712 Templeton Ave
 3 Bedroom | 2 Bath | 2,476 sq ft | MLS #3663405



A
 HELEN ADAMS REALTY
LIBBY GONYEA
 REALTOR®
 704. 975. 8513
 lgonyea@helenadamsrealty.com

Don't Miss

Dilworth's old trolley lines! **View on page 5.**

Dilworth's past, Charlotte's future. **On page 6.**

Dilworth yards get back to their roots. **Check out page 10.**

There's a new vibe in town. **Find out where on page 12.**

Did you know about Dilworth's extensive floral gardens? **Read about it on page 15.**

Why was the Dilworth Quarterly so late? **Find out on page 16.**

An update on the *Share the Shade* results! **See page 19.**

It's that time of year! Calling all young entrepreneurs for the summer! **More details on page 31.**



Ms. Melody and Mrs. Moore's classes celebrated Halloween during their morning meeting. It was a highlight for the students to get to dress-up and show off their costumes during remote learning!

Dilworth Dragons Adjust to New Learning Norms

By Becky Crawford, Principal, Dilworth Elementary School

2020 was an unusual year. Yet through it all, students across CMS participated in various learning paths and adjusted to our ever-changing world. The second Tuesday of every month, when the CMS school board met to discuss potential changes to the school day, looked much different in my house in 2020. I bet the same was true for many households across Charlotte.

CMS started the year fully remote. Students across the district learned about each other, their teachers, and their new curriculum—virtually. This created a need for educators to

think creatively about how best to engage with students and families, collect data, and create partnerships to support learning. Teachers, students, and families learned to access virtual curriculum and assignments and to set schedules for live (aka synchronous) learning time all from home.

Virtual learning required teachers, students, and parents to stretch their endurance, problem solving, and creativity skills. Families worked hard to create an environment at home that promoted learning and explored ways to support their children socially, emotionally, and academically. Support staff conducted home

continued on page 23

Table of Contents

- 6 Land use
- 10 Neighborhood Environment
- 12 Dilworth Eats
- 14 Historic District Commission
- 15 Did You Know?
- 16 Why Was the Dilworth Quarterly Late?
- 19 Tree Canopy
- 21 Diversity & Inclusion
- 27 Merchant News
- 31 And Finally...

Deadline for Next Issue:

Ads: April 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.

Copy: April 20

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



The Dilworth Quarterly is written by volunteers and proudly printed on 30% reused and 100% recycled paper. It is published under the direction of the DCA and is mailed 4 times a 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.

From the President

A Word from the New President of the Dilworth Community Association, Franklin Keathley

This is Dilworth

I recently ran into a local historian taking pictures of the Mayer House (now Copper Modern Indian Cuisine) for his Historic South End Walking Tour. There was only one problem. This is not "Historic South End" ... This is Dilworth, right?

The thought stayed with me. Is he right? The restaurant is outside the South End Municipal Services District, administered by Center City Partners, and within the Dilworth Historic District. The sign out front does say "South End," but is it really? And does it matter?

Defined by Our Edges

Historically, the borders of Dilworth were easier to define. A 1935 reconstructed streetcar map of Charlotte shows Dilworth wedged between Wilmore to the west and Myers Park and Cherry to the East. The Southern Railroad marked the line between Dilworth and Wilmore, and Little Sugar Creek separated us from our young neighbors in Myers Park. Dairy Branch Creek met the Little Sugar Creek and split at Ideal Way to mark the border with the farmland (now Sedgefield) resting to the South. To the North, another small creek on the other side of Morehead (at the time lined with grand houses) marked the transition into the Brooklyn neighborhood.

So where is Dilworth now? At first glance, the physical "edges" of today's Dilworth are much like those in the 1935 map (coincidentally the same year my grandmother moved into a house on East Blvd). A consultant might just take that and carve out a line where the South End Vision Plan says South End begins, but they



Franklin Keathley
DCA President

would be wrong. The City has its own map, but that goes all the way across the Light Rail and doesn't quite seem right either. My first thought was to draw a border using South Blvd, a few creeks, parks and I-277, but I would be wrong too. You see, 2020 has come to show me not just where Dilworth is, but "what" Dilworth is.

Does it matter?

The short answer is yes. In the past decade, and last two years in particular, Dilworth has experienced major rezoning changes at its edges. Those changes and the accompanying demolitions are likely to continue. The City will work to pass a Comprehensive Plan this year. They will then move on to the Unified Development Ordinance which will change zoning throughout the entire city. It is vital that we make sure Dilworth's voice is heard in those changes, and part of that is making sure consultants, City officials and developers know "this is Dilworth."

So what IS Dilworth?

Our neighborhood is not just a place, it is a community. It is a diverse, welcoming and friendly group of people who have shown throughout 2020 that we are all in this together, even if we must do it at least 6 feet apart.

This year, through DCA fundraising efforts, you donated, and we have matched over \$8,000 for Dilworth Soup Kitchen and meals for CMS families. Our Tree Canopy Committee, led by Liz Lewis, raised over \$23,000 to plant trees in Dilworth. The committee

continued on page 5

Calling All Young Entrepreneurs

It's that time again! The June issue of the Dilworth Quarterly will feature the popular *Summer Connections*. If you are a student who is looking for part time work, this is your opportunity to advertise your specialty for free.



Submissions MUST be received by Sunday April 18.

See page 31 for more details.

2021 DCA Officers

Valerie Preston
Past President

Franklin Keathley
President

Courtenay Buchan
Treasurer

Mathew Demetriades
Secretary

Board Members

Term Expires 2021	Term Expires 2022	Term Expires 2023
Mathew Demetriades	Chris Carter	Courtenay Buchan
Dana Jodice	Stacey Hartley	Ellen Citarella
Sis Kaplan	Cindy Zakary	Keely Edwards
Franklin Keathley		John Gresham
Nathan Leehman		Liz Lewis
Fran Miller		Benson Okeiyi
		Missy Owen
		Valerie Preston
		David Walters

Home Tour Committee

Mathew Demetriades and Dana Jodice
2021 Home Tour Co-Chairpersons

DCA Board Meetings

Stay tuned via Dilworth Express

Due to COVID-19, open DCA Board meetings have been suspended. Check the Dilworth Express for updates at dilworthonline.org.

Dilworth Quarterly Staff

Nikki Campo + Tom Ferber Co-Editors

Mary Beth Sensabaugh Advertising Sales

Melody Cassen Design

Becky Crawford
Ruth Grissom
Kristi Harpst
Franklin Keathley
Cindy Kochanek

Liz Lewis
Laurel Nakkas
Valerie Preston
David Walters



A NEW VISION FOR EYE CARE!

Welcome to Innovative Eye Care, Charlotte's premier eye health and eyewear boutique.

We're in the heart of Dilworth; stop by and see what makes us Charlotte's most innovative eye care destination. Have a cup of coffee, meet our wonderful team, experience our cutting-edge technology and browse through some of our exclusive eyewear. Our goal is simple: to give you the best eye care services and the most stylish eyewear in town.

You've never seen eye care like this before.

INNOVATIVE
eye care
 VISION HEALTH STYLE



Dr. Michelle Mumford,
Optometrist



Dr. Kara Barrett,
Optometrist

704.348.1500 • www.innovativeeyecare.net • 1710 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 210



A 1935 reconstructed streetcar map (in yellow) of Charlotte shows Dilworth in relation to other neighborhoods. Photo credit © Hucks Map Studios on Etsy.com.

From the President

continued from page 3

also had the self-awareness to share some of those funds and provide manpower to surrounding lower-income neighborhoods to help establish their tree canopy through the "Share the Shade" campaign. Valerie Preston led our new Diversity and Inclusion Committee as we hosted webinars with some amazing community members who shared both the history and context of the development of our neighborhood and the people who live here. Missy Owen chaired our Dilworth Cares Committee, which has raised over \$100,000 in funds to support local causes. Cindy Zakary led a motivated and focused group of young neighborhood leaders to re-establish our Neighborhood Environment Committee and is reaching out for block captains to identify and fight for pedestrian improvements on our streets. Hundreds of neighbors have shown up for zoning meetings to provide feedback and shape development around the neighborhood. Our Land Use Committee, led by Ellen Citarella, has fought hard to work with developers and City planners on projects across the neighborhood. Nancy Nicholson and Ruth Grissom have lobbied county official and worked tirelessly yet again to lead teams of neighbors and volunteers to protect and maintain our parks and green spaces. One of the DCA's goals in 2021 is to make sure we celebrate,

nurture and grow our Community so there will never be a doubt that "this is Dilworth." Many hands make light work, and our association is not just our board, but the entire Dilworth Community. There is tremendous power in the generosity, talents and number of engaged members throughout our community. If you want to be more involved, or have questions about how to be more involved, sign up for the Dilworth Express (there is a link on our website) or please reach out to me at president@dilworthonline.org.

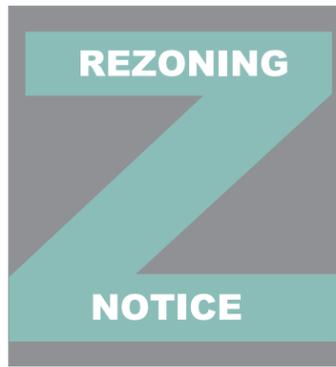
I am honored to serve as this year's Dilworth Community Association President, following the extraordinary leaders who

continued on page 31



CottinghamChalk
ASHLEY ASKEW
 REALTOR®/Broker (NC/SC)
 704.807.8822
aaskew@cottinghamchalk.com
COTTINGHAMCHALK.COM/ASHLEY-MULLINS-ASKEW

Charlotte Observer 2020 Real Estate Rising Star Award Recipient



Land Use

Dilworth's Past, Charlotte's Future: Charlotte's 2040 Comprehensive Plan and How We Can Shape It

By David Walters

Amidst all the national daily, weekly, and monthly dramas - insurrections, horrendous numbers of people dying from COVID, high unemployment and financial hardship for millions of Americans - thinking about planning in Charlotte may seem unimportant by comparison. But that's what I invite you to do for the next few moments as you read this short essay. I hope to spark your interest in several things:

- our city's future
- the enormous urgency of planning for this future

- what the plan really says (as opposed to a lot of misinformation), and finally...
- the exciting role Dilworth can play in this process

No one can argue that Charlotte is changing fast. This new plan looks forward 20 years, but let's consider for a moment what Charlotte was like 20 years ago. Our noisy neighbor South End had only just been artificially branded to describe a few fragments of development on the old industrial wasteland between Dilworth and Wilmore. Light rail was only a gleam in the eye of activists

and planners who envisaged a revolution in transportation and redevelopment. UNC Charlotte was a far distant commuter campus in green fields way north of downtown instead of the mini-city with 30,000 students and 3,000 faculty and staff that it is today. Uptown was stirring after decades of lethargy, just laying the foundation for its explosive growth in recent years. And Dilworth was a precious jewel of history, a remnant of a bygone age before the car was king.

Few people realized that our neighborhood held the seeds for Charlotte's future.

I should come clean right away. I have only a small role to play in Charlotte's planning (as an external advisor) but my job as an architect and urban designer over the last thirty years has involved planning and designing new development for towns and cities across the mid and southeastern USA, and writing zoning rules to control such development. I've worked with good developers to make their visions bear fruit and I've worked for municipalities to stop bad developers messing up their towns. So I know this stuff from the inside. And I've been a Dilworth resident since 1993.

It doesn't take a crystal ball to foresee the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for our city. These are laid out in the 320 pages of the 2040 Plan: the awesome challenges of climate warming, the widening fissures in our city regarding financial and social equity, truncated opportunities for minority groups... the list can go on. And these fissures threaten to become unbridgeable chasms that can rip apart our city fabric unless we take some fairly drastic actions.

Ultimately these all come down to one issue - the much-misunderstood concept of "sustainability". Simply stated, a sustainable lifestyle today is one that doesn't wreck the future for our youngest generation. It's that simple.

The way most of us live in Charlotte today uses up far more than our share of the planet's resources and pollutes our air and water to dangerous degrees. You can choose to believe this or not, but the way we live today really does steal our grandchildren's future. And that's the context of Charlotte's 2040 Plan. It aims to correct our most destructive behaviors by offering visions of cleaner and more equitable futures that are available to the widest possible range of populations in our city.

As a town planner I spend a lot of my time crafting effective goals and policies that will guide all future decisions for towns and cities, and thus I direct you all to Chapter 3 of the Charlotte Plan, and specifically to the ten goals described there on pp. 98-136. These are:

1. 10-Minute Neighborhoods
2. Neighborhood Diversity and Inclusion
3. Housing Access for All
4. Transit- and Trail-Oriented Development
5. Safe and Equitable Mobility

6. Healthy, Safe, and Active Communities
7. Integrated Natural and Built Environments
8. Diverse and Resilient Economic Opportunity
9. Retain Our Identity and Charm
10. Fiscally Responsible.

Key to most of these goals is the first item - "10-Minute Neighborhoods". This means as many households as possible should have easy access to amenities, goods, workplaces and services within a tree-shaded 10-minute (1/2 mile) walk, or the equivalent short trip on bikes, scooters, or local transit. It means we don't need to use our car, or if we do it's only for very short trips.

Dilworth is a great example of a "10-Minute Neighborhood", where many daily needs are easily accessible without a vehicle - schools, churches, parks, workplaces, stores, medical and dental care, for example. Moreover, Dilworth offers a variety of different types of housing, touching on Goals #s 2 and 3 and by implication, several others.

This housing issue is one of the most important, around which a lot of misinformation is swirling. The biggest falsehood of all is that Charlotte "is going to ban single-family homes." If you've heard that statement, please do not believe it. It really is fake news. You will find the key proposals about housing on p.103 of the plan document, where it says "Allow more housing types in traditional single-family zoning districts to encourage housing

continued on page 9



DILWORTH ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Where your pets are our family.



We're right around the corner.
Come see what all the excitement is about!!

704-808-PETS (7387)
www.DilworthAnimalHospital.com
820 East Blvd
Charlotte, NC 28203

APPLYING TO COLLEGE IS OVERWHELMING.

SCHOOL IS HARD.

I'M HERE TO HELP.



Kathy Griswold Fine, PhD is an experienced Educational Consultant **specializing in the college application process and academic coaching.** Using her expertise in education and educational psychology, Kathy uses a process-based approach to **help college bound students identify places they can thrive—** educationally, socially, and emotionally.



kathy@fineeducationsolutions.com
www.fineeducationsolutions.com



The corner unit of a row of townhomes amidst single family houses in the Historic District.

Please contact landuse@dilworthonline.org with questions or concerns about land use issues in the neighborhood.

Land Use

continued from page 7

diversity... in our community.” In more detail, the plan proposes to allow duplexes and triplexes on lots previously zoned only for single-family, and fourplexes and small apartment buildings on major streets.

So no one is suggesting we can’t build single family homes - we can build as many as we want, and they will likely continue to be the predominant form of housing in many parts of Charlotte. But just reread the wording closely. It simply says we will build other types of housing as well. The plan for the city’s future housing looks . . . exactly like Dilworth! My wife and I live in a duplex, nestled amidst single-family bungalows. Within two blocks we can walk past other duplexes, a lovely small block of townhomes, and a neat little apartment building. Just past Latta Park is Myrtle Square, 72 condominium units around a beautiful landscaped courtyard. This is where, three decades ago my wife and I got our start in Dilworth, before “trading up” from a 900 sq. ft. apartment to a 2200 sq. ft duplex. We have several friends with similar stories.

But that was then. Since the early 1990s, house prices have rocketed. As retired professionals (architect, artist, writers, teachers) my wife and I could no more buy property in Dilworth today than fly to the moon. And we have younger friends who

continued on page 27



An apartment building next to single-family homes in the Historic District.

Celebrating 15 years



SKUFCA LAW

We are a **full-service law firm** with attorneys licensed in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia.

Visit us in South End
1514 S. Church St., Ste. 101
Charlotte, NC 28203
(704) 376-3030

Representing businesses and individuals in the areas of:

- Business
- Construction
- Family Law
- Motorsports



WWW.SKUFICALAW.COM



Let me help your new journey begin.

Elizabeth Phares

Realtor® Broker

Dilworth Resident Since 2000
Over 20 Years Experience
Branch Leader in Listings Closed



We are home.®

Center City Office:
233 N. Tryon Street

704.651.8562
ElizabethPhares.allentate.com



Neighborhood Environment

Hope Is the Thing with Leaves

By Ruth Grissom

Originally published by the UNCC Urban Institute

Imagine what it would be like to help create a new national park. One that would be larger than the combined acreage of the Everglades, Yellowstone, Yosemite, Grand Teton, Canyonlands, Mount Ranier, North Cascades, Badlands, Olympic, Sequoia, Grand Canyon, Denali and Great Smoky Mountains. Instead of being sequestered out West, this park would be spread uniformly across

the country. Its creation doesn't require Congressional approval or depend on the whim of an executive order. No taxpayer money is involved. The power to make it happen lies with individual landowners.

This is Doug Tallamy's vision for what he calls our Homegrown National Park – a park created by better management of our own back (and front) yards. Tallamy makes the case for such a park in his latest book *Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard*. Has there ever been a better time for such a title?

He points out that if landowners in America replaced half their lawn with native plants, it would create a network of 20 million acres. Land that is currently "an ecological wasteland" would not only support more wildlife, but reduce pollution and provide other benefits



The native Redbud, is an understory shrub or small tree that grows up to 30 feet tall.

"We must now act collectively to put our ecosystems back together again," Tallamy writes.

These scraps of habitat would act as the thread to knit fragmented natural areas together. Parks and forests alone cannot sustain healthy and diverse populations of wildlife. This became clear when the theory of island biogeography was applied to land conservation. For a fascinating examination of this topic, please read David Quammen's 1997 classic *The Song of the Dodo: Island Biogeography in an Age of Extinctions*. The takeaway? Isolated tracts are vulnerable to species extinction.

"The good news is that we can fix our ecological problems by indulging rather than sacrificing" Tallamy says. "We will not be living with less; we will be enriching our lives with more."

To envision this indulgence, turn to *The Southeast Native Plant Primer: 225 Plants for an Earth-Friendly Garden*. This recent guide, authored by Larry Mellichamp and Paula Gross formerly of the UNCC Botanical Garden, is especially helpful for Piedmont gardeners. Will Stuart, who documents plants and pollinators in his Charlotte yard as well as local natural areas, provides most of the glossy photographs.

This is a welcome reference for both the novice gardener and the native plant devotee. The authors break down complicated issues – like cultivars of native species (sometimes called natives) – in language that's clear and accessible.

They revisit the elements of garden design and suggest natives to fill those roles – from foundation plants to accent plants, from ground covers to shade trees. There are also handy reference lists for host plants, nectar plants and fruit producers as well as plants for challenges such as hell strips, rain gardens and deer predation.

Natives are well adapted to local conditions, but only when their specific cultural requirements are met. Mellichamp and Gross stress the importance of assessing your site, especially your soil. In a new development, builders have often scraped away all the topsoil during site prep, leaving compacted clay. Even plants adapted to clay soils can struggle on these disturbed sites. You have to rebuild your soil with organic matter like compost.

Oops! Too Late!



2121 Dilworth Road W • \$1,000,000 • Sold in January



608 E Kingston Avenue • \$990,000 • Sold in October

Ready to Make a Move in 2021?

If you're thinking of selling your home this year, NOW is the time to get organized and talk to a real estate agent with a proven track record in Dilworth.

I'm ready to help you move up, move out and get you on your way to finding an abode that will make 2021 your best year ever.

Every Dilworth home is unique, so contact me today for a personal evaluation!



SARAH MARTIN

Broker, NC REALTOR®

704.604.2445

sarah@sarahmartinhomes.com

www.DilworthCharlotte.com

@allaboutdilworth

Savvy+Co
REAL ESTATE

1920 E 7th Street
Charlotte, NC 28204

WWW.SAVVYANDCOMPANY.COM

In the long run, proper soil assessment and prep will save you time, money and heartache. I learned this the hard way. I'm thinking of my failed attempt to grow yellow lady's slipper orchids just because I had shade. Or cardinal flower in soil that was clearly too dry.

I also appreciate their frank warnings about species that might become a bit unruly in a pampered garden setting. I'm looking at you, mountain mint and "obedient" plant. This doesn't mean you shouldn't grow them; you just need to take care where you place them and maybe be prepared to do a little weeding.

Perhaps most importantly, they address one of the major challenges to gardening with native plants – where to buy them. While they offer a nice list of mail order nurseries, they missed an opportunity to toot their own horn – the spring and fall plant sales at the UNCC Botanical Garden (and Wing Haven) tend to have excellent selections. It's also worth asking retailers – whether a locally-owned shop or a big box store – to carry more natives.

There are many reasons to grow native plants – their beauty, their resilience and their role in the web of life. The authors also note that they "provide a sense of place that can be reassuring in our age of rapid and frequent mobility." As our suburbs and exurbs across the nation increasingly sport the same array of chain restaurants and shops, native plants can help us forge an identity and foster community. ■

Peter Bell, PLLC, the Dilworth neighbor you can count on for a variety of financial, accounting, and tax services to individuals and small business.

Visit our website for more information at peterbellpllc.com

1201 East Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28203
704.525.9999

Peter Bell, PLLC
a CPA firm



Vibe Café Brings Taste of Europe to Dilworth

By Laurel Nakkas

When sibling duo Vasilis and Antonio Paspalaris started considering locations for their new European-inspired café, Dilworth just clicked.

Having spent their early years in Athens, Greece, the brothers grew accustomed to a walkable city filled with activity, traffic and laid-back cafés on every corner, bustling with people taking it easy and enjoying the day.

"With the people walking around, [Dilworth] felt like we're almost home, all the traffic and everything. And that's why we got in the mindset to be here," said Vasilis.

"We love it here, honestly," said Antonio.

The two, who originally came to Charlotte in 1999, worked in the automotive business for many years. But a trip back to Greece

around 5 years ago established their dream of opening their very own European-inspired café stateside.

"After traveling back to go see our friends, family, all of that stuff, that's where we came up with this concept of bringing it here to the United States. It already is here in certain states, but just not as much in Charlotte," said Vasilis.

The brothers had to remain patient, waiting for the precise time to snag the right space and right area. After the space that formerly occupied The Queen and Glass on East Boulevard opened up, they seized the opportunity, signing the lease for Vibe Café in May of 2020.

Though they intended to open in the fall, the two remained patient, waiting on building permits to sub-divide the building, adding 600 square feet from the former People's Market. This extra square footage proved invaluable for creating a larger, more suitable kitchen size to serve up all their café's varied menu offerings.

On their menu, you can find everything from salads to yogurt bowls and smoothies to Belgian waffles, crepes, sandwiches, hors d'oeuvres, local beer, wine and charcuterie. In addition, the Paspalarises give a special nod to their homeland with Greek coffees, beer and wines; Greek desserts, like baklava and the ever-popular baklava sundae; as well as traditional Greek dishes like spanakopita (spinach pie), traditional Greek salad, stuffed grapes leaves and roasted feta.

continued on page 30



CONSIDERING A MOVE?



As a trusted, top-producing real estate professional who has lived and specialized in Dilworth for more than 30 years, I am knowledgeable and passionate about our historic, in-town neighborhoods.



- JANE ANNE McDERMOTT
BROKER | REALTOR® | TOP PRODUCER

JANE ANNE McDERMOTT, BROKER | REALTOR®
704.651.9690 | JANEANNECD@GMAIL.COM



Above and Right: Interior of Vibe Cafe.



BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE.
PRESERVING THE PAST.

Concept
Building
and Restoration

809 McDONALD AVE
CHALLOTTE, NC 28203
(704) 334-8777
BJORN@CONCEPTBUILDING.NET



Historic District Commission

Oaklawn Park Becomes Newest Historic District

By Cindy Kochanek & Kristi Harpst

The HDC is excited to welcome Oaklawn Park as the seventh local historic district in Charlotte. While COVID-19 has meant some delays in the process, which started in October 2018, the rezoning was ultimately heard and approved at the end of 2020. It's been 10 years since the last local historic district designation when Wilmore became a historic district back in 2010. Almost 40 years has passed since Dilworth was originally designated as a local historic district back in 1983.

Oaklawn Park was officially designated by City Council in December 2020. The project itself and the resulting successful outcome would not have happened without the vision, commitment and hard work of Oaklawn Park neighborhood leadership and residents. Sincere thanks also go out to Dr. Tom Hanchett for his dedication to this project. Dr. Hanchett's extensive research and documentation on the history of Oaklawn Park, an area he calls "one of Charlotte's best-preserved post-World War II suburbs", was critical to the local district designation process.

Oaklawn Park does not appear all that different today from

when it was developed by Charles Ervin, one of Charlotte's biggest developers, primarily between the years of 1955-1961. The neighborhood provided homeownership opportunities specifically for African Americans. Walk or drive the curvilinear streets of Charlotte's newest local historic district and you will find that the principal house type is the brick ranch house with some split-level houses and cottages interspersed. Most of the houses have red brick exteriors with stone or brick accents.

Features and architectural details of a mid-century neighborhood, like Oaklawn Park, differ from neighborhoods built earlier. The automobile was more commonplace thus carports or garages were often built at or around the same time as the houses in Oaklawn Park. Concrete driveways were part of the original construction and walkways typically connect the front door to the driveway. Wood or metal windows take on different forms/styles in a mid-century neighborhood. You will be more likely to find horizontally oriented wood 2-over-2 windows or multipaned metal windows featured on the houses in Oaklawn Park. Many Oaklawn Park houses also feature unique built-in brick planters and decorative columns.

Work on the exterior of any house or property in Oaklawn Park, just like any other local historic district, will require HDC review in order to ensure that any changes and development remain consistent with the neighborhood. Like the other six existing local historic districts, Oaklawn Park will have a representative on the historic district commission. Do you know who represents Dilworth on the historic district commission? Dilworth has two seats on

the historic district commission; one for a resident owner in Dilworth and one for a business owner in Dilworth. Not sure who the Dilworth representatives are? Check the City of Charlotte City Clerk's website for boards and commissions for the most up-to-date information.

Feel free to contact HDC staff if you have any questions on specifics relating to new district designations 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. ■

Did You Know?

Dilworth Floral Gardens, an establishment in Latta Park in the late 1800s, boasted extensive greenhouses. The structure initially measured 120 x 20 feet and was home exclusively to roses. At their peak, the greenhouses measured 300 feet long under the main branch, with several hundred more feet under glass in auxiliary buildings. A wide variety of plants thrived there and were shipped to distant customers or sold through a shop downtown. In 1900, the greenhouses were expanded again with new heating and 4,000 square feet more for raising carnations. Other sources note that the greenhouse space expanded to 10,000 square feet at its peak in 1902. — Excerpted from *Dilworth: The First 100 Years* by Tom Bradbury.



Above: Ad from 1899 City Directory.



HM PROPERTIES
REAL ESTATE

HM Properties is an award-winning, full-service residential real estate company serving the Charlotte region.



NATALIE AMALONG
704-287-2823



MICHAEL BAKER
704-526-9510



COOK | PIZZO TEAM
704-236-1135



TOM FISHER
704-213-1556



BRIDGET GRAVES
704-560-2311



SHERYL HALLOW
704-907-1144



PATTY HENDRIX
704-577-2066



BETH LIVINGSTON
704-778-6831



PEGGY PETERSON TEAM
704-904-6279



ANNE SPENCER
704-264-9621



MEG WILKINSON
704-906-5747



MARGARET WOOD
704-904-6022

THREE LOCATIONS TO BEST SERVE YOU

SOUTHPARK • LAKE NORMAN • WAVERLY
704-552-9292 | HMPROPERTIES.COM

LUCKY FISH
SEAFOOD & MEAT MARKET
Fresh Seafood • Specialty Meats

luckyfishnc@gmail.com
Phone: 704-375-3960

1427 South Blvd.
Suite 105
Charlotte, NC 28203

HOURS:

Tuesday thru Saturday
10am-6pm

Sunday
12pm-5pm

Why Was the Dilworth Quarterly Late Last Quarter?

By Tom Ferber

I think the USPS is one part magic. It's easy to take for granted, but think about it, for the low cost of two quarters and a nickel you can take an envelope, put an address on the front (in crayon if you prefer), add your \$.55 stamp, put it in the mail, and it will reliably make the trip to that address in a couple of days. The USPS delivered 142 billion mail pieces in 2019; that is remarkable.

In the last Dilworth Quarterly we made a last minute push for donations to Share the Shade so we could plant more trees in Dilworth. And as we have in prior Q4 issues, we published the route Ladder 2 would take so you would know where to see Santa riding his red fire truck. Unfortunately, by the time the last issue got to your mailbox, both of those events had passed. #badtiming

The late delivery was regrettable and the easy explanation is that it took a long time to mail. Over a month in fact. It's worth a longer answer though. The USPS is complex. Understanding a bit of the magic about how mail actually gets delivered and an

appreciation for mail classes will help paint the picture about why December was a very difficult month for the USPS and the employees who sort, process, and deliver our mail (including the Dilworth Quarterly).

The USPS operates a super efficient and highly complex network of distribution centers that collect, sort and distribute mail. They operate regional Network Distribution Centers (NDC), each state has one or many Sectional Center Facilities (SCF), and they operate local post offices. Across the US, there are 22 NDCs, 195 SCFs, over 31,000 local post offices and over 42,000 different zip codes. A zip code is actually a set of instructions on how the USPS should route mail through its network. The first 3 digits tells the USPS what NDC and SCF should process the mail, the next 2 digits specify a region or post office, and the +4 digits drill down to a more specific area or carrier route. For example, our zip code which starts with 282 maps to an NDC in Greensboro and our SCF is off of I-85 near the airport. Mail is processed through those facilities before it gets to a local post office for further sortation to the right carrier route and ultimately delivery.

The USPS adds a layer of complexity with mail class. For the USPS, not all mail is the same. They deliver everything from utility bills, handwritten letters, dog treats, phonebook-like mail-order catalogues, magazines, and the Dilworth Quarterly. They distinguish between these items using mail classes with names like First Class Mail, Marketing Mail, Periodicals, Priority Mail,

ALERT: USPS IS EXPERIENCING UNPRECEDENTED VOLUME INCREASES AND LIMITED EMPLOYEE AVAILABILITY DUE TO THE IMPACTS OF COVID-19. WE APPRECIATE YOUR PATIENCE.

Postcards, Bound Printed Matter, and Parcels. For each mail class, the USPS sets a service standard that drives the sequence it's processed through NDCs and SCFs. Generally speaking, the more you pay for postage, the higher the priority and the quicker it will process. Marketing Mail is relatively inexpensive and the Dilworth Quarterly is sent using a special discounted marketing mail class reserved for non-profits. In other words, a package, a credit card card solicitation, a holiday card from your friend, your Duke Energy bill, the Dilworth Quarterly, and a priority mail package all mailed from the same post office at the exact same time may normally get delivered on different days.

December was the perfect storm for the USPS. They experienced high parcel volumes from online retailers for the holidays. COVID left the USPS strapped with high levels of employee absenteeism. Some USPS processing centers even stopped accepting new mail to work through the backlog. To navigate the storm, the USPS had to reroute mail through its network and rely on service standards to ensure higher priority mail was delivered first. Our 6000 Dilworth Quarterly issues sat their turn in the queue to get processed so bank statements and holiday packages would get delivered sooner.

Despite the occasional delay, to me, the USPS is still an amazing service. Two quarters and a nickel to send a letter

anywhere I want and having the confidence it will get there is still the best deal in town. ■



More than 53,000 lbs of U. S. mail stands ready for delivery.





CANNON PHARMACY
Your Hometown Drugstore

- Convenient drive-thru
- Immunization services
- Durable medical equipment

- Low prices
- Friendly services
- Free delivery



FREE DELIVERY



**CANNON PHARMACY
MEDICARE NAVIGATORS**

704-523-8608
South End • 2334 South Blvd.
CannonPharmacies.com

*MUST PRESENT COUPON AT STORE. LIMITED TIME ONLY. ONE PER CUSTOMER. \$10 FOR EACH RX TRANSFER UP TO \$50. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER OFFER.





FAMOUS TOASTERY

ONLINE ORDERING NOW AVAILABLE

FAMOUSTOASTERY.COM/ORDER

BREAKFAST | LUNCH | BRUNCH | CATERING

2400 Park Rd, Charlotte, NC 28203
(704) 215-4166
Dilworth@FamousToastery.com

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM AND FACEBOOK
UPDATES, NEWS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
@FAMOUSTOASTERYDILWORTH



Bobby Wildermuth, robertbobbyart.com

For 25 years Window & Door Pros has been serving Charlotte builders and homeowners with the finest selection of windows, doors, and architectural products.

W | D | P
WINDOW & DOOR PROS
Established 1996

Visit Our Showroom at 1141 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, NC 28205
 704.344.1875 | Mike@WindowAndDoorPros.com

WindowAndDoorPros.com



Repairing Dilworth's Tree Canopy and Share the Shade Results – 72 New Trees!

By Liz Lewis

Have you noticed the 72 new street trees around Dilworth? We hope so!

As we've described in previous Dilworth Quarterly issues, street trees are the public trees typically between the street and the sidewalk which are managed by the City of Charlotte. City Arborists are charged with managing these trees - for trimming the trees, removing diseased/damaged trees, and for selecting and planting new trees. The City is also responsible for funding all of these projects. However, with tight budgets and stretched resources, funding falls short of replacing all lost trees.

The Dilworth Community Association's Tree Canopy Committee raises funds to supplement the City's street tree plantings in Dilworth. Thanks to the generosity of neighbors, the 2019 December fundraiser for planting more trees in Dilworth got us off to a good start. With contributions from over 100 neighbors, we were able to plant 23 good sized street trees throughout Dilworth. On top of that, the City of Charlotte planted 65 street trees in the neighborhood, which combined to add a total of 88 new trees to our canopy in the first year.

Why Trees Cost So Much:

Tree costs have gone up this year. Here's a breakdown: a willow oak with a 3" diameter trunk will cost us \$640 all-in to purchase, transport from the mountains, plant, care for with watering and a replacement guarantee if they die for the first year. The basic tree cost is \$170.

This winter, we hope you've noticed even more new trees planted throughout Dilworth. A total of 72 new street trees were planted in 2020, 40 that the City added, and an additional 32 thanks to the generosity of Dilworth residents and supporters.

The DCA, through the Tree Canopy Committee, raised \$23,150 through the *Share the Shade* tree planting fundraiser! Thanks again to all who donated - we had a 300% increase in the number of people who donated as compared to last year's campaign. The 32 large shade trees added as a result of our neighborhood tree planting campaign were planted in sites throughout Dilworth chosen by the City of Charlotte Arborist.

An important part of the *Share the Shade* campaign was to partner with a less economically advantaged neighborhood to support their tree canopy and to help plant trees in their community. We are donating \$4,400 to TreesCharlotte which will allow Dilworth to sponsor a tree event in the Revolution Park



City workers planting new trees in Dilworth.

neighborhood. We will have an opportunity to have volunteers from Dilworth actually go out and plant trees. Look for details in the next few weeks in the Dilworth Express. ■

Robert Heyward Home Repair & Renovations

* For ALL of Your Home & Yard Needs *

704/364-3591

35 years locally owned and operated ... not a franchise

rhcllc1051@aol.com

FREE ESTIMATES

Our Excellent References can be contacted.



BBB
A+
Rating

M MACKEY REALTY

MOTIVATED BY CLIENTS.
DRIVEN BY FAMILY.
WELCOMING YOU HOME.

With fourteen years of real estate experience, a name you've trusted has opened a new set of doors. Mackey Realty, a boutique residential real estate firm, is now serving Charlotte and all surrounding areas. Agents will carry on Mackey's personable approach, combining southern hospitality with her forward focused vision and innovative technology. Our agents are dedicated, resourceful and will be with you every step of the way, welcoming you home.



WWW.MACKEYREALTY.COM | 708 EAST BLVD. CHARLOTTE, NC | 704-919-0073

Diversity & Inclusion... Let's Dance!

By Valerie Preston

"Diversity is being invited to the party. Inclusion is being asked to dance." — Verna Myers

Many people hear the word diversity and unconsciously define it as race. Diversity is about each and every one of us; what makes us unique from one another. Yes, that includes race, ethnicity, country of origin, ability, age, sexual orientation, and so on. All the things listed on applications. Yet diversity also includes life experiences, learning styles, traditions, affiliations education, perspectives, and so much more. It's what makes life interesting.

Inclusion is about making people who aren't "like us" feel comfortable, respected, and a sense of belonging. Inclusion is looking for commonalities instead of focusing on differences. Curiosity, respect, and understanding of our differences/diversity/uniqueness strengthens inclusion.

The D&I committee is working on several virtual activities built around different cultures, experiences, traditions, and interests. **We need your help.**

We want to know what your interests are. That is the purpose of the survey (details below).

More importantly, we want to hear from neighbors who:

- Have experienced cultures outside the US
- Are, or have family, from another country
- Practice a non-Christian religion
- Have a different ability
- Are considered a member of a minority group
- Have experienced oppression, marginalization, or discrimination

We would like share your stories, which may be anonymous, to share different experiences and promote greater understanding and inclusion.

Please email past-pres@dilworthonline.org to discuss this opportunity. ■

Calling All Young Entrepreneurs



It's that time again! The June issue of the *Dilworth Quarterly* will feature the popular *Summer Connections*. If you are a student who is looking for part time work, this is your opportunity to advertise your specialty for free.

Submissions **MUST** be received by Sunday April 18.
See page 31 for more details.

POLISHED Nail Bar

ONE STOP CAN MAKE YOU



MANIS • PEDIS • GEL POLISH • WAXING • LASH EXTENSIONS

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE ONLINE AND IN-STORE

PARK ROAD 980.949.7747	SOUTH PARK 704.643.9199	MYERS PARK 704.375.3488	BALLANTYNE 980.819.8330
HUNTERSVILLE 980.689.2014	WAVERLY 980.262.3979	SOUTH END 704.954.0004	ONLINE IPOLISHED.COM

[f /POLISHEDNAILBAR](https://www.facebook.com/polishednailbar) [i /POLISHED_NAIL_BAR](https://www.instagram.com/polished_nail_bar) [t /IPOLISHED](https://www.tiktok.com/@ipolished) [p /POLISHEDNAILBAR](https://www.pinterest.com/polishednailbar)



- Sophisticated, fashionable, yet comfortable interiors with **you** in mind.
- Modern and transitional designs for your home or office.
- No design fees with purchase.
- Free local delivery.
- Thank you for 24 years!

CRAZY JANE'S

Crazy Jane's | 2502 Dunavant Street in South End, Charlotte, NC 28203 | 704-332-5454 | crazyjanesinc.com  

Dilworth Dragons

continued from the cover

visits to support families needing help to get online and to make sure they had necessary materials. Teachers spent countless hours on Zooms and phone calls supporting parents' and students' emotions, schedules, and technology issues. It was exhausting, but the efforts paid off. We were ready for the many scenarios we encountered.

Starting in October, families could opt to have their children enter the school building to learn in person on a rotational basis or to keep them home. This decision would last for first semester and families would then be able to re-select for second semester. We welcomed more than 400 students into our buildings and reinvented how we taught two different groups—one in the building and one at home—simultaneously.

Teachers worked in pairs, combining their classes so that one teacher could support the students who were in the building while the other teacher supported students at home. This allowed us to provide consistency in at-home learning schedules for students and families. It also allowed for a more traditional approach to teaching when students were in the building.

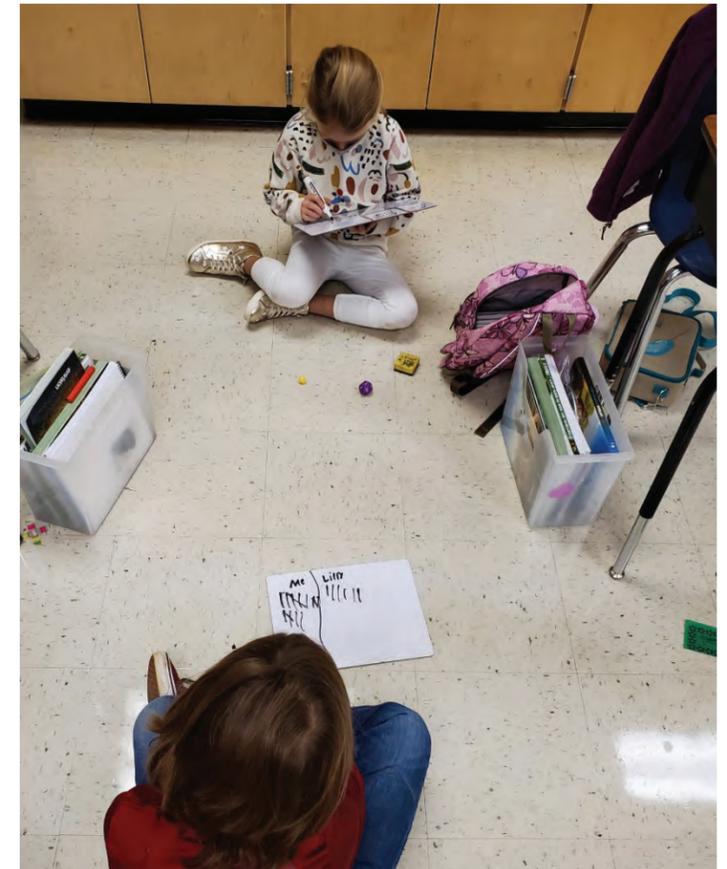
But it wasn't completely traditional, of course. To keep students and faculty safe during the pandemic, we used funding from our annual Tip the Scales donations to purchase outdoor chairs, tents, and air purifiers to allow students to engage with each other as much as possible. We created protocols to keep students 6 feet apart and ensured everyone completed a screener and had their temperature taken prior to building entry. School and families quickly learned that the back seat is the hottest place in the car: we need to turn off the heat to avoid elevated temperatures!

Teachers, students, and families loved having kids back in the classrooms, even if it was just two days a week. Many students described being back at school as "the best day of their life," teachers felt recharged, and parents were thankful.

In December, schools and families had to pivot back to full remote learning as the COVID-19 numbers continued to climb throughout our community. Thankfully, since we kept schedules the same for remote learning, the transition was seamless. Students reverted to their routines and schedules from the beginning of the school year. With the halls empty once more, we all looked forward to in-person learning resuming. One hundred Dragons opted back into in-person learning for second semester which, combined with the in-person groups from the fall, will allow us to see more than 500 of our Dragons on a rotational basis each week. We are eager to get all our students back in the classroom together soon.

I hope all of you are staying safe. Thank you for your continued support. I feel very blessed to work for such a wonderful community. Cheers to 2021!

continued on page 25



Above: 3rd grade students advance their multiplication facts by playing a game with their peers, 6 feet apart; **Below:** Kindergarten student Ruby Schoper holds one of the pieces she drew at the instruction of her beloved art teacher, Ms. Watkins.





Above: Art Class creating "Calaca" figures for Dia de los Muertos holiday; Right: Mrs. Saraga and Mrs. Beaver's classes celebrated Hanukkah by learning how to play dreidel; Below: Joshua Capitano-Vreeand 1st Grade Turkey Drawing.



Above: Mrs. Davis' Rotation B Kindergarten students. These students attended school in-person on Thursday and Friday. Their first day on campus was Thursday November 5th. In this picture, they are modeling social distancing and proudly sporting their "First Day of Kindergarten" hats.

THE DESIGN | BUILD EXPERTS



342 Circle Avenue in Myers Park
 JohnMorgan@UBGCharlotte.com
 704.307.4606
 See Our Portfolio @
 UrbanBuildingGroup.com



- ❖ KITCHEN & BATH
- ❖ FULL SERVICE DESIGN
- ❖ CUSTOM HOMES
- ❖ REMODELING
- ❖ INTERIOR DECORATING
- ❖ HARDSCAPES
- ❖ POOLS
- ❖ OUTDOOR LIVING SPACES

GOT STRESS? WE CAN HELP WITH THAT

Join our Stress Management Program

Science-Based • Client-Centered • Results-Oriented
More info at: dilworthdrug.com/functional/

Prevention > Treatment

Quick and easy COVID-19 antibody testing
...
Preventative flu shots available
...
Purchase professional-grade supplements
from our online store
...
Set up a Wellness Visit with Natalie

Our **compounding lab** can make
medicine **more personalized** for **YOU**

2020 has not been what we expected, but we can help you finish the year **vibrantly healthy!**

1300-B East Blvd, Charlotte
704-910-4288
DilworthDrug.com



DILWORTH
Drug & Wellness Center



Merchant *News*

By Mary Beth Sensabaugh

Hypnotique

Hypnotique is a women's clothing boutique owned by Leslie Lancaster and Madison Plucker. Their recently opened storefront is located at 316 East Blvd, right beside Thai Taste and across the street from Southern Blossom Florist!

Hypnotique offers a unique variety of fashion forward clothing, shoes, and accessories. While their collection is definitely trendy and fun, they provide a great selection of items that any fashionista can look fabulous in, no matter what age!

The two owners, along with their employees, strive to create a pleasant and personal shopping experience for each and every one of their customers! Hypnotique is open Tuesday – Saturday 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Their website shophypnotique.com will be launching very soon, in the meantime, make sure to follow them on Instagram @hypnotiquect! ■

You might be stopping a nurse or other health care worker living in our community. Or a teacher at Dilworth Elementary.

In Dilworth, we are lucky to live today in what can become the Charlotte of the future. In the words of the famous TV series from the dim and distant 1960s, "Your mission, should you choose to accept it..." is to become great ambassadors for the 2040 Plan, a blueprint for Charlotte's future that builds upon the patterns of our treasured past.

Information on Charlotte's 2040 Comprehensive Plan can be found at: <https://cltfuture2040.com>. ■

Land use

continued from page 9

were renting and had to move further out to find a place they could afford to buy, in locations that offer fewer amenities and convenience, and which come with commutes that exacerbate pollution in the air we breathe.

So, one major platform of Charlotte's 2040 plan prioritizes building new and retrofitting existing neighborhoods to become much like the Dilworth we know and love. But crucially, the places where we live must create and retain a level of affordability that makes this more sustainable lifestyle accessible to a much wider range of Charlotte's citizens. How we might do that can be the subject of another brief essay, but for now, all of us can do our part in promoting a more sustainable and resilient Charlotte by making sure we deal in facts, not misinformation.

Please don't get all upset if someone proposes building a duplex next door to your single-family home. Your opposition means someone like me couldn't live there. Please don't complain if a small apartment building goes up on the corner of your block.

HAPPY 2021 FROM ED'S TAVERN!



DAILY HOURS: EVERY DAY 11AM - 9PM



2200 PARK RD CHARLOTTE NC 28203

P: (704) 335-0033
W: WWW.EDSTAVERN.COM

DICKENS
RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE
MITCHENER

LET US HELP YOU FIND THAT PERFECT FIT.

When it comes to your home, you know it's much more than four walls. It's a place where you can build a foundation for life's greatest experiences. When you choose Dickens Mitchener, you are laying the groundwork of a strong foundation by putting your trust in the most talented, experienced, and technologically astute REALTORS® in the Charlotte region. You deserve only the best and when it comes to your experience at Dickens Mitchener, that is exactly what we deliver - 100% of the time. We are known to have set the highest standards for extraordinary customer service as well as always providing our clients with personable expertise. We've spent 30 years perfecting our customized and effective business method to grow relationships in our community that last a lifetime; all while being your best source for residential real estate.



1508 Dilworth Road

A private, light-filled historic estate prominently situated on Charlotte's most coveted tree-lined street.
Contact Aubrey Grier at 704.502.4612



723 Mt. Vernon Avenue

A contemporary craftsman masterpiece designed by one of Charlotte's finest architects.
Contact Marcy Basrawala at 704.280.1469



2110 Sarah Marks Avenue

Under Contract - Quintessential 1920's bungalow on a quiet street in historic Dilworth.
Contact Fran Miller at 704.488.0288



900 Mt. Vernon Avenue

Under Contract - Stunning country European stucco home in the heart of Dilworth.
Contact Marcy Basrawala 704.280.1469



1700 Camden Road #201

Under Contract - This one of a kind building is just steps away from shops, restaurants & more.
Contact Amanda Blackburn at 704.516.9309

2330 Randolph Road | Charlotte, NC 28207 | 704.342.1000 | dickensmitchener.com



2231 Charlotte Drive

Under Contract - A craftsman style gem in the heart of historic Dilworth.
Contact Marcy Basrawala at 704.280.1469



281 McDonald Avenue

Beautiful 2 story condo in Lofts Dilworth. Just steps away from local restaurants, shopping and the rail trail.
Contact Anne Stuart Mitchener at 704.661.5502



824 Brookside Avenue

Under Contract - Incredible renovation opportunity in historic Dilworth.
Contact Michael Nester at 704.408.3468



704 Templeton Avenue

Wonderful opportunity to make this your dream home in historic Dilworth.
Contact Wayne Honeycutt at 704.576.2476

When you choose our Dickens Mitchener team, you are putting your trust in the most talented, experienced and technologically astute REALTORS® in the Charlotte region. Contact your trusted Dilworth neighborhood expert today!

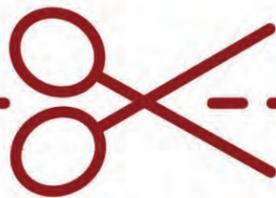
Your Best Source for Residential Real Estate.



RUGculture



Please stop by and see the amazing collection of hand knotted rugs. We also offer rug cleaning, repair services and design services.



30% Off Rug Cleaning

Free Pick Up and Delivery in the Charlotte Metro Area.

Phone -980-207-3287

316 E. Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28203

www.rug-culture.com

Dilworth Eats

continued from page 13

And though there is plenty of food to speak of, the true focus of the café is its coffee, Antonio's forte. In addition to the typical espresso, cappuccino and latte, Vibe offers a special style of Greek coffee brewed over a Hovoli, a large basin of sand. When the sand gets heated, it evenly distributes heat and creates a stronger flavor.

"[We source coffee] locally from Pure Intentions. They've been awesome to work with," said Vasilis. "We were afraid that it wasn't going to taste right for certain Greek coffees we were going to have, but they helped us out, and they found the right bean for us."

With a name like Vibe, the brothers obviously put atmosphere top of mind while laying out the vision for their café. They are hoping to create an ambiance that is laid back, friendly and provides an international flair.

"We want everyone to come in here from all different types of places and countries – whether Greek, American, Russian, anything – it kind of makes you feel like you're a little bit at home," said Vasilis. "With the decorations, it's got a little bit of Venetian/Greek/modern. So, we do want people to be able to come in here and just relax during the day, do schoolwork, work, and then in the evening, grab a bottle or glass of wine, or have a beer with your friends or something like that."

"We don't want to see people as customers," said Antonio. "We want to make new friends. We want to make them feel welcome coming in. Like, 'Oh, I'm going to go see Vasili,' or, 'Oh, I'm going to go see Tony.' You're not just going to some random café where you don't know anyone there. [It's] a very friendly vibe."

Though COVID restrictions may affect some plans, looking ahead, Vasilis and Antonio are considering bringing in live bands on certain nights as well as getting more involved in the community through charity events.

This is the brothers' first joint business venture. They say their major challenge, other than learning each other's working style, is the risk involved with putting in nearly everything they have, especially during the tumultuous climate of COVID. But it is a risk they are glad they took.

"We've been fighting very hard to open as quickly as possible," said Vasilis. "And, hopefully, it kind of helps other people open up too and see that it's not so bad. As long as you follow the guidelines, you can do anything."

The café is open seven days a week. The Paspalarises encourage any and all to come out and get a taste of something a little different than what you would find at most other cafés in Charlotte.

"If [you] want to taste what Europe is and kind of get a feel of what it is to be in a café in Europe, I think this would be the spot to be," said Vasilis. ■

...and finally

Calling All Young Entrepreneurs

The June issue of the *Dilworth Quarterly* will feature the popular *Summer Connections*. If you are a student who is looking for part time work, this is your opportunity to advertise your specialty for free. Your 70-85 word submission should include your **name, age, the service you are offering and how you can be reached**. If you want, you can also include any other selling points (experience, pricing, where you go to school, etc).

To submit your ad:

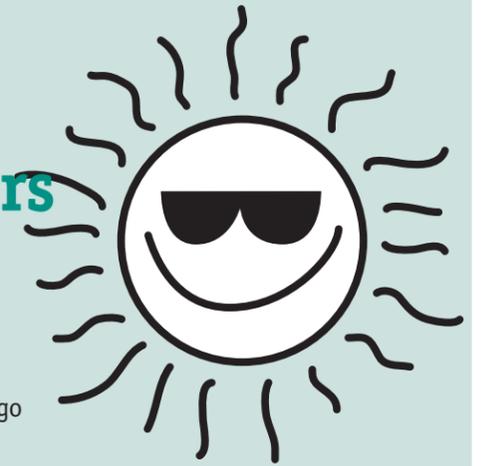
- Sign up for the weekly *Dilworth Express* emails. Visit www.DilworthOnline.org, click on the "Register Here" button under "Dilworth Express" and populate the email address, first name, last name, phone number, and address fields. When the *Dilworth Express* announces submissions – reply to the address given

or

- Email your submission to Nikki Campo at nikki.campo@gmail.com.

Be sure to put in the SUBJECT LINE: DILWORTH QUARTERLY - Summer Connections

Submissions **MUST** be received by Sunday April 18.



From the President

continued from page 5

served the DCA in this capacity over the past 50 years. My wife and I run through Dilworth almost every night and walkability is one of my favorite things about our neighborhood. I first came to the DCA Board seeking support for pedestrian safety improvements on Park Road. After seeing the passion and influence of other board members, I became more involved and have served on the Land Use Committee for the past three years. Just like Grandma did in 1940, we recently switched streets (staying in Dilworth of course) and currently live on Kingston Ave. Hopefully, I will run into you soon.

Thanks to all my fellow Board Members and the volunteers who make the DCA a success, including those who take the time and care to put together this publication (The Dilworth Quarterly).

The DCA will still fight to shape the edges and physical form of the Dilworth neighborhood, but no matter who the people are, or what our buildings look like, if we continue to come together, engage and help one another as a community... THIS will always be Dilworth.

Onward,
Franklin Keathley ■

Feel great. Hydrate.®

- Professional IV Hydration Clinic
- Dilworth Neighbor-Owned
- Charlotte's First IV hydration clinic
- Staffed with certified experienced ER nurses
- Safely provided over 25,000 drips to Charlotte since 2014

**HYDRATE
MEDICAL**