

Highlights:

PAGE 9: TIPPING THE SCALES



PAGE 10: BEES IN OUR YARDS

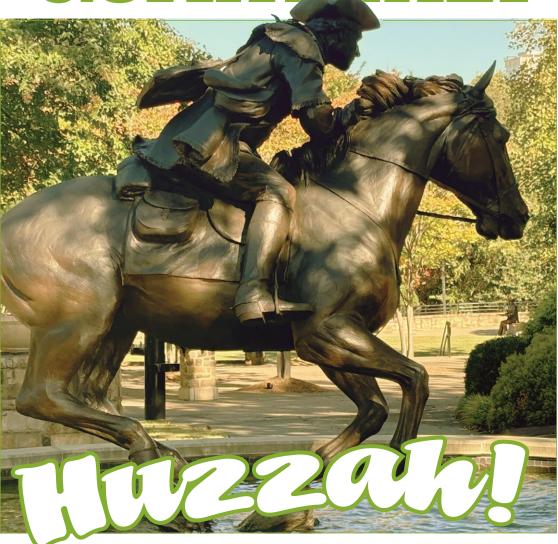


PAGE 19: DESSERTS AROUND THE WORLD



also ... Miss Dilworthia Historic Preservation Your Picks

Dilworth ERLY



First in Freedom: Celebrating the 250th anniversary of the 'Mec Dec'

By Mary Hopper with John Phares

f you've lived in Mecklenburg County for a time, you may have heard the debate about the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence (aka "Mec Dec"). If not, its 250th anniversary is the perfect time to learn about it, thanks to the important work of the May 20th Society, cofounded by Dilworth resident Scott Syfert.

"Brewed in Scotland, bottled in Ireland, uncorked in America"

The presence of a cluster of rebellious Scotch-Irish inhabitants in Mecklenburg was the perfect petri dish for this early insurrection. Militia Commander Thomas Polk rallied local leaders to meet at the courthouse

continued on page 15

CONTENTS

- 2 From the President
- 3 From the Editor
- 5 Musings from Miss Dilworthia
- 6 Historic Preservation and Affordable Housing
- 9 Tip the Scales for Schools
- 10 The Bees In Our Yards
- 12 Notes from the Dilworth Jubilee
- 16 What's Up with the Communications Committee?
- 19 Desserts from Around the World
- **22** Your Picks: Signs of Spring

Deadlines for the 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. Ads received after deadline may be held for a later issue.

ARTICLES: April 15

Articles received after 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.



It Takes a Village

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope this letter finds you and your families doing well in these first months of 2025. It's always a pleasure to connect with you about what's happening in our wonderful neighborhood. A little bit about me: I'm a native Charlottean who has loved growing up, being educated (proud Charlotte 49er and Pfeiffer grad), and building my family and career here. Charlotte is a beautiful city that feels both big and small all at once. My husband Sean and I have two daughters (one in college, one in high school), love animals and therefore always have several pets, and both work in financial services. Count on us for some nerdy banking conversations — a hit at parties.

After living in Southpark and then Fort Mill, we made the jump and moved to Dilworth in early 2017. We always loved walking around or trying out restaurants in the area before we lived here, and we've loved our eight years here even more. The trees, history, beautiful and unique houses, and mix of businesses, neighborhood, and schools — it's pretty cool to have to have so much woven together. It still amazes me some days that I can see my office building from my front porch (not sure that's a good or bad thing), and my favorite part of Dilworth is seeing spring come alive in the trees and greenery every March. We feel so lucky to call this little area home!

My first involvement with the DCA was during the Storm Water project that started in 2019 and ended up lasting over three years. As it progressed, several other large development projects began building on East Morehead, and the collective congestion into our neighborhood meant we had a hard time navigating our streets and accessing our homes. Large machinery, trucks, and multiple construction crews from the various projects brought us a ton of interesting situations, and we knew we needed some guidance on a longer-term solution.

I sought advice from the DCA and began attending meetings, working with the Board, making connections with groups, and seeing firsthand how being active in a problem can help drive conversations and solutions, so I officially joined the Board in 2024.

I'm honored to be your DCA Board President this year, and I hope to continue the momentum of Franklin Keathley's strong leadership last year. If you are new to engaging with the DCA, our main objectives are preserving the character that makes Dilworth great, engaging with the greater Charlotte community to be the voice of the neighbors, and creating opportunities for our community to celebrate together and give back. You'll see our actions span across involvement in new development projects in and around Dilworth, keeping our tree canopy and parks healthy and beautiful, hosting events such as the Dilworth Jubilee and the annual Dilworth Home Tour, and engaging with City Council and other local stakeholders on matters important to our neighborhood's wellbeing. The DCA's board members span many areas of expertise and history with Charlotte and Dilworth. We are a passionate and resourceful group who love working to protect and enhance all the reasons we love it here.

There are so many easy ways to get active with the DCA — join our monthly meetings (first Wednesday of each month), attend the Dilworth Jubilee coming up in May, volunteer during the Home Tour, or keep up with the latest by subscribing to the weekly Dilworth Express e-newsletter (www.dilworthonline.org/dilworthexpress). You can always reach us via our website, www.dilworthonline.org, or via email at president@dilworthonline.org with any ideas, questions or concerns. I look forward to serving this community with my fellow board members, and making this a fantastic 2025!



A season of renewal & change

(plus a "job" opportunity)

FROM THE EDITOR

Good day to you, Dilworthians!

As I write this in early February we're having one of those "treat" days in which the sun is shining, the breeze smells sweet and the windows are down in the car. Before we know it, Spring will be here in all its glory and we'll be celebrating the gifts it bestows upon us. Spring brings change and change is good, right?

And though it often is, sometimes the coming of a new season brings bittersweet change: saying goodbye to snowy days in our beloved Western North Carolina, the retreat of "soup weather" and the inevitable return of bug season. I find myself with a bittersweet change ahead as well.

The sweet part: I've decided that this old-ish lady is going to get her arthritic bones and brain back to school in the fall. Part to fuel my career for the rest of its days, part to keep my synapses firing and (hopefully) slow the progression of the whole "Where are my keys/what's my name/did I already take my pills?" thing. Fingers crossed.

The not so sweet part: Due to the time commitment I'll have to make for studying and writing, there won't be time left to edit the Dilworth Quarterly.

It's been such a joy working on the DO. The main reason I signed up for the challenge was to meet more people in my neighborhood and make new friends. Mission accomplished! John Fryday and Sis Kaplan are now on speed dial, Liz Lewis has joined my dogs and me for afternoon tea and Mary Hopper is a close enough buddy that she's heard me cry. (Lucky her!)

Everyone in the DCA has welcomed me with open arms, helped me find story ideas and worked with me to evolve the Quarterly into an even more Dilworth-centric publication. Even though we really can't cover news-y things (the publisher requires us to submit materials approximately a month in advance), I've tried to include more "story behind the story" features – and a few offbeat articles, too.

We've added some new voices to the DQ as well. Aforementioned Hopper has taken the reins of 'History of Dilworth' to tell us more about our neighborhood's founding and legacy. Nina Rose has tempted us to try new foods and drinks with her scrumptious writing for 'Dilworth Eats.' And I'd be remiss if I didn't mention Miss Dilworthia – what fun quips and tips she's added to our little newspaper!

Since I've been doing this, Wade Baker joined as our new design director, creating the lovely visual spreads you've seen in the Quarterly since September. Casey Horgan, our copy editor, has kept my poor spelling off the pages and spiffed up every article she's touched. Our Communications Committee keeps the whole operation humming by making much-needed operational changes and thinking holistically about all our communications. We're in such a great spot, and I've been excited to be a part of it all.

This said, there's still lots to do. And lots more we could be covering with more volunteer writers (hint, hint!).

Speaking of volunteers and writing, we're on the hunt for a new editor! The primary qualification is living in and loving Dilworth. It helps a lot if you've been a journalist or can write. Also helps if you've worked for a print publication, but that's not necessary. The role takes about 20 hours of work each quarter.

I'll be staying onboard through September, which means two more issues after this for me. I'd love to find our new editor as soon as possible so they can be my wingman for a quarter or two to see how the sausage is made.

Could this person be you?! Let's talk! Email me at quarterlyjody@gmail.com, or reach out to your favorite person on the DCA board (or committees) and they can connect us.

Thanks for the honor of letting me be your editor. It's been a true joy and labor of love. Have a Dilworthy Day!



2025 DCA OFFICERS

Jennifer Flynn President

Franklin Keathlev Past President

Matthew Loveland Vice President

Ken Wittenauer Vice President

TBD Secretary

Courtenay Buchan Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS

Term Expires 2025

Ellen Citarella Sarah Curme Franklin Keathley Cindy Zakary

Term Expires 2026

Amanda Blackburn Courtenay Buchan Matthew Loveland Term Expires 2027

Loren Buck Jennifer Flynn John Gresham Liz Lewis

Term Expires 2028

Sis Kaplan John Fryday Fran Miller Ken Wittenauer Lisa Stewart Trey Williams

COMMITTEE LEADERS

Ellen Citarella Land Use

Jennifer Flynn

Ped Safety/Streets

John Fryday Communications

Fran Miller Home Tour

Matthew Loveland Jubilee

Amanda Blackburn Ladies Party

BOARD MEETINGS

Stay tuned via the Dilworth Express, our weekly e-newsletter. DCA Board Meetings are open to the public. Join us at 6pm the first Wednesday of the month at the Tom Sykes Recreation Center. Time will be allotted for Q&A.

DILWORTH QUARTERLY STAFF

Jody Jones

Wade Baker Designer

Mary Beth Sensabaugh Advertising Sales

> Casey Horgan Copy Editor

CONTRIBUTORS:

Mary Hopper John Phares Nancy Nicholson

Terry Loeb Ruth Ann Grissom

Jennifer Baehr

Nina Rose Elizabeth Henderson John Fryday

Sis Kaplan Liz Lewis

3

MARCH 2025



BROKER | REALTOR® michael@hmproperties.com 704.526.9510 HMPROPERTIES.COM



©2023 Corcoran Group LLC. All rights reserved. Corcoran® and the Corcoran Logo are registered service marks owned by Corcoran Group LLC. Corcoran Group LLC fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Each franchise is independently owned and operated.

The coming of spring and all the fun that brings

t's almost time to don your Easter bonnet (with all the frills upon it)!
Ah, Miss Dilworthia loves her musicals, 40s standards and Irving Berlin. What proper lady doesn't?

She also loves spring. Spring is the season of rebirth and renewal — and, of course, garden parties! Canapés, cucumber sandwiches and cocktails, oh my!

When planning a spring soiree, this Dilworthian always starts by thinking about what will be most bountiful and fresh at the farmers market. Asparagus season begins in March, heralding in months of green goodness springing, as it were, from our fair fields. April brings peas, radishes, lettuces, broccoli and mushrooms.

As she types this, Miss D is feeling a menu theme come together in her busy mind: Think gorgeous salad with supremed grapefruit and edible flowers, topped with a pan-seared soft-shell crab (also in season in April), a big squeeze of lemon and a chiffonade of fresh herbs. Homemade (what else?) lemonade is a perfect, thirst-quenching libation for such a meal — maybe even with a splash of prosecco or vodka. Heavens, do not inform Mister Dilworthia of that indulgence!

Once the menu is set, it's time to focus on the party's atmosphere. For flower arrangements, Miss Dilworthia puts her trust in The Blossom Shop. While the storefront is now in Myers Park, their retail shop was once located on Park near Ideal. Of course this queen is adept at flower arranging, but for those who aren't, The Blossom Shop should be your purveyor of choice.

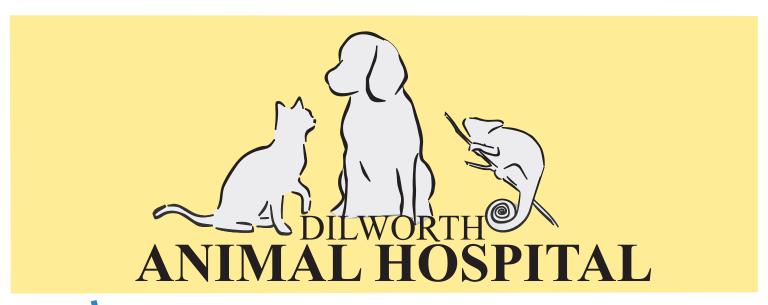
(Should you be attending a garden party – or any party – Miss D suggests you refrain from bringing fresh cut flowers... unless you bring them arranged in a vase. One's hostess will not have the capacity to arrange the flowers while simultaneously engaging with her lovely guests.)

Well before guests arrive, when it's time to curate her garden, Miss D patronizes an unlikely source. While yours truly always prefers to shop local, she must admit that our neighborhood Lowe's has a wonderful array of plants, flowers and other garden needs. Miss D has also heard that Lowe's worked closely with the city and neighborhood to design a store that fit into our lovely neck of the woods. Store manager Gary McCoy is the epitome of old-fashioned customer service — wave hello if you see him, and tell him Miss Dilworthia says, "how's your mama'n'em?".

By the time you read this, the warm rays of sun may already be kissing our fair neighborhood's homes and lawns. Easter will be right around the corner, so Miss Dilworthia does hope your bonnet will be coming out of its basket as the crocus comes out of the ground – just in time for spring.

Now sing me out, neighbors!

"Never saw you look quite so pretty before Never saw you dress quite so handsome, what's more I could hardly wait to keep our date This lovely Easter morning And my heart beat fast as I came through the door."



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

How Historic Preservation Can Meet Affordable Housing Needs

By Jennifer Baehr

"Every time a pre-1970 housing unit is demolished, a unit of affordable housing is lost." — Donovan Rypkema

onovan Rypkema stated that at the beginning of his talk on how older, historic housing plays a role in meeting affordable housing needs. In October 2024, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission hosted Rypkema, principal of PlaceEconomics, to share his firm's research on how preserving and rehabilitating historic buildings is key to solving the affordable housing crisis that is happening across the country.

Rypkema's lecture was filled with data about construction costs, lifecycle costs, and household size, alongside debunking historic building myths and sharing ideas for using historic preservation and other local development tools to meet affordable housing needs. According to Rypkema, existing,



historic structures
must be the priority
for creating affordable
housing because
"constructing new
housing to rent or sell
at an affordable cost
simply cannot be done
— at least not without
massive subsidies or
very low-quality units."

Rypkema acknowledged the common myths about historic buildings that

make people hesitant to preserve them and instead choose demolition. These myths are that historic buildings are too small to meet current buyer's needs and that historic buildings are in poor condition and not worth saving.

In actuality, more than 90% of older housing stock constructed pre-1970 are deemed adequate, are habitable, and do not require huge costs for renovations. Neighborhoods and housing stock constructed pre-1975 are usually considered historic and are often located in inner-ring neighborhoods close to city centers. According to U.S. Census data, 28% of all households in the United States are one-person households, and another 35% are two-person households. Rypkema suggested that since the majority of today's households contain one or two people, smaller, historic buildings are sufficient to meet their needs.

Rypkema explained that the average new construction cost nationwide for low-income housing tax credit projects is \$209,094 per unit, while the average cost for the acquisition and rehabilitation of an older building for low-income housing tax credit projects is \$153,394 per unit. He added that the total lifecycle costs (total estimated cost of a project over its entire lifetime, including acquisition, owning, and operating) of new construction are 25% — 45% higher per unit than those of historic building rehabilitation projects.

The existing federal low-income housing tax credit program has been successful, but relying on existing affordable housing programs alone

will not solve the problem, and intervention is needed from the public sector. Rypkema noted that without fundamental changes in programs and policies, the problem is going to get much worse in the coming years. He offered some ideas that can be used to address the affordable housing crisis and encouraged public officials to establish programs that will incentivize preserving historic building stock rather than demolishing them.

Rypkema believes that public officials should focus on creating programs for maintenance that can make a huge impact on the longevity of historic buildings. He explained that San Antonio has a program called "Under One Roof," adding that the biggest enemy of buildings is water, and by maintaining the roof system, the building is better protected from water issues. He added that "Under One Roof" focuses on people of modest means living in older houses and provides a \$9,000 grant to fix the roof. He stated that this program is relatively simple in implementation but has had a demonstrable effect and has allowed people to live in their homes for another 15-20 years.

Another idea Rypkema presented is that demolition should cost more. He stated that there is not a single landfill in the United States where the total lifetime costs of that landfill are paid for by the dumping charges. When a demolition contractor pays dumping charges, those charges do not cover the total lifetime cost of that load, which means that because landfills are typically publicly owned, taxpayers are subsidizing people throwing things away. Rypkema noted that construction debris accounts for one-third of everything in a landfill.

Acknowledging that sometimes buildings need to be demolished and that not every building can be saved, Rypkema suggested deconstruction as an environmentally-friendly alternative. Instead of just demolishing a building and taking everything to the landfill, teams can salvage and reuse building materials as they dismantle them. He shared that San Antonio passed a deconstruction ordinance that incentivizes building deconstruction, whereby non-profit housing developers reuse the salvaged building materials for modest affordable housing.

Rypkema discussed creating a mitigation fund for demolition projects. If people are tearing historic buildings down, they should pay a mitigation for taking from the community a house that someone of modest means could occupy. He recommended that cities and counties across the country should also consider establishing a system for the acquisition and redevelopment of vacant, abandoned, and tax-foreclosed properties to prevent them from being demolished and keep them in the marketplace.

In his conclusion, Rypkema emphasized the seriousness of housing affordability and that historic preservation is key to addressing this issue. Recognizing that new construction is part of the solution but that it is "impossible to build our way out of the housing crisis," Rypkema claimed that creating local tools to retain, utilize, and preserve older housing would put Charlotte and North Carolina at the forefront nationally in affordable housing strategies.

The full recording of the lecture is available online through Mecklenburg County Government's YouTube channel. For more information and resources on historic preservation and affordable housing, please contact Charlotte's Historic District Commission staff at charlottehdc@charlottenc.gov.



Dilworth Wellness Center

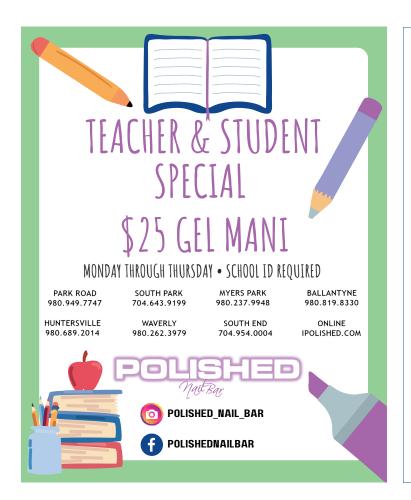
Is Here To Be Your Guide On The Path To Wellness

Be A Part of the Movement To Change Healthcare In Our Community. Stay Informed and Get Involved.



Sign Up Today For Exclusive Updates





Christian Science Reading Room



Visit this peaceful space to read, pray, get inspired, and nurture your connection with God.



Study or purchase the Holy Bible

Explore the writings of Mary Baker Eddy



Browse books for sale



Learn how prayer heals

Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday: 10 - 3 Wednesday: 10 - 7 Saturday: 10 - 1 Last Sunday of month: 11:45 - 12:30

300 East Boulevard, B2 (behind 300 East Restaurant) readingroom@cscharlotte.com | 704-332-2845



(704) 651-8562 | elizabeth.phares@allentate.com | elizabethphares.allentate.com | Leading COMPANIES | REAL ESTATE COMPANIES |

Tip the Scales for Dilworth Elementary

Hello Dilworth Community,

Each spring, we have the opportunity to support our children and neighborhood school Dilworth

Elementary through Tip the Scales, an annual campaign that raises funds for essential items and enrichment activities not included in the CMS budget.

The generosity shown during Tip the Scales directly supports the needs of our students,

teachers, and staff and ensures that Dilworth Elementary provides the best possible education for every child. Many of the things that set Dilworth Elementary apart and enabled our school to achieve its high ratings are only possible thanks to the generous donations from parents, teachers, and community sponsors like you!



Your donations support a variety of important activities and resources, including:

- Facility and classroom improvements like paint, carpeting, and furniture.
- Technology upgrades such as headphones and online learning subscriptions.
- Literacy resources and enrichment programs such as music, art, and chess.
- Field trips for all grade levels.

The 2025 Tip the Scales campaign will run March 10 - April 4. During this time, we ask you to consider donating to support our students. Learn more at dilworthpta.org/fundraising/tip-the-scales/.

All donations are tax-deductible and make a real impact on our students and community.



How to Give:

1. DONATE ONLINE with a one-time payment or monthly installments via our online payment platform, available by scanning the QR code here.



- 2. MAIL A CHECK to Dilworth Elementary School PTA, PO Box 11103, Charlotte, NC 28220. Please make checks payable to 'Dilworth PTA'. (Increase your giving power by checking with your employer about corporate matching for nonprofit donations.)
- **3. BECOME A CORPORATE SPONSOR.** Email dilworthschooltts@ gmail.com to learn how your business can create a positive impact on our school. Thank you for your support!

The Dilworth PTA

on behalf of our Dilworth Dragons dilworthschoolpta@gmail.com



Front Porch Financial Advisory Geoff Owen: CFP®, CDFA®, RLP®



Your Neighborhood Advisor!
Dilworth Resident Since 2002
DCA President 2008
Past Jubilee & Home Tour Chair



Grab a chair. Let's talk! Walter Brem House 211 East Blvd. Charlotte, NC 28203

Website: frontporchfa.com

Visit adviserinfo.sec.gov CRD 311329 for more info.

The Bees In Our Yards

hose holes you're seeing in yards around the neighborhood this time of year? They likely belong to ground-dwelling bees. Often mistaken for anthills, these native bee nests can seem to appear overnight and in large numbers. Importantly, there is no need to be alarmed or try to destroy them.

In North Carolina, we have about 550 species of native bees. Roughly 400 of those species are referred to as ground-dwelling bees who dig their nests in the soil. These docile, mainly solitary bees tend to build their nests in aggregates (groups of individual nests built close together). We don't know if bees form these aggregates because they want to be near their neighbors or if it is simply a function of building where the soil suits their



American Bumblebee (Bombus pensylvanicus)

needs. Regardless, from February through late spring, these nests will become active. The larvae that spent the winter underground developing into adult bees will begin bulldozing their way out and start the next phase of their life cycle. These young bees emerge from their nests hungry and will quickly start feeding, pollinating nearby flowers, and mating.

Keep an eye out and you may see male bees hovering near the nesting aggregates, waiting for females to emerge. Unlike yellow-jackets and other wasps, native bees are docile and rarely sting.

Astoundingly, native bees pollinate about 80% of flowering plants around the world. As they visit flowers, bees pollinate them by collecting pollen on their bodies and then depositing some of it on the next flower. They take the rest back to their nest to feed their young. Bees exhibit flower constancy - meaning, when going from flower to flower, they only visit flowers within the same species. Think from one flowering dogwood to another flowering dogwood. If they flitted between different flower species, the pollen that is collected and deposited would be wasted. Even more specifically, some ground nesting bees are monolectic, meaning they exclusively collect pollen from a single species. Flower constancy can vary depending on the individual bee and situation, whereas monolectic behavior is a consistent,

species-specific trait. An example of monolectic behavior is the passionflower bee, which only pollinates the yellow passionflower. Without the yellow passionflower, a vine that many of us have in our yards, there would be no passionflower bee.

To say that our native bees are essential to human existence is not a stretch. No, really! To understand their importance, think of a house of cards — bees comprise a large portion of the bottom cards that hold the whole house up. Humans are the few cards on the top row. Over the past few decades, native bee populations have been in decline, likely due to habitat loss,

Would Grant Trues Base of Melitons 4 making our house of cards increasingly unstable. How can you help keep the house of cards intact?

Like us, our native bees need food, shelter, and protection from toxins. Providing areas of bare soil or natural areas where leaves are

To say that our native bees are essential to human existence is not a stretch.

left undisturbed from fall to spring gives ground dwelling bees a place to construct nests. Plant native trees, shrubs, and flowers so native bees will have food. Organizations like the N.C. Native Plant Society and Wild Ones provide online resources for native landscaping. If you use a lawn service, speak to them about

leaving leaves and the stems of perennial flowers in place during the fall though early spring.

Refrain from spraying for mosquitos. Most residential mosquito control companies use insecticides known as pyrethrins,

> which are chemicals made from chrysanthemum flowers that are toxic to insects. More frequently they use pyrethroids, which are synthetic

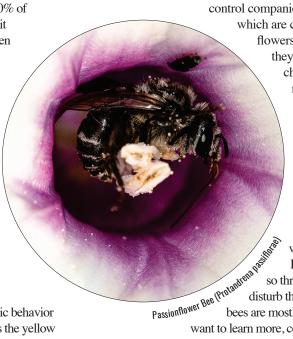
chemicals that mimic pyrethrins. Though often marketed as "natural," these are broad-

spectrum insecticides that are highly toxic to a wide variety of insects, including native bees and butterflies, not just mosquitoes. Instead, encourage native predators like bats (which can eat up to 600 mosquitoes in an hour), dragonflies (often called "mosquito hawks"), and birds (hummingbirds are particularly lethal to mosquitoes) by planting the native plants on which they feed.

Bees are active starting in the spring and remain so through late fall. Keep an eye out for them. Don't disturb their nests. Watch in wonder, not fear. Native

bees are mostly non-aggressive and very rarely sting. If you want to learn more, consider reading about (and/or joining!) the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation.

Dilworth Naturalist is a new column grown and nurtured by Ruth Ann Grissom, Terry Loeb and Nancy Nicholson.







The Dilworth Community Association's largest fundraiser is the annual Home Tour.

Before we know it we'll be able to peek inside doors like these and enjoy exploring the innards of our neighbors' stunning homes.





Land Use Updates

Our Land Use Committee is always hard at work monitoring and being proactive with development issues. For detailed information, the DCA website is updated monthly with Land Use developments, and/or you can attend the DCA monthly meetings to learn more.

DILWORTH'S LOCAL HANGOUT.

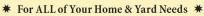
Daily specials



Weekly events

2200 Park Rd. @edstavernnc

Robert Heyward Home Repair & Renovations



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





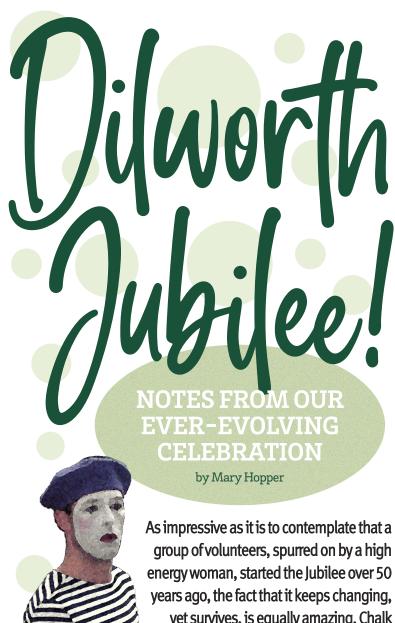
In the Business of Helping Yours Grow

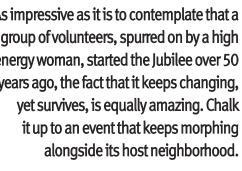
Bell & Associates, PLLC, the Dilworth neighbor you can count on for a variety of financial, accounting, and tax services to individuals and small business.

Visit our new, improved website for more information: **bellandassociates.com**

1201 East Blvd 704-525-9999











T-SHIRTS ARE SOLD:

Given D'Etta Leach Hulan's national fame with her "I ran into Tammy Faye at the mall" t-shirt, it is amazing that t-shirts were not sold from the Jubilee's start. Volunteers wore the original t-shirts for ease in identification, but extras were screen printed and sold. It was rumored that, after an overrun, extras were donated to a church mission group headed to Mexico.





STORM CAUSES CANCELLATIO

One of the years Susan Jetton chaired the Jubilee, she made the unpopular decision to ca when a bad storm was forecast. Turns out, it w a good move. One of Latta's large trees fell on what would have been the bouncy house locat

HOT AS HE

The original date was chosen as school was opening and fa vacations were over. But late August weather could be brutally hot, cau subsequent volunteers to seek new dates. The number of volunte takes, coupled with the proliferation of other entertainment options abbreviated the hours and activity range, but the Jubilee live

BEER IS ADDED:

Lest folks think of Dilworth as some Chablis haven, beer was always our drink. After all, East Blvd's Dilworth Brewing (1989-



1998) was the city's first brew pub. Larry Green and Bill Culp arranged to buy kegs from Bealer Wholesale and manned that concession for many years. Unfortunately, both are now deceased, but their enthusiasm for the task was the stuff of legends. Recent Jubilees have operated a beer garden and have beer sponsors to draw adults.



Do you remember what year the "rents" (a band of young Dilworth p

For detailed information on this year's Jubilee, visit us on social media



What memories do you have of past Jubilees?



Share them with us on Instagram!

@dilworthdca



°C_°F

100

80

40

20

0

-20 30

-40

50___ _ 120

40

20 60

10

10

20

ıncel

as

ion.

LL:

mily

ısing

ers it

, has

s on.

CHILDREN GROW UP:

Over the years, Jubilee chairs fashioned new ways to entertain

children, beginning with the legendary water slide on the hill by the former recreation center. It was a simple construction — plastic sheeting and a water hose to delight large numbers of squealing kids. The fire truck, and sometimes a police cruiser, were perennial



draws. Bouncy houses were added, requiring a number of volunteers to oversee their use. As Dilworth had more teens, a climbing wall was added. Now as young families come to the area, the Holly Lollies are a big draw, as is the Pet Parade.

There was a musician who played for years and was dubbed Dilworth's troubadour. Can you recall Mathew's last name?

LLOYD SCHER SAVED A JUBILEE:

The Mecklenburg County Health Department showed up one Jubilee and threatened to close us down. Volunteers were carefully following the rules in place for many years, but they'd tightened the rules for single-day events. County Commissioner Lloyd Scher, who was attending the Jubilee, interceded, and organizers were allowed to make necessary modifications and

continue. The inclusion of food trucks greatly eased food service.



arents) plaved?

ONE **MORE** THING:

Researching Jubilee history turned up a love story. Celebrated Dilworth photographer Nancy Williams reports her first date with husband Roger Dahnert was postponed because she had a Jubilee committee meeting. In 1987, when she was DCDA (now DCA) vice president and scheduled to lead the Jubilee, she convinced him to chair and bring his

architectural skills to the event layout. Now that's true love.

August 18, 1973 Dilworth Jubilee

By Mary Hopper

earing D'Etta Leach Hulan talk about planning for the first Jubilee, you sense the enthusiasm that propelled those urban pioneers to create an event that was, from its birth in 1973, multifaceted, joyous and inclusive.

It started when Michael Finch formed a planning committee and invited D'Etta to join. Their goal was to raise money for planning and to show Charlotte what a jewel Dilworth was.

The lesson here is when you put D'Etta on a group, things happen. Neighbors were invited to a pot luck supper and brainstorming session to look at ways to call positive attention to what was happening in Dilworth. One hundred residents came, many of whom stayed involved, drawing more into the process.

They wanted Dilworth families to come together as they did in Latta Park's hay days. Oh, and while they were at it, they would make it something others in Charlotte would want to attend, scheduling it as kids were readying to return to school. They planned activities for the children including the firetruck from Station 2. They added music and a speaker's corner just like a few had seen in London's Hyde Park.

They figured they'd offer food so people would stay around (beer was added to later Jubilees).

The volunteers bought barbecue and huge tubs of cole slaw, but ran afoul of the health department who insisted they needed a source of running water. A garden hose was hooked up to a nearby home; things were simpler then. Organizers did think to get one-day insurance for the event.

A neighbor figured that running Dilworth's tree-lined streets would be a draw, so Charlotte's first road race became an early component. Not to be outdone, bike folks wanted to celebrate Latta's history as a bike haven and organized a Criterium around Latta Park. Hoping to encourage people to catch the renovation fever and maybe come buy and renovate, they added a home tour. Never dismayed by anything, D'Etta and her committee said they'd do it all. DCDA president Jeff Huberman was reluctant at first, but the organization donated \$500.

Once planned, they had to get people to the events. They started with a catchy title. D'Etta had been doing some research (she was at WTVI then) and had read about an historical event in Charleston called a jubilee. That captured what they wanted to communicate. Finding a 1900's bike, she posed on it in vintage clothing to use in a full-blown PR campaign. A graphic artist created a flyer with a schedule of activities. She admits all the planning took six months of her life. Hearing her talk about it, you sense she'd do it all again.

Dilworth had 100 volunteers at the Park that day, drawing a big crowd including politicians and media - for years it was the kick off of political campaigning. At day's end, D'Etta recalls having Jeff Huberman go with her to deposit \$7000 in cash in a bank's night deposit on South Blvd.

The event merited an editorial in the Charlotte News saying in part:

"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."

While several of those elements – principally the Home Tour and Jubilee – still exist, others like the road race and bike criterium do not.

or read the Dilworth Express, our neighborhood's weekly e-newsletter.



in the middle of Trade and Tryon streets. Gathering on May 19, 1775, the group learned about Lexington, which further inflamed their simmering vigor to declare independence.

Three members of the group - a lawyer, doctor, and



minister — were charged with putting to paper a declaration of independence from England, in essence an act of treason. When it was completed on May 20, Polk read the declaration to a large crowd that gathered at the courthouse steps.

They raised funds (including enough to cover the cost of a funeral) for Captain James Jack, a tavern owner and father of four, so that he could undertake the dangerous 600-mile horse ride to carry the revolutionary document to the Continental Congress

in Philadelphia. He was to present it to the three NC delegates so they could introduce it to the full Congress. Their timing was poor, as Congress was drafting the Olive Branch Petition, an attempt to appease the Crown. The N.C. delegation termed the declaration "premature." It was later learned that one of the three N.C. delegates had Tory leanings and another was deemed weak.

But that was just the start of the story

To fully understand the Mec Dec history's many facets, you can read two excellent books. Scott Syfert wrote, "The First American Declaration of Independence? The Disputed History of the Mecklenburg Declaration of May 20, 1775." The public library site says:



"This is a comprehensive history of one of the greatest mysteries in American history — did Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, declare independence from Great Britain more than a year before anyone else? This book sets out all of the evidence, pro and con."

Reading Syfert, author David Fleming was hooked. His "Who's Your Founding Father? One Man's Quest To Uncover the First, True Declaration of Independence"

is proof of how the story can capture the imagination of transplants to the area. While Syfert takes a lawyerly approach, Fleming evidences a whimsical sense of humor in his willingness to pursue the story to its roots. He even recounts former GM Humpy Wheeler's 200th anniversary recreation of the Captain Jack ride. You'll never see Jack's statue (located in Elizabeth Park) quite the same way.



A legacy with many twists

While there are a host of twists to this story (including the original copy being destroyed in a house John Adams believed the Mec Dec to be authentic, writing that it represented "the genuine sense of America, at that moment," while Thomas Jefferson called it "spurious."

fire, a 32-page governor's report validating its existence, and its date being included on the state flag), the most intriguing one involves the long-festering rivalry of two of our country's founding fathers. John Adams believed the Mec Dec to be authentic, writing that it represented "the genuine sense of America, at that moment," while Thomas Jefferson called it "spurious." Did Jefferson (as Adams suspected) plagiarize the Mec Dec, and is that why he insisted it was 'spurious'?

Okay, how do I get involved?

The May 20th Society is offering a host of 2025 events. The Charlotte Museum of History will have an ongoing exhibition on the Mec Dec. The annual Uptown Commemoration will take place at noon on Tuesday, May 20, and that evening there will be the fifth annual James Jack Dinner at OMB.

The Olde Mecklenburg Brewery will host a Captain Jack event on Saturday, May 17. In addition, the N.C. Supreme Court and the Federal Court are working on a mock trial debate to be held the afternoon of May 19 at the Charles Jonas Federal Courthouse. These events can be found on the May 20th Society website this spring and on OMB's website. Judging from the credentials of former speakers and the fact this is the 250th anniversary, the offerings merit your attention. Events will be posted in the Dilworth Express.

John Phares, Dilworth representative to the historic district commission

for 10 years – and a strong advocate of sharing local history – is designing merchandise to sell and promote the event. Check the Dilworth Express in the coming weeks for more information on that, too. (John was instrumental in bringing ideas about the Mec Dec to our attention and putting this article together. Much obliged, John!)

Better yet, join the May 20th Society. As a resident of one of Charlotte's historic neighborhoods, you can support the effort to bring recognition to this groundbreaking document by emailing info@may20thsociety.org.



What's up with the Communications Committee?

A Q&A with co-chairs John Fryday and Sis Kaplan

When was the Comms Committee created?

In early 2023. Sis was the catalyst by questioning "what is DCA's media strategy?"

Why was it created?

The DCA Board saw the need for coordination and support of the Dilworth Quarterly, Dilworth Express and our website. Our social media presence needed to expand, so it was placed under us too. Recently we've added creating and delivering Newcomer Packets to welcome and orient new residents.

What are the major things you focus on?

The community at large sees the DCA as "representing" the neighborhood. We work to ensure the publications that connect to us and information sent out reflect the DCA's mission to improve the quality of life here through advocacy, partnership and service.

What has been your biggest challenge?

Having enough volunteers to keep the publications/ activities alive! The Express runs like clockwork because of Liz [Lewis]. The Quarterly editor position and managing the

advertising side are volunteer positions. Our Committee works to make that volunteer time 'manageable' by spreading the load and supporting the process. We ALWAYS need volunteers, even for four hours once a month for this or that initiative. Volunteers are the heart of the DCA.

What are you most excited about?

Information sharing across platforms seems to be working. We are slowly solving the issues of printing delays and USPS delivery schedules to make the Quarterly more timely and relevant, and publicizing the Express and how to sign up for it for more immediate connection to residents. The changes in the Quarterly are making it again feel new and exciting.

How do people get involved?

Telling advertisers you saw their name in the Quarterly or Express supports the cause! We have many needs for volunteer writers and assistants, and could use someone/s with a few regularly available hours to put toward a self directed task (like tracking ad invoices!). Email us at president@dilworthonline.org or express@dilworthonline.org.

Anything else you'd like to add?

We all run into folks who say, "I love this Neighborhood and moved here because I loved the streets, or the trees and sense of community." I honestly believe the efforts of the DCA (an all-volunteer group) strengthens this community – that people sense when they are here. We really need more volunteers to give even small amounts of time to help the organization grow and keep Dilworth, Dilworth.



CottinghamChalk

ASHLEY MULLINS ASKEW of Lucy Butler Group REALTOR®/Broker (NC/SC) 704.807.8822 aaskew@cottinghamchalk.com

Contact me for a free market analysis of your home.

Dilworth QuarterlyCentral

Missed an issue of the Quarterly and want to catch up? There's a QR code for that! Access the DQ archive by hovering your phone's camera over this QR code and clicking the link that appears.



In Search Of ...

DQ Contributors & Writers

Dilworth Quarterly is (always) seeking volunteer contributors for the publication. Please reach out to express interest or for more information.

Features Writer

Do you have an eye for what makes a good neighborhood story? Have the skills and time to pen a 500-750-word feature article (and take some photos) one to four times a year? We'd love to talk! Email Editor Jody Jones: *QuarterlyJody@gmail.com*.

'Merchant News'

Are you interested in covering the Merchant News beat — in which we highlight new business and changes to existing businesses — or contributing 100-150-word submissions for the section? Email Jody: *QuarterlyJody@gmail.com*.

Committee Connections

If you're a member of a DCA committee, we'd love to have you share some brief updates about your activities. Email Jody, let's talk: *QuarterlyJody@gmail.com*.



Revitalize your home with our stunning selection of rugs!

It's time to usher in the freshness of spring with our exclusive sale.

Explore our wide range of styles, colors, and sizes to find

the perfect rug to complement your décor.

RUGculture

316 East Boulevard • Charlotte, NC 28203 (980) 207-3287 • www.rug-culture.com Monday-Friday 10:30-5:30 • Saturday 10:30-3:30 Evenings and Sundays by appointment

30% Off Rug Cleaning!

Free Pickup and Delivery in the Charlotte Metro Area.

RUGculture 316 East Blvd • (980) 207-3287

See our work on the Symphony Home Tour March 28-29 at 801 Mt. Vernon Dr.

Simply the Best

Sophisticated, fashionable yet comfortable interiors with YOU in mind:
• Modern and Transitional designs for your home or office • Fabrics, custom upholstered furniture, custom drapery and window shades, lighting, rugs, bed linens, case goods, original artwork, reupholstery,

pillows and accessories • No design fees with purchase • Free local delivery
• Day and evening appointments available



Pfahl Architects

CRAZY JANE'S

2502 Dunavant Street South End, Charlotte, NC 28203 704-332-5454 | crazyjanesinc.com

Dilworth Desserts from Around the World

Transport your taste buds through the Queen City's destination of international desserts

By Nina Rose

As the weather warms up, a parade of foot traffic dances around Dilworth's food scene, weaving through historic tree-lined streets decorated with local eateries boasting the best bites from around the world.

Dilworth is home to the best of the Queen City's international desserts. In just under two square miles, you can travel the globe and transport your taste buds from India to Italy.

Whether you're a long-time resident or a newbie neighbor exploring the area, Dilworth's dessert scene promises a variety of diverse and decadent treats that are sure to satisfy any sweet tooth.

India

Located in the historic Mayer House, **Copper** weaves ancient Indian spices into a modern dining experience. The dessert menu presents aromatic and authentic sweet treats including the Chef's selection of the house dessert sampling, *Kulfi*, *Gajrela Rabdi*, and *The Three Excuses*.

A neapolitan blend of coconut, mango and malai (thick cream originating from India), Copper's *Kulfi is* dressed with figs and painted with a spiced blueberry topping. This recipe delivers the classic creamy texture and flavor that makes Kulfi an unforgettable treat.

Immerse yourself in India with *Gajrela Rabdi*, a warm and comforting carrot pudding roll paired with rich Rabdi ice cream infused with notes of nuts and drizzled with star anise clove syrup.

Next up, *The Three "Excuses"* is a tantalizing trio of mouthwatering molten chocolate cake, traditional *Gulab Jamun* (soft melt-in-your mouth fried milk dumplings) and Bailey's Kulfi.

Pro Tip: You can request an order of Ghluab Jamun (meaning Rose berry) a la carte, and enjoy the soft pillowy confection soaked in sweetness on its own.

COPPER: 311 East Blvd. | copperrestaurant.com

Italy

A beloved gem in Dilworth, **Dolce** brings a taste of Italy with its authentic assortment of cakes and desserts. From the moment you step inside, you are transported to Italy with the cozy atmosphere and the sweet aroma of Italian flavors. Known for its exquisite *Italian Mascarpone Cheesecake* topped with real strawberry puree, this heavenly

Dolce's Italian Mascarpone Cheesecake

homemade cheesecake tastes like a fluffy cloud and makes you want to say *Ciao*, *Bella!* Don't miss their famous homemade *Tiramisu* made with luscious lady fingers, espresso, mascarpone cream and sprinkled with shaved dark chocolate for a truly indulgent Italian experience.

DOLCE: 1710 Kenilworth Ave, Suite 203 | dolce-osteria.com



Inside the doors of **Inizio Pizza Napoletana** is a glimmering glass case of homemade gelato. The mouthwatering row of flavors shining behind the counter might give you decision fatigue, so don't be afraid to try a taste of each before you decide on the perfect pairing with your pizza.

Pro Tip: Grab a \$2.50 scoop for a sweet deal on Thursdays to cool down after a hot Y2 yoga session (located next door). The coconut gelato is a dreamy thick and creamy concoction, packed with real coconut flakes that will take your taste buds to an Italian oasis.

INIZIO PIZZA NAPOLETANA: 2230 Park Rd. | Iniziopizza.com

Japan

Next up, let's journey to Japan. Crunch into a Crispy Banana Roll at **Ru San's**. Featuring a warm egg roll filled with ooey gooey goodness of sweet bananas, this decadent delicacy is topped with vanilla bean ice cream and drizzled with caramel sauce.

Pro Tip: Pair the Crispy Banana Roll with Tempura Ice Cream for a refreshing treat coated in a golden shell, as rich as the history of Japan.

RU SAN'S: 2440 Park Rd. | ru-sans.com



continued on page 20

MARCH 2025 19

DILWORTH EATS from page 19



Peru

Plunge into Peruvian flavors at **Pio Pio** with classic Peruvian recipes for a unique culinary adventure to South America. The velvety smooth Vanilla Flan is a creamy custard, coated with a constellation of crystallized sugar, the star of the show.

Pro Tip: Try the Tres Leches (meaning three milks) soaked in a Milky Way of cream. Light and airy, one spoonful will make you feel like you are floating on a cloud.

PIO PIO: 1408 East Blvd Unit A-1 | piopiocharlotte.com

Greece

Galavant to Greece with **The Vibe Cafe**'s beloved Baklava dessert. Soaked in sweetness, the luxurious layers of phyllo dough take center stage as a melody of notes of nuts and honey make your taste buds sing! This traditional Grecian-inspired decadent dessert will take time to devour into pure bliss.

Pro Tip: If you missed the line for the Baklava Sundae at the Greek Fest, don't fret as The Vibe Cafe has a year-round solution with an ice cream pairing to complete your Baklava Sundae splendor.

THE VIBE CAFE: 1315 East Blvd Unit 110 | vibecafeandwine.com



Try Thai Taste's Lava Chocolate Cake with a molten chocolate center that flows like warm lava – with love at first bite. (Source: Thai Taste)

Thailand

For a taste of Thai, indulge in **Thai Taste's** traditional Coconut Pudding or Lava Chocolate Cake with a molten chocolate center that flows like warm lava - with love at first bite.

Garnished with red cherries jubilee, this special dessert radiates the natural beauty of Thailand.

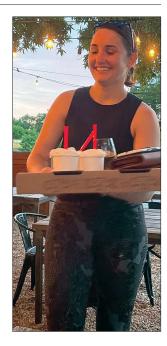
THAI TASTE: 324 East Blvd. | thaitastecharlotte.com

Other popular Thai-inspired desserts include Lemon Berry Marscapone Cake (with a burst of lemon berry bliss) from **Pho Good Time** for the ultimate indulgence.

PHO GOOD TIME: 2410 Park Rd. | phogoodtime.com

Dilworth is a haven for dessert lovers, offering a mix of traditional and modern sweet treats from around the world. Whether you're craving Italian-inspired cakes, artisanal gelato or you're ready to take your taste buds on an adventure, the area delivers a variety of options that will leave you satisfied and coming back for more. So, next time you're in Dilworth, be sure to indulge in some of the best desserts Charlotte has to offer — your taste buds will thank you!

Nina Rose is a native Charlottean who enjoys pursuing her passion of foodie adventures. With her master's degree in communication and wide-ranging experience in the food industry, she hosts local restaurant reviews on her Instagram channel, @thesouthernbites.









DRY CLEANING YOU CAN TRUST

\$1.00 off washer

25% new customer dry cleaning and wash and fold

Your Neighborhood Dry Cleaning and Laundromat

www.mylapels.com/charlottemetro





Your Residential Real Estate Specialists for Dilworth and the Carolinas



HM PROPERTIES

SOUTHPARK | WAVERLY | LAKE NORMAN | ASHEVILLE | WILMINGTON | CHARLESTON, SC | BLUFFTON, SC 704.552.9292 | HMPROPERTIES.COM

©2025 Corcoran HM Properties. All rights reserved. Corcoran® and the Corcoran Logo are registered service marks owned by Corcoran Group LLC. Corcoran HM Properties fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act.

Your Picks: Signs of Spring

We asked you: Which plant or flower or tree do you look forward to the most when Spring comes to Dilworth?

AZALEAS

"My favorite sign of spring is the azaleas blooming all over Charlotte." — Karen G

ANYTHING

"The first thing that blooms is my favorite! And today I saw cherry trees in full bloom which are the first indicator that spring is coming." — Paul F

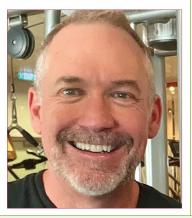
ZINNIAS

"Zinnias! Because they grow quickly from seed, bloom all summer profusely, feed butterflies and bees, fill my vases with their bright colours, then reseed and do it all over again the following year."— Betty J

CHERRY BLOSSOMS

"I always look forward to seeing the cherry blossoms in bloom. They are beautiful when they bloom, and the short flowering period makes them feel special." — Laura G











Tom Sykes Rec Center Schedule
Scan the QR code for a complete program schedule

The Tom Sykes Recreation Center features myriad programs, classes, and workshops for people of all ages. Its amenities include multipurpose rooms and a gymnasium. The center, located on Dilworth Elementary's Latta campus, is within walking distance of Latta Park.

ROB HALL GETS RESULTS!



ARE YOU CONSIDERING SELLING YOUR HOME IN 2025?



LET'S CONNECT!

Located at 316 E. Worthington in Dilworth 704-577-4787 | rob.hall@compass.com compass.com/agents/rob-hall

"Rob is a real professional and knows the market very well! His communication is top notch and was a joy working with him in selling our home!"

~Dan & Linda K.

PRIDEMORE PROPERTIES

COMPASS

You'll Love **Calling Dilworth**

Dilworth puts the 'neighbor' in neighborhood. It's a tight-knit community where people wave to you from their front porch as you walk by. Where you're likely to get invited to a neighborhood party (or three). And where you and your family will always feel at home.

With the right mix of relaxed spirit, easy access, and eclectic home styles, it's easy to fall in love with Dilworth.

If you're ready to buy or sell your perfect place in Dilworth, we'd love to help you.



DICKENS **MITCHENER** REAL ESTATE







2330 Randolph Road, Charlotte, NC 28207

704.342.1000 | DICKENSMITCHENER.COM







If you are looking to make a move in Dilworth, let me be the one to make it happen!

Dilworth resident for over 15 years with 150+ homes sold in our neighborhood





704. 975. 8513 | LGONYEA@HELENADAMSREALTY.COM