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Mail check and this form to:
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311 Greenwood Drive
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Individual Household \$5-\$15, pay what you can
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I'm interested in helping with the following:

Winter Luminaries Creek Cleanup
 Newsletter Distribution Administration
 Neighborhood Watch Park Clean Up

SUBMISSIONS

The NPNA Newsletter is published on a quarterly basis. If you would like to submit articles, news, recipes, favorite websites, or announcements for next quarter's issue, please email Ian Pond at ian.pond@yahoo.com

Asking Saves Kids

[byline: Amy Buchanan]

Some facts about guns and children*:
 40% of homes with children have a gun
 Of gun-owning parents:
 43% keep a gun unlocked
 14-30% keep a gun loaded
 and 6-14% keep at least one gun loaded and unlocked. That's nearly 1.7 million children in the United States living in a home with a loaded, unlocked gun.

If you have a child, have you discussed guns and what to do if they see one? The NRA's safety campaign for children ("Eddie Eagle") suggests you keep the message simple:

1. STOP!
2. Don't touch!
3. Leave the area.
4. Tell an adult.

But even with this sort of gun safety education, the natural curiosity of children, not to mention the often complex dynamics of children playing in groups, has led to tragic cases of accidental shootings. Hiding guns is not enough, and talking to your kids is not enough either.

The ASK campaign (www.paxusa.org) is aimed directly at parents and caregivers and has a simple message: ASK. When your child makes a new friend and wants to go to his or her house to play, ASK. Is there a gun in your home? Is the gun stored locked and unloaded, with ammunition locked away separately? If you are a parent, you know that it's hard enough to ask a new parent acquaintance much more benign questions about TV watching, computer use, candy, and the like. Gun ownership is a very personal (and often very politicized) topic and asking about it can feel invasive. The ASK campaign has great suggestions on how to start this conversation. Please visit AskingSavesKids.org for information and inspiration. Have the courage to ASK: it could save a life.

National ASK Day is June 21st. If this is an issue you care about, please consider marking the day by writing a letter to the editor of your newspaper, writing a piece for your church newsletter, or simply resolving to ASK at least one friend or relative about guns in the home. And don't forget to "like" the Facebook page for "Arm Yourself with Knowledge."

If you would like a free gun lock, the Durham County Gun Safety Team has a gun lock giveaway program through the Public Health Department. Contact Joanie Ross at jross@ph.co.durham.nc.usm or (919) 560-7765 to request a lock. Duke Children's Primary Care Clinics are partners in the Gun Safety Team so if that is where your child receives health care, you can request one directly from your pediatrician.

* Statistics are from the Durham County Gun Safety Team and paxusa.org.

newsletter



Northgate Park Neighborhood Association
Annual Picnic & Meeting: Sunday, June 5, 2011

Site: Smaller Picnic Shelter
 Agenda:
 4:00-- Set-up – Games — Greeting Neighbors, renewing membership to Register for Raffle
 5:00-- Dinner –Association provides Main Dish & Drink. Bring Sides to share & Seating
 5:30 -- Election / Installation of Officers , Business & Announcements
 Raffle Drawing

Information to remember:

Membership runs from Annual Meeting to Annual Meeting. The NPNA Board recently changed membership dues to a sliding scale—similar to PBS and other charity organizations—Join for \$5.00 to \$15.00 which ever fee works for your household. Membership may be renewed at the Annual Meeting or via submission of Membership Form.

The Nomination Committee is soliciting nominations for all officers. We have no candidates for Secretary and Vice-president as of May 10th. If you are willing to serve as an officer or Board of Director member, please contact Alice Kolacinski, Nominating Committee Chair at apkolacinski@yahoo.com.

Calling all Multi-taskers!

If you'd like to entertain your kids, eat good food, socialize with your neighbors and contribute towards the neighborhood all at the same time, there is no better opportunity than the annual NPNA Picnic being held this year on 5th June. We will meet at the small picnic shelter in the middle of the park near the pedestrian bridge over the creek.

TIME: set up from 4.00pm, eat at 5.00pm, NPNA elections after the food!

NPNA will provide entrée meat and veggie alternatives, please bring a pot to share (Potluck etiquette – bring only as much in volume as your family would eat, if we all bring enough to feed 10 people there

will be ten times more food than we need!)

Want to bring a game the kids can play enjoy? Just do it, no permission needed!

The annual NPNA Picnic is when elections for NPNA officials is held. **So, what is NPNA?**

Northgate Park Neighborhood Association was formed in 1987 by NGP residents. It is a volunteer group who are directed to bring added value to the neighborhood via any means.

NPNA is NOT a Home Owners Association! The group has no legal powers, have no desire or authority to determine what color your shut-

ters can be or what design of mail box you must have; they are your neighbors who have volunteered their time, skills and experience to make all of our lives a little better.

Really? So what have they done for me?

Well, they feed you at the annual picnic for a start!

But in addition, they also administer the listserv and the website (soon to re-launch!), arrange park and creek clean-ups, arrange speakers for the monthly meetings, produce the quarterly newsletter, arrange National Night Out, represent the neighborhood to other neighborhoods, organize the annual Yard Sale and a whole host of other things too numerous to mention!

Come along, have fun and show your support for Northgate Park.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- NPNA Annual Meeting and picnic, June 5th, 5pm
- NPNA June meeting June 16th, 7.00pm, Civitan Club
- Park cleanup June 11th, 8.30am
- June 13th PAC2 meeting
- June 19th Fathers Day

Circular encounters

Ever had a close encounter on the neighborhood traffic circle? Don't forget, entering a circle you yield to traffic already going around it

"An entire traffic circle is an intersection. Vehicles already in the circle have the right of way."

This information is taken from the NCDMV Drivers Manual

Museum in our midst:

Julie Rigby of the Museum of Life and Science came to the May NPNA meeting to brief the group about the Museum and future plans.

The Museum is booming and in awareness of that Julie asked that any residents having issues with inconsiderate parking contact the Museum.

Some numbers: 5,000 customers on a peak day; 2500-3000 is common; 432,000 customers per year!

With an operating budget of \$6.6 million, the Museum gets around 22% of that through grants from the County and State, the rest comes from generated income and donations. The land the Museum sits on is leased from Durham County until 2030 so they are not going anywhere!

105 animals live at the museum and we are familiar with the famous ones - bears, wolves, lamas etc but did you know they

Kings Red & White is donating a \$50.00 Gift certificate for the NPNA Raffle. Join the NPNA to be eligible for the raffle! (1 new or renewal Membership per raffle ticket.)

also house the "Educational team" of snakes, owls, hawks, chickens, rabbits and more that visit local schools!

There are two new exhibits upstairs - "Investigate Health" has interactive crash dummies, a microscope to view dust mites, a sun-screen station and a laboratory with multiple experiments. "Flip it, Fold it, Figure it out" includes origami, scale and ratio, virtual reality and a contraptions station where kids can build something that works!

The Museum are considering several great ideas as possible future attractions including a large scale Holiday train installation, added visual attractions to the existing train track, helium balloon rides and more animals - maybe river otters!

Take special note that Wednesdays are "Pay what you wish" days for Durham County residents

Special thanks to Julie for entertaining us with stories about the animals!

What's Cookin'?' A Neighborhood Recipe Share

Dorothy's Potato Salad

This has been a Henderson family (Murray Ave.) favorite for over 40 years. It's really an egg and potato salad.

Ingredients

- 2 Medium to Large Irish potatoes
- 3 boiled eggs
- ½ cup sweet pickle relish or diced sweet pickles
- 3 tablespoons pickle juice
- ½ cup finely diced celery
- ¼ cup minced onion
- ¼ cup mayonnaise
- ¼ cup sour cream
- 1 teaspoon prepared yellow mustard

Boil potatoes until cooked through. Meanwhile, combine the mayonnaise, sour cream, mustard and pickle juice. Stir until smooth. Add the pickle relish or pickles, onion, and celery to the above mixture. Peel and cut the cooked potatoes into chunks. Add to the above mixture. Dice **two** of the boiled eggs and gently fold into the above mixture. Slice the third egg and garnish the potato salad with the slices.

The great thing about potato salad is you can improvise and add your own twist. I like to add Bone Suckin Mustard to mine when I want it spicy hot.

Enjoy!

Neighborhood Real Estate News

Nancy Rizzo, Realtor, 919-308-4306

There were 3 sales in Northgate from Jan to May 2011. The average sales price was \$143,333, with 71 days on the market, at 1154 SF and \$125 per SF. The average year built was 1949.

There are currently 10 homes listed for sale, 2 pending and 2 contingent.

This information was taken from the Triangle Multiple Listing Service (TMLS). NOTE: Past sales performance is not a guarantee of future sales performance.

If you have any questions about this Northgate Real Estate report in particular or Real Estate in general, contact Nancy Rizzo @ 919 308 4306

Nancy Rizzo, Realtor
ReMax Winning Edge
919 308 4306

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Go to:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NPNA> and click on "Join this Group"

OR send an email to:

npna-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

GOT NATURE?
www.ellerbecreek.org

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When to call 911

I know this has been mentioned several times, but given the recent talk about break-ins, I think it's worth repeating.

If you see something that you think warrants police attention and it is currently happening call 911. Some of us were taught to only call 911 for "a real emergency". Durham PD has said, at NPNA meetings and PAC2 meetings that if the event in progress they (Durham PD) want you to call 911 and let the police then determine how to handle it.

So, I'm going to try and summarize how to handle some different situations.

You see someone casing the neighborhood. Call 911.
You hear a sound that you think might be gunshots. Call 911.

You see someone (other than your neighbor) climbing your neighbor's fence. Call 911.

You hear what sounds like a car crash. call 911.
Someone suspicious knocks on your door late at night. Call 911.

You see someone walking down the street carrying a large screen TV.
Call 911.

Boomer

Useful Web Links

City of Durham home page

<http://durhamnc.gov/>

Durham Public School system

<http://www.dpsnc.net/about-dps>

School District Map

<http://www.dpsnc.net/schools/new-district-map>

Detail about Northgate Park

<http://www.city-data.com/neighborhood/Northgate-Park-Durham-NC.html#ixzz0ptrhJYTL>

Recycling details

<http://www.co.durham.nc.us/departments/gnsv/recycle/index.html>

Partners Against Crime

<http://pac2durham.org/>

ABOUT NORTHGATE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

NPNA Meetings: Northgate Park Neighborhood Association meets the third Thursday of every month (except June and December) at 7:00 p.m. at the Friendly City Civitan Club at 2510 Glendale Avenue. All neighbors are welcome to attend!

NPNA Board of Directors: President: Jeff "Boomer" Bakalchuk; Vice President: Ian Pond; Treasurer: Dan Singer; Secretary: Alice Kolacinski; Members at Large: Katie Coyle, Line Dempsey, Caroline Elliot, Mike Konvika, Alyssa Platt, and Adam Shestak.

POISON IVY!

For those susceptible to Poison Ivy, this time of year can bring misery.

There are many things known about Poison Ivy, how to limit contact with it and how to treat it. Here is a collection of experiences from Northgate Park residents and a few other reference sites: Poison Ivy is characterized by leafy vines that have a "set-of-three" leaves. Not every set of three is poisonous (Clematis, Wild Strawberry) but if you're not 100% sure what the leaves belong to, avoid touching them.

The rash that occurs from poison ivy, poison oak and poison sumac is caused by a family of organic compounds called Urushiol (pronounced oo-roo-shee-ohl, or you-ROO-she-ol, depending whether you read it in the north or south).

Urushiol is a clear liquid and contact with any part of the plant – leaf, stem, root – can lead to rashes, some of which can be severe, resembling burns



The rashes typically show as inflamed lines and patches that appear a day or two after contact. Blisters then appear and last for around a week before fading to leave a red blotch that can take another 2-3 weeks to fade. The wounds are not contagious; Urushiol bonds chemically with skin in a matter of minutes. For some people that bonding can occur in as short a time as 10 minutes for others closer to an hour. Urushiol can be transferred to you via your pets fur, garden tools, surfaces that contaminated clothing/items have come in to contact with etc. Urushiol remains active for many months on dead plants, tools and clothing that have come in contact with it.

Urushiol will penetrate any clothing barrier, it's just a matter of how long it takes. Wet clothing speeds up Urushiol penetration and can spread the oil over a larger area of skin than direct contact. The best defense is avoidance – stay well clear. To remove Poison Ivy from your garden, many people recommend brush clearing chemicals. There are a variety of these on the market but you do have to be careful of taking down adjacent plants as Poison Ivy often intertwines with other plants. Use an application method such as a small

squirt bottle or a paintbrush to apply the herbicide to the poison ivy and nothing else. My own approach is the right clothing, great care, track down the roots and remove the entire plant.

If you do tackle it, wear long trousers, boots, long sleeves and gloves that do not leave a gap with the sleeves. Do not forget about your face, make sure you stay well back from the vines and that they do not contact exposed skin as you pull them out. The safest disposal is to put it in the trash. DO NOT BURN poison ivy, Urushiol travels with the smoke and can cause severe respiratory injuries for those breathing it in. Some people compost poison ivy and although there is a body of evidence saying that can be effective there is no definitive evidence that composting consistently destroys Urushiol. Indeed, the United States Composting Council (USCC) have debated this and concluded that without more scientific evidence, it remains a risky venture.

Limit your risk of exposure by using disposable gloves where you can (removing your gloves carefully so as to not touch the external surface), immediately putting all clothing (every last bit of it, Urushiol may have penetrated the first layer) in to a hot wash and washing exposed areas of skin with a product such as Tecnu.

If you do not take precautions, you may transfer Urushiol via physical contact to other parts of your body or household items (your bedding!) which can spread the rash well beyond it's point of initial contact and/or to other people

If none of the preventative steps work, you are in for a long ride! Relief can come in several ways - Burt's Bees Poison Ivy Soap, Apple Cider vinegar has been known to dry it up rapidly, alcohol and calamine lotion are all recommended by Northgate Park residents

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