

Seasonal Recipes—Sweet Potato / Eggnog Pie

Submitted by: Alice Kolacinski



(Modified from Mama Dips Sweet Potato Custard Pie from Mama Dips' Family Cook Book when we had Eggnog approaching the drink-by-date. —Alice Kolacinski)

1—Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

2—Make pie shell or use 2 thawed frozen shells

3—Mix together the following ingredients:

2 cups cooked fresh mashed sweet potatoes

16 oz (2 cups) of eggnog

½ cup brown sugar

½ stick (4 tablespoons) of butter

½ teaspoon pumpkin or apple pie spice

4 eggs

4—Pour into pie shells and bake until tester comes clean from middle (probably 40—60 minutes.)

Note: This will also cook well as a custard (no pie shell needed.)

Membership Form

Join or renew your membership today!

Make checks payable to: "NPNA"

Mail check and this form to:

Singer/NPNA
311 Greenwood Drive
Durham, NC 27704

Individual Household \$5-\$15, pay what you can

Business/Institution \$15

Name: _____

Address: _____

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I'm interested in helping with the following:

Winter Luminaries

Creek Cleanup

Newsletter Distribution

Administration

Neighborhood Watch

Park Clean Up

Want to Join the NPNA Listserv?

Go to:

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

OR send an email to:

npna-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

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

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: Ian Pond; Vice President: Adam Shestak; Treasurer: Dan Singer; Secretary: Rebecca Gibson; Members at Large: Alice Kolacinski, Line Dempsey, Jeff "Boomer" Bakalchuck

Resident businesses and services

(These ads are free for paid up members of NPNA)

Nancy Rizzo, NGP resident since 1988, Realtor® since 2000 and neighborhood pet sitter. Assisting with the purchase and/or sale of homes in Durham, Wake, Person, Orange, Granville, Franklin and nationwide relocation. 919 308 4306

Outsiders Art & Collectibles is pleased to offer a 15% discount to all Northgate Park Neighbors! Just come in and say, "I love living in Northgate Park!"

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NORTHGATE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

newsletter

Member of the InterNeighborhood Council of Durham

WINTER 2011



For the 70th anniversary of Northgate Park, residents donated several articles recounting years past. The below article is from long-time Northgate Park resident Gerald Medlin and recounts experiences from his earlier years. There are many interesting references that remind us how much has carried across from those years to now.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- December 10th, Park clean-Up
- December 11th, Night of Lights, Luminaries
- 19th January 2012 NPNA meeting, Civitan Club

A Walk Down Memory Lane, an article by Gerald Medlin

On May 31st, 1940 Charlie Hubert Medlin enlisted in the army at Fort Bragg. After completing basic training followed by graduation from the school of artillery he was transferred to Fort Sill Oklahoma. A picture of him and his company dated November of 1941 proudly hangs on the wall of the den where he used to relax, read and watch TV in his favorite chair. One month later with the bombing of Pearl Harbor the United States would be at war.

Charlie and thousands of other GI's departed San Francisco on March 15th 1942 aboard a converted freighter bound for the South Pacific. On April 2nd 1942 they arrived at the island of New Caledonia a debarking and major supply staging area for most of the entire South Pacific.

As a member of the 9th DIV. 97th FA BN BTRY B Charlie and his buddies saw their first action on the island of Guadalcanal and later on Papua New Guinea. They had served their country with honor and valor, approximately one in five would not return home alive.

On March 26th, 1945 my parents Edith Shepherd and Charlie Medlin were married in the Durham home of the minister. Just two weeks before on March 12th Charlie had arrived back in the US. He had spent two years eleven months and twenty-eight days overseas.

After only a few days together as newlyweds, Charlie had to report to his duty station. He was assigned to the United States Military academy at West Point. Here he would train cadets until his reassignment and discharge back at Fort Bragg on August 16th, 1945. He had served his country for five years, two months and sixteen days.

Charlie and Edith moved in to their new home on October 1st, 1945 located at 100 St Paul St. A month or so before he had found a job with Liggett and Meyers Tobacco Co. Edith was already working as a telephone operator with AT&T. As children of the Great Depression and having survived a World War, I think they both must have felt blessed and fortunate more than they could ever have hoped for. Here they would spend the rest of their lives together (just shy of 58 years) and raise their family of four (one son and three daughters) in that order.

As a child, I have many fond memories growing up in the Northgate Park neighborhood. Easter egg hunts at Duke Park and swimming at Duke Park pool; cook outs and riding bikes all over the neighborhood; playing in Elber Creek and going to the Banfield Youth Center for dances and other social events. It burned down around 1970 and the

tennis courts today stand on its former site.

As a family we grew up attending Park View Baptist Church across from the Park. Thinking back I suppose the entire area was a collection of mostly two and three-bedroomed houses. Most everyone was employed by either the American or Liggett tobacco companies. Others were employed by Duke University or Erwin Mills. The rest were in retail or employed by the City or State.

Times seemed to be slower, more relaxed and simpler. You knew all of your neighbors and people seemed to generally care for one another. At the age of six after being told not to, I mowed my parents' lawn. I had always wanted to help my parents in any way I could. I think you could count on one hand the number of times my dad actually had to mow his own yard until I left home and married in 1971.

Up until age of seventeen or so I would cut grass in the neighborhood for two or three dollars a yard and use the money to buy my school clothes. Even though both my parents worked, it seemed often times that money was still scarce. I guess raising four kids from the late forties to the late sixties got to be rather costly – not a lot of money was left over for extras.

From 1953 until I left in 1959 a hot lunch with a half-pint of whole milk from the cafeteria of Club Boulevard Elementary School cost a whopping 24c. An extra half-pint for morning break cost another 4c. I can still to this day still virtually see my mother counting her change in hope she had enough money that week to buy lunch for me and my oldest sister, Sandra.

In 1959 I entered the 7th Grade as the doors were opened for the first time of the new Brogden Junior High school. I attended there for the next three years then, on to Durham High in 1962 graduating in 1965 with my 697 or so classmates. One class of the Baby Boomers had come of age.

Charlie and Edith both passed away in 2003, Dad on July 18th and Mom on November 24th.

As I grow older, I think more of the sacrifices they both made and the love they had for all of their children. I today feel an even deeper sense of awe, respect, love and admiration for this woman and this man I called Mom and Dad. I can only hope and pray that I have made them both proud. They are and forever will be, THE GREATEST GENERATION. God bless and keep you both.

Your Son,

Gerald

Blue Christmas

This is the time of year immediately after Thanksgiving that the Christmas season seems to be truly ushered in without anything left to slow it down. For many this is a time of year full of joy and excitement including the opportunity to see family that hasn't been seen since last year and the excitement of sharing presents. The Radio, TV, Internet are all filled with all the smiling faces and happy sounds that are supposed to represent the joy of the season. However for some the symbols that brings such joy to so many results in quite the opposite during this time of year. The images of families dripping with happiness around a Christmas tree are a stabbing reminder of their own loneliness. The Christmas songs broadcast in the stores that proclaim joy for some seem to highlight that they aren't feeling joy at all right now. This even brings feelings of guilt or even depression.

We at St. Paul United Methodist want to remind everyone that yes there is a reason to celebrate at Christmas. Jesus Christ the son of God was born long ago as a part of God expressing His love toward humanity. However, we also want to remind everyone that it was into darkness that the Son of God was born. Jesus came and knows firsthand our struggles. So whether this is a time of year full of great joy or deep pain I invite you to St. Paul, or anyone of the great Christian Churches right here in the neighborhood. We want to celebrate life with you and also are willing to share the love of God with you in the midst of your hurts especially during this time of year.

Merry or Blue Christmas,
Steve Murphy
Co-Pastor St. Paul UMC 2700 N. Roxboro St.
stpaulumcdurham.com

Neighborhood Real Estate News

Nancy Rizzo, Realtor, 919-308-4306

The following statistics reflect the Northgate Park real estate market from January to October 2010 and from January to October 2011. Despite the recession Northgate has held its value relatively well. Northgate Park homes are still selling, however price per SF has decreased and days on the market have increased. See the chart below for more details. Figures are calculated averages obtained from the Triangle MLS. If questions please contact Nancy Rizzo, your Northgate Park neighbor and ReMax Realtor @ 919 308 4306.

	2010	2011
Number of closed sales	15	19
Average number of square feet	1023	1166
Bed/Bath/Half-Bath	2-1-1	3-1-1
Average Year Built	1946	1949
Sold Price	\$124,227	\$130,571
Price per square foot	\$124	\$118
Days on market	60	116

New Parents?

"Are you Northgate Park resident expecting a child or parent of an infant or toddler looking to connect with other parents in the neighborhood? Join the NGP Parents Group listserve! New moms and dads welcome. Meet and play, trade and sell kids clothing, toys, cloth diapers, discuss pediatricians and preschools. For more info e-mail zareen.kapadia@gmail.com"



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GOT NATURE?
www.ellerbecreek.org

Since 1999, Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association has protected over 150 acres of land in and around OUR neighborhoods, including the Beaver Marsh behind Compare Foods. Help us do more! Become a member of ECWA today.

Levels: Individual \$25 ___ Family \$40 ___

Name and email: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Send check to: ECWA, PO Box 2679, Durham, NC 27705 or join online!



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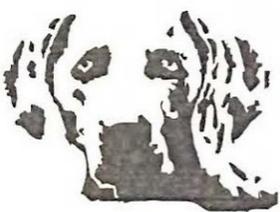
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A membership drive for the Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association

Supported by the board of the Northgate Park Neighborhood Association:

The ECWA has a goal of 25 memberships from Northgate Park by Dec. 31, and the NPNA just kicked off the drive by joining!

Please take a moment now to become a new Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association member or renew your membership.

ECWA contributions to our neighborhood include:

- ECWA owns and maintains many lands along the Ellerbe Creek corridor, including the 32-acre Beaver Marsh Preserve behind Compare Foods and the Pearl Mill Preserve that runs along the North-South Greenway southeast of Northgate Park.
- ECWA is actively working to protect land along the Ellerbe Creek pedestrian and bicycle corridor that would better connect Northgate Park with parks around the city.
- ECWA works to protect the creek's water quality, including creek clean-ups, invasive plant removal, and innovative rain gardens. ECWA has also donated equipment, supplies, and staff at many of Northgate Park's Adopt-a-Park clean-ups over the past ten years.
- ECWA hosts education programs, hikes, and other activities that engage people—both kids and adults—with the natural world and the beauty in our own backyards

Many in Northgate Park have already pledged their support of ECWA through memberships and/or donations.

Won't you please join, renew, or donate \$25 or more to be counted as one of those who helped us meet the challenge?

Membership form (or join online at www.ellerbecreek.org)

Individual \$25 ___ Family \$40 ___ Advanced \$100 ___ Steward \$250 ___ Conservator \$500 ___ Guardian \$1000 ___ Blue Heron Society \$5,000 or more ___

Please update your contact information:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ___ Zip _____ Email _____

Daytime phone _____ Evening phone _____

Please send membership check to:
 ECWA, PO Box 2679, Durham, NC 27705