

14th Annual Beaver Queen Pageant for the Ellerbe June 2 '70s Theme: Saturday Night Beaver!

The beloved Durham-grown Beaver Queen Pageant (BQP), a free family-fun event, will be Saturday, June 2 at Duke Park (Acadia at Knox Street). Pre-pageant activities start 4pm; Pageant 5-7 pm.

The BQP is rich in community history & culture. Begun in 2005 by Duke Park residents to protect beavers from a road construction project, it now attracts 1,000+ merry-makers to celebrate & preserve our local creek. It's a free for all ages 'beaver beauty pageant' and creative festival for audience & contestants alike. Celebrity judges are anything but impartial – audience 'bribes' them (and votes multiple times!) to support their chosen contestant for queen. Many Northgaters have competed, judged – even won!

The goal of the show is to raise funds for

Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association, to support cleaning, protecting and preserving this vital & challenged Durham resource.

Votes, bribes and a portion of other funds spent (visit ECWA's booth to become a member!) support their efforts in ensuring Ellerbe remains a thriving, clean, and precious resource for all.

Join us on June 2 to save the Ellerbe!

Vote/Bribe online (follow links) at:
www.ellerbecreek.org &
www.beaverlodgelocal1504.org

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Neighborhood Association
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NPNA Membership Form

The membership year of the
Northgate Park Neighborhood
Association runs from
April 1st to March 31st

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 \$25

Name: _____

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Or use PayPal at our website Northgateparknc.org



Newsletter

Member of the Inter-Neighborhood Council



Upcoming Neighborhood Events

- March 15 – NPNA meeting, Civitan Club, 7pm
- March 22 – Food Truck Rodeo Season Opener, Northgate Park 5 – 8:30 p.m.
- March 24 – Northgate Park Annual Egg Hunt, 4 p.m. (Rain Date, March 31)
- April 19 - NPNA meeting, Civitan Club, 7 pm
- April 26 – Food Truck Rodeo/Lavender House Celebration, Northgate Park, 5-8:30 p.m.
- May 20 – NPNA Annual Meeting and Picnic, Northgate Park, 4 pm (Rain Date June 10)
- May 24 – Food Truck Rodeo, Northgate Park, 5 – 8:30 p.m.
- June 2 – Fourteenth Annual Beaver Queen Pageant, Duke Park 5-7pm

NPNA Food Truck Rodeos Coming Soon

It has become a tradition for Northgate Park to have Food Truck Rodeos the fourth Thursday of the month from May to October. The rodeos are in the park near the tennis courts. There are usually about 4 trucks, a lemonade stand, often a dessert truck, one musical group performing, and some kid-friendly activities. The food trucks and music are there from 5-8 PM. It's a great way to unwind and meet a few neighbors. These trucks have been wonderfully organized for years by Mary Alicia Lyons, who is stepping down now. The new organizer is Farrah Sangsookwow Shapiro.

Many thanks to Mary Alicia for working so many years organizing the rodeos and to Farrah for taking over the job.

This started out as a neighbor's idea, and was put into action with the help of other neighbors. If you have an idea of how to make our neighborhood better, please send it to brpage@yahoo.com or come to the next NPNA board meeting.

Once again, many thanks to Mary Alicia and Farrah!

The Spring Rodeo Food Truck Season Opener will be March 22. Music will be provided by The Piedmont Lowlanders Band! With more new vendors & cuisines!

Annual Picnic - save the date!

The NPNA Annual Picnic has been scheduled for Sunday May 20th, 4pm-6pm with a rain date of June 10th. NPNA will provide entrees as usual and residents bring their favorite dish to share.

This also serves as the Annual Meeting of NPNA for the election of a new Board. Are you interested in having your voice heard as a Board Member to guide neighborhood events, the newsletter, how our membership dues are spent? Perhaps you wish to serve as an Officer - President, VP, Treasurer, Secretary?

If so, please contact Bernie Page at brpage@yahoo.com to discuss your interest in more detail or, contact any Board member.

Join the NPNA listerv at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NPNA> click "join this group" OR send an email to npna-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

A Northgate Farewell

Dear Neighbors,

This is a soft and sweet fare thee well, to all of you, my neighbors in Northgate Park.

For 27 years, this has been my home location; and on Friday February 16th, the TROSA folks are coming; and along with help of my friends Rebecca Reyes [Director of planning and packing] and Sue Gilbertson, I will move to Carol Woods Retirement Community. Some of you may have heard of it: it's over in Chapel Hill, tucked into the woods. It's a good place.

AND/BUT, I am going to miss you. There's neighbors and friends here, children and animals: dogs and cats and chickens and ducks. All the weathers of rain and snow and hurricanes and hot summers, the miracle of spring, and breezes and high winds; sunrises and sunsets; full moons, new moons; amazing shimmering mosaics amidst the tall trees-- so many wonderful trees-- and flowers and squirrels and spiders and other bugs and beavers and possums and some snakes and frogs and. . . birds! I have listened every single day to the birds in this sanctuary, and my heart and soul are so grateful for them.

I leave all these wonderful things with you to enjoy. And there are also many interesting ways for you to participate in the friendliness and kindness of this neighborhood. For example,

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Sara Carter

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Northgate Park Neighborhood Egg Hunt

In Northgate Park, near the small playground by the bridge. 4pm, Sat, March 24 (rain date Sat, 31 March) Ages 0 through kindergarten

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About Your 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: Bernie Page; VP Jeremy Jorgensen; Treasurer: Dan Singer; Secretary: Ian Pond; INC Rep: Deb Hawkins; Members-at-large: Sue Gilbertson; Alice Kolacinski, Tom Melby, Mike Shiflett

The Improved Murray Avenue

Have you noticed that Murray Ave has a stripe painted along the edge? That stripe is to alert drivers that that lane is for pedestrians and bikers. Some painted images of bikers and pedestrians should appear within the lane soon to reinforce the idea. Hopefully the striping will make Murray safer for walkers and bikers.

The striping is the result of the desire of one Northgate Park resident, Sue Gilbertson, to make the street safer. Sue saw mothers pushing strollers down the street and cars whizzing by. She talked with the NPNA board about possibly getting a sidewalk for Murray. Although we were not very hopeful, we gave her some contact info for the city. She called and met with city officials. Although the original hope was for a sidewalk, she was told that was too expensive and there is a huge waiting list for sidewalks. The city came up with the offer to do the striping. It is not perfect, but it is a vast improvement.

Many thanks to Sue for recognizing the problem, taking the initiative to contact, and working together with the city to make it better.

If you have a problem with something in Northgate Park, or an idea about how to make it better, please email brpage@yahoo.com or come to the next NPNA board meeting.

A Northgate Farewell

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be sure to check out the neighborhood association, if you haven't already. There are some great people on our board who meet regularly to work on events and affairs of the neighborhood. We are so lucky.

Allright, so I am going to move on Friday, February 16th. The TROSA truck will be here, along with my friends, and I will set my gaze on where I'm going, so as not to be crying too much.

Love to all of you, from me,
Sara Carter