



Williams Park

MEMO

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR WILLIAMS PARK NEIGHBORS

We're on the web at www.williamsparkneighbors.org

MEMO NOTES

As most of you know, the city's curbside recycling program does not take glass items due to cross contamination issues. But you can recycle glass at the Smyrna recycling center near the intersection of South Cobb Drive and Concord Road. So put a box in your garage, save up those old wine bottles, and drop them off when you're out running errands. That facility takes a lot of other stuff too. The web site for the recycling center is <http://www.smyrnacity.com/index.aspx?page=130>. Check it out.

Please join me in welcoming new contributor Callie Duelder as our new Pet Profile columnist. Eight year old Callie, a third grader at Saint Joseph Catholic School, will be covering Williams Park's pets of all types. If you know of an interesting pet in the neighborhood, let us know and Callie will ferret out the details (pun intended) for all of us to read.

Also, thanks to our past Pet Profile columnist Kenzie Shay. Kenzie, then 10 years old, started reporting for us in March of 2007. During her time in the position she visited dogs large and small, a flock of parrots, even a pot belly pig, collecting the facts and providing us the stories.
— Casey Clavin

WPN chili cook-off brings 'em out — by Keith Bentley



Lisa Walker and little Adeline greet Beth Studley, one of the event's organizers. Contest winner Craig Farthing horses around with helper/daughter Kristina. Our three judges had a fairly big job — twelve chilis had to be evaluated.

KEITH BENTLEY PHOTOS

The soft autumn light illuminated the blazing gold and red leaves below an azure sky on a perfect October afternoon. And then we made chili. Lots of chili. Twelve WPN neighbors entered the annual contest



and a couple of others brought more chili just for fun. Somewhere around 150 neighbors turned out in Durham Park on October 15th to sample the savory fare and socialize.

Heather Teilhet and Beth Studley organized the event. Heather noted that the planning was lots of fun and really easy because so many folks pitched in to help. "We are so lucky to live in a neighborhood where people choose to spend a beautiful Saturday afternoon together," Heather said and Beth added, "Living in such an active neighborhood is wonderful".



Beth organized a pumpkin painting activity for kids using hopefully washable paint. Otherwise some children are going to have red hands for a long time to come. The Smyrna Fire Department provided fire hats and a fire engine to inspect. We also had a jumpy that the children always enjoy.

Barbara Koval organized a clothing drive for MUST Ministries as part of the event ultimately collecting a pick-up truckload of clothes including donations from some families who weren't able to attend the event.

Chilis entered for judging included: Sasquatch Chili, Blazing Saddles Chili,

'11-'12 CALENDAR

City Council Meeting
Mon, Dec. 5, 7:30 pm
Smyrna City Hall

wpn happy hour
Friday, Dec. 16, 7 pm
Robyn Phillips
2647 Gilbert St

City Council Meeting
Mon, Dec. 19, 7:30 pm
Smyrna City Hall

RadioDisney
Noon Year's Eve
Sat, Dec. 31,
10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Smyrna Com. Center
Dance party, games,
balloon drop at 12 noon

wpn garden club
Sunday, Jan. 8, 3 pm
host, Susan Bentley
2651 Gilbert St.

wpn happy hour
Fri, Jan. 20, 7 pm
Cara and Jeremy Fort
404-993-4774
2853 Bernard Ln.

wpn general assembly
meeting, Tuesday, 7 pm
mid-Jan (tba)
city council chambers

wpn adopt-a-mile
Sat, Jan. 28, 8am
(Mike 678-698-0987)

wpn book club
Sun, Jan. 29, 3pm
host, Debbie Savage
2583 Old Roswell
Book: TBA

wpn happy hour
Fri, Feb. 17, 7 pm
Angela and Chris Kuhn
770-866-3095
1590 Walker St

wpn book club
Sun, Feb. 26th at 3pm
host, Liz Davis
1351 Roswell St.
Book: TBA

continued on next page...

WPN chili cook-off brings 'em out — by Keith Bentley

Kitchen Sink Chili, Chili #113, Black Bean and Pumpkin Chili, Goodness Gracious Grass Fed Beef Chili, Comfort on a Winter Day Chili, Autumn Day Chili, Texas Chili, Waffle Ouch Chili, Road Kill Chili, and Once in a Blue Moon Chili.

The judges were Kevin Drawe owner of Atkins Park, Kevin's wife Laura, Smyrna Fire Chief Jason Laynon and State Representative and new Williams Park neighbor, Stacey Evans. Johnny Cash tunes played in the background as the judges took on their serious task of sorting through all the flavors and spices.

Third runner up was Ray Miller's Road Kill, second runner up was Dru Bennett's Blazing Saddles, and first runner up was Lem Ward's Chili #113. The Grand Prize winner was Craig Farthing for his Kitchen Sink chili. Craig says he likes to cook and, as the name implies, created this chili using whatever ingredients he had in the kitchen. It was a family effort with Craig's wife Patty doing the shopping, daughter Kristina chopping onions and even the family dog Teal helping with clean up.

Winners took home trophies and goodie bags with best loved chef kitchen essentials. The 1st place prize was a \$30 gift certificate to Atkins Park.

Besides the chili, neighbors brought bread, salads, chili toppings and desserts to share. Other neighbors who pitched in to help with decorations, setup and clean up included Alan Hearn, Kris Studley, Patty Farthing, Tiffany Sudderth, Alana Wickham, Ron and Liz Davis, Kelly & Josh Conner, and dozens of others who hung around at dusk for cleanup duty.

Everyone seemed to have a good time. Even Susan Hasty's dogs, Dudley and Jack, enjoyed watching the action from across the street, although they sure would have loved getting a taste of chili.



KEITH BENTLEY PHOTOS

Pumpkin painting, fire truck touring, jumping, jumping, jumping— it all adds up to another great neighborhood chili cookoff.



2011 CALENDAR

wpn garden club
Sun, March 8, 3 pm
host, Debbie Savage
2583 Old Roswell St.

wpn happy hour
Fri, March 16, 7 pm
Christine Manning
770-335-6154
2860 Bernard Ln.

wpn boook club
Sun, March 25, at 3pm
host, Madge Jackson
1449 Spring Street
Book: TBA

wpn happy hour
Fri, April 20, 7 pm
Karen and Dante
Keebler
678-410-6386
1411 Roswell St

wpn adopt-a-mile
Sat April 21 8am
(Mike 678-698-0987)

wpn happy hour
Fri, May 18, 7 pm
Sheryl Llewellyn
404-202-4355
2601 Gilbert St.

Hey, can you do us a little favor?

When a new neighbor
moves in near you, let
us know. Contact Leon
McElveen at
McElveen@msn.com
or by phone at
770-856-1544
so he can welcome
the newcomers.

Thanks!

News in and around Williams Park

SANDY HAMBY: PHOTO



Many of us have known for some time that **Wade Ingle** is a highly dedicated gardener: now there's proof. Each September the North Georgia State Fair comes to town, setting up only a few miles from here, but Wade has never considered entering. I presented him the brochure this year and, after reading it, he brought me a box of six different vegetables the day before entries were due. Joy—he was going for it (kind-of). I could do "whatever," he said, but he wasn't going to enter them.

After researching botanical names and completing forms, I entered the vegetables in Wade's name. I knew he was good but, holy cow, he won a prize in each of six categories! He took three 1st place ribbons — for his Mexican Hot Bell Peppers, his Giant Marxoni Peppers, and his Sunbukrst Squashes. He took 2nd place for his Cow Horn Peppers and two 3rd places — for his Ghost Peppers and his Heirloom Okra. That's not bad for a guy who didn't enter.

Next came the really fun part—surprising him with his winnings. I waited for the Ingles to return from vacation, then ambushed him with his ribbons and the news. There's no doubt, given the big smile on his face, just how happy he was. Already a Blue Ribbon guy in Williams Park, Wade is now officially in the record book.

— Judy Kessler



Congratulations to **Liz Davis**, recently named Citizen of the Year by the Smyrna Council of the Cobb Chamber of Commerce.

The goal of this award is to honor an individual who is a role model and who has made Smyrna a better place to live. In announcing this year's recipient, it was noted that Liz was born and raised in Smyrna, left to assist our country's military as an officer's wife, then returned to her family home. She has served on the Smyrna Tree Board, Smyrna Parks Commission, Bob Ott's Citizen Advisory Board, is a founding member of Williams Park Neighbors, and an active board member of Smyrna's nationally acclaimed Keep Smyrna Beautiful.

As WPN's correspondent secretary, she's made phone calls and sent emails informing neighbors of lost pets, strange occurrences in the area, and happenings in Smyrna and the neighborhood. As a good neighbor, she has hosted cookouts and Easter egg hunts on her lawn with attendance sometimes exceeding 100 adults and children. Liz has also has given significant time to Keep Smyrna Beautiful and the Parks Commission, starting the Keep Smyrna Beautiful Garden Tours and raising thousands of dollars for the Community Garden and projects at local schools and parks.

"Dependable, dedicated, selfless, and conscientious are just some of the adjectives that come to mind," the announcer said. "Smyrna is a better place because of Liz Davis."

Progress has been made on the neighborhood sign. The design has been altered, the location has been tweaked, and the base has been constructed. Observant persons will have noticed the new bolder and laid stone structure among the shrubbery at the southern end of Williams Park (the park). It looks pretty cool already but will look better with its open-work iron top (fabricated but not yet installed) identifying the neighborhood. Keep an eye on this location — soon the sign will be completed and unveiled. It will be like a holiday present for us all.

WELCOME

to these new members

- on devin court —
Katie and Alan Nix
- on hawthorne —
Alan & Hania Hibbard
- on old roswell —
Stacey and Andrew
Evans
- on roswell street —
Lee Tackett
Debbie Travis
- on walker street —
Jennifer Spiegel
- on whitfield st —
Andrea Searles
Jennifer Scholt Smith

You don't have to be a member to attend our events but why wouldn't you want to be? If you haven't already joined, now is a good time to do so. For an application go to www.williamsparkeighbors.org

WPN BOARD O' D

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Ron Davis
770-431-9786

vice president
Keith Bentley
770-433-0350

recording secretary
Lem Ward
770-863-9580

corresponding secretary
Liz Davis
770-431-9786

treasurer
Madge Jackson
770-432-3563

News in and around Williams Park *continued*



PATY WELSH PHOTOS



Halloween is always a little scary but even more so for kids trick-or-treating on Roswell Street this year.

Lee Tackett was in the mood, in the costume, and in character. Her bloodshot eyes, green skin, and black fingernails were creepy enough but it didn't end there. Her face was festooned with ghastly blemishes, her hair and hat littered with cob webs and autumn leaves, and a flock of crows perched in dead limbs arching over her front stoop. She haunted her front yard all evening, cradling a big bowl of candy, sometimes swaying slowly and mumbling, sometimes standing dead still. "Is that a person?" trick-or-treaters whispered to each other. "Is she real?" they'd ask as they stepped closer. When they were good and close Lee growled, "How dare you come onto my property!" A few were so frightened they ran off without candy. Ha!

WPN garden club and book club members got an early start on holiday decorations and gift giving at their November meetings. **Nancy Smith** hosted the garden club at her home on Gilbert Street where they each made a Christmas wreath. While designing and making the wreaths, members also learned what natural materials could be used in wreath making, as well as how to preserve greenery. Nancy and **Thelma Hancock** trimmed Thelma's shrubs to provide an ample supply of greenery! There were pine cones, berries, magnolia leaves and ribbon. Nancy demonstrated bow making and made bows for several bow challenged club members. The finished wreaths were all beautiful and all very different. After the blustery work session in Nancy's garage, members went inside to warm up with hot cider and goodies.



SUSAN BENTLEY PHOTO

The following weekend WPN book club members returned to Nancy's to discuss that month's book and to celebrate a book club tradition—**Madge Jackson's birthday**. This started a few years ago when she reached a landmark birthday. Instead of bringing gifts, Madge asked that members bring toys she could donate to Toys for Tots. In the spirit members brought a wide assortment of toys, wrapped in Christmas and birthday paper. Each November since, the book club meets at Nancy's house. Although a book is discussed, the best part of the meeting is watching Madge open "her" birthday gifts, then eating a delicious birthday cake baked by Nancy. This year Madge has decided to donate the toys to MUST.

SUSAN BENTLEY PHOTO



LAUGH...

... it's good for you

A guy having financial problems decides he wants to have his wife killed to collect on her life insurance policy. He asks around about an assassin until an acquaintance of an acquaintance introduces him to a man identified only as "Artie." The guy learns Artie will do the job for \$5000. "OK, but I can't pay until I collect the insurance money," the guy says. Artie balks. In an effort to prove his poverty, the guy opens his wallet where sits just one single dollar bill. Artie snatches the bill to "seal the deal," then warns the guy what will happen to him if he fails to pay the balance. They shake hands.

The next morning Artie is waiting when the wife leaves the house. He follows her to the grocery store and walks in after her. In a far corner of the store he sneaks up from behind and strangles her. Just as she slumps to the floor, the store manager shows up so Artie strangles him too, then heads for the exit. A store guard had seen the action on security camera, though, and had called 911. The police intercepted Artie and arrested him in the parking lot.

Under questioning, the assassin told the police how he had been hired by the dead woman's husband. It's no wonder such a crime would be front page news the next morning. The shocking headline read, "Artie chokes two for a dollar at local grocery store."

WP Reads

THE WPN BOOK CLUB, meets the last Sunday of the month at 3:00 pm at a host home. We're always welcoming new participants. To learn which books we'll be reading in the up coming months, see the calendar on pages 2 and 3. To learn more, call Leanne at 770-863-9580. Here are our latest books. —
Leanne Fey

Garden of Angels

by Lurlene McDaniel ★★★★★

The story of Darcy, a teenager in a small Georgia town during the Vietnam war, who comes to terms with family illness, relationships and her feelings about the Vietnam war while working in her mother's garden.

Remarkable Creatures

by Tracy Chevalier ★★★★★

The fictionalized story of two real women in Victorian England, one upper class and one lower class, who become friends through their mutual passion for finding fossils and upset religious and scientific scholars of the time by finding some of the earliest dinosaur fossils in the cliffs along the English coastline.

Then Came You

by Jennifer Weiner ★★★★★

The interconnecting stories of 4 women and their struggles with relationships and infertility issues.

The rating system:

- ★ No one liked the book
- ★★ We thought it was ok
- ★★★ It was good
- ★★★★ It was excellent
- ★★★★★ Fabulous -- don't miss it.



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Pet Profiles ...Callie Duelmer

Wilson



If you are ever walking down Riley's Walk you might see or hear Wilson playing in his backyard. Wilson lives with Travis, Alyssa and his new baby sister Ava Luther. They have had Wilson for ten years. He is a Boston Terrier and on his next birthday, which is April fourth he will turn eleven. When he is good for his mom and dad they give him cheese for a treat. He goes on two walks a day so you might see him out a lot. Wilson is a very active dog. He loves to play fetch with a tennis ball.



Eight year old Callie attends third grade at St. Joseph Catholic School.

TRACIE DUELMER PHOTOS

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births

Congratulations to proud parents Travis and Alyssa Luther on the birth of their daughter Ava Dawn Luther. Ava arrived on September 23 weighing 7.2 pounds and was 19" long.

unions

Congratulations to Gavin Carpenter and Michelle Roble (Roswell Street) who tied the knot in November. Once all the paperwork is complete, both Michelle and Skeeter will share the Carpenter name. The tumbleweed has grown roots.

deaths

Michael Lowe of Roswell Street passed away September 16.

Condolences to his life partner Debbie Travis and both families for their loss.

We encourage contributions

to the MEMO. Deadlines for future issues are February 15 and May 15. Tell us something about yourself — tell us something about your neighbor — send your contributions to Casey Clavin at

Thanks!

WP Travels — Jill Huitron

Just a few weeks ago, coming back from holiday, Daniel and I were faced with a nine hour layover in Amsterdam. Well, we couldn't pass up the opportunity to head into town since we were so close! Just off the train and walking down Kalver Straat outside Central Station, we came to a place where people were setting up for what looked like a concert. In front of the Royal Palace and the Nieuwe Kerk, or new church (built 600 years ago), people were starting to gather in a huge open square. We learned that Saint Nicholas, or Sinterklaas, was coming to town that day!

According to Dutch tradition, Saint Nicholas lives in Spain and journeys to the Netherlands by boat each year. He and his helper, Zwarte Piet (which means Black Peter in Dutch), arrive at Amsterdam usually on November 13th. This year there were lots of helpers, all dressed like what we would call clowns, in bright colored garments that were comical looking, and they all had black faces and hands. Zwarte Piet led the procession through town throwing sweets and pepernoten (hard cookies) to the kids out of their burlap sacks. Sinterklaas rides along with them on a white horse. November 13th, when Sinterklaas comes to town, is a rowdy and noisy day of fun, laughter, singing and celebration!

Sinterklass stays around watching boys and girls for a couple of weeks, then visits homes on December 5th. Before going to bed, kids leave carrots and hay in their shoes along with a pail of water for Sinterklaas' horse. If the children have been good, the horse will eat those treats and Sinterklaas will refill the shoes with candy or small gifts. Bad children don't get anything. Christmas day is a quieter day—usually people go to church and spend time with family.

What luck to be in Amsterdam when Sinterklaas arrived for a rowdy and noisy day of fun, laughter, singing and celebration!

You should know

Here are three great food sources known to some in Williams Park but, I'm sure, not to all. It's worth your while to become familiar with these places. Bon appetit!

Atlanta Smokehouse Products is located in the industrial park across Cobb Parkway from Dobbins landing airstrip (at 1700 Enterprise Way, Unit 107). They sell 20 or 30 different types of smoked fish plus caviar (not in my budget). Most of their smoked fish ships to delicatessens in New York and Chicago. Of course they also sell their products to Atlanta locations. Some 95% of their products sell commercially—only 5% is sold to individuals. You can check them out on line at www.blackcaviarusa.com or, better yet, go on over there in person.

Costa's Pasta, located off Hwy. 41 in Kennesaw, supplies fresh pasta, ravioli, tortellini and such to restaurants in Atlanta. They also do a fair amount of catering. They sell their ravioli (10 types) plus dinners for two and large dinners on order. So if you have a crowd coming, you can pick up a large dinner or two and your job is done. Prices are reasonable. A box of 24 raviolis is \$14 and a chicken parmesan dinner for two is \$12. Check out their web site at www.costaspasta.com where they'll tell you, "Our products are all natural, nothing artificial, and we happily use cage free eggs."

Patak-Bohemia is a European meat and sausage producer hiding in a residential area of Austell (4107 Ewing Rd.). They sell 77 different kinds of sausages, salamis, cold cuts, plus the most beautiful steaks and pork chops you'll ever see. Their prices are remarkably low. Usually in the \$3 to \$3.50 per pound range. They have eight types of salami and they're happy to give you a taste. Italian sausage is \$2.49 lb.—take that Publix! Learn more at www.patakmeats.com then plan some meals and go shopping.

—Ben Cohn



An Espresso Bar

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**pets
passing**

Lacy, beloved Australian Shepherd of the Sudderth family (Old Roswell Street) died in late October from a heart attack. Adopted by Tiffany and Harris in December of 2008, Lacey had only reached about five years of age.



Our beautiful little Maggie, only 17 months old, is gone. Full of spirit, she sometimes reveled in being contrary and, in one such moment, Maggie shot past me at the front door and bolted toward the street. She was full of joyful devilishness... then she was gone. As I reflect on my role in her demise, I'm particularly sorry to the many neighbors who invested their time and effort in what we all thought would be a long and rich life for our sweet little friend. Anita Robertson and her sister Sandy found this skinny little dog. Anita and her husband Kevin fostered her. DVM Jenine Merritt generously got Maggie started on her health care. WP dogs Lola, Bentley, Gerry, Jack, Scarlet, and others provided many hours of play time. Vic and I are grateful for these gifts. We thank you, and I apologize for my part in this terrible thing that happened to Maggie. We loved her and we miss her.
— Casey Clavin

Etcetera — a compilation of odds and ends

There are definitely pros and cons to being the first born. You get your parents' full attention, but let's be honest, those parents have no clue what they're doing. So who can say whether that's really a pro or a con. Along those lines, since I'm not pulled in multiple directions with other kids, there are things I do with Elia that I know I won't be able to do with future children. For example, when she falls asleep in the car, I'll just drive around for a bit, time permitting, to allow her to get a decent nap. And that's how I discovered, or actually re-discovered, the Concord Covered Bridge area in Smyrna.

Less than five miles from our house is one of the 15 historic covered bridges in Georgia, and one of the few that's a working bridge. Built in 1872, only one car can pass through at a time, though thankfully it's been reinforced a bit. The area is dotted with ponds and creek crossings, and at this part of year, it's absolutely stunning with autumn colors.

About once a year, we've headed up to the North Georgia mountains, and about once a year I'm newly appreciative that such natural beauty exists just a few hours from Atlanta. But this? This is right down the street.

— Alicia Banos from her blog, *Taylor's Tidbits*.

Inquiry: Is anyone interested in starting and participating in a WPN crafting club? I was thinking that once a month, we could meet at someone's house and share our crafts and hobbies. We don't all have to be doing the same craft. We could simply spend the time working on whatever we choose while enjoying the sharing of ideas and techniques. I envision a circle of friends and neighbors — some sewing or embroidering, some knitting or crocheting, others scrapbooking, etc. — sharing each other's company. If you're interested, please email me at catfishcheesecake@yahoo.com. If enough people are interested, then we can start after the new year.

— Catherine Porch

Update on the Trivia Team: Thanksgiving week, trivia was moved to Wednesday and the WPN Killers represented the neighborhood with a team of



ALICIA BANOS PHOTO

16 players—the largest team we've ever had. Though we didn't win, we had fun playing. Anyone can play and all are invited. Since we've become such a large and regular team, Mexico Lindo asks us to reserve our table in advance. We try to get our reservation in by 5:30 on game day so the folks at the restaurant have time to set up our table. Many of the team have started to arrive around 6:30 to take advantage of the specials, which end at 7:00. Trivia starts

promptly at 7:00 and ends at 9:00. Catherine Porch sends out a reminder text on Thursdays to those who are interested or are regulars. If you want to be on the reminder text list, even if you can't always make it, send a text to Cat at 770-595-3849. Thanks for playing!



Atkins Park enjoys a colorful history as Atlanta's oldest continuously licensed tavern. Whether you're looking for a great place to eat with the kids, weekend brunch, or a late night drink: Atkins Park has something to offer everybody. We offer the best family dining in Smyrna on the Atkins Park patio. Across the street at Market Village.

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MEMO

Williams Park Neighbors

december 2011

WILLIAMS PARK NEIGHBORS — P.O. BOX 813811, SMYRNA, GA 30081-8811

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