Fickle Spring Arrives

The Olmsted Linear Park is bursting with vibrant pinks and oranges as Mother Nature teases park visitors with warm, spring-like weather. The dogwoods proudly show off their bright whites and muted pink flowers. The redbuds showed up early with their beautiful purple blooms scattered throughout the park. The best surprise was in Shadyside where we discovered the return of trillium and beautiful coral blooms of Columbine in an area once overcome by English ivy. It is so exciting to stroll through the park and find those hidden treasures. Each day brings on new surprises and we are certain Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. is smiling down, giving an approving nod to the park’s grandeur and beauty.

Welcome Chuck Ellis – Director of DeKalb County Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs

Director Ellis comes from Hollywood, Florida where he served as the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Director and has 35 years of experience working with government entities starting in his home town of Lexington, KY. Ellis received a Bachelor of Arts from University of Kentucky and a Master of Public Policy and Administration from The Martin School at University of Kentucky. He is a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional designated by the National Recreation and Parks Association.

Update on the Deepdene Bridge

DeKalb County Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs (DCRPCA) department is in the process of hiring a contractor to restore the bridge that was demolished by Hurricane Irma last fall. They are seeking multiple bids and the pre-bid meeting is set for May 16. We understand that this is a lengthy process. We appreciate your patience as we work closely with DCRPCA in restoring the bridge to its original state. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Atlantaolmstedefpark@gmail.com or call (404) 377-5361. Thank you for your continued support to the Olmsted Linear Park.
Over the past two years, OLPA engaged in a plant rejuvenation project to help tame some of the overgrown plantings in the park. It was a long arduous process but worth it. The areas of focus look fantastic.

This year, OLPA continues to work with Arborguard Tree Specialists on the tree sustainability program. Almost all of the trees in the pastoral park segments have been documented and tagged. OLPA will continue to monitor the tree canopy health and address issues that arise during the year.

The Maintenance crew planted over 35 new plants in Springdale this past fall. This spring they planted blueberry bushes and Summersweet Clethra in Deepdene. Many thanks to Michael Bamford from the Azalea Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society, who helped select new azaleas for the Deepdene promenade area.

We had a volunteer workday in March to remove invasive plant material along the paths and in the forest near the mead. We thank Janice Whitener, George and Ruth Gray and Erin Trapaga who braved the weather to help out. Our next volunteer workday is Saturday, May 19 in Deepdene.

As you know the maintenance work crew spend many hours keeping our park looking beautiful. Please help us keep them safe when they are working. They handle noisy equipment and may not hear you approach. Thank you for supporting our wonderful green community. See you in the park!
**IN REMEMBRANCE**

**Don Kenagy**  
(1941-2017)

Donald Allan Kenagy left us much too soon on May 14, 2017. Don and his wife Carol Sleeth, had been married 34 years and had both been tireless volunteers in the Druid Hills community and supporters of the Olmsted Linear Park. Don’s middle initial “A” should have stood for Adventure. Nearly every year, with friends and family, he camped and canoed in the Okefenokee Swamp, explored most of the flat-water rivers in South Georgia and in the Southeastern United States. Don visited all fifty states in the U.S. and 58 countries. Among his impressive adventures, he and Carol hiked the 480-mile Camino de Santiago in Spain 16 years and served on the Garden Club of Georgia’s board for more than 20 years. In addition to her garden club work, Lorraine was a member of the Druid Hills Civican Club, Druid Hills Golf Club and Emory Presbyterian Church. Lorraine was also a supporter of the Olmsted Linear Park where she had a bench dedicated in memory of her husband in Shadyside Park. Lorraine always had a smile to share and will be greatly missed.

**Lorraine Loftis**  
(1933-2018)

Lorraine Loftis was a force of nature in the Druid Hills community. Born and raised in New York, she and her family moved to Georgia after she graduated from Hunter College. Lorraine began her career as a teacher and met her husband James Loftis, a real estate investor. They lived on Lullwater Road and had one daughter, Nanette.

Lorraine was an active member of the Lullwater Garden Club and the DeKalb Federation of Garden Clubs. She was a charter member of the Federation’s Life Membership program and served on the Federation’s board of trustees. During 1997 to 1999, Lorraine served as Redbud District Director. She served as the liaison between Stone Mountain and the Yellow Daisy festival for Ted Maloof for 58 years and the couple had one son, Julian. Ted had long been interested in all forms of art, especially kinetic sculpture and photography.

Ted became a renowned photographer whose work was collected and displayed by many of his fans. In addition, his photographs were in the permanent collection of the Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia. A gallery in the Atlanta Photograph Group’s headquarters is named after Ted and Gloria. For the past 20 years, Ted generously donated one or more of his photographs to the Olmsted Linear Park Alliance Gala Benefit auction. Ted’s wit, art and presence will be sorely missed in Druid Hills.

**Maurice “Ted” Maloof: Artist and Attorney**  
(1931 -2017)

Ted Maloof, a native of Copperhill, Tennessee, attended Notre Dame and Emory University School of Law. In Atlanta, Ted co-founded the law firm of Hicks, Maloof and Campbell. Ted was married to Gloria Idrau Maloof for 58 years and the couple had one son, Julian. Ted had long been interested in all forms of art, especially kinetic sculpture and photography.

Ted became a renowned photographer whose work was collected and displayed by many of his fans. In addition, his photographs were in the permanent collection of the Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia. A gallery in the Atlanta Photograph Group’s headquarters is named after Ted and Gloria. For the past 20 years, Ted generously donated one or more of his photographs to the Olmsted Linear Park Alliance Gala Benefit auction. Ted’s wit, art and presence will be sorely missed in Druid Hills.


Theo was a remarkable young man. He left us too soon at age 15, but accomplished much in his young life, for which family and friends took pride, and expressed hopes for his promising future. Born April 3rd, 2002 in Decatur, Georgia, Theo grew up in the historic Candler Park neighborhood in the City of Atlanta, attending Mary Lin Elementary, Samuel Inman Middle and Henry W. Grady High School. A gifted student of science, math, literary arts, essay writing, public speaking and Greek and Latin languages, he had a dream of one day serving in fields of cybersecurity and computer technology. He served as an acolyte for several years as a lifelong member of Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Atlanta, under the direction of Fr. Paul Kaplanis and Fr. Christos Mars. A Boy Scout who rose from his 1st grade Tiger Cub den with Pack 586 at Epworth United Methodist Church through the rank of Star Scout with Gryphons of Patrol in Troop 18 at Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church, he lived an oath to do good turns daily through service projects for South Fork Conservancy, Olmsted Linear Park Alliance, Candler Park and other non-profit organizations. His proudest moments came from the opportunities to compete in public speaking as a member of the Grady High School Jesters in programs of impromptu and extemporaneous speaking under the guidance of the club’s long-time coach and mentor, Mario Herrera. Theo is survived by parents Constance and Walt Weimar, and older brother Robert of Atlanta, Georgia and many aunts and uncles.

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Thank you for supporting the 14th Annual *Party for the Parks on Ponce* Gala Benefit.

OLPA raised $65,000 that will benefit the tree sustainability program and ongoing maintenance needs in the park.

Kelly Dye and Martha Brooks

There was dancing...

Paul DeSandre and Michael Ross

Jenna Biegel and Conan Zhao

Jean Bowen, Carolyn Hall, Brian Bowen, Billy Hall, Joni Winston

Julie Zaharatos and Kristina Bowen
Thank you to all who attended the Gala Benefit, our sponsors, host committee, volunteers and auction donors.
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Ask your employers about matching gift opportunities.
The Olmsted Linear Park Alliance is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organisation.

DIARY DATES

Volunteer opportunities and work days
In Deepdene
9.00am - Saturday, May 19
9.00am - Saturday, June 23
Bring work gloves and reusable waterbottle

Picnic in the park
4.00pm - Sunday, September 23

A Northern Red Oak in Shady Side Park