

The Northside Voice

Summer 2018 : Issue No. 10

Butterfly Creek Park Now Open!

The Butterfly Creek and Park officially opened May 5th. The daylighted creek now also has a bridge that connects Harvest Park to Brawley Street and walking and biking paths running from Preston Street to College Street. The Duke picnic pavilion is also open for residents at the end of Farley.



Brawley Street Phase 3

Phase 3 of the Brawley Street Model Block is now underway! Homes of Hope, a nonprofit affordable housing developer, is now building 7 new units of mixed income rental housing that will serve families earning 50%-120% of the area median income. They expect to offer rents from \$527-\$950 for the 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom units.

Construction is expected to be complete by the Fall, pending weather. Northside residents will have the first choice of renting these homes if they meet all other leasing requirements.

Although NDG is spearheading the project, Homes of Hope will own and manage the properties once they are complete. Leasing applications will not be taken until 30 days prior to construction completion. For information contact NDG Offices.



Employment Available through Construction Training Program

A new Construction Training program has been established through a partnership between the Northside Development Group, Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System, Spartanburg Community College, SC Works, and the Upstate Workforce Board. This program offers scholarships for training in various parts of construction, including framing, drywall, tile work, and other aspects of building to receive NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research) certification. Graduates have the opportunity to enroll in a paid Apprenticeship program through Spartanburg Regional Hospital.

31 participants have taken classes through the program since June 2017. Employment opportunities are **immediately** available after graduation with possible earning potential up to \$22/hour. NDG is currently taking applications for future classes, and applicants may be eligible for scholarships. Please call NDG at 864-598-0097 to start your application.

If you already have experience in the construction field, NDG will be assisting Harper Corporation General Contracting in taking applications for projects related to the Northside.

Congratulations Start: ME Class of 2018!

The Northside Development Group, in partnership with USC Upstate Business School, has completed its second 14 week entrepreneurship accelerator program, known as Start:ME Northside.

The 14 chosen participants attended 14 weeks of classes and mentoring sessions. This year businesses ranged from a Cleaning Agencies to Accounting, and many others. On Saturday, May 5th, each business was invited to showcase their products and services to the community at the Hub City Farmers Market at Harvest Park. Three of the businesses were awarded a business start-up loan:

- Rejeaner Burney with Fly GirlZ and Guyz Salon
- Kiz Miller with Just for you by Gift Hands Event Planning
- Cynthia Watson with Braids and Brow Salon

The START:ME model works by injecting knowledge, networks, and capital that entrepreneurs in a community need to be successful. The program takes a grassroots effort and connects Northside residents to larger Spartanburg area entrepreneurial resources. The goal is to take an intentional approach to uncover these local entrepreneurs and give them access to knowledge through the business school, mentors through community partners and capital through a local community development finance institution (CDFI). This program will grow wealth from within the community by helping residents increase earnings and provide job opportunities through their businesses creating a healthier, more economically stable community.

For further information, check online at www.spartanburgNDG.com



Phase 1 Housing and Commercial Development

Phase 1 development will be located on the corner of Howard and College Streets, and will consist of two projects: the Housing portion will be a mixed income apartment community, and the Mixed Use Commercial side will be office space for several different partners with apartments above and a clinic facing College Street for Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine.

The Housing portion will be approximately 90 units of mixed income housing, with two floors and a basement level that looks out on the Butterfly Creek and linear park. Conceptual plans have been approved by Spartanburg's Design Review Board and construction is planned for later this year.

The Mixed Use portion will consist of two buildings: the main building and a clinic for VCOM. The main building will have office space on the first floor that will include offices for Access Health, NDG, and other organizations, with two floors of apartments above, as well as a portion dedicated to Wofford College's Community Sustainability program. Wofford's space will have classroom and community engagement space for students and community partners with housing above. The Mixed Use development will break ground later this year.



Housing Trust Fund Emergency Repair Program

In 2015, The Northside Development Group initiated an owner occupied home rehabilitation program to support emergency and minor repairs needed by existing homeowners in the Cleveland Heights area. This program provided funding through a five-year forgivable loan to eligible homeowners in the Cleveland Heights Neighborhood. As of September 2017, 25 homes have been approved for repairs, and all \$325,000.00 funds have been committed to Northside homeowners.

In an effort to continue providing repairs to existing homeowners now that the Cleveland Heights Neighborhood Improvement Program is coming to an end,

NDG has gained approval to coordinate emergency repairs through the South Carolina Housing Finance and Development Authorities Housing Trust Fund (HTF) program. Homeowners in the Northside with qualifying income may be eligible to receive up to \$8,000.00 in emergency repairs for projects such as roofing, HVAC, accessibility ramps, and many other projects.

To apply for emergency repairs, please call Carolyn at 864.598.0097

C Community Spotlight

Molly Talbot-Metz Named New President

A notice sent by The Mary Black Foundation, April 24th, 2018

Spartanburg, S.C. - Molly Talbot-Metz has been named the next president and CEO of the Mary Black Foundation, succeeding Kathy Dunleavy, who retires at the end of June 2018.

Talbot-Metz will become the foundation's fourth leader since it was established as an independent grantmaking organization in 1996. A native of Syracuse, NY, she joined the foundation in 2001 as its first program officer. She became the director of programs in 2007 and was named vice president in 2013.

Molly has a Master of Public Health Degree from the University of South Carolina and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Health Education from the State University of New York at Cortland. She is actively involved in the community through service in the Spartanburg Downtown Rotary Club, as an ex-officio member of the Northside Development Group, and as vice chair of the Spartanburg Housing Authority. Molly is also the immediate past chair of the SC Grantmakers Network. "I look forward to working with our team of dedicated staff and members of the board of trustees to improve health and wellbeing for all people in Spartanburg County," said Talbot-Metz.

"Molly brings a deep understanding of philanthropy and the challenges and opportunities facing our community, as well as a true passion for the work of the foundation," said foundation Board Chair Tony Fisher. "Her experiences, expertise, and collaborative community relationships put us in the best position to continue and strengthen the work of the foundation."

The Mary Black Foundation is an independent, private foundation. Since 1996, it has paid more than \$51 million in grants to improve the health and wellness of the people and communities of Spartanburg County. Additional information about the Foundation is available at www.maryblackfoundation.org.



C In The Community

Northside Neighborhood Association

If you are interested in participating in the monthly Neighborhood Association meeting, please contact one of your neighbors listed above, or call 864-598-0097. Your participation is vital to giving a voice to the community! Please visit meetings on the second Thursday of every month, 6pm, at the Cleveland Academy media center.

U Project Updates

The Franklin School Welcomes Director Shawna Bynum!

The Franklin School Early Learning Center construction is progressing on schedule. The building now has a roof and exterior walls! First Steps has hired Shawna Bynum as the new Director.

Shawna Bynum is a graduate of USC Upstate with a degree in Child Development and Family Studies. Shawna has worked with First Steps since 2015, serving as Early Head Start Center Director then Early Head Start Director of Center Management. She will transition into her role as Director of the Franklin School in July. Welcome Shawna!

The Franklin School will be a full-day, full-year early learning center serving approximately 160 children, age 6 weeks to 5 years old, and will focus on early learning through discovery: a holistic child development and learning program, using an evidence based curriculum with STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) inspired classrooms.

The school is under construction near Cleveland Academy of Leadership, and is scheduled to open in January 2019. Children living in the Northside will have priority enrollment which will begin Fall 2018. Opportunities for employment at the school will become available later this year. To enter your child onto the waiting list for the Franklin School, please call the NDG office.



Shawna Bynum

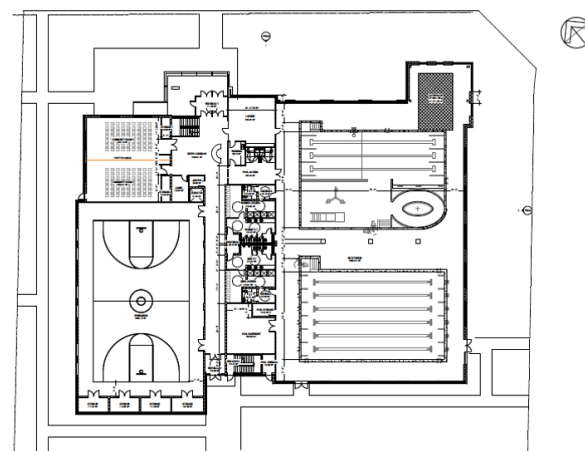


TK Gregg

Plans for the new TK Gregg Community Center are well underway. Initial plans have been approved by the Design Review Board, which include a 40,000 sq ft center with two indoor pools, a fitness center, basketball court and community space. The groundbreaking has not yet been scheduled.



Building rendering



First floor rendering

V From The Voyagers

Voyager Spotlight: Sylvia Means

Sylvia Richard Means has been a community member and leader in the Northside for over 40 years. She came to the Northside with her parents when her father moved to the area for work, and stayed as her family grew and her connection with the community strengthened. Some of her favorite memories are of watching her kids grown up in the neighborhood, catching the bus to work, and going to the Piedmont Interstate Fair to enjoy the flowers and cooking booths.

Sylvia's activity in the community has inspired many of the current leaders to take up positions and lead initiatives in the community. Phoenix Miller has fond childhood memories of Sylvia leading the Northside Sympathy Club, a group that took up collections for funeral wreaths, and provided meals to the family of recently deceased to provide support in times of sorrow.

Sylvia also served as the Neighborhood Association President and Secretary, and has served as a Voyager since their incorporation at the beginning of the Northside Initiative planning process.

Sylvia says that "I'm proud of what the community is doing. They are working together to make the Northside community a better place. I am appreciative of the work that NDG and the Northside Neighborhood Association does. I hope that the people that read this will come visit the Northside and help build this community. Come get involved with NDG and The Northside Neighborhood Association there is plenty of room for you here."

If you are interested in becoming a Northside Voyager, please contact Tony Thomas at 864-598-0097.



C Changes at NDG

A Big Thanks to NDG Interns!

NDG celebrated Intern Appreciation Day with our four Wofford interns on May 11th. Danni and Aleah both elected to volunteer with NDG as part of their capstone projects and both graduated this summer. For their capstone projects Danni worked with NDG and partners to study how technology could potentially be integrated into the Northside's development plans. Aleah studied food security in the neighborhood.

Taylor and Kaycia are both Bonnor Scholars who have spent many hours interning with NDG over the last two years and hope to continue with us next year. A huge thanks to Danni, Aleah, Taylor, and Kaycia!



Upcoming Events

June 14th / 6pm
Neighborhood Association Meeting
 Cleveland Academy Library

July 12th / 6pm
Neighborhood Association Meeting
 Cleveland Academy Library

July 18th / 8:30am
Northside Advisory Committee Meeting
 Cleveland Park Event Building

July 27th
Southern Chic Wine and Dine - \$50/ person
 Monarch Cafe

August 9th / 6pm
Neighborhood Association Meeting
 Cleveland Academy Library

September 13th / 6pm
Neighborhood Association Meeting
 Cleveland Academy Library

September 19th / 8:30am
Northside Advisory Committee Meeting
 Cleveland Park Event Building

September 21st
French Fantasy Wine and Dine - \$50/ person
 Monarch Cafe

Don't Forget!

Monarch Café
 Open Daily
 498 Howard Street

Open Tuesday-Thursday for lunch buffet style! Located at 498 Howard Street, they also have groceries and accept SNAP benefits! Anyone that receives SNAP can spend their benefits locally on fresh, healthy foods! So stop by the Monarch Café today to see their wonderful programs, have a snack in the café, and take home some fresh produce for dinner!

Be sure to stay up-to-date on events sponsored by The Butterfly Foundation. Check their website for more information on upcoming events:
www.butterfly-sc.com/events.html

Farmers Market
 498 Howard Street

The Farmers Market at Harvest park is open for the season! Come visit on Saturdays from 8am-12pm at 498 Howard Street for fresh produce and other vendors!

P Our Partners



Northside Development Group
 698 Howard Street
 Spartanburg, SC 29303
 864.598.0097