

The Oak Leaf

Spring/Summer 2022

Published by the



MYERS PARK
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION



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Have an idea, suggestion,
compliment or
correction? Contact us
at info@mpha.com
or our Editor at
fwardell@bellsouth.net.

mpha.com



This is Your Oak Leaf

Enjoy this issue of *The Oak Leaf*!

It underscores our commitment to inform our members of important news and events. You can also keep current via www.mpha.com and by asking to join our periodic email list.

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Visit www.mpha.com to join online or check your membership status.

Your 2022 MPHA Officers & Directors

President:
Charlie Welch

Vice President:
Suzanne Ross

Secretary:
Suzanne Coddington

Treasurer:
Rick Handford

Directors:

John Beard
Aaron Borders
Ben Boshkos
Linda McMillan Bowman
Nicholas Clements
Jane Coghill
Michlene Healy
Jennifer Jackson
Randy Masters

Kendra May
Jack McNeary
Dan Menichella
Sarah Monnin
Kevin Murray
Louise (Weezy) Parsons
Isabel Roberts
Suellen Skach
Jenifer Walker
Ferman Wardell

Presidents Emeritus:

Sadler Barnhardt
Bob Lilien
Pamela May
Joddy Peer
Susan Shaver

Meet our new directors:



Aaron Borders

While we are new to Charlotte (and North Carolina) we were immediately drawn to the beauty of Myers Park and enjoy taking our dogs for walks under the tree canopy. I am excited to help preserve the history and beauty of this terrific community.



Nicholas Clements

I joined the Board because I want to protect what brought my family to Myers Park: the beauty of the tree canopy and the brilliance of Nolen's original design.

and share his love for the Queen City.

I consider it a privilege to serve on the Board and look forward to adding value to this group.



Suellen Skach

As a Charlotte native, I believe Myers Park is the most historical part of Charlotte. It is exciting to be part of this amazing Board to help ensure the beauty of Myers Park for generations to come.



Dan Menichella

I joined the MPHA Board with the hope to help influence the City of Charlotte to make better decisions regarding the safety and beauty in Myers Park. I have been involved in the recent effort to slow the traffic on Queens Rd West and was a Block Captain for the Queens Rd West Luminaries for 15 years. My family and I have lived in Myers Park since 1993. I am very concerned about the tree canopy, deed restrictions and the traffic through Myers Park.



Ben Boshkos

I wanted to be a part of the MPHA to help preserve the identity and heritage of the Myers Park community.



Michlene Healy

I wanted to be a part of the MPHA to help preserve the identity and heritage of the Myers Park community.



Kendra May

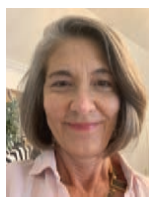
I am passionate about our Myers Park community and want to maintain the vision John Nolen had 100+ years ago. I am very interested in preserving our tree canopy, ensuring safety for our pedestrians and drivers and building a sense of community among Myers Park residents.

I am not from Charlotte but married a native Charlottean



Isabel Roberts

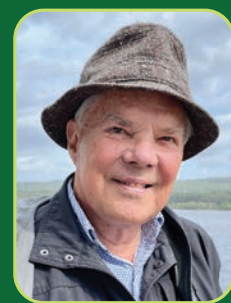
I love doing my part to keep Myers Park the beautiful neighborhood that it is. It is truly a special place to live.



Linda Bowman

As a relative newcomer to Myers Park (2017) I wanted to serve on the MPHA board so that I might meet neighbors beyond my immediate area and in hopes that I might contribute to maintaining the uniqueness of all that is Myers Park.

From the Editor



We send *The Oak Leaf* to almost 3,200 addresses in Myers Park to both MPHA Members and non-Members. If you're not one, how about considering joining? See Page 3 on how to join—it's quite easy!

— Ferman

The President's Message:

By Charlie Welch, MPHA President

Myers Park friends and neighbors,

I hope you and your family are doing well. Masks have started to come off and it is great to see so many smiling faces again. Let's hope it stays prudent to continue that practice. Please thank our healthcare professionals who have performed yeoman's work the past two years.

I am currently serving as President of the Myers Park® Homeowners Association (MPHA). I have lived in Myers Park most of my adult life and have served on the board for a number of years. I am passionate about the neighborhood and committed to doing all that I can to keep it as one of the most beautiful neighborhoods anywhere. We are a member driven organization, so if you have ideas, please share them.

Residential real estate sales in Charlotte continue to be robust, and Myers Park has been no exception. We will see what impact rising interest rates has on future home sales, but demand is still outstripping supply. We know we have a lot of new residents in Myers Park. The MPHA publishes *The Oak Leaf* twice a year and for many, this may be your first issue. If you are one of our new neighbors to Myers Park, welcome, I know that you will love living here.

You will find out more about the neighborhood in this newsletter and I would invite you to visit our website www.mpha.com to learn more. We would love to have you join as a member. Membership in the MPHA is entirely voluntary, but it enables us to preserve and enhance the historical character and beauty of the neighborhood. If you are already a member, Thank You. If you would like to join, we would love to have you. We also send information via e-mail which is more efficient. We won't use your e-mail for any purpose other than neighborhood matters.

For 2022, we welcomed our largest new class of board members; a total of 9 new members! In this issue you will get to know new members that have volunteered to serve on your behalf.

We have not been able to have an annual meeting the past two years because of COVID-19 restrictions. We hope to have one this fall, likely in either October or November. Please stay tuned for further information.

We were able to return to our annual Fourth of July celebration last year and will continue that tradition again this summer.



It is a very popular event and includes a parade, antique cars, face painting, food, etc. If you are in town, I would encourage you to bring your family for a terrific patriotic celebration. Queens University has graciously offered their front lawn on Selwyn again. There will be signs and more information on our website, mpha.com, in June.

John Nolen designed Myers Park with an innovative plan that was

well ahead of its time. A key part of his vision was lining streets and medians with oak trees to create the canopy that we enjoy today. Preserving our tree canopy continues to be a high priority for residents, and we are working hard on a number of fronts to restore the tree canopy for not just Myers Park but for the City as well. You will read more about our tree initiative in this *Oak Leaf*.

I have been fortunate enough to meet many of you and hope to meet many more. I can be reached at info@mpha.com; I would love to hear from you.

Best regards,

Charlie Welch
President

Fill out and mail form below with payment, or visit www.mpha.com to join online or check your membership status.



Help Protect the Unique
Beauty of Myers Park

2022 MPHA
Membership Form



Title(s) _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Mailing Address (if different than property address) _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address(es) _____

Membership Options

☐ MPHA Member: \$75

☐ Myers Park Guardian: \$150

☐ Myers Park Defender: \$300

All three membership options include annual dues

Please consider an additional donation to help preserve our magnificent tree canopy


☐ Tree Fund Donation: \$25

☐ Additional Donation: _____

Total Amount Enclosed: _____


Make checks payable to MPHA and mail to:

MPHA, PO Box 12733, Charlotte, NC 28220. **Thank you!**



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BARBER SHOP

Myers Park Shopping Center
704.333.2418



Tu-Fr: 8a-6p Sat: 8a-2p



More Trees, Please!

By Charlie Welch, MPHA President
Photos by Ferman Wardell

We just completed another successful private property and right of way (ROW) tree planting program this winter. Thank you to those that participated, either by purchasing a tree or making a donation to the Jack McNeary Tree Fund. We were able to plant another 50 ball and burlap oak trees on private property as well as in the City ROW. The trees are slightly larger than in the past, mostly 12+ feet tall. Most have started sprouting leaves and no longer look like giant sticks.

The City of Charlotte really stepped up its effort this season, agreeing to plant 120 trees in our neighborhood. Most of the trees were oaks, but other varieties were planted where the ROW strip was not wide enough to accommodate an oak. Combined with the City and County, we have now planted nearly 400 trees in Myers Park in the past few years. We would like to especially thank Laurie Reid-Dukes, City Arborist, and Michael Felts, Senior Municipal Arborist Specialist, for their instrumental help this year. Roundtree Companies installed the trees and worked closely with homeowners and the MPHA. Proprietor Derrick Adams and his team were terrific to work with and they performed a lot of the City planting as well. Roundtree will water the trees for one year so you may see their trucks in the neighborhood.

Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation Department once again planted more trees at Edgehill Park. As you know, County owned Edgehill Park has lost a lot of trees, and the County has agreed to help restore the canopy there. The County graciously agreed to install 6 trees at Edgehill Park this winter with County crews. The County planted four oaks, one dogwood and an Eastern Redbud, mostly grouped near the tennis court and playground area. Lastly, some friends of Squirrel Park agreed to plant trees in that privately owned park, enjoyed by both two legged and four legged neighbors.



Above:
Willow Oak planted in the
Queens Road West median.

Left:
White Oak planted on
Hermitage Court

We are grateful for everyone's effort to help restore our tree canopy.

The declining tree canopy is not isolated to Myers Park; it is a city wide issue. We continue to work with City of Charlotte to encourage a significant increase in funding for maintenance, preservation and future planting. Progress is being made, but there is more work to be done.

Trees are powerhouses for cleaning the air, providing shade, reducing energy costs, cooling our environment, minimizing soil erosion, etc. not to mention making the neighborhood beautiful. A recent study indicated that Charlotte was the second most polluted city in the southeast, trailing only Birmingham. Imagine the impact restoring our tree canopy can have cleaning the air we breathe. The Arborist department is doing an admirable job, but it is significantly

underfunded. Not only does it not have enough funding for new trees, but it isn't able to maintain existing trees. Proper maintenance is important as it can extend the lives of trees and minimize tree loss during storms.

If you have tree maintenance concerns, it is important to report the issue to City of Charlotte Landscape Management at 704-336-4262. They can't monitor every tree in the City and depend on your observations as well. It is important to get those issues logged.

The loss of our tree canopy is a top issue among residents, and we are continuing to think of ways that we can make a difference. John Nolen envisioned this wonderful cathedral of trees a century ago and we are determined to continue his legacy.



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FUTURE SHOWS

SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 – ST. PAUL AND THE BROKEN BONES

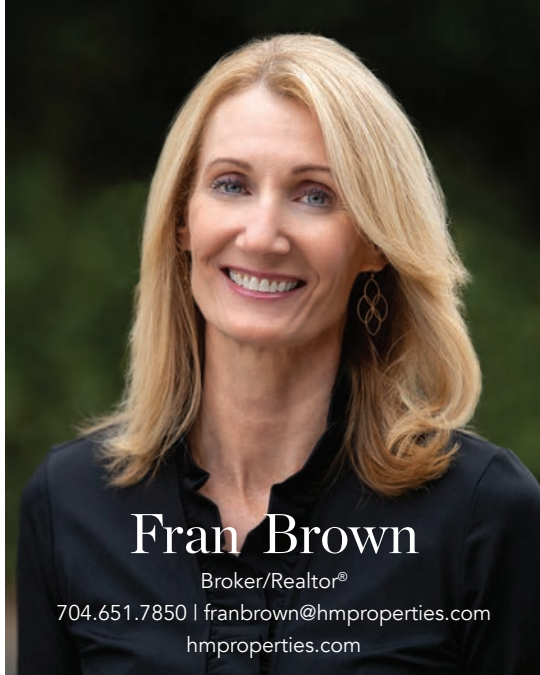
NOVEMBER 28, 2022 – SMOKEY ROBINSON



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Fran Brown

Broker/Realtor®

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As a long-time resident of Myers Park, I have a vested interest in our community's growth and success in the real estate market.

After spending 17 years as a lawyer, I followed a lifelong dream and entered the world of residential real estate when I joined Corcoran HM Properties. My legal background and negotiating skills are a tremendous asset for my clients.

If you are considering a move, I would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you and discuss your individual needs. I will always go the extra mile to make sure you receive the very best service.

It would be my honor to represent you!

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A Message to My Myers Park Neighbors & Friends

By Lynn Wheeler

Hi, Myers Park neighbors... new ones and long time.

I have lived on Queens Road in a house built in 1921 since my ex-husband and I purchased it in 1978. I love the historic nature of most of the houses and the magnificent oak trees that line the streets.

Here's a bit of interesting information... in 1978 my house was valued at \$100,500. Now it's worth well over \$2 million. When we purchased the house, we had no idea it was designed by famous Charlotte architect Lewis Asbury. All we were looking for was a nice place to live since my husband at the time had a position in Charlotte after living in Birmingham. We literally happened upon this house, and it's been my happy place since 1978, and I never want to move.

The challenge for Myers Park is to continue to preserve the magnificent tree canopy and discourage tear downs. I feel like crying when I witness one of our historic homes torn down for something more modern that is not in keeping with the historic nature of our neighborhood. One answer to preserving our 100-year-old homes is for the current owner to place a preservation easement on the structure with the end result that when the house sells it can't be torn down.

We need to be aware of the 2040 plan that will eradicate single family zoning protection in Charlotte. Approved by City Council in March 2022, it permits multifamily dwellings to be built in any zoning category without a formal rezoning request. This could easily destroy the historic character of Myers Park.

The charm of Charlotte is its historically old neighborhoods. For example, the Brooklyn Village once located in Charlottes Second Ward was a predominately black residential neighborhood with shops, schools-and churches. During the '60s and '70s, Brooklyn was totally razed under the guise of urban renewal. Approximately 1450 buildings were destroyed. It is a tragedy that makes me want to weep every time I think of it.

It is imperative we preserve our old and historic neighborhoods, including our Myers Park neighborhood. I couldn't feel more strongly about this.



Lynn is a former Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Charlotte, serving on the City Council of Charlotte for fourteen years—four years representing District 6 and ten years as an at-large representative. She has resided in Charlotte for the past 44 years. Prior to her first election in 1989, Ms. Wheeler served on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission for four years, as Vice-Chairman of the Commission and Chairman of the Zoning Committee. Ms. Wheeler chaired the City Council's Budget Committee and its Economic Development and Planning Committee for 12 years.



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2022 Myers Park July 4th Parade

By Jen Walker

Our summer would not be complete without the traditional Myers Park Fourth of July Parade and festive celebration. Your Myers Park Homeowners Association is excited to be gearing up for another fabulous year to observe our country's declaration of independence. Come dressed in your red, white and blue! Decorate your bikes, scooters, wagons and even your beloved pooch.

The festivities will begin on the magnificent front lawn of Queens University at 10:00 am. Meet and greet with neighbors, friends and family. You can even visit our trinket table to add a little bling to your ensemble before joining the parade's procession. We will also have face painters and balloon twisters.

After the parade, enjoy David Britt's nationally recognized band, food trucks, King of Pops Ice Cream and more face painting and balloon twisting. Something for everyone!

The parade will be led by our own Fire Station Engine #6, followed by a procession of show cars that will include our surprise Grand Marshal. Of course, the most important component of the parade is you, the procession of participants.

Route: From Queens University right onto Selwyn Avenue, right on Wellesley, right Queens Road West, right on Radcliffe, right on Selwyn, back to the front lawn of Queens University. **Time:** 10:00-12:00

Start planning your festive decorations early. Come dressed in your best Independence Day attire and get ready to have fun! Look out for our red, white and blue MPHA signs that will be displayed all over the neighborhood to remind you of our festive event. Spread the word!

Here are some photos from last summer's festivities:



Welcome Home



Under Contract
\$2,175,000 | Wendover Hills
158 McAlway Rd
Charlotte, NC 28211
5 BR | 4.1 BA | 4,571 SQ.FT.
Represented Seller



Under Contract
\$1,950,000 | Pellyn Wood
4921 Hardison Rd
Charlotte, NC 28226
7 BR | 4 BA | 4,435 SQ.FT.
Represented Seller



Sold
\$2,106,324 | Kenwood Sharon Lane
2812 Kenwood Sharon
Charlotte, NC 28211
5 BR | 3.3 BA | 4,611 SQ. FT.
Represented Buyer



Sold
\$3,200,000 | Myers Park
2027 Princeton Ave
Charlotte, NC 28207
6 BR | 6.2 BA | 7,140 SQ.FT.
Represented Seller

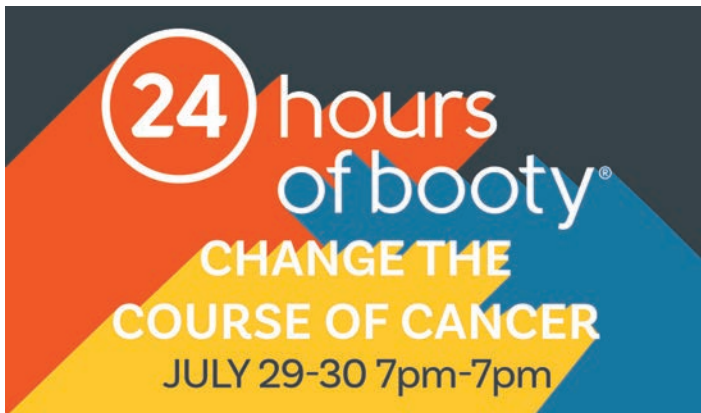


Patty Hendrix
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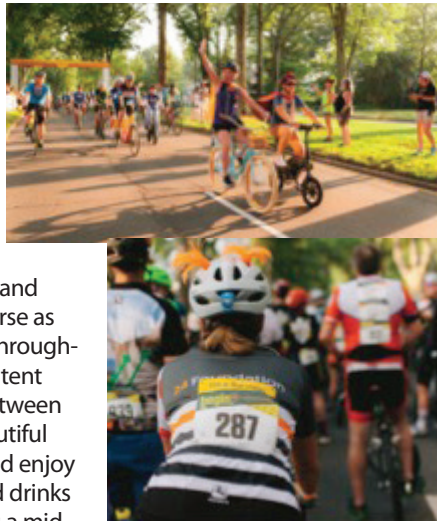
About 24 Foundation

Every day we are inspired by those facing cancer, and that's never more evident than at 24 Foundation's signature event, 24 Hours of Booty. 24 Hours of Booty is more than just a cycling and walking event. It is a celebration of hope, healing, and coming together in the face of adversity. Since 2002 thousands of participants have spent the last weekend in July together sharing stories, making lifelong connections, and inspiring all of us to continue fighting for those affected by cancer. Over the past 21 years, more than 10,000 children and adults facing a cancer diagnosis benefited from your commitment to 24 Hours of Booty. We've raised more than \$25 million. As we look at the road ahead of us, we know that together, we are unstoppable.

Show up for those with cancer

24 Hours of Booty isn't a race or an endurance event. Riders and Walkers can set their own mileage goals and get on and off the police secured course as much as they would like throughout the 24 hours. Set up a tent in Bootyville to relax in between your trips around the beautiful Myers Park Booty Loop and enjoy catered meals, snacks, and drinks in our food tent, including a mid-night pizza party. We are one team with one goal, and that is having an immediate impact on the lives of those affected by cancer. Over the past 20 years, your passion for the cancer community has raised more than \$25 million dollars for patient navigation and wellness programs provided through Levine Cancer Institute, Levine Children's Hospital, and our other Beneficiaries. These programs include integrative oncology, acupuncture, healing touch, massage therapy, nurse navigators and much more.

Myers Park neighbors are encouraged to host house parties on Friday night and Saturday afternoon, with the best party awarded the coveted Spirit of Booty award! We also welcome neighbors to join us for Friday night dinner or breakfast/lunch on Saturday, courtesy of 24 Foundation. We also have a free kids zone with tons of games and face painting for the kiddos. Just stop by the registration table located in our expo area off Wellesley and QRW. Questions? Feel free to email Katy Ryan at Katy@24Foundation.org.



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CottinghamChalk

Experience sets the Tuck Team apart

The family team began with Janet and Butch Tuck, who modeled successful Charlotte real estate careers for their daughters, Melissa Tuck Murphy and Janelle Tuck Lenhart.

Janet grew up in Charlotte and has seen the city grow and change over the years, allowing her to know many neighborhoods since their inception. She loves to help newcomers find their perfect area of town and dream home. Butch believes the easy communication and flexibility among the family contributes to the Tuck team's success.

Melissa and Janelle discovered their passion for real estate in high school while helping their parents in the office. In 2005, Melissa was thrilled to start selling real estate in her hometown. Janelle, who previously worked in interior design in Atlanta and Charlotte, completed the team in 2014.

The Tuck's strong family focus is evident in their business and personal lives. Growing up in Charlotte makes them experts in all things Charlotte. Professional and ethical, they provide seamless service and offer an authentic perspective to clients.

Not only do they work together, the Tuck family lives just a stone's throw from each other in Myers Park. They are frequently spotted in the neighborhood driving their six-seater golf cart, hosting friends for coffee or happy hour, or entertaining the young kids with their backyard chickens.

The Tuck Team knows their experience and knowledge of Charlotte sets them apart. Their family loves selling real estate and would love to help you with all your real estate needs.

Janet Tuck • jtuck@cottinghamchalk.com • 704-904-4011 | **Butch Tuck** • jtuck@cottinghamchalk.com • 704-904-4008
Melissa Murphy • mmurphy@cottinghamchalk.com • 704-756-5806 | **Janelle Lenhart** • jlenhart@cottinghamchalk.com • 704-497-8244

MPHA Presidents Emeriti Speak Out

Sadler Barnhardt:

I have been living in (50 years) or visiting relatives and friends (24 years) in Myers Park my entire life. It's obviously very special to me. I have served on the MPHA board on two occasions—in the 1990s and in the 2010s. I have much appreciation and respect for the folks who started MPHA and for all those who have served and kept it going all these years... thank you!



Joddy Peer (Three term President 1978-2010)

I believe in and have dedicated myself to Myers Park as a neighborhood treasure managed by the Myers Park Homeowners Association since 1973, and dedicated to preserving the character of Myers Park for our city, state and country. Some of my significant Myers Park work includes the complete restoration and renovation of the James B. Duke Mansion and major new buildings at Queens University.



Bob Lilien

It was my great honor to lead the MPHA HOA for about 8 years. It was long ago, and our efforts were often attempts to keep MP exactly as it had been for the previous 50+ years. Looking back on it, that effort was futile and possibly misguided.

MP has "evolved" to say the least, and wisdom would teach us that guiding that evolution is

much better than opposing it. That said, we should all applaud the staunch MPHA resistance to those that thumb their noses at the deed restrictions, unenforced city/county building restrictions (such as limits on impervious ground cover per lot), and speed limits.

So from those of us who worked hard to preserve MP and now pass the baton to others, we advise that "targets are much easier to hit if you know what and where they are." Yes, the City, County, and courts keep moving the targets, but knowing them and requiring officials and developers to honor the rules will serve MP well into the next 100 years of beautiful oak trees.

Pamela May

Myers Park has always been part of my memories. Growing up largely in the small town of Chester, SC, we were regularly in Charlotte for shopping, dining, the orthodontist, you name it. My impression then and now was of her natural beauty; the lush tree canopy, the grand lawns on QRW, the majestic church spires, the children riding bikes. Something about it seemed set apart; a neighborhood with small town charm, but right in the city. That feeling is confirmed daily by the tight-knit community so many of us enjoy on our streets.

I'm grateful for the Directors and Officers of the Board for the work (and lots of it) that goes into the preservation of our beloved Myers Park. I encourage us all to help by building with some restraint in harmony with nature to keep our green space and trees.



Susan Shaver

When my husband and I moved to Charlotte, almost 30 years ago, we were lucky to find a home in Myers Park. The tree-lined streets and green spaces were irresistible. After several years I became concerned about drivers speeding through the neighborhood. Because of this concern I volunteered to serve on the Myers Park Homeowners Association (MPHA). During my time on the MPHA Board I have served as President, Vice President and Editor of *The Oak Leaf*, the MPHA newsletter to the neighborhood. I advise everyone interested in helping preserve our neighborhood to consider volunteering.

Sometimes Clients Say it Best...

"Christy was remarkable. She was patient, thoughtful, thorough, and she helped us find the perfect home." -- **Zack and Stephanie L**

"I trust Christy. She is honest and hardworking. She did a lot of research and was prepared so I did not waste time." -- **Linda H**

"I have relocated internationally six times and Christy is by far the best agent I have worked with. She took the time to understand my requirements and lifestyle and previewed all of her recommended homes before I saw them." -- **Thomas D**

If you are considering a move, it would be my honor to represent you. Whether you want to move around town, out of state or to another country, I can help. Please reach out anytime!



Christy Howey

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Welcome Home

2021 TEAM OF THE YEAR



Peggy Peterson Team

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Sold

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The Late Colors of Myers Park:

By Ferman Wardell, Editor

Myers Park is incredibly beautiful around Easter time with its blooms of Dogwoods, Azaleas, Cherries, and assorted others. So, here it is near mid-May, and what's happening color-wise? Well, here's what I observed recently on a one mile Spring-time walk around the neighborhood..



The Azaleas were done.



The Cherries were finished.



The Dogwoods were bare.



Camellias had dropped all.

So, now what?



Caladium was popping!



This Azalea hasn't given up!



And another one going strong!



And what a Rhodo!



The sweet smell and look of the Southern Magnolia!



Nandinas hanging tight and red!



This Mahonia is hanging with its "false grapes!"



A Kousa or Summer Fun Dogwood is a late bloomer.



The lovely purple Iris!



When have you known Clover to not bloom?



Light green is a pretty indicator of new growth.



And then there's Poison Ivy! (If leaves of three, let it be!)



Hey, Myers Park— Do You Know All Your Representatives?



By Ferman Wardell

Remember the Boston Tea Party: “No taxation without representation?” Well, we got what we asked for and are well represented in government and of course well taxed! And here are our Myers Park representatives. (We’ll save taxes for another time . . .) In researching all this, I found that the system is not simple, for example Charlotte/Mecklenburg is divided into the following districts:


- 12 U.S. House of Representative Districts
- 7 Charlotte City Council Districts
- 6 Mecklenburg County Commission Districts
- 13 NC House Districts
- 6 NC Senate Districts
- 6 School Board Districts
- 8 Judicial Districts
- 243 Voting Precincts
(Myers Park has six voting precincts)

And guess what? They are all different. And they change periodically. Whew! Here’s the current roster:


U.S. Senate

- **Thom Tillis (R)** — 
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-6342
www.tillis.senate.gov
- **Richard Burr (R)** — 
217 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-3154
www.burr.senate.gov


U.S. House of Representatives, District 12

- **Alma Adams (D)** — 
2436 Rayburn House Building
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***Editor's Note:** As this issue was going to press, we learned of the death of longtime County Commissioner **Ella B. Scarborough** on May 24. We honor her many decades of service and leadership to the Charlotte Community, and send our condolences to her family and friends.

Calling All Restorations!

Each year, the Myers Park Homeowners Association (MPHA) presents a Preservation Award to a resident member who has taken on a restoration of their property that maintains the lovely character of our neighborhood. The restoration should have been completed within the last two years—we only look to exterior improvements and the accompanying landscaping. MPHA has a Committee that will review all submissions, and the Award for the winning house will be featured at the MPHA Annual Meeting in November as well as featured in *The Oak Leaf*. You'll also receive an attractive yard sign attesting to your success!

Please consider a self-nomination for your recent project. If you are interested, email your name, address and the work you completed to suzanneross23@gmail.com by June 30, 2022.

We look forward to seeing all the wonderful improvements to Myers Park!



Neighborhood Safety Reminder:

Please keep valuables out of your cars and lock their doors. There have been too many unlocked car thefts.

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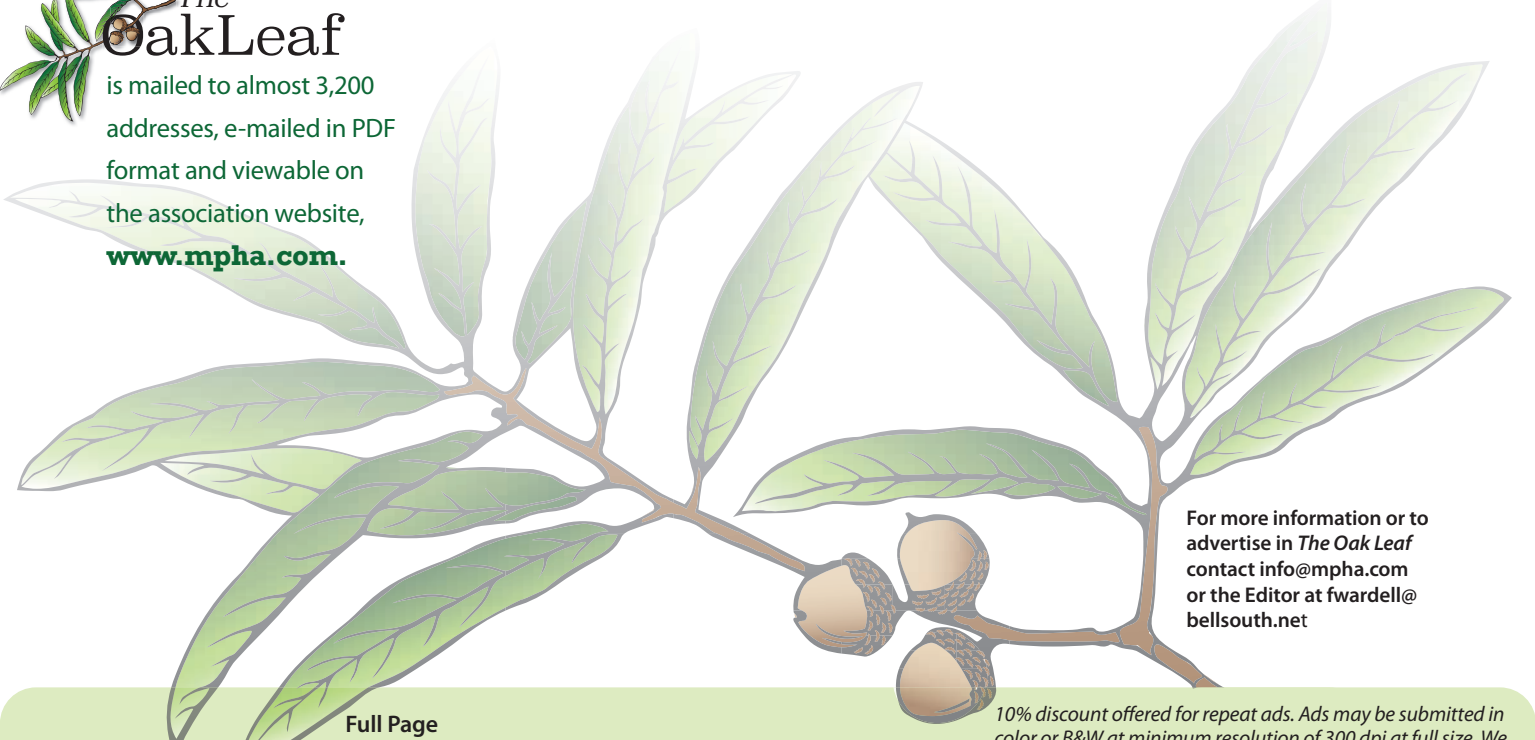


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