

Concert begins tree planting season

BY ALEX JOHNSON
 URBAN FORESTRY MANAGER

Storage space is running short at the City of Durham General Services Department as trees arrive from nurseries across the state. Trees are ready to go in at hundreds of sites across the city. These trees are comprised of over 30 different species to be planted in parks, streetside rights-of-way, and as part of the Trees

Across Durham effort to establish canopy over all of the campuses in the Durham Public Schools system (DPS).

There are more than 1,000 trees awaiting planting. Lucky for us, over 700 of them are bare root seedlings, purchased by the City/

County Sustainability Office and stored in a walk-in cooler at a DPS facility. Storing tree seedlings in a refrigerator keeps them safe from heating up or drying out, and allows us to consolidate shipping without

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This is what 700 bare-root seedling trees look like.

Submitted photo



Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

A sample card from the "Scenes of Perilous Occupations" series. Other popular series in early cigarette cards included topics like famous stage actors and actresses, species of fish, jokes and steamships.

Historic cigarette cards offer insights into popular culture

BY MEGHAN LYON
 AND NOAH HUFFMAN
 DUKE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Perhaps you or your loved ones are avid card collectors, carefully accumulating complete sets of baseball cards, Pokemon cards, Magic cards or some other collectible set. This addicting hobby has an interesting heritage: It all goes back to cigarette companies, which began including collectible trading cards as stiffeners in their cigarette packaging as early as 1875.

Cigarette card collecting really took off in the 1890s, largely thanks to the W. Duke, Sons & Company, a

Durham tobacco company whose records are held in the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book and Manuscript Library. First founded by Washington Duke in 1881, the W. Duke, Sons & Company was merged with other companies under the leadership of Duke's son, James B. Duke, to form the American Tobacco Company in 1890.

At that point in time, ATC brands produced 90 percent of American cigarettes, a powerful monopoly that garnered brand loyalty through advertising tactics like issuing collectible trading cards. The Duke cards

ABOUT THE LIBRARY

The David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library contains hundreds of thousands of manuscripts, photographs, films, oral histories, printed materials, artifacts and rare books related to topics including African-American history, women's history, advertising, Duke University history, medicine, human rights, documentary arts, southern history, and more.

Periodically, a story drawn from the holdings of the Rubenstein Library will be shared, highlighting some aspect of Durham's rich past. The Rubenstein Library is open to the public for research, and more information can be found at <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>.

fed into the era's collecting frenzy, with early cards series depicting diverse topics like famous stage actors and actresses, species of

fish, jokes, steamships and even "Scenes of Perilous Occupations."

SEE CULTURE/PAGE 5

A new home for our feathered friends

BY DIANA HACKENBURG
 TRIANGLE LAND CONSERVANCY

DURHAM — Just 11 miles west of downtown Durham, a new oasis is being created for local wildlife and community members who enjoy hiking, biking, and getting outside.

Brumley Forest Nature Preserve, a 600-acre sanctuary from urban life owned by Triangle Land Conservancy, will be opened to the public in fall 2016. However, with a recent upgrade to the property, a different type of crowd is expected to start flocking to the preserve this spring. Thanks to the generosity of volunteers, TLC recently installed a tower at Brumley specifically for chimney swifts.

Common on summer sights in North Carolina, chimney swifts (*Chaetura*

pelagica) are a small, fast-flying gray bird with a cigar-shaped body. They spend almost all of their time in flight and eat airborne insects like flies and beetles. Look and listen for the loud chattering of large groups at dusk in the early fall as the swifts migrate back to South America.

Chimney swifts, like many other bird species, are declining in numbers throughout North America. Between 1966 and 2007, their total population in the United States fell 53 percent.

One possible contributing factor is loss of habitat. Chimney swifts spend most of their time in flight, but rest on vertical surfaces like hollow trees and chimneys. Chimney capping and the



Submitted photo

Volunteers constructed a 2-foot base for the tower upon which they placed three 4-foot sections of grooved plywood siding.

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Blue or bright: Which is it for you?

BY IRENE DWINNELL
 PARTNERSHIP FOR A HEALTHY DURHAM

Here we are again. It's that time of year when the pace picks up, to-do lists grow, family and friend gatherings fill every weekend from now until after the New Year and somehow, we have to make it all work.

For some of us, that is easier said than done even if we do not have a mental health diagnosis. For those in our community with a serious mental illness such as anxiety, bi-polar, schizophrenia, major depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or schizoaffective disorder, the aforementioned "hustle and bustle" of the holiday season could leave us feeling less than holly-jolly.

In Durham, there are thousands amongst us, including family members and friends, coping with this frenetic time of year through the lens of their mental illnesses. According to the 2014 Durham County Community Health Assessment, an estimated 17,000 residents of Durham County need mental health treatment and 19,000 need substance use treatment.

Besides the festivals, parades and many other reasons to celebrate in our amazing community, we can proudly boast about the wonderful work being done by the Partnership for a Healthy Durham, in particular the work of the substance use disorders/mental health subcommittee. The subcommittee is currently focusing on partnering with faith-based organizations to address mental health issues, providing resources on mental health services to local providers,

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ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP

The Partnership for a Healthy Durham is a community coalition that works closely with the Durham County Department of Public Health to identify the greatest health needs in the county and then forms action teams to address those needs. For more information or to get involved with the Partnership, visit www.healthydurham.org or call 560-7833.



FRIENDS

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

diminishing popularity of chimneys in newer homes have eliminated many potential resting and nesting sites for the birds.

The new tower at Brumley mimics a chimney. Essentially, it's a 14-foot shaft made of grooved plywood siding, but to the birds, it's as good as any five-star hotel. The idea for the tower came from TLC volunteer Phil Bushnell.

"I first heard about these birds when my wife and I traveled to Canada," remembered Bushnell. While eating dinner, "a big cloud of birds came and swirled around a chimney outside the restaurant and it was fun to watch."

Phil Bushnell and other volunteers attach weather-resistant cedar shingles to the outside of the tower.

Submitted photos

ABOUT TRIANGLE LAND CONSERVANCY

Triangle Land Conservancy protects the wild and working lands you need and love. TLC works with landowners, community members, other nonprofits, government agencies, and businesses to create a healthier, more vibrant Triangle through conservation. Explore the wild right in your backyard by visiting one of TLC's five nature preserves for free any day of the year. For more information and maps, visit www.triangleland.org.

Bushnell decided to learn more. He discovered growing efforts to create new habitats for the swifts by building false chimneys. He bought a book with sample plans and built a tower in his own backyard.

After a few years of waiting and no visitors, he needed a new location for the tower. He had joined the Trail Crew volunteers at Brumley Forest and

asked TLC if they were interested in his idea. Bushnell is very excited about the new chimney, adding, "It's a place for the birds, but also a place for people to observe the birds."

TLC is not alone in local efforts to help the chimney swift. The N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences teamed with the Wake Audubon Society this past August to build a chimney at the Prairie Ridge Ecostation. Bushnell is also working with New Hope Audubon Society to potentially place more chimneys in parks

and schools around Durham.

The transformation of Brumley Forest into a public nature preserve requires much more than the construction of the chimney swift tower. This fall, volunteers and staff started building trails for what will become a 12-mile trail system.

All trails will be open to hikers and eight miles will also be available for mountain biking. TLC has partnered with Triangle Off-Road Cyclists (TORC) to build and maintain the multi-use trails.

Anyone interested in learning more should check out the Chimney Swift Conservation Association at chimneyswifts.org and anyone interested in volunteering with TLC at Brumley Forest Nature Preserve should visit triangleland.org.

Diana Hackenburg is communications manager of the Triangle Land Conservancy.

CONCERT

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

running the risk of having the highly perishable seedlings suffer in storage.

Now that the trees are in, there is a limited time to get them planted. Between now and mid-March all 1,000-plus trees must be installed. This translates to an average of 20 trees a day between now and March 15!

To accomplish this, there will be several volunteer tree planting events throughout Durham over the next few months. Each weekend in February will have an event scheduled through the Trees Across Durham partnership and I invite you to attend and help us.

The first trees to go in have already been planted in late November by Duke students along the Markham Street side of the East Campus Wall. These trees were purchased by the Duke Medicine Orchestra to be planted on City of Durham right-of-way as part of their celebration and performance of "city trees" by composer Michael Markowski. The trees were selected to replace the ones removed last year by utility crews, and will

Above right: This is a shipment of about 60 trees. **Below right:** It takes a lot of time and equipment to handle a tree with its heavy root ball wrapped in burlap. Most of the trees the city is preparing to plant, however, are bare-root seedlings.

Submitted photos

match others that were paid for by the Durham Council of Garden Clubs and planted by volunteers in 2011.

This spirit of collaboration has been the hallmark of Durham's urban forest from its very beginning. Combining public and private resources to insure a sylvan future for our residential neighborhoods was the original strategy initiated by the City's Public Works Director in the late 1920s and early 1930s. Herbert Kuefner rallied the local branches of the Garden Club of America, Parent Teacher Association, Women's Club, and "citizens" even prior to bringing Duke University's first forest manager (later dean of the School of Forestry) Clarence Korstian. Korstian became the City Tree Commission's chairman in 1933, and the boom of tree planting took off from there.

Back then, they had a limited supply of trees to plant. They grew their own tree seedlings from acorns collected from

one of the Duke Family's properties, "Four Acres" (the mansion that sat on the rise overlooking downtown where the N.C. Mutual building now sits). The old nursery was on a site where we now have our water treatment plant near the intersection of Hillandale Road and Club Boulevard.

These days it's more cost effective to have professional nurseries produce the trees we plant, and we have a much wider selection of trees. However, tree planting remains a highly collaborative endeavor, and that is not likely to change any time soon.

If you have an interest in getting your hands dirty in support of Durham's urban trees, please sign up for posted volunteer tree planting and other tree-related workshop dates at the Trees Across Durham website at TreesAcrossDurham.org.

Alex Johnson is urban forestry manager in the City of Durham's General Services Department.

about mental health resources in Durham County and links to care.

This time of year can be incredibly busy and stressful. Do your best to take care of yourself

and look out for others who may be struggling.

Irene Dwinell is the Partnership for a Healthy Durham's substance use/mental health committee co-chair.

BLUE

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

increasing awareness and use of naloxone and preventing suicides among youth.

The substance use disorders/mental health group wants you to know that there are many organizations available to you, your loved ones or your friends if this time of year stops feeling merry and bright and seems more like a scene from one of Ichabod Crane's nightmares.

Should you, your loved one(s) or friend(s) need support during this time of year, please contact Durham's National Alliance on Mental Illness at (919) 231-5016 or Alliance Behavioral Health Care (800) 510-9132. Both phone numbers provide information

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What A Great Shot!



The University Tower

Photo submitted by Andrew McClung

Email your "Great Shot" to David Jones at djones@heraldsun.com for possible inclusion in The Durham Herald and The Chapel Hill Herald