

Northside News



August 2013

A print-link for neighborhoods of change

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Welcome Home

Letter Edition

Dear friends and neighbors

We have many new Northside neighbors this August: students, parents, faculty, and staff of Northside Elementary School; UNC students new to the neighborhood or returning from summers away; new homeowners and families moving into this historic place for the first time. To all of you, WELCOME to a neighborhood that has changed my life and a place that we are lucky to call the home of the Jackson Center for Saving and Making History.

This neighborhood is filled with history and legacy. You may walk or drive by the rock wall on McDade where the Chapel Hill Civil Rights sit-ins were planned by neighborhood youth, some of whom still live here. You may play ball, go swimming, or hang out at the beautiful Hargraves Recreation Center: the community center that was completed to house the first Black Navy Band in the country, hosted Martin Luther King in 1960, and has served as the safe-haven for youth throughout the decades. You may attend one of the five historic African American churches, most of which were founded in the 1800's and all of which hosted civil rights and freedom struggle events.

You may also pass by the headquarters where Howard Lee was elected as the first black mayor in North Carolina. You may live in and will at least see homes built by and lived in by the same masons who built the walls around UNC and created its historic structures. And most importantly, you will hopefully meet many of the families who still live here and have for generations sustained this community, town, and university. Indeed, the ground you walk on here has generations of history— of struggle, of pride, of education, of family, of faith, and of community.

We want to extend a warm welcome to the many new neighbors of Northside this fall, and we want to extend a challenge to all of you. One of the lifetime residents Keith Edwards always says that there is a difference between a house and a home. Structures here are called houses. **But houses— of residence, of education, of business, and of worship— that we enrich with our time, energy, love, generosity, and history: these places become our homes.** We hope you will make Northside a home. I can promise you that it's worth it.

Come by and visit us at the Jackson Center anytime to find out more about the history here and how you can be involved in making history.

Welcome to the neighborhood.
Hudson Vaughan

Do you want to contribute *your* reflections, photos, stories, or opinions to *Northside News*? Contact the Jackson Center at (919) 960-1670 to share!

Visit us at www.jacksoncenter.info
or 512 W. Rosemary Street



Dear everyone,

We have the most exciting news! After four years of incredible love, work and community, the Jackson Center has a new home. We welcome you to 512 West Rosemary Street, on the grounds of our beloved partner St. Joseph CME Church.

We want this space to be the hub for community we always dreamed it could be. We have a front porch, where we can catch up with passers-by. We have our own kitchen to prepare meals, including block-by-block resident meals we are hoping to host monthly. We have a beautiful means of exhibiting our photos throughout the freshly painted walks of the house.

We have a welcome desk, where Brentton will greet you with a smile and point you in any and all directions for resources. We have a library room that also serves as a quiet, get-away and study space. Our back rooms house our bustling staff of 6 between a Community Action and Civic Media/Youth room. And most excitingly for us (if you remember our old office), we all have our own desks!

This new home is more than an office. We want it to be busy! We want to see you here hanging out. We want you to stop by when you can. We want you to come look at our current exhibit, Witness to Rights. We want you to put suggestions in our suggestion box. We want to have you over for lunch one day.

We want to make this space alive, a real center that carries on traditions of fellowship, sharing, and saving and making history – all front and center on Rosemary Street.

Come join us in celebrating our NEW home!

Our open hours are:

Monday: 12PM-6PM

Tuesday: 1PM-5PM

Wednesday: 12PM-6PM

Thursday: 1PM-5PM

Friday: 9AM-12PM

Warmly,
Jackson Center Staff

Neighborhood Business: Green Dentistry A Letter from Dr. Jeffery West

By: JASMINE FARMER



Jackson Center Staff Member Jasmine Farmer interviewed Dr. West at his offices in Greenbridge. Here are some excerpts from him in that interview:

My name is Dr. Jeffery West, I grew up in Asheville. I have a wife and two small kids, a one year old girl and a three year old boy. I went to school up in Boston and graduated from my dentistry program in 2008. I've been a dentist for about five years. The best thing about being a dentist is that I really like working with my hands. It is a very hands-on profession, kind of like micro-carpentry in a way. You get to know people and their families. You get to watch kids grow up, and follow their lives.

I found out about the neighborhood while I was working in Raleigh. I wanted to be closer to home. I live about a five minute walk from here, in Carrboro. I wanted to be able to walk from my house. There was just a lot of flexibility as far as space. I liked that there was underground parking that made things more convenient for patients. We've been here going on three years. We started seeing patients January 7th, 2011. That February, the building [Greenbridge], went into foreclosure and the developers went bankrupt. So, the building stalled right after we got in here. The other spaces were empty and I have just now starting to fill up.

When I first started the practice, we were only open a couple days a week. It has steadily grown. We started without any patients at all. Now, an average day for us is about twelve people. I don't see us expanding too much and where we are right now. I'd like to grow a little more but I don't have a desire to be super, super busy.

One thing I hope to bring to the community is just access to a dentist. There are a lot of offices near University Mall and in north Chapel Hill, but in west Chapel Hill the only other dentist just recently moved. This side of Chapel Hill doesn't really have access to a dentist that is close. I also hope to bring a different kind of doing dentistry. There are a lot of really big offices with lots of hygienists and dentists. I want to focus on time for quality and building relationships.

Ask Keith!

Ms. Keith Edwards is a lifetime resident of McDade Street and lifelong advocate for the community. Keith is widely known as a fighter for justice and receives calls from neighbors asking her about programs and referrals for help with household and community issues. Send us questions for Keith, and she will respond with suggestions and referrals. Please call in your questions (and leave a message if we miss you) to the Jackson Center at (919) 929-6595 or email us at contact@jacksoncenter.info.



Dear Keith,
This month some folks were wondering what are your thoughts on the new elementary school that has been built in our community?

While walking on the grounds of the new Northside Elementary School, I had such a happy feeling. It brought back a lot of memories of myself and other African American students who attended the old school. Upon entering the new school, I along with my fellow alumni, were introduced to the new Northside staff. I have complete confidence that this staff will provide a good learning environment for the students who attend.



Neighborhood Trivia

This question was submitted by Mama Kat and Gladys Pendergraph

"Name the longterm OCTS/Northside staff who taught: Special ED, Music, and Home Economics, back in the day"
-Extra Credit if you can name a current Northside staff member

Call in to the Jackson Center starting Friday Sept 13th to answer. The first three callers with the correct answer win a prize!