

# Hurley Park Newsletter



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By Lana Bird, Co-Curator  
lbird@salisburync.gov

## New Veteran's Main Entrance Garden

It seemed to begin with the removal of the overgrown junipers in the Veteran's Main Entrance Garden several years ago. From that point on the garden slowly declined into a ragged mess of dying gumbo azaleas, rhododendron and stewartia. The real demise of the garden occurred when the large pine tree died. When it came down the garden was left with little shade. Without much shade the garden declined even further in the heat of the summer.



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Several members from our Hurley Park Advisory Committee pressed for a change in the garden. We tried to do what we could with our budget, including replacing some of the azaleas. However, without the shade of the pine and the lack of adequate irrigation they soon died as well. A donation from the J.F. Hurley Foundation made it possible to do something more than just replace dying plants and the planning began.

The idea was to make the garden a continuation of the woodland slope. The first problem to solve was the lack of coverage by the existing irrigation. Several sprinkler heads were installed to ensure that the entire garden was covered. Then new soil and cow manure was added to enrich the existing soil. A long-leaf pine was planted per the request of one of our board members after learning of its importance to woodpeckers and of course it is our state tree. The pine will eventually provide the much needed shade that this garden requires in the relentless heat of the summer. Dogwoods were added along the steps to create continuity from the woodland slope. Everyone liked the yews, so they were allowed to stay and the dead, or dying ones were replaced. Some Indian hawthorns were used behind the sign to create a lush green background and will provide flowers in the spring. A Kousa dogwood was added to the other side of the garden to repeat the presence of the Cherokee Princess dogwoods, while add

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ing something a little different. Finally, two mass planting of Kaleidoscope abelias were added for their bright color throughout the year. Some other plants have not been added yet due to their availability. These include some sun-loving ferns and dwarf grasses.

I cannot wait to see this garden in a couple of years when everything begins to mature and all the plants begin to compliment each other. This renovation was a much needed project and has definitely improved the aesthetics of the main entrance to the Park.

**The Hurley Park Staff and Committee wish to thank the following donors for their contributions:**

**L. Brett Snider  
Ann R. Glenn  
Fred and Alice Stanback  
Joe Ellis Jr.  
Rick and Susan Eldridge  
Jayne and Joel Hubbard  
John and Jane Riley  
Dr. Hilda Bailey  
Edward and Nancy Clement**

**Jane Ritchie and Family  
Elaine China  
Jim and Gerry Hurley  
Betty J. Moore  
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Towell  
Jane and Tomme Gamewell  
Gordon and Carolyn Hurley  
J.P. and Sally Helms**



## **DONATIONS**

Donations may be made to the Park through The Elizabeth Holmes Hurley Memorial Foundation located at 126 W. Innes Street, Salisbury. Please make checks payable to the Hurley Park Foundation and send to P.O. Box 4354, Salisbury, NC 28145-4354. All donations are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.

## **WEDDINGS**

If you are planning an outdoor wedding, or other ceremony, consider Hurley Park as a possible site. The Park has hosted many weddings over the years and there are still openings for the 2007 calendar year. Please contact Niki Castor at the Public Services office (704-638-5268) for more information and an application for facility use. The application can also be accessed online, along with pictures of the park, at [www.salisburync.gov/hurleypark](http://www.salisburync.gov/hurleypark)