

August 2026

Welcome New Neighbors!

We welcome **Sheila Allen, 600 Downs Loop**, to the neighborhood. Sheila hails from Johannesburg, South Africa, and attended Ohio University. She has lived all over the US—north, south, east, and west! Her husband was a medical ophthalmologist/surgeon and required that she report to his office! Sheila moved here when her property on Riggs Drive was needed for the seven-story high-rise student housing project downtown. She looked at hundreds of homes for sale in Clemson until a neighbor suggested she look at Clemson Downs. And she loves it here! Welcome, Sheila. **Sheila Allen, 600 Downs Loop, 702-279-4083, cactusheila@yahoo.com.**

ARC Reminders

As you start thinking about sprucing up your home, please remember to get any requests to the ARC committee before their meeting on the first Tuesday of every month.

Your Architectural Review Committee (ARC) will meet next on Tuesday, August 4, at 10:00 am upstairs in the small conference room at the Corley Center. As always, POA residents are welcome to attend.

If you plan to start a project on the exterior of your home, such as painting, construction, hardscape, door, window, roofing, or siding replacement, etc., please be sure to get your application(s) to an ARC member before that date so we can get it processed for you as soon as possible. If you aren't sure if you need an application, please call an ARC member and ask! ARC is a sub-committee of the POA Board and can only recommend applications. Applications will be presented to the Board, which will next meet August 11, for final approval. Your approved application will then be returned to you.

Please remember that applications can only be reviewed for approval on the ARC meeting date, the first Tuesday of each month. Any applications received after that date will be reviewed at the next monthly meeting unless the repair is an emergency (broken garage door, leaking roof, etc.).



Our Sympathies Go To

We offer our sympathies to the family and friends of Joyce Griffin, 1005 Keystone Lane. Joyce passed away on July 10 after a long illness. She will be missed.

Things to Remember

First Friday

First Friday this month will be August 7; join your hosts Sandy Waskowski and Karen McAlister in the lower level of the Corley Center at 4 pm. They invite you to wear your favorite team colors (college or pro) as we kick off the 2026 football season. Please bring an appetizer or goodies to share and your favorite beverage for you to drink. Don't forget your name tag!



FYI—For Your Information

Updated Contact Information

Please update your printed directory to add the following phone number for Bob and Eva Williamson, 503 Downs Loop. Their landline is 864-654-6161.

Social Committee Sponsors a Tailgating Event

Join in the fun!

Clemson Downs POA Tailgate

Sat. August 22, from 3-5 pm

We will meet at the cul-de-sac of Downs Loop
(near the Woodland Walk)

More details to follow as time gets near.



Mailboxes, Houses, and Emergency Services

Every second counts when we need EMS or a fire truck. To make it easier for these professionals to find us when we need them, we need to be sure our house numbers are displayed prominently both on the house and on the mailbox. Numbers on both sides of the mailbox would be optimal. Please take a look and see if your house number is clearly visible both day and night. You will be thankful you did, and emergency vehicle drivers will appreciate your foresight.



Board Members

Elaine Cameron, CDPOA president, has resigned. Alice Hageman (CDPOA vice-president) has assumed Elaine's duties. A new board member to replace Elaine will be appointed by the board soon.

Update on Willow Oak Allee along Downs Boulevard

The Common Properties Committee, chaired by Nancy Palisin, has included an update on the willow oak trees along Downs Boulevard in this month's *Communicator*. See the full update on the next page of this issue.

Recommendations by Neighbors

We are still looking for your recommendations for trades and services that you have used. Just send the company's or person's name and contact information, a brief summary of what you liked about their work, and your contact information (name and phone number). These recommendations can be found on the CDPOA website at <https://cdpoa.com/neighborhood-recommendations/>. Look under Community on our website—*Neighbors Recommend* is the last listing in the dropdown menu. Please send recommendations to Anne Snider at sniderah@gmail.com.





Update on Pruning of Willow Oak Allee along Downs Boulevard

Our Willow Oak Allee along Downs Boulevard provides such a beautiful welcome into Clemson Downs, but we tend to take it for granted. Remember how you felt the first time you drove into Clemson Downs along the boulevard? Perhaps it was in the fall when the trees are bright yellow, but they actually add unique beauty to every season. These trees, planted in 1983-84, making them approximately 42 years old, contribute to a magnificent first impression upon visitors and prospective residents. They also have an important effect upon the value of our homes. Imagine the boulevard without them.

It is very important to the health of our willow oaks that they be maintained with proper pruning. Up until this year, the City of Clemson Public Works came out upon request to prune trees as needed. Since October 2025, Common Properties Committee (CPC) chair Nancy Palisin and new resident Judy Caldwell (Clemson emerita Professor of Urban Tree Care and Arboriculture) have been working with the city to plan proper pruning of the willow oaks. A professional assessment of the health of the 81 trees was conducted by Certified Master Arborist Karl Pokorny in December 2025. The assessment was very thorough with an estimated pruning cost of \$46,060, which included cost to remove 3 trees in poor health. It was anticipated that the work would have to be done in stages due to limited city funds.

We were in the process of trying to set up an affordable schedule for pruning by the city and TreeSouth when **in February 2026 the Deputy City Administrator sent us documentation from November 1983 showing that Clemson Area Retirement Center (CARC), Clemson Downs Property Owners Association (POA), and the Landscape Committee requested permission from the City of Clemson to plant trees on each side of Downs Boulevard, with a reply that the city had no objection to the proposed plans providing Clemson Downs maintained the plant material.** This letter was passed on to the city attorney for review.

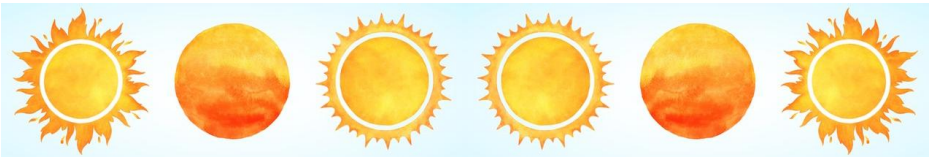
Although there has been much discussion with the city attorney and even a meeting with the city administrator, the final result is the City of Clemson will now only prune trees meeting the criteria of the city's Hazardous Tree Ordinance — trees that pose an imminent risk of failure capable of causing damage to pedestrians, vehicles, or street infrastructure. As of this writing, one tree was deemed hazardous and cut down by the Public Works Department. In June, a crew from Public Works came out and removed only dead limbs on the street side of the trees along the boulevard.

What this all means: These willow oak trees are a valuable part of the Downs that we cannot afford to lose through neglected maintenance. CARC has agreed to maintain the nine willow oaks along Downs Boulevard that are on CARC property. The Common Properties Committee has taken care of pruning the five willow oaks on common property near Little Lane and the triangle garden. Per motion from the Common Properties Committee, the CDPOA Board has voted to ask the POA membership to establish a fund for continued maintenance of willow oaks along Downs Boulevard and other common property trees as needed. The CDPOA Board is currently looking into means through which this can be accomplished.

We will continue to keep the residents of the POA informed on this issue.

--Nancy Palisin, Chair, Common Properties Committee

August 2026

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