

President's Message – Sep 2017

Is Devaun Park ready to move forward?

I am writing this with a hope that we can begin the healing required to carry Devaun Park to its fullest potential; being the best neighborhood in the area. I am sure I don't need to tell you that the lawsuit and its ensuing settlement have created a large divide among us. And although the politics of the community may have divided us into factions, there is no reason the societal make-up should continue moving in that direction. Disagreement does not need to, nor should it, lead to bitterness among neighbors. We have all heard the saying, "although we have our differences, there is much more that we have in common." I believe that to be true of Devaun Park residents. If we all took an inventory of the reasons we chose to live here and then shared those lists with each other, it would be surprising to me if they didn't look nearly identical. That's our common thread.

One reason we chose to live here was, "the warm and friendly atmosphere we found." Sadly, I can't say that the community has that same feel these days, and I believe each of us owns a part of why that is.

I don't have the answer for what it will take to turn things around, but one thing is certain, I can't fix you and you can't fix me. Individually, we each need to determine if we really want a warmer, friendlier neighborhood and what are we willing to change and contribute in order to make it so.

So, let's go back to the original question? Is Devaun Park ready to move forward and do we have what it takes to become the best neighborhood? I think we do, but before we can become the best neighborhood we must first come to be more neighborly. That is going to be up to each and every one of us.

Respectfully,

Gary Miller

President - DPCA