

# SMOKE SIGNAL

VOLUME 51, ISSUE 3

*Serving the Smoke Rise Community Since 1968*

June, 2018

www.smokesignalnews.com

**Welcome to Summer!**  
**Happy Father's Day from the staff of the Smoke Signal!**



## The State of The City of Tucker

On May 11, two years and 70 days after Tucker became a city, Mayor Frank Auman gave the second State of the City of Tucker Address. You can watch the whole address online at [www.tuckerga.gov](http://www.tuckerga.gov) and click on the Mayor's address. The speech is a little more than 40 minutes and well worth the time.

There are "moments in time that determine the future and the path for the future," said the Mayor. "Already, but not yet moments... where the course of action has been decided, but is not yet." The formation of Tucker was like that. The determination of many gave rise to the city of Tucker. But it was only a prelude... that is, until May 1, 2018 at the stroke of midnight. That was when Tucker became a fully functioning city, "subject to the laws of the state of Georgia."

Full cityhood means that three areas are now fully our own: Code Enforcement, Zoning and Planning, and Parks and Recreation. Additionally, Inter-Governmental Agreements (IGA's) are now in place to facilitate communication and cooperation with other areas vital to Tucker, such as Police Services, managing the new SPLOST, and turnover of the above services to Tucker.

Specifically: The Code Enforcement Department now has code policies in place, staff and a court system to enforce code violations. Zoning and Planning now has a Board of Appeals and a Construction Board of Appeals comprised of 20 members of the community of Tucker.

Tucker's cooperation with DeKalb County resulted in peaceful negotiations to take over Park Services using an innovative plan that let DeKalb County keep the waterways in Tucker's parks as part of its storm water management system. This means the county will keep the liability if any of the dams in three of Tucker's parks fail, while the city will handle oversight and management of the rest of the park. All of this was accomplished peacefully, without threats, finger pointing or lawsuits.

Other Parks and Recreation improvements: Cofer Park swim pool repair and new splash pad; Henderson Park resurfacing of the tennis courts and improving trails; Tucker Recreation Center; Main Street Theater and many new improved programs for all ages. Also, the city signed a contract with the YMCA to provide services including transportation.

The hundreds of volunteers through Friends of the Parks are an important part of Tucker's improvements! Thanks guys!

## District 1 Update by Pat Soltys

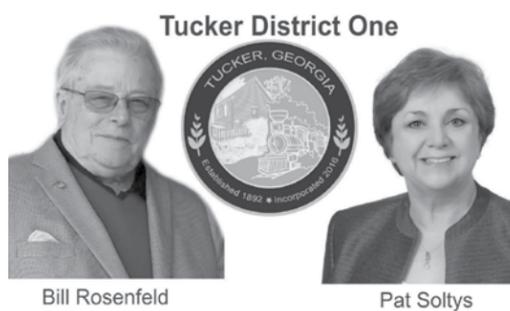
Your council has been hard at work. April was very busy as we worked to meet the May 1 deadline for a fully functioning city. This means we worked on approving the budget, reviewing road work projects, approving the comprehensive plan with development requests and proposals for zoning changes, and approving staff to meet the city's needs.

In other big news, April 1, the City of Tucker took over all of our parks and began work with a bigger plan to come. We have many who have volunteered to work on District 1 parks with a high emphasis on the Smoke Rise Lord Property. There has also been a lot of input with a great deal from the Mom's groups. Soon you will see police cars that are marked "Tucker" as a part of our agreement with DeKalb. It means that there will be specific resources dedicated to Tucker.

Several District 1 streets were deemed among the worst - by scoring - and will be repaved soon. All streets in the city were graded. The council approved additional funds carried over from the 2017 fiscal year budget to cover the work that needs to be done. Potholes will still be the responsibility of DeKalb County. If you have potholes to report, our newly hired Citizen Responder, Camille Taylor is your lady to help you get action. She can be reached through [ctaylor@tuckerga.gov](mailto:ctaylor@tuckerga.gov) or (678) 597-9040.

We also held and supported a week of events leading up to Tucker Day. It was very successful, with events held each day of the week and a huge street party at the end.

On Saturday, May 19 a work day in the Elmdale/Peters Park area is the result of community proactive leadership and the city coming together as well as Keep DeKalb Beautiful. This



Bill Rosenfeld

Pat Soltys

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## Here's to Father's Day

By Joel Gilbert, P.E.

According to Wikipedia, Father's Day has its roots in the middle ages and has been marked as a celebration honoring fathers and celebrating fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society in countries around the world. In Catholic Europe, it has been celebrated on March 19 (St. Joseph's Day) since the Middle Ages. This celebration was brought by the Spanish and Portuguese to Latin America, where March 19 is often still the celebrated date, though many countries in Europe and the Americas have adopted the U.S. date, which is the third Sunday of June (June 17 this year). It complements similar celebrations honoring family members, such as Mother's Day and Grandparent's Day.

Being a cynic, I always thought it was invented by the greeting card companies to drive business.

Things have changed since I was first a father. I grew up watching "Father Knows Best" on TV and in an era where the father had the final word in family matters at home. The opening song from Fiddler on the Roof summarized the family model I lived in: "Tradition!" Most in my generation had strong, well-respected role models at home, in the community, on TV and in advertising to look up to. Boy, things have changed.

Today, white men particularly seem to be portrayed in the media as dumb, somewhat useless, and the butt of jokes. We get pizzas thrown in our faces to promote digestive medicines. All too many sitcoms depict us as lazy couch potatoes more interested in watching football, drinking beer, and stuffing our faces with salty snacks.

However, raising a family and being a loving member of that family is no joking matter these days. Having raised four daughters and a son, I admit, it can be a thankless job. You often have to make tough decisions that could cause your children to run out of the room in a huff threatening to never speak to you again. Times have changed; while we may no longer be the only breadwinner in the home, we are often the only male role model our children will see. I can tell you from my life, that being that role model may be the highest calling any father has.

Happy Father's Day!

...continued on page 2



## Smoke Signal

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 A non-profit service organization devoted to furthering neighborhood cooperation with the aid of good neighborhood communication.

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### June Calendar of Events

- 2 Smoke Rise Bath & Racquet  
Open House & Pool Party, starting at noon
- 11 Mountain Shadow Garden Club Meeting  
Founders Hall, Eastminster Presbyterian Church,  
7:30 p.m. "Seeking Eden" program
- 13 Mountain Mum's Garden Club Meeting, 9:45 a.m.
- 17 Happy Father's Day!
- 21 Summer Begins (ends September 22)
- 23 Smoke Rise Bath & Racquet  
BBQ Cook Off & Pool Party, starting at noon

**THE SMOKE SIGNAL  
 HAS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!!**  
**staff@smokesignalnews.com**  
 Please send all questions, columns  
 and contributions to this new address.

## Smoke Signal Deadlines

### JUNE 13

Please e-mail articles to:

**staff@smokesignalnews.com**

(Word documents or text file attachments preferred)  
**PLEASE DO NOT SEND CLASSIFIED ADS  
 TO THIS E-MAIL ADDRESS**

Extra copies may be picked up at  
**The Smoke Rise Community Garden on Hugh Howell Rd.**

**Deadline for classified ads is JUNE 10**

### SMOKE SIGNAL FLYER INSERT POLICY

Cost: \$150 by check to *Smoke Signal*  
 Deadline to Receive: 6:00 p.m. on 19th of month  
 Flyer inserts should be 8 1/2" x 11" (flat, not folded)  
 Please provide 2,300 copies  
 Reservation Required:  
 Contact Barbara Luton, (770) 491-6711 by 15th of month.

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 or visit our website at [www.smokesignalnews.com](http://www.smokesignalnews.com)  
 Link to the digital version of the *Smoke Signal*  
 at <http://eepurl.com/pjn4v>  
 or scan this QR Code  
 with your smart phone!

## Looking for a way to give back to your community?

### THE SMOKE SIGNAL

is looking for a few more writers or people with a passion for storytelling.

SEND YOUR INQUIRY TO:

staff@smokesignalnews.com

### District 1 Update continued from page 1

community has had some rough times but is working on a self-initiated turn around. There has been a big step up of crime reporting and police patrolling. The clean-up day will focus on litter removal. The Parks and Rec department has installed cameras at the park to help with safety, and code enforcement is working to take care of code violations. This is a great partnership of a community and government resources coming together.

#### Your Local Representatives:

PAT SOLTYS

Council Member

District 1 - Post 1

psoltys@tuckerga.gov

WILLIAM (BILL) ROSENFELD

Council Member

District 1 - Post 2

brosenfeld@tuckerga.gov

FRANK AUMAN

Mayor of Tucker

fauman@tuckerga.gov



### FREE

### NEIGHBORHOOD PET LOST AND FOUND

Call Kay McKenzie  
 at 770-491-6784  
 with information  
 if you have lost or  
 found a pet.

### BRING A BOOK - TAKE A BOOK

Don't forget  
 to check out the  
 Little Libraries



that  
 have  
 popped  
 up  
 near the  
 swim  
 clubs.

## Smoke Rise Baptist Church

Dr. Chris George, Senior Pastor  
 Bart McNeil, Associate Pastor  
 Tim Adcox, Minister of Missions  
 Kathy Dobbins, Minister of Spiritual Formation  
 Danny Vancil, Minister of Music & Worship  
 Becky Caswell-Speight, Minister to Families with Children  
 Jeremy Colliver, Minister to Families with Youth  
 Amanda Coe Burton, Director of Nursery Ministries  
 Valerie Coe Lowder, Director of the Weekday School  
 Telephone: (770) 469-5856  
 SmokeRiseBaptist.org

Sundays:  
 9:00 a.m. Worship in the Chapel  
 9:45 a.m. Sunday school  
 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary  
 Communion: Second Sunday of each month  
 Wednesdays:  
 5:00-5:45 Fellowship Dinner  
 6:00-7:00 Programs for children, youth and adults  
 7:00-8:30 Sanctuary choir  
 Nursery provided

## Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Pastor: Rev. J. Caleb Clarke III  
 Pastor of Senior Adult Ministries: Rev. Jeanne Simpson  
 Director of Mission & Youth: Mark Sauls  
 Director of Music Ministries: Andrew Meade  
 Director of Preschool: Stacey Moura  
 Director of School Age Program: Celeste Sears  
 Director of Respite Care Program: Helen Wilborn  
 Director of Communications: Joy Summerville-Johnson  
 Telephone (770) 469-4881  
 www.eastminster.us

Respite Care Center Hours: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesday

Sundays:  
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages  
 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary - nursery provided  
 5:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship  
 Communion: First Sunday of each month  
 Wednesdays:  
 5:45 p.m. Join us for dinner! - \$5 per adult  
 6:30 p.m. Program  
 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

## MC3 Church

(formerly Mount Carmel Christian Church)

Senior Minister: Art Stansberry  
 Worship Minister: Leslie Riley  
 Student Minister: Will Tyler  
 Coordinator of Kids Ministry - Jim Barber  
 Telephone (770) 279-8437  
 6015 Old Stone Mountain Rd., Stone Mountain, GA 30087  
 www.mc3.life

MC3 Church launched on Easter Sunday. Hours are:

Sundays: 8:30 a.m. Coffee/ Doughnuts/ Fellowship  
 9:30 a.m. Life Group Classes - Adults & Children  
 10:30 a.m. Worship

First Wednesday 5:30 p.m. Family meal and worship service  
 All other Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. -- Life Groups on campus

## First Moravian Church

Pastor: Dr. Stephen Weisz  
 Congregational Acolyte: Bill Hitz  
 Telephone (770) 491-7250, (770) 755-8289  
 www.gamoravian.org

Sundays:  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School-Adults & Children  
 11:00 a.m. Worship  
 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Time

## Incarnate Word Lutheran Church

Please join us for worship on Sundays at 8:45 a.m.  
 at the First Monrovia Church  
 4950 Hugh Howell Rd., Stone Mountain, GA 30087

## Mountain West Church

Pastor: Michael Shreve  
 Worship Arts Pastor: Gary Robinson  
 Telephone (770) 491-0228  
 www.mwchurch.com  
 4818 Hugh Howell Rd., Stone Mountain  
 Service Times: 8:30 a.m. | 10:15 a.m. | 12:00 p.m.

The *Smoke Signal* is posted to  
[www.smokesignalnews.com](http://www.smokesignalnews.com)  
 the first of each month.  
 Go to the "Smoke Signal Digital" link.  
 You'll also find the link posted to the  
*Smoke Signal* News Facebook page each month  
 with posting of pictures and stories throughout the month.  
 For questions,  
 contact Pat Soltys at [pat@smokeriseagents.com](mailto:pat@smokeriseagents.com).



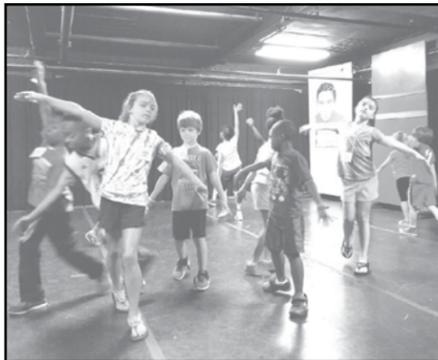
**ART Station Announces Arts Camps for Youth**

ART Station is proud to present its award winning summer arts camp and performance company programs beginning June 4 and continuing through July 27.

The performance program runs for two weeks from June 4 until June 15. This professional two week program for students age 7-13 introduces campers to the theatre production and performance process. Daily drama classes and rehearsals utilize improvisation, theatre games, singing, dancing, poetry and visual arts. The session culminates with an original show, created and performed by the campers on Friday, June 15. The cost for this two-week period run from \$295.00 - \$315.00.

The arts camp runs June 18 – July 20. The mission of ART Station Summer Arts Camp is to involve the campers age 5-13 in a variety of artistic activities in the performing, literary, and visual arts, allowing the students to explore their creativity with their peers in a fun, safe, and nurturing environment. The cost for each week ranges from \$150.00 - \$175.00.

This year ART Station will be offering a Teen Performance Company July 23 – 27. This program provides the students with the necessary theatre skills to create a performance in just five days. Students will use improvisational and theatre exercises to develop a new play in the ART Station Theatre. The cost for this one-week program ranges from \$140.00 - \$150.00



**Boy Scout Troop 876 News**

*by Nate Young, Troop 876 Historian*

In April of 2018, Troop 876 went to Highlands Aerial Park in Scaly Mountain, North Carolina. The park had a zip-lining course where the scouts zip-lined at different heights and lengths. The scouts had a lot of fun zip-lining and wish we could've done it again. The Aerial Park had many ginormous zip-lines. The fifth station was 220 feet off the ground and ¼ mile long! The employees were very nice and even let us camp on their property! Some of the scouts were able to complete their forestry merit badge and others got very close! The scouts also went on a hike up Scaly Mountain. The hike was about five miles long, and the view at the top was beautiful! Overall, the scouts had a great time and hope they can go back again!

If you would like to join us on fun trips like this, stop by one of our troop meetings at Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 5801 Hugh Howell Rd. on Mondays at 7:30 p.m., or check out our website [www.bsatroop876.com](http://www.bsatroop876.com).



**Smoke Rise Academy of the Arts Celebrates End of Spring Semester**

Smoke Rise Academy of the Arts students celebrated the end of spring semester with several recitals in May. The Piano Recital was held Sunday, May 6, the Strings Spring Recital was held Friday, May 11, and the Dance Spring Recital was held Sunday, May 20. Each of the students received a trophy and a certificate of completion.



Performing in the strings recital were Smoke Rise residents (left to right) Rollen Williamson, 13; Lily Pope, 7; Ella Paden, 8; and Alexander Paden, 10, pictured here with Academy Executive Director and violin teacher, Denise Burcham.

SRAA Summer Arts Camp runs July 9 – 13 (8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.). The day camp is for ages 5 to 12, and offers a variety of arts exploration, including Orff Instruments, Nature's

Music, Drum Circles, Ukulele, Dulcimers, Dance, stage, art, explore the pipe organ and its chambers, and more.

For more details (and other classes and lessons) visit [www.smokerisebaptist.org/arts](http://www.smokerisebaptist.org/arts) or call (678) 533-0562.

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**Smoke Rise Baptist Weekday School Celebrates 45 Years of Serving Families**

*By Rev. Deborah G. Reeves, Interim Director*

Smoke Rise Baptist Weekday School has been serving the families of our community since 1973. Leaders of Smoke Rise Baptist Church started the school as a way to care for children and their families, nurturing and teaching them in a safe, loving and creative environment.

Forty-five years later, our students continue to learn about Christian faith, and to develop skills necessary for success in elementary school and beyond. We embrace the diversity of culture that the children bring to our school, and we learn from one another.

There is great pride across the generations for a school that adapts to the changing needs of the Smoke Rise community. There was a time when the community we serve was full of young families, and parents lined up to register their children for the upcoming school year. We are proud of that history. Today, our classes are smaller and more diverse as we also serve members of our neighboring communities. Smoke Rise Baptist Weekday School embraces the challenge of serving the needs of an ever-changing community.

Our school now operates five days a week. We offer classes for toddlers to Kindergartners. Each class emphasizes learning through play. Three special weekly activities include chapel, music and storytelling by a guest reader. Each child is enrolled in "1000 Books Before Kindergarten," a program in partnership with Georgia Public Library that encourages interactive reading. We are a member of the Georgia Preschool Association.

We are pleased to announce lower monthly tuition rates for our 2018/2019 school year. We are enrolling babies as young as six months old for Parents' Morning Out on Thursdays this fall at an incredibly low monthly rate.

We provide need-based scholarships that enable children to attend our school who otherwise could not. This past year, generous donations enabled one family to send two daughters to our school. A single mother received a scholarship to pay for her daughter's tuition, and is thankful her child receives "a good Christian education," in her words. A disabled father who currently is unemployed and caring for his five children was granted a scholarship for his daughter's education. Your gifts benefit our neighbors. Thank you for contributing to our scholarship fund!

Smoke Rise Baptist Weekday School is enrolling students for 2018/2019. Summer Open House is Saturday, June 2 at 10:00 a.m. at Smoke Rise Baptist Church. Come visit our school, and see for yourself what 45 years of loving families looks like.



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The Smoke Rise Bath & Racquet Club's pool is back for the 2018 season. Enjoy a summer packed with activities.

The fun will start with an Open House BBQ Party on June 2. Come meet your friends and neighbors, listen to live Blue Grass Music throughout the afternoon, have a plate of awesome BBQ, cool off in the pool and take home some great raffle prizes.

On June 23, SRBRC will host the 4th annual Smoke Rise BBQ Cook Off. Come have fun at the pool party or buy a ticket to judge the neighborhood pit-masters' skills and talents and crown the Smoke Rise BBQ king of 2018.

You can look forward to many other fun events including the Low Country Shrimp Boil, thrilling Dive-In Movies, Kids Campouts, Ice Cream Socials, Evening Mixers, Open Grills, Tennis Round Robins, the Labor Day Pig Roast, and more.

If you're not a member yet, give the SRBRC a try. There is NO swim and tennis community in the neighborhood that offers more summer fun for the whole family. You'll find certified life guards seven-days-a-week, diving board, toddler pool, a swim lane, party gazebo, four tournament-ready tennis courts (with lights), basketball area, music, WiFi, concessions and more.

SRBRC is a mosquito-free environment. The club is partnering with Crocodile Dave's Pest Control all season long.

Check out the flyer in this edition of the *Smoke Signal*, and get in on the summer fun. Or, go to SRBRC.org and sign up right on the website or download a membership form and mail it in. "Like" SRBRC on Facebook, and connect with fun summer events for the whole family.

**Senior Connections "Celebrates Aging" with Ninth Annual Senior Prom**

Atlanta senior services advocate Senior Connections will host its ninth annual Senior Prom on Friday, June 15 at the Thalia N. Carlos Hellenic Center in Atlanta. This is the organization's major annual fundraiser, supporting its mission of providing vital services for DeKalb seniors including Meals on Wheels. This year's honorees are local financial leader, Walton C. Bryde and media company Cox Enterprises, each of whom will receive Senior Connections' "Community Connections" award, recognizing their support of Senior Connections and their contributions to community service. The award was established in 2009, but this is the first year it has honored a corporate citizen in addition to an individual.



Atlanta dance troupe Beulah Boys leads the audience in a line dance at last year's Senior Prom.

"Each year we honor an individual who has been instrumental in advancing our mission," said Debra Furtado, chief executive officer of Senior Connections, "but our corporate supporters are also good community citizens, providing volunteer teams and valuable grants and sponsorships that help us reach much more deeply into the senior community. Without the help of individuals like Walt and companies like Cox Enterprises, we couldn't effectively do what we do."



Walton Bryde, of Rhodes, Young, Black & Duncan

WSB-TV (a Cox television station) news reporter Audrey Washington will serve as emcee for the event, and local "soul line dancing" phenomenon Beulah Boys will perform. The event will also include dinner, high-energy dance band Platinum Band, and both a live and silent auction. Senior Prom is Senior Connections' major annual fundraiser; last year's event raised more than \$137,000 to support the organization's services.

For more information about the event, including becoming a corporate sponsor, purchasing tickets and/or donating silent auction items, contact Sharon Steele at (770) 216-2576 or ssteele@seniorconnectionsatl.org.

**MOUNTAIN CREEK POOL IS OPEN FOR SUMMER FUN!**

Water Aerobics starts June 16 - Free to members/\$5 guest fee

ENJOY THE BIG, BEAUTIFUL POOL - DIVING BOARD - BABY POOL  
LARGE, PRIVATE, POOLSIDE PARKING - FUN EVENTS FOR THE  
WHOLE FAMILY - HOLIDAY COOKOUTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS



\* \* \* \* \*

Sunday Family Fun at 3pm continues this year with a special celebration on June 17th ~ *Christmas in June!* What could be more fun than *Cookies, Candy, and Gifts!* Other Sunday Fun activities include making ice cream, root beer floats, contests, and games.

\* \* \* \* \*

**2018 MEMBERSHIP TO MOUNTAIN CREEK SWIM CLUB  
\$375**

WATER AEROBICS FREE TO MEMBERS

Please email: [MarshaAshby@yahoo.com](mailto:MarshaAshby@yahoo.com) to RSVP  
Call: 678-824-2108

Mountain Creek Swim Club is a family oriented swim club located at 2092 Mountain Creek Court. For more information please email [MountainCreekSwimClub@gmail.com](mailto:MountainCreekSwimClub@gmail.com) visit our Facebook page or our website at [MountainCreekSwimClub.com](http://MountainCreekSwimClub.com)

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**ANNUAL USED BOOK SALE**

Friends of Sue Kellogg/  
Stone Mountain Library

952 Leon St., Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Friday & Saturday, June 15 & 16  
9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Paperback Books - 50 cents, Hardback Books -  
\$1.00, CD's, Books on Tape priced low,  
Coffee Table Books - \$3.00 - \$5.00

Fill a Bag Day, Monday, June 18  
10:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.  
FILL A BAG FOR \$5.00

Cash, Checks or Charge.  
All proceeds fund library programs  
and scholarships.

**June Events at the Library**

**June 12 – Open Mic**

Come sing, dance, rap, play an instrument, slam poetry, or just hang out! For performers who would like accompaniment, there will be drums and percussion available for anyone and everyone to play along! You may sign up in advance to perform or on the day - although space is limited.



**June 25 - Lola Cole**

Atlanta native, Lola Cole is an artist that salutes blues, jazz, and funk music. Lola combines her Mississippi Blues roots with her Native Georgia Soul. There will also be a full, four-piece band with an upright bass. "When Ukules Attack" will be the opening act.



There is a lot going on at your local library. To learn more about the DeKalb County Library System, visit:

dekalblibrary.org. To learn more about the Tucker-Reid H. Cofer Library, go online to: dekalblibrary.org/branches/tuck. You may also want to visit a DeKalb County Library branch in person and pick up a schedule of events.



**Smoke Rise Community Garden**

The Smoke Rise Community Garden continues to grow. Beds have been constructed and planted, and crops are well on their way! One exciting development in the SRCG has been the developing relationship with Wow In-Sync, a wonderful non-profit program located in Tucker. The mission of Wow In-Sync is: "We support adults with developmental disabilities through training and mentorship so they can be empowered to pursue their passions in work and life." Eileen Stone has met with the participants of Wow In-Sync to teach them basics of planting and caring for small vegetable crops. The garden will be partnering with the group to offer a watering service for plot renters while they might be away for vacations. By offering this service, the participants are learning skills that support independence, facilitate inclusion and foster independence. In addition to offering a garden plot to Wow In-Sync, it has been decided that ALL of the SRCG food pantry beds' harvests will be donated to their culinary arts program as well! When asked what was his favorite part of being in the garden, Sean, a Wow In-Sync participant, replied "We are farmers!"

Garden beds are still available. Bed sizes are 4x8 (\$60.00/year) and 4x12 (\$90.00/year). If interested, please contact Eileen Stone at (404) 583-3091 or email garden@smokerise.org.



**In the Theatre....**

*Breath & Imagination: The Story of Roland Hayes*, A musical by Daniel Beaty runs through June 10.

Roland Hayes was the first African-American classical vocalist to achieve world fame.

The son of a Georgia slave, Hayes discovered his voice as a young boy, singing spirituals in church. This musical play chronicles his amazing journey from Georgia plantation to singing before Kings and Queens.

For show times and ticket prices, call the Box Office at (770) 469-1105 or visit artstation.org.

**Stone Mountain Women's Club**

Miriam Boone and Nelda Lunsford (Smoke Rise resident) of the GFWC Stone Mountain Woman's Club were presented with an ART Station Service Award by David Thomas, Artistic Director, and Michael Hidalgo, Producing Director, of ART Station in Stone Mountain village.

Miriam and Nelda have organized and served for numerous art receptions, worked on craft items and sales for the Tour of Southern Ghosts and created items for the live auction and organized the dessert booth at the Raising of the Green. They have worked tirelessly to promote ART Station, the local art theater and gallery.

Congratulations to Miriam and Nelda.



Michael Hidalgo, Miriam Boone, Nelda Lunsford, David Thomas



**Smoke Rise Country Club Supports the Community and Goes Back in Time**

By Heath McDaniel, Membership Director, SRCC

Smoke Rise continues to be a gathering place and hotspot for those within the broader community to come and enjoy time among friends and fellow members. During the month of April, we welcomed philanthropic groups and other charitable events for golf, social atmosphere, great food and fun! Friday, May 3, Smoke Rise went back in time with an 80's Party featuring the Band Electric Avenue the 80's MTV Experience. Members, guests and the broader community came out in force dressed in 80's wear to party under the stars! Smoke Rise continues to raise the bar, welcome the community and grow its membership. For more details about the Club and to take a tour of all it has to offer, reach hmcdaniel@smokerisecc.com or call directly at (770) 908-2582 ext. 4. The Pool is open now and there are special offers to join in all the fun throughout the year at the Smoke Rise Country Club.

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## Georgia Trust Seeks Nominations for 2019 Places in Peril

By the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation

The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation is seeking nominations for its 2019 list of "Places in Peril," an annual accounting of the state's 10 most endangered historic places. The list is designed to raise awareness about Georgia's significant historic, archaeological and cultural resources, including buildings, structures, districts, archaeological sites and cultural landscapes that are threatened by demolition, neglect, lack of maintenance, inappropriate development or insensitive public policy.

The submission deadline is Monday, June 11; the list will be announced in November.

### Criteria

Historic properties are selected for listing based on several criteria:

- Sites must be listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or the Georgia Register of Historic Places.
- Sites must be subject to a serious threat to their existence or historical, architectural and/or archaeological integrity.
- There must be a demonstrable level of community commitment and support for the preservation of listed sites.



### How to Nominate a Site

Visit GeorgiaTrust.org for a nomination form. Additional information about past "Places in Peril" sites can also be found on the website. Nominations must be postmarked or emailed no later than Monday, June 11.

Sites on previous years' lists include: Lexington Presbyterian Manse in Lexington, which was recently awarded a Georgia Trust Callahan Incentive Grant for the insulation, minor carpentry and weatherization of the first floor; Lyon Farm in Lithonia, which was given funding from DeKalb County to stabilize one of the oldest homesteads in the county; Harrington School, a historic African American school on St. Simons Island, which was recently restored; and Hancock County Courthouse in Sparta, which was rebuilt after a fire destroyed much of the interior in 2014.

### About the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation

Founded in 1973, the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation works for the preservation and revitalization of Georgia's diverse historic resources and advocates their appreciation, protection and use.

## SRCA Annual Shredding Event

The annual Smoke Rise Community Association Shredding Event held April 21 on the grounds of the elementary school, with partner EagleShred, was unprecedented in scale. There were around 20 cars in line at the time the truck arrived at 9:50 a.m. and a robust stream of vehicles that continued pretty much unabated until the truck filled two hours and 25 minutes later. The total served was estimated at 130, exceeding the previous high of about 80 last year. The destruction of the equivalent of 350 banker's boxes of documents was done at a cost to SRCA of \$300.00, but had a value of \$1,655.00. It seems likely, especially with the power of sharing information via social media, that this event has morphed from a small, manageable neighborhood service to something grander. SRCA believes the shredding event will require greater organization and more volunteers, than the historical one, to sustain it in future years. To learn more about the event, or SRCA, go online to: smokerise.org.



**More City of Tucker Updates**

The Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) passed by 70% in the November 2017 election. That approval means a one cent sales tax began in April and will continue for six years throughout DeKalb County. (The sales tax does not apply to unprepared food or prescription medicine.)

Cities in DeKalb County and the county passed what is called an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) which created a distribution formula for SPLOST funds, based on the population of each city. The tax is expected to generate \$636 million dollars in DeKalb during the next six years. It is estimated Tucker will receive more than \$31 million dollars from SPLOST generated funds during that time.

The IGA for SPLOST worked with Tucker to decide who is responsible for what. DeKalb County will remain responsible for maintenance and repairs of roadways, (like potholes). Tucker will be responsible for resurfacing and capital projects on roadways and drainage. This will be done in a very cooperative format, so that Tucker can actually track cost, successes, failures and work flow. For more SPLOST information, visit [dekalbsplost.com](http://dekalbsplost.com).

Tucker's Communication Department has its own Help Desk! The new "Citizen Responder" is a liaison between Tucker and DeKalb County to help answer questions and connect residents with services especially related to transportation, roads, drainage and waterways, and police and fire.

The IGA to help manage Police Services has put the entire city into one precinct. Also a police liaison, Lt. Shoppner, briefs the Mayor every two weeks on crime and prevention.

A Comprehensive Plan: This plan is a comprehensive summary of Tucker's aspirations for the future, and a work plan to get it done. This took a citywide input process and 18 months of work with the company CH2M to develop a final plan.

Five Goals that came out of the Comprehensive Plan:

1. Enhance Downtown Tucker: This will include considering parking, the vision of property owners, and attempting to increase the desirability of downtown. Training and developing a new Downtown Development Authority will be a part of the process.
2. Improve Transportation: An assessment of every road in Tucker was completed. Six million dollars worth of work will begin on our roads starting in the fall of 2018. There will also be an assessment of trails and connectivity.
3. Preserve and Improve Neighborhoods: The zoning commission approved modern apartments for working adults and seniors to replace worn out ones near Northlake and single family dwellings elsewhere in Tucker. Five hundred land development inspections were done, most not requiring any zoning change.
4. Strengthen Recreation and Community Resources: Several years' worth of progress have been made. The county has held up its end, completing some "heritage projects" even though the city now has the full responsibility for Parks. A culture of mutual trust and respect are behind this.
5. Bolster Economic Basis: More than 300 new business licenses in the city of Tucker were granted last year. There were also new investments through relocation from other counties and by voluntary annexations by areas like Briarcliff Village and the entire Stone Mountain CID.

These goals will develop and change over time, but will be decided upon by us as a city, not by the county. After the Comprehensive Plan, there will be new research on roads and connectivity, parks and the trails connecting them, the development of a downtown corridor and road safety. The Mayor anticipates that this research will include input from 50-75 Tucker residents.

**HEALTH NOTES:**

by Cheri Schneider, M.D.



**The Facts on Age Related Cataracts**

Our eyes are incredible pieces of God's technology! We see because images in front of us reflect light that passes through the pupil, then through the transparent lens to the back of the eye. The lens focuses the light much like a camera does. Then the cells in the back of the eye, or retina, convert the light energy into electrical energy, which is conducted along the optic nerve to the brain for interpretation. Amazing!

A cataract is a condition that affects the lens of the eye. In its healthy state, the lens which is composed mainly of water and protein, is transparent. When the crystalline protein in the lens begins to break down and clump, light refracts and diffuses instead of passing straight through to the retina. This means the image is less focused and may be cloudy. Cataracts develop very slowly, often over decades, and vision decreases slowly. During the early stages of a cataract, most people don't notice much change in their vision, because only a tiny area of the lens is affected. They might begin to see halos or starbursts around lights or headlights or need brighter light to read. Eventually, depth perception is off and color perception is distorted or yellowed. Driving in low light conditions or at night becomes difficult and dangerous. Finally, if the cataracts are allowed to progress, the entire lens becomes cloudy and blindness can result.

No one knows what causes cataracts. Many physicians consider them to be an almost "normal" process of aging- more than half of adults have them by age 80. Almost 95% of cataracts are due to aging. There is no sure way to prevent cataracts, although one study did show that those who had a high dietary intake of fruits and vegetables had fewer cataracts. Dietary supplements did not have the same effect. In fact, no vitamin or supplement, including castor oil, prevents or treats cataracts. Avoiding risk factors for cataract development may translate into prevention, though. These risk factors are worth avoiding: smoking, high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, overuse of alcohol, and sunlight exposure (wear sunglasses with 100% UVA and UVB protection!).

Other than age related cataracts—trauma to the eye (like a BB to the eye), radiation to the head and neck and chronic steroid use can cause cataracts. You can also be born with cataracts.

Initially, treatment of cataracts means using eyeglasses, a magnifying lens, and brighter light for close work and avoiding driving in dim light conditions. Later in the process, as vision declines and begins to affect daily activities, treatment of cataracts is surgical.

In the old days, surgery for cataracts meant removing the lens of the eye and then the patient wearing "coke bottle" glasses in order to see. Cataract surgery has improved drastically since that time! Now, during the minutes-long surgery, the lens is removed and an artificial lens is put in its place, usually without the need for stitches. The majority (90% or more) of patients achieve near 20/20 vision- sometimes hours after surgery! Most patients recover quickly. Patients cannot drive for 24 hours, and are instructed not to do heavy lifting or bending for a few weeks. Antibiotic and steroid drops are prescribed to prevent swelling and infection. The eye heals rapidly, and most patients are back to normal with much improved vision in two to four weeks.

Something to chew on: An interesting research study was published in 2015. In the study (on dogs and rabbits), Lanosterol, a naturally occurring steroid that seems to be missing in some patients with congenital cataracts actually dissolved cataracts. Preliminary studies in humans have not shown a similar effect with the doses used in animals. More human studies are needed. And a note: the original study was very small--- only seven dogs received Lanosterol drops. AND, the study only lasted a few months, so one knows if the cataracts reoccurred when the drops were stopped.

**Atlanta Botanical Garden 2017 Volunteer of the Year**

The 2017 Volunteer of the Year for the Atlanta Botanical Garden is Kathy Gallo. Kathy and husband, Vince, live in The Forest. Kathy began volunteering at the garden in 2009. She has made the Centennial Club (100 plus hours) every year since 2009. She has volunteered 200 or more hours in the past three years. Kathy leads tours for children's groups and volunteers for events such as the concerts, festivals, Holiday Nights, and Garden Lights. She teaches children's classes and catalogues books in the botanical library.

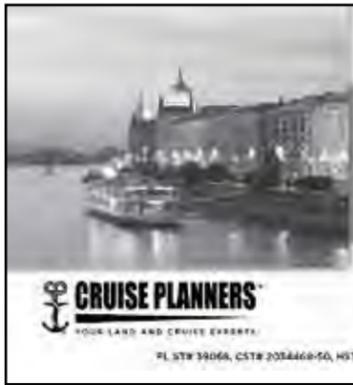
Not only does Kathy volunteer at the Garden, but she is serving as First Vice President of GFWC Stone Mountain Woman's Club in charge of all special program committees for the next two years. Congratulations to a very busy lady.

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**Stone Mountain and Tucker Rotary Clubs**

**Rotary Clubs of Tucker and Stone Mountain Celebrate Rotary Legacy and Plan for the Future**

In May, members of both the Tucker and Stone Mountain clubs travelled to Florida's Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort to attend ROTACON 2018, the annual district conference for Rotary District 6900. With touches of technology, entertainment, innovation, and opportunities to sweat and serve, ROTACON 2018 engaged Rotarians, their guests, and families for a weekend full of inspirational stories, entertaining sessions, and educational breakouts.



Many of the Stone Mountain Club past presidents came to celebrate its 53rd Annual Charter Day: (left to right) Cynthia Edwards, Harry Strack, Bill Witcher, Chris Brand, Gary Peet, Jerry Silvio, Jerry Crane, John Christopher, Bud Schooler, Bill Rosenfeld, Durl Jensen, Margie Kersey, Al Lipphardt, Mark DiGiovanni, Tracy Swearingen, Donna Jensen, Gillian Leggett (current club president).

On May 23, the Rotary Club of Stone Mountain celebrated its 53rd Annual Charter Day, hosting several of its past presidents at the weekly lunch meeting, including Smoke Rise residents Harry Strack (1980-1981), Bill Rosenfeld (2003-2004) and Al Lipphardt (1994-1995, 2012-2013). Each of the attending presidents brought their president's year books for everyone to enjoy, and Hilde Friese (wife of member Claus Friese and co-founder of Stone Mountain's Village Bakery and Restaurant) provided a custom cake to enjoy after the meeting.



Stone Mountain President-Elect and Smoke Rise resident Scott McEvoy (right) gets ready to attend one of the many educational seminars at ROTACON 2018.

The Rotary Club of Tucker held its annual golf tournament in April, with proceeds supporting the scholarships for Georgia Piedmont Technical College, Tucker Middle School and the Georgia Rotary Student Program. Summit Chase Country Club in Snellville hosted the Fourteen Foursomes who enjoyed a beautiful spring day on the green while supporting a bright future for some deserving DeKalb students.

The Stone Mountain Club meets every Tuesday for noon lunch in the fellowship hall of Stone Mountain First United Methodist Church; the Tucker Club meets the second and fourth Thursday at The Magnolia Room in Tucker. Visitors and those interested in learning more about Rotary are welcome to attend as a guest of either club. To learn more about the clubs and their upcoming programs, go to [stonemountainrotary.org](http://stonemountainrotary.org) or [tuckerrotary.org](http://tuckerrotary.org), or follow the clubs on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter.

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## Barbara DeLong and "The Sunshine Girls"

By Barbara Bruschi

In early April, there was an article in the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* describing a group of amazing girls who attended the Decatur Girls High School class of 1951 and maintained their friendships for more than 70 years. Our own Barbara DeLong is fortunate to be a member of this unique group of the original 14 ladies. The AJC article of April 11, 2018 went on to describe this group who met at the Capitol City Club to celebrate the completion of a booklet which describes the stories, photos, meetings and travels of this group of ladies dating back to their school years at DGHS. (Decatur Girls High School).

These ladies were known as "The Sunshine Girls" (TSG). They met at the Capital Club for a luncheon where one of their members had conscientiously been recording the events of their many travels and adventures over the decades. She presented each member with a booklet which included a brief biography of each girl, along with a description and photos of their monthly gatherings and travels. Some of the stories of this group of girls go back to their kindergarten days, grade school, and high school events, as well as present day activities.

The story of TSG is not a work of fiction but rather a re-creation of the lives

and times of these friends. It all started around 1951 at graduation time, when this group started out in the world with their careers, weddings, and life experiences. The group meets monthly (today eight members are still actively engaged). Those who remained in the area formed a bridge group for regular meetings. Early activities included weddings, baby showers, birthday celebrations, holiday and Christmas parties. A Sweetheart Dinner was introduced to include the husbands on a regular basis.

In 1974, one of the members invited the ladies to her beach house in Fernandina Beach, FL. This was the start of regular beach holidays that continued for more than 35 years. TSG would leave each year for this beach holiday for fun in the sun, bridge sessions, cook outs and long beach walks. Biking on the Plantation, shopping and having a drink in the bar of the Ritz Carlton, swimming and crabbing, as well as visits to the cinema were cherished activities. Each trip and event was chronologically recorded in detail for each member to recall fun events and fond memories of the past years. The travels included trips to Richmond, VA, Dallas TX, Wilmington, NC, Thomasville, GA Selma, AL, Hilton Head, SC, Asheville, NC Fort Collins,

CO Lookout Mountain, TN, New York City, Callaway Gardens, GA just to mention a few.

One of the members bought a lovely triplex on Lake Chatuge in Hiawassee, GA which became a regular visit starting in 1988 and continuing until 2002. During these lake holidays, the group was able to see the Letterman perform at the State Fair. On a trip to Callaway Gardens, TSG rented cabins, visited downtown Pine Mountain, and made a stop at the Little White House. They played lots of tennis and feasted on excellent food. One member was an excellent cook and amazed everyone with her gourmet skills. Other Christmas gatherings were held at the Terrace Gardens Inn, Druid Hills Country Club. The ladies rented a Humvee and took a trip to enjoy, "A Christmas Tour of Lights." A trip to Charleston, SC was filled with dinners on Meeting Street, walks through the French Quarter and lunch at the Lodge Alley Inn. This group also visited the Chart House, many old Churches, The Cotton Exchange, and of course Market Place.

On a trip to New York City, TSG stayed at a member's home in Ridgewood, NJ. On a side trip to USMA at West Point, the girls attended a Palm Sunday service in the academy chapel. They viewed a

film on the West point U S M A , and then on to a side trip on to Newburgh for some shopping. During this NYC trip, the ladies ventured

on to the Big Apple to see Madison Avenue, Central Park, Lunch at the "Tavern of the Green," Trump Tower, and the Plaza Hotel. On following days' visits TSG saw a Broadway show, visited St. Patrick's Cathedral, and left no stone unturned!

Like the sun warms the earth and gives us splendid sunsets, these women cultivated a friendship that grew through the years and contained all the beauty of sharing their lives with each other. There was great joy and when stormy skies darkened their lives, the bond and friendship they shared gave hope for a brighter day. The treasure that shines brighter than a diamond is the human connection we build through the years, called friendship.



The Remaining "Sunshine Girls" -- Audrey Hardin, Shirley Overstreet, Fran Lessen, Dona Ansley, Marijo Culwell, Marilu McCarthy, Nancy Dickey, Barbara DeLong

Friends enrich our lives in many ways and give us a feeling of being understood and accepted, each in our own unique way.

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## Local Student Performs at 35th Annual National Shakespeare Competition

Stone Mountain resident, Andrew Oglesby, won the regional Shakespeare competition in February at the Atlanta Shakespeare Tavern and was flown to New York City to compete at Lincoln Center in April. He recited "Sonnet 55," and performed a Duke Senior monologue from "As You Like It." He placed as a semifinalist at the 35th Annual National Shakespeare Competition on William Shakespeare's birthday while competing against 55 students from around the US on stage at the Mitzi Newhouse Theater. This event was the culmination of a year-long competition hosted by the English-Speaking Union (ESU).



Andrew Oglesby performing at Lincoln Center in New York City

Prior to arriving in New York City for the competition, Andrew wrote:

"Shakespeare represents universal and timeless storytelling that appeals to all whether it's the Lion King, an episode of Empire, or West Side Story, his influence is evident. I am most excited about spending time with people my age who appreciate the Bard. I'm eager to discover what else we have in common."

The competition brings together renowned actors and members of the theater community to judge the students' performances. Among the past competition participants who have gone on to national acclaim are actor and director Joe Sofranko, whose Hulu series Complete Works is based on the National Shakespeare Competition; actors Emily Bergl (Shameless, Desperate Housewives, Southland); Tyler Hilton (Walk the Line, One Tree Hill); Heather Lind (Demolition, Boardwalk Empire, Turn: Washington's Spies); Bronwyn Reed (Law and Order: SVU); as well as Broadway's Matt Harrington (Twelfth Night, Matilda) and Adam Wesley Brown (Once the Musical).

Andrew is a national honor society member and will graduate from The Westminster School in Atlanta where he is the lead coordinator of the Honor Council, an Eagle Scout of Troop 876 chartered out of Eastminster Presbyterian in Smoke Rise, GA, and an ardent student of Tae Kwon Do. Last year he auditioned, and was selected, to participate in the Shakespeare Intensive for Teens at the Atlanta Shakespeare Tavern where he performed after receiving a month of training from professional actors. He will enroll in Boston College in fall 2018.

English in Action provided the semi-finalists who traveled to New York from around the country with two days of educational and cultural activities, including an exclusive acting workshop by the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University faculty and a tour of The Juilliard School. Perhaps best of all for these teenagers was the opportunity to spend time with other students from across the country who share

a love of the English language and, particularly, Shakespeare.

For additional information regarding the English in Action National Shakespeare Competition, visit [www.shakespearecompetition.org](http://www.shakespearecompetition.org).

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

By Aviva Hoffmann

### Distracted Driving Law to Start July 1

Georgia governor Nathan Deal signed a hands-free distracted driving bill into law last month. House Bill 673 requires drivers to use hands-free technology when using cell phones, and other electronic devices, while driving in the state of Georgia.

The law begins July 1, when it will be illegal to hold a phone in your hand while driving in Georgia. The governor signed the bill in Statesboro, GA. It's where Georgia Southern University is located. You might remember, five nursing students from GS were killed in a highway crash near Savannah in April 2015. The truck driver found responsible for that deadly crash, John Wayne, is serving a five-year prison sentence for vehicular homicide.

As with all laws, there are particular measures - regulating behavior - which are spelled out in detail. But, also keep in mind, the law is intended to stop senseless traffic accidents and deaths - so use your common sense.

Here's a recap of specifics found in House Bill 673:

#### Actions that are prohibited

- \* Holding or supporting, with any part of the body, a wireless telecommunications device or stand-alone electronic device (for example, a phone, tablet or MP3 music player).
- \* Writing, sending or reading any text-based communication, including a text message, instant message, email or internet data while holding your device.
- \* Watching a video or movie (watching data related to the navigation of your vehicle is ok, for example a navigation app or GPS screen).
- \* Recording a video.

#### Actions that are allowed:

- \* Using hands-free technology to speak to or send a text to someone.
- \* Using a GPS system or mapping app.
- \* Wearing and using a smart watch.
- \* Using an earpiece to speak with someone on the phone.
- \* Using radios, CB radios, CB radio hybrids, commercial two-way radios, subscription-based emergency communication devices, prescribed medical devices, amateur or ham radios and "in-vehicle security, navigation or remote diagnostics" systems.



Again, the law goes into effect July 1, 2018, and offenders will face stiff fines for violating the law.

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## Mountain Shadow Garden Club Features New Book on Georgia's Historic Gardens

By Don Armstrong

"Seeking Eden: A Collection of Georgia's Historic Gardens" is the title of a new book published by University of Georgia Press which tells the stories of nearly 30 historic designed landscapes in the state. The authors are Staci L. Catron and Mary Ann Eaddy, with photography by James R. Lockhart.

On Monday evening, June 11, Ms. Catron will present a program at Mountain Shadow Garden Club (MSGC) discussing the book and the gardens it features. She is Director of the Cherokee Garden Library, Kenan Research Center at the Atlanta History Center. Co-author Mary Ann Eaddy is retired from the Historic Preservation Center of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

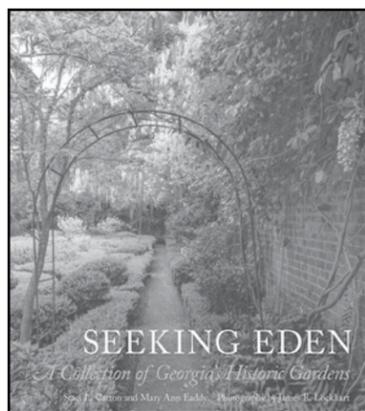
The book promotes awareness and appreciation of Georgia's rich garden history. It updates and expands information on gardens first identified in the early twentieth century publication Garden History of Georgia, 1733-1933. These publicly and privately owned gardens include nineteenth century parterres, Colonial Revival Gardens, Country Place era landscapes, rock gardens, historic town squares, college campuses, and an urban conservation garden. Seeking Eden explores the significant impact of the women who envisioned and nurtured many of these now special places and the role of well-known professional designers. It also notes the influence of the Garden Club Movement in Georgia in the early twentieth century.

Ms. Catron holds degrees from Agnes Scott College and Georgia State University and is a past president of the Southern Garden History Society. She manages the development, care, preservation, interpretation, and use of the collection comprised of more than 32,000 items currently in the Cherokee Garden Library. Her articles and essays have been published in many magazines, newsletters, journals, and books.

Copies of the new book, Seeking Eden, will be available for purchase at the MSGC program. Book proceeds will go toward the Garden Club of Georgia's Historic Landscape Preservation Grant program.

MSGC is open to men and women of all ages who enjoy learning about a diverse range of topics related to home landscapes, plants, and gardens. The meeting and program begin at 7:30 p.m. in Founders Hall, Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 5801 Hugh Howell Road, Stone Mountain. Free. Refreshments follow.

For more information and directions, contact club president Jeff Raines at (404) 641-8633.  
www.facebook.com/MtShadowGardenClub



## Smoke Rise Morning Glories Veg Out!

Well, not exactly! Our May meeting was an interesting change of pace. We visited Hall's Flower Shop and Garden Center on Memorial Drive and enjoyed a lecture and demonstration with Amy Hegwood, Horticulturist and Landscape Designer. Amy provided a number of excellent pointers on planting vegetables in containers to be enjoyed and harvested from our sunny patios and courtyards. As she noted, the key to success with this type of gardening is to use the correct soil, the right size container, regular fertilization, consistent watering, and lots of sunshine.

One key tip was to line the container with old cardboard along the sides and plant in a plastic bag with holes cut for drainage. It helps retain moisture but still allows for the water to pass through. She suggested planting tomatoes, beans, okra, peppers, and even cucumbers with this method. Amy noted that she uses trellises to support the growing plants. She advised us to use companion herbs for extra flavor and enjoyment in cooking and to aid in pollination of the plants. One fun suggestion was to use sweet gum balls as mulch under your plants in the containers to deter the squirrels!

Planting in containers placed in a sunny place near your home will also be a deer deterrent, as they are less likely to graze so close to your home. As we know, deer are always an issue with vegetable gardening in our community. Amy demonstrated a wide variety of tomatoes to try with this method. She recommended cutting off half the lower branches of the tomato and planting it deep within the container or even sideways in the container, covering the cut portions of the stem with soil. The cut portions will become a new and stronger root system to support the plant and its fruit.

President Bonnie Pennington noted that the Morning Glories won a variety of awards at the DeKalb Federation Awards ceremony, including First Place for members' Year Book and for the Community Service Award. Additional awards were won at the Garden Club of GA, Inc. convention in Macon this April.

Thanks to hostesses Melodie Janin, Judi Crutchfield, Nancy Hudgins and Cookie Roland. Congratulations to Carolyn Woodson who won the raffle of a \$30.00 gift certificate to Hall's Flower Shop.



Hall's Flower Shop Amy Hegwood with container materials at May meeting

## Smoke Rise Garden Club News

April proved to be a very busy month for Smoke Rise Garden Club. The Club met at the home of Paula Adeoba McEvoy with Denise Finley and Edith Morton serving as co-hostesses on April 2. Dawn Hines, Master Gardener was the guest speaker. The topic was "50 shades of Green." Dawn is an inspiring speaker, and she showed examples of the wide variety of gardens from "fairy to farm" to spark members' creativity for the planting season.



Denise Finley

Club president, Denise Finley, attended the Annual Garden Club of Georgia Conference where it was announced the club's Youth Club at Montgomery Elementary won five awards (including cash prizes). The club is proud of the children's successes! Congratulations to Youth Coordinator, Ann Weisz, and the children!

The annual Plant Sale was held at Smoke Rise Baptist Church and sold out in four hours! The flower planter at Fire Station No. 5 in Tucker has been prepared for summer with Whopper Begonias and Bacocopia. Then to top it off, at the Dekalb Federation of Garden Clubs Awards luncheon on April 26, the club was awarded nine certificates including a first-time ever awarded crystal trophy for the Berna Spencer Horticulture in a Public Space award. It was a touching and special honor for the work done at the Fire station.

The Club went on a field trip May 19 to SunTreader Farm in Conyers, to enjoy the trails. Master Gardener, Eveline Smith, attended and described the native plants of farmland undisturbed for more than 100 years.

Smoke Rise Garden Club is a member of DeKalb Federation of Garden Clubs which is a member of the Garden Club of Georgia, Redbud District. GCG is a member of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Club members are celebrating their 50th Anniversary in Smoke Rise.

## Mountain Mums and Monarchs for May Meeting

"April showers bring May flowers" along with butterflies! Metamorphosis, migration and Monarchs made for a marvelous program for the May meeting of the Mountain Mums Garden Club. Lisa Armistead, club member opened her home May 9 to a flutter of Mums. Lunch was provided by Lisa along with co-hostesses Heather McLendon and Mary Lou Still. A butterfly/bird themed Mother's Day gift from member Rene' Boven was raffled off.

Susan Meyers presented a moving program on Monarchs. Susan, an environmental educator, is on the board of Monarchs Across Georgia and participates in several other Monarch organizations and projects. Her program included hands-on experiences and hand-outs. As a Monarch Watch Conservation Specialist, she is "planting the seeds" of awareness, understanding and commitment to Monarch education, conservation and research.

The Mums particularly enjoyed the pupas (chrysalis) that Susan brought to show for one of the Monarchs' life cycles. She explained the different life cycles and focused on habitat and the importance of restoring native landscapes. Monarchs need native milkweed species for the caterpillars and nectar-producing native plants for the adults.

Monarch loving Mums would love to have you join! Please contact membership director, Debbie Jones at (678) 381-1648 for information. The group meets at 9:45 a.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, August through May. Also, for more info on club activities and programs, see the Facebook page "Mountain Mums Garden Club."



Mums' May Meeting: Lisa Armistead, Susan Meyers (speaker), Mary Lou Still, Heather McLendon, Rene' Boven

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For information on display (box) advertisements or flyer inserts, see contact information on page 2.

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# HODGE PODGE



from the *Smoke Signal* staff

Now that the weather is heating up, everyone and his brother wants to go on a picnic. This month, while Jenny Busch takes a break, the *Smoke Signal* Staff decided to send their favorite picnic recipes in to help you out!

Instead of plain ole watermelon slices, how about something just as refreshing, and a little more guest friendly? You can add blueberries and arugula and basil instead of mint if you want to vary the recipe.

### Watermelon Mint Feta Salad

12 cups cubed seedless watermelon  
1 ½ cups crumbled feta cheese  
1 cup of fresh mint leaves/chopped  
3 limes, juiced and strained  
¼ c olive oil  
1 ½ tsp salt, 1 tsp black pepper

Mix olive oil, lime juice, salt and pepper together. Toss with watermelon, mint leaves and blueberries if you like. Add feta and toss when you guests arrive. This salad should not be made too far ahead as the salty ingredients makes the watermelon "sweat."

*This is super easy and different than coleslaw with mayo.*

### Asian Cole Slaw

6 large scallions, trimmed and sliced  
¼ cup soy sauce  
2 bags of coleslaw w or without carrots  
¼ cup rice wine vinegar or lemon juice  
1 small red onion, sliced thin  
¼ cup canola oil plus 1 Tbsp. sesame oil  
2 Tbsp. Grated fresh ginger  
Chow Mein noodles (optional)  
Sliced almonds (optional)

Mix coleslaw, onion and scallions with tongs. Mix soy sauce, vinegar, oil and ginger together. Pour over slaw and toss. Add Chow Mein noodles and almonds before serving. Many people like the crunch of the almonds and noodles.

*This BBQ Sauce is awesome! It goes well on pork, beef, chicken or salmon, so use your imagination!! Most of the time you can marinate the meat 30 min before grilling and brush on the extras during cooking. Make extra and freeze for a rainy day.*

### BBQ Sauce

1 ½ cups brown sugar  
1 ½ cups ketchup  
½ cup red wine vinegar  
½ cup water  
1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce  
2 ½ Tbsp. dry mustard  
2 tsp paprika  
2 tsp salt  
1 ½ tsp black pepper  
2 dashes hot pepper sauce (or more if you like it "hot")

In a blender, combine brown sugar, ketchup, vinegar, water and Worcestershire sauce. Season with mustard, paprika, salt, pepper, and hot pepper sauce. Blend until smooth. This should fill a 32 ounce ketchup bottle exactly. Reduce the brown sugar to make it less sweet, or add more Worcestershire for more "steak sauce" appeal.

*For those watching calories! This dessert is a great one to take to a picnic! It is cool, chocolaty and can be as sugar free as you like! This is very forgiving!*

### Graham Cracker Boston Crème Pie Dessert

2 small pkgs. instant regular or sugar free vanilla cream pudding  
1 carton (8 oz.) cool whip, can be fat free or regular, or even home made  
3 cups cold milk (skim)  
1 box honey graham crackers  
1 can pre-made chocolate or fudge frosting

Begin recipe by mixing pudding and milk on low with beaters. Fold cool whip in until incorporated. Line a 13x9 pan with graham crackers. Break a few if you need to make it fit. Spread half of the pudding mix with a spatula. Put another layer of graham crackers over the pudding. Spread the second half of the pudding over this layer of graham crackers. Finish with another layer of graham crackers. Take the chocolate frosting and heat in the microwave for 30 seconds at a time until it is runny. Pour over the final cracker layer. Cover. Put the dessert in the fridge for 3 or more hours or overnight. Take to the picnic in the pan.

The purpose of the *Smoke Signal* classifieds is to advertise goods and services to the community.

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