

# SMOKE SIGNAL

VOLUME 53, ISSUE 4

*Serving the Smoke Rise Community since 1968*

July, 2020

www.smokesignalnews.com

## Look inside for...

- What's it Like to Eat out?..... pg 2
- Graves in Smoke Rise? ..... pg 7
- Have you found a little treasure? ..... pg 8
- What's Buzzing Around on Hugh Howell?... pg 11



Happy 4<sup>TH</sup> of July  
from the Smoke Signal staff!

## 4th of July Nostalgia and Resurgence

by Barbara Bruschi

The 4th of July is America's revered and cherished holiday. It means life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all those that seek to live in freedom. They come to these shores to find a better life. Countries evolve with time, and challenges are an inevitable consequence. The importance is unity, revival and finding solutions to be the best one can be.

The United States commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence from England on the 4th of July 1776. Commencing on this day, America was no longer subordinated to England and the rule of King George III. Freedom for the 13 colonies was hailed and unification celebrated with fan-fare. Parades, fairs, carnivals, barbecues, baseball, speeches and ceremonies graced this sublimely happy day. Freedom is what propels the human spirit to create, innovate and reach beyond what is possible.

Looking back 48 years, I remember all the wonderful times we have experienced in our beloved Smoke Rise community. The days when our children dressed up like Betsy Ross and the parade was a work of art. Fortunately Mountain Creek has maintained this tradition through most years in a smaller version.

Many neighbors congregated at the pool where volunteers put together fun in the sun. To this day there are activities at the Mountain Creek Swim Club and other Smoke Rise swim clubs. At night we would gather at the end of the street and watch the fireworks together. At times our gourmet club presented a delicious cook-out. Looking back, some of our beloved friends are no longer with us. The one tragedy in older age is that we lose life-long friends that have enriched our lives so much.

A group of private investors who share a deep love for the community, called Smoke Rise Golf and Country Club into life. This is truly a place where kindness and camaraderie are exemplary. Everybody has a special place there and many friendships have blossomed. I can highly recommend this club for all the joy and wonderful events we have experienced there throughout the year. Smoke Rise appreciates your help in keeping the tradition of shared moments together. There are events open to the public - just search their website.

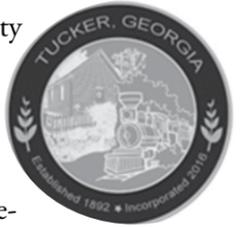
Some of the same spirit still exists in Smoke Rise today. It is the love and respect we have for each other that creates a great atmosphere. This commitment keeps the fire of civility and caring for one another alive. It provides us with joy and anticipation for a new tomorrow.

We are indebted to the United States Services Military that keeps our way of life and freedom alive by guarding the principles and values of the USA in times of peace and war. Our gratitude to all the men and women who are acting in a heroic way to preserve our health and well-being in times of Covid-19.

May this 4th of July be a reminder of what we hold sacred as a nation, where so many gave so much through our history to keep the torch of liberty burning. It is our resilience, hard work and optimism to obtain the American Dream that triumphs in the end.

## City Council Wrap Up

Tucker's Mayor and City Council met on June 8, 2020, voting unanimously to adopt a balanced budget for Fiscal Year '21. The \$14 million budget was created with a forecast 20 percent drop in revenue as a result of the impact of coronavirus on Tucker businesses. The new fiscal year begins on July 1. Action was taken on three other issues, including:



- Approval of a resolution to accept a \$50,000 matching grant from the Department of Natural Resources for trail improvements in Tucker parks
- Awarding the contract for construction of a new pavilion at Smoke Rise Pool to JOC Construction for \$70,036.
- Awarding the contract for sidewalk design on Old Norcross Road to Gaskins Surveying Company for \$59,500.

Council held a public hearing on a special land use permit (SLUP) for a minor auto repair facility at 3145 Tucker Norcross Road. This issue was only up for a first read, meaning no action was taken and a second public hearing and final vote will happen at an upcoming meeting. They also held a first read and discussion on an ordinance to amend the City Code regarding disorderly conduct. As with the SLUP petition, a vote is anticipated at a future meeting.

At the beginning of the meeting, the Mayor and Council unanimously passed a resolution on Social Injustice, urging the Georgia legislature and leaders in Congress to pass hate crimes legislation.



## SRCA Report by Michael Huerkamp, President

Although the times have forced change, your SRCA board remains at work. We adapted and had our first Zoom meeting in May. In the category of "your dues remain at work," under the leadership of Lyle Collins, we are working with Visionscapes to maintain landscaping

and certain greenspaces at our most prominent stacks. As the beehives hum, Eileen Stone, volunteers, growers, and tillers have the community garden going gangbusters.

In light of the continued public emergency in Georgia extended into July, the summer heat, and the vulnerability to COVID-19, due to age of most of our volunteers, there are no plans to reschedule

the shredding event any time soon. We regret disappointing our members who have counted on this service.

It was unfortunate the emergent pandemic caused the cancelation/postponement of the March annual public membership meeting as we had several exciting and unprecedented developments to unveil. The most momentous one, exceeded only by our

formation in 1971, was that the Smoke Rise Community Association was dissolved and reconstituted as the Smoke Rise Civic Association, now recognized as a public charity by the IRS. That means that the full amount of dues to SRCA, now donations, in 2020 were and are tax deductible. The SRCA board was notified of this on February 7, 2020,



but the change was retroactive to October 26, 2018. We will roll out additional information soon and acknowledge the dedication, leadership, and hard work of Lisa Khemani in enabling this change.



## Smoke Signal

P.O. Box 763, Tucker, GA 30085  
 A non-profit service organization devoted to furthering neighborhood cooperation with the aid of good neighborhood communication.

Editorial Committee... \*Jan Mahoney.....(470) 545-0248  
 Cheri Schneider .....(770) 717-9914  
 AvivA Hoffmann ..... helloaviva@hotmail.com  
 \* This Issue's Editor-in-Chief

Recording Secretary .....Susan Gilbert .....sgilbert@apogee.net  
 Corresponding Secretary ..Barbara Bruschi.....(770) 934-4644  
 Treasurer.....Harry Strack .....(770) 365-9381  
 Classified Ads.....Harry Strack .....(770) 365-9381  
 Display Ads.....Harry Strack .....(770) 365-9381  
 Church News.....Susan Gilbert .....sgilbert@apogee.net  
 Health News.....Cheri Schneider, M.D. ....(770) 717-9914  
 Flyer Inserts .....Barbara Luton.....(770) 491-6711  
 Recipes and Home.....Joyce Ray .....(770) 491-9015  
 Social Media .....Pat Soltys .....(770) 573-9715  
 News You Can Use.....AvivA Hoffmann ..... helloaviva@hotmail.com  
 Staff Writers.....Rene Boven.....(770) 905-5404  
 Joel Gilbert .....  
 Susan Gilbert.....(404) 312-8328  
 Joyce Ray.....(770) 491-9015  
 Pat Soltys.....(770) 573-9715  
 Barbara Bruschi .....(770) 934-4644  
 Distribution .....Laura Smith.....(770) 934-7595  
 Delivery .....Morgan Taylor and Charlie Smith

*Views and/or opinions expressed in articles, stories or letters published in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the Smoke Signal or its staff. The information contained in it is believed to be accurate, but not warranted in any way. It is the policy of the Smoke Signal to publish signed letters to the Editor. We will not publish unsigned letters, but will withhold the writer's name upon request. All content may be edited.*



## EATING OUT? Here's an Idea by Cheri Schneider

In this world of quarantine and moving indoors away from others, how safe is it to start to get out and about again? Are you considering eating out for the first time? Recently, I decided to inaugurate my stepping out into public by going to Los Hermanos in Tucker. I did not know what to expect. I only knew that Tucker had published some rules that the restaurants were to follow. My only rule was that if it did not look safe, I would leave.

When I arrived, with my mask on, I was seated at a table that was surrounded by - two empty tables. Most of the other tables in the place were well away from each other. All of the wait-staff were wearing masks. My party (of six) was given paper 'to-go' menus - printed in a very tiny font size, I might add. I think the idea is that paper menus would eliminate reusable menus that others had handled. There were more baskets of chips than usual, I suppose so that there would not be too much communal sharing in one basket. Our food came on regular plates, but we were given plastic utensils. All drinks came in to-go cups with lids, including the wine my friend ordered. I guessed that plastic plates would not hold the huge portions they serve. Oh, by the way, my buddies and I removed our masks after we were seated. The nearest table was quite removed from us, so we felt safe.

In all, I enjoyed my time out at a real restaurant. It was a pleasant change. However, I do see that this could be a problem if the general public and the restaurants they visit are not being as careful as my favorite Mexican restaurant is being. I traveled recently and noted that other states are not always wearing masks and

...continued on page 4

## Smoke Rise Baptist Church

Dr. Chris George: Senior Pastor  
 Bart McNeil: Associate Pastor  
 Becky Caswell-Speight:  
 Minister of Families, Faith Formation and Connection  
 Jeremy Colliver: Minister of Youth, Mission and Communication  
 Danny Vancil: Minister of Music and Worship  
 Amanda Coe Burton: Ministry Director for Children and Families  
 Harrison Litzell: Co-Director of the Weekday School  
 Stacey McNeil: Co-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  
 Office Coordinator ~ Christina Wetzel-Sizemore  
 Director of Weekday Ministries ~ Celeste Sears  
 Director of Respite Care Center ~ Helen Wilborn  
 Financial Coordinator ~ Jan Zabarac  
 Organist ~ Carole Mitchell  
 Choir Director ~ Anthony Rimore  
 Ministerial Intern ~ Anne Gallaher

5801 Hugh Howell Road ~ Stone Mountain, GA 30087  
 770-469-4881 ~ www.eastminster.us

Respite Care Center Hours: Loving care for your Senior Adult  
 10 a.m. - 3p.m. Wednesday

Sundays:  
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages  
 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary - nursery is provided  
 Communion: First Sunday of the month

Wednesdays:  
 5:45 p.m. Join us for dinner and fellowship  
 \$8 per adult & \$20 for families  
 (reservation are required by Monday of each week)

6:30 p.m. Program  
 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

## MC3 Church

Senior Minister: Art Stansberry  
 Worship Minister: Leslie Riley  
 Student Minister: Will Tyler  
 Children's Minister: Rae Tyler Caggiola  
 Telephone (770) 783-1035  
 www.mc3.life

Sunday Worship at Parkview High School Auditorium  
 9:30 a.m. Coffee and donuts; adult and student c-groups;  
 nursery and Sunday school for infants to 5th graders.  
 10:30 am. Worship service  
 C-groups throughout the week at various homes -- check out our website for more times and addresses

Business Address and Hours:

1316 Rockbridge Rd, Suite M  
 Stone Mountain, GA 30087  
 Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Mailing Address: 1227 Rockbridge Rd., SW, STE 208-251  
 Stone Mountain, GA 30087

## First Moravian Church

Pastor: Rev. Elroy Christopher  
 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 Moravian Church sanctuary  
 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: Sundays: 9:00am / 11:00am / 1:00pm



## DID YOUR PAPER GET WET?

EXTRA COPIES OF THE  
 SMOKE SIGNAL  
 ARE NOW AVAILBLE  
 AT THE  
 COMMUNITY GARDEN  
 Look for the wooden box  
 labeled *Smoke Signal*.

(They are no longer  
 available on Smoke Rise Drive.)

## BRING A BOOK TAKE A BOOK

Don't forget to  
 check out the Little  
 Libraries  
 that  
 have  
 popped  
 up near  
 the  
 swim  
 clubs.



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).

## Smoke Signal Deadlines

### JULY 13

Please e-mail articles to:

[staff@smokesignalnews.com](mailto: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 JULY 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.

"Like" us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/SmokeSignalNews](http://www.facebook.com/SmokeSignalNews)  
 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!



**Jonathan Michael Schneider** graduated from the Auburn College of Architecture, Design and Construction. He completed the five-year program in Architecture in May, graduating Summa Cum Laude. The College of Architecture will have their graduation ceremony in August, due to the coronavirus situation. Jonathan is in the process of finding a position in an architecture firm.



Jonathan is the son of Drs. Michael and Cheri Schneider of Millstone.

**Christopher Eann Schneider** graduated from Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee, in the field of Civil Engineering. His school graduated in a virtual ceremony. Chris now lives in Nashville and is employed by the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

Christopher is the son of Drs. Michael and Cheri Schneider of Millstone.



**A Surprise Celebration of the Graduation for Tyler Comer**



Mountain Lane, of the Mountain Creek Subdivision, celebrated the graduation of Tyler A. Comer from law school. Balloons graced each mailbox, horns sounded and bubbles floated in the air to honor Tyler on this momentous day. An artistic Card-My-Yard display by Liz and a large caravan of family, friends and neighbors saluting the graduate made the day unforgettable. Social distancing was the order of the day.

A bright, beautiful young lady full of inspiration had earned a Juris Doctor through hard work, diligence and determination. Proud parents were looking on. They will cherish and remember this celebration of their daughter's accomplishments forever.

Tyler received her juris doctorate law degree from Mitchell Hamline School of Law in St. Paul, MN. Tyler is a graduate of Smoke Rise Elementary School, Tucker Middle School, and Tucker High School where she graduated with honors and was crowned Homecoming Queen. She received a B.A. in Political Science from Hampton University in VA, graduating with honors. Tyler then graduated with honors from North Carolina Central University in Durham where she earned a Master's in Public Administration.

Special thanks to the honorable Linda Haynes (Smoke Rise resident) for hooding Tyler. Photographer Kimberly Frantz (resident of Smoke Rise) and Liz McKenna "Of Card My Yard."

Although the class of 2020 did not have the privilege of participating in a formal graduation ceremony, the spirit of a successful academic career carried the day in a most happy way.

**Miles Armstrong** is graduating with distinction from Arabia Mountain High School Engineering Academy. He is a member of the National Honor Society, National Beta Club, Tech Honor Society, TSA and VEX Robotics Club. Miles also won second place two years in a row for the State of Georgia, Technology Student Association (TSA), Video Game Design Competition which qualified him for National TSA Competitions. He will be attending Florida A&M University this fall pursuing a dual degree in Business Administration and Information Technology Systems.



Miles is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Armstrong of Smoke Rise, GA.

**Stephen Michael Gilbert**, son of Joel and Susan Gilbert



of Kanawha, has graduated Summa Cum Laude with his Bachelor's Degree in computer science from Georgia State University. For the summer, he is interning as a developer in his parent's Tucker-based software company, Apogee Interactive, Inc., and plans to return to school in the fall to complete his Master's Degree.

**ATTENTION GRADS AND BRIDES**

Please send in your pictures and a brief article for publication in the *Smoke Signal*.

Email submissions to [staff@smokesignalnews.com](mailto:staff@smokesignalnews.com)

**LAW OFFICE OF PEATSA C. WALLACE LLC**

Estate Planning, Wills, Trusts, Powers of Attorney  
Health Directives, Probate & Administration  
Business Formations/Contracts, Tax Law,  
Domestic Partnership Agreements & Dissolutions

**SENIOR DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE**



*"Have briefcase, will travel"  
- She will come to you!*

Over 36 years experience  
Tucker Resident

Office: 2345 Main Street, Tucker  
770.938.3919 or 678.570.8543  
[peatsawallace@bellsouth.net](mailto:peatsawallace@bellsouth.net)



**German Auto Specialist**

**Specializing In**

- Brakes, Tires, Alignments**
- Check Engine Light and Diagnostics**
- Coolant, Power Steering, Transmission, and Break Flush**
- Heating and Air Conditioning System Service**
- Routine Maintenance and Service**
- Major Engine and Transmission Repairs**
- All Electrical Trouble Shooting**
- Emission Repairs**












**15% OFF**

- Seniors
- Military Active Duty and Veterans
- First Responders and Educators

\*ask for details

**Call for Seasonal Specials**

**770-496-0890**

4633 Hugh Howell Road • Tucker, Georgia 30084

[www.mvppgermanauto.com](http://www.mvppgermanauto.com)



**Have No Fear, hoopla is Here!**

DCPL is proud to introduce a new digital resource for patrons! hoopla is a digital resource that provides online and mobile access to eBooks, audiobooks, comics, music, movies and TV. Library card holders can access titles instantly through their desktop browser or the hoopla app. hoopla is available for iOS, Android, Amazon Fire, Roku, AppleTV, AndroidTV, FireTV and Chromecast. There are also no wait periods for titles. Items are limited to five checkouts a month. For more information visit: <https://www.hoopladigital.com/>



The Stone Mountain Public Library renovation is proceeding well. New walls are going in, and new window frames and windows will be arriving soon.

Electrical trenches have been dug, and the roof has been repaired. There is no reopening date as of yet, but progress is being made in terms of the construction.

**Lineup Announced for Modified TKR Summer of Fun**

*by Matt Holmes, Director of Communications and Administrative Services*

With the coronavirus pandemic still very much a concern, the City of Tucker has announced a modified lineup for its third annual TKR Summer of Fun. The Summer of Fun will begin on July 3 with the city’s annual Celebration of Independence and Fireworks Spectacular. The concert and fireworks show, which has drawn thousands of attendees in the past, will be virtual this year due to the need to avoid large gatherings.

“What we’ve seen in the past is a beautiful convergence of neighbors on Tucker’s Main Street as we pay homage to our nation’s founding,” said City Manager Tami Hanlin. “This year, we’re going to ask people to stay home and watch the concert and fireworks as we stream live across our digital platforms. It will be different, but an important step in continuing to flatten the curve. We look forward to getting everyone back out on Main Street in 2021.”

The Summer of Fun continues on August 4 with a community picnic at the Lake Erin pavilion at Henderson Park to honor Tucker’s volunteers. The city’s annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was scheduled for May 7 but had to be postponed due to the coronavirus. This picnic will be a free, socially distant meal for anyone who wants to attend.

“It was important to us to be able to say thanks to the people who make this all possible: our volunteers,” said Mayor Frank Auman. “I know the community will come and say thanks, while keeping their distance in a responsible fashion.”

**Mountain Creek Swim Club**

Mountain Creek Swim Club is an established members-only neighborhood pool. You’ll find fun for family members of all ages nestled between the trees, providing a peaceful retreat for those sweltering Georgia summer days. Our opening date is still TBD, but the goal is mid-June. We are currently accepting membership applications. Please check our website and Facebook page for updates, forms and additional club information. [www.mountaincreekswimclub.com](http://www.mountaincreekswimclub.com), 2092 Mountain Creek Court Membership Phone – 678-824-2108, Pool Phone – 470-210-5702

**Summer Programs at Tucker Rec**

*by Matt Holmes, Director of Communications and Administrative Services*

There’s going to be a little something for everyone in the summer programming provided by Tucker’s Parks and Recreation Department. The department announced Wednesday a schedule of events to begin June 1, which will provide offerings for kids age four all the way up to adults.

“While we weren’t able to do a traditional summer camp this year, we think the diverse programming we’re offering will be a big hit with kids and their parents,” said Recreation Leader Crystal Dawson. “We have everything from half-hour yoga classes all the way up through four-hour half day activities. We can’t wait to get started with our participants.”

The activities will take place at parks throughout the City. They include:

- Youth and adult yoga classes (Kelley Cofer Park)
- Youth and family theater classes (Kelley Cofer Park)
- Kids recreation time (Various sites)
- STEM and creativity time (Tucker Nature Preserve)
- Youth and adult sports (Fitzgerald Field)

Registration for these activities is online at [www.tuckerga.gov/parks](http://www.tuckerga.gov/parks). Families who previously registered for the anticipated summer day camp can email [parks@tuckerga.gov](mailto:parks@tuckerga.gov) for a refund of their deposit or have the deposit applied to the cost of a summer activity.

**Eating Out...continued from page 2**

business was ‘as usual’. I hope this does not happen in Tucker any time soon.

Tucker released a new web application in May that will help residents ‘sort through the various levels of service being offered by restaurants during the coronavirus pandemic’.

According to [Tuckerga.gov](http://Tuckerga.gov): “The app features a list of all restaurants grouped by their level of service, as well as an interactive map, where users can zoom in and select businesses in a certain area. Each entry provides links to the specific restaurant’s website. I am somewhat technically challenged, so I decided to try it out. First, I was ignorant enough to think it was an app you buy in the app store. It wasn’t. Then I googled the following web address that I found in the story on [Tuckerga.gov](http://Tuckerga.gov) website:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/e369de25056e49f396ee42f08527264e>

Crazy long!! It seems like it would be simpler to find, but it is called *Tucker is open for Business*. First, you can either scroll through the food categories and find a restaurant you like the looks of, or type in your favorite restaurant. Then you can click on the restaurant’s website, and find all the information you like, including menus and pictures of food. You can also find a restaurant by clicking on the map of Tucker. Find the name of the restaurant you are interested in and click on the name. Up will pop a box with pertinent information: hours, dine in or to-go only, and more. It is a nifty little app and one that I will use in the next weeks and months as I decide whether to eat at home or find something else from a favorite Tucker restaurant. Hopefully it will be kept updated, as restaurants change their plans.



For over three decades, **Blankenship Family Dentistry** has been treating the Smoke Rise Community with a personal touch.

You will feel comfortable with our father-daughter team that offers an abundance of dental talent, in a judgement-free environment.

Call to make your appointment today.  
**770.879.0732**

## Tucker Pools are Open

by Matt Holmes,  
Director of Communications  
and Administrative Services

With safety at the forefront of their planning, the City of Tucker pools are open for the summer season. Kelley Cofer Park pool and, for the first time as a public pool, Smoke Rise Bath & Racquet Club will be open for swim starting at 11 a.m.

The City's Parks and Recreation Department is taking exact measures to ensure social distancing for pool users. Swimmers will have to register for a specific two-and-a-half-hour time period each day. Deck chairs will be spaced out at least six feet apart. There will be 30-minute periods every three hours where all chairs, common touch areas and bathroom facilities will be sanitized between swim sessions.

"Our staff has done a lot of study and a lot of research on how best to accomplish the goal of safely opening these pools," said Parks and Recreation Director Rip Robertson. "We think that this swim season, while different in many ways from any before, will be our best yet."

The City of Tucker assumed responsibility for Kelley Cofer Park pool from DeKalb County in 2018. Tucker acquired the privately-owned Smoke Rise Bath & Racquet Club, located at 2088 Glacier Drive, earlier this year. Both pools will be open six days a week, with Cofer closed for maintenance on Tuesdays and Smoke Rise closed for maintenance on Wednesdays.

### COFER POOL

Wednesday – Monday  
11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

### SMOKE RISE POOL

Thursday – Tuesday  
11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

### DAILY SWIM SESSIONS

11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
2 – 4:30 p.m.  
5 – 7:30 p.m.

For info: [www.tuckerga.gov/parks](http://www.tuckerga.gov/parks).



City of Tucker's Director of Parks and Recreation, Rip Robertson and City Manager, Tami Hanlin welcome all to the City of Tucker's new recreation facility, the Smoke Rise Bath and Racquet Club pool.

## SUMMIT POOL - Pool Hours (Opened June 13, 2020)

Sunday - Thursday 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

6 a.m. - 1 p.m.

No Lifeguard on Duty

-- Swim At Your Own Risk --

Lifeguard and pool monitor will not be present. Swimmers will be responsible for their own safety and social distancing.

1 p.m. - 8/9 p.m.

Lifeguard & Pool Monitor on Duty  
Between PM swim sessions lifeguard and pool monitor will sanitize contact surfaces, pool furniture and bathrooms.

Members must reserve time online.  
No walk-ins.

Our daily swim sessions are listed below:

Adult (18 y.o.+) Swim Session (2 hr. max)  
6 -10 a.m.

Family Swim Session 1  
10 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Family Swim Session 2  
1-3:15 p.m.

Family Swim Session 3  
3:30-5:45 p.m.

Family Swim Session 4  
6-8/9 p.m.

Phone: 419-506-0559

Email: [info@smokerisesummit.com](mailto:info@smokerisesummit.com)

## Good News for Our Local Country Club

Susan Gilbert,  
Smoke Rise Country Club's Board of Directors

When the pandemic struck, I feared the worst for Smoke Rise Country Club, where I have served on the Board of Directors for more than ten years. Over my term, we have had our struggles, but always seemed to figure out how to keep this magnificent 175-acres of manicured community recreation area going. But this was different. If people can't dine together, or gather for a round of golf or tennis match, or a game of trivia or cards, how can we possibly keep the payroll going and pay the bills? Maybe this would be the challenge we finally could not overcome.



Susan Gilbert

Not so fast! Because my property overlooks the golf course, one day after the "shelter in place" order came out, I noticed that there seemed to be even more golfers than usual, not less. I started counting and couldn't believe what I was seeing...a constant stream of golf carts from the time the course opened until dusk. This was unusual, so I called the Club manager to see what was going on. Was there some big golf event being held? No, he said, most of the other courses in the area chose to close, while we were among the courses that figured out social distancing and golf can coexist. So, we were getting much more play from non-members through outlets such as Golf Now. This, of course, helped bring in much needed revenue to offset other pandemic-driven losses.

We were also thrilled to receive Payroll Protection Plan funding from the Small Business Administration. This allowed the staff to continue receiving paychecks even during the 10 weeks we could not fully open our dining facilities. Even then, providing To-Go dinners for members and non-members has helped, and many in the community have supported the Club by ordering their Wednesday and Friday family meals from the Club.

The opening of the olympic salt-water pool and its four surrounding pools (kiddie, slide, hot tub, and waterfall cool pool) – with careful social distancing measures – brought another pleasant surprise: A surge in new memberships! Apparently, just like with the gift from golf, many other pools in the area are not opening, so Smoke Rise has something lots of people want: a place to get out of the house, cool off, get some exercise, and meet neighbors.

Thanks to devoted players and instructors, the tennis program has done well even though ALTA canceled its spring season, and our tennis pros are offering summer programs for kids and adults. As for dining, anyone who hasn't been here in a while will be pleasantly surprised with the menus, quality of the meals, and service from the staff. And dining down at the pool cafe is a great way of getting outdoors.

All good news for the Club, I am relieved and happy to report. If you have ever considered it, now is a great time to join while initiation fees are equivalent to only one month's dues! Social and dining dues are under \$100/month, and other membership levels are available for pool/gym, tennis, and golf. Heath McDaniel is the Membership Director (770-908-2582 ext.4) and he is happy to give tours and provide more detail.

**WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER**  
THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS AND THE SMOKE RISE COMMUNITY FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT AND SAFE PRACTICES

**BECOME A MEMBER FOR A DAY TO EXPERIENCE MEMBERSHIP**

CONTACT HEATH MCDANIEL, MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR, 770.908.2582 EXT. 4  
4900 CHEDWORTH DRIVE | [SMOKERISECC.COM](http://SMOKERISECC.COM)

**TrueWay  
Renovations**  
Don Trueblood  
404-386-9291 | [dontrueblood@gmail.com](mailto:dontrueblood@gmail.com)  
[www.truewayrenovations.com](http://www.truewayrenovations.com)  
Call now! FREE estimates

**FODAC Reopens to the Public**

Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (FODAC) thrift store and offices have opened to the public by appointment only from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday -Thursday. The organization is observing COVID-19 safety procedures by requiring all staff and visitors to wear protective masks while maintaining at least six feet of distance.

Home medical equipment can be dropped off at the building's loading dock in the back from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Clients in need of medical equipment can call 770-491-9014 to schedule an appointment.



Lizzie Terrone (Smoke Rise resident), Rebecca Lisska (Smoke Rise resident), Priscilla McDowell (Smoke Rise resident), Sharon Matheny

**GFWC Stone Mountain Woman's Club Night Guild Project**

Members of the GFWC Stone Mountain Woman's Club made 125 greeting cards for Operation Gratitude, a nonprofit that supports military and front-line responders. The decorated cards will be provided to deployed troops and responders to use to send a message to their loved ones. Each handmade card has a sticker on the back that says "Made with love by the GFWC Stone Mountain Woman's Club" to let the recipients know that we are thinking about them and appreciate what they do to help our country. More information about Operation Gratitude can be found here: <https://www.operationgratitude.com/>

**Projects in the Parks**

*Work Being Done Today to Have Major Impact on the Future of our Parks System*

Tucker has contractors working all across the City on big projects to improve the amenities and level of service residents are getting. Some of these projects you've read about here in InTucker, others you might not be familiar with. Consider this your primer!



**IN PROGRESS**

Parking Lots

For years, users of Johns Homestead and Smoke Rise Park have had to either walk down a busy state highway to access the park or park their cars offsite. Soon, both those parks will have new parking lots onsite. This is expected to go a long way in increasing use of both of these Tucker gems.

Park Pavilions

The Mayor and City Council approved construction of a pair of pavilions, one in Smoke Rise Park and the other in Johns Homestead. While the pavilion at Smoke Rise will accommodate a small number of people, the pavilion at Johns Homestead could be the site of your next birthday party. It's slated to accommodate 25 people!

Solar Roof

Crews are working on the roof of Tucker Recreation Center, installing new solar paneling. The 133 solar panels are expected to generate 86 percent of the electricity needed to run Tucker's lone recreation center. The project will slash utility bills and was completed, in part, thanks to \$50,000 in grant money from the State of Georgia.

*Courtesy of InTucker magazine*

**B. HARRY STRACK, JR.**  
 Certified Public Accountant  
 Comprehensive Accounting Services  
 Computer Business Services

**TIGER TAX**

6015 Antebellum Drive · Stone Mountain, GA 30087  
 Phone: (770) 365-9381 | Fax: (404) 921-9092  
 TigerTaxStrack@att.net · www.TigerTaxStrack.com  
 Tiger Tax on Facebook

**Preferred Formats for Smoke Signal Submissions**

Articles and photos for the *Smoke Signal*, should be sent in .doc or .docx format. Articles sent in .pdf format cannot be edited. Ideally, photos and graphics should be submitted in .jpg or .pdf format.

**Scott's Pressure Wash**

Professional pressure washing—all surfaces  
 Decks, Stained and Sealed

678-469-1599  
[scottspressurewash.net](http://scottspressurewash.net) • [scottspressurewash@gmail.com](mailto:scottspressurewash@gmail.com)

Kitchens, Basements, Decks, Additions, Baths,  
 Screened Porches, Window and Door Replacement,  
 All Phases of Construction, General Improvements & Repairs

**ATLANTA CUSTOM CONSTRUCTION**

Light Commercial Work Welcome  
 Handyman Services available at "Costs Plus"  
 Mention this ad for up to **15% OFF**

In business since 1980. All work done by our all American staff.  
 References Available • Free Estimates • Licensed & Insured

**770-452-1925**

**MVP German Auto Specialist** The European Dealership Alternative

YOUR SMOKE RISE NEIGHBORHOOD FACILITY FOR SERVICE AND REPAIR

Your Neighborhood Service Facility for over 25 years!

**MVP Complimentary Services:**

- Free Shuttle within a 5 mile radius
- Free Tow Service within a 5 mile radius
- Free Vehicle Pickup and Delivery with Every Service
- Free Alignment, Battery and Tire Check
- Free Complimentary Car Wash with Every Service

**770-496-0890**  
 4633 Hugh Howell Road • Tucker, Georgia 30084  
[www.mvpgermanauto.com](http://www.mvpgermanauto.com)

**Out and About in Smoke Rise...** *by Frank Luton*

I've been doing an awful lot of walking around Smoke Rise lately. I've noticed that many of you have been doing so as well. It has given me a lot more opportunities to observe and pay attention to things that I would probably have ignored before. So here goes...

A couple of Civil War era cemeteries that are tucked away in wooded areas...



*The Barnett Millican Cemetery*



*The Braden Cemetery*



**Animals amongst us...**

No, these are not pets, nor are they being raised in someone's yard. They are part of a business effort, where sheep - due to their abilities to pull up both English and poison ivy, kudzu, and privet, etc. by their roots - do the yard work.



And then there are the geese amongst us.... I learned not to get too close!

Finally I noticed that our soon-to-be new business development on Hugh Howell, now called the Hugh Howell Marketplace, has erected a sign acknowledging a new Publix Store...



As I hike around other parts of Smoke Rise, I'll be on the lookout for more sights to put in future *Smoke Signals*.

**Recommended Fireworks Safety Tips**

Since there are hardly any places around that will have fireworks this year, many people will be having do-it-yourself fireworks. Fun, but also dangerous. Here are a few tips to stay safe while setting off your fireworks.

- Obey all local laws regarding the use of fireworks.
- Know your fireworks; read the cautionary labels and performance descriptions before igniting.
- A responsible adult should supervise all firework activities. Never give fireworks to children.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show.
- Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks. Bottle rockets are notorious for shooting into people's eyes, so keep them covered whenever possible.
- Light one firework at a time and then quickly move away.
- Use fireworks OUTDOORS in a clear area; away from buildings and vehicles.
- Never relight a "dud" firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Always have a bucket of water and charged water hose nearby.
- Never carry fireworks in your POCKET or shoot them into METAL or GLASS containers.
- Do not experiment with homemade fireworks.
- Dispose of spent fireworks by wetting them down and place in a metal trash can away from any building or combustible materials until the next day.
- Report illegal explosives, like M-80s and quarter sticks, to the fire or police department.

*(Courtesy of National Council on Fireworks Safety)*

**Keep your pets safe**

You may want your pup to join in on the fun, but most animals become extremely frightened by the loud noises and burning smells of fireworks and are likely to run away if they're not kept safely inside.

**Sparklers are dangerous**

Every year, young children can be found along parade routes and at festivals with sparklers in hand, but sparklers are a lot more dangerous than most people think.

Sparklers burn at about 2,000 degrees – hot enough to melt some metals. Sparklers can quickly ignite clothing, and children have received severe burns from dropping sparklers on their feet. According to the National Fire Protection Association, sparklers alone account for more than 25% of emergency room visits for fireworks injuries. For children under 5 years of age, sparklers accounted for nearly half of the total estimated injuries.

Consider using safer alternatives, such as glow sticks, confetti poppers or colored streamers.

*(Courtesy of National Safety Council)*

**What to do if you are burned or injured**

If you experience a large burn or any injury to the eyes from fireworks, seek medical attention immediately. Don't apply ointment, take pain meds, or attempt to remove any objects from the eye before going to the hospital, and try not to rub or rinse your eyes either.



**GFWC**  
**Stone Mountain Woman's Club**



Congratulations to the Smoke Signal on 50 years of continuous publication, and thank you for your coverage of the activities of the Stone Mountain Woman's Club.

Our members are dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. We accept members that live outside the boundaries of Stone Mountain, GA. Come volunteer with us!

Website: [stonemountainwomansclub.org](http://stonemountainwomansclub.org) Email: [info@stonemountainwomansclub.org](mailto:info@stonemountainwomansclub.org)



**Magnolia Room**  
CAFETERIA

**SOUTHERN CAFETERIA DINING AT ITS FINEST**

LOCAL AND FARM FRESH, SHERRY'S PRODUCE IS OUR EXCLUSIVE SOURCE FOR FRESH VEGETABLES AND FRUITS. COME TASTE THE DIFFERENCE!

4450 HUGH HOWELL ROAD TUCKER, GA 30084  
770-864-1845 [MAGNOLIAROOMCAFETERIA.COM](http://MAGNOLIAROOMCAFETERIA.COM)  
MONDAY-SATURDAY: 11:30AM-8PM SUNDAY: 11AM-8PM



**HALL'S**  
Flower Shop & Garden Center

**Serving Smoke Rise Families Since 1946!**

Flowers & Gifts For All Occasions!  
Green & Blooming Plants For Your Home & Garden

404-292-8446  
[www.HallsFlowerShop.com](http://www.HallsFlowerShop.com)  
5706 Memorial Dr, Stone Mtn, 30083

*Daily Delivery To Metro Atlanta, DeKalb and Gwinnett!*



**ACS INC.**

**Heating & Air Conditioning**  
Quality Since 1969



**ACS has been keeping Smoke Rise homes comfortable for over 30 years!**

**WE OFFER:**

- Seasonal Tune-ups
- 24-Hour Emergency Service
- System Replacements
- Indoor Air Quality Products

**CALL TODAY 770-939-7500**



*The Salon you have been looking for... where you discover your own Style.*

1825 Rockbridge Road  
Stone Mountain Festival Shopping Center  
770-879-1071



## *Belco Electric*

**FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED SINCE 1972**

*Fast, Dependable 24-hr. Service by Professional, Uniformed Electricians*

**770-455-4556**

Check out our website: [BelcoInc.com](http://BelcoInc.com)  
and follow us on 

**Chiropractic Works**  
The Proof is in our Patients!

**Schwartz Chiropractic and Wellness**




Dr. Schwartz has been treating your neighbors in Tucker and Smoke Rise for over 12 years. Visit our website to read more about our office.

**New Patient Offer:** Initial Consultation, Exam Xray's and 1st Adjustment \$99.

most insurance plans accepted (includes Medicare)

4985 Lavista Road | Tucker, GA 30084  
770-508-4456 | [www.karlschwartzchiro.com](http://www.karlschwartzchiro.com)

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

By Aviva Hoffmann

### Outdoor Adventure in Smoke Rise!

During the current COVID-19 outbreak, getting outside is an especially valuable activity for some of us in Smoke Rise (and beyond). During daily dog walks, I've noticed a few neighbors doing the same – at a safe distance. It's also nice to see activity has returned to some of our local pools, tennis courts, and greenspace areas – again with safety precautions in place.

One way to get outdoors and remain active, while adhering to safe distancing standards advocated by health authorities, is "Geocaching." This hi-tech, hide-and-seek game began to take off in May of 2000, when the U.S. military unscrambled signals it previously used for satellite guided missiles. Today, Geocaching has evolved into a modern-day scavenger hunt.

Organizers hide a "treasure" – called a cache. Next, the coordinates for the Global Positioning System, or GPS, and clues to the cache location are posted on a handful of shared Web sites ([www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com) is a great place to start). After that, Geocache players get out into the real world and go on a "treasure hunt."

Now, what is the sought-after "treasure" you may ask? Typically, it's a weather-proof container that holds a logbook – to remark on the adventure – and sometimes a few small trinkets. When someone discovers the cache, they can take one of the items; provided they leave something of equal or greater value and return the cache to its hiding place. In other words, the real challenge is finding the correct location – using a GPS unit – and enjoying the journey along the way.

The types of Geocaching adventures are only limited to the imaginations of those who participate. Geocaching is something the whole family can enjoy. There are hundreds of thousands of active caches placed worldwide, and the number is increasing every day. We even have a few in Smoke Rise, but I won't give away too much. You can search the Smoke Rise zip code for caches that are in our "back yard" and nearby. Additionally, Georgia State Parks has hidden nearly 50 caches in parks all over the state. There are treasures to find while viewing waterfalls in the mountains, hiking canyons and forest, or hitting the beach. (More info at [www.exploregeorgia.org](http://www.exploregeorgia.org), search for "cache") So, if you and your family are looking for a different way to enjoy and explore the great outdoors, consider a Geocache treasure hunt!



## techtalk *Cool It!*

by Susan Gilbert



Summer's heat is here, and those pesky higher electric bills are soon to follow. Knowing that, now is a good time to think about how to keep those bills as low as possible.

For most homes in Smoke Rise, more than 60 percent of their annual energy use is for space conditioning, and cooling costs are the largest part of that. Therefore, saving on your air conditioning costs is one of the best ways to achieve real savings.

Some don't know how valuable using a ceiling fan can be, so this article will focus on the simple, low-tech ceiling fan. Let's begin with a test: Do fans heat or cool a closed room? If you said heat, you are correct. While it's a small effect, the fan's motors turn electrical energy into mechanical energy, most of which ends up as heat. The net effect of running a ceiling fan is that you're adding a small amount of heat to the room.

So, you may wonder why we use them if they heat the space. Fans cool by moving air across your skin causing evaporation, which is what cools the body.

Another test question: Should you run them all the time or just when you are in the room with them? Knowing they slightly heat a space and only work by cooling the skin of occupants is a clue. Turn them off when you aren't in the room and you won't add heat to it or pay for the electricity used by the fan.

Now, let's look at the potential savings from using a ceiling fan. Since fans make you feel cooler, your real savings comes from being comfortable at a slightly higher air conditioning thermostat setting. Seventy-eight is the recommended summer temperature setting, but no matter what temperature setting you use, moving it up a single degree or two has significant savings associated. Here's the math. An average Smoke Rise home might use \$600 on air conditioning over the summer. A single degree higher thermostat setting saves about 8%, which equates to about \$50 over the cooling season. Go two degrees and you are saving nearly \$100! You get the idea. So, the payback for installing a nice ceiling fan might be pretty short.

You may find by using ceiling fans, there are some days you can make it comfortably without using the air conditioner at all, which really adds to your electric bill savings. Because the air conditioner removes moisture from the air, the best comfort comes from the combined effect of running the air conditioner at a higher setting and using a ceiling fan for added comfort.

**Being Thankful** by Joel Gilbert, P.E.

It may seem odd suggesting something so simple and seemingly contrary at this time. With all the horrible news we hear and with the severe economic damage done by the pandemic, it seems most people have stopped being thankful for what they have and are obsessing on what they don't have.



I understand, but this reminds me of an old Jewish story about a Rabbi counseling someone who is complaining. He says: "Be thankful for what you have!" To which the person responds, "Why?" The Rabbi says: "God is listening, and when you complain, God says 'Oh, so you think that was bad, do you? ... watch this!' And, if you thank God for whatever you have God says 'Oh, so you think that was good do you? ...'"

It is so easy to find things to complain about, and it is tempting to make arguments using numbers. Being a mathematician, I remind people to flip the numbers around and keep them in balance. Yes, it is true that Covid-19 kills about 10% of those over 70 that get it ... but that means 90% survive. Those are pretty good odds, but let's still seek to stay healthy.

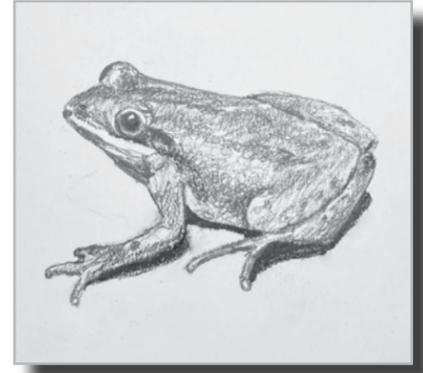
Similarly, while US Covid deaths are now above 100,000, this is mostly associated with the big cities in the Northeast. Here is Atlanta, especially in our little community, the numbers are fairly low. It is still tragic to lose anyone, but we lose people by closing society down as well.

Be especially careful when you are with our youth. They have righteous indignation for so many things they feel are wrong. They should be focusing their energy into developing themselves to serve and correct those things they don't like in the future. If they dedicate themselves to police work, they will change policing by their excellence. If all they do is protest, they will discourage anyone from going into police work. You see, being thankful is more than an attitude. It can be a career objective!

As we continue our transition back to normalcy, let us each take a moment to thank those who provide the services we count on. Thank everyone you encounter for their service. Thank the fast food service workers, patronize local small businesses and thank them for being there, and most importantly, at this time, thank each and every police officer you see for their service to our community. Be thankful that most of society is filled with good people. And, as we celebrate our freedom as Americans this July, be especially thankful to every serviceman and servicewoman you meet. We are all in debt to them for their service.

**Out the Window** by Beth Henson

My favorite time of the evening was quietly settling in. The sky held only a ghost image of the evening pink light and a fine mist hung in the air from the earlier rain. As I glanced out my window onto the peaceful backyard, I could see lightning bugs (or fireflies to those not raised in the south) beginning to languidly flicker throughout the yard. Their soft illuminations were the glowing language of love to their buggy paramours.



by Beth Henson

Suddenly a blaring and quite impressive noise penetrated the window glass, surprising me but also making me snort a giggle. Wraaaauuuuuuu!!! Silence. Wraaaauuuuuuu!!! I have lived in Smoke Rise several years but never had this type of vocal visitor to my patio before. The noise seemed to be coming from the trickling mossy fountain that was flanked by a flurry of curling green ferns and a few winking white impatiens. There it was again...wraaaauuuuuuu!!!

Tip toeing outside with my trusty flashlight to investigate, I hoped to catch a glimpse of this obviously giant amphibian! I shined the light into the darkness of the foaming water garden...no luck. Just then a small dark spot on the garden wall (no bigger than an inch and a half) caught my eye. A minuscule brackish-green crooner was suctioned to the warm white brick, belting out his loud double forte tune!

I later learned that my new friend was a tiny upland chorus frog (how appropriate) that was native to the Georgia piedmont. This nocturnal virtuoso enjoyed performing his concerts after a nice rain. Like the lightning bugs, this evening's vocal efforts were to attract a musically appreciative female.

Thanks for your amorous serenade, but can you tone it down to a pianissimo please?

**Smoke Signal Political Policy**

It is the policy of the *Smoke Signal* to print one article on political candidates prior to each primary and/or general election. The candidate must submit the article to the paper by deadline, in order for it to appear in the following month's issue. No staff member will be responsible for any political articles on candidates, nor will the *Smoke Signal* solicit articles from candidates. Articles are to be submitted on a voluntary basis.

Political flyers – See page 2 for information. No political ads will be run in the classifieds.

**The Custom Frame Shop**

est. 1978

Great Selection of Classic and Unique Mouldings, Friendly Service, Excellent Quality and Craftsmanship

"New Location" • 4195 Fellowship Rd, Tucker

Formerly on Main Street • Convenient parking

**770-491-3305**

www.tuckerframeshop.com



Jody Purser  
owner

**ATLAS ROOFING & GUTTERING**

Georgia Licensed & Insured • Free Estimate

**404-399-0321**

AtlasRoofingandGuttering@gmail.com

Custom Made Guttering • Residential Roofing

Seamless Aluminum • Galvanized • Copper • Half Round

**BOB BAILEY'S**  
APPLIANCE CO.

5100 Highway 78 East Stone Mountain, GA 30087  
Phone 770.979.1077 Fax 770.979.1844  
Website: [www.bobbaileys.com](http://www.bobbaileys.com)

- ❖ Family Owned & Operated
- ❖ Quality Brands & Great Pricing
- ❖ Professional Delivery and Installation
- ❖ Serving Smoke Rise over 50 years

Live Carefree  
Enjoy Endlessly

Park Springs is Atlanta's premier Life Plan Community. We offer a continuum of care for every stage of your retirement journey. All of our villas, cottages, and homes are maintenance-free. This gives you the time to stay well, enjoy resort-style living, and pursue your passions every day. Simplify life, multiply your fun with Park Springs.

Visit us at [ParkSprings.com](http://ParkSprings.com) to take a Virtual Tour or call 678-684-3300 to find out more

"It's nice not worrying about the small things."

Independent Living | Assisted Living | Memory Care | Skilled Nursing

PARK SPRINGS®

A Life Plan Community

678-684-3300 | STONE MOUNTAIN, GA | [PARKSPRINGS.COM](http://PARKSPRINGS.COM)

## Breast Health in the Time of COVID Has Your Mammogram Been Postponed?

By Dr. John Kennedy, Surgeon

If you are like me, you may be spending hours a day catching up on what new information there is about the pandemic. With the “stay at home” directives, it is hard to get yourself up and out to do any exercise, and I’ve heard reference to the “COVID-19 pounds” we may gain before it’s all over.

I might suggest that some of your down time be devoted to keeping yourself healthy, whether it be physical exercise, or reading up on how to stay healthy. In that vein, I’d like to share some information regarding breast health, which I hope you will find beneficial. I’m going to touch on several topics over several installments.

### Mammograms

One issue that is having significant impact on many women is the closing of centers doing screening mammograms. It is hard to say when these facilities can reopen for regular business, but when they do, they obviously will not be able to handle all the backlog of postponed screenings. So what should you do if your mammogram has been postponed?

Firstly, a few definitions are in order. There are two categories of mammograms, screening, and diagnostic. A screening mammogram is done in order to look for any X-ray evidence of cancer, even though there are absolutely no symptoms related to the breast. A diagnostic mammogram is to obtain additional information regarding a symptom, such as a new lump, or discharge from the nipple, or pain, or to do a more focused evaluation of any abnormality seen on a screening mammogram. If you have any such symptoms, then you should have a breast evaluation that should include a physical examination of your breasts, and this exam will be supplemented with a diagnostic study.

So why are these different? If there is a breast symptom, the mammogram will be customized to focus specifically on the symptom. This may include views that are magnified, or taken in different directions. A 3D mammogram may be recommended, or possibly an ultrasound or MRI. The studies are intended to establish the correct diagnosis for the symptom, whether it be cancer or some benign condition.

In the absence of any symptoms, a screening mammogram is looking for any X-ray evidence of cancer. Most often this would be a focus of tiny calcifications that appear almost like tiny salt granules on the image, or there may a nodular-looking density. If nothing suspicious is seen, then you don’t need another (screening) mammogram until the next year, or in some cases, they may only be recommended every two years. So, in the midst of this pandemic, when no screening mammograms are being done, what are the current recommendations? Understand that, if you are having some concerning symptoms regarding your health, whether it’s related to your breasts, or your heart, intestines, or whatever, DO NOT DELAY in discussing your symptoms with your doctor. If you have a new breast lump, or nipple discharge, this should be evaluated promptly. Mammography facilities should be able to schedule diagnostic studies, even though screening mammograms are being postponed. And a mammogram might not even be necessary right away, depending on what your specific problem is, and how long it’s been since your last screening mammogram.

Now, if your screening mammogram is postponed, I would suggest that you not fret. Experts disagree on the appropriate interval between screenings. I don’t know of anyone recommending any interval shorter than one year, and some experts recommend either delaying the initiation of screening until age 50, and/or only doing them every two years. There’s nothing magical about doing it every 12 months or every 24 months, but those are convenient intervals to remember, and any studies published about this virtually always have used a nice round number of one year or two years. So if it happens to be, 15 months, or 18 months, since your last screening, don’t be too concerned.

So unless you have any breast symptoms, you can be patient if you get scheduled four months later than usual. Then, if that one is normal, just re-set to have the next one a year later from that date. If you have gotten out of the habit of doing breast self-exam, what better time than now to get back in the habit? And remember, if you have any symptoms now - go have it checked out immediately.

## You Have to be Carefully Taught

by Joel Gilbert, P.E.

I grew up in a racially diverse part of Brooklyn, New York. As kids, we didn’t “see color” as an issue in general. Being Jewish, I had white friends and black friends, and we all feared Puerto Ricans, not because of their color, but because of their violent gangs. I grew up in the environment portrayed in the musical “West Side Story.” It was an extremely accurate portrayal of life back then.

Another musical of that time was the Rodgers and Hammerstein “South Pacific,” which had a meaningful song to me called “You’ve Got to Be Carefully Taught.” Here are the lyrics to that song sung by the character Lieutenant Cable. The song is preceded by a line stating that racism is, “not born in you! It happens after you’re born...”

You’ve got to be taught to hate and fear  
You’ve got to be taught from year to year  
It’s got to be drummed in your dear little ear  
You’ve got to be carefully taught

You’ve got to be taught to be afraid  
Of people whose eyes are oddly made  
And people whose skin is a different shade  
You’ve got to be carefully taught

You’ve got to be taught before it’s too late  
Before you are six or seven or eight  
To hate all the people your relatives hate  
You’ve got to be carefully taught

It was subject to widespread criticism back then, judged by some as too controversial or downright inappropriate for the musical stage. Rodgers and Hammerstein risked the entire “South Pacific” venture in light of legislative challenges to its decency or supposed Communist agenda.

Funny how the more things change, the more they stay the same! It might have been Samaritans in the time of Jesus, gay men such as the brilliant Alan Turing of computer fame or pick your favorite target of the day.

Breaking this cycle of bias and ignorance is not easy, and we each have a part to play. Seeing and seeking the best for our families, friends, neighbors and this country never goes out of style. It may sound syrupy to use the word love, but the failures here are most often due to a lack of that emotion.

I like the concept of acceptance and respect of all individuals in our society. We have a lot to learn from each other because of our differences and our different perspectives. We should celebrate this and continue having open-minded dialogue on the subject as a community.

### Smoke Rise Preferred Contractor’s List is Now ONLINE Only!

If you are looking for reliable people to build decks, paint, do electrical, plumbing, interior design and many other services, then request a copy of this list. We maintain a free listing of contractors and other service providers that your neighbors have used successfully. For a copy of this list, go to: <http://www.smokesignalnews.com/vendor-list.html>

You may also submit a new recommendation, comment on a service you used or brag on a contractor.



**PALMERHOUSE**  
PROPERTIES

**Top Selling Realtors in Smoke Rise with over 440 sales since 1994 and 9 in 2019!**  
John Porter  
404-376-7069  
atrealtor21@aol.com  
Jim Shoults  
678-592-1043

**smokerisehomes.com**

	<b>1005 Havenview Lane \$1,500,000</b>		<b>1700 Chartwell Trace \$645,000</b>
	<b>1680 Chartwell Trace \$645,000</b>		<b>1737 Kings Mountain Drive \$497,500</b>
	<b>5496 Silver Ridge Drive \$447,500</b>		<b>4765 Forestglade Court \$379,000</b>

**The Buzz About Bees** by Eileen Stone



The bee hives at the Smoke Rise Community Garden

For the last several years the Smoke Rise Community Garden has welcomed David Wentworth and his beehives. David explains that he became interested in bee-keeping as a young boy when his father shared the hobby with him. His father expressed the importance of the job that honey bees perform for the world by supporting the food chain. It was less about the honey - albeit a nice byproduct of the hobby - but more about preserving the practice during a time when honeybee habitats were being threatened.

This “symbiotic relationship” between the bees and the renter is one of mutualism - both partners benefit.

Honeybees are often described as essential to all human food production. While this isn't exactly true, their presence at the SRCG is certainly welcomed. Some of the crops grown by plot renters require pollination - the transfer of pollen from the male part of the plant to the female part. When pollination occurs, the plant is then able to produce the fruit. Bees, wasps, butterflies and even birds are considered pollinators. Pollination happens when a bee lands on the flower to feed on the nectar, knocking the pollen particles around the inside of the flower. Thus, the mutualism - bees need the nectar, we need the fruit - or vegetable.

Some might think that the presence of the bees might pose a risk of being stung. Honeybees are less aggressive than wasps and hornets. Honeybees have a barbed stinger, much like a fish hook. Wasps have stingers more like a hypodermic needle. With a barbed stinger, the honeybee will lose part of its abdomen if it stings, causing it to eventually die. Wasps will sting multiple times because their stinger will not be left behind. David is a gifted apiarian - or bee-keeper. He is familiar with the temperaments of different honeybee species, needing more hardy ones at the start of the spring and less aggressive ones as the flowers become more plentiful in the summer. Some of the plot renters will meet at the garden to enjoy a glass of wine while watching the bees return to the hives after a hard day of work. It's quite relaxing. And of course, they are always thankful when David shares the bounty of honey from the hives at the garden - there is no smoother or sweeter honey in the world!

For more information about the bees at the garden, feel free to contact Eileen Stone at [esstone@bellsouth.net](mailto:esstone@bellsouth.net).



l to r: Joy Abrams, Kim Fair, Susan Morrison, Ruth Ann Hill, Vivian Nickelsen, Janet McGinnis and Quill Duncan

**Morning Glories Create Some Unusual Memories**

National Garden Week was June 7-13, 2020, and garden clubs all over the United States are asked to do something to commemorate the event. It could be a garden tour or a garden clean-up project or a planting at a school or community center or public place. But this year, those types of activities were not on the agenda due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have been limited to gathering with only ten people and then it was increased to twenty-five people. Physical distancing, hand washing, and wearing masks are encouraged. Many in our club are considered “at risk” and were not able to participate even in a photo this year.

As you can see in the fun photo, we all wore our various masks and both garden gloves and those blue surgical gloves! We selected that location because it calls attention to our community's Blue Star Marker which was installed in 2007 by the three Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. clubs in Smoke Rise: Morning Glories, Mountain Mums and Smoke Rise Garden Club. Each Memorial Day and Veteran's Day, the Morning Glories place a wreath by the marker to honor and remember our Veterans.

With the various restrictions in place, many of our garden club members have been spending lots of hours outside enjoying their own gardens this spring. Every few days one member or another sends a beautiful photo of a blooming plant specimen so we can all admire and enjoy. Others have sent photos of plants to identify.

One place to appreciate summer's incredible floral bounty is The Atlanta Botanical Garden. It is now open and welcomes visitors with timed entrance tickets. The current display of the mosaiculture figures entitled “Alice's Wonderland Reimagined” features charming large scale topiaries. These fantastic garden figures were originally created in Montreal, Canada, and then brought to Atlanta in 2013 for their United States debut. Over the last few years, new creations have been displayed and two pieces are now a permanent part of the garden's exhibition. The daily maintenance on each figure is as fascinating as the design itself. Do take advantage of this creative and innovative display. Go to [atlantabg.org](http://atlantabg.org) for more information.

Usually we are promoting and planning for the September 11-13 49th Annual Yellow Daisy Standard Flower Show in this issue of the *Smoke Signal*. As of this publication, we do not know if the show or the festival will take place. The Redbud District of the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. is hoping to host the flower show with the theme “What's Cooking, Daisy?” Watch for details on this event in the next issue or contact Stone Mountain Park directly. Happy Gardening to you all and BE WELL!

**The Eleanor Patrick Real Estate Group**

Keller Williams Realty  
Atlanta Partners



- Regular Sales
- Short Sales
- Senior Sellers
- Relocation
- Over 12 Years in the Smoke Rise Community!

**For All Your Real Estate Needs!**

**Contact the Eleanor Patrick Real Estate Group**

Innovative Personalized Professional Service  
**Put Us To Work For You Today**

[eleanorpatricksell@gmail.com](mailto:eleanorpatricksell@gmail.com)  
[www.smokerisehomesforsale.com](http://www.smokerisehomesforsale.com)

**404-721-2904**



smoke rise dental  
HASSAN ABDEL MOETI, D.M.D.

**We take care of all your dental needs...**

- > CT Scan 3D Imaging
- > Digital x-rays
- > Laser Treatment
- > Implants
- > Invisalign clear braces
- > Smile Makeovers
- > CEREC same day crowns

5500 A Lilburn-Stone Mountain Rd.  
Smoke Rise, GA 30087  
[www.smokerisedental.com](http://www.smokerisedental.com)

**FREE DENTAL IMPLANTS CONSULTATION**  
**FREE COSMETIC CONSULTATION**

CALL FOR APPOINTMENT • 770-923-5500 GENERAL DENTISTRY • IMPLANT DENTISTRY • COSMETIC DENTISTRY



Joycemray@bellsouth.net  
[joyceforhomes.com](http://joyceforhomes.com)  
D: 770-491-9015  
M: 404-316-2299

**Joyce Ray**  
The best way home.

Chapman Hall Premier Realtors  
1772B Century Boulevard, Atlanta Ga. 30345

*Celebrating 30 years in Metro Atlanta Real Estate Sales*

**ATTENTION ADVERTISERS:** All inquiries regarding advertising should be directed to: Classified and display ads: Harry Strack, [tigertaxstrack@att.net](mailto:tigertaxstrack@att.net). Flyers: Barbara Luton at [barluton@aol.com](mailto:barluton@aol.com).

All classified ads are limited to 20 words, with the *Smoke Signal* reserving the right to edit any copy. Ads are \$15.00 per month, (\$75.00 per six months if prepaid). Please submit by email a copy of ad to [tigertaxstrack@att.net](mailto:tigertaxstrack@att.net). Deadline is the 10th of each month. ADS NEED TO BE PREPAID. Checks should be made out to *Smoke Signal* and mailed to P.O. Box 763, Tucker, GA 30085. When submitting classified ads, please include your full name, address, and phone number. This information is for our records only! For classified ads, contact Harry Strack [tigertaxstrack@att.net](mailto:tigertaxstrack@att.net).

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

## Classified Ads

**Heating and Air Conditioning:**  
Water Heaters Installed; Gas Lines Installed; Commercial and Residential Professional Technicians: James Maceco; 770-365-4258

**CENTRAL VACUUM SERVICES**  
Installation Repair Maintenance  
Licensed/Insured  
Residential/Commercial  
Over 20 years experience  
Call Steve at 770-630-1620  
[www.CentralVacuumServices.com](http://www.CentralVacuumServices.com)

**A KICKIN' & PICKIN' ESTATE SALES**  
We stage, price and sell your treasures and offer liquidation and cleaning services. Contact Rick Kicklighter at 678-234-6956.

**SMOKE RISE LANDSCAPES**  
Licensed/Insured. Design. Installation. Year-Round Maintenance. Weed Control/Fertilization. Drainage. Hardscaping. Irrigation Systems. Pinestraw. 404-556-2634

**WINDOW CLEANING** —  
Year-round detailed window cleaning by owner. Fully licensed, owner operated company. Call Paul at 678-516-7939 or visit [AbsoluteWindowCleaning.net](http://AbsoluteWindowCleaning.net).

**WAGNON LANDSCAPE GROUP**  
Residential, commercial, design and installation. Year-round maintenance, light tree work and cleanups. Licensed/insured SR resident with SR references. 770-381-3697.

**HANDYMAN INC.** has over 225 clients in the SR community. Providing all your "homework" needs. Logan Carlisle, owner and [Handyman@770-235-3684](mailto:Handyman@770-235-3684).

**N.K. CONSTRUCTION**  
Stucco, Stones, Blocks, Brick, Tile, Driveways, Roof, Room Additions, Decks, Walls/Fences, Painting. 30 yrs. exp. Nick 678-791-9546 (cell) 770-934-4148 (home)

**Floral Hills Memory Gardens**  
2 Spaces located in Garden of Last Supper, \$5,950.00 for both. Roy @ 334-566-3482

**AFFORDABLE LAWN CARE**  
Mowing, edging, pruning, trimming, etc. Reasonable, dependable, insured. Call Mark at 404-697-7426.

**PETS, PAPERS, & POSIES.** I'll take care of them while you're away. Smoke Rise resident 40+ years. Karen Bouchard. 404-472-7348. [petspapersandposies@gmail.com](mailto:petspapersandposies@gmail.com)

**DOG BOARDING:** Loving dog care. Small, selective, safe, fun. Your dog will be glad you went on vacation! Call 770-674-0680 or visit [www.theshepherdsglen.com](http://www.theshepherdsglen.com).

**DOG GROOMING**  
Smoke Rise Resident  
Call/Text Lisa 404-444-7763  
Loving Care for your Under 40lb Furbabies  
Professional Groomer since 2006

**Experienced, Affordable, Licensed.** Metro Fireman: **Quality Pressure Washing and Gutter Cleaning.** A job done right by someone you can trust. Call Phillip Carlisle 404-328-6595.

**Need a professional pet sitter?** Call **Critter Sittin' Sisters** at 404-409-3765. We make your pets smile!

**PIANO TUNING & REPAIRS** — Over 40 years of professional experience. Contact Smoke Rise resident Steve Duncan at 770-414-4766 or [1swd@att.net](mailto:1swd@att.net)

**ON POINT ESTATE SALES**  
Let us take the burden of downsizing your home. Our professional and experienced staff will organize, stage and price your home items at a fair value resulting in a successful sale. Clean-out service is also available. Contact us at 770-881-5596 or email [info@onpointestatesales.com](mailto:info@onpointestatesales.com)

**TRUMP 2020 Garden Flag**  
Double sided garden flags \$6. Delivery available or pickup at Unique Treasures Antique Mall, 3635 Highway 78  
email [TrumpGardenFlag@Outlook.com](mailto:TrumpGardenFlag@Outlook.com).

**(PLUMBER)**  
Plumbing-Electrical-H.V.A.C Repairs-Replacement  
New Installation  
Family Owned and Operated  
38 yrs Experience, Senior Discount  
Call Troy-770-256-8940

**AFFORDABLE CLEANING SERVICES** Providing excellent cleaning services at a reasonable price. Reliable references available upon request. Call Halida at 404-610-9056

**UPHOLSTERY AND TRIM**  
Recover replace and repair upholstery for auto, truck, motorcycle, boat, home, commercial and more. Call 770-465-0996 or visit [www.freestyleupholstery.com](http://www.freestyleupholstery.com).

**HOUSEKEEPER** -- Reliable, experienced housekeeper for several years in Smoke Rise area. Hours are flexible. References available. Contact Sabina @ 770-634-0463

**LOCKSMITH SERVICES** — Deadbolts installed, re-key, repair, reinforced strike plates & motion lights installed, door threshold & weatherstrip replacement. SR res/ SR ref, Rick 770-617-0466.

**COMPUTER AND NETWORK SALES AND SERVICES**  
Trusted Company working with local community since 1995. References available. 770-979-1800, [www.theplink.com](http://www.theplink.com)

**PRIVATE CHEF/CATERER** offering seasonal meals with your schedule, health, and happiness in mind. Taylor Mead, Chef & Owner [BetterOffFedATL@gmail.com](mailto:BetterOffFedATL@gmail.com)

*Amen, Let's Eat!*



by Joyce Ray

### Fire up the Grill!

Who can resist the sizzle of steaks, burgers, or even hot dogs cooked on a grill? Warm weather pulls us out to our decks and patios and makes us want to fire up the gas or charcoal for weekend gatherings or just weeknight simple meals. Whether it is chicken, beef, pork, or fish, changing up the sauces we use will lend some variety to our cuisine. Along with sauces to use on grilled meat, marinades will tenderize the meat and impart flavor. I have chosen some versatile sauces and marinades for this month. Happy grilling!

Fresh citrus marinade will pair well with chicken, pork, or fish. Below are two similar recipes, one with orange and one with lemon. Make some extra to save and pour over the meat at the table.

#### Orange Marinade

- ¾ cup fresh orange juice
- 2 Tbsp. chopped fresh basil
- 2 Tbsp. lime juice
- 2 Tbsp. extra virgin olive oil
- ½ tsp. crushed red pepper
- ¼ tsp. salt
- 1 clove garlic, crushed

This makes enough for approximately four boneless chicken breasts or thighs or four pork chops.

#### Herbed Lemon Marinade and Grilling Sauce

- 1 ½ cups lemon juice
- 2-3 garlic cloves, peeled
- 2 Tbsp. onion powder
- 1 Tbsp. salt
- 1 Tbsp. paprika
- 3 cups vegetable oil
- 2 Tbsp. dried basil
- 2 tsp. dried thyme

Wisk together all ingredients and pour over meat. Marinate for approximately 1 hour before grilling.

This makes enough for 6-8 servings of meat, or you can save extra in the refrigerator for up to four weeks.

Add some extra flavor to grilled meat with these sauces for beef:

#### A-1 Creamy Steak Sauce

- 1 small container button mushrooms, sliced (about 1 cup)
- 4-6 green onions or shallots – chopped
- 1 cup low sodium beef broth
- 2 Tbsp. butter
- 3 Tbsp. A-1 sauce
- 1 cup sour cream
- 2 Tbsp. brown sugar
- 2 Tbsp. red cooking sherry

Sauté onions and sliced mushrooms in butter. Add beef broth, A-1, and brown sugar. Cook until mixture is reduced and slightly thickened. Add cooking sherry and blend. Add sour cream and simmer for 10 minutes. Add more A-1 to taste. Serve warm over beef.

#### Blue Cheese Butter

- ½ cup crumbled blue cheese
- ½ cup softened butter

Stir blue cheese into butter. Cover and chill 8 hours. Serve on grilled steaks or burgers or on baked potatoes or grilled fresh corn on cob. This can be served on crackers as an appetizer.

#### Basil Butter

- 1/3 cup butter
- 3 Tbsp. chopped fresh basil
- ½ tsp salt
- ¼ tsp dried crushed red pepper (optional)

Microwave butter for 30-45 seconds until melted. Add dry ingredients. Let stand 10 minutes before serving. Serve over grilled chicken or fish.

And for sweet endings try one of these delicious ice cream treats:

#### Coupe Grand Marnier

from the Christ Church Frederica Cookbook

- 2 large scoops vanilla ice cream
  - 1 large scoop orange sherbet
  - 4 oz. Grand Marnier whipped cream
- Blend together ice cream and sherbet until slightly softened. Add the Grand Marnier and mix well.

Fill chilled sherbet glasses leaving space for whipped cream and garnish on top. Freeze until ready to serve. Garnish with sprig of fresh mint.

#### Lemon Ice Cream Pie

- 1 qt. vanilla ice cream
- 1 (6 oz.) can frozen lemonade, partially thawed
- 1 (9 inch) baked graham cracker crust

Stir together ice cream and lemonade until blended. Spoon into crust and freeze two hours until firm. Garnish with whipped cream and fresh berries of your choice.

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



## Great Agents • Superior Service

**Experience the Difference!** Our team is experienced, creative, technology savvy and strong communicators. We offer strong, focused marketing, buyer & seller tools - excellent transaction management.

- Exclusive Honor & Respect Program
- Innovative Marketing
- Multiple Web Sites for Each Listing
- Custom Search Tools
- Professional Photography
- No Dual Agency, You Are Represented

High Tech - High Touch, Service Worthy of Recommendation  
404.876.4901 • 770.573.9715

PalmerHouse Properties What is Your Home Worth? go to [www.real-estate-prices.com](http://www.real-estate-prices.com)

[www.smokeriseagents.com](http://www.smokeriseagents.com)