

SMOKE SIGNAL

VOLUME 49, ISSUE 12

Serving the Smoke Rise Community Since 1968

March, 2017

www.smokesignalnews.com



Happy St. Patrick's Day from the staff of the Smoke Signal



Smoke Rise Resident to Run the Boston Marathon in Special Celebration of Women Alongside Iconic Athlete Kathrine Switzer

Elizabeth Mann, 34, from Smoke Rise, will be lacing up her sneakers on April 17, 2017 for the run of her life. Mann, along with 100 other runners, will be participating in the 121st Boston Marathon to represent 261 Fearless, Inc, the new non-profit benefitting women's running initiatives from legendary marathoner, Kathrine Switzer.



Smoke Rise residents Josh and Elizabeth Mann with Kathrine Switzer (center)



Background: Kathrine Switzer being accosted in the '67 Boston Marathon. Foreground: Kathrine today.

In 1967, Switzer became the first registered women to compete in the Boston Marathon. At that time, the race was considered a male-only event, but, using her initials, Switzer managed to obtain an official bib, number 261. Mid-stride in the competition, an angry race director leapt from the press truck and attempted to pull Switzer from the race. In one of sport's most dramatic moments, Switzer's burly boyfriend bounced the official off the course, allowing Switzer to go on to finish. The photo of the incident became one of Time-Life's "100 Photos That Changed the World."

"Switzer not only broke the glass starting line," says Mann, "But she continued to champion the cause of women's running for the next 50 years. 261 Fearless - a global women's running network - is the result." "I know I have some hard work ahead of me," confesses Mann, who is running 40 miles a week." Mann is trying to raise over \$7,000 for 261 Fearless. "With the money we raise, this non profit organization is able to help establish social running Clubs and create coaches' education and communication programs, even right here in our own community!" enthused Mann. "We aim bring women together and connect them with other 261 runners globally. This is a wonderful way to continue to give back and support other women long past the time of the Boston Marathon. Every woman out there deserves to have the chance to reach their own starting line and feel fearless."

Despite an inauspicious beginning, the Boston Athletic Association (BAA) early on realized the seriousness of women's desire to participate and the potential of their endurance. In 1972, five years after the 'Switzer Incident', the BAA welcomed women as official competitors,

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**SMOKE RISE
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 28, 7:00 P.M.**

Smoke Rise Baptist Church Fellowship Hall



Comprehensive Plan HAVE YOU GIVEN YOUR INPUT??

You can give your input two ways:

- 1) Go to the Community Forum Thursday, March 16, 6:30 p.m. at Tucker First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, AND
- 2) Take the survey online using the Interactive Map to Give your preferences! It takes only 5-10 minutes! *Your ideas will become OUR City of Tucker!*

The complete presentation of the FEBRUARY Tucker Tomorrow Community Forum is posted to the City of Tucker YouTube Channel.



Tucker's Newest Government Officers were sworn in on February 10 by the Mayor.

(L-R): Community Council Member Tommy Lupo, Building Inspector Mike Sargent, Mayor Frank Auman, Steve Holder, Building Official and James Duncan, Code Enforcement Officer. See Tuckerga.gov for more information about these officials who will be serving YOU!

THE SMOKE SIGNAL HAS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!!

staff@smokesignalnews.com

Please send all questions, columns and contributions to this new address.

Please join us at ART Station on Friday, March 17th from 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM for the best St. Patrick's Day party in Atlanta! 21st Annual "Raising of the Green"

We will be celebrating with silent and live auctions for hundreds of items including: household items, restaurant gift cards, theatre and event tickets, personal services and more.

There be a "Tasting" Showcase of foods from area restaurants & caterers along with a raffle for \$500.00, an old fashioned photo booth, a live band and of course, FREE green beer!

Advanced tickets are \$20 (\$25 at the door). You can purchase tickets at the ART Station Box Office or by calling 770-469-1105.



The GFWC Stone Mountain Woman's Club will again be sharing their sweet treats at the "Raising of the Green" on March 17. In addition the Woman's Club will donate a grill and accessories for the Live Auction that evening. Join the Stone Mountain Woman's Club in supporting this fun fund raising event for ART Station.

Pictured is Nelda Lunsford, Co-chairman of the Art Community Service Program of the GFWC Stone Mountain Woman's Club.



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(770) 621-0155
 *Cheri Schneider.....(770) 717-9914
 AvivA Hoffmann helloaviva@hotmail.com
 * This Issue's Editor-in-Chief

Recording SecretarySusan Gilbertsgilbert@apogee.net
 Corresponding Secretary ..Barbara Bruschi.....(770) 934-4644
 Treasurer.....Harry Strack(770) 365-9381
 Classified Ads.....Barb Hess.....(404) 229-0742
 Display Ads.....Barb Hess..... barbhess48@gmail.com
 Church News.....Susan Gilbertsgilbert@apogee.net
 Features:.....Barbara Bruschi.....(770) 934-4644
 Cedric Ross.....(770) 621-0155
 Cheri Schneider, M.D.(770) 717-9914
 Renee Hopf(770) 921-5540

Flyer InsertsBarbara Luton.....(770) 491-6711
 Hodge PodgeJenny Hall.....(404) 200-4227
 Pet Lost & Found.....Kay McKenzie (770) 491-6784
 Social MediaPat Soltys(770) 573-9715
 News You Can Use.....AvivA Hoffmann helloaviva@hotmail.com
 Staff Writers.....Susan Gilbert(404) 312-8328
 Joyce Ray.....(770) 491-9015
 Kimberly Sizemore.....(770) 530-5939
 Pat Soltys(770) 573-9715

Guest Writer.....Jenny Hall.....(404) 200-4227
 DistributionConnie Schneider.....cheri5942@comcast.net
 DeliveryChris Taylor and Jack 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.

March Calendar of Events

- 11 1:00-6:00 p.m., Tucker Chili Cook-off: Main Street Tucker.
- 13 7:30 p.m., Mountain Shadow Garden Club; Founders Hall, Eastminster Presbyterian.
- 15 3:00-5:00 p.m., Smoke Rise Elementary School Art Showcase
- 16 6:30 p.m., Community Forum re: Comprehensive Plan; Tucker First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
- 16 6:30 p.m., "A Book Affair"; Callanwolde.
- 17 6:00 p.m., "Raising of the Green ART Station, Stone Mountain Village.
- 24-5 7:00 p.m. Friday, 3:00 p.m. Saturday, *Disney's Lion King, Jr.* (elementary school cast) SR Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.
- 25 5:00 p.m. carnival, 6:30 p.m. Jawbones vs Sawbones Sheffield Gym, Mercer University.
- 25-6 7:00 p.m. Saturday & 3:00 p.m. Sunday, *Disney's Lion King, Jr.* (high school cast) fundraiser and play; Smoke Rise Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.
- 26 4:00 p.m. Smoke Rise Prep Open House
- 28 7:00 p.m., SRCA Annual Meeting; SRBC Fellowship Hall.

Smoke Signal Deadlines

MARCH 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 box at
5365 Smoke Rise Drive

Deadline for classified ads is **MARCH 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
 or visit our website at 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!



VOTING POLL WORKERS NEEDED

Hugh Howell precinct needs additional poll workers.

REQUIREMENTS:

Resident of DeKalb County
 Willing to work one day at a time up to 4 times a year.

LOCATION:

Smoke Rise Baptist Church gymnasium.
 This is an opportunity to serve your community and make a little cash.

CONTACT:

Barbara Conard
 770-925-3732
 Bconard1@bellsouth.net

Calling All Georgia Book Authors!

Georgia-based book authors now have an exciting opportunity to present their work without having to compete with nationally known and best selling authors around the country for audiences and suitable venues.

"A Book Affair," now in its third year, is an exciting new program hosted by the beautifully accentuated Callanwolde Fine Arts Center. The event, an elegant evening which takes place in the main ballroom, begins with a wine reception followed by the author's presentation, audience discussion and book signing.

Now in its second year, the 2017 program kicks off in celebration of Women's History Month and features the renowned Judge Penny Brown Reynolds, a nationally respected leader, dedicated public servant, attorney, and a former syndicated television Family Court court series, Judge Penny.

"A Book Affair" was created for Callanwolde by Smoke Rise resident and literary agent/retired television broadcaster, Linda Torrence. The next event takes place Thursday, March 16th at 6:30pm beginning with a wine reception. Attendance is a \$5.00 donation to Callanwolde. For more information visit: www.Abookaffairatlanta.com

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
 1st Tuesdays: 11:30 a.m. Prime Time

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
 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 Christian Education: Mardee Rightmyer
 Pastor of Senior Adult Ministries: Rev. Jeanne Simpson
 Telephone (770) 469-4881
www.eastminster.us

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

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

Wednesdays:
 5:45 p.m. Join us for dinner! - \$5 per adult
 6:30 p.m. Program

Mount Carmel Christian Church

Senior Minister: Art Stansberry
 Worship Leader: Leslie Riley
 Director Kids Ministries: Vicki Tyler
 Director of Student Ministries: Will Tyler
 Telephone (770) 279-8437
www.mountcarmelcc.org

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

Wednesdays beginning August 10:
 5:30 p.m. Dinner
 6:30 p.m. Bible Studies/Electives for All Ages

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 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.
 Christmas Eve Services - 3:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m.

The *Smoke Signal* is posted to
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.



SRBRC is Celebrating its 50 Birthday with a Huge Makeover

SRBRC members, have plenty to look forward to this year! When the gates open this spring, guests will find a completely renovated pool. The main pool will be resurfaced with brand new upscale quartz aggregate. Shiny new waterline tile will surround the pool interior and new race-line tiles will mark the swim lanes again. The baby pool will also be resurfaced using the same upgraded quartz aggregate and waterline tile. All of this is happening just in time to celebrate SRBRC's 50th anniversary.

During the past years, the SRBRC has become well known for its exciting social calendar. Many events are planned to commemorate the 50th anniversary and celebrate the pool facility makeover. The club will host a big Open House and Birthday Bash. There will be a number of live concerts this summer, the exciting Smoke Rise BBQ Cook-Off and the delicious Low Country Shrimp Boil. SRBRC will again ignite the most spectacular non-commercial local fireworks display July 4, and of course the annual pig roast. Come join SRBRC and join in the fun!

Best of all, the club has the most affordable membership rates around. \$350 buys a Family Swim or Tennis membership, and \$375 will get you all the way to Swim & Tennis. If you have never been a member before, SRBRC offers first-time memberships. A new, one-year swim & tennis membership, for the whole family, is just \$200. What a way to get your feet wet!

If you are interested in the Smoke Rise Bath & Racquet Club, check out the Facebook page www.facebook.com/srbrccommunity, or visit the website www.SRBRC.org. If you have questions, you may email: SRBRCmembership@gmail.com, or call (770) 493-9073.

**Tucker Chili Cook-off
March 11
1:00-6:00 p.m.
Main Street, Tucker**

Benefitting the "Day League": The only agency DeKalb County offers "To Help, Educate and Advocate for youth and adult survivors of sexual assault."

\$5 to taste all the chilis and one vote!

Soft drinks and adult beverages available for purchase.

Live music, 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.

Preregister at above or register on site (if booths still available) by morning of event email for more info: info@tuckerchilicookoff.com or call Jamey at 404-556-7666.

The Smoke Rise Bath & Racquet Club is getting ready to turn up the heat and defend its 1st prize trophy in the judges' competition, for the best Chili, at the Tucker Chili Cook Off. Come visit the SRBRC table and taste some truly award-winning Chili. The Cook Off is a fun event for the whole family, on Tucker Main Street, March 11, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Make sure you join the festivities, get your fill of some fine food and vote for your favorite!



SRBRC Board Member, David Stone, helps prepare award-winning chili, March 2016



**Mountain Creek Swim Club
2092 Mountain Creek Court
Stone Mountain GA 30087**

Mountain Creek - The Club For All Seasons
The Fun Times Continue at Mountain Creek Swim Club

- Saturday, February 11th we officially welcomed the Little Free Library
- Sunday, February 12th we had a grand time decorating valentine cookies
- Sunday, March 26th, 3pm - more fun with a "Magic the Gathering" tournament
All welcome!

What is Magic the Gathering - Rolling Stone writes 'If you've never played Magic, the first and still finest game of its kind, it's a cross between chess, poker and Game of Thrones: players compile a deck from hundreds of potential cards, with lands ("mana"-generating resource cards), fantastical creatures (your army), enchantments and other spells, all imagined with Magic's unique mythology. Starting with a hand of seven and drawing one at a time as players trade off turns, the goal is to bring your opponent's life points from 20 to zero before you run out of cards. There is no diplomacy in Magic, just dragons, lightning bolts and savage, strategic warfare.'

2017 MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL!!!

Until the end of March you can join Mountain Creek Swim Club for \$320 (\$45 savings) for year 'round family-friendly fun! Visit our Facebook page, our website at MountainCreekSwimClub.com, or call 678-824-2108.

**Dinner 7 days a Week
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Dr. Nicole Aponte**

Summit Swim & Tennis Club is Ready for a Great Season!

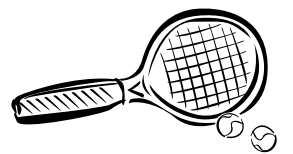
This is a great summer to join the Summit Swim and Tennis Club on Silver Hill road! The pool is newly resurfaced, and the 'starlight swim' has been extended to include Saturday evenings. And a new pool events committee is in place to plan our social events this year! Information is available at www.thesummitatmokerise.com including registration forms with convenient, online payment.

The Summit pool season runs from Memorial Day weekend through mid-September. Hours are 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., daily, and until 10 p.m. on Friday and now Saturday nights, too!

The Summit Tennis Club courts are open year round and host men's and women's ALTA leagues.

Early Bird registration fees for family memberships paid by April 30 are \$365 for Pool only, and \$410 Pool & Tennis. Prices go up on May 1.

Contact Jena Gress, Membership, at smokerisesummitpool@gmail.com for questions.



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Service Worthy of Recommendation

**St. Patrick's Day Events:
May the Luck o' the Irish be with You!**

Local Events:

**"Raising of the Green," Art Station, Stone Mountain
March 17, 6 p.m.**

Support Art Station with this St. Patty's day themed silent auction and fundraiser. Sample fare from restaurants in and around Stone Mountain Village, as well as enjoy the green beer. Tickets are \$20 in advance, or \$25 at the door. Find further details at artstation.org.



Atlanta Events:

**St. Patrick's Day Parade, Peachtree Street
Saturday, March 11, 12 - 1:30 p.m.**

One of the south's oldest and biggest celebrations features more than 2,000 Irish dancers, musicians, balloons, floats and more. Located in Midtown, the parade begins at the intersection of 15th and Peachtree Streets, continuing south on Peachtree Street. atlantastpats.com/parade-info/

**LEPRE*CON 2017, Piedmont Park
Saturday, March 11, 2 p.m. - 2 a.m.**

Park Tavern on Piedmont Park
This is the largest St. Patrick's Day Festival in Atlanta for eight consecutive years. Tickets available at xorbia.com.

**Shamrock Stroll Pub Crawl, Midtown
Saturday, March 11, 12 - 5 p.m.**

Touted as the "Official Atlanta Pub Crawl," this pub-crawl takes you through Midtown Atlanta. Tickets available at atlantanightlife.com.

**ShamRock the Station, Atlantic Station
March, 11, 1 p.m.**

This event is marketed as the largest, family-friendly St. Patrick's Day celebration and includes Irish dancing, face painting and balloon art. Live music begins at 5 p.m. Hosted by Radio 105.7. atlanticstation.com/events

**St. Patrick's 5K Run/Walk
March 11, 10 a.m.**

This 5K run/walk traces the roads of Midtown, Piedmont Park and finishes on the parade route on historic Peachtree Street! All finishers 21 and over will receive a complimentary draft after the race, along with food specials from Fado Irish Pub. More information can be found online at colony-square-midtown.com

**Kegs and Eggs, Virginia Highlands
March 11, 10 a.m.**

Some of the best brunch spots in the Highlands are making this St. Patrick's Day themed brunch sure to be a fun time. Registration begins at Neighbor's Pub in Virginia Highlands from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Map and food and drink information is given out at time of registration. More details at atlantabartours.com.

**Shamrock N' Roll Road Race, Atlantic Station
Sunday, March 12, 8:30 a.m.**

Presented by the Atlanta Junior Charity League, this family friendly road race was named "Best Charity Running Event" by Best Self Atlanta Magazine. More information at atlanticstation.com/events.

LuckyFest, Piedmont Park

Friday, March 17 at 4 p.m., Saturday, March 18 11 a.m. - Park Tavern hosts its annual festival with live bands and green beer all day long. Tickets start at \$10. parktavern.com/events





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<p>5 - 8 Yr Olds 4:00 - 5:00 pm Tuesdays, March 7 - April 11 6 week class</p>	<p>9 & Older 5:00 - 6:30 pm Tuesdays, March 7 - 28 4 week class</p>
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Register at ustaatlanta.com/jrtennisapprentice
Registration closes March 1 8 player minimum per class



Is designed to teach beginners skills needed to play Jr USTA league matches



**"A Drop in the Bucket" Campaign
Painting the Browning Courthouse**

The Browning Courthouse on La Vista Road in Tucker is a familiar sight to many. The building was built circa 1860 and is now maintained by the Tucker Historical Society. At that time DeKalb County was divided into eleven militia districts. Browning was one of the districts and had its own courthouse. This courthouse is now one of the oldest public buildings in DeKalb County and is the oldest in Tucker. It is one of just two district courthouses left in Georgia. The building was in use through the 1970's with "Court held at 10:00 a.m., the third Saturday of each month".



In 1985 the building was moved to its current location from the corner of La Vista and Fellowship Rd. Development of the Browning Village shopping center and plans for future road widening made the move necessary.

The Browning Courthouse is constructed of Georgia Heart Pine, an old growth pine that is very strong, very dense and very hard. It is water resistant, termite resistant and well adapted to the southern environment. This has greatly contributed to the longevity of the building.

But like all structures, the building needs upkeep. The exterior is now in need of painting. Unfortunately, the current paint contains lead and will have to be removed or encapsulated before new paint is applied. The Historical Society has consulted a historic preservation architect and other experts in the field of historic preservation to ensure that the building is cared for properly.

The "Drop in the Bucket" campaign has a goal of \$16,000 to be used to remediate the lead paint problem and repaint the exterior. The Tucker Historical Society currently has \$4000 in the fund. Those interested in donating can donate online at www.tuckergahistorical.org by pressing the donate sign. Donations can also be mailed to Tucker Historical Society, Inc., P.O. Box 1391, Tucker, GA 30085. Buckets for donations are available at the Garden Enthusiast and Main Street Barber Shop-both in Tucker. The Tucker Historical Society is a 501C3 not for profit, all volunteer organization.



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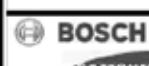




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Smoke Rise Elementary School's Premier Art Showcase

On March 15 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., veteran art teacher, Mrs. Melissa Johns, will host Smoke Rise Elementary School's Art Show and the Smoke Rise community is invited! The purpose of the exhibit is to celebrate artistic achievements. Mrs. Johns stated, "March is Youth Art Month, and it is a great time to have an art show that features our students' work." Students are learning



H. Thang, Grade 5

basic two-dimensional drawings and painting skills. They are making collages, color mixing, learning the use of perspective, and some three-dimensional sculpting skills using ceramic techniques.

Smoke Rise Youth in Georgia Tech News

Older Brothers Help Sister Find Passion for Industrial Engineering

[Printed with permission - from the Georgia Tech News Center. www.news.gatech.edu]

Julianna Trimm is the fourth child in her Smoke Rise family to earn a degree from Georgia Tech. She was considering UGA as a high school student. Older brothers can be rough on a little sister – scaring off potential suitors, engaging in roughhousing, and being generally obnoxious and annoying. Her three older brothers helped her find her place at Georgia Tech and follow in their footsteps to earn a degree from one of the most prestigious public institutions in the country.

They introduced her to Georgia Tech's tradition, campus and academic programs, helping her channel her love of math and accounting into the H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISyE.)

"They knew me and what I liked," Trimm said. "They majored in physics, mechanical engineering and computer science. If they hadn't come here first, I would never have heard about industrial engineering and fallen in love with it."

Not only does Trimm love that ISyE is the number one ranked industrial engineering program in the country, according to the U.S. News & World Report rankings, but she also loves the diversity of disciplines that make up the course work.

Having four Georgia Tech students/graduates in the family made for some interesting conversations around the dinner table. Even though her mother didn't attend Georgia Tech, she quickly became enamored with what her children were experiencing in this environment.

Trimm got to be at Georgia Tech with two of her brothers, and she's thrilled that all of her brothers attended her graduation. They're all celebrating her accomplishment, which has led to a job already lined up at KPMG. It makes her grateful for her brothers and that she followed their advice and followed them to Georgia Tech.



Julianna Trimm (L), her older brothers and mother Kim Rowan. They all grew up on Silversmith Lane in Smokerise.

Pine Straw for Sale

**Boy Scout Troop 100
2017 Boy Scout Summer Activities Program**

**\$4.00 per Bale
(5 Bale Minimum)**

**FREE Delivery
Delivery: During March**

This is a fund raiser for a local Boy Scout Troop to be able to fund scouts to attend the Boy Scout Summer camp program, a trip to Sea Base and purchase needed camping gear for the troop.

**To Order Call: Michael or Malachi Lindsey
770-657-8984
or e-mail: troop100pinestraw@gmail.com**

GEORGIA IRIS SOCIETY MEETING

The Georgia Iris Society will meet Saturday, March 11, 2PM – 4PM at St. Bartholomew Episcopal Church, 1790 Lavista Road in Atlanta. Our program will be presented by Denise Hartline, microbiologist at CDC, avid native plant gardener and Georgia Native Plant Society (GNPS) Rescue Facilitator. Denise will provide a brief overview of native irises encountered in the Southeastern United States.

Our meetings are free to the public and all are welcome. Join us for education, beautification and recreation. Door prizes and refreshments will be provided. For more information contact Harvey Holmes or Stacy Cooke at 404-202-3888.

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the remainder of their content courses on grade level. The situation is repeated throughout middle school with a large percentage of students accelerated in English, Math, Science – or all three!

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SRCA Board News

The SRCA board started 2017 with meetings on January 2 and 30th and a major presentation before city leadership on January 23 in support of the concept of the development of the 88-acre parcel at Hugh Howell and Mountain Industrial as a mixed-use community and bridge from Smoke Rise to the center section of our city. The petition that we put forth in early January-- launched to gauge community interest in the proposal for improvement and in assistance to city leaders-- garnered 982 signatures in support over a two-week period. This has served as impetus for the board to continue to regularly discuss the prospects for change at the property and also the greater concept of the inclusion of Smoke Rise into our new city with our elected officials. We also meet and interact periodically with the developer, Stephen Macauley.



Please mark your calendars for the annual public membership meeting to be held on **Tuesday March 28, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall of Smoke Rise Baptist Church.** The annual review of association activities and accomplishments will be provided and we will certainly have much to report with respect to development in the city of Tucker. Special invited guests are Tucker Mayor Auman, District 1 Council Members van de Kreke and Rosenfeld, Commissioner Jester and Major Padrick from the Tucker precinct. Owing to the wrap-up of the legislative schedule, it is unlikely Senator Henson or Representative Mitchell will be able to join us.

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HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION FILING DEADLINE APRIL 3

nancy@nancyjester.com

If you are a new homeowner in DeKalb County or have not previously filed for homestead exemption, you may qualify for a fairly significant tax break on your annual property tax. The homestead exemption must be applied for in person, by mail, or online if you owned and resided in your home on January 1st of this year. Remember that this exemption is not automatically granted. As a homeowner, you must file for it. Once you have filed for homestead exemption renewal is automatic and you do not need to reapply. If you reside in a city, you should check to see if your city requires a separate homestead exemption filing.

Also, in addition to the basic homestead exemption, there are also special exemptions for citizens ages 62 and older and for residents that are totally and permanently disabled. For more information, call the County Tax Commissioner's office at 404-298-4000.

Tucker Reid Library Events:

March 6, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
 Skype Author Talk with **Victoria Jamieson, author of Roller Girl!**

Join us as we enjoy a virtual book discussion with Victoria Jamieson, author of the Newbery Honor-winning graphic novel Roller Girl. Following the discussion, we'll have a question and answer session with members of Atlanta's own roller derby team, The Atlanta Roller Girls! (Ages 9-17)



March 21, 6:00 p.m.– 7:30 p.m.
Anime Club.

Come join us to watch Anime and enjoy snacks too! (Ages 12 – 17)

March 22, 10:00 am – noon
Introduction to Microsoft Powerpoint 2013

Become familiar with Powerpoint 2013 layout and navigation. Learn how to create, edit, and save a simple slide show and explore printing options. Mouse, typing skills and some experience with Windows required. Registration begins Monday, March 13.

Little Libraries

Three new SRCA 'libraries' have been installed in SmokeRise! They are located near each of the neighborhood pools: Silver Hill near the Summit pool, Glacier near Smoke Rise Bath & Racquet, and Mountain Creek Ct at the entrance to Mountain Creek Swim Club. All are accessible by car or foot.

This is a "borrow one and return or donate a new book" honor system. Neighbors have already started to fill and take advantage of this new community amenity. The Forest neighborhood has also added a library and there are three other privately erected ones looking for more business: Carrington Ct, the western cul-de-sac of Trotters Ct, and Kingston Cross. SRCA recently had a request for benches at their locations. If there is interest in this, let your Smoke Rise Community Association know.



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Walk To Remember 2017

The 2017 Walk to Remember was one of the best yet! In spite of rescheduling the walk because of stormy weather, over 75 people showed up to remember young lives lost and celebrate new beginnings. Many of the walkers brought along their children and dogs! Over 200 beautiful red and red and white striped tulip bulbs were again planted at the corner of Hugh Howell Road and Silver Hill Road (north). Boy Scout Troop 876 was there to aid walkers in crossing the two intersections.

The Mountain Mums are so thankful to see that this has truly become a community event!! They thank the SRCA for their support and sponsorship as well as The Smoke Rise Agents, Pincentives, Its My Party Rentals (Fantastic tent!!), Rosenfeld Jewelers, Climate Technicians Incorporated, Kroger, The Metropolitan and so many others. Thank you for helping us raise money for driving scholarships for teenagers, and raising awareness about distracted driving. Also, thank you for coming together as a community and remembering!

Of Note to the Community: Safety Alerts & Watches

by Cedric Ross

A community is made up of family, friends and in some cases really good neighbors. We are fortunate to have all of the above, please take a moment and read the stories below about several groups of Pine Straw salesmen you should use caution in dealing with. I can't speak to the accuracy of the stories but better warned than not. In all industries there are good and not so good. Sometimes it is best to request a service than have someone show up on your door step. When contracting someone it may be best to get references from others who have used their services before making a decision. The choice of course is yours. (The stories have been edited).

“Three guys in a very nice pickup truck pulling a trailer loaded with pine straw stopped to ask if we wanted pine straw put down and we asked the price of the straw and putting it down. They said usually it was \$5.00 per bale, but would do it for \$3.50 per bale. We only had it put in the front yard. Ended up in a bad situation with them as they grossly overcharged us by several hundred dollars! They did have long needle, very clean straw, but definitely overcharged us and we wanted to warn all of the neighbors in this area to be cautious if you see these guys! The head guy was (name removed) and they were nice clean cut guys, but they are NOT to be trusted!!”

“On February 7th, a pickup with fancy wheels, stopped at my neighbors and got their approval to distribute straw. They got a price per bale, but at the end of a very poor distribution performance, told the people they had put out over 400 bales of straw coming to over \$1,400. Normally, this family only needs about 60 bales at most and usually pays just over \$300. The salesperson was militant. They talked ugly, flailed their hands about the price when the man of the house would not pay them what they wanted and would not let them near the truck to observe the bails or get the tag number. The neighbors called the police... This was a scary, bad situation that we are warning all members about. There were extra people that would not allow my neighbor to look at the pine straw on the truck. He believes their bales were very small rather than being normal size. In the end, my neighbor finally got a tag number, but he paid them way too much for the poor job of spreading. They threw pine straw all over the yard when leaving and did not clean up after the job.”

If you see something, say something. Thank you to those who did say something.


Crime Reports

- 2/8/2017 Burglary 6000 Block Kings Mountain Way around 11:00am

We make an effort to list local crimes, if we miss something please forgive our oversight. Email address for submission - staff@smokesignalnews.com.

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Smoke Rise Preferred Contractor's List

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 as a potential starting point. We maintain a free listing of contractors and other service providers that your neighbors have used successfully. If you want a copy of this list, please email Jim Farmer at: jimfarmer@live.com or call him at (770) 939-8949. We also ask for your feedback. Tell us about a contractor or service provider that you have used with opinions about their work. This information will be useful for future revisions of the list.

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Stone Mountain Rotary Club

By Lizbeth Dison, Vice President, Media and Analyst Relations - Shiny, Inc.

New technology brings meetings to broader audience

The Rotary Club of Stone Mountain can now bring its weekly meetings literally to the entire world, making it the first “hybrid” Rotary club, a combination of a traditional brick-and-mortar club and an e-club, where members interact virtually through an Internet connection.

February’s first weekly member meeting was broadcast live on the Internet via the GoToMeeting app. Four members logged in remotely to hear and see the entire meeting, including a presentation on his work with Amnesty International by Liberian native (and now Norcross resident) Waylee George, who detailed the state of human rights in his home country.



Amnesty International spokesman Waylee George (shown here with RCSM president Margie Kersey) was the first speaker for the live weekly webcast.

Like many civic organizations, Rotary has seen declining membership numbers over the past few years. Busy working professionals and retired travelers often had difficulty meeting the stringent attendance requirements of a Rotary membership. E-clubs began to arise to meet the needs of members who wanted to commit to a club but couldn’t always make a regular weekly meeting in a physical location. These online clubs took advantage of technology to connect with one another via online meetings and networking sites, or could listen to a pre-recorded meeting at their convenience. The e-clubs would also schedule in-person socials and community projects which provided members a change to meet and work together face-to-face. But e-clubs were still considered distinctly different from those clubs

with a physical presence, primarily in the designation as “e-club.”

The Rotary Council on Legislation in 2016 enacted legislation that removed the distinction between traditional clubs and e-clubs. It recognized that clubs have been meeting in a number of ways: regular clubs were having digital meetings and e-clubs were holding in-person meetings. The distinction between the two types of clubs was no longer meaningful- clubs formally known as “e-clubs” now no longer had to use that nomenclature.

The Stone Mountain club quickly realized that this enactment offered an opportunity to address the challenges of an aging membership while appealing to the needs of a younger, more connected population. By becoming a hybrid club, Stone Mountain could offer the best of both worlds to members and potential candidates. The club’s physical presence still offers plenty of opportunities for social interaction and community projects; the online presence allows live interaction with weekly meetings as well as the chance to watch the event on-demand.

The club has plans to launch its YouTube channel in February, which will archive its meeting videos for others to view, particularly useful for Rotarians looking for a more convenient way to fulfill meeting make-up requirements.

The Stone Mountain club meets every Tuesday for noon lunch at Smoke Rise Country Club; visitors and those interested in learning more about Rotary are welcome to attend as a guest of the club. To learn more about the club and its upcoming programs, go to www.stonemountainrotary.org, or follow on Facebook and Twitter.



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HEALTH NOTES:

by Cheri Schneider, M.D.

Why colonoscopy is a procedure people love to hate?

Last month I wrote an article on how important it is to be screened for colon cancer.

I can't emphasize enough how important this is! Colon cancer is often silent until it is too late. Current screening recommendations for all average risk individuals is to begin screening at age 50 and continue until somewhere around 75. Those with a higher than average risk should start screening at an earlier age.

Although there are several screening options, colonoscopy remains the 'gold standard' for colon cancer screening. Why is this? Colonoscopy is a screening test that not only detects cancer, but can sometimes treat it. Colonoscopy gives the physician a direct look at the wall of the entire colon. If any abnormalities are seen, the doctor can biopsy the area.

What happens during a colonoscopy? The patient comes to the procedure room (either in the doctor's office or in an outpatient room of the hospital) after doing a bowel prep at home to clean out the colon. He is then sedated (sleepy, but not asleep), and the doctor inserts a flexible tube equipped with a fiber optic light and magnification into the rectum. This flexible "microscope" makes it possible to see the walls of the colon up very close. The physician guides this scope from the rectum upwards into the colon, all the way to the junction of the small intestine, carefully looking for polyps and growths. If your colon has been thoroughly cleaned out, the doctor using the scope should be able to see the inside of the walls of your colon or large intestine clearly. These growths can look like tiny pink cauliflower florets, worm-like structures, flat growths or mushroom-like structures that hang from the colon wall.

How can a colonoscopy 'treat' cancer? When the doctor sees a polyp, he or she will biopsy or completely remove the growth, noting the appearance of the growth and where it is located in the procedure record. This does not hurt. The polyp is then sent to the lab for analysis. Some polyps (usually adenomas) will have abnormal cells or frank cancer. Most polyps will not be cancer. If one of the polyps does have cancer cells, more testing may be required to determine if the cancer has broken through the lining into deeper layers of the colon wall. Sometimes complete removal of the polyp is all the treatment necessary.

Why is it that many people avoid having a colonoscopy? Many people object to the amount of liquid necessary to drink to 'prep' the colon. The prep also makes you have diarrhea and pass a lot of stool. This is what the prep is supposed to do! The most common cause of an "inadequate" colonoscopy is an inadequate prep for the procedure. Following the instructions carefully can help you avoid having to repeat the exam.

After the colonoscopy is complete, you will be wheeled back to the holding area until you are more awake. When this happens, the doctor will come and give a preliminary report, followed by instructions for follow up. The person you brought to drive you home (because you had sedative drugs, remember?) should be able to help you remember what the doctor said. Like Nike says, "Just do it!!" It could save your life!



A Christmas Garden

It started out as a Christmas present from my husband: a table-top herb-garden-starter appliance. Basically, a plant nursery. Having wasted so many store-bought fresh herbs that spoiled in the refrigerator before we could use them, I was looking for a way of eliminating that waste by growing herbs at our house so we could pick and use just what we needed when we needed it. This has turned out to be the perfect solution. You plug it in, insert some seeds in the pre-formed potting cones, add water with some nutrient, and click "start" on the control screen.



It is pre-programmed to provide 17 hours of light each day and continuously pumps water to keep the seedlings moist. An automatic reminder lets you know when more nutrient solution is needed or if the power has been out requiring resetting of the clock. In fewer than 30 minutes, I had it assembled and loaded with six different types of herbs.



In two weeks we had small green shoots showing, and in two months, we had full plants ready to be repotted into something larger and hearty enough to handle some harvesting. Our favorites are the dill and cilantro, which we use regularly now from our own kitchen garden.

This small success has led us to venture a bit deeper into the wonders of gardening. Believing in sustainability, we wanted to try some tomatoes, squash and other vegetables that could go from our own garden to our table. But the image of deer chomping their way through our yard caused concern; we'd really be disappointed if they ate the product of our labors. So we did some research and have found an amazing solution that has captivated our interest while expanding our commitment to growing our own produce. That solution will be the subject of the next TechTalk column in the April paper.

Senior Connections Builds a Wall of Hearts!

Senior Connections is building a "Wall of Hearts" as part of its February and March fundraising campaign. For each meal sponsored in its Meals on Wheels program (valued at \$6.00), a paper heart with the name of the donor and whom they are honoring with the donation will be placed on a wall at Senior Connections' corporate office in Chamblee. The goal is to collect 1,936 hearts during the month-long campaign – 44 hearts for each of Senior Connections' for 44 years of helping seniors "age in place."



Donors can visit seniorconnectionsatl.com to give a heart or call 770-455-7602 and have a volunteer fill out a heart to hang on The Wall of Hearts. Followers can track on Facebook the growth of The Wall of Hearts, which will be displayed in Senior Connections' office throughout March in conjunction with the national March for Meals sponsored by Meals on Wheels Association of America. The campaign runs through March 16, 2017.



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Students from the elementary cast try out some costumes for their characters: Young Simba, Scar and ZAZU.

The Smoke Rise Academy of Arts drama department Presents



March 24-26, Fellowship Hall of Smoke Rise Baptist Church

This year, both elementary and high school classes are combining efforts for this grand presentation! The elementary cast will perform Friday, evening and Saturday matinee. The high school cast will perform Saturday evening and Sunday matinee.

LION KING is a family fun show you are sure to enjoy. Shows begin at 7:00 Friday and Saturday and 3:00 Saturday and Sunday. Each show will have live pre-show entertainment, concessions, out-takes video and FURKIDS silent auction.

In keeping with the animal theme of LION KING the drama students are excited to partner with FURKIDS and AARF local animal rescue shelters. Both organizations are no-kill cat and dog rescue shelters in our local community. These shelters thrive on donations and volunteer help. We are asking for donations of items useful to these shelters to help offset their expenses. Items most needed include: dog collars, leashes, soft squeaky toys, cat litter, cat nip toys, Friskies Turkey and Giblets (pate) canned food, 13 gallon or 30 gallon trash bags, paper towels, bleach, Clorox Wipes copy paper, cash and gift cards.

FURKIDS will be naming their next litter of kittens after cast characters in the LION KING and will set up a "Sponsor a Lion King" character board for the show. The students are excited to see pictures of their "kitty" characters. There will also be a silent auction for a FURKIDS Kitten Birthday Party at the winner's home or party location.

The Smoke Rise Academy of Arts is in Smoke Rise Baptist Church: 5901 Hugh Howell Road, Stone Mountain. Classes are offered all year in music, dance, drama and art. Visit www.smokerisebaptist.org/arts for class information and registrations.

Boston Marathon...continued from page 1

becoming the first major marathon to do so. This year, the Boston Athletic Association has continued its commitment to women's running by inviting the 261 Fearless Team to participate in the 121st running of the Boston Marathon on April 17, 2017.

"It is a joy to run with Liz in the 121st Boston Marathon," said Switzer. "What was a dramatic incident 50 years ago became instead a defining moment for me and women runners like Liz!"

To donate on Elizabeth Mann's behalf visit:

<https://www.crowdrise.com/261fearlessboston2017/fundraiser/elizabethmann7>

To learn more about the non-profit 261 Fearless, please visit: www.261fearless.org.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

By Aviva Hoffmann

Love Me, Love My Dog!



The old proverb says a lot. However, in order to keep the peace in Smoke Rise, there are some county codes that pet owners – and non-pet owners – should know.

DeKalb County's Code of Ordinances regarding animals cover a lot of basics, from transportation of animals to responsibilities of owners of guard dogs. Two sections of the code that seem to interest people most can be found under "Chapter 5 – Animals" and "Chapter 16 - Miscellaneous provisions and offenses."

DeKalb animal owners must ensure their animal does not harm people, property or other animals. Also, owners are responsible for immediately removing excrement deposited by their animal. Additionally, your precious pet is not allowed to make any vocalizations in violation of the county noise ordinance. This basically means your dog can't bark for more than 15 minutes without interruption or more than 30 minutes, if intermittent. The code does make an exception for "...animal vocalizations that are given as a warning to the presence of an intruder." (Full details regarding vocalization limitations can be found in Section 16-304.)

Section 5-5 of the county code covers "animals at large." The main point of this section is: use common sense. Don't let your animal roam the streets! (with the exception of county parks that are specifically designated as off leash areas).

Remember, the codes are in place to protect you, our community – and our beloved pets. You can reach DeKalb County's Animal Services & Enforcement Department at (404) 294-2996. You can also find out more information online at: <http://www.dekalbanimalservices.com/>

To review the DeKalb County Code of Ordinances online, go to the county's homepage at: <http://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/> click on the "Government" tab and then the drop down title, "County Ordinances." Or the specific link is: https://www.municode.com/library/ga/dekalb_county/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=ORAC. Look for "Chapter 5 - ANIMALS" and "Chapter 16 - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS AND OFFENSES."

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Mountain Mums Fall in Love with Orchids

I have often heard it said, "Diamonds are a girl's best friend." During their March 8 meeting, the Mountain Mums garden club found that for some girls, their best friend might be an orchid (or two).

Janice Gummersall is a woman who is truly in love with her hobby! In fact, she began with a few orchids in pots in her windows, then moved to pots in the basement under "grow lights," then to a greenhouse, and now a bigger greenhouse--stuffed with benches and shelves full of hundreds of varieties of orchid. In the process, she has become a self-taught expert in the field.

Did you know vanilla beans are the fruit of the vanilla vine, an orchid? And did you know the protected yellow 'lady slipper'



(left to right) Jody Currie, Debbie Jones, Angie Ballard, Becky Dennison, Janice Gummersall, guest speaker

is a native orchid that grows in the wild? Orchids come in all sizes and shapes and depending on their rarity can cost from a few dollars up to \$10,000. In Georgia, the majority of orchids are grown outdoors during warm weather and taken in when the temperature dips below 50 degrees.

The most common, the phallopis or 'moth orchid', is available in most floral departments and comes in all colors except blue (the 'blue' orchids you see in the stores have taken up dye).

Grow this orchid in the original pot, which should come planted in either moss or bark 'soil'. Kept in low light (bright, but not direct sun), and when benevolently ignored, most can bloom for up to six months. Water the plant, reaching the roots, once a week. Do not use 'three ice cubes' to water the plants. This will not reach the roots. Leave the spike after the bloom fades until it turns gray. As the plant grows, repot it in a slightly larger pot filled with specialized orchid 'soil' (bark). This should not be needed more than every year or two.

The Mountain Mums hosted the Walk to Remember in January. They had a workday at the Hugh Howell triangle in February and plan to go to Brookstone Senior Living to work with residents on a Easter garden themed project. Join the Mountain Mums at their next meeting, March 8, at the home of Gaye Auman. And join us on a field trip March 22 to the Autumn Hill Nursery. Email Carol Wales for more information about either of these events: cawale@hotmail.com.

Smoke Rise Garden Club

The Smoke Rise Garden Club brought Valentine's cards to sign for the Valentines for Veterans program and enjoyed Asian meatballs and sticky rice during their February meeting. The speaker, Sue Pickens is a Georgia Registered Landscape Architect and ISA Certified Arborist. Sue is owner of Urban Woods and Landscapes, LLC. Her topic is "Sustainable Landscaping; Lessons to reduce maintenance, save water and protect our wildlife." Sue's topic offered suggestions for our own backyards as well as urban use.

If you are interested in learning more about the SRGC, please contact Jane Culbertson at 770-938-3060 or destovan@aol.com.



Mountain Shadow Garden Club

The Mountain Shadow Garden Club program on March 13 will be a special presentation by well-known Smoke Rise resident Jim Tucker. Mr. Tucker, now 94 years old, will present a discussion on his approach to growing plants and knowledge gained in developing his large garden of flowering shrubs and his orchid collection.

Mr. Tucker, a World War II veteran, was a Georgia Tech Chemical Engineering Co-Op Student with work terms at pulp and paper mills when he was called up in 1943. He was deployed to the Pacific Theatre where, as a Bomb Disposal officer and explosives expert, he deactivated bombs, mines, and booby traps on Leyte and Cebu Islands in the Philippines and disposed of explosives on the peninsular on the ocean side of Tokyo Bay in Japan. When he returned home, he continued his studies at Georgia Tech, and graduated in December, 1947.

Respected by the pulp and paper industry for his 40 years of work in design, engineering, and management, Mr. Tucker provided technical expertise on mill appraisals, feasibility studies for major mill projects, and strategic planning. He was an internationally recognized authority on pulp and paper processes, advanced engineering techniques, and management. He entered the engineering consulting field in 1963 and in 1976, he joined Simons-Eastern Consultants in Decatur, GA, as vice president and chief engineer.



While Mr. Tucker always had an interest in plants and his home landscape, gardening became the primary focus of his attention after he moved to his current home in 1997, which is situated on a large shady lot. He nurtures more than 50 orchids of various species in his home, plus various other unique tropical houseplants. The large wooded property where his home is located includes a wide range of camellias, azaleas, rhododendrons, viburnums, hydrangeas, and other shade-loving shrubs, plus iris, daffodils, peonies, and other sun-loving plants where sufficient sun is available. With concerns about adequate water for maintaining valued landscape plants, Mr. Tucker had a deep well drilled a few years ago and installed a special irrigation system to provide overhead watering of all plants.

Always willing to try new ideas and techniques in gardening, Mr. Tucker became proficient in various types of plant propagation, including layering. Over 80% of the hundreds of azaleas in his garden are the result of ground layering and 30% of the numerous camellias were air layered. Other woody plants layered include rhododendrons and viburnums.

Mr. Tucker first became a member of Mountain Shadow Garden Club in 1997 and has seen many changes through the years. Originally a club for men only, the membership became "co-ed" in 2000 and now has a balance of men and women members. Low attendance was a concern as members aged and meetings sometimes boring. Mr. Tucker led the effort to schedule speakers and programs that would attract larger audiences. Field trips to popular Atlanta area gardens and other efforts to involve new members helped revitalize the club.

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 promptly at 7:30 p.m. in Founders Hall, Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 5801 Hugh Howell Road, Stone Mountain. Free. Refreshments and socializing follow. For more information or directions, contact club president Jeff Raines at (404) 641-8633. www.facebook.com/MtShadowGardenClub

Morning Glories Explore the Concrete Jungle

The February meeting of the Smoke Rise Morning Glories was held at the home of Janet McGinnis with the emphasis on the celebration of Valentine's Day. The featured speak was Kathrine Kennedy, from Concrete Jungle, a local organization that helps feed Atlanta's poor by donating fresh produce to area food banks.

Concrete Jungle started in 2009 by Craig Durken and Aubrey Daniels after discovering the massive amounts of ignored fruit and nuts that grow each year on untended lots and public areas. Their focus began as they harvested apples and turned them into homemade apple cider. As they searched the area for apples, they became aware of other trees and sources for fresh fruit that could be either distributed fresh or preserved. Dogwood Farm in Southwest Atlanta is their small farm where they also grow vegetables to donate. Today, Concrete Jungle is a year round organization that maps local trees, plans harvests and welcomes volunteers to assist with picking and delivering fruit, berries, or produce from your garden. If you have a tree that produces food or a harvest from your garden that you would like to share, they will come out and harvest it for you. If you would like to get involved you can sign up to help during the harvest season or donate to their cause by visiting concrete-jungle.org.

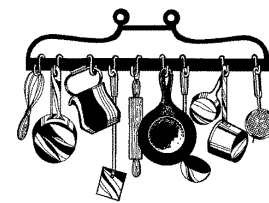


L-R: Marsha Pittard, Brenda Jones, Katherine Kennedy, Joy Streeter, Mary Clark, Janet McGinnis.

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HODGE PODGE



By Jenny Hall

Well, here it is again! Spring-ter in Stone Mountain. We all know that March cannot make up its mind - is it winter? Is it spring? What is going on here? One day it is 70° and balmy and the next we are plunging down into the depths of Arctic Revenge and it's 19°. We struggle with migraines and sniffles, hot flashes and shivers and use the AC during the day and heat at night. We waffle between shorts and snowsuits and, if you are like me, you just finally give up and stay in your pajamas all day. I think pajamas have become quite stylish anyway, so this fits into my lifestyle just fine. It might not fit into anyone else's visual preference, but I'm not here to please anyone who can't appreciate my baggy teal pajama bottoms, fluffy teal sleeping hoodie and red wool overcoat topped off with a muffler, grey mittens and whichever pair of shoes is handy and will accommodate two pairs of socks. This is my preferred dog walking attire. I usually find myself alone on the street. I don't know why.

So since it's still supposed to be cold, I still want warming comfort food but know I should have a kale salad instead. Because I can't make up my mind, the recipes this month are in totally indefinite categories. The first is stoup. Stoup is a cross between soup and stew. Perfect March food.

Hamburger Macaroni Stoup

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1 pound ground beef | 4 cups beef broth |
| 2 Tablespoons olive oil | 1 (15 oz) can tomato sauce |
| 2 medium carrots, chopped | 2 stalks celery, chopped |
| 1 medium onion, chopped | 1 teaspoon dried marjoram |
| 2 cloves garlic, minced | 1/2-3/4 teaspoon dried thyme |
| 2 bay leaves | 1 1/4 cups dry elbow pasta |
| Parsley and grated Parmesan cheese | |
| 2 (15 oz) cans undrained petite-diced tomatoes | |
| 1 Tablespoon Worcestershire sauce | |

In large Dutch oven, heat 1 tablespoon olive oil and cook the carrots, celery and onion about 3 minutes - add garlic and cook 1 more minute. Dump mixture in a bowl. In the same pot, add olive oil and ground beef. Season with salt and pepper and cook until brown. Drain excess fat. Return the sautéed veggies to beef and add everything except the dry pasta. Bring to a boil. Add pasta and cook, stirring occasionally, about 15 minutes. Remove bay leaves and serve warm with parsley and Parmesan. You can make this thinner by adding more broth and it's a thick stew/soup. The pasta cooks fine in the tomato liquid. And it's like hamburger helper the next day, so kids will love this too. Vegetable broth and veggie meat works just fine, too.

This next recipe is adapted from "Taste of Home" and is like a cornbread/corn pudding/souffle/quiche. It's called "Creole Cornbread" but is very rich and dense; it will serve 10-12. Pull out that iron skillet for this! (And it's gluten free.)

Cornbread/Souffle/Quiche?

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 2 cups cold, cooked white rice | 2 large eggs |
| 1 cup plain cornmeal | 1 cup whole milk |
| 1/2 cup chopped onion | scant 1/4 cup oil |
| 1/2 teaspoon baking soda | 1 teaspoon salt |
| 1-2 medium jalapenos, seeded and chopped | |
| 1 (15 ounce) can creamed corn | |
| 3 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese | |
| 1/2 teaspoon baking powder | |

Oil skillet and preheat oven to 350° while you're chopping peppers and onions. Mix the rice, cornmeal, onion, peppers, salt, baking powder and baking soda in a big ol' bowl. Mix the eggs, milk and oil in another bowl to combine. Add the creamed corn. Add the egg mixture to the rice mixture and stir well to blend. Fold in the grated cheese.

Sprinkle some cornmeal on the bottom of the oiled skillet. Pour batter in, spread and bake at 350° for 50 minutes or until it tests done and rises a bit. It won't rise much. If it browns too quickly, you can cover it or rotate the skillet in the oven. The recipe says to serve warm, and it would be great with soup, chili or even a fruit salad. The egg/milk/cheese ratio really is quiche-like, but the rice and corn pull it into a pudding/souffle texture. It stays hot as blue blazes for at least 20 minutes, and in that skillet it stays warm for what seemed like an eternity. I nibbled on it all day and I don't think it ever cooled down until I refrigerated the leftovers. It does reheat super easy, too.

Because I'm running out of room I can't put in a full recipe for us sweet lovers, but in keeping with the indefinite category theme, and for when you can't decide on chocolate or peanut butter, just mix equal parts of peanut butter and Hershey's® syrup. Instant fake Nutella® that's great spread on a plain cookie or finger.

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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 copy in writing with a check for the months the ad is to run. Deadline is the 10th of each month. ADS NEED TO BE PREPAID. Checks should be made out to *Smoke Signal* and mailed to 1868 East Gate Drive, Smoke Rise, GA 30087-1911. When submitting classified ads, please include your full name, address, and phone number. This information is for our records only! For classified ads, contact Barb Hess at (404) 229-0742 or barbhess48@gmail.com. For information on display (box) advertisements or flyer inserts, see contact information on page 2.

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Smoke Rise Resident to Chair Side by Side Clubhouse Fundraiser

Terry Ingwersen, a member of the GFWC Stone Mountain Woman's Club, and former vice chairman of the event, agreed to chair the 2017 Jawbones (Lawyers) vs Sawbones (Doctors) Basketball Game to raise money for scholarships for the Side-by-Side Brain Injury Clubhouse in Stone Mountain. Side-by-Side Brain Injury Clubhouse is the only one of its kind in the state. Insurance often does not fund post hospital or rehab facility care.

Terry, an Auburn graduate with a Master's degree from Georgia State University, spent approximately 25 years with the Southern Bell/Bellsouth organization and was a busy wife and mom to two active sons. After taking advantage of an opportunity to retire early, she learned about many opportunities to give back through her church, her volunteering friends and through membership in the Stone Mountain Woman's Club.

The people served and helped by Side-by-Side have experienced life changing brain injuries, and their stories are remarkable and inspiring. Both the Lilburn Woman's Club and the Stone Mountain Woman's Club have family members who have experienced the services of Side-by-Side, and so it was natural for the two organizations to join forces and help organize Jawbones vs Sawbones six years ago. The planning team still includes members of the Lilburn and Stone Mountain Woman's Clubs, attorneys and members of the health care community and members of the local community.

The 2017 Jawbones vs Sawbones fundraiser will be at the Sheffield Gym at Mercer in Atlanta, on Saturday, March 25. The doors open at 5:00 p.m. with carnival events for children and a silent auction with wonderful items for your bidding pleasure. The competitive basketball game, with bragging rights between the lawyers and doctors, begins at 6:30 p.m. Thanks to the many wonderful volunteers and sponsors, Terry feels the ambitious goal of \$100,000 for Side by Side will be reached. She extends special thanks to presenting sponsor, RESURGENS Charitable Foundation.

