

SMOKE SIGNAL

VOLUME 50, ISSUE 7

Serving the Smoke Rise Community Since 1968

October, 2017

www.smokesignalnews.com

The staff of the Smoke Signal wishes you all a boo-tiful Halloween!



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Taste of Tucker

Street Fair Offers Tasty Licks from Food and Music

A few thousand celebrants will enjoy a great party at the eighth annual Taste of Tucker on Saturday, Oct. 7. Running 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Tucker's Main Street, the festival features delicious samples from more than 20 area restaurants, plus live music from local bands.

Among the special attractions are a children's play area coordinated by Tucker First United

Methodist Church, a space for the sale of local produce organized by the Tucker Farmers Market, and drink venues coordinated by Keller Williams Realty Atlanta Partners. Primo Grills will raffle off an \$1,800.00 ceramic outdoor cooker. Major sponsors include Restaurant Equipment Services, Georgia United Credit Union and Primo Grills.

Admission is free. Attendees purchase \$1.00 tickets to exchange for food samples, with "tastes" costing between one and four tickets.

Proceeds from the event benefit NETWorks Cooperative Ministry, which fights poverty and hunger in the community; EIRO, a consulting service for churches; Camp Kudzu, which supports children and teens who have Type 1 diabetes; and the Old Town Tucker Merchants Association.

Taste of Tucker depends on volunteers to set up, conduct and tear down the event. To sign up as a volunteer, to reserve booth space for a restaurant, or to view updates on vendors and musical groups, visit www.tasteoftucker.com, or check out www.facebook.com/tasteoftucker.



HALLOWEEN: A GHOSTLY TALE

by Barbara Bruschi

The air is filled with the sound of mystery as the veil of darkness descends upon the earth. Ghosts are dancing and whirling about and the moonlight casts its shadows to inspire fright in the night. Each year on Halloween for one night, fantasies become reality.

Centuries ago on October 31, the Celtic people celebrated the feast of Samhain, (Lord of the Dead) to seek favors from their pagan deities. "The Druids believed that the spirits were powerful and wild on this night." Sacred oak branches kindled large bonfires during their rituals. People masqueraded in animal costumes and practiced divination by interpretation of good and bad omens. Black cats, bats, spiders, dancing witches, capricious ghosts and dark creatures are symbols that evoke, spook and fear. They still serve as themes for Halloween decorations and costumes.

Halloween is a night to enjoy the freedom of living in fantasy land for a night. It is a time to give treats to our beloved children. This year, we remember the victims of Hurricane Harvey and Irma by donating something, so their shattered lives, can take a little reprieve from all the destruction and heartache they are experiencing.

There are many Halloween Parties in our area and the greater Atlanta that will make your heart beat faster and experience the friendly ghosts as well.

1) Stone Mountain Park: "A Tour of Southern Ghosts." October 13 - 29. Storytellers spin their tales of Southern Ghosts at the Historic Square Grounds. www.stonemountainpark.com

2) Communities, schools and churches offer parties, inquire.

3) Boo at the Zoo: October 21 - 29. Family fun for treats and adventures at Zoo Atlanta. www.zooatlanta.org

4) Day of the Dead (Dia De Los Muertos). Atlanta History Center. October 29. The Center, in conjunction with the Consulate General of Mexico, sponsors this festival to further culture and learning. www.atlantahistorycenter.com

5) Oakland Cemetery: October 20. "A costumed docent guides you through the cemetery's beautifully lit Victorian Gardens" where the stories of many of Atlanta's favorite sons and daughters come alive. www.oaklandcemetery.com

The Vote on the Rise

By Pat Soltys

Many of us were looking forward to the benefits of The Rise bringing dining, retail, different style residents and more to our area at the old Sears property. The second read and vote was held, denying the change to the comprehensive plan which led to denial of the zoning change and special land use permit. The deciding vote on the comprehensive plan was denied in a 5 - 2 vote with only Bill Rosenfeld and Frank Auman voting to approve. There is a lot of resistance to changing the comprehensive plan to change the industrial corridor which means that Smoke Rise is still forced to go through industrial either to get to the rest of Tucker or to have anyone come to Smoke Rise. It seems that there is concern that other properties in the corridor would want to change their zoning as well. The viability, health and importance of the corridor were stated several times, but it is difficult to see as there are 39 empty buildings and 12 buildings used as churches.

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Tucker Civic Association News

The Tucker Civic Association will host its Fall meeting on Monday, October 16 at 7:00 p.m. at the Tucker Middle School. The Smoke Rise Community Association (SRCA) and the Tucker Business Association (TBA) will join the Tucker Civic Association as co-hosts. Please bring a donation of at least one canned good item or another non-perishable food item. These donations will be given to either the NET Food Pantry or NETworks.

There will be a short business meeting where the Citizen of the Year will be presented. The main program will be a candidate forum. Candidates included are:

- District One:
Honey Van De Kreke (incumbent) and Pat Soltys
- District Two:
Matt Robins (incumbent and unopposed)
- District Three:
Michelle Penkava (incumbent) and David Deaton
- Mayor: Frank Auman (incumbent and unopposed)

Council Members whose terms have not expired include: Bill Rosenfeld, District One; Noelle Monferdini, District Two; and Ann Lerner, District Three.



...continued on page 2



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.

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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.

October Calendar of Events

- 2 Smoke Rise Garden Club Meeting at home of Denise Finley, 7:00 p.m.
 - 7 Taste of Tucker, 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Main Street, Tucker
 - 9 Mountain Shadow Garden Club Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Founders Hall, Eastminster Presbyterian Church
 - 9 Multi Garden Clubs Meeting, 1910 Public House, Lilburn
 - 10 Artist's Reception, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Historic DeKalb Courthouse, Decatur
 - 11 Mountain Mums Meeting at home of Jody Currie, 9:45 a.m.
 - 16 Tucker Civic Association Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Fall Meeting & Candidate Forum, Tucker Middle School
 - 17 Kanawha Neighbor Association Annual Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Smoke Rise Country Club
 - 31 Happy Halloween!
- November 2017
- 11 Electronics Recycling Day, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Ace Hardware, Tucker

Smoke Signal Deadlines

OCTOBER 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 **OCTOBER 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!



Halloween... continued from page 1

6) Little 5 Points Halloween Festival and Parade.
October 21. 4:00 p.m.
Eat and drink. Activities include a costume parade, pumpkin carving and live entertainment.
<http://l5phalloween.com>

7) Haints & Saints Homegrown Halloween Parade, Decatur.
October 29. 4:00 p.m.
www.decaurhalloweenparade.com

For all the Halloween happenings: <https://www.events12.com/atlanta/october/>

You can always visit the many haunted houses to experience scary ghosts, ghouls and monsters that chill you to the bone. Fall is a fabulous time to celebrate the change of season and the nature's glorious colors. The sound of festivals is all around us. May the friendly ghosts help you celebrate a Halloween to remember.



Reminder for Pets on Halloween

Keep your pets secured in another room while you are answering the door for trick-or-treaters. That helps prevent your dog or cat from running out of an open door and getting lost.



FREE NEIGHBORHOOD PET LOST AND FOUND
Call Kay McKenzie at 770-491-6784 with information if you have lost or found a pet.

Smoke Rise Baptist Church

Dr. Chris George, Senior Pastor
Bart McNiel, 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 Program
6:30 p.m.

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 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.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.

WEDDINGS

Check ~ Sherman

Richard and Angela Check of 2069 Hessian Court are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Cassie, to Paul Sherman. The couple were married August 15 at Four Seasons Resort Bora Bora at French Polynesia's Leeward Islands. They had an intimate Polynesian ceremony on a sandbar overlooking Mount Otemanu. It was truly a unique experience and one they will cherish forever. Cassie is the Human Resources Manager for a commercial construction company and Paul is the Wholesale Business Development Manager for an oil company. The couple reside in Gainesville, Georgia with their Goldendoodle, Jaxon.



Schneider ~ Norell

Drs. Cheri and Michael Schneider of Millstone are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Charis Schneider to Ben Norell. The couple were married on July 15 in a beautiful outdoor ceremony at Spring Valley Ranch in Eucha, Oklahoma. The two have now made their home in St. Louis, Missouri, where

Ben teaches High School Science. Charis is finishing her master's degree of fine arts in painting at Sam Fox School of Art and Design, Washington University-St. Louis

City of Tucker Election - Candidate News

November 7, 2017 Election (Advance Voting: October 16 - November 3



Honey Van De Kreke
Incumbent Candidate for Tucker City Council District 1, Post 1

Being the first City of Tucker Council Member, District 1 Post 1 has been a privilege for me. We have a fine Mayor and City Council all working hard to give the new city its very best beginning. I am running for reelection because I think it is important to elect leaders with a proven track record who are willing to research and put thought behind the decisions that will guide the future of Smoke Rise, the entire District and City.

I believe my three decades of promoting the right kind of quality business growth and community improvements in Tucker have not only protected the property values in Smoke Rise but demonstrated my integrity, strength of character and commitment to serving our community. We weathered the Great Recession better than some areas of the country because of planning decisions made 20 years ago. I'm proud to have done my part in helping to build our stable community.

The city of Tucker is poised to grow into a thriving city with enough businesses and jobs to support its existing and new residents. We will continue our tradition of attractive homes in stable neighborhoods where the people who live here can enjoy and draw strength from the deep, neighborly bond that already exists. I want Tucker to be the envy of Georgia.

We have much more to do to ensure our future. Tucker will be taking on parks in 2018, and my experience on the DeKalb County Parks Bond Citizens Advisory Board since 2001 representing this area gives me valuable knowledge that will be useful as we go forward.

Enhancing District 1 is important to me not only because I live in Smoke Rise but also because I own a business two miles away. We have only just begun.

More information is available at HoneyVanDeKreke.com.



Pat Soltys
Candidate for Tucker City Council, District 1, Post 1

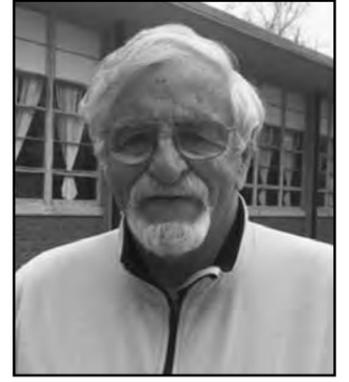
Friends and neighbors in Smoke Rise have strongly suggested, encouraged and supported my candidacy for Tucker City Council. I am known to be an advocate for the community who communicates with transparency, is responsive, and will best represent the constituents of District 1 and Smoke Rise.

I have been involved in my community service since my teenage days, giving my first speech regarding county government reorganization before the Indiana State Legislature at 16 for a group of active and concerned citizens. Service has continued through more than 40 years of work on economic development in four states including helping to bring the Old Town historic center of the City of Manassas to vibrancy. I have also served on many commissions and committees as well as community and charitable boards. In Coventry, CT, I was elected as an officer of the school board. Currently, I serve on the Tucker Zoning Board of Appeals.

Service to the Smoke Rise community includes staff writer and web master for the *Smoke Signal News*, contributor and participant in Smoke Rise Community Association, Walk to Remember, Spencers Mountain HOA, NextDoor.com Lead, Past Board Member and current member of Smoke Rise Country Club, Contributor to Smoke Rise Community Garden, and many local charities.

Property values are very important to me, as I am the lead for Smoke Rise Agents Real Estate Team. I not only understand the driving and sustaining forces of property values but also know what needs to happen within the City of Tucker to protect the values. And, our Smoke Rise property values are certainly not protected or enhanced by a solid industrial corridor dividing 1/3 of the population from the rest of Tucker.

I will have a lot to learn as your council person, but I can promise Responsible, Responsive Representation for our community.



Matt Robbins
Incumbent Candidate for Tucker City Council, District 2, Post 1

I am Matt Robbins, Councilmember for District 2, Post 1. As you may recall, the inaugural election prompted a flurry of interest as 10 of the 19 people running for elected office were from District 2. This time, I am the only one who filed for the November election in the District. I am very humbled and thank the people in District 2 for their vote of confidence. It is an honor to work in close collaboration with the Council in creating Tucker.

My career has been focused on public service, working both within the public and private sectors, nationally, regionally and locally. My 43 years with the EPA kept me involved with the communities impacted by environmental issues and environmental injustice. I created effective programs with many partners, thus maximizing community engagement. This experience with the federal sector is unique to the Council.

There is still so much to do to make Tucker a model for all parties:

- We need to have greater citizen involvement on boards/work groups so that we can learn and grow together;
- We need to collaborate with our existing volunteer groups regarding the parks and recreation efforts, and we need to create connectivity throughout our community;
- We need to continue to work closely in trust with our city council and city staff to address new issues faced as we continue to grow.

Through these first 18 months, our work has sought to implement "the feel of Tucker" for the city as a whole. We on the Council, no matter where the issue lies, are available to assist.

As Council, I personally have the energy, the time and the experience/knowledge to work for the overall good of the City.

Please contact me at (770) 491-1231 and/or on email (mrobbins@tuckerga.gov).

Thank you again for allowing me to serve you and the City.

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City of Tucker Hires First Parks & Rec Director

By Matt Holmes, Communications Director, City of Tucker

The City of Tucker has hired Carlton “Rip” Robertson as its first-ever Director of Parks and Recreation. Robertson, who has nearly two decades of experience working in Parks and Recreation, started on September 18.

“Rip will be a wonderful addition to our team here at City Hall,” said City Manager Tami Hanlin. “His level of expertise and leadership skills are exactly what we were looking for in a Parks and Rec director.”

Robertson most recently served as the Director of Public Works and Parks and Recreation for the City of Doraville. He comes to Tucker at a time when the City is assuming responsibility of its parks and recreation facilities from DeKalb County.

“I see Tucker as a very exciting opportunity: a new city with a new department,” Robertson said. “I know that the citizens are looking for quality parks and recreation and, with my experience, I think I can bring that to the table.”

Tucker is home to nearly a dozen parks, as well as the county’s most-utilized recreation facility – the Tucker Recreation Center. Robertson will be charged with overseeing and coordinating the transition from county to city control, while ensuring that current recreational programs continue with minimal interruption.

“Every community has different expectations in what they’re expecting and what they’re looking for,” Robertson said. “A lot of time’s going to be spent talking with the Friends of the Parks groups and elected officials. I look forward to talking with them about what their priorities are.”

Robertson spent 12 years as a Military Intelligence Analyst in the U.S. Army and, more recently, has worked as an advisor in the Army Reserve. He and his wife – also a longtime employee in local government – are proud parents of a 27-year-old daughter.



Carlton “Rip” Robertson

James Gibbs, Eagle Scout

On September 10, 2017 James Gibbs, of Boy Scout Troop 876 in Smoke Rise, earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Troop 876 is sponsored by Eastminster Presbyterian Church.



James Gibbs

In addition to the other requirements of the Eagle rank, James completed a community service project for Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (FODAC) in Stone Mountain. He planned, and led other Scouts and adults in building, 20 rolling carts used in the FODAC warehouse for sorting and moving donated items.

James’ Scouting experience includes earning 41 Merit Badges, and National Outdoor Awards in Camping, Hiking and Aquatics. He has held multiple leadership positions including Senior Patrol Leader and is a member of the Order of the Arrow, the Scouting Honor Society. James has participated in multiple BSA High Adventure trips. In 2014, he backpacked for 12 days through the high desert backcountry of Philmont Scout Reservation in Cimarron, New Mexico. He also attended the Florida Sea Base High Adventure Camp in the Florida Keys this past summer as well as the Boy Scout National Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia in 2013. James is a senior at Chamblee Charter High School. He is the son of Alison and Tom Gibbs of Musket Lane in Smoke Rise.

Boy Scout Troop 876 Goes Tubing

By Nathaniel Young, Troop 876 Historian

In August of 2017, Boy Scout Troop 876 went to Lake Sinclair to enjoy a weekend of tubing. There was no such thing as boredom during this awesome fun trip! The scouts never had more fun than tubing. Thanks to the Robinsons for letting us use their boat and a place to camp on their property. The scouts had a lot of fun and can’t wait to go back next year to have even more fun! Our troop would like to thank Eastminster Presbyterian Church for its support to our troop by letting us use their gear closet and meeting rooms etc. for our troop meetings. Thanks to the leaders, for managing the copperhead snakes that came into our camps! The scouts used our new trailer for the first time, which was great! We had a great time overall. If you would like to come have fun like this, then come to one of our meetings at Eastminster on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. or go to our website bsatrop876.com.



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Belinda Belvin, REALTOR®

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Join Eastminster Presbyterian Church
to celebrate
REFORMATION SUNDAY
October 31 at 10:30 a.m.

A bagpiper will play for this special service to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. Music and liturgy inspired by Martin Luther, John Calvin, and others who helped shape the course of Protestant Christianity and the Presbyterian Church. All are welcome!

Eastminster Presbyterian Church
5801 Hugh Howell Road
Stone Mountain, GA 30087
www.eastminster.us



Saying Goodbye to Summer but not to the FUN!

It was a great summer at Mountain Creek Swim Club. Some of the highlights were:

- * Thanks to Joan Loewenthal, with support from Lynn Malone, the club had a record-setting year of attendance at Water Aerobics.
- * Battle Ship games on Labor Day
- * Visit from A.W.A.R.E
- * Game night with the Tucker Table Toppers

But the fun isn't stopping. The club is planning activities through the fall, winter and spring so please like the Mountain Creek Swim Club Facebook Page or stop by the website at mountaincreekswimclub.com for dates and times.

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770-508-4456 | www.karlschwartzchiro.com

Artist's Reception -

Reclaimed by Nature: The Historic Davidson Quarries of Arabia Mountain

Meet the artist! The DeKalb History Center announces an Artist's Reception for Reclaimed by Nature: The Historic Davidson Quarries of Arabia Mountain during the Atlanta Celebrates Photography Festival. This exhibit by Virginie Drujon-Kippelen features contemporary photos of a former granite quarry at what is now the Davidson-Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve. Years ago, these quarries were an important part of DeKalb County's economy. Lithonia granite was used in paving and construction projects, including the Historic DeKalb Courthouse. In the 1970s, the Davidson family donated more than 500 acres of this land to DeKalb County for conservation and preservation. Since this land is no longer quarried, it is slowly being reclaimed by nature, although traces of its industrial past remain. This new body of work sheds the light on the history of this special place and explores the intricate layers that have shaped its existence.



"Quarry Walls"
by Virginie Drujon-Kippelen

Virginie Drujon-Kippelen is a writer, photographer, and multimedia producer working in editorial, portrait, and commercial photography. Originally from France, she moved to the United States in 1991 and earned a master's degree in print journalism from the University of Arizona. Drujon-Kippelen is currently based in Atlanta, Georgia and has worked as a Photo Editor at CNN.com. Her editorial photos have been featured in the New York Times. Her personal body of work investigates the contemporary landscape and our perception of nature in the urban environment.

Free and open to the public – light refreshments

Tuesday, October 10, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Historic DeKalb Courthouse, 101 E. Court Square, Decatur GA 30030, Lobby

Cookout Caps Summer at the Summit

The Summit Pool and Tennis Club capped a full slate of summer activities with a Labor Day Cookout, featuring brats, burgers, hot dogs, steak fajitas and carnitas provided by the club along with sides and desserts contributed by pool members. In addition to this festive event, the Summit Pool Activities Committee initiated a number of new events this year, including two "dive-in" movie nights, a family Trivia night, an adult only "social," and a July 4th Root Beer float and birthday cake celebration, as well as our popular Back-to-School pizza party and Early Summer and Labor Day cookouts. It was so much fun watching many of our youngest members slurp their first-ever root beer float or watch a movie floating in the pool!

The Pool Activities Committee, a new Summit initiative in 2017, is comprised of member volunteers who planned and coordinated the full roster of family events. A huge thank you is extended to the Committee members as well as their families and other volunteers for their enthusiasm, dedication and efforts. Members of the 2017 Pool Activities Committee included Chance Claar-Pressley, Barbara Cook, Amanda Miller and Bart Parker as well as Summit board members Jena Gress, Joanne Robinson, Barb Pettitt and Bonnie Herron.



With extended "night light" swim till 10:00 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday all season long, as well as upgraded pool lighting and an extended season until September 24, the 2017 Summit Pool and Tennis Club provided an active summer filled with creative, fun and family-focused activities. Tennis continues year-round on two lighted courts. Plans are already underway for 2018! For more info, check back often at www.thesummitatsmokerise.com.

				<p>Smoke Rise Agents</p> <p>770.573.9715 www.smokeriseagents.com</p>
5038 Kanawha Bluff	2340 Spencers Way	5465 Lichenhearh	6050 Windsong Way	
4953 Antebellum	5152 Patriot Dr.	2130 Silver Hill	6000 East Gate Ct.	
2382 Spencers Way	5459 Lichenhearh	5734 James Walk	165 Villa Park	

Of Note to the Community: Safety Alerts & Watches

by Cedric Ross

Personal safety when at home or away

• The exterior of your home is a haven for would-be criminals. Placing motion sensor flood lights are highly recommended. The beauty of this is that when you return home in the evening, you are welcomed by a flood of light to guide your path. Cutting your hedges and or adding bushes with thorns may give anyone pause for being there in the first place, Ouch!

• Have you ever been concerned about where a loved one is? There is software that can tell you where a cell phone is located. If you have someone that may be lost or worse, you can - with their permission - load tracking software on the phone, which will tell you where the device is located. I am not endorsing any software, just providing a few suggestions to consider. I typed into my iPhone, "locate my cell phone," and here is what I received:

- o Tile – Find & Track your lost phone...
- o Device Locator – Track and locate family members
- o IMap find my phone...
- o Phone Tracker – Tracker for iPhone...
- o You may already have similar software on your phone already. Take a look.

• The best preparedness is establishing what you will do in advance.

Here are some topics to keep in mind.

- o Where will we meet and or contact numbers out of the area?
- o How will we pay for our expenses, cash in small denominations?
- o How will we defend life and limb?
- o Do we have supplies to sustain ourselves (Food, fuel, generator, candles, lighter, etc.)?
- o Important documents printed and soft copies - on and off site

Crime Reports

• 8/13/2017 Burglary of two homes during the morning as reported by a Smoke Rise resident. The location is being withheld.

• Around 9/17/2017 Theft near Hugh Howell and Silver Hill at approximately 2:00 a.m.

We make an effort to list local crimes. If we miss something, please contact the *Smoke Signal* at the following email address for submission – staff@smokesignalnews.com.

What did Smoke Rise Learn from IRMAGEDDON?

Be patient! In an emergency, it is usual to "triage." The most critical are first. Do not take to the roadways until the "all clear" is given.

Be ready. Be friendly/helpful/kind/generous to neighbors: check on neighbors – especially elderly, widows, etc.

Share! (Several people on Nextdoor offered food to those without). Some neighbors graciously shared their meals with other neighbors during the brunt of the storm.

Be aware: Do not put yourself in dangerous situations— leave downed power lines alone, do not try to move limbs tangled in lines, leave heavy duty tree trimming to someone who knows what they are doing.

In Smoke Rise, we were not necessarily cut off from the world. Most of us could drive out of SR for food and to replenish supplies... even to find internet. But, it doesn't hurt to be prepared.

Storm Preparedness Checklist:

- Cut down or trim dead trees
- Backup power
- Stock up for three days in your pantry
- Check on your elderly or frail neighbors
- Park your car away from trees
- Why do you not have a flashlight again?
- Gas up your car
- Extra Gas for your generator
- Propane for a grill
- Charge cell phones, have a battery charger
- You don't have to necessarily buy water, fill all your pitchers and containers up.
- Fill tub up to use water to flush toilet if necessary



*Thanks go to Carol Wales for sharing the term, "Irmageddon."

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Vote on The Rise...continued from page 1

With few exceptions like the genetics lab, the existing business and likely inhabitants, especially in the more aged buildings, will not generate any great quantity of jobs or jobs that pay the amount necessary to live in the area. Everything that I have read suggests that with online purchases and the cost of doing business in this area, there is no real draw to the area. Some believe we have businesses just waiting to inhabit this area. Yes, there is some demand – the city staff cited two developers that want to come in and build overnight and two-day distro facilities – note that they are not looking to inhabit the old buildings but build new. My understanding is that they will be located nearer 78 and Sarr Parkway. It is interesting that the property across from the old NTB and across from Wells Fargo is now leased to Invision Logistics. According to the company owner, they have subleased to an “Amazon” type of distro. Expect more trucks at the intersection. Regular traffic is bad and will continue as we are the primary alternative commuter corridor for Gwinnet residents.

I have to give the developer a lot of kudos for the hoops he went through to change to meet the demands of the council with a project that would receive no abatements or other incentives. By denying the Multi Use of the property, the city also will not have the benefit of developer paid improvements to infrastructure like traffic management that would have been mandated at developer cost. The developer can go back to the council in six months and restart a very expensive process. The developer called and stated that he is closing on the property and will develop by right which does not require many City Council approvals. Depending on what is developed, the school may decide to build at the site as previously planned. The only reasons that they would not is if there was hazardous manufacturing (chemical), dirty businesses or those that would not be conducive to having elementary children near.

Under “by right” under light industrial zoning (Lind): There are more than 100 uses allowed, but it will not be able to include residential or retail over 5,000 sq ft. Residential and grocery are important components in the micro economy created in multi-use developments. You have to have a part of the likely consumers of the goods and service be customers of convenience. It does not work to plant businesses with a build it and they will come philosophy. The other way to do it is something that makes it a destination that draws a much larger audience.

In the meeting and discussions, people got all excited about a movie studio called Oz productions stating that they had been shut out from buying the property. Facts and info included in their brochure, as well as their corporate



*The Rise- Proposed Design
Courtesy: Macauley Investments, LLC*

filing, suggest that they needed more than a dream to make it work. Additionally, I am surprised when people get excited about that type of concept, because we do not have the business infrastructure to support the type of business suggested. For starters, most need a hotel room. Our only nearby

hotel is a Hampton Inn. It was a bright penny in the path.

The defeat of The Rise will not have a direct or immediate impact on Smoke Rise property values. However, it does impact the choices of buyers when entering the area and depending on development in the corridor may have a longer-term impact. We will see what unfolds in the next chapters.

The Fall of The Rise

By Spomenka and Bob Newman

As we retreat into ourselves after the fall of The Rise, we need remind ourselves of the things that make Smoke Rise a special home to us:

- The return of the red fox family to our Summit neighborhood.
- Sightings of a beautiful family of deer: A buck, two does, and a baby slowly scrounging the woods for young shoots and elegantly disappearing into the dusk.
- A family of six wild turkeys slowly grazing the lawns and streets of Summit last Fall.
- The owl crying her mournful song behind the house, somewhere high in the trees.
- Gold finches swaying on the dry Black Eyed Susans’ stems.
- Carolina Wren making his home under the eaves on the columns of our porch for the fourth year.
- Two broods of swallows this spring making their nest on the corner of the back porch.
- Young hawk sitting on the branch overlooking the driveway.
- The mystery bird singing Bernice Bernice Bernice and keeping us guessing: Who are you?
- A family of feral cats playing on the stone wall and chasing chipmunks and birds.
- All the hummingbirds dancing and monarch butterflies resting their wings on purple verbena trailing off the stone walls.
- And then there are the dogs of Smoke Rise: two Bellas, Chief, Buddy, Bandit, Bear, Henry, Murphy, Lady, Maggie, Hayley, Ginger, Lucia, Petey, Clara, Blanche, Dorothy, Sunny, Skye, and our Duga...
- And their owners, regular walkers, friendly neighbors who stop to say “Good Morning! How are you?” or slow their car down to open the window and wave or to talk.

To us, Smoke Rise continues to be an extraordinary place for an ordinary life. Happy Fall, Smoke Rise neighbors!

Tucker City Council Denies 88-Acre Mixed-Use Project

By Matt Holmes, Communications Director, City of Tucker

At a special called meeting on August 30, Tucker’s City Council cast a series of votes to deny the permissions needed to go ahead with an 88-acre mixed-use development.

“The Rise” promised to bring a supermarket, retail and approximately 700 residential units to the intersection of Hugh Howell Road and Mountain Industrial Boulevard. The site is currently home to warehouse space owned by Sears.

After a lengthy public hearing, City Council had to weigh three petitions from developer Stephen Macauley: a change to the Comprehensive Plan from Light Industrial to Neighborhood Center to allow such a development, a re-zoning of the property to the MU3 designation, and a special land use permit (SLUP) to allow a personal care home to be constructed on the site. Citing a number of concerns, including the possibility of disrupting the industrial corridor, Council voted 5-2 against a motion to approve the Comprehensive Plan amendment. That was followed by a pair of 6-1 votes to deny the re-zoning and SLUP petitions.

During the meeting, both councilmembers and the developer pointed out that, despite a denial, the property can still be developed by right – or without the special permissions being sought from the City. Under the current zoning, that could mean construction of restaurants, a movie theater and several other aspects included in “The Rise” proposal. It would not permit construction of the residential facilities or the supermarket included in the proposal.

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Stone Mountain and Tucker Rotary Clubs

By Lizbeth Dison

The Rotary Clubs of Tucker and Stone Mountain were busy in August wrapping up their summers and launching projects for the new school year.

Graham and Penny Stovall opened their Smoke Rise home to fellow members of the Tucker Rotary Club for an end-of-summer celebration. The August evening was catered with barbecue and other Southern fare from Tucker's Old Hickory House.



Rotary Club of Tucker Outing: Members help themselves to a BBQ buffet at the August picnic at Graham and Penny Stovall's.

Two Tucker Club members received honors in August. The club recognized long-time member Charlie Patterson with a Paul Harris Plus Four Award, acknowledging his fourth \$1,000.00 contribution to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. Patterson is a Smoke Rise resident and retired president of C.M. Patterson Construction. Member Brad Bryant, former Georgia

state superintendent of education and current vice-president of REACH Georgia, was awarded a 2017 Distinguished Service Award by The National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE). This national award honors current and former state board members who have made exceptional contributions to education, is only given to three outstanding leaders each year, and is the highest award that NASBE can bestow on a state board of education member.



Rotary Club of Stone Mountain School Project: Stone Mountain Elementary Principal, Corey Davidson, discusses school needs w/Dave Hess

Stone Mountain Elementary hosted The Rotary Club of Stone Mountain for a special lunch and tour of the school in August. RCSM members have adopted the school

as a special project for the 2017-2018 Rotary year, donating much needed supplies and volunteering members' time on a regular basis. The club donated \$1,000.00 to the school to help with much needed updates to the teachers' lounge.

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



Charlie Patterson Paul Harris Award: Rotary Club of Tucker President, Ed Warner, presents member, Charlie Patterson, with his Paul Harris Plus Four pin.

-- Save the Date --
Electronics Recycling Day
November 11, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
 Hosted by The Rotary Clubs of Tucker & Stone Mountain Handy Hardware – Ace Hardware, Town Square Center, Tucker
3969 Lawrenceville Highway

Kanawha Plans Annual Meeting

The Kanawha Neighborhood Association is hosting its Annual Meeting October 17 at 7:00 p.m. at the Smoke Rise Country Club. There will be snacks and a cash bar. The program includes:

- Plans for the Front Gate
- Election of Officers (send nominations by Oct. 7 to Dianne Dougherty at dianne@doughertyduo.com)
- Survival without Dianne Dougherty

Please RSVP to Jonathan Dean (JDean@smokerisecc.com) or by calling (770) 908-2582 extension 2 and leave a message with the number in your party so organizers can plan to accommodate everyone.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

By Aviva Hoffmann

Smoke Rise Still Stands after the Storm

Tropical Storm Irma destroyed hundreds of trees in DeKalb, and some of them were – of course – in Smoke Rise. Throughout the entire county, the DeKalb Emergency Management Agency coordinated with county departments and public safety first responders to remove trees from our roadways. By the time all the storm-related work is done, they will have cleared hundreds of tons of trees and debris from more than 350 streets throughout DeKalb.

Crews and equipment from out-of-state helped with the road clearing efforts, as well as the Georgia Department of Transportation, Georgia Department of Corrections and Clayton County. Georgia Power played a big role too. County crews relied on the power company to ensure power lines were de-energized before removing any trees entangled in wires. That can add to the time it takes to clear a road but is necessary for everyone’s safety. It’s also important to note; DeKalb County only removes trees in county rights of way – not on private property. To report a downed tree in the road, call (404) 294-2911.



Now it’s time to take a good look at your remaining, standing, trees. They could be storm-damaged and unhealthy. If so, they especially pose a risk of falling. The University of Georgia’s DeKalb County Extension office offers the following tips to evaluate the health of your trees. First thing, always use caution when

examining potential storm-damaged trees.

Issues to look for include:

- Large broken or hanging branches, especially over electrical lines
- Dead branches within the canopy, which are obvious potential hazards
- Cracks in the main tree trunk or at branch connections
- Large trunk wounds, cankers and galls
- Large tree hollows or cavities, which are also weak points where breakage can occur
- Cracks or separations in the soil, which may indicate soil heaving from excessive movement of the roots. This is especially a warning sign for failure if the tree is leaning.
- Leaning trees that are already partially uprooted
- Mushrooms that may be growing on trunks, at root flares or farther out in the lawn but attached to the roots
- Excessive mistletoe, which is a parasitic plant

For a proper tree inspection and consultation, the Extension service urges residents to contact an ISA Certified arborist, who can be found through the Georgia Arborist Association at georgiaarborist.org.

Finally, as you work to remove yard debris from your property, remember the DeKalb County Sanitation department will collect properly placed debris left at your curb on your regular collection date. (Be sure not to place debris in drains, creeks or culverts - to avoid causing local flooding.) Branches and limbs must be trimmed of twigs, vines and leaves, and cut to a maximum of four (4) feet in length, and stacked neatly at the curb. The removed twigs, vines, and leaves must be placed in an approved receptacles. Trees must be cut as small as possible, where each piece does not exceed a maximum of 50 pounds. Tree limbs that are cut by professional or hired contractors should not be left at the curb for collection by the Sanitation Division.

For more comprehensive details on DeKalb County Sanitation collection procedures, go online to: dekalbcountyga.gov/sanitation/collection-procedures.

For updated information about road closures, safety tips, phone numbers and other pertinent information on Irma recovery, go to dekalbcountyga.gov/irma.

HEALTH NOTES:

by Cheri Schneider, M.D.

Concussion

Football season is here again! This year, along with the game, news outlets are covering a recently released study by the Journal of American Medical Association about chronic brain damage in football players. In the study of the donated brains of 202 deceased American football players, 87% of them had evidence of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE)— or brain damage caused by multiple, chronic brain injuries. Out of 111 former NFL players, 110 player’s brains showed CTE! While this study is only suggestive of a correlation between football play and later brain damage, it does raise questions about the role that head injury during contact sports could play in the long run.



A concussion is usually caused by a sudden blow to the head, a whiplash type event or a blast. The sudden movement back and forth of muscles of the neck and of the brain in its hard, bony case can tear blood vessels in and around the brain, bruise the brain and can strain or pull neck muscles. Although any kind of collision or blow to the head can cause a concussion, aside from motor vehicle accidents, it is most often seen in contact sports like rugby, football, hockey, soccer and boxing. The symptoms may not show up for several hours or even days. This means, the player and the family—not just the coach— have a responsibility to watch for symptoms after a head injury.

Symptoms such as headache, loss of memory, trouble concentrating, confusion, mental fog, temporary loss of consciousness (only 10% of people with concussion have this), light and noise sensitivity, double vision, trouble recognizing places or people, fatigue, vomiting, personality changes, irritability, depression, sleep disturbance and rarely, neurologic changes such as unequal pupil size or weakness, numbness and changes in ability to taste and smell can occur following a concussion. Red flag signs such as difficulty waking up, seizures, markedly worsening headache, severe confusion and neurologic signs mean you should see a doctor or go to an emergency facility as soon as possible.

Scientific knowledge about concussions is rapidly growing. Most school sports programs now have a concussion policy in place. If your child plays sports, you should carefully read the information your school provides! After a blow to the head or collision on the field, these following tips may save your child’s brain. If any of the above symptoms occur:

- 1) Get OUT of the game. Do not return to play that day. When in doubt, sit OUT!
- 2) Have a physical exam by a physician who is trained to detect neurologic changes such as disturbances in balance, gait, reflexes, coordination, taste, vision, smell, and special nerves.
- 3) Have a “cognitive” test to pick up abnormalities in memory, recall and concentration. A screen can often be done on the field. Further testing may need to be done in a physician’s office and prior to returning to play.
- 4) Serious or suddenly increasing symptoms or red flag symptoms may require brain imaging (CT Scan or MRI or more).
- 5) Rarely, observation in the hospital is required.

Treatment of a concussion is primarily mental and physical rest. If you have a concussion, you should see a physician who is familiar with new concussion guidelines. Any increase in symptoms should be reported immediately!

Physical rest means NO exertion or excessive or jerky movement like sports or jogging. Gradual return to play over several days or weeks is usual and should be guided by the physician.

Mental rest usually includes no homework, reading, movies, computer use, texting or videos.

The athlete that moves through the recovery stages too rapidly and returns to play too soon is at risk for the often catastrophic “second injury syndrome.” This syndrome occurs when a second concussion occurs before the athlete recovers from the first concussion. It can result in rapid brain swelling and permanent paralysis or even death!

Coaches and athletic trainers need a note for the athlete to return to play!!! Always make sure the note includes specifics about physical and mental activity level. Often this means multiple check-ups and multiple notes to keep the coach and teachers informed.

Pain Meds: Tylenol is usually used, as aspirin, ibuprofen and naproxen can increase the possibility of brain bleeding.

Clearly, further study is needed about the role that concussion and repetitive brain injuries play in dementia and other neurologic disorders. Although the JAMA study was interesting and useful in raising the questions, no clear cause and effect was established. (There was no control group and only players who donated their brains to science were included in the study). Hopefully, further research will show parents, coaches and athletes how much is too much when it comes to brain injury.



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Prepare Now for Winter Energy Bills

Every year about this time, Father Winter blows a chill through our Smoke Rise neighborhoods, causing us to seal-up our homes to keep them warm and cozy. Before the cold snaps come and stretch the resources of our local HVAC contractors, now is a great time to schedule a service visit to be sure your equipment is in good working order. You may be able to negotiate an off-peak-season discount, and service is more likely to be prompt.

Make sure all your filters are changed. Last spring's pollen may be lurking there costing you money, diminishing your comfort, and stressing system operation. Heat pumps may need a refrigerant recharge. Furnaces may need cleaning, belt tightening or replacement, and lubrication. If your system is old, outdated, or inefficient, get quotes on upgrading it. A simple do-it-yourself measure is checking for good airflow around your home, making sure no furniture, drapes or other obstructions are blocking supply and return registers.

Georgia Power and many of the local power companies offer online energy audits you can perform to learn more ways to save money on utility bills. My company, Apogee Interactive, provides many of them, including the one on Georgia Power's website. It is called Energy Checkup, and you don't have to be a customer to use it. To find it, go to georgiapower.com and click on For My Home, then look for Save Energy & Money, then Energy Checkup. Once there, select the Online Energy Checkup. Login if you are a customer and the application uses your billing history to do a detailed analysis. Not a customer? Select Estimated Energy Checkup, which does an excellent job of computing your costs and savings potential for various recommended measures. If you like what you learn, select the Feedback button on the right side of the screen and let them know!



Another reminder this month is to review your natural gas provider. October is generally the time to lock-in the best price for the year ahead, so you can look at your options on the PSC website. My advice remains to lock-in a 12-month contract rate instead of risking the vagaries of the open gas market where rates fluctuate based on factors outside our control, like storms, natural disasters, and shortages. For the company, I continue recommending True Natural Gas. Owned by one of Georgia's not-for-profit Electric Membership Cooperatives based to the southwest of Atlanta, they have the lowest rates and a lower profit margin than their high-priced competitors. The company is committed to transparency in its pricing and has no hidden fees like some of the other providers, and it gives loyalty discounts for staying with them from year to year. In the words of Dale Cardwell of TrustDALE, "I've given this business my highest recommendation. I believe that you, too, can feel confident placing your trust in their services."

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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Smoke Rise Elementary

FOCUSED AND READY for the New School Year!

Smoke Rise Elementary School has launched a very productive school year. Principal Pamela McCloud declared the 2017 – 2018 school year as the year of being FOCUSED on student growth and achievement. Teachers reviewed the state's College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) report card and discovered that according to preliminary GA Milestone test results, Smoke Rise Elementary School's 2016 – 2017 reading and math scores far exceed the previous years.

Year	Reading	Math
2016-2017	71.5	70.2
2015-2016	59.6	60.8
2014-2015	60.1	57

Equally important are social studies and science scores. Goals have been set and strategies have been implemented to increase achievement.

This school year, Smoke Rise Elementary has challenged itself to become Science, Engineering, and Math (S.T.E.M.) certified. Since students were already heavily engaged in S.T.E.M. activities during the 2016 – 2017 school year, faculty and staff thought it was destined to make the certification stamp official.

On another note, Smoke Rise Elementary has received a Growing Readers grant through the Governor's Office of Student Achievement. The kindergarten through third grade program aims to provide high-quality professional learning to teachers on effective reading instruction to help more children read at grade level.

Additionally, Smoke Rise Elementary inducted students into the National Junior Beta Club Honor Society. Having been academically successful in previous years, these students have been honored and charged to continue to promote the ideals of achievement, character, service, and leadership.

With continued support, Smoke Rise Elementary is ready for the 2017-2018 school year. With a focused academic vision, focused planning, and focused students, Smoke Rise Elementary is bound for a SUCCESSFUL YEAR!

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Mountain Shadow Garden Club News

By Don Armstrong

The Mountain Shadow Garden Club (MSGC) meeting on Monday, October 9, will feature a program on "Pawpaws," by Jane Patla Tanner, co-founder of the Tucker Orchard Guild. She and her husband, Steve, moved to Tucker 13 years ago. Jane has a passion for teaching, learning, gardening, and healthy living, and she enjoys being a part of the vibrant local community. She has devoted time to homeschooling her two daughters and being involved in local community activities.

The pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) has been around as long as 50 million years and has been an important fruit throughout human history. Native Americans cultivated the pawpaw, and both George Washington at Mount Vernon and Thomas Jefferson at Monticello had pawpaws in their gardens. Lewis and Clark are said to have subsisted on them during some of their explorations. In recent years, Michele Obama planted a pawpaw in the White House garden while she was First Lady.



Jane Tanner at Tucker Recreation Center.

The pawpaw is a small, deciduous, understory tree and Jane notes that it is found throughout the Tucker area, including at Henderson, Kelley Cofer, and John's Homestead Parks. It has been included in some new companion plantings with other fruit trees and bushes. The texture of pawpaw fruit has been compared to mango,

but with large seeds. The fruit does not store well and is typically consumed fresh. Many types of wildlife also enjoy pawpaws. If weather and circumstances cooperate, Jane hopes to have a few samples of pawpaw fruit to show at the presentation October 9.

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, contact MSGC president Jeff Raines at (404) 641-8633. www.facebook.com/MtShadowGardenClub

Smoke Rise Garden Club

The storm has wreaked havoc with our daily plans and properties these past couple of weeks. The Smoke Rise Garden Club's Monday evening meeting was canceled as was the wreath laying ceremony for the memorial to the victims of 9/11.

On a bright side, Ann Weisz, club member has again worked with the students at Montgomery Elementary School. This is the eighth year the students have participated in the Yellow Daisy Flower Show, and it's more popular than ever. One hundred thirty-five students submitted designs and horticulture to the Junior Division of floral design and Horticulture. This participation also helped to make their school certified for the STEM program!



Overall winner of Junior Floral Division at the Yellow Daisy flower show.

The photo shows the best in show, floral with Legos, submitted by nine-years-olds. Also in that division, there were four blue ribbons and three red ribbons. Seven-years-olds won five blue, five red and six yellow for Miss Daisy Goes Disney.

If you are interested in joining or learning more about garden clubs, please contact Jane Culbertson at (770) 938-3060 or destovan@aol.com.

Mountain Mums in the Dark

The Mountain Mums kicked off its 2017-2018 year in the dark! Beth Henson, the club's September hostess decided to go ahead with the meeting, even though her power was still off! The Mums had a great meeting, brunch and a delightful speaker, who "winged it" instead of presenting her usual slide presentation.

Linda Copeland, co-author with Allan Armitage, of *Legends in the Garden: Who in the World in Nellie Stephens?* gave an entertaining talk about the "people" behind cultivar names of plants. She regaled attendees with stories of her personal interviews with Jane Bath (Bath's Pinks), Goodness Grows Nursery brothers Rick and Mark (Veronica goodness grows), Betty Sheffield (Camelia), and more. She also gave the names of several novels that are garden themed: *Quite a Year of Plumbs* by Bailey White and Frank N. Meyer; *Plant Hunter in Asia* by Isabelle Shipley Cunningham (Meyer Lemon and Meyer's Zoyzia fame). She finished with a clever poem called *Latin Nomenclature* by Carol Mackie.

Six Mountain Mums participated in the Yellow Daisy Flower Show this year. Lynn Malone won a blue ribbon for her outstanding orchid. Jody Currie, Susan Rome and Lucy White volunteered as clerks for the judges, and Debra Adams and Heather McLendon helped set up and "stage" the show. It was a great show!

October will be a month of "bonding" for several garden clubs in the area. On October 9, the Smoke Rise Morning Glories, The Mountain Mums and the Lilburn Lady Bugs are meeting at the 1910 House in Lilburn to hear Chelsea Thomas from the Atlanta Botanical Gardens talk about "Amphibians and Reptiles in the Garden." Then on October 11, member Lynn Malone - who volunteers at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens - will be sharing about her experience there working with orchids. The meeting will be held in the home of Jodie Currie at 9:45 a.m. If you would like to join this fun group, call Debbie Jones at (678) 260-7806.



Shannon Betsill, Beth Henson, Heather McLendon, Ann Purr, and speaker, Linda Copeland

Morning Glories, Yellow Daisy and Irma!

That sounds like a garden party, doesn't it? Irma however was the party crasher, quite literally. With tropical storm gusts more than 50 mph and schools and events cancelled, the Morning Glories had to cancel its first meeting back after the summer break. The October 9 meeting will be a joint meeting with the Lady Bugs Garden Club, Mountain Mums Garden Club and Morning Glories Garden Club at the 1910 Public House in Lilburn. The speaker will be an expert on amphibians, our friends in the garden.

The Yellow Daisy Standard Flower Show was very entertaining this year, especially with the theme of "Daisy Does Disney!" There were more than 500 horticulture entries ranging from flowering hydrangeas to hosta and ivy collections to ferns and container grown succulents.

Several Morning Glories members entered horticulture and design. Janet McGinnis, Yellow Daisy Flower Show Co-Chairman won a blue ribbon for her design and also the Mickie Holton Inspirational Award for the most expressive design, Division I. Cookie Roland and Barbara Crank also won blue ribbons in their design division entries and for horticulture. Joy Zaidan, Yellow Daisy Flower Show Co-Chairman, won several horticulture blue ribbons. Julianne Goecke won a yellow ribbon for her design entry.

Dozens of volunteers make the show so special each year. They work before the show ever opens and the setup, classifying, placing, hosting, clerking and cleanup take many hands to create a successful show. These Morning Glories volunteered themselves and even their spouses/son to pull it all off and we salute you: Diane Christian, Betty Curlee, Barbara Crank, Quill and Steve Duncan, Julianne Goecke, Glenndolyn and Don Hallman, Greg Hallman, Janet McGinnis, Susan Morrison, Bonnie and Bill Pennington, Cookie Roland, Tally Sweat, Carolyn Woodson, Beth Woodward and Joy and Jim Zaidan!



President Bonnie Pennington on the left with Susan Morrison in their clerk outfits for Yellow Daisy Flower Show.

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HODGE PODGE



By Jenny Hall

I have tried all sorts of interesting recipes lately. By "interesting," I might mean "delicious," or I might mean "strange." Since the "strange" ones usually end up in the trash can, I guess I won't share them, but you should know that they were supposed to be healthy, but were just taste-free at best, horrifying at worst. I tried all sorts of new things, because my cholesterol is insane. I tried to go fat-free, gluten-free and sugar-free. This left the dreaded taste-free category. Sometimes I just need to chew on a paper bag or something with just a little bit of butter. Pooh.

Ok. This is delicious but not fat-free. This was what I made for my birthday dinner, and we managed to eat enough for four people.

Baked Grouper (or Cod)

First make this rub. You will need 1 Tablespoon of it for the recipe and the rest will sit quietly on your shelf until you need it again in three years or so when you remember it.

2 ½ tablespoons paprika
1 Tablespoon each of black pepper, salt, dried thyme, dried oregano and red pepper flakes (I used a scant tablespoon of the pepper flakes.)

Mix and set aside:

1 pound grouper or cod filets - folded so they are about 1 or 1 ½ inches thick
1 Tablespoon Parmesan
1 Tablespoon of the rub
2 Tablespoons soft butter (I used heart-healthy spread)
2 Tablespoons olive oil

Mix the Parmesan with butter, oil and 1 tablespoon of the rub. Smear it all over the filets and place in an oven-proof dish. Bake at 400° degrees for 25 minutes or more until fish flakes easily, basting once when you see the juices are gathering in the dish. I used the convection part of my microwave and baked the filets at 375° degrees for 25 minutes or so, since they were very thick. Serve with mashed potatoes or this mixture that I love:

2 large parsnips, cooked until very tender and drained
1 large white potato, cut up and cooked until tender, drained

Mash the two together with butter and a little evaporated milk, salt and pepper. Taste and let them sit until you're ready to start the fish. Place the mashed mixture in a double boiler and let it heat for about 15 minutes, adding a bit more milk if needed. The re-heating of the mixture really brings out the mellow taste of the parsnips. Add loads of black pepper and more butter, if you want.

We had green peas and a great flourless chocolate cake, so I was in heaven. If this entire meal doesn't sound so heavenly to you, well, I need to get busy, huh? Most people want something lovely and gooey to transport them to culinary heaven, so I am putting this recipe in so that you will still read this column in the future - or just finish today's column. This is perfect for October or to try out for Thanksgiving dinner dessert. You, of course, want to make it at least once before Thanksgiving, just to make sure it's delicious. Naturally.

Cake Mix Pumpkin Bars

Mix 1 box of dry yellow cake mix with 1 egg and 1 stick very soft butter. Pat in the bottom of a 9 x13 lightly greased pan. Preheat oven to 350° degrees while you're thinking about it.

Mix 1 (8 ounce) bar of cream cheese with 1 (15 ounce) can plain pumpkin. Add 3 eggs, 1 teaspoon vanilla and 1 stick melted butter. Once this is blended, add in one pound box of powdered sugar, 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice and ½ teaspoon cinnamon. Spread over the crust and bake for 45 minutes until just done. Great with ice cream and a sprinkling of chopped toasted pecans. This recipe is like those gooey butter cake bars a bit. Very rich and luscious.

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