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**PENDING**  
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**UNDER CONTRACT**  
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\$389,900 • David V, and Ben L,



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878 Briarcliff Rd #B-1, VA-HI  
3 bed/3 baths, two story condo with  
In-law or teen suite set up, great space  
\$349,900 • Mike and Margie

## The Kirkwood Bunch



1963 Hosea Williams Drive • Atlanta, GA 30317 • (404) 370 3101  
View these properties and more at [atlantaintown.com](http://atlantaintown.com)



## Fun, Friends, Laughter ... and Wine

by Nick Whitson

Looking for the perfect weekend outing? The Kirkwood Business Owners' Association presents the 10th annual Kirkwood Wine Stroll on Friday, Sept. 23. The event features many local Kirkwood merchants, bars, and restaurants. Neighborhood volunteers will be pouring wine samples at 36 wine stations throughout downtown Kirkwood in the event area.

Your ticket purchase includes a souvenir glass and an event passport with wine tasting information, local discounts, and a place for notes.

- When:** Friday, September 23, 6:30 to 10:30 PM
- Where:** Downtown Kirkwood
- Tickets:** \$40 advance online, \$50 at the gate (free for volunteers)
- Info:** [www.kirkwoodwinestroll.com](http://www.kirkwoodwinestroll.com)
- Lyft:** drop-off & pick-up at Kirkwood Post Office, use discount code `kirkwoodstroll16`

A few new features could make 2016 the best stroll yet!

Lyft will be providing discount rides to the event drop-off and pick-up location — the Kirkwood Post Office — so you can enjoy as much wine as you like. And for every new user that enters the code "kirkwoodstroll16," Lyft will donate \$10 toward community-wide projects for the Kirkwood neighborhood.

Also, you can bring your furry friend this year! Dogs will be allowed in nearly every part of the event space.

To top it all off, tickets will be available for small plate food items inside the event, provided by Kirkwood neighborhood bars and restaurants at designated tasting stations. (See page 15



photo by Addison Hall

for a list of what you can expect.)

Proceeds from the Kirkwood Wine Stroll will provide donations to local schools and help KBOA fund future events for

*continues page 15*

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Kirkwood Neighbors' Organization (KNO) is a racially and economically diverse civic organization devoted to the revitalization of Atlanta's historic Kirkwood community.

KNO meets on the 10th of each month at 7 pm at the Turner Monumental A.M.E. Church, 66 Howard Street NE.

Everyone is welcome!

#### 2016 KNO Officers

President: Geoff Mueller  
geoff.a.mueller@gmail.com  
678.231.7275

Vice President: John Michael  
404.373.4363

Treasurer: Justin Andrews  
justin@cumminlandscapesupply.com  
404.791.1515

Secretary: Tina Latham Davis

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**Comments? Story Ideas? Advertising Questions?**  
Your comments about this newsletter or story ideas are encouraged. Please contact the Editor.

Kirkwood Neighbor is published monthly by the Kirkwood Neighbors' Organization (KNO) and is distributed at all KNO and Neighborhood Planning Unit (NPU-O) meetings, to Kirkwood's elected representatives, our fire and police stations, and to city and county officials. This newsletter is distributed free of charge at the locations listed on the right.

All material in the Kirkwood Neighbor is copyrighted by the Kirkwood Neighbors' Organization (KNO).

**Kirkwood Neighbors' Organization (KNO)**  
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**DeKalb Atlanta Human Services Center** 30 Warren Street  
**DeKalb Atlanta Senior Center** 25 Warren Street SE  
**Dolphin's Water Ice Factory** 1963 Hosea Williams Drive  
**Dulce Vegan** 1994 Hosea Williams Drive  
**Indigo Wellness** 1963 Hosea Williams Drive R #107  
**Kirkwood Feed and Seed** 1998 Hosea Williams Drive  
**Kirkwood Library** 11 Kirkwood Road  
**Langford's Barber Shop** 1947 Hosea Williams Drive  
**Le Petite Marchet** 1963 Hosea Williams Drive  
**LIV Fitness** 1853 Memorial Drive  
**The Pullman** 1992 Hosea Williams Drive  
**Savor Wine Boutique** 1963 Hosea Williams Drive Ste. R103  
**Sun In My Belly** 2161 College Avenue  
**Taproom Coffee** 1963 Hosea Williams Drive R #106  
**Toomer Elementary School** 65 Rogers Street NE  
**Valero** 1989 Hosea Williams Drive  
**All KNO and NPU-O meetings & neighborhood events**

## Wine Stroll preview

*continued from page 1*

our wonderful community to enjoy.

Want to help? Volunteers receive free admission in exchange for their smiles and time. Shifts are generally split

into various time slots so you can still have time to enjoy the event.

Hope to see you there!

#kirkwoodstroll

*photo by Addison Hall*



## KIRKWOOD WINE STROLL SMALL PLATES

#### Anna's BBQ

Anna's favorite pulled pork sliders topped with coleslaw

#### Elmyriachi

Char-grilled and cold kabobs of various styles with accompanying sauces. Look for a variety of cheeses, charcuterie, freshly grilled meats, vegetables, and sauces like chimichurri and pomegranate-habanero

#### Kirkyard Public House

Classic American grilled cheese sandwich triangles

#### The Pullman

Balsamic shrimp caprese skewers, local veggie spring rolls, and smoked pork stuffed cornbread

#### The Spotted Trotter

Mini all-beef hot dogs with house-made relish and their very own custom "dog-sauce"

#### Sun In My Belly

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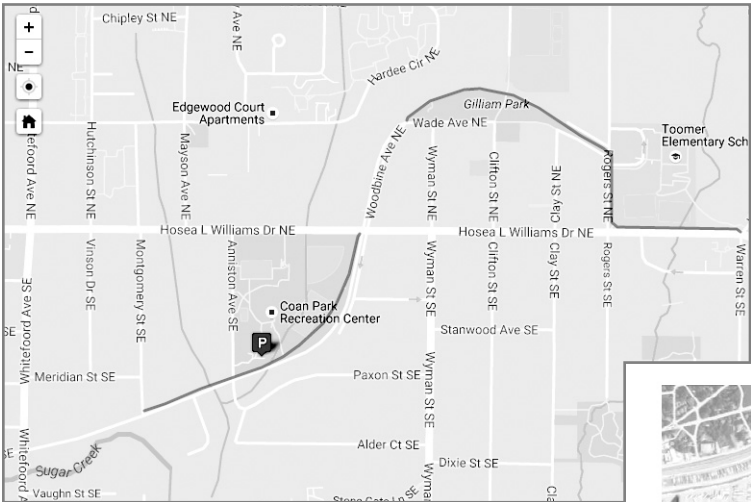


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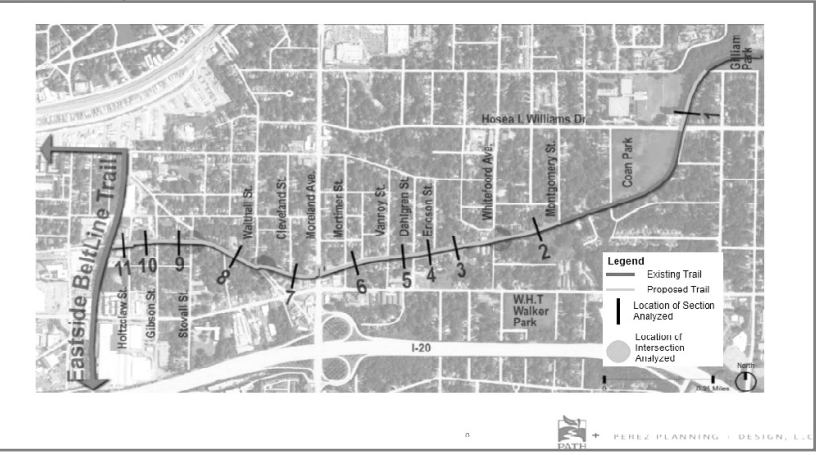
# Trail to Neighborhoods and BeltLine Could Happen



The map **above** (from the PATH Foundation’s interactive Trolley Trail map) shows two trails, near Coan and Gilliam parks. They were built before the Centennial Olympics on of the right-of-way of the Atlanta-Decatur trolley line that ran from Cabbagetown through Kirkwood to Agnes Scott College.

The map at **right** shows additional proposed sections to connect the existing pieces and extend the trail through Edgewood to Reynoldstown and the Eastside BeltLine.

Kirkwood could get a pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly link to the BeltLine, if Atlanta voters approve a new 0.4¢ sales tax on Nov. 8. The City’s list of transportation-related projects funded by the \$300 million in expected revenue includes some smaller, neighborhood trail projects — the East Side Trolley Greenway among them — along with big-ticket items such as street and sidewalk improvements. The TSPLOST would go into effect on April 1, 2017, and last for five years.



# New Law Firm Wants to Connect With Residents

Blue Ink Title is a one-woman-owned real estate law firm specializing in residential purchases and refinances. They “close” transactions for buyers, sellers, lenders, builders, and developers by assisting in the signing, funding, and filing of documents that convey the property.

But instead of jumping to standard legal conclusions when an issue arises, Blue Ink Title strives to eliminate the “box” by examining the issue from multiple angles in order to find solutions that work for all parties involved. They believe that working from this perspective achieves better results and provides a better experience for everyone.

Blue Ink Title was founded by Mehrnush Saadat. Her father, an architect and builder, convinced her to obtain her real estate license in 2006 in order to help him with his business. After an active and engaging career as a Realtor, she decided to try the other side of the closing table as an attorney.

Having worked for several firms in the Atlanta area and understanding the real estate process from construction to close, Mehrnush felt that there was a needed change in how law firms approach real estate. Blue Ink Title is unique because of how they choose to intersect law, property, design, architecture, and technology in a way that is engaging and understanding of the modern client.



Mehrnush Saadat, founder of Blue Ink Title, in the new Kirkwood office. She chose this neighborhood because of its friendliness and sense of community, which aligns with her business model.

The office is a testament to modern minimalism with concrete floors and exposed ductwork ceilings. The walls are made of plexiglass and steel. The sliding doors for the conference room and office are vintage garage doors from a home in South Georgia. The majority of the furniture was handcrafted by local artist Justin King of JK Concrete Design through collaborative design with Mehrnush. Buying local and supporting small business is equally as important to Blue Ink Title as being part of a community.

Blue Ink Title hopes to stand out, not only in their office design aesthetic, but in their business model as well. It strives to be a small firm that

the local community can readily access. They want their clients to drop in for a cup of coffee and a chat, to call with any kind of questions, and to share in each other’s success. When deciding where to establish Blue Ink Title, Mehrnush considered several Atlanta neighborhoods including East Atlanta Village, Oakhurst, and Orme-wood. The friendliness and closeness of the Kirkwood community is why she chose this neighborhood. The firm’s business model isn’t based on

volume — it’s based on the people and community they serve. Both Mehrnush and her paralegal, Shauna Hadland, are notary publics who are happy to notarize anything for a resident of Kirkwood. Blue Ink Title is actively involved with the Kirkwood Business Owners Association and will be a pouring station at the Kirkwood Wine Stroll. Stop by to see the space and meet the founder of Blue Ink Title on Sept. 23.

Blue Ink Title is located at  
1963 Hosea L Williams Dr, Suite R-103, in Kirkwood Station  
(the former Savor Wine Boutique location)

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## What to Do With Leaves and Other Yard Waste

Fall is coming, and that means leaves on the ground — lots and lots of them. You could rake them and bag them for pickup by the City as part of your weekly garbage and recycling collection. Leaves are considered “yard trimmings,” along with grass clippings, pine straw, brush, shrub and tree plantings, tree roots, and tree branches.

There are some restrictions, however:

- You must use a paper bag made specifically for this purpose. (They won’t take plastic bags.)
- Bags must weigh less than 35 pounds.
- Branches can’t be longer than 4 feet or wider than 6 inches across.

If you use a professional landscaping or lawn maintenance company, they should take any leaves, trimmings, or debris with them.

Another option is composting, a way of speeding up the normal decay process to recycle nature’s resources. Compost is basically decomposed organic material, and it makes a rich soil additive for your garden. Healthy soil means you’ll need less chemical fertilizers for your plants.

“I’ve been composting leaves and yard waste in my backyard for years,” says Susan Rutherford, planning division manager for the City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management. “Composting has a ton of benefits. It maintains the natural cycle of replenishing nutrients to your soil, it keeps leaves from clogging our streets and storm drains, and best of all — no leaf bags to buy or fill!”

You can compost yard trimmings, coffee grounds and filters, shredded papers, eggshells, and food waste — but not meat.

To get you started, the City of Atlanta offers workshops on composting with an educational presentation followed by a hands-on demonstration of composting barrels. The last one for 2016 is this month, and space is filling fast!

**When:** Tuesday, September 27, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
**Where:** Water Works Lodge, 655 Green Street NW  
**Cost:** \$40 per person, includes materials  
**Register:** dogandaga@atlanta.gov, 404-750-9601

## MY OPINION: Voices from the Community

### What’s “Neighborly” When It Comes to Suspicious Persons?

by Odell Horne

Have you ever been locked out of your house because you lost your house keys? Or better yet, have you walked out of your house and closed the door behind you, only to remember that you left your keys on the table?

I know, it probably happened when you were a child or a teenager. What did you do? Did you anxiously call a relative? Some of you may have reluctantly called a locksmith. Still others may have tried to find an open window to crawl through.

For those of you who tried to crawl through an open window of your home, have you ever had the police called on you? Frustrating, isn’t it?

Whether you were new to the neighborhood, or visiting a relative who had to go to work or had lived in the neighborhood a long time, having the police question you about your actions only compounded the situation. You were probably looking around, while the police were questioning you, trying to figure out, who called the police?

#### Who Is My Neighbor?

I was eating dinner at Anna’s BBQ one evening, listening to patrons talking about who they knew and what was going on with them. What I overheard was, even though there were times in Kirkwood’s past when the crime rate was high, there was a communal feeling among those who live(d) here. Everybody knew — or at least knew of — everybody.

Since the turn of this century, or just



prior to, a lot of new people have moved into Kirkwood, and that includes me. One of the things that I noticed about the residents in Kirkwood when I moved here was that a lot of people were very active on social media. I also noticed that some of the social media posts were rooted in fear, evidenced by the many “Be On the Lookout” (BOLO) posts.

However, over the four years that I have attended the Kirkwood Neighbors’ Organization (KNO) meetings, the reports from the Zone 6 precinct officers do not match the voluminous social media posts about suspicious persons in the neighborhood. I personally found it disturbing that Atlanta police officers requested that they be called if you see a suspicious person.

As a resident of Kirkwood, I do not feel that calling the police should be the first response when you see a suspicious person. The “suspicious person” may have permission from the property owner to be there, like a friend or relative house sitting. That suspicious person is someone that you do not know, but do you really know your neighbors well enough to know all of their friends and relatives?

#### The Ask

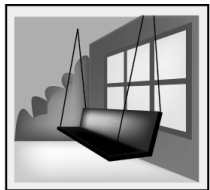
I am asking the residents of Kirkwood to spend less time on the neighborhood social media sites reporting suspicious persons and more time getting to know their next-door neighbors or the neighbors across the street.

Here is what I proposed at the August 2016 KNO meeting:

- 1) Greet the person: Just say hello. Do not question them. (Again, the person may have permission to be there.)
- 2) Call the homeowner or renter if you think the person is suspicious. (This means that you have to get to know your neighbor in order to get their phone number.)
- 3) If you cannot reach the homeowner or renter, go to the neighbor’s house. (The neighbor probably already knows the person that you think is suspicious.)
- 4) If all else fails, then call the police.

I believe that this neighbor-friendly approach to suspicious persons is indicative of the values of “Southern hospitality” and will continue to foster a communal sense in Kirkwood.

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7:00 - 8:30 PM

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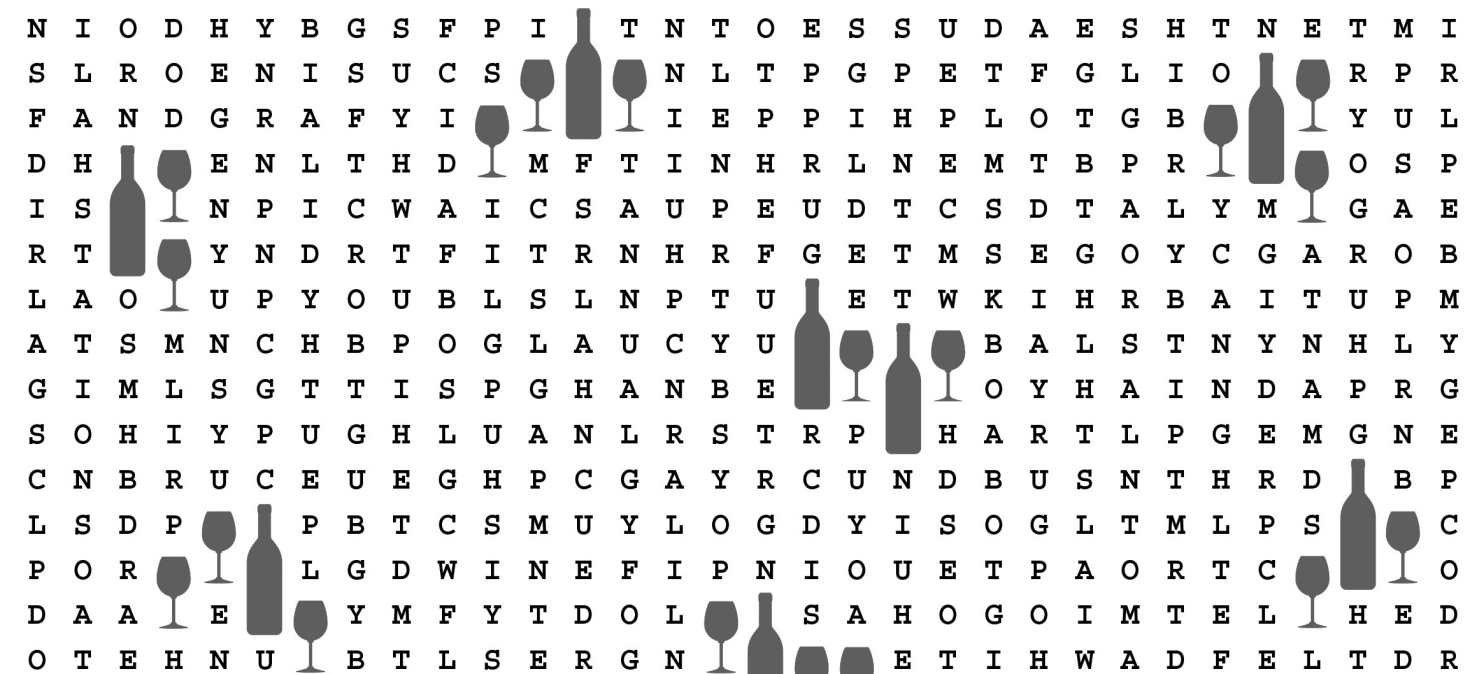
Monday  
October 10

Turner Monumental  
AME Church

66 Howard Street NE

## WORD SEARCH: Kirkwood Wine Stroll

by Clue Town Books



Annual  
Bottles

Community  
KBOA

Party  
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Street  
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White  
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www.eastlaketerrace.org # 404-377-004

www.facebook.com/eltnaga  
581 Parker Ave. Rear Bldg  
Mt. Welcome Baptist Church

**ELTNA Mission:** to create a safe and friendly community by addressing quality of life issues that include: public safety, abandoned property and animals, beautification, and an overall commitment to empowering residents through education, support for one another and community involvement.

**Vision:** As residents continue to participate, ELTNA prospers & makes a difference in District 3 of S. DeKalb County with community outreach & projects for the benefit of many.



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Sunday	Bluegrass Brunch, 12:00-3:00 pm
Tuesday	\$2 Tacos, 5:00-10:00 pm
Wednesday	Guitar Shed Open Mic, 9:00 pm
Thursday	Team Trivia, 8:00 pm
Saturday	Kirkwood Karaoke, 10:00 pm

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The Pullman • 1992 Hosea Williams Dr.  
expires September 30, 2016

# Freed Spirits: A new play starring Oakland Cemetery

A ghostly caper arises from the debris of the Atlanta 2008 tornado in this world premiere at Horizon Theatre!

Oakland tour guide Susan Dickey spends her days among the dead, reliving the past to entertain the pres-

ent. A freak tornado changes everything as it exposes secrets and artifacts forgotten and buried for years.

With the help of steampunk survivalist MJ, hipster paranormal photographer Bryon, and gardener and retired pathologist Dr. Netta Finch, Susan explores the possibility that ghosts are real. Or are they?

Commissioned by Horizon, playwright Daryl Lisa Fazio premieres this mystery-comedy



under the direction of Lisa Adler.

“This play *is* Atlanta,” Adler says. “It’s written by an award-winning Atlanta playwright, about an Atlanta landmark, with a stellar Atlanta cast. It’s a fun, upbeat ghostly comedy about a cadre of quirky urban misfits solving a mystery in the midst of the gardens and tombs Oakland. It’s the perfect comedy for this fall and Halloween season in Atlanta, celebrating the quirky, weird, and unique of this Atlanta intown haunt.”

# One More Place to Park Your Bike

The newest addition to Kirkwood’s bicycle infrastructure is a replica gas pump bike rack, designed to complement the historic filling station that Stryant Construction remodeled in 2014. It was fabricated by Kirkwood resident and local welder Ben Vass of Vass Metal Works.



The practical sculpture was made possible by a \$250 matching fund grant program Kirkwood Neighbors’ Organization (KNO) has set up that matches any local business in getting an artistic yet functional bike rack installed.

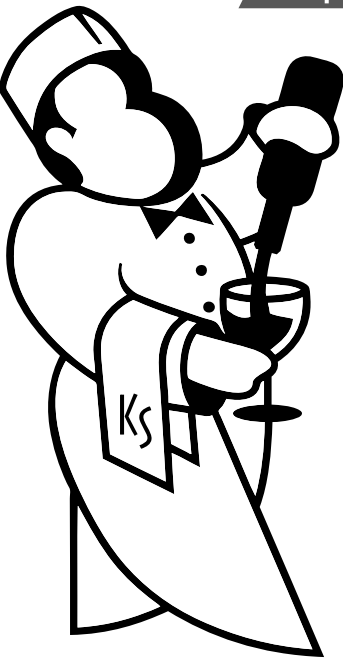
The new rack joins the existing Dero FixIt stand, bike corral, and numerous hoop racks around the downtown business district.

Projects like this demonstrate why Kirkwood was voted by Atlanta Bicycle Coalition members as its “2016 Bicycle Friendly Neighborhood of the Year.” The award is on display at The Pullman.

10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

# KIRKWOOD WINE STROLL

\$40 Tickets



Day of event \$50  
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SAVE THE DATE  
*September 23*

Hosted by Kirkwood Business Owners’ Association  
Details/online tickets at [KirkwoodBiz.com](http://KirkwoodBiz.com)

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KWD COMIX



Vol. 1



Sep 2016



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## Free Library Programs

Kirkwood Library  
Comic Book Club!

Saturday, Sept. 17  
1:00 PM

ages 12 -18

Special guests and  
light refreshments.

Meditation Classes

Monday nights  
6:00-6:30 PM

Sept. 19 & 26  
Oct. 17, 24 & 31

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## Gather 'round the Campfire, S'mores for All is Back!



Save the date for this free event for all fun-lovin', s'more-eatin' folks! (Well, it's free, even if s'mores aren't your thing. Maybe we can change your mind.)

Entertainment by Ladybug

Productions begins at 5:30 PM. Bring your instruments to share your musical talents with the neighborhood.

You can also volunteer to help at for S'mores for All. Visit the Wylde Center's website

**When:** Sunday, October 16, 5:00 to 7:00 PM

**Where:** Hawk Hollow, 2304 1st Avenue

**Info:** [www.wyldecenter.org](http://www.wyldecenter.org)

for more information.

And ICYMI, volunteers get a free Wylde Center t-shirt

after they give more than 20 hours of service.

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Craftsman Cottage w/ 5 beds, 4 baths, open kitchen, butlers pantry, & 2-car garage w/ carriage house!



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111 Montgomery | \$279,000  
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2689 Arbor Ave | \$699,000  
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# FATE Engages Students Through Partnerships

by Jennifer Kraften

Fred A. Toomer Elementary School (FATE) started the school year with an amazing focus on increasing student engagement through warm welcomes, great instruction, awesome activities, and appealing spaces. When you visit, you'll see this effort through the PlayWorks program that conducts morning recess and class lessons and through FATE's partnership with SoulShine, bringing gardening lessons to all of the learners in the bright, colorful classrooms.

They've also unveiled a newly updated attendance plan that includes hall dances, celebrations, and special recognition as part of the "FATE 5 Attendance Club." The goal is to motivate students and families to be on time to school every day and not miss more than five days of school during the year.

On Aug. 23, family and community members were invited to join the teachers at FATE



Students and their families enjoy FATE's campus and new inclusive playground at the Back-to-School Picnic.

to learn more about the great things that are happening at the school. There was a wonderful response, and everyone at FATE thanks all of the families who continue to be involved in the school and their children's learning.

The social and emotional learning (SEL) curriculum is a process through which children and adults acquire

and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions ([www.casel.org](http://www.casel.org)). Every morning students engage in purposeful SEL lessons during morning meeting, which are reinforced throughout the day via interactions with their peers and adults.

The teachers at FATE are working hard to plan engaging lessons and build spaces for creativity, and that would not be possible without the non-profit DonorsChoose site and the wonderful community of donors! In the last 12 months, Toomer projects have received over \$25,000 in

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Friday, September 2

Toomer Elementary school will host *New York Times* best-selling author Jennifer Holm. The author of the *Babymouse* and *Squish* graphic novels as well as three Newbery Honor-winning historical fiction novels will speak to Toomer's upper-grade students about her writing craft and process. Ms. Holm's visit is in conjunction with her appearance at the Decatur Book Festival, Sept. 3-4.

### Wednesday, September 7

The gardening program hosted by SoulShine starts. Each class will have the opportunity to build science, math, and health concepts through interactive, outdoor activities. Community members are welcome to volunteer Wednesdays or donate to Mrs. Kraften's "Gardening Goals" project at [DonorsChoose](https://www.donorschoose.org) to help purchase supplies.

Also look for students' first progress reports on Sept. 7.

### Friday, September 16

Community Coffee, beginning at 8:15 AM, will feature Gifted and Talented teacher and semi-finalist for APS Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Kraften. Join her to hear about FATE's Gifted program and its upcoming testing sessions.

donations, many from within the Kirkwood and East Lake areas.

## "From little seeds grow mighty trees."

To learn more about the FATE family:

schedule a tour  
(404) 802-3450

[www.atlanta.k12.ga.us/Domain/1631](http://www.atlanta.k12.ga.us/Domain/1631)

[www.facebook.com/FriendsofToomerElementary/](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofToomerElementary/)

[www.twitter.com/FATEaps](https://www.twitter.com/FATEaps)

To help out a classroom, search for "Toomer" at [DonorsChoose](https://www.donorschoose.org):  
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