

Pullman Forest Alliance Seeks to Protect Tree Canopy and Stream with Community Land Trust

Pullman Forest is the last large unprotected forest and upper stream area in historic east Atlanta. But the property it's located on will be sold in 2017. The bid process on the land will end by April 4, leaving little time to preserve this natural resource and the possibility of providing rich educational and recreational opportunities for our community.

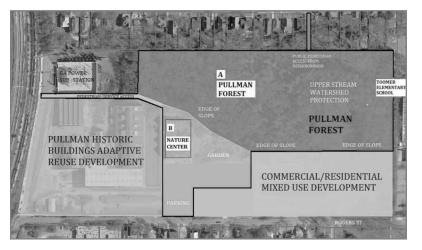
Pullman Forest Alliance is a group of conservationoriented organizations, neighborhoods, and citizens seeking to develop a land trust to preserve the urban forest at the Pratt-Pullman Yard. The proposed community land trust comprises a 10-acre woodland, a nature center, and an urban garden.

The intent of the alliance is to demonstrate to

those bidding on the property that this type of regenerative and inclusive mixed use is what the surrounding community wants to see as part of the development of the Pratt-Pullman Yard. The Pullman Forest Alliance wants to position itself as a key partner with the developer that wins the bid. Pullman Forest LLC will contribute funds toward the cost of the land in the trust, as well as providing restoration, program activities, and long-term management of the forest.

The main portion of the land trust would be a 10-acre forest preserve (A in the map above) to protect the upper stream watershed and forest canopy. There would be public access for passive recreation and interpretive programs. The Wylde Center and Trees Atlanta would facilitate the forest restoration. The Wylde Center would also operate a nature interpretive center (B), with a one-acre urban garden and garden center, open to the public for forest- and garden-based programs.

The Kirkwood Neighbors' Organization (KNO) and the



neighborhood organization that represents the Edgewood community, Organized Neighbors of Edgewood, have voted to support this initiative. Meetings to discuss the opportunity to save and protect this forest will be held in the coming weeks.

Stay up to date at www.facebook.com/PullmanForest

IN THIS ISSUE ...

page 3Kirkwood Business Owners' Associationpage 5FATE school updatespage 6Spring Fling: Save the datepage 8Hawk Hollow dog picturespage 10PATH Parkway at Georgia Techpage 12New children's garden in Candler Parkpage 13Library eventspage 15East Atlanta Library artist



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!

2017 KNO Officers

President:	Teanise Davis teanise@gmail.com
Vice President:	Stan Sugarman stansugarman@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Zach Pedigo zepedi@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Susanne Blam susanne2106@gmail.com

Newsletter Staff

Editor:	Viraj Parmar editor.knonewsletter@gmail.com
Copy Editor:	Karen Schrier
Advertising:	Jeffery Childers jefferylchilders@bellsouth.net
Layout:	Kate Siegel • Kartouche
Distribution:	Jeffery Childers

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) P.O. Box 170010 • Atlanta, Georgia 30317 Dental Services Kirkwood Health Center (2nd Floor)

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KBOA Provides Networking and Marketing Opportunities

The Kirkwood Business Owners' Association (KBOA) was established in 2007 to promote the growth, stability, and profitability of the Kirkwood Business District. Since its inception, KBOA has played a strong role in attracting businesses to make up what is now a vibrant downtown Kirkwood.

All storefront and home-based businesses within the neighborhood are welcome to join the nonprofit organization, a unified voice for the local business community. Each member business gets one vote on matters concerning the development of business within KBOA boundaries, such as liquor licenses, parking issues, and public safety. Non-voting associate memberships, for businesses located outside of Kirkwood, are also available.

General meetings are 11:00 AM on the third Tuesday of the month at the Kirkwood library, 11 Kirkwood Rd. NE.

To discuss membership, please contact membership chair Dan Wingate (The Pullman).



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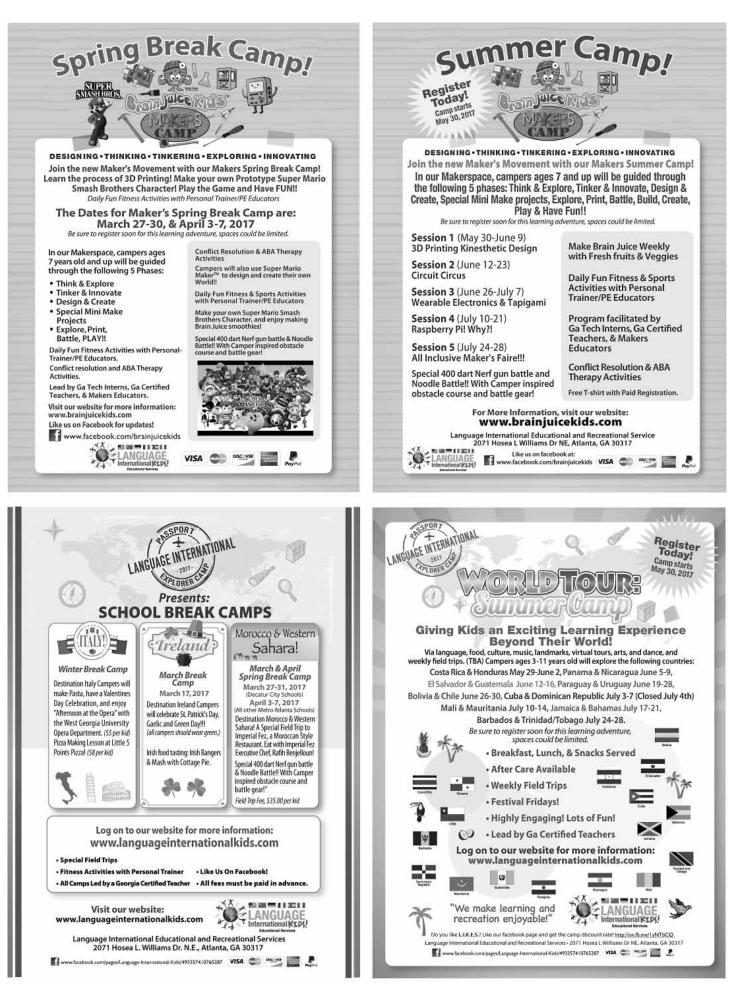
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Historic Learning Is Happening at Toomer

by Jennifer Kraften

FATE celebrated Black History Month with art projects, special foods and daily musical selections in the cafeteria, and quotes read over student morning announcements.

The celebration culminated with a "Day at the Apollo" talent show on Tuesday, Feb. 28. Students shared songs, dances, poetry, and other talents to an enthusiastic audience of student, staff, parents, and community members. Participants had the opportunity to touch the "stump" before sharing their talent. Everyone learned about the Apollo Theater's long history of developing and showcasing great artists.

Inspirational Inky

On Feb. 15, students and staff were treated to an inspiring visit by local legend and motivational speaker, Inky Johnson. The former FATE student returned to take pictures with some of his former teachers and speak to an all-school



FATE's principal Ashley Adamo and former FATE student Inky Johnson, after an inspiring all-school assembly on Feb. 15.

assembly about setting goals and feeding our dreams.

Outstanding Students

In February, the 283 remaining members in the FATE Five Attendance Club were given "Attendance Rocks!" bracelets and invited to dance and enjoy a treat at the last Blow Pop Party.

"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 www.facebook.com/FriendsofToomerElementary/

www.twitter.com/FATEaps

To help out a classroom, search for "Toomer" at DonorsChoose: www.donorschoose.org These students have five or fewer absences this school year.

Last month, FATE honored some of its most principled students.

• PreK: Ayah, Solomon, and Ethan

• Kindergarten: Theo, Skylar, Tamesha, and Ella

• 1st grade: Caleb, Qadar, and Mason

2nd grade: Maliyah,Kalil, Eve, and Caliyah3rd grade: Brandon,

Kalob, and Alison

4th grade: Audrey,
Chase, and Alex
5th grade: Jamiya and
Akia M.

Sports

The first girls basketball

Playworks Healthy Play Day

Saturday, March 25 11:00 ам - 1:00 рм

Everyone is welcome to be a part of this communitybuilding event! Join students and families for free food, free games, and free fun! The day will include games and contests on the Toomer Elementary field, surrounded by "vendors" who will share information about their business or organization — and some will have giveaways.

If you're interested in attending as a vendor (at no charge), please contact Coach C at desiree. carson@playworks.org for more details!.

team will play its final game on Thursday, March 2. The league is developmental so students aren't keeping score. Nonetheless, the improvement over the weeks the 11-member team has now been playing together is astounding. The personal and skills-based growth has been strong. Each player has displayed amazing sportsmanship, charismatic leadership, positive encouragement, and glowing self-confidence on the court.

FATE hopes to see the same results in the upcoming co-ed volleyball league.

Spring Fling: Neighborhood Festival Turns 15

by Kristine Lucas

This year marks the 15th anniversary of the Kirkwood Spring Fling. During its history, the festival has attracted thousands of attendees to the neighborhood's expanding community.

The annual event began in 1999 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Kirkwood's founding. After a hiatus, the event returned in 2002 as a neighborhood tour of homes and a small festival aimed at raising money to repair and replace playground equipment at Bessie Branham Park.

The Early Years

Doug Wood, one of the

event's founding committee members and the man who named the festival, described the first Spring Fling and shared the experiences of its organizers:

"It was a sunny, windy day as we had tethered balloon rides in the park that had a hard landing," he said. "We had two streets closed, Delano and Kirkwood, around the park. The music went from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM, and we didn't pay for musicians. It was a struggle to get food vendors and media attention."

During the festival's first 10 years, Wood said, "You knew most of the people that attended. They were either





Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 20!

friends from other neighborhoods or neighbors. It was a large social event, where you went from conversation to conversation."

Growth Brings Benefits

The small neighborhood event has grown to feature live bands, over 100 artist booths, a 5K race, a tour of homes, beer tents, food trucks, and a spectacular kids' area with Atlanta professional sports teams represented.

But although the festival has grown, its theme hasn't: Promote Kirkwood as a place to live. And for that reason, proceeds benefit Kirkwood Neighbors' Organization (KNO) projects.

Profits have been used for the Langford mural,

the Kirkwood bicycle fix-it stand, the Kirkwood mural on College Avenue, the Kirkwood Urban Forest, the Clay Cemetery, the KUF pedestrian bridge and pavilion, and the Coan Park Splash Pad, among others. **2017 Plans**

This year the Spring Fling is growing even more to accommodate the large crowds, with more food vendors, beer tents, and artist booths to loop around an additional block surrounding Bessie Branham Park.

The 2017 Spring Fling planning committee is excited to roll out these additions and further showcase Kirkwood to surrounding neighborhoods and more city residents.





Join us for this FREE event!

1-3PM COMMUNITY GARDEN & ROCK MANDALA BUILD

Ages 2-100, help us create a beautiful sacred space for everyone to enjoy

3-4:30PM KAREN DORFMAN & IAN BOCCIO

Join Karen and Ian from Chantlanta for yoga class with mantras and live music

7-10PM ART OPENING

4 local artist display their latest work

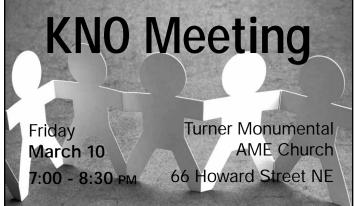
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Dogs Bring Their People to



o Hawk Hollow to Play

by Tamara Jones

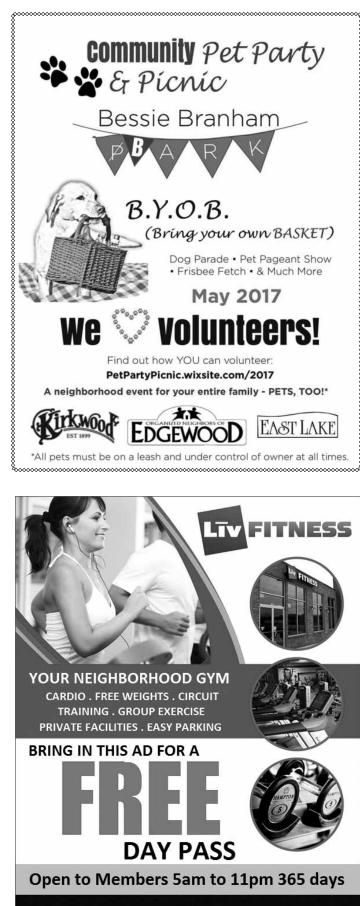
Dogs love to play in the creek, chase sticks, and relax in the sun at Wylde Center's Hawk Hollow garden. Though not a dog park, dogs are welcome anytime to visit the garden with their people friends.

And thanks to Lakeview neighbors, who raised funds from their porch crawl, there is a new dog waste station for owners to use to clean up after their pets.

Stop by and enjoy a romp, but please be careful not to tromp on the native plants.

Hawk Hollow is located at 2304 1st Avenue.





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PATH Parkway at Georgia Tech Helps Transform Atlanta's Focus on Cars



rendering from PATH Foundation website

by Carl Holt

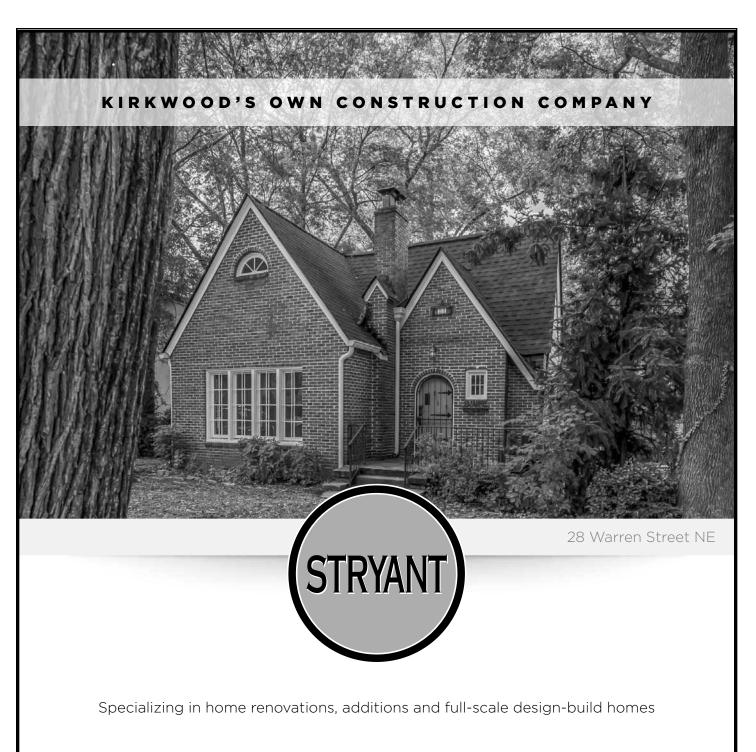
As work on a protected, two-way bicycle facility continues along the western border of Georgia Tech, we are reminded why we should design our environment for people and not cars.

Tech Parkway started out as a four-lane, divided road along Tech's western border. It connected commuter route Northside Drive with North Avenue and Coca-Cola's headquarters and linked the area to downtown. The roadway was a favorite cutthrough for commuters to shave seconds off their drive. But this led to high speeds and dangerous conditions for students who walked and biked near the corridor.

Mayor Kasim Reed's promise to the citizens of Atlanta that it would become one of America's best bicycle cities sparked the plan to convert the southbound lanes of Tech Parkway into a two-way multi-use trail. The PATH Parkway, as it's being called, will connect Northside Drive with Georgia Tech, Coca-Cola, the Georgia Aquarium, the World of Coca-Cola, the Civil and Human Rights Museum, Centennial Olympic Park, and Downtown Atlanta. It adds another spoke to the PATH Foundation's plan to make Centennial Olympic Park the hub of a metro-wide multi-use trail system.

Projects like this are transforming Atlanta from the "poster child for sprawl" into a bicycle-friendly city. In 2016, *Bicycling* magazine named Atlanta one of the Top 50 Best Bike Cities, its first showing on the list.

With voters recently passing a 5-year TSPLOST and additional 0.5% sales tax increase to fund MARTA projects, Atlanta is showing the world that it is growing up and moving away from car-centric planning and development.









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Miss Ladybug to Create Kids' Garden in Candler Park

by Andrea Zoppo

After two years of offering a variety of family-fun programs across the tracks in the Candler Park neighborhood, Kirkwood's own Miss Ladybug and the Lake Claire Community Land Trust are recruiting families to join in the creation of a children's garden to encourage their curiosity, interest, and problem-solving in our natural world. It will be a launching pad for discovery and growth, and a safe place where children and families are invited to explore and learn the lessons of mindfulness, stewardship and wellbeing. As a living classroom within the Land Trust, the children's garden has the potential to create new art forms and young activists.

To help form and create the garden and develop environmental theater pro-

grams, nine events have been planned this year. They will include collaborative theater elements, environmental education, hands-on garden work, and a healthy delicious seasonal snack. These upcoming garden events will be held Sunday afternoons, 4:00 to 6:00 pm.

• March 19: Garden Designing and Beautification, with an equinox celebration

• April 9: Beautification Project and Spring Planting

• June 4: Summer Planting and Nature Crafts

Interested children are also invited to take part in a garden theater camp the week of June 26.

Together, we have the resources to create a magical space and programs that are dynamically engaging and sustainable. Miss Ladybug hopes many families will be inspired to get involved early, so that this special garden and its programming may be guided in collaboration with local children.

In fact, you can submit a fun and unique name for this new space. Email your suggestions by April 1 to the address below with "Garden Name Submission" as the subject. Community voting will be held during the garden program on April 9. The name will be officially revealed on June 4. The family that submits the winning name will have the honor of placing the first garden gnome statue in the new garden.

Miss Ladybug and the Land Trust look forward to playing in the dirt with you soon!

To volunteer, book a birthday party, join our garden club, or get more info:

missladybug@ladybugeventsllc.com or LadybugEventsLLC.com



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Events at the Library

Reading with Ringling Bros.

By reading 5 books, kids can earn a voucher good toward a FREE kid's ticket with the purchase of a full-price adult ticket to an upcoming Ringling Bros. Circus Xtreme show: Ends March 5 in Duluth.

Drop In Computer Lab

Get one-on-one assistance with your computer needs and library resources. All ages.



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www.nea.org/readacross



It's The Teeny Tiny Tots Story Time

Wednesdays, 10:30 AM Little ones and their parents/caregivers can enjoy new and classic books and

action songs and meet other toddlers from the neighborhood. Ages 6-36 months.

30-Minute Meditation

Wednesdays, Mar. 1-29,

6:00 рм & Mondays, Mar. 20 & 27, 12:30 рм

Interested in learning about Buddhism and meditation? Join the Kadampa Meditation Center for this free session. Ages 16+.

AARP Tax Volunteers

Mondays & Thursdays, Mar. 2-30, begins 10:15 AM (Arrive before 1:30 PM to reserve time.)

Free income tax assistance for low- to moderate-income taxpayers; special attention to those 60 and older. Ages 18+.

Read Across America Day

Wednesday, Mar. 1 Celebrate Dr. Seuss by choosing one of his books to enjoy and read with Ms. Leilani in the library. Ages 3-12.

littleBits

Saturday, Mar. 11, 12:30 рм

Build a circuit by snapping together the bits with magnets. No soldering, wiring, or programming needed. Ages 5-12.

Single Is the New Black

Saturday, Mar. 25, 2:00 PM

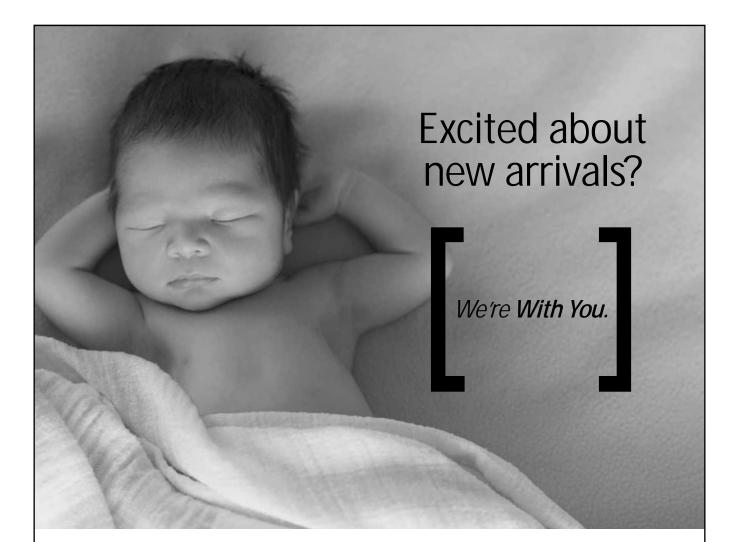
Enjoy scenes from the play Single Is the New Black and discuss modern dating and relationships with playwright T.C. Mattison. Ages 16+. A CARD YOU CAN TRUST



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Newest Arrival!



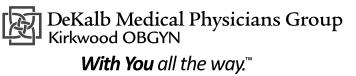


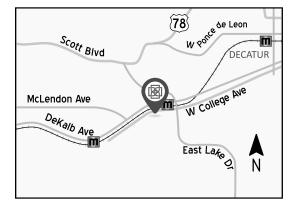


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Exhibition Explores Cross-Cultural Connections

by Henry Bryant

After finding acclaim across the country, Batya Tamar is bringing her work to East Atlanta Library in a onewoman show opening in mid-March. She has created mixed-media drawings and paintings on the intersections and cross-connections of culture in the Americas for over 25 years.

In addition to several galleries in Atlanta, Tamar has exhibited her work nationally and internationally in many solo, invitational, and juried group exhibitions, including the 10th Havana Bienale (2010), Wilmer Jennings Gallery at Kenkeleba in New York City, and the National Museum of Art in Accras, Ghana.

Tamar has been a resident of Atlanta for almost 15 years, and until recently, maintained her studio at The Arts

Exchange in Grant Park for 10 years. She is an experienced art educator who has taught all levels, from early childhood through college. She has also served on numerous nonprofit boards for arts organizations.

The opening reception, sponsored by the Friends of East Atlanta Library and Atlanta Fulton Libraries, is on Saturday, March 18, from 3:30 until 5:30 рм. Meet the artist, see a selection of her work, and enjoy refreshments with neighbors.

Tamar's art will be on display on the Gallery Wall in the library meeting room, which is open during regular library hours. To gain access, ask at the library circulation desk.

East Atlanta Library 400 Flat Shoals Ave. SE, Atlanta, 30316 404-730-5438



Surreal? Mystical? Supernatural? "La Sirene Rabbah" is one of Batya Tamar's pieces that will be on display at the East Atlanta Library beginning in mid-March. The opening reception is March 18.

Oh! So that's how you pronounce it!



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Spring Has Sprung!

Atlanta Intown Real Estate Services celebrates its 21st year of helping buyers and sellers in Kirkwood and the other vibrant intown neighborhoods of Atlanta. We've been here through up and down markets and are still proud to be, locally owned, neighborhood based, and client focused! Whether you are moving in, moving out, or moving right around the corner, let us help you with your next smart move!



895 Adair Ave, Virginia Highland 6 bed/5 bath, new construction Gorgeous, walkable, detached garage \$1,495,000 • Kasey Gryboski



2025 Palifox Dr., Lake Claire 5 bed/4 bath, Renovated 1920's Charmer, gorgeous yard, space galore \$650,000 • Ben Levin (owner/agent)



600 Bonaventure Ave #9, Poncey-Hi 3 bed/3.5 bath, immaculate modern TH Like new, roof top terrace, 2 car garage \$749,000 • Morgan C and Adam P



1199 Huff Rd. #101, Huff Heights 3 bed/3.5 bath, Live work on hot West-side, gorgeous, roof top terrace \$460,000 • Julie Stephens

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25 Rogers st SE, Kirkwood 3 bed/2.5 bath, renovated craftsman Period details with 2017 appeal \$414,000 • Mike and Margie



2240 1st Ave NE, Kirkwood 3 bed/2 bath, Renovated, plus Addition in great walkable location \$399,900 • Mike and Margie



1152 Spring Valley Lane, Morningside 5 bed/5 baths, new construction Quiet cul-de-sac, gorgeous, basement \$1,175,000 • Cam McCaa 404-414-2496



171 Howard St SE, Kirkwood 3 bed/2 baths, charming, open Bungalow, large sunny yard \$399,900 • Morgan



2008 Deering Cir, Wakefield Forest 3 bed/1.5 bath, 1950's ranch with New kitchen & baths, hardwood floors \$259,900 • Mike and Margie



322 8th st NE, Midtown 3 bed/2.5 bath, newer construction Single family, heart of walkable Midtown \$599,900 • Kyle Embler



303 Nelms Ave, Lake Claire 3 bed, 1.5 bath fixer upper, large Family room, adjoins the Land Trust \$399,000 • Chris Carroll

PENDING



1936 Lenox Road, Morningside 3 bed/3 baths, huge Lenox Pak ranch On ½ acre with open entertainers plan \$645,000 • David Vannort

PENDING



313 Eleanor St, Parkview 2 bed/2 bath, Post-war bungalow Renovated with open floor plan \$249,900 • Mike and Margie



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1991 Howard Circle, Lake Claire 3 bed/2.5 bath, renovated modern Gorgeous fenced yard, garage \$575,000 • David Vannort

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907 Piedmont Ave #20, Midtown 1 bed/1 bath, Charming 1920's condo Updated kitchen, new windows, balcony \$169,000 • David Vannort



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