

Blair Crimmins to Headline Spring Fling Lineup

Blair Crimmins and the Hookers, an Atlanta-based band fronted by Kirkwood resident Blair Crimmins, is set to play at the 2018 Kirkwood Spring Fling & Tour of Homes on Saturday, May 19. The jazz, Dixieland, and ragtime band has opened for acts such as Mumford & Sons and Preservation Hall Jazz Band, and event organizers are thrilled to add the group to the Spring Fling musical lineup.

This won't be the band's first appearance at the event. It will, however, be the first time Blair plays at Spring Fling as a Kirkwood resident. He and his wife, radio personality Davi Crimmins of Q-100's "The Bert Show," moved to the neighborhood three years ago from nearby Cabbagetown.

"Kirkwood has become our home, and we love living here," Blair says. "You get the peace and quiet of living outside of town, but with all the amazing amenities of living in the big city right around the corner.

"I'm so excited to play for my 'home crowd' at this year's Spring Fling," he



continues. "Since we moved to Kirkwood I've wanted to play at the event again, but with touring it's been difficult to get the schedule right. This year I knew I could get it done, so I reached out to the festival organizers directly."

Blair has been musically inclined as far back as he can remember. At only eight years old, he saved up enough money to buy his first real guitar. Inspired by famous jazz musicians like Jelly Roll Morton and Louis Armstrong, as well as rock musicians like Bob Dylan, David Bowie and The Clash, today Blair has created a one-ofa-kind sound that has been recognized throughout the country – a sound that event organizers are pleased to showcase at Spring Fling.

"We're thrilled to have Blair and his

continues page 11

INSIDE	page 3	KBOA grant applications Lanta Gras pictures
THIS	page 5	Spring Fling volunteers
ISSUE	page 6	First-time marathon runner Spring Fling 5K

bage 7	Atlanta Streets Alive route DeKalb Avenue Complete Street meeting
bage 9	Library events
bage 11	Fork Cancer fundraiser



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 рм at the Turner Monumental A.M.E. Church, 66 Howard St. NE.

Everyone is welcome!

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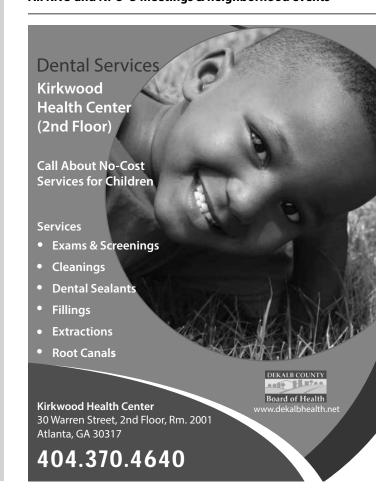
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Kirkwood Neighbors' Organization (KNO) P.O. Box 170010 • Atlanta, Georgia 30317 www.historic-kirkwood.org

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Call for 2018 KBOA Nonprofit Grant Applications



The Kirkwood Business Owners' Association (KBOA) is currently seeking submissions for 2018 grants for funding special projects in and around Kirkwood.

To be eligible, organizations must be registered as a 501(c)(3) and based in the NPU-O planning unit of the City of Atlanta, which includes Kirkwood, East Lake, Edgewood, and East Lake Commons.

Grant recipients are required to participate in the 12th Annual Kirkwood Wine Stroll on Friday, Sept. 21, 2018, as well as assist with event marketing and volunteer recruitment efforts. Grants are funded by profits from the wine stroll, and amounts are subject to the event's success.

Recipients of the 2017 grants – Atlanta Harm Reduction Coalition, Fred Armon Toomer Elementary Education (FATE) Foundation, Kirkwood Neighbors Organization, Lanta Gras, and Wholesome Wave Georgia – each received \$1,000.

Submission Deadline: April 26 Announcement of Awards: May 15 Wine Stroll: September 21

Application information and grant guidelines are available at www.kirkwoodbiz.com/Blog/5980235





Local students led the third annual Lanta Gras parade in Kirkwood with Grand Marshall and Atlanta City Councilmember Natalyn Archibong on January 27. The Mardi Gras parade and festival raises money for a local nonprofit that builds community through music. Learn more at www.lantagras.com.



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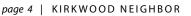
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Volunteers (Like You?) Make Spring Fling Possible

As the neighborhood's premier fundraiser, it's important the Spring Fling goes off without a hitch. The event – which includes a 5K race, artists' booths, live music, a children's play area, a barbecue contest, and food trucks – relies 100% on the work of volunteers.

A group of approximately 30 neighborhood residents who make up the Kirkwood Spring Fling committee has held regular planning meetings since January. These dedicated volunteers have devoted a significant amount of time during the months leading up to the Spring Fling to ensure the event is a success.

And there are plenty of opportunities that don't require such a long-term commitment. More than 250 volunteers are needed during the weekend of May 19, with many different types of jobs available.

For a few hours of time, all volunteers receive a com-

The 16th Annual Spring Fling and Tour of Homes is Saturday, May 19, at Bessie Branham Park.

To see the list of jobs and sign up, visit **www.kirkwoodfling.com/volunteer**



memorative Spring Fling T-shirt, a beer ticket, and the priceless opportunity to meet new neighbors and experience community fun. Some volunteer roles have additional perks as well, such as free tickets to the Tour of Homes for those who assist at locations on the tour.

So check your calendar and consider helping out. You'll have a good time for a good cause.



Neighborhood Cheers as Resident Runner Completes First Full Marathon

Todd Bowers, who has lived in Kirkwood since 2009, recently completed the Publix Georgia Marathon, his first-ever 26.2-mile race. He credits the Kirkwood neighborhood with helping ignite his passion for running, which began when he joined Kirkwood Runners and Walkers, a group that meets at the local library twice each week to walk and run through the neighborhood.

Todd soon began running outside the designated group runs, and it wasn't long before he was running daily. One of his first races was the Kirkwood Spring Fling 5K in 2015. After he had a few 5K races under his belt, he began to think about participating in longer runs.

Last year, Todd completed the Publix Georgia Half Marathon with fellow Kirkwood resident David Kipp, who completed the full marathon. Todd enjoyed that race so much that he immediately registered for the 2018 full marathon.

His training began in October 2017, with a goal of completing the marathon in less than four hours. He gradually increased both the lengths of his runs and his



endurance. His hard work paid off when he completed the Publix marathon on March 18 with a time of 3:54.

Todd credits his support group with helping him achieve his goal, particularly his wife Kathy Thompson. As the marathon runners passed through Kirkwood, a crowd of neighbors – armed with signs and some even in costume – joined Kathy in cheering his progress.

"I really felt a jolt of inspiration and pride as I passed my neighborhood cheering section," he says.

Now that he has completed the marathon, Todd is devoting his energy to helping organize the 2018 Kirkwood Spring Fling 5K as a volunteer.

"This neighborhood and this race really started it all for me," he says. "I want as many people as possible to have that same opportunity."

Spring Fling 5K

The annual Kirkwood Spring Fling 5K is now an official qualifying event for the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* Peachtree Road Race, the nation's largest 10K, held annually on July 4.

Organizers encourage participants to register for the race soon, as its designation as a Peachtree qualifier may impact the number of people wanting to participate.

The route begins at the Kirkwood library on Hosea Williams Drive and takes participants through treelined boulevards dotted with historic homes, then back to downtown Kirkwood for the finish line.

Runners receive a commemorative race T-shirt. (Those 21 and older also receive a ticket for a beer or sangria at the Kirkwood Spring Fling festival that day.) Post-race yoga at Bessie Branham Park will be provided by Indigo Yoga Studio in Kirkwood.



Saturday, May 19 • 8:30 AM Register online at www.kirkwoodfling.com/ 5K-road-race

Fee is \$25 before April 1 and \$30 after that date.



DeKalb Avenue Goes Car-less for Streets Alive

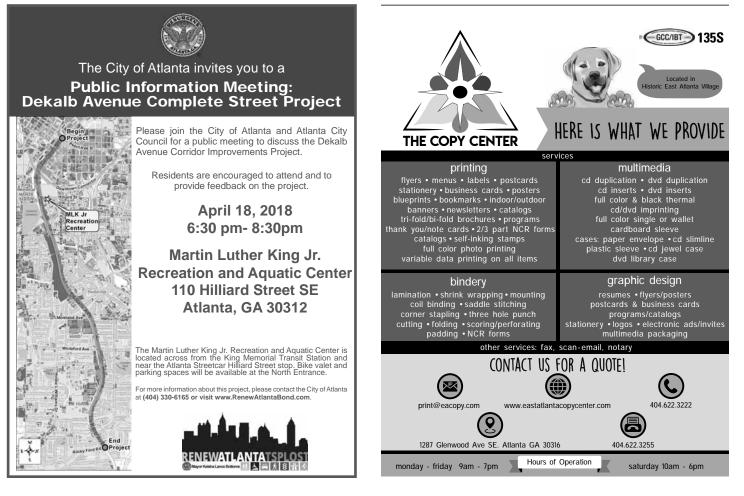
The streets are open for you to explore the neighborhoods and local business districts without the intensity of car traffic. Stroll or roll to eat, shop, play, socialize, or simply enjoy the outdoors.

Hop on the route wherever is most convenient for you. Remember, there's no beginning or end, and the flow of people is like a two-way street – it goes both ways!

Sunday, April 8 • 2:00-6:00 рм

Decatur St/DeKalb Ave closed to traffic from 12:30 to 7:30 PM











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Teen Homework Help Hour

Mondays, starting April 2, 4:00 PM

Middle and high school students can show proof of school enrollment and an active AFPLS library card to receive up to 10 pages of free homework prints. Ages 13-18.

Teeny Tiny Tots Story Time

Wednesdays, starting April 25, 10:30 AM

Join us as we build successful readers through language development, listening, and social skills. Move, sing, hear stories, and meet other preschoolers from the neighborhood. Ages 6-36 months.

Urban Gardening Information and Seed Swap

Saturday, April 7, 1:00 PM

Join the UGA Extension for a free session on growing plants from seeds, the best time to plant, and more. A seed swap follows the discussion: contact andaiye.reeves@fulton countyga.gov with the type of seeds you're planning to bring. All are welcome, with or without seeds. Ages 10 and up.

Community Shred Day

Saturday, April 14, 10:00 ам - 1:00 рм

Bring your old personal and confidential documents for a proper on-site disposal. Paper recycling only. Sponsored by the Fulton County Depart-

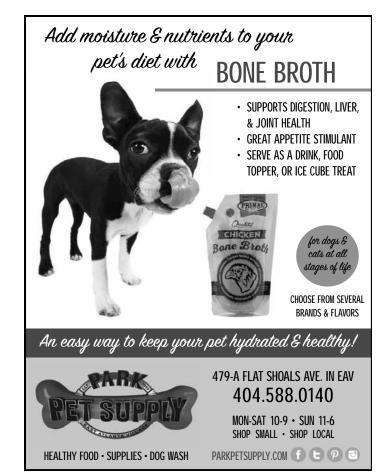


ment of Real Estate and Asset Management.

All program dates and times are subject to change, pending upcoming renovations.

Call or visit the library for more information and to register for events.

11 Kirkwood Rd. NE • 404-377-6471



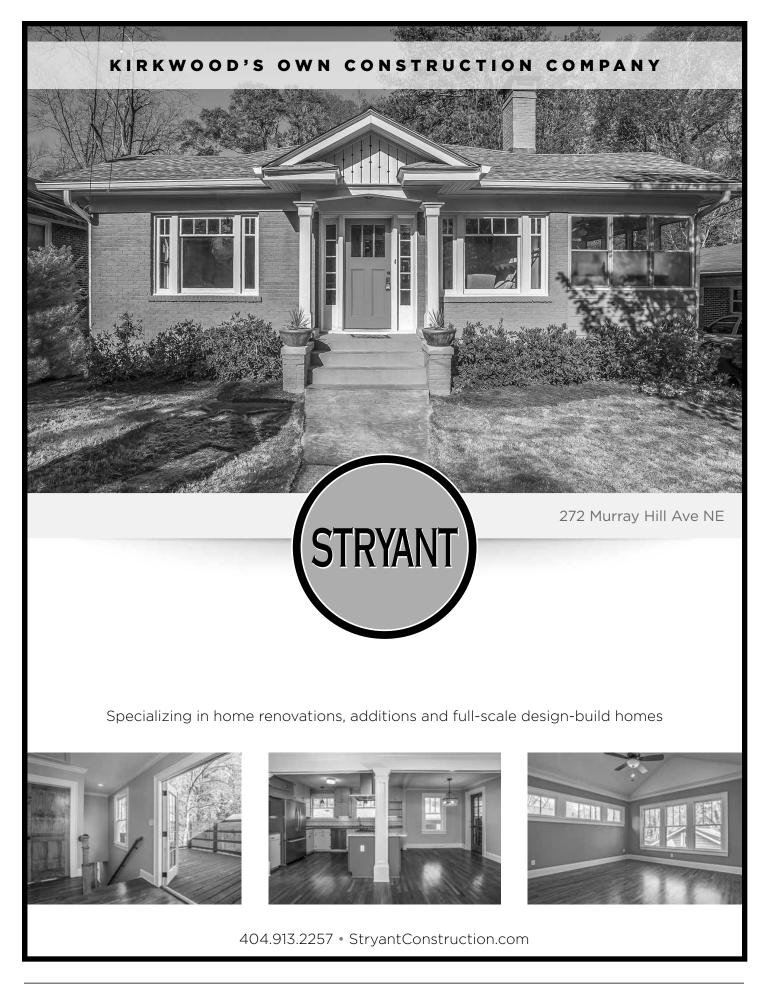


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Blair Crimmins

continued from page 1

band join us this year," says Gary Kurz, a member of the event's music committee. "He's been an artistic force in Atlanta for many years and is a really unique voice in the city's music scene."

Kirkwood residents may spot some familiar locations in the group's music video for "Top of the Class," which was filmed in and around the neighborhood.

Want to get a taste of the unique sound of Blair Crimmins and the Hookers before Spring Fling? The band has a live show scheduled for Friday, April 20, at Venkman's in Old Fourth Ward.

> Visit the band's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ blaircrimminsandthehookers

ACS Relay for Life Fundraiser

Kirkwood resident Sarah Assalti has partnered with The Pullman and local Southern rock band Yes Ma'am (that you may recognize from Oakhurst Porchfest) to organize "Fork Cancer," benefiting the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. The signature community-based fundraiser is staffed and coordinated by volunteers across the globe who give their time in support of the organization's fight for a world without cancer. Sarah is one of them.

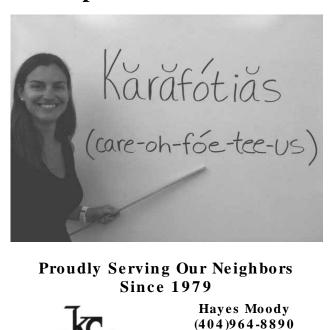
"I'm grateful for the opportunity to honor the



cancer survivors in my life, remember friends and family I have lost, and raise funds to support American Cancer Society's mission," Sarah says. "I have lost so many people to this disease, so I fight it with the only tools I have: my voice and my wallet. I hope my neighbors will join me in this fight."

For more information **bit.ly/forkcancer18**

Oh! So <u>that's</u> how you pronounce it!



 Nick Avery

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790 North Ave, Poncey Highland 1.5 Bed/1.5 Bath at City View Lofts Steps to PCM and BeltLine \$1,995/mo • David Vannort

COMING SOON



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