

Neighborhood News

Volume 25 Number 3
Summer 2018

NEWSLETTER OF THE LAVISTA PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 244190 ATLANTA, GA 30324 WWW.LAVISTAPARK.ORG

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LAVISTA PARK
CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Quarterly Meeting Thursday, July 26th

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1438 Sheridan Road

7 p.m. social with refreshments

7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Meeting



President's Message

Thank you to all new and renewed LVPCA Members and Friends of LaVista Park for 2018-2019! Unfortunately, we needed to extend our membership drive through June to try and meet our approved budget, 80% of which covers your security patrol. If you are a LaVista Park resident or area business and have not yet joined or renewed for 2018-2019, We Still Want You!

As of July 11, we had 357 Members and nine Friends. To meet our budget target of 402 Members and maintain our security patrol at its current level, we need an additional **45** sign-ups as soon as possible. Please go to <http://lavistapark.org/membership/> to learn more and to pay online via PayPal (\$225 per household). See inside to learn about our updated 2018-2019 Friends and exclusive LVPCA Member benefits!

On Saturday, June 16, we pulled green patrol signs from all non-renewed homes. We also planted patrol signs for new Members and replaced damaged signs for renewals where requested. You may contact your Section Vice President listed inside if you joined and did not receive a patrol sign.

Please join me in welcoming Bill Casarella to the Board as our new Security Patrol Coordinator. Bill and his wife Kay are 26-year LaVista Park residents on Parker Place, both retired from Emory. We appreciate his volunteering to fill this position and look forward to working with him.

Your Board is monitoring several area developments. These include GDOT improvements to our LaVista-Briarcliff intersection and Toll Brothers' rezoning proposal to develop a new five-story 374-unit apartment complex to replace nine single-family homes on Milledge Place at the nearby Briarcliff-Clairmont intersection. Both projects will impact area traffic and, if the latter proposal is approved by DeKalb County, it will cause a 100% loss of tree canopy and require extensive stormwater retention as well. We encourage you to follow the ongoing discussions on Nextdoor and join us in providing input to our public officials!

We are also monitoring ongoing DeKalb cityhood initiatives and options (yes, that again). Since the last resident preference surveys in October and December 2014, over 164 LaVista Park homes have sold, equating to a 25%+ turnover. Stay tuned as your Board considers a new preference survey and town hall to review possible options.

Thank you to the 76 respondents who completed our Fall Festival Survey! We will share results and preliminary plans for this event at our Thursday, July 26th Quarterly Membership Meeting.

Finally, mark your calendar for our annual "National Night Out" on Tuesday, August 7, 6:00-8:30pm at the Brookforest entrance to the park. Come cool down with ice cream, enjoy music, play games, and meet your neighbors and our DeKalb police officers! All ages and pets are welcome, so bring the entire family.

Tom Woodward
president@lavistapark.org



Patrol News & Notes

Greetings to everyone from the LaVista Park Patrol Officers. We hope everyone is having a great summer!

Here are a few tips to help keep you and your property safe.

- 1) If you see suspicious activity or a crime in progress dial 911, then feel free to post the incident on social media sites.
- 2) Keep windows and doors closed and locked, especially at night.
- 3) Document model and serial numbers for your electronic devices.
- 4) Ensure that your home Wi-Fi is secure.
- 5) Change the batteries in your smoke alarms.
- 6) Have an escape plan in case of fire or other emergencies.
- 7) Thefts of weed eaters, blowers, and other lawn equipment will be on the increase. Help keep an eye on our neighbors and lawn care professionals equipment.
- 8) Secure your valuables. Hiding them is not a good way to secure them.
- 9) Think about investing in a fire proof safe. Or keep your valuables in a safety deposit box.
- 10) Do not advertise your vacations or trips on social media.
- 11) Meeting someone for an internet sale or purchase is dangerous. It is recommended that you meet at a local police station to complete the transaction.
- 12) Keep your car doors locked. Entering auto crimes occur throughout the Atlanta metropolitan area.
- 13) Do not leave anything of value in your car

Capt. F.P. Braun
DeKalb County Police Department
LaVista Park Patrol Supervisor

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Executive Vice President's Message

School's out, grills are fired up and Atlanta's steamy days of summer are officially underway. If you're looking for some fun activities to enjoy during this year's heatwave, I've rounded up a few of my top picks for this summer.

Coosawattee River Tubing

Georgia is known for its majestic scenery and numerous beautiful rivers, so if spending a little time and nature floats your boat, in just over an hour you can get to the Coosawattee river in Ellijay, for a fun, relaxing day of tubing. Gently floating down the river is the perfect way to beat the heat as you take in the scenic views. And the Coosawattee is a "lazy" river, so it's an outing fit for the whole family (kids must be 48" tall). Tubes, life jackets and shuttle are available for rent, so all you have to do is show up! ProTip: Sunscreen.

www.coosawatteerivertubingco.com

Music Midtown Festival

Summer just isn't complete until you've sung at the top of your lungs, danced the weekend away, and consumed too many funnel cakes (ok—beers) at a great music festival. Get down to Piedmont Park on Sept. 15th & 16th to enjoy some of your favorite artists at Music Midtown. As one of Georgia's largest music festivals, Music Midtown is known to feature a diverse selection of some of the industry's biggest names. This year be ready to rock out with: Imagine Dragons, Kendrick Lamar, Fall Out Boy, Foster the People, Chromeo and many many more. ProTip: Hydrate
<https://www.musicmidtown.com>

Hotel Clermont Rooftop

Have you heard the news? Atlanta's most (in)famous historic hotel and lounge, Hotel Clermont, has undergone a MAJOR makeover and has reopened for business. The newly renovated digs now feature a

rooftop, fitted with astroturf, lounge chairs, a full service bar with street food and, of course, the Hotel Clermont tower lit up in all of its neon glory. Enjoy some cocktails, bites and interesting characters as you take in the skyline view. And if you're feeling especially saucy, stay for a night in the hotel and enjoy some entertainment down in the lounge (Note: not for the prude or faint of heart).

ProTip: Aviators

<https://www.hotelclermont.com/food-spirits>

Juli St. George

ExecVP@lavistapark.org



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Friends of Kittredge Park

FKP had a very weak quarter this spring. Scheduled clean up with the CDC for the 12th of May was cancelled after they reduced the number of volunteers to a handful. Bank of America scheduled a small group for June 30th who were very helpful removing a healthy crop of Jewelweed and returning Wisteria south of the bridge. Trail signs have been funded and purchased, and should be installed soon. Please like FKP on Facebook and check there for future work days, all help is welcome.

Gene Schmidt
Your FKP rep.



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Civic Association Network

C.A.N. met on April 25th with representatives from the Community Prosecution Program in the Solicitor General's office. This new Quality of Life unit works with Code Enforcement, Health, Fire, and Watershed departments to weekly review cases scheduled for Code Enforcement Court.

The second meeting of this quarter was on May 23rd. John Greene presented findings from his work as Chief Audit Executive for DeKalb. His office has unrestricted access to all offices and personnel in DeKalb, and can independently determine areas of study. Each study results in finished reports that can be seen at <https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/office-independent-internal-audit/audit-report>. If you know of any inefficient, wasteful, or corrupt areas of DeKalb, you can contact his office (404) 371-2765 or jlgreene@dekalbcountyga.gov.

The next CAN meeting was to be June 27th with a presentation by new Public Safety Director Jack Lumpkin. Unfortunately DeKalb personnel did not unlock our meeting location at Mason Mill Park so we were forced to cancel.

Gene Schmidt
Your CAN rep.



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? Did You Know?

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta announced that its subsidiary, Egleston Children's Hospital, plans to build a 446-bed pediatric hospital in DeKalb County.

Here are some facts about the project:

- The planned hospital will include two patient bed towers, which include the AFLAC Cancer and Blood Disorders Center, neo-natal intensive care units, pediatric intensive care units, and cardiac intensive care units.
- The patient towers, connected via a shared lobby, rise above five floors of diagnostic and treatment space, including surgical suites, cardiovascular suites, emergency department, interventional radiology and other critical services necessary for the hospital.
- A variety of amenities and features requested by patient families, including larger rooms with sleep areas, windows with “healing views” and plentiful access to natural light are planned. The larger and standardized patient rooms – also in line with modern medical standards – allow more technology at the patient's bedside, enable families to be more involved in their child's care, and increase flexibility to support different levels of patient needs.
- The connected clinic and office building will allow doctors to meet with and treat non-critical patients in spaces immediately adjacent to the hospital, creating efficiency and saving time for physicians, patients and families.
- Total square footage will be more than 1.8 million square feet, including the hospital, attached clinic and office building, and central utility plant.
- The total cost will be \$1.5 billion, which includes the cost of the hospital as well as the attached clinic and office building, central utility plant, hospital- and campus-related infrastructure and associated contingencies. The cost of the hospital itself will be \$1.3 billion.
- Also on the North Druid Hills campus, the Center for Advanced Pediatrics is scheduled to open next month, and two support buildings are currently under construction. Completion of the support buildings in 2020 will allow Children's employees to vacate current offices on the site of the planned hospital, allowing construction to begin. The North Druid Hills hospital is slated to open in 2025.



Children'sSM
Healthcare of Atlanta



LaVista Park / Garden Club

Well, the goats are gone...for now. As you will remember, they are a multi-year project to dampen down the invasives to a manageable level. The clearest example of that is the two halves of the park. The upper end (pond) was cleared by sheep two years ago, and then this past spring. You can see the difference in the amount of grow back between that and the lower (observation deck) area which has only been done once. As we progress year to year, it will look more and more like it did when our neighborhood was created nearly 60 years ago.

LaVista Park needs your support

We are ready for the next phase of park restoration and development: Improving the upper, street side areas of the park just above the pond patio near the corner of Wild Creek and Beech Haven. We need to raise \$12,000 to accomplish these improvements and need your help to reach that goal in the coming months.

Thanks to matching grants from Park Pride and a challenge grant from the Citadel Garden Club, fundraising is already underway: You see, every dollar we receive from LaVista Park residents will be matched up to \$6,000, so your contribution essentially counts twice!

Any size donation is appreciated: All we need is \$50 from 120 households, or \$60 from 100 households, or \$240 from 25 households. You get the point. You can donate online, and it is tax-deductible. Any amount raised over and above our goal will go toward the next visit from our goat friends. (No kidding.)

Go to **www.parkpride.org** and click on the orange DONATE button on the right. Do NOT click on the orange "donate now" button that comes up or your money will go to their general fund. Instead, scroll down to the bottom where you can see the FAQs and choose "Can I give money to a specific park or

project". Choose that, then "Please use this form", then select "Friends of LaVista Park" from the drop down box.

During the past 15 years we have seen major improvements to our park, thanks to the monetary support and hundreds of volunteer hours given by LaVista Park residents, funding from the DeKalb County Parks Department, volunteers from outside organizations like Georgia Tech and non-profit organizations like Park Pride.

THANK YOU for being part of this next phase of park improvement. After all, LaVista Park is your park. It is yours to enjoy, and it adds the value and quality of life of this special place that we call home. See you in the park!

Donna Newman
Park Coordinator
park@lavistapark.org

Join the Garden Club

Membership is only \$20 per year.
We meet 2nd Tuesday of the month
Sept through May.

Each meeting includes:

- guest speaker • social time
- beverages & light snacks

Next Meeting:

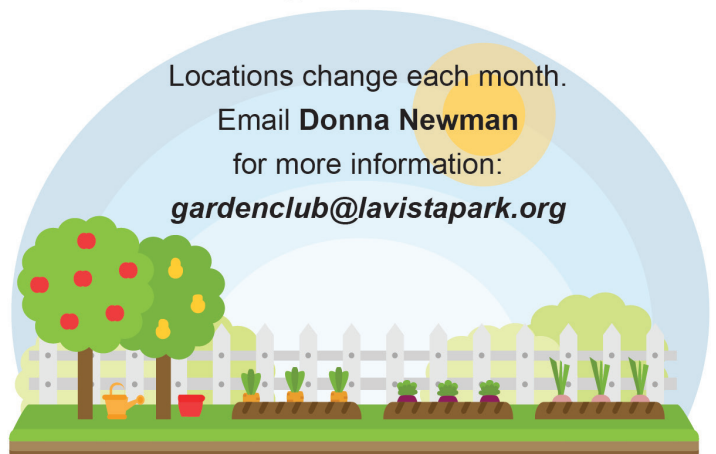
After the summer break we will reconvene
Tuesday, September 11th.

Locations change each month.

Email **Donna Newman**

for more information:

gardenclub@lavistapark.org





LVPCA Board Member Contact Info

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Vice President, Section 4

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Fall Festival Committee Co-Chairs

2018 VACANT (TBD)



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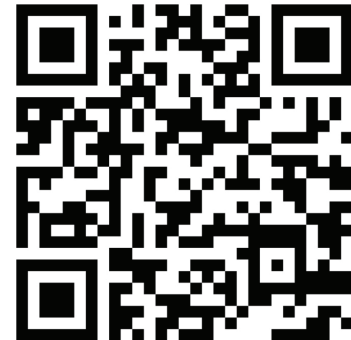
Friends of LaVista Park through May 31, 2019

Show your membership card and save!

Level	Friend	Address/Phone	Incentive
PLATINUM	Good Electric	3313 Chamblee Dunwoody Rd 770.452.4663	10% off services.
GOLD	EATaliano Kitchen	2480 Briarcliff Rd NE 404.321.2111	10% off bill.
	Mellow Mushroom Emory	1679 LaVista Rd 404.325.0330	10% off bill.
	Next Age Fitness	1610 LaVista Rd, Suite 100 404.998.4432	10% off 5 workouts.
	Peachtree Creek Animal Hospital	1085 Lindbergh Dr NE #100 404.467.8779	Free nail trim with shampoo
	Rain Thai & Sushi Bar	2345 Cheshire Bridge Rd (404) 325-6963	\$5 off purchase \$40 or more.
SILVER	Athletic Club Northeast	1515 Sheridan Rd 404.325-2700	2 personal coaching sessions for new members.
	K & M Foreign & Domestic Auto Repair	2195 Briarcliff Rd NE 404.633.1677	10% off all products and services.
	Nicola's Restaurant	1602 LaVista Rd NE 404.325.2524	10% off bill.
	Sunny's Cleaners	2280 Cheshire Bridge Rd 404.248.1957	10% off dry cleaning.

Scan This QR Code to Join LVPCA

When you scan this QR code using your phone or tablet, it will take you straight to the LVPCA membership page where you can pay via PayPal. If you're not already a member, please try it now! If you don't have a QR Code reader, you can download it as a free app for Apple and Android products through stores such as iTunes App Store and Google Play.



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Newsletter Published Quarterly

Editor: Gina Henschen

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Design: Lauren St. George

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