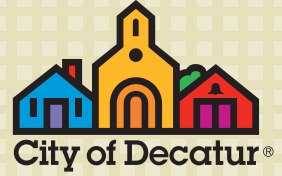


City of Decatur FOCUS

Look inside for
Decatur Puzzles
& Activities



April 2019
Volume 29 • Number 8

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF DECATUR, GEORGIA



Kimball House



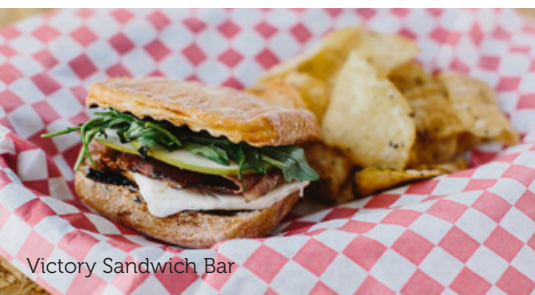
Leon's Full Service



Revival



Iberian Pig



Victory Sandwich Bar



Chai Pani

Decatur Named among Best Suburbs for Food Lovers

Thrillist, a website covering food, drink, travel and entertainment, has named Decatur as one of the best suburbs in the country for food lovers. The site praises restaurants like Kimball House, Chai Pani, No. 246, Revival, The Pinewood, The Iberian Pig, Leon's Full Service, Brick Store Pub, Farm Burger, Raging Burrito, and Victory Sandwich Bar for various food offerings. Thrillist points out that these establishments are easily accessible by MARTA.



Raging Burrito



The Pinewood



No. 246

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EVENTS

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NEWS

23 AROUND
TOWN

Honor Thy Mother!

And have a bit of fun yourself at these April events in Decatur

Dare we hope that warmer days and sunny skies have arrived at last? Make plans to enjoy some fresh air and sunshine and get out and get moving! From the annual Decatur Business Association's **Easter Egg Hunt** to Thursday **Jazz Nights in Oakhurst** to the **Amplify Music Festival** on the square, April is the start of the outdoor festival and event season in Decatur.

Focus on Downtown Development

Up art installations on street lamps around the city. And while you are out, did you know that the **DeKalb History Center's museum** is now open on Saturdays?

Don't Forget Mother's Day!

For those who need a reminder, Mother's Day is May 12. Don't say we didn't give you a heads up! We have planned a special **Mother's Day Pop-Up** on Saturday, May 11, to help you do it right. Bring mom to the square beginning at 9 a.m. and start the day with yoga at the east end of the plaza. Following yoga, mom can come over to get a chair massage and grab a mommy mocktail.

At 10 a.m., **Jimella's Cookies**, **Bloom Florist**, and **Splash of Olive** will open at the Mother's Day Pop-Up, and **Little Shop of Stories** will host local author Laurel Snyder at the bandstand. Laurel's new book, which is for early readers (but also works as a read-to book), is all about moms. Little Shop will sell books and help kids make Mother's Day crafts at the event.

Jimella's Bakery, owned by local resident Emily Holden, produces the most popular sandwich cookies in Decatur. Emily works from a shared kitchen and offers cookies by the half dozen, dozen and more, for the mother in your life.

Bloom Florist, owned by local floral designer and Decatur resident Cathy Brim, has provided floral designs for brides and major events from her home business for more than 10 years. Cathy will put together bouquets on site at the pop-up. What mom wouldn't be thrilled with fresh flowers?

For the mother who enjoys cooking, high quality oil and vinegar from **Splash of Olive** is the best gift. Splash of Olive was purchased by local resident Mimi Williams in February. She will operate the business inside **Kelly's Market**, 308 E. Howard Ave. Mimi will have gift basket options on site for purchase at the pop-up.

To really make it a special Mother's Day, give her a night out with friends! She can grab a Lyft to any shop, restaurant or hangout in Decatur and receive up to \$10 savings with our Mother's Day weekend Friday Night Lyft promotion.

Of course, all of our local retailers are ready to help you pick out the perfect gift for Mom and maybe a few special gifts just for you. Check out the new "Coming Soon" signs in windows around town alerting you to new local businesses coming to Decatur. Drop by the Visitors Center to submit your guess about the new business and win a special prize.

You can join in the fun or just do some people watching from the many outdoor dining options around the city. Check out **yoga** around the city for opportunities to breathe fresh air and stretch out the winter kinks. Local retailers will tempt you with "have to have" items and buskers will be out and about. You can get an early start with Friday night **Lyft** specials.

Get your steps in and enjoy the frequently changing **Look**

The Decatur Focus is a joint publication of the City of Decatur, the Decatur Downtown Development Authority and the Decatur Business Association. It is a newsletter intended to provide announcements and information related to events, activities, and businesses in the city of Decatur. The purpose of the newsletter is to promote the city and encourage the exchange of information among residents, business owners and the school system. Letters to the editor, editorials or other opinion pieces are not published. All press releases, announcements and other information received for publication are subject to editing. Information found in the Focus is also posted on Decatur's official website at decaturga.com. The deadline for submitting articles, announcements or advertising is the first day of the month preceding publication. Contact: Editor, Decatur Focus, P.O. Box 220, Decatur, GA 30031, 404-371-8386; fax 404-371-1593; email: decaturfocus@decaturga.com.



DECATUR CITY COMMISSION

Patti Garrett.....Mayor
Tony Powers.....Mayor Pro Tem
Scott Drake.....Commissioner
Brian Smith.....Commissioner
Kelly Walsh.....Commissioner



DECATUR DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Board

Chris Sciarone, Chair
Linda Curry • John Drake
Bill Floyd • Scott Kentner
Tony Leung • Fisher Paty



DECATUR BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Susan Sparks.....President
Daryl Funn.....President-Elect
Jill Joplin.....Treasurer
Emily Holden.....Secretary
Kyle Williams.....Past President

Design and layout: Lampe-Farley.com

Information for the **FOCUS** should be submitted by mail to Editor, Decatur Focus, P.O. Box 220, Decatur, GA 30031, or by email to decaturfocus@decaturga.com.

Decatur Recognized as a 'Tree City USA'

Decatur was one of 20 Georgia cities recognized as a Tree City USA during the state Arbor Day celebration in February. Tree City USA provides the framework for community forestry management in cities and towns nationwide that meet certain requirements, including the establishment of a tree board or department, a community tree ordinance, specific spending levels for urban forestry and planned Arbor Day celebrations.

There are 155 Tree Cities USA in Georgia, and nearly 30 percent of the state's population lives in a Tree City. Nationwide, more than 3,400 Tree City USA communities serve as home to about 135 million Americans. The City of Decatur planted 132 trees in the community and gave away 200 oak tree seedlings as part of its program to plant 1,000 trees by 2023 in celebration of the upcoming city bicentennial celebration.

For more information about Georgia's trees and services of the Georgia Forestry Commission, visit GaTrees.org. For information about becoming a Tree City USA and the Arbor Day Foundation, visit arborday.org.



Celebrate Park RX Day

Sunday, April 28 • 1-4 p.m.

Scott Park, behind Decatur Recreation Center

Park Prescription (Rx) Day is a national day of celebration with activities taking place in parks and greenspaces around the country. The goal of the day is to increase the relevance of



parks for all people

and to connect people with parks for their improved physical, mental, and spiritual health.

Decatur is participating with the DeKalb County Board of Health and DeKalb County Parks and Recreation. Join us in Scott Park for archery, yoga, tai chi, tree gong and more. DeKalb County Library and Dynamo Swim will be on hand and there will be Lego activities for the children. All activities are free. For more information, contact cheryl.burnette@decaturga.com.

Senior Bike Rides

Fridays, April 26 and May 24 • 10 a.m.

Join Decatur Active Living staff members for the first senior bike rides of the year. The group will ride on mostly level roads and the PATH. This no-drop ride is geared toward those just getting back on their bicycles. All levels of cyclists are welcome and no one will be left behind. Bring your bike and water bottle and be sure to wear a helmet. The ride begins at the Decatur Recreation Center, 231 Sycamore St. For more information contact, cheryl.burnette@decaturga.com or 678-553-6541.



Neighborhood Cleanup Days

Saturdays through June • Beginning 7:30 a.m.

The City of Decatur is hosting Neighborhood Cleanup Days on Saturdays through June to allow residents to dispose of bulky materials that would not normally be placed in pay-as-you-throw bags. Every street in the city has been assigned a Saturday. See the guidelines for acceptable items noted here, and find the date specified for your street. Please read carefully to note changes.

All items to be collected should be placed at the curb no later than 7:30 a.m. Collections run until 3:30 p.m., or until finished, whichever is sooner.

If you have questions, contact Sean Woodson, sean.woodson@decaturga.com, or 404-377-5571.

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

- Yard trimmings
- Building materials (that are not from the work of private contractors)
- Tires
- Furniture
- Appliances (not containing Freon)
- Trash that would not normally be placed in pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) bags

UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

- Liquids
- Dirt
- Bricks
- Blocks
- Stone, rocks, or concrete
- Motor vehicle batteries or parts
- Trees (removed by contractor)

April 6

Oakhurst No. 2

East Lake Drive (100 to 300 block)
Winter Avenue (east side only)
Johnston Place
Bryan Place
Beatty Place
Madison Avenue
Third Avenue (100 to 300 block)
Feld Avenue
Leyden Street
Cambridge Avenue
Hood Circle
W. College Avenue (Mead to Cambridge)
Park Place

April 13

Oakhurst No. 3

Spring Street
Fayetteville Road
Underwood Street
W. Pharr Road (100 to 500 block)
Russell Street
East Lake Drive (700 to 1000 block)
McKoy Street (500 to 700 block)
Adams Street (1000 to 1100 block)
Lenore Street
Sterling Street
S. McDonough Street (800 to 1000 block)

April 20

Oakhurst No. 4

W. Hill Street
E. Hill Street
E. Benson Street
W. Benson Street
McKoy Street (100 to 400 block)
Adams Street (600 to 700 block)
S. McDonough (600 to 700 block)
Green Street (100 block)
Oakview Road (400 to 800 block)
Mead Road
Olympic Place
Jefferson Place

Winnona Park

S. Columbia Drive
Commerce Drive (RR Underpass to S. Columbia)
Conway Road
Avery Street
Hilldale Drive
Winnona Drive
Poplar Circle
Bucher Drive
Derrydown Way
Heatherdown Road
Shadowmoor Drive
Inman Drive
Missionary Court
Candler Oaks Lane
Kirk Road
Kirk Crossing
Mimosa Drive
Mimosa Place
Missionary Drive
Oldfield Road
McKinnon Drive (Decatur only)
Midway Road
Clarke Hill subdivision

April 27

College Heights

S. Candler Street
Bruton Street
Green Street (200 block)
Buchanan Terrace
Driftwood Terrace
Driftwood Place
Park Drive
Candler Drive
East Pharr Road
McClean Street
Garland Avenue
Griffin Circle
Brower Street
Chevelle Lane
Candler Drive
Candler Pointe
Park Drive
Overlook Bluff
W. Dearborn Circle

May 4

MAK Neighborhood

Ansley Street
Greenwood Avenue
Greenwood Place
Evans Drive
Kings Highway
Adams Street (100 to 500 block)
S. McDonough Street (100 to 500 block)
W. College Avenue (100 to 700 block)
W. Dougherty Street
W. Davis Street
W. Hancock Street
E. Hancock Street
E. Davis Street
College Place

May 11

Decatur Heights

Barry Street
N. Candler Street
Pate Street
E. Maple Street
Village Walk
Sycamore Street
E. Ponce de Leon Ave. (400 to 1100 block)
Ponce de Leon Court
Hillyer Place
Sycamore Place
Oak Lane
Mountain View Street
Hillcrest Avenue
Springdale Street

May 18

Decatur Heights

Grove Street
Hickory Street
Lockwood Terrace
Sycamore Ridge Drive
Renfro Court
Fitzgerald Court
Wilburn Court
Grovemont Court
Woodland Court

Pinehurst Street
 Poplar Street
 Ridgeland Avenue
 Sycamore Drive
 Sycamore Station
 Fairview Street
 Glendale Avenue
 Glenn Circle
 Pinecrest Avenue
 Mt. Vernon Drive
 Forkner Drive
 Glenn Court
 Coalter Way
 Alden Drive

June 1

Great Lakes

Clairemont Avenue (100 to 800 block)
 Champlain Street
 Seneca Street
 Erie Avenue
 Huron Street
 Michigan Avenue
 Superior Avenue
 Lucerne
 Geneva Street
 Superior Avenue (400 to 600 block)
 Church Street (600 Block to 1335)
 Willow Lane
 Pensdale Road
 Eastland Drive
 Parkside Circle
 BrownStones
 Landover Drive
 Ferndale Drive
 N. Decatur Road
 Scott Boulevard (800 to 1300 block)

June 8

Great Lakes

Clarion Avenue
 Nelson Ferry Road
 Woodlawn Avenue
 Coventry Road (Nelson Ferry to Scott Boulevard)
 Fairfield (Coventry to Woodlawn)
 Vidal Boulevard
 Lamont Drive
 Garden Lane
 Beaumont Avenue
 Oakland Street
 Montgomery Street

Fairview Avenue
 Ponce de Leon Place
 Northern Avenue
 Wilton Drive

June 15

Westchester

Westchester Drive
 Dogwood Way
 Maediris Drive
 Harold Byrd Drive
 Clairemont Avenue (900 to 1100 block)
 Ridley Circle
 Mockingbird Lane
 Chelsea Drive
 Kathryn Avenue
 N. Parkwood Drive
 Coventry Drive (N. Parkwood Drive to Scott Boulevard)
 Merrill Avenue
 Harold Byrd Lane

June 22

Lenox Place

Greenwood Circle
 W. Howard (300 to 900 Block)
 Patillo Way
 East Lake Drive (2300 Block)
 Atlanta Avenue
 Hibernia Avenue
 Ridley Lane
 Adair Street
 Cottonwood Place
 Emerson Avenue
 W. Ponce de Leon Avenue (600 to 900 Block)
 Drexel Avenue
 Devonshire Avenue
 Hampshire Avenue
 Lansdowne Avenue
 Melrose Avenue
 Chief Matthews Drive
 E. Parkwood Road
 W. Parkwood Road
 Upland Road
 Wimberly Court
 Parkwood Lane
 Pinetree Drive
 Scott Boulevard (100 to 700 Block)
 Swanton Hill subdivision
 Charter Square

Have a Story to Share?

The Decatur Focus is the official newsletter of the City of Decatur. Supported by the City of Decatur, the Decatur Business Association and the Decatur Downtown Development Authority, the Focus is published 10 times per year and mailed to every household, business and professional license-holder in the city. January/February and July/August are combined issues.

The Decatur Focus publishes announcements and information about the city of Decatur, including city services, downtown development, school news, business news, and news about individual residents and neighborhood associations. The purpose of the newsletter is to promote the city, announce activities and events, and encourage the exchange of information among residents, business owners, and the school system.

Submissions are encouraged and should be submitted by the first of the month prior to the month of publication (i.e., information that appears in the April issue should be submitted by March 1). The Decatur Focus also accepts advertising. For information about ad rates call 404-371-8386.

Letters to the editor, editorials, or other opinion pieces are not published. All press releases, announcements, and other information received for publication are subject to editing.

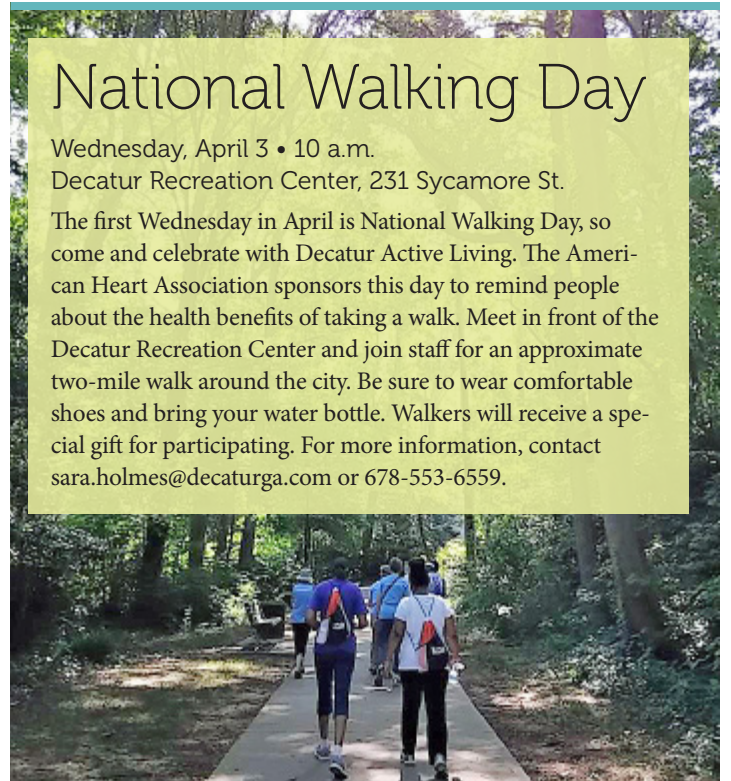
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National Walking Day

Wednesday, April 3 • 10 a.m.

Decatur Recreation Center, 231 Sycamore St.

The first Wednesday in April is National Walking Day, so come and celebrate with Decatur Active Living. The American Heart Association sponsors this day to remind people about the health benefits of taking a walk. Meet in front of the Decatur Recreation Center and join staff for an approximate two-mile walk around the city. Be sure to wear comfortable shoes and bring your water bottle. Walkers will receive a special gift for participating. For more information, contact sara.holmes@decaturga.com or 678-553-6559.



Environmental Sustainability Board: Celebrate Earth Month in Decatur

The Environmental Sustainability Board continues to actively encourage the community to change how we live and work to reduce our carbon footprint. The City of Decatur has already taken the first steps, with expanding solar energy, building infrastructure for electric vehicles, updating the Stormwater Master Plan, and requiring green certification of new buildings and major renovations to decrease energy use and make for healthier homes.

Earth Day is April 22, but you can celebrate all month long through these events and activities:

April 4, 11, and 18 Sustainability Town Halls

6-7:30 p.m.

Hosted by Agnes Scott College

These events will create space for dialogue about climate change, action, and justice. The feedback will be incorporated into the Climate Action Plan. For more information, contact sustainability@agnesscott.edu.

April 6 • Sweep the Hooch

Chattahoochee Riverkeeper

Join teams of volunteers to remove trash at locations throughout the Chattahoochee River Watershed. For more information, visit chattahoochee.org.

April 12-14 • Plant Sale Festival

9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Oakhurst Garden, 435 Oakview Rd.

Shop from a wide selection of vegetables, annuals, herbs, fruit trees and native plants. For more information, visit wyldecenter.org.

April 19 • Third Friday Bike Ride

6:30 p.m.

Starts at Decatur Recreation Center
231 Sycamore St.

Join Decatur Active Living for a fun, all-levels monthly bike ride on the third Friday of the month from March through October. Meet in front of the Decatur Recreation Center and be ready to put wheels down at 6:30 p.m. The

route is 5-6 miles at a comfortable pace. Afterwards we will visit a local watering hole for refreshments. This is a no-drop ride. Helmets and lights are required for city-led rides. For monthly updates and themes, check beactive-decatur.com or the Decatur Active Living Facebook page.

April 20 • Tree Mapping

1-4 p.m.

Oakhurst Garden, 435 Oakview Rd.

Volunteer to map the trees at the Wylde Center's Oakhurst Garden and find out how much trees benefit the ecosystem. Come anytime between 1 and 4 p.m. to participate. You can also try it at home with the tree benefits calculator, treebenefits.com/calculator.

April 27 • Pollinator Habitat Planting

10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Bell and Church streets

Beecatur and the Decatur Department of Design, Environment and Construction invite you to get your hands dirty and find out what the buzz is all about by volunteering to install a pollinator garden at Bell and Church Streets. Drop in anytime between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. For more information, visit beecaturga.com.

VISIT EARTH DAY

NETWORK Learn about the history of Earth Day and find other ways to take action to help the planet at earthday.org.

April 28 • Earth Month Celebration

1-4 p.m.

Decatur Recreation Center

231 Sycamore St.

Fun for kids (and adults). Activities include Animal Planet's SnakesKin star Jason Clark of Southeastern Reptile Rescue, with live reptile shows. Sponsored by the Environmental Sustainability Board, Wylde Center, and the Decatur United Methodist Church.

Make your own green event around your home or neighborhood:

Plant a garden

Be it herb, vegetable, pollinator, or flower garden, it's a fun and healthy way to enjoy the outdoors.

Compost

In your backyard with worms in a bin, in a regular compost bin, or as a regular pickup by CompostNow. You can compost your organic matter and have rich soil for your garden or landscaping.

Reduce, reuse, recycle

At home, work, school, or your place of worship, this is a great time to start good habits with the three Rs of resource conservation.

Switch to renewables

Check out your options for switching to renewable energy. If you're not ready to install anything, access renewables through a digital utility such as Arcadia Power. For more information, visit arcadiapower.com.

Certify your yard as a wildlife habitat

Find tips and earn a certificate to make your outdoor spaces critter-friendly through the National Wildlife Federation. For information visit nwf.org/Home/Garden-for-Wildlife.

Become a citizen scientist

Grab your smartphone and get involved with some research projects to help scientists measure, track, and protect the natural resources on our planet. For more information, visit scistarter.com/citizenscience.html.



Walk & Roll Star



Walk and Roll Star Henry Slack

Henry Slack is this month's Walk and Roll Star. Henry has lived in Decatur his entire life. He grew up riding his bicycle to and from Glenwood Elementary School. As a graduate student at Georgia Tech, he started biking to downtown Atlanta and continued to do so throughout his career at US EPA until his recent retirement. He rode 50 miles on his 50th birthday, 55 on his 55th, and wants to continue that pattern until he turns 100 – slow preparation for riding what cyclists call a “century.”

Henry is a co-founder of the Atlanta Bicycle Coalition and has devoted much of his time to volunteering with and advocating for the various environmental groups he supports. Currently he helps lead the Citizen's Climate Lobby, dedicated to Congressional action on climate.

He was a certified league cycling instructor and says that bike lessons can always help someone improve, just as musicians can benefit from lessons. From his teaching days, he points out that the two most important considerations for safe riding are to be visible and to be predictable.

Biking is where many of his passions come together. He believes the bike is the most efficient way to get about in terms of total energy consumed. He loves to bike partially because, as he says, “Biking doesn't burn gas; it burns fat.”

Stormwater Meeting to Explore Potential Solutions

Wednesday, May 1 • 6-8 p.m.
Decatur Legacy Park, 500 S. Columbia Dr.

Join us at the Legacy Park dining hall for the next in an ongoing series of meetings to update the city's Stormwater Master Plan. Since last October, residents have been sharing their experiences with stormwater and identifying areas where issues regularly occur. In response, the project team will present some ideas in development for community consideration – specifically those related to infrastructure solutions, maintenance fixes, changes to stormwater regulations, and ways to pay for it all. Follow the latest information at decaturnext.com/stormwater.

We've heard and studied your input. Now:



*Help us chart
the path forward.*

How can we better manage stormwater? And how do we go about paying for it?

We've taken your input to date and formulated some ideas — potential infrastructure solutions, maintenance fixes, changes to our stormwater regulations, and ways to pay for it all. Come review and share thoughts on what works for you. Everyone's welcome.

Wednesday, May 1, 6-8pm
Legacy Park Dining Hall (500 S. Columbia Drive)
Project information: www.decaturnext.com/stormwater

STORM WATER MASTER PLAN | DECATUR, GEORGIA

See a
problem?
Let the
city
know!

**SEE
CLICK
FIX!**

Search your app store for
mydecaturga



RECYCLE YOUR BROKEN, USELESS & OBSOLETE ELECTRONICS

APRIL 27, 2019

SATURDAY • 9 AM TO 1 PM

Styrofoam recycling and document shredding, too!

Decatur High School

TRINITY PL.

COMMERCE DR.



E. COLLEGE AVE.

S. McDONOUGH ST.

Agnes Scott



S. CANDLER ST.

ENTER HERE

COLUMBIA DR.

TALLEY ST.

DECATUR PUBLIC WORKS

Cortland Apartments

2635 Talley St.

Drop off in back

YOUR FAVORITE RECYCLING EVENTS — COMBINED!

Recycle your old electronics and Styrofoam and safely shred and recycle your sensitive documents all in one place. Just drop by between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. (Sorry, early drop-offs are not possible.)

Since 2005, we've diverted **more than 1 million pounds** of electronics from landfills. Contact Sean Woodson at 404-377-5571 or sean.woodson@decaturga.com for more information and last-minute updates, or visit decaturga.com/electronic recycling.

GET THIS JUNK OUT OF YOUR HOUSE

And keep it out of the landfill

- Adding machines
- Answering machines
- Batteries, any kind
- Cable converter boxes
- Cables
- Calculators
- Component parts
- Computer mice
- Computers
- Copiers
- Digital cameras
- Digital projectors
- DVD players
- Electric lawn mowers
- Fax machines
- Garden equipment

- GPS receivers
- Game controllers
- Keyboards
- Label makers
- LED/LCD Monitors
- Mini-towers
- Pagers
- PDAs
- Portable CD players
- Portable game players
- Printer cartridges
- Printers
- Radios
- Remote controls
- Routers
- Scanners

- Servers
- Speakers
- Stereo equipment
- Telephones
- Telephony equipment
- 3-in-1 devices
- Typewriters
- UPS units
- VCRs
- Workstations
- Zip drives

Fee required to recycle cathode ray tube equipment (exact change only):
Monitors \$5; TVs \$10

Paper Shredding

This is a great opportunity to ensure that your important personal documents are disposed of properly. AAA Security Shredding provides secure on-site document shredding, and all shredded documents will be 100 percent recycled. Most document types are acceptable, including bills, invoices, correspondence, canceled checks, tax records, financial statements, purchase orders, and blueprints and maps.

These items cannot be shredded: Cardboard, glass, plastic, magazines, napkins, newspapers, paper cups and plates, plastic or spiral-bound notebooks, phone-books, three-ring binders, and trash.

Styrofoam Recycling

- Make sure foam has the "6" symbol on it
- Rinse and separate food service containers from other foam
- No straws, lids, tape or stickers
- No foam peanuts or insulation material

Better Together Advisory Board: Creating a Safe and Supportive Environment for LGBT Youth

Statistics from the Human Rights Council's recent report, *Growing Up LGBT in America*, indicate there is much work to be done to create more inclusive and hospitable communities for LGBT-identified youth. According to the report:

- 80 percent of LGBT-identified youth are harassed at school.
- 73 percent of LGBT youth report that they are more honest about themselves online than when they are engaging with others in the real world.
- 92 percent of LGBT youth declared that they hear and read negative messages about being LGBT at school and from their peers.

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth are twice as likely as their peers to say they have been physically assaulted, kicked or shoved. School environments that lack a sense of belonging and are riddled with teasing and bullying have a significant impact on students' ability to learn and emotionally thrive.

Since 1996, Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN) has annually sponsored a Day of Silence on the third Friday of April to generate greater awareness about the horrendous effects that bullying and harassment have on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning students.

That's why the Better Together Advisory Board and Little Shop of Stories are partnering this month to present a collection of books that can aid us as we work to create safer and more supportive schools in Decatur. We hope that you will learn more about the history of the Day of Silence and use it as an opportunity to read one of the outstanding books recommended here. You can find all of them at Little Shop of Stories, 133 E. Court Square, or online at littleshopofstories.com/shop-online.

Prince & Knight by Daniel Haack

Charming picture book of a prince who discovers his knight in shining armor. Beautiful illustrations.



Star-Crossed by Barbara Dee

Mattie is a twelve year old who's sorting out her newfound crush on Gemma, the girl cast as Juliet in her school's production of *Romeo and Juliet*. It all comes to a head when Mattie is cast as Romeo because the boy playing the part drops out. A fun midgrade novel.

Georgia Peaches and Other Forbidden Fruit by Jaye Robin Brown

When Joanna's dad's new marriage moves the family from Atlanta to Rome, Georgia, she agrees to "lie low" and not be quite the out-and-proud lesbian she had been at her Atlanta high school. But then she starts to fall for Mary Carlson – and maybe Mary's falling for Jo too? Author Jaye Robin Brown will be at Little Shop on April 24.

Jack (not Jackie) by Erica Silverman and Holly Hatam

Big sister Susan is excited to have a new baby sister, someone to share fun things like dresses and fairies with. But as Jackie gets older, Susan struggles with her sibling identifying more as

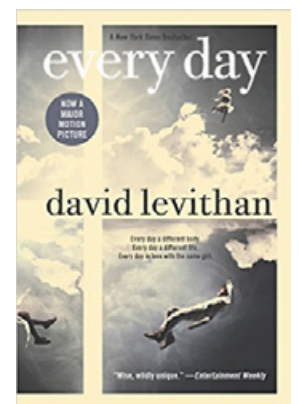
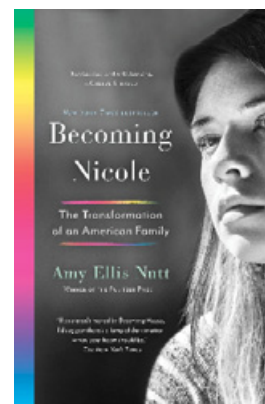
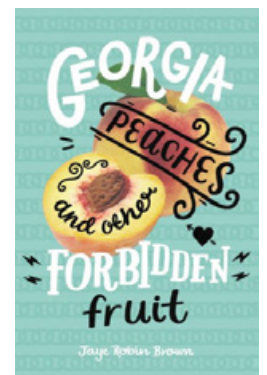
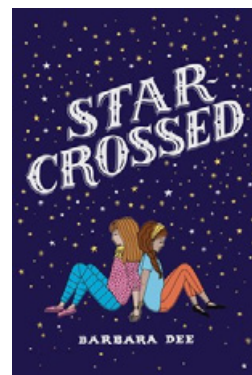
Jack than Jackie. This picture book is great for anyone, but particularly families looking for an excellent introduction to the issues of gender identity.

Becoming Nicole by Amy Ellis Nutt

This nonfiction biography of actress and activist Nicole Maines, by Pulitzer prize-winner Amy Ellis Nutt, is not only a fantastic portrait of an extraordinary young woman and her exceptional family, but is also a great resource for families looking for the voices of those negotiating the world of gender identity questions and issues when they have a child in transition.

Every Day by David Levithan

Every day, the character "A" spends their life as a different person, and they've gotten used to it over time. Then, one fateful day, A meets Rhiannon, and now they'll do anything to get back to her. But, when A does, can Rhiannon accept that A will look like a different person every day? This is a modern classic of YA literature, by a giant of the genre.



ARTS FEST KICKOFF 2019 Arts Festival Poster Unveiling

Thursday, May 2
5:30-7:30 p.m.

May is Arts Month in Decatur. Join the Decatur Arts Alliance at the Solarium in Oakhurst for the unveiling of the 2019 Decatur Arts Festival Poster. Enjoy an artsy springtime party with drinks, refreshments, and live music and take home a copy of the poster. This event is free and open to the community. The Arts Festival this year is May 25-26.

Copies of the Arts Festival program will be available around town early in May, and a schedule preview can be found in the May Focus.



Who's Who at the Cemetery

Come wander through Decatur Cemetery and enjoy springtime in the city. Self-guided walking tours are available at the office off Bell Street or at the Visitors Center on Clairemont Avenue. Follow the numbered signs for a trip through Decatur's history. Regular guided tours begin the second Sunday in May. If you would like to learn about becoming a cemetery guide, contact Cathy Vogel at friendsofdecaturcemetery@gmail.com.

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Welcoming Kelly's Market to Decatur



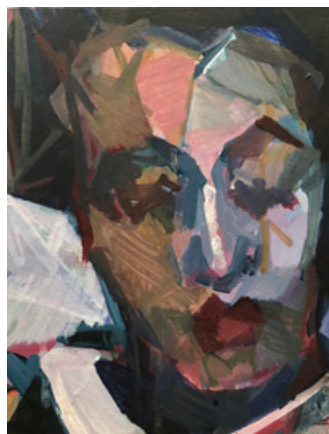
**Find the new shop at
308 E. Howard Ave.**

Mayor Patti Garrett conducted the Kelly's Market official ribbon-cutting ceremony in March with owners Sean Crotty and Tauna Jecmen, and general manager Daisy Nagel. The market opened in January and offers a selection of groceries, beer and wine, flowers, and many local products. Kelly's Deli serves sandwiches, soup, breakfast and more.

Splash of Olive Relocates in Downtown Decatur

Splash of Olive has a new home. Kelly's Market, 308 E. Howard Ave. (across the street from Kimball House), will be the exclusive Decatur retail location for Splash of Olive, with an opening date planned for early to mid-April. The purveyor of ultra-premium olive oils and barrel-aged traditional condimento balsamic vinegars, which closed in January, is being resurrected by Decatur residents Mimi Williams and Sarah Garvin, who purchased the business in February.

Mimi and Sarah look forward to continuing to offer their special "tree to table" experience through cooking classes, tastings and seminars on the miracles of this ancient green nectar. Classes will be offered in a European-style tasting area. Stay tuned via Splash of Olive's Facebook page or call Mimi at 404-600-2414.



Rescheduled:

Different TRAINS Gallery Presents Ruth Franklin Exhibition

Opening Reception April 12

The one-woman show for Ruth Franklin at Different TRAINS Gallery, 432 E. Howard Ave., is the artist's first solo exhibition in more than a decade. It will continue through June 22 at the gallery in the Old Depot District, Thursday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., or by appointment anytime.

Celebrate April Book Events With Little Shop of Stories

Independent Bookstore Day
Saturday, April 27

Independent Bookstore Day is a nationwide salute to indie bookstores and all that they bring to our communities. Little Shop of Stories will have exclusive book and literary items only available that day in participating indie bookstores, as well as snacks, a special story time, prizes, and more.

Children's Book Week
April 29-May 5

Little Shop of Stories is an official site for this coast-to-coast celebration of children's literature. Join us all week for interactive story times, author events, and giveaways. Visit littleshop-ofstories.com/events for more information on these events.



HavenHyggeHouse Offers Community Space for Families



Christine and Jonathan Christensen
HavenHyggeHouse owners

HavenHyggeHouse, a new community space for families with children up to three years old, is located in the ACME building, 533 W. Howard Ave. Ste. B. With a monthly membership, families can use the space at any time during opening hours. Parents can follow the development of their child and allow the children to explore and grow socially, while being encouraged by the awareness and attention of the parents, grandparents

and other trusted adults surrounding them on a daily basis.

In creating HavenHyggeHouse, Christine Christensen, a Danish mother and Doula, took inspiration from her own culture and experiences, and merged them into this 2,400-square-foot calm, cozy and safe space. “Hygge” (the Danish word for a cozy/conscious/quality way of living) is a big part of the atmosphere at HavenHyggeHouse.

Adults are encouraged to put their phones

away and enjoy a cup of free coffee and spontaneous conversations. Also, no shoes are allowed in the main area. Song-Circle-Sing-Alongs and storytime will be a regular part of the days at HavenHyggeHouse. The space will also be used for community potlucks, movie nights, parties and any other events serving the community. For more information visit havenhyggehouse.com.

Join Capoeira Decatur Tigers

Decatur Capoeira now offers classes for children ages 3-6. The Tiny Capoeira Tigers program is designed to help younger students improve their focus, overcome shyness, and build on their gross and fine motor skills through simplified training. With more focus on the mental and behavioral training in a structured setting, the Little Tigers better adapt to school settings and as a result are able to do better in academics and improve their listening skills.

During the 45-minute class, kids work on coordination, balance, attention span, social skills and rhythm through Capoeira games and exercises. Parents are welcome to participate with their children in the activities. Classes are held in a safe and friendly environment with safety equipment and musical instruments.

For more information or to book a free trial, visit decaturocapo.com or email decaturocapoeira@gmail.com.



Woodlands Garden Is Closed for Construction



Board members and volunteers break ground with Kate McAlpin, Woodlands executive director, in preparation for construction.

Woodlands Garden, an eight-acre public forest at the corner of Scott Boulevard and Clairemont Avenue, is temporarily closed to visitors for capital campaign construction. An experienced team of construction professionals is leading this project, which has been made possible by capital campaign contributions.

Local design firm TSW designed the new,

more visible entrance, which will offer better access for vehicles of all sizes, including school buses; an updated ADA-accessible path to the visitors center; and new native pollinator plantings. Atlanta-based Gay Construction Company serves as the general contractor for the project. With more than 30 years of experience in urban construction, Gay Construction has worked with clients

that include Piedmont Park, Ponce City Market, and Emory University.

Woodlands Garden will remain closed during construction for visitor safety. For more information and the latest construction updates, visit woodlandsgarden.org and follow Woodlands on social media.

Decatur Farmers Market Opens for the Season

Wednesdays, starting April 10 • 4-7 p.m.

Saturdays, starting April 13 • 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Join the Decatur Farmers Market on Wednesday, April 10, for the opening of its main market season. The Wednesday market will offer locally and organically grown produce and meats alongside fresh bread, cheeses, and artisan foods, all grown and made locally with love. Bring the whole family – there'll be a kids' booth with plenty of family-friendly activities as well as live music.

On Saturday, April 13, the celebration continues with the re-opening of the regular Saturday market and a ribbon-cutting ceremony by City Commissioner Kelly Walsh. The celebration includes music provided by the Frank Hamilton Folk School and a free family Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Decatur and the Decatur Business Association. Live bunnies from House Bunny Rescue will be on hand for children to see and pet. Visit the market for all your market needs: eggs, veggies, meats, prepared foods, and more.

Both markets are located on the lawn of the First Baptist Church, 308 Clairemont Ave., with free parking in the church lot and parking deck. Visit cfmatl.org/Decatur for details.



Local Lands is one of many vendors at Decatur Farmers Market

Seen at the DBA BLACK HISTORY MONTH MEETING

Mayor Emerita Elizabeth Wilson and Claire Underwood Hertzler, author of *The High Sheriff of Greene*, had a dialogue about growing up separate but unequal in Greensboro, Georgia.



DBA EASTER EGG HUNT: READY. SET. GO!



The Decatur Business Association's Easter Egg Hunt is on Saturday, April 13, 11 a.m., at Decatur First Baptist Church. There are areas set aside for different age groups, so even the littlest hunters will enjoy the hunt. No one leaves empty handed.



Salsa on the Square

May 4 • 5-9 p.m.

Music 2 My Ears Entertainment invites the Decatur community to the first Salsa on the Square event. The free pre-Cinco de Mayo bash will include salsa lessons provided by Latin dance legend Mambo Mario Diaz and music by DJ Jeremy Lane. Everyone is invited, whether you are a professional dancer, a beginner who wants to learn salsa dance, or just want to enjoy good music and outdoor fun. Latin dance is a diverse activity, where people of all ages and backgrounds meet and engage. The event will be held rain or shine.

Salsa on the Square is sponsored by Que Pasa En Atlanta, the Decatur Business Association, and Decatur Tourism. Proceeds will benefit the Decatur Arts Alliance. For more information about Salsa on the Square, visit Music 2 My Ears Entertainment Facebook page or contact Portia Kirkland, portiakirkland@gmail.com or 678-485-5434, or Tyrone Clemmons, tyroneclemmons1106@gmail.com.



Meeting Reminder

April 23

Location TBD

5:15 p.m. Networking Reception

6 p.m. Program

Check for details and updates at decaturdba.com

DBA PRESENTS FREE CONCERTS IN MAY

Decatur Business Association is pleased and proud to present lunch-time Blue Sky Concerts on Wednesdays at noon, and Concerts on the Square on Saturday evenings at 7:30. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, stop in at one of Decatur's fine restaurants for a delicious lunch or dinner to go, and we'll see you at the bandstand.

Blue Sky Concerts
May 1 & 15

Concerts on the Square
May 4, 11, 18, & 25

Check the May issue of the Decatur Focus for a lineup of performers, or go to decaturdba.com and click "events."

Farm to School Spring Dine-Out

April 24 • 5-9 p.m.

Eat at a participating restaurant on Spring Dine-Out night and a portion of total sales will go to the Wylde Center's Decatur Farm-to-School Program. All proceeds support DF2S activities, including Decatur High School summer internships, school grants, conference scholarships, and taste tests. For more information, visit wyldecenter.org/decatur-farm-to-school-dine-out.

Participating restaurants:

Arepa Mia	Raging Burrito
Butter and Cream	Sapori di Napoli
Calle Latina	Scout
Chai Pani	Son of a Bear
Farm Burger	Steinbeck's
Kimball House	Taiyo Ramen
Leon's Full Service	The Imperial
Mellow Mushroom	The Marley House
Mojo's Pizzeria	Twain's Brewpub
My Parents' Basement	Universal Joint
Oakhurst Market	Wahoo! Grill

Craft Savvy Market

Sat., April 13 • noon-5 p.m.

Decatur Recreation Center

Craft Savvy Market celebrates local hand-made artists through a free one-day craft market experience and ongoing DIY craft classes. For more information, visit craftsavvymarket.com.



Sodzin: Songwriting from a Native American Perspective

Monday, April 15 • 7 p.m.

Maclean Auditorium at Agnes Scott College

Agnes Scott College welcomes Lyla June Johnston to present "Sodzin: Songwriting from a Native American Perspective." Lyla June is a poet, musician, human ecologist, public speaker and community organizer of Diné (Navajo), Tséts'héstâhese (Cheyenne) and European lineages. She blends her undergraduate studies in human ecology at Stanford University, her graduate work in Native American Pedagogy at the University of New Mexico, and the indigenous worldview endowed by her family and community to inform her perspectives and solutions.

Johnston's dynamic, multi-genre performance and speech style have invigorated and inspired audiences across the globe toward personal, collective and ecological healing. Her messages focus on Indigenous rights, supporting youth, inter-cultural healing, historical trauma and traditional land stewardship practices. Her internationally acclaimed performances and speeches are conveyed through the media of prayer, hip-hop, poetry, acoustic music and speech.

The event is free and open to the community, but reserved tickets are needed. Tickets are available at LylaJuneASC.brownpapertickets.com. The performance will be held in Maclean Auditorium, on the second floor of Presser Hall (located on McDonough Street, across from Public Safety and the parking deck). For more information, call 404-471-6049, or email music@agnesscott.edu.



Lyla June Johnson

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Oakhurst Jazz Nights Spring Concert Series

Thursdays in April • 7-9 p.m.

The community is invited to hear live jazz every Thursday on the lawn of the Old Scottish Rite Hospital (Solarium), 321 W. Hill St. in Oakhurst. Bring your blankets (no lawn chairs, please). The concerts are free. This is a rain or shine event – in case of rain, the concert will move inside the Solarium.

For a front-row view of the concert, candlelit bistro tables are available for reservation. Each table seats up to four and comes complete with chairs, table covers, and a custom candle-lit centerpiece. Reservations are \$25 per table, per night. For more information, visit oakhurstjazznights.com or email concerts@oakhurstjazznights.com. Elderly and mobility-restricted attendees will be accommodated. Oakhurst Jazz Nights is produced by the Oakhurst Neighborhood Association with funding from the annual Oakhurst Wine Crawl.

Jazz Nights Lineup

April 4 The Laura Coyle and Trey Wright Duo featuring Mace Hibbard
April 11 Eileen Howard featuring some Disney tunes
April 18 Diane Durrett and Soul Suga Band
April 25 Matt Wauchope Trio



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Register online at dynamoswimschool.com

Make It Up! Improv Show Fundraiser

May 7 • 6 p.m.

Eddie's Attic, 515-B N. McDonough St.

Decatur Makers and Eddie's Attic are partnering to host Make It Up!, an Improv Show Fundraiser. The community is invited to enjoy a night of laughs, prizes and surprises, all to support Decatur's inventive nonprofit.



Doors open at 6 p.m. for drinks, food and fun. Get scanned with Decatur Makers' DIY full body 3D scanner, check out projects like a DIY electric guitar, play one-of-a-kind maker-made games – even try your hand at a make-and-take project of your own. Then enjoy a show of local Atlanta improv talent, including Decaturites Madison Hatfield, Suzanne Elbon and Lew Lefton. You can also bid on an array of prizes at the silent auction.

Tickets are available at EddiesAttic.com. For more information about the show and your local makerspace, visit decaturmakers.org.

Lutheran Church of the Messiah Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 20 • 10 a.m., 465 Clairemont Ave.

The Lutheran Church of the Messiah's annual Easter Egg Hunt features a front lawn covered with goodie-filled eggs. Keep an eye out for the special golden ones. The event also includes face painting, a special puppet show, a cakewalk, and crafts. There will be a special section for three year olds and younger. The hunt is completely free, and will be held indoors if the weather is bad. Bags are provided, or you can bring your own basket. For more information, call 404-373-1682 or email office@messiahdecatur.org.

Decatur Rotary Luau for Literacy Auction Fundraiser

May 2 • 6-9 p.m.

DeKalb History Center at the Old Courthouse on the Square

Proceeds from this annual spring auction will benefit the Decatur Rotary Foundation, which awards grants to local community projects that focus on either literacy or at-risk youth. Tickets are \$50 and include food and drink. For information or to purchase tickets, email jbennett@origintitle.com.



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Decatur Lantern Parade

Friday, May 10 • 9 p.m. | Downtown Decatur






Celebrate the arts and the start of summer with the Decatur Lantern Parade. Gather at Color Wheel Studio, 508 E. Howard Ave., after 8 p.m., then parade to the downtown square along with the Black Sheep Marching Ensemble.

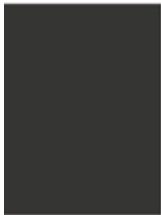


Make your own lantern at home or at-

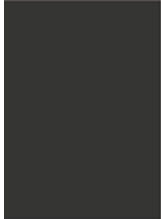


tend a lantern-making workshop where supplies and guidance are provided. Sign up for all sorts of lantern-making workshops – lantern hats, illuminated parasols, globe lanterns, and more – hosted by Chantelle Rytter at Color Wheel Studio in the two weeks preceding the parade.




Visit decaturlanternparade.com for more information and lantern-making resources.

The event is co-sponsored by the Decatur Arts Alliance, Color Wheel Studio, Decatur Education Foundation, and the Downtown Development Authority.

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Wylde Center Garden Tour to Feature 13 Properties

Saturday, May 4 • 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday, May 5 • noon-5 p.m.

Come experience the talent and imaginations of gardeners during the annual Wylde Garden Tour. The 13 gardens are grouped in clusters from north Decatur to East Lake and Reynoldstown in Atlanta.

During the tour, attendees will see a large terraced garden that's only three years old but looks like it's been there for 40 years, a woodland arboretum, a garden dedicated to wildlife, a front yard transformed into a flower-lover's paradise, a backyard oasis complete with a garden folly, and much more.

Tickets are \$15 for Wylde Center members, \$20 for nonmembers in advance and \$25 the day of the tour. Tickets are good for both days.

For tickets and information, visit wyldecenter.org/wylde-garden-tour.



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A Slam Dunk for Mental Health Recovery

Saturday, April 27 • 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday, April 28 • 9 a.m.-6 p.m. (Playoffs and Championship)

The DeKalb Criminal Justice Treatment Coalition invites the community to the second annual Full Court Press Basketball Tournament and mental health awareness event at Decatur Recreation Center, 231 Sycamore St. The tournament will feature teams of law enforcement, legal entities, and first responders in and around DeKalb County.

Proceeds from the tournament will fund programs and services for participants in the DeKalb County Misdemeanor Mental Health Court (MMHC) and DeKalb Criminal Justice Treatment Coalition (DCJTC). Tickets are \$5 for ages 12 and older, \$3 for children, and free for children 3 and under. They may be purchased at the door. Sponsorships and vendor booths are available. For more information visit dekalbcountyfullcourtpress.com.

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DHS Seniors Named PAGE STAR Students

Decatur High School seniors Gillian McClennen and Maxime Tirouvanziam have been named 2019 PAGE STAR Students. The announcement was made by Timothy Martin of the Decatur Rotary Club, the local sponsor of the DeKalb County STAR program. Gillian selected Julie Semones as PAGE Star teacher and Maxime selected Cassandra Black as PAGE STAR teacher.

The PAGE Student Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR) program, in its 56th year, is sponsored by the Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE) Foundation, the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and the Georgia Department of Education.

Since its inception, the STAR program has



Cassandra Black (STAR teacher) and STAR student Maxime R. Tirouvanziam



Julie Semones (STAR teacher) and STAR student Gillian L. McClennen

honored more than 24,000 students and the teachers they have selected as having had the most influence on their academic achieve-

ment. To obtain the STAR nomination, high school seniors must have the highest score on a single test date on the three-part SAT and be in the top 10 percent or top 10 students of their class based on grade point average.

STAR begins each year in participating high schools throughout Georgia when the STAR student is named and chooses a STAR teacher to share in this recognition. The students and their teachers are honored by their schools and receive special recognition in their communities from more than 165 statewide civic organizations and businesses that serve as local sponsors of the STAR program. Students then compete for school system titles, and

those winners compete for region honors. Region winners compete for the honor of being named State PAGE Star Student.



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Third Annual Joe's Benefit

Saturday, April 20 • 7 p.m.
Color Wheel Art Studio, 508 E. Howard Ave.

The community is invited to the third annual Joe's Benefit at Color Wheel Art Studio. Tickets are \$55 and include food, drinks, and music by The Clairemont House Band. Advanced ticket purchases also guarantee a T-shirt. To purchase yours, visit decatureducationfoundation.org/joesbenefit. This event is for adults age 21 and up.



Joe's Benefit is your opportunity to support adolescent mental health and addiction resources for Decatur students. Now in its third year, the fundraiser honors the life of DHS graduate Joe Bodine (Class of 2015). Since its founding, Joe's Fund, established by the Decatur Education Foundation, has raised more than \$70,000, which has funded the creation and operation of the Decatur Student Center, Mental Health First Aid training for teachers and staff, a peer mentor from the Georgia Council for Substance Abuse, and a Pathways to Life Georgia therapist to provide additional counseling support and to focus efforts on substance abuse prevention.

Visit decatureducationfoundation.org/joe for more information.

Agnes Scott Students Travel the World

Last month, more than 310 first-year students at Agnes Scott College came together on campus for a send-off celebration. These students – the largest class of first-years in the history of Agnes Scott – began their 10-day global Journeys trips the following day. Journeys is part of each student's SUMMIT experience at Agnes Scott College. SUMMIT is Agnes Scott's innovative leadership and global learning experience, infused into the curriculum for every student.

As part of their SUMMIT experience, each first-year student travels abroad or in the United States during the spring semester. Each Journeys trip focuses on a particular area of study. Students continue to focus on leadership and global learning in their sophomore, junior and senior years.

For more information on the Journeys program and the 2019 global locations, visit agnesscott.edu/global-learning/first-year-global-learning/journeys.html.



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Active Living Salutes Willie Shoemake



Decatur Active Living recently honored retired City of Decatur employee Willie Shoemake for 40 plus years of service for officiating youth basketball, youth baseball, adult basketball and adult softball.

#thankyoushoe #decaturpublicworks #decaturactiveliving

Valentine Pals



Wyatt Hartle and his good friend, Judy Moore, posed for photos before attending the Valentine's Dance on Feb. 8 at the Decatur Recreation Center. Wyatt is a student at Glennwood Elementary and Judy is a student at Clairemont Elementary.

#valentinesdance #lookingsmooth

Basketball with Public Safety



Decatur's Youth Platform teens recently squared off on the court against Decatur Public Safety. Both Police and Fire Departments fielded players.

#decaturpublicsafety #teamwork #sportsmanship

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