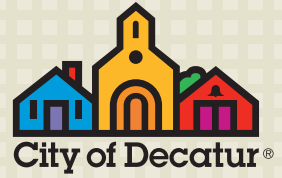


# City of Decatur FOCUS



JUNE 2023  
Volume 33 • Number 10

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF DECATUR, GEORGIA

## Takumi Cuisine Opens in Downtown Decatur



Local business leaders, elected officials, and city staff recently attended a ribbon cutting for Decatur's latest restaurant, Takumi Cuisine. Pictured from left are DBA President Jill Joplin, Takumi Cuisine Chef Tomoyuli Miura, Mayor Pro Tem Tony Powers, Mayor Patti Garrett, Commissioner George Dusenbury, Takumi Cuisine owner Yuet-Yuen Cushing, mural artist Sheila VanFossan, and Commissioner Kelly Walsh. Visit the restaurant at 250 W. Ponce de Leon Ave. or online at [takumicuisine.com](http://takumicuisine.com).



## David Junger Steps into Deputy City Manager Role

The City is excited to announce that after an internal recruitment process, David Junger has been selected to serve as Decatur's next Deputy City Manager. David has been with the City since 1990 and served for 15 years with the Decatur Police department, completing his public safety career as the Deputy Police Chief. Since 2006, he has served as the Assistant City Manager for Public Works. David represents the highest standards of public service and is committed to the values of ethics and integrity. The City is fortunate to have his leadership in this new role, and the community will benefit from his contributions over the years to come.



## CITY BUDGET PROCESS REMINDER

There are several opportunities this month to get involved in the City's budget process:

- **JUNE 5:** extended work session and public hearing on proposed FY 2023-2024 budget and revised 2022-2023 budget and 2023 millage rates.
- **JUNE 7:** extended work session on proposed FY 2023-2024 budget and revised 2022-2023 budget (alternate date).
- **JUNE 13:** public hearing on proposed FY 2023-2024 budget and revised 2022-2023 budget (if needed).
- **JUNE 20:** public hearing and scheduled adoption of proposed FY 2023-2024 budget and revised 2022-2023 budget and 2023 millage rates.



All public hearings are held in-person at Decatur City Hall as well as via Zoom. Access information, meeting times, and copies of the FY 2023-2024 budget and revised 2022-2023 budget are published on the City's website at [decaturga.com/budget](http://decaturga.com/budget). Hard copies are available at Decatur City Hall (509 N. McDonough St.) and at the Decatur Library (215 Sycamore St.). Contact City Clerk and Budget Director Meredith Roark, 404-370-4102, or [meredith.roark@decaturga.com](mailto:meredith.roark@decaturga.com), if you have questions or need more information.

## July/August Focus combined next month

The July and August issues of the Decatur Focus are combined and will be available mid-July. The combined issue also features the City's annual report. Submit information by June 10 through the Decatur Focus submission form located at [decaturga.com/focus](http://decaturga.com/focus).

**Read the Decatur Focus online at [decaturga.com/focus](http://decaturga.com/focus).**

Limited copies also available at Decatur City Hall, Decatur Visitor's Center, and Decatur Recreation Center.

**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](mailto:decaturfocus@decaturga.com), or by using the submission form found at [decaturga.com/focus](http://decaturga.com/focus).

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](http://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; email: [decaturfocus@decaturga.com](mailto:decaturfocus@decaturga.com).



### DECATUR CITY COMMISSION

Patti Garrett.....Mayor  
Tony Powers.....Mayor Pro Tem  
George Dusenbury.....Commissioner  
Lesa Mayer.....Commissioner  
Kelly Walsh.....Commissioner



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Design and layout: Lampe-Farley.com



City Senior Engineer Cara Scherer (left-front) and Planning and Economic Development Director Angela Threadgill (front-right, in pink) lead the WTS tour group around Decatur.

## Decatur Welcomes Women's Transportation Seminar

The Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) Atlanta Chapter hosted the WTS International Conference in May. The Conference theme was "The Great Intersection: Transportation and Equity." Attendees traveled by MARTA and by electric shuttles provided by Let's Ride Atlanta to learn about Decatur's implementation of new bicycle and

pedestrian facilities that make Decatur a Silver Level Bicycle Friendly Community and Gold Walk Friendly Community. The participants also learned of the City of Decatur's 2030 Strategic Plan goals on equity and racial justice, climate action, civic trust, affordable housing, mobility and economic growth.

## Decatur Legislators Pass Property Tax Relief Proposals

Last month, the Decatur City Commission announced that come November, voters will have the opportunity to decide on proposed homestead exemptions that give property tax relief to persons who own their homes and are impacted by increasing property values.

The package of property tax relief bills was co-sponsored in the House by Decatur's legislative delegation - Representatives Omari Crawford, Karla Drenner, Becky Evans and Mary Margaret Oliver, and by Senator Elena Parent in the Senate. Governor Brian Kemp signed the measures into law.

The details of the General Homestead

Exemptions, if adopted by the voters, would result in the following:

- **HOUSE BILL 632** increases the General Homestead Exemption (GH-1) for all residential owner-occupied properties from \$25,000 to \$40,000; and,
- **HOUSE BILL 633** increases the General Homestead Exemption (GH-2) for residential owner-occupied properties for persons 65 years of age or older from \$10,000 to \$15,000; and,
- **HOUSE BILL 635** increases the General Homestead Exemption (GH-3) for

residential owner-occupied properties for persons 62 years of age or older whose Georgia net taxable household income does not exceed \$50,000 from \$15,000 to \$25,000 and adjust the household income limit from \$50,000 to \$60,000.

In addition, House Bill 634 also passed, allowing a referendum to ensure that resident property owners on Decatur Land Trust properties are afforded a homestead exemption similar to the City's general homestead exemption.

## Decatur Fire Participates in Live Fire Training

A few times each year, Decatur Fire visits the DeKalb County Fire training center to use their burn building to train in a live fire environment. Because no one is losing life or property at these trainings, it's a good opportunity to capture action photos of how firefighters react to a structure fire incident.

Many may think that fighting fire means “putting wet stuff on hot stuff,” but the reality is far more complex. Firefighters must be trained on the latest studies in fire behavior, flow paths, and best practices in strategies and tactics to operate safely and efficiently.

These trainings include a search and rescue scenario, an attack on a fire above grade (upstairs), at grade (ground floor), and below grade (typically basement — these can be the most dangerous as heat rises and flows up a staircase like a chimney as firefighters descend).

This training gives newer firefighters a better understanding of how thermal imaging cameras are utilized during a structure fire, and provides them with a great example of how thermal layering (the space where the superheated gases are located above the cooler lower layer) works, and how to ensure they stay below that level whenever possible.

These realistic scenarios help firefighters practice their skills in a (mostly) controlled environment where certified Live-Fire Instructors can observe, evaluate, provide constructive feedback, and stop any unsafe acts. Temperatures can reach up to 1000 degrees in the upper levels during these trainings, so safety is always the first consideration.



Decatur Fire rarely posts images of structure fires and firefighters in action, because of the devastating impact of the fire on the homeowner.

## Help Prevent Brush Fire This Summer

While Decatur doesn't experience wildfires as often as places out West, more frequent temperature extremes across the country have resulted in more frequent wildfires. Decatur Firefighter David Jimenez has fought wildfires, and offers the following tips to avoid brush fires in our area.



- Don't leave clear glass or plastic containers on your porch or in your yard – these containers can act as a magnifying glass and concentrate the rays of the sun, igniting dry materials (we've seen this happen in Decatur).
- Remove dried vegetation - rake and compost dead plants; they can become an excellent fuel source for sparks or concentrated sun rays.
- Don't burn household refuse – not only is it illegal, it releases harmful contaminants into the air and has the potential to spark a brush fire.
- If you have a burn pit, use a screen cover to contain sparks, keep a water hose nearby, and never leave fire unattended. When finished, extinguish fire thoroughly to ensure there are no hot embers remaining.
- If you spot a brush fire, call 911 before attempting to extinguish - no matter the size of the fire; brush fires can spread extremely quickly (particularly if it's windy and dry) and you may find that a small fire can grow exponentially faster than anticipated.
- Don't extinguish a brush fire by stomping it out - your clothing may ignite and you could risk a serious burn injury. If there's no water hose or extinguisher available, wait for fire personnel to arrive.
- Don't leave lithium ion batteries on a charger or in direct sunlight - when charging power tools, lawnmowers, or scooters outside, make sure they are not in direct sunlight where they can easily overheat, and take them off the charger as soon as they are charged.

# Planning for the Legacy Park Track and Field

**Tuesday, June 13, 6-8 p.m. Legacy Park, 500 S. Columbia Drive**

**T**he City of Decatur and City Schools of Decatur welcome all interested community members to learn more about the proposed track and field at Legacy Park. Planned improvements include a new competition track and field facility, synthetic turf athletic field, lighting, field house or comparable improvements to the existing gym, and storm water management.

Breedlove Land Planning of Atlanta will

lead the planning and design effort for the project, which was identified as a community priority in the 2018 Legacy Park master plan ([decaturnext.com/trackandfield](http://decaturnext.com/trackandfield)). Breedlove is a landscape planning and engineering firm, recognized for its expertise in design of parks and recreation facilities, scholastic site and athletic field improvements, and storm water management.

Funding for the track and field will be provided jointly by the City of Decatur and the

City Schools of Decatur Board of Education. Barring unforeseen conditions, the project should be ready for construction by the end of 2023. Previous opportunities to meet the planning team and share ideas for the project were held on April 18 and May 16 at Legacy Park. Additional information about this project is available at [decaturlegacypark.com](http://decaturlegacypark.com). Comments can be emailed to Hugh Saxon, [hugh.saxon@decaturga.com](mailto:hugh.saxon@decaturga.com).

## Decatur Experiencing Increased Graffiti

**Decatur is experiencing a challenge with an increase in graffiti on many commercial buildings, signage, and most recently, on murals.**

Decatur is known for an abundance of art and art initiatives, including art commissioned for traffic boxes, murals, and other initiatives that are designed to showcase both the art and artists. However, graffiti and/or “tagging” is vandalism to buildings, city signage, property, and murals. The cost of removing graffiti is shouldered by property owners, small business owners, and the City.

The City is working with the Decatur Arts Alliance on an idea for a designated space appropriate for free-spirited art. Until then the community must continue to work together to stop graffiti on commercial buildings, signage, city property and other artwork around the city.

If you witness someone tagging or placing graffiti or if your business has been tagged, please contact police to file a report.

If you see graffiti, please email the location along with a photograph to the City’s codes enforcement officer, Cynthia Hardnett at [Cynthia.hardnett@decaturga.com](mailto:Cynthia.hardnett@decaturga.com).

The City’s code of ordinances prohibits graffiti under Sec. 70-29.

a) Graffiti is defined according to O.C.G.A. § 17-15A-2 as “any inscriptions, words, figures, paintings, or other defacements that



are written, marked, etched, scratched, sprayed, drawn, painted or engraved on or otherwise affixed to any surface of real property or improvements thereon without prior authorization of the owner or occupant of the property by means of any aerosol paint container, broad-tipped marker, gum label, paint stick, graffiti stick, etching equipment, brush or other device capable of scarring or leaving a visible mark on any surface.”

b) It shall be unlawful for any person within

the corporate limits of the city to commit the offense of application of graffiti.

c) In determining the appropriate punishment under Code section 1-12, the municipal court may suspend a portion of or the entire sentence upon such conditions to include but not be limited to the restoring of the property so defaced, damaged or destroyed, or other remedial action.

We appreciate your help to keep Decatur beautiful.

## The Georgia Association of Women in Public Safety Holds 2023 Conference in Decatur

Women from all over Georgia convened in Decatur for the Georgia Association of Women in Public Safety (GAWPS) conference. Decatur Fire was thrilled to play a key role in the conference, facilitating a workshop on diversity, equity, and inclusion. In addition, Deputy Chief Vera Morrison spoke on a panel of cancer survivors and Assistant Chief Ninetta Violante was recognized as a board member (pictured). GAWPS vision is to provide professional growth opportunities for women that are employed in fire, law enforcement, or emergency communication services by creating opportunities that facilitate professional growth through training, education, and mentoring for women in Public Safety in the State of Georgia.



### SOLID WASTE HOLIDAY RECYCLING SCHEDULE

#### Juneteenth • Monday, June 19

Regular service for Monday, June 19 will be Tuesday, June 20  
Regular service for Tuesday will be Wednesday, June 21

#### Independence Day • Tuesday, July 4

No change to Monday, July 3  
Regular service for Tuesday will be Wednesday, July 5

## WALK & ROLL SUPERSTARS



Meet this month's Walk & Roll Superstars — Kathryn, Nick, Anne, and Teddy Hecker — a family that loves to walk, bike, and scooter as well as promote Decatur's walkability.

Nearly every morning, Anne and Teddy get to school by walking, biking, or scooting to Westchester Elementary School – the “loud way” or the “quiet way.” The first option is a walk along Scott Boulevard, which allows the family to greet their beloved crossing guard. Anne points out that it is critical to watch out for fire ants, and Teddy highlights the importance of looking both ways before crossing the street. The second option is through Hidden Cove Park, the trail behind Westchester, which affords the opportunity to enjoy nature, like viewing the “bee hotel,” and collecting sticks.

Nick cherishes this time with his kids because he gets to see the world through their eyes, exploring whatever captures their attention. He considers time in the car as “dead time” since it involves sitting in traffic; there is no dead time on a walk or a ride, because there is always something interesting to discover.

Some mornings, Nick enjoys bike rides with a cycling group known as Arches; they meet at the arches on the Agnes Scott campus, and anyone can join. Nick notes that biking is a great way to explore the city from a different vantage point.

Additionally, the Heckers enjoy going to their favorite places downtown on foot or by bike. As the weather warms up, remember walking and biking are excellent ways to get where you are going and to notice your surroundings in a different way.

Nominate a Walk & Roll Superstar by visiting [bit.ly/Walk-and-Roll-Decatur](https://bit.ly/Walk-and-Roll-Decatur)



## Meeting Preview

**Tuesday, June 27, 5:30 p.m.**

Hosted by **Boho 115**,  
115 Sycamore St.

**Tuesday, July 25, 5 p.m.**

Co-hosted by **Independent Distilling** and **Spirited Event Group**, 547 E. College Ave.

DBA will unveil its new strategic plan at this meeting, in the newly renovated home of Independent Distilling Company.

For more details or to join, visit

**[decaturdba.com](http://decaturdba.com)**

## Diamond Dust Cupcakes Reopens in New Downtown Location

Formerly located on College Ave, Diamond Dust brings its “sweet sparkle” to a new location at 760 Commerce Dr. For more information, including available flavors and store hours, visit [diamonddustcupcakes.com](http://diamonddustcupcakes.com).



## 2023 ARTS FESTIVAL SHINES BRIGHTLY DOWNTOWN

This year's Decatur Arts Festival brought beautiful weather and more than 120 local and visiting artists, showcasing their work in ceramics, jewelry, 2D and 3D works, watercolor, woodwork, photography, and painting. The festival also featured live music, food/drink vendors, and fun for our community and visitors. Thanks to the Decatur Arts Alliance, more than 300 volunteers, and the support of Decatur's retail community, the weekend was another success for Decatur.

### Congratulations to the 2023 Artist Market winners:

First Place	<b>Kevin Sheehan</b> (Wood) \$1,000 prize
Second Place	<b>Derek Christensen</b> (2D Mixed Media) \$750 prize
Third Place	<b>Caleb Barnaby</b> (Jewelry) \$500 prize



## Flexible Summer Music Program

Traveling this summer? Music Together of Decatur has a flexible summer schedule; choose six weeks in June/July (with no classes June 25 - July 9th) or four weeks in August. If you need to miss some classes, Music Together offers unlimited makeups over the course of the session, and if you re-enroll, you can carry makeups to future sessions.

Set aside special time with your baby, toddler, or preschooler to play and bond this summer, and connect with a community of other grownups and kids. Music Together provides an illustrated songbook and digital access to the songs you'll be singing, dancing, and jamming to in class so you can keep the music going all week long. Siblings under 8 months and siblings four years and older can join the musical fun at no additional cost. Visit [musictogetherofdecatur.com](http://musictogetherofdecatur.com) to register.

Email [wendy@musictogetherofdecatur.com](mailto:wendy@musictogetherofdecatur.com) or call/text 678-466-0737 with any questions.



## Decatur is FOR the Birds!

**D**ecatur is a good place to be a bird. Walk down any street and you will find birdfeeders and birdhouses in front or back yards, and many people are adding native plants that support and nurture birds. With such a vibrant bird population, it's not uncommon to find a bird in potential distress.

Wild Nest Bird Rehab cares for birds with broken necks, wings, or legs. Birds become patients for multiple reasons. Some birds mistake a window for wide open sky and end up harmed by a window strike. Others become victims to free-roaming cats or dogs that instinctively pounce. Many birds get caught in sticky bug traps and harm themselves trying to get free.

At Wild Nest, most injured birds are accepted immediately. The rehab specialists

administer antibiotics and other medications as needed, and volunteers hand feed birds or make sure they have enough avian salad, seed, or mealworms to feed themselves. While Wild Nest is licensed to handle songbirds only, volunteers and the website can help locate rehab specialists for raptors (such as hawks), water birds, and other birdlife.

Last year, Wild Nest took in more than 1,500 birds from the metro Atlanta area. The cottage at Legacy Park provides the space to care for birds at all life stages—from infants to juveniles to adults. Facility Manager Dave Butler spearheaded the effort to construct an outdoor aviary adjacent to the cottage, where birds nearly ready for release spend time experiencing the outdoor air and testing their wings in a space larger than a cage allows.

Wild Nest is a vital contributor to wildlife

conservation. The organization strives to return every possible bird to the wild. The group's founder and Decatur resident Nancy Eilen explains that many birds are returned to the area where they were found, but some bluebirds and finches at Legacy Park were once patients.

The organization enjoys sharing their work with the community but as a federally-licensed rehabilitator, visitors are not allowed. However anyone age eighteen or older can volunteer, and during baby season, they need all hands. Volunteers help with bird care, data entry and administrative jobs, as well as marketing and fundraising. For more information or to make a donation, visit [wildnest-birdrehab.org](http://wildnest-birdrehab.org).



Wild Nest Bird Rehab at Decatur's Legacy Park offers expert help and a temporary home for injured or orphaned wild birds.



**If you encounter a bird in possible distress, it's important to know what steps to take.**

Sometimes a baby bird can be put back in its nest, and other times, patience and distance give a parent the time and space it needs to return to the nest to feed its young. The Wild Nest website provides a helpful protocol to figure out what's best for the bird. If uncertain, please call; no bird should be offered food or water until it's fully assessed.

## New Plantings Enhance Decatur Cemetery

Thanks to a generous contribution from the Avondale Garden Club, Decatur Cemetery's Tuesday volunteer gardening team has planted a combination of new plants - native, flowering, and ferns - to help enhance the Commerce pedestrian entrance, the base of the National Registry sign, and the new steps in the Old Section of the Decatur Cemetery.

Decatur Cemetery is the resting place for many citizens who have impacted our city, DeKalb County, and Georgia. To help preserve this history and support ongoing projects, Friends of Decatur Cemetery hosts educational tours on the second Sunday of every month, May through October. Tours begin at 2:30 p.m. at the wellhouse/gazebo in the Historic Old Section. This month's tour is Sunday, June 11.

Interested in joining the Tuesday morning garden volunteers? Email [friendsofdecaturcemetery@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofdecaturcemetery@gmail.com) for more information. For news and events, follow Friends of Decatur Cemetery on Facebook and Instagram.



## AMLI DECATUR



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# KEEP ON SWIMMING!

## Agnes Scott College and Decatur-Oakhurst

Both Dynamo locations offer indoor heated pools and year-round swimming lessons for all ages.

**Decatur-Oakhurst also offers  
USAS Competitive Swim Team,  
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**\$15  
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**Bring in this ad for \$15 off  
one session of swimming lessons.**

This offer may not be combined with any other offer or coupon.  
Expires 7.01.2023

## ROCK THE MIC KARAOKE

Friday, June 9, 6-8 p.m.

**Historic bandstand**

Unleash your inner superstar at the final Rock the Mic Karaoke Night in Decatur. Grab your friends (and fans), warm up those vocal cords, and rock the microphone like a pro. Everyone is welcome at this FREE and kid-friendly event.



## DECATUR ARCHITECTURE WALKING TOUR

Tuesday, June 13, 7 p.m., DeKalb History Center,  
Historic DeKalb Courthouse, 101 E. Court Square

This year's walking tour will focus on the Architects and Architecture of Downtown Decatur, highlighting commercial buildings spanning 1920 to 1970. Attendees will learn about a variety of building styles from classical to modern, and discover a new appreciation for the historic buildings in Downtown Decatur. Buildings on the tour include Blair-Rutland

Building, Decatur Presbyterian, Decatur High School, and more. The tour lasts 75 minutes and the total walking distance is about one mile, starting from the DeKalb History Center. Tickets are required. The next walking tour is scheduled for Tuesday, July 11. Visit [dekalbhistory.org/programs/decatur-architecture-walking-tour/](http://dekalbhistory.org/programs/decatur-architecture-walking-tour/) for tickets and information.



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The High House is one of the oldest buildings in DeKalb County and for nearly 50 years has served as a law office for solo practitioners and entrepreneurial firms. It was fully renovated in 2013 and updated again in 2023. We are pleased to be able to offer executive office space to another generation of attorneys and related professionals.

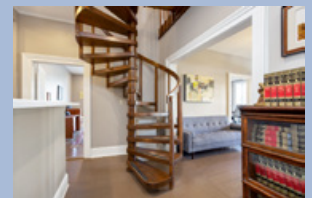
Each full service gross executive office lease includes:

- Internet access
- Phone service
- Reception services
- One (1) parking space\*
- Conference Room access

\*Parking not included with rental of a work station.  
Additional parking available for \$100 a month.



THE HIGH HOUSE  
since 1830



## EASTSIDE HOPS TRAIL PASS

Decatur is part of the Eastside Hops Trail, a gateway to six hoppin' communities on the eastside of Atlanta, offering a wide selection of craft and local brews. Download a FREE digital pass to start exploring breweries in Decatur and beyond, and earn prizes along the way. A limited supply of Eastside Hops Beer Trail t-shirts and beer glasses are available so download your pass, grab a friend, and start collecting points today. Go to [visitdecaturgeorgia.com/visit/page/east-side-hops-pass](http://visitdecaturgeorgia.com/visit/page/east-side-hops-pass) for more information and the full list of stops along the trail.



## JOIN US!



Decatur  
Parents Network

[WWW.DECATURPARENTS.NET](http://WWW.DECATURPARENTS.NET)



SCAN ME



THIS AD WAS GENEROUSLY FUNDED BY DECATUR PREVENTION INITIATIVE.

## BEER GARDEN & SILENT AUCTION AT OAKHURST GARDEN

Sat., June 24, 5-8 p.m., Oakhurst Garden, 435 Oakview Rd.

Wylde Center is hosting its annual Beer Garden & Silent Auction to help support its school programs, five gardens, and community out-reach events. Attendees will enjoy drinks provided by local breweries, Ford's BBQ, the grill station (offering vegetarian and meat options), and sweet treats. Local band Maxwell Street will be jamming your favorite tunes from the 70s-90s.



Tickets are \$65 for Wylde Center members and \$75 for non-members. All attendees will receive a commemorative glass. Host sponsor levels are available for additional event benefits and volunteers attend for free.

The online auction opens Saturday, June 17, and you don't have to attend the event to participate and win. For more information about the event, visit [wyldecenter.org/event/beer-garden-2023/](http://wyldecenter.org/event/beer-garden-2023/)

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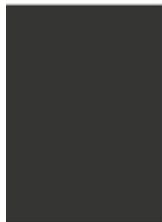
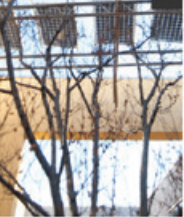
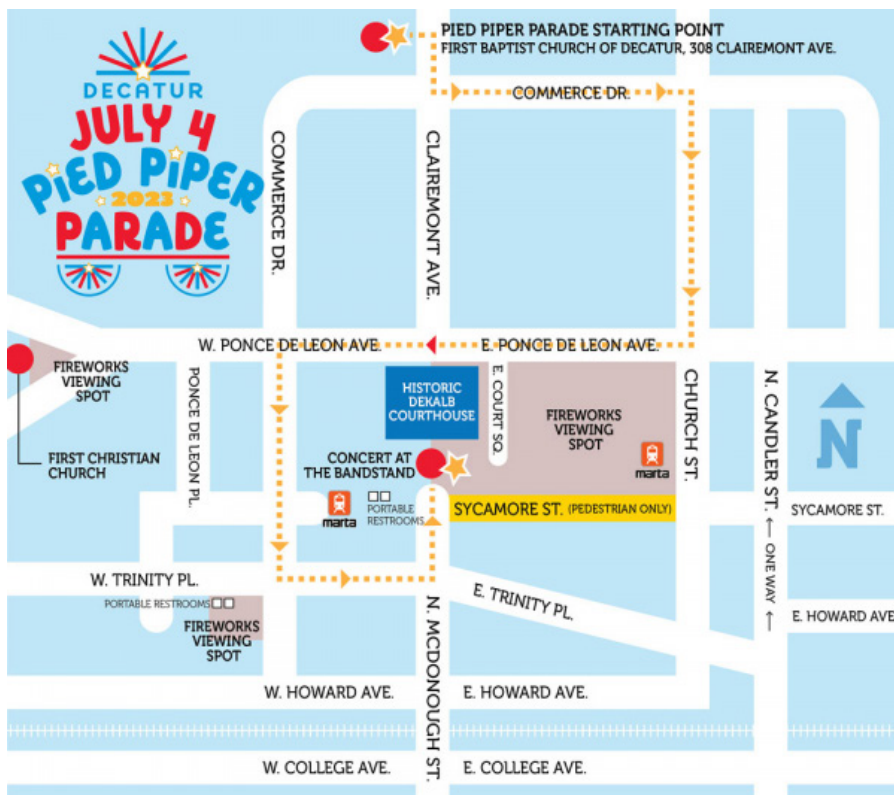


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## JULY 4TH AND THE PIED PIPER PARADE

**Tuesday, July 4, All Day**

Celebrate the Fourth of July hometown-style in downtown Decatur. Watch (or join in) the Pied Piper Parade as it winds through downtown with floats, wagons, and bicycles. Gather friends and family to ride, walk, or skate in this community parade – it's for anyone and everyone. Neighborhoods and organizations are encouraged to join the fun too. And don't forget your red, white and blue! Parade line-up begins at 5:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Decatur, 308 Clairemont Ave. Then head to the community bandstand for the Concert on the Square and to claim your space on the lawn for the evening fireworks display, beginning at dark (approximately 9 p.m.). For more information go to [visitdecaturgeorgia.com/visit/page/fourth-july](http://visitdecaturgeorgia.com/visit/page/fourth-july)



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627 East College Ave. Decatur, GA

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PRESENTS

**2023 NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK**

**FESTIVAL**

**JUNE 24, 10 AM - 2 PM**

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**BEE CITY USA**  
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[BeecaturGA.com](http://BeecaturGA.com)

## National Pollinator Week Festival Returns to Downtown Decatur

**Saturday, June 24, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Decatur Square**

Come and join the Beecatur community at the third annual National Pollinator Week Festival on Decatur Square. The free, family-friendly event helps raise awareness about the importance of pollinators and how to protect them. A number of environmental organizations will be on hand to answer questions about bees, butterflies, pollinator-friendly plants, and more. This year's festival participants include Beech Hollow Wildflower Farm, Georgia Native Plant Society, Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association, Georgia Audubon Society, Wylde Center, Decatur Cares About Climate, Scott Park Community Garden, and many more.

Kids will enjoy activities, photo ops, free face-painting by Bubble Squad Entertainment, and tunes from Maria Rosato of Friends in the Garden. King of Pops will also be on hand selling popsicles. For adults, Monk's Meadery, the festival's presenting sponsor and Georgia's first meadery, will sell glasses of its award-winning craft mead.

In 2016, the City of Decatur became the first Bee City USA® in Georgia. As a Bee City, Decatur affirms its support for creating sustainable habitats for pollinators and educating its residents about the critical role bees play in our ecosystem. Last year's festival drew hundreds of families to Decatur Square, demonstrating the community's commitment to protecting pollinators. For festival details, visit [beecaturga.com/2022-national-pollinator-week](http://beecaturga.com/2022-national-pollinator-week) or contact Peter Helfrich, Chairperson BeeCity USA-Decatur, [beecaturga@gmail.com](mailto:beecaturga@gmail.com), 404-642-2923.



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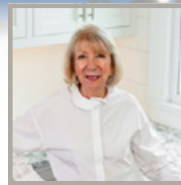
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## DHS Girls Relay Squad Win First at State

Decatur's 4x800 relay runners celebrate after their win in the Georgia track and field finals. Gabby Malerba (4th leg) took this selfie with the rest of the squad (clockwise from top): Kate Sherwood (3rd leg), Anna Blaich (1st leg) and Tallulah Wall (2nd leg). The girls finished in 9:47.85.

## CSD ESOL & FEDERAL PROGRAMS FAMILY SUMMER NEEDS SURVEY

The City Schools of Decatur's ESOL & Federal Programs team, in participation with their Community Collaborative partners, is asking the community to complete the Summer Immediate Needs Survey. The aim and mission of the survey is to identify the most significant needs of CSD families over the summer. The results of this survey will help guide actions to assist families and communities with support during the summer months. Contact Brittany Stewart, [bstewart@csdecatur.net](mailto:bstewart@csdecatur.net), 404-371-3601 ext. 1054 or Willie Washington, [wwashington@csdecatur.net](mailto:wwashington@csdecatur.net) with questions.



Scan the QR Code to  
fill out the Summer Immediate  
Needs Survey





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## DEF Awards 18 Scholarships to College-bound Seniors

Thanks to generous donors in our community, Decatur Education Foundation awards close to \$130,000 annually in scholarships (five are recurring) to 18 hard-working high school seniors.

The Decatur High School seniors were awarded their scholarships at a celebration at Agnes Scott College on Monday, May 15. DEF is pleased to have the opportunity to honor these ambitious students for their hard work and to support their post-secondary goals.

Congratulations to the scholarship recipients and to every member of the DHS Class of 2023! We look forward to seeing you make your mark on the world. To learn more about these students and the awards they received, visit [decatureducationfoundation.org/2023scholarships](http://decatureducationfoundation.org/2023scholarships).



## CLASS OF 2023 DEF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

<b>Abe Werner</b>	Rachel Britain Memorial Scholarship
<b>Miles Moorfield</b>	Han C. Choi Memorial Scholarship
<b>Zakariye Abdulahi</b>	Harry Edwards Class of 1960 Memorial Scholarship
<b>Audrey Levy</b>	Gladding Family Scholarship
<b>Rohan Kappagantula</b>	Thomas Hauk Memorial Scholarship
<b>Maggie Kennedy</b>	Madison Lewis Memorial Scholarship
<b>Aniyah Jones</b>	McNally Family Scholarship
<b>Tae'von Gatling</b>	Bill Meador, Jr. Memorial Scholarship
<b>Kiree Harris</b>	Patrick Family Foundation Scholarship
<b>Jukeria Tate</b>	Lawrence & Gertrude Paxton Memorial Scholarship
<b>Dania Kareem</b>	Pollack Family Scholarship
<b>Hannah Pomfret</b>	Rotary Club of Decatur Foundation Scholarship
<b>Brooke Cobb</b>	Kennedy Segars Memorial Scholarship
<b>Kira Czech</b>	Jeanne Bellville Taffs Memorial Scholarship
<b>Harrison Hannah</b>	Trinity High School Class of 1965 Scholarship
<b>Zoe DeLuca</b>	Imani Thompson Twine Memorial Scholarship
<b>Hailey Poekler</b>	Mary Elizabeth Brown Wilson Scholarship
<b>Lily Mae Barcik</b>	Sarah Lynn Woolf Memorial Scholarship

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