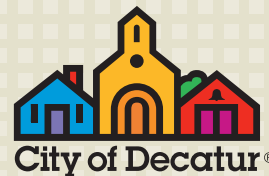


# City of Decatur FOCUS



SEPTEMBER 2021  
Volume 32 • Number 2

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF DECATUR, GEORGIA



## Madison Avenue Soapbox Derby Takes Victory Lap

**Tenth and final race  
set for Oct. 16**

The Madison Avenue Soapbox Derby challenges amateur racers to design and build human-powered soapbox cars that compete against the clock in a downhill race. Competitors are divided into age groups with awards for fastest times and most creative car themes.

Some 100 competitors took part in 2019, the last year the race was held before the pandemic, with 1,000 spectators lining Madison Avenue to cheer them on and dozens of volunteers working behind the scenes.

Through local business sponsorships, participation by racers and community giving, the event has raised more than \$200K in its first nine years for area nonprofits serving children. According to the organizers at the Madison Avenue Community Fund (MACF), the time is right for the derby to evolve into something new. The group will look to refresh its strategies around fundraising and community event programming moving forward.

*continued on page 6*



## Decatur Walk & Roll Superstar

Cheryl Burnette did not drive to work today. She did not walk or roll either. She retired last month. Cheryl was the liaison to the Active Living Board of the City of Decatur. Part of her role as assistant director was to promote walking, biking, and Safe Routes to School, and she walked the talk. Her residence in downtown Decatur allowed her to walk to work every day and provided bicycle access for errands and exercise.

Cheryl has worked for our city for 19 years. She has been instrumental in Decatur receiving both Walk Friendly and Bike Friendly certifications, and many of the walking and biking programs and signs around the city trace their way back to her. She will keep walking. She will keep cycling. We will miss her. Cheryl is this month's Walk and Roll Star.



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; fax 404-371-1593; 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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Development Authority®**

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# Anti-Racism Speaker Series to Focus on Trust, Vulnerability, and Community Building

Last year, the Better Together Advisory Board and the City of Decatur hosted an Anti-Racism Speaker series designed to generate awareness of equity concerns in the city and to hold the city and community accountable to achieve our aspiration of being an inclusive, equitable and just city. The past year has served as a poignant reminder of the importance and fragility of our communities. The need to build trust in one another, as the foundation of strengthening our communities, has never been more important. And yet the barriers to building that trust have perhaps never been more apparent.

This fall's virtual series will engage community leaders, city officials, and activists as we explore the trust deficit in our communities, how it impacts race relations, and how we can deepen collaborative relationships and trust throughout the city of Decatur. This cannot be done without studying and resolving the influence of racism on governmental policies and community norms. The Better Together Advisory Board hopes to challenge and inspire our community to take actionable steps to instill anti-racism throughout our policies and practices.

Moderated by Better Together Co-Chair Ed Lee, the four-part series will culminate in an exploration of community-informed policy changes.



## Kick-off Event: "How the Trust Deficit in the U.S. Impacts Race Relations"

**Wednesday, Sept. 1-6 • 7:30 p.m.**

Register for the webinar at [decaturga.com/speakerseries](https://decaturga.com/speakerseries).

In partnership with Little Shop of Stories, the Better Together Advisory Board is excited to kick off the series with a virtual conversation with two local authors Kimberly Jones and Gilly Segal, authors of *I'm Not Dying with You Tonight* follows two teen girls – one black, one white – who have to confront their own assumptions about racial inequality as they rely on each other to get through the violent race riot that has set their city on fire with civil unrest.



Kimberly Jones, Gilly Segal, and series moderator Ed Lee will explore how we establish trusting interpersonal relationships across our racial and cultural differences. Gilly Segal spent her college years in Israel and served in the IDF. She is currently a lawyer for an advertising agency. Kim Jones is a former manager of Little Shop of Stories who currently works in the entertainment industry. Both live in Atlanta, Georgia.

Watch for more details as the Anti-Racism Series continues. Other events will include:

- An exploration of effective strategies government officials can use to deepen trust throughout our communities;
- A conversation with citizen leaders in Decatur about their strategies to build trust across our differences; and
- An opportunity to learn from other cities.



Gilly Segal and Kimberly Jones

## Volunteer at Legacy Park

Join Legacy Park as a volunteer receptionist to help greet and direct visitors, sort mail, manage the phone, and answer questions. The desk is staffed Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., in shifts distributed among a team of volunteers: 9 a.m.-noon or noon-3 p.m. daily. Multiple shifts per week are encouraged but not required. For more information visit [legacydecatgur.org/volunteer](https://legacydecatgur.org/volunteer) or email Madeleine Henner, [madeleine.henner@legacydecatgur.org](mailto:madeleine.henner@legacydecatgur.org).

## SOLID WASTE AND HOLIDAY RECYCLING SCHEDULE

### Labor Day • Monday, Sept. 6

Monday trash and recycling pickup will be on Tuesday, Sept. 7.

Tuesday trash and recycling pickup will be on Wednesday, Sept. 8.



# Neighborhood Cleanup Days Return!

**Saturdays, September-December, Beginning at 7:30 a.m.**

**T**he City of Decatur is hosting Neighborhood Cleanup Days on Saturdays, starting in September through December, 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 instructions 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. This ensures that we do not have to rerun routes for late set-outs. 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 bags

## Unacceptable Items

- Liquids
- Dirt
- Bricks
- Blocks
- Stone, rocks, or concrete
- Motor vehicle batteries or parts

## September 11

### Oakhurst Neighborhood #1

First Avenue  
Second Avenue (100 to 600 block)  
Third Avenue (400 to 900 block)  
Fourth Avenue  
N. Fourth Avenue  
Fifth Avenue  
Gordon Street  
Northern Avenue (north side only)  
Oakview Road (1000 to 1700 block)  
Maxwell Street  
East Lake Drive (400 to 600 block)

## September 18

### Oakhurst Neighborhood #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  
Fair Park Lane

## September 25

### Oakhurst Neighborhood #3

Spring Street  
Fayetteville Road  
Underwood Street  
W. Pharr (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)  
Lenore Place  
Oakhurst Common Drive

## October 2

### Oakhurst Neighborhood #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 Street (600 to 700 block)  
Green Street (100 block)  
Oakview Road (400 to 800 block)  
Mead Road  
Olympic Place  
Jefferson Place

## October 9

### 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

## October 16

### Winnona Park Neighborhood

S. Columbia Drive  
Commerce Drive (railroad underpass to S. Columbia)  
Conway Road  
Hargrove Townhomes  
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

## October 23

### College Heights Neighborhood

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

## October 30

### Decatur Heights Neighborhood

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  
Glenn Street  
E. Howard Avenue

## November 6

### Decatur Heights Neighborhood

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  
Springdale Street  
Sycamore Station  
Fairview Street  
Glendale Avenue  
Glenn Circle  
Pinecrest Avenue  
Mt. Vernon Drive  
Forkner Drive  
Old Decatur Circle  
Glenn Court  
Townsend at Decatur  
Townhomes  
Moda Townhomes  
Regency Townhomes

## November 13

### Great Lakes

Clarion  
Nelson Ferry  
Woodlawn  
Plainview Street  
Coventry (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

## November 20

### 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)  
Knob Hill  
Glen Lake Commons  
Willow Lane  
Pensdale Road  
Eastland Drive  
Parkside Circle  
Brownstones  
Lanover Drive  
Ferndale Drive  
N. Decatur Road  
Scott Boulevard (800 to 1300 Block)

## December 4

### Westchester Neighborhood

Westchester Drive  
Dogwood Way  
Maediris Drive  
Harold Byrd Drive  
Clairemont Avenue (900 to 1100 block)  
Ridley Circle  
Mockingbird Lane  
Chelsea Drive  
Kathryn Avenue  
North Parkwood Drive  
Coventry Drive (North Parkwood Drive to Scott)  
Merrill Avenue  
Pope Circle  
Harold Byrd Lane S  
Walden Square Way

## December 11

### Lenox Place

Greenwood Circle  
W. Howard (300 to 900 block)  
Patillo Way  
Eastlake Drive (2300 block)  
Atlanta Avenue  
Hibernia Avenue  
Braeburn Lane  
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

## SAVE THE DATE!

### 2021 Electronics Recycling Event

Dec. 18 • 9 a.m.-1 p.m.



**City of Decatur**  
**Electronics**  
**Recycling**

## Glenwood Neighbors Connect over Coffee

In July, the Glennwood Estates Neighborhood (GENA) organized a community breakfast event to celebrate summer and the upcoming new school year. The Java Joy pop-up truck provided breakfast items as well as free coffee to our neighbors. GENA is an organization dedicated to making its Decatur neighborhood a welcoming and cohesive place to live. Neighbors enjoyed meeting new neighbors and re-connecting with old friends over a cup of Joe.



## Madison Avenue Soapbox Derby (continued from page 1)

"We are grateful for all the community support that the Madison Avenue Soapbox Derby has created over this 10-year run," said Marco DiCarlo, MACF chair. "So many local businesses and individuals have stepped up to make a difference. The mission we created to help grow the impact of local children's charities will remain relevant, and will continue in exciting new ways."

Visit [madisonavesoapboxderby.org](http://madisonavesoapboxderby.org) for details about race registration, how to make a donation, sponsorships, volunteering, race day spectator information and more.



## DECATUR CITY COMMISSION

Five City Commissioners are elected in nonpartisan elections for overlapping four-year terms – two from District 1, two from District 2, and one At-Large (citywide). George Dusenbury and Lesa Mayer were elected to the commission in November 2019 and Kelly Walsh was elected in 2017.

Each January, Commissioners elect two of their fellow members to serve as mayor and mayor pro tem. Since January 2016, they have elected Commissioner Patti Garrett to serve as mayor. Commissioner Tony Powers was elected in 2015 and has been elected mayor pro tem yearly since 2018.

The regular City Commission meetings in September will be held Tuesday, Sept. 7, and Monday, Sept. 27 in person (temperature checks and face coverings are required), and via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Meetings are also streamed live at [decaturga.com/streamingvideo](http://decaturga.com/streamingvideo). Visit, [decaturga.com/citycommission](http://decaturga.com/citycommission) for meeting details and to register for alerts.

*This is a correction to inaccurate information provided in the July/August issue of the Focus.*



**GEORGE  
DUSENBURY**  
DISTRICT 1

**LESA MAYER**  
DISTRICT 2

**KELLY WALSH**  
DISTRICT 1

**MAYOR PRO TEM  
TONY POWERS**  
AT-LARGE

**MAYOR PATTI  
GARRETT**  
DISTRICT 2



## KELLY'S MARKET LAUNCHES ONLINE ORDERING SYSTEM

**K**elly's Market, in the Old Depot District, has launched online ordering for its customers. The program, dubbed Kelly's Market To Go, is a continuation of new services the local grocer has offered since the peak of the pandemic. Kelly's Market is one of the few independent grocers to offer this service, not only in Decatur but in the greater Atlanta area.

Kelly's Market has offered delivery via a local delivery service and curbside pick-up for customers calling in orders – which helped spur growth during the pandemic. But now this self-service feature enables customers to browse the grocery aisles on their own time from anywhere.

Designed for the on-the-go-customer, online orders can be placed on any device, from desktop computers and tablets to smartphones. The service includes secure checkout, the option to order from past shopping lists, the ability to note special instructions for an associate to select and pack an order and choose a desired timeframe to pick up groceries or have them delivered. Visit [kellysmarketto.go.com](http://kellysmarketto.go.com) to try it out.



### OFF TO XAVIER

Congratulations to Decatur High School graduate Bethani Thomas. She begins a new adventure at Xavier University in New Orleans this fall. She will study sociology pre-med.

Xavier is the only Catholic HBCU in the U.S., and the only Catholic University founded by a Saint: Katharine Drexel was canonized in 2000.

*Bethani Thomas with Decatur Communications Manager Renae Madison, also a Xavierite.*

### Decatur Presbyterian Blessing of the Animals

**Saturday, Oct. 16 • 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Decatur Presbyterian Church will hold its Blessing of the Animals on the church's Terrace Garden, corner of Church Street and Sycamore. Everyone is welcome to bring a pet and have the pet blessed by a pastor.

The Blessing of the Animals, traditionally held in October, is often associated with St. Francis of Assisi, who is known as the patron saint of animals and ecology. Decatur Presbyterian Church also recognizes how pets are an important part of our families and this day gives everyone a chance to appreciate how pets are a vital part of our spiritual lives. Please bring your own chairs for this event.

For more information call the church Office, 404-378-1777, or visit [dpchurch.org](http://dpchurch.org). For more information about Decatur Presbyterian Church, contact Dudley Larus, DPC Communications, 678-863-4239 or [dudleylarus@gmail.com](mailto:dudleylarus@gmail.com).

## Music Together Offers Family Music Classes Outside

This fall, Decatur families with children (newborn to age four) can safely get together to sing, jam, dance, and play at Music Together of Decatur's outside music classes. For 11 weeks (Sept. 7-Nov. 22), the sounds of singing and laughter will be heard at outdoor locations throughout Decatur. Classes are offered every day of the week, and registration is now open at [musictogetherofdecatur.com](http://musictogetherofdecatur.com).

In addition to weekly classes, Music Together of Decatur tuition includes unlimited makeup classes, a CD/download of the music from class, and a brand-new illustrated songbook that brings each song to life.



## Aimee Jewelry and Gallery Welcomes Susan Saul

Aimee Jewelry and Gallery is excited to announce that Susan Saul, designer and jeweler, has joined their team as in-house jewelry designer. Susan brings her multi-disciplinary experience in costume design, etching, painting, and mixed media art to her studio jewelry. Inspired by ancient techniques and modern design, she translates her joy of working with metals and stones into wearable art that is difficult to categorize.

As a metal-smithing instructor at the Spruill Center for the Arts, Susan has shared her enthusiasm for the craft in her jewelry classes and workshops. Her jewelry will be available for purchase at [aimeejewelryandgallery.com](http://aimeejewelryandgallery.com) as well as during regular gallery hours and activities. For more information, call 404-371-0099 or 678-637-8305.



## Trinity Home and Design Moving to New Space in Decatur

Trinity Home and Design is saying goodbye to its home at 116 E. Trinity Place and moving a few blocks west to the Acme Building at 533 W. Howard St. in Decatur. It's a short distance, but it brings some big changes.

On the retail side owners Lisa Turner and Wallace Bryan will offer studio hours for shopping furniture and upholstered items. They plan to resume a schedule of special events for the public – designer trunk shows and art openings – but their primary focus will be design services.

This pivot provides an opportunity to establish a greener bricks-and-mortar footprint with square footage they can utilize more effectively for the furniture items and services their clients want most. Lisa and Wallace have always sourced products from ethical suppliers and manufacturers, recognizing how important that is to their customer base, now more than ever.

Watch for announcements about the grand opening celebration later in the fall in their new location at 533 W. Howard St.

Dreaming about a design refresh or an upgrade to your home space? Find out more about Trinity Home and Design at [trinity-decatur.com](http://trinity-decatur.com) and on Facebook and Instagram.

TRINITY

MERCANTILE & DESIGN CO

No 116

## First Christian Church of Decatur 20th Anniversary 9-11 Interfaith Service

Saturday, Sept. 11 • 10 a.m.

First Christian Church of Decatur will host its 9-11 interfaith service on the lawn at the Beacon Municipal Center Plaza (420 W. Trinity Pl.). The event will move indoors to the Ebster Gym in the event of inclement weather.



## Festival Four-Pack in Decatur Oct. 1-3

In the spirit of collaboration, four of Decatur's festivals are joining forces for a weekend of arts programming in downtown Decatur.

- **The AJC Decatur Book Festival** will host five author events at the First Baptist Church of Decatur on Saturday, Oct. 2. See more information on page 12.
- **The Decatur Arts Festival** will present more than 100 new and returning artists from across the country and across town on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 2-3, showcasing their creations within a dozen disciplines.
- **The Amplify Decatur Music Festival** will present two nights of music from bands new and old on Friday and Saturday night, Oct. 1-2. See more information on page 11.
- **The Decatur Craft Beer Festival** will host live music in the Brick Store Pub beer garden with hard-to-find special beer offerings.

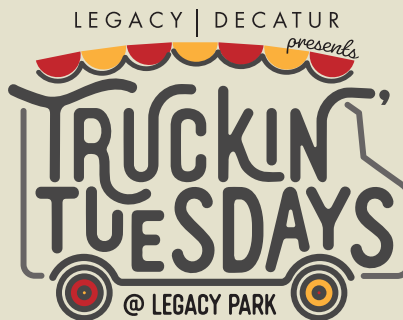
The four festivals are working closely with City of Decatur officials to ensure COVID safety. All plans are currently in the making, so stay tuned for more details.

## PORCHFEST Returns Oct. 9

Georgia's largest organic, free-range, crowd-sourced music festival is the coolest neighborhood event ever. Organizers match up 200 musical acts with 200 homeowners willing to provide a porch, deck, or lawn for a performance. It's an afternoon walking or biking tour through a friendly, neighborly, and musical cornucopia. Free.

## Oakhurst Jazz Nights? Nope. Not this September.

Because of persistent concerns about COVID, the free weekly jazz concerts at the historic Scottish Rite hospital have been cancelled for September. Let's try again in April 2022.



## Truckin' Tuesdays Return to Legacy Park

**September 7, 14, 21, 28, 6-9 pm**  
**Legacy Park, 500 S. Columbia Dr.**  
 Bring your chairs and blankets to Legacy Park, spread out and relax while you enjoy a tasty bite with your pod from the area's best food trucks.



## Plants for Sale at Woodlands Sept. 25-26

Come and enjoy a plant shopping experience under the tree canopy at Woodlands Garden. A diverse range of plants will be available, including shade-loving natives grown at Woodlands, perennials donated by local gardeners, a selection of Georgia Piedmont native plants expertly selected to beautify the garden's new corner landscape, houseplants, and more. The two-day fundraiser is organized with the help of volunteers to support maintenance of the garden. Visit [woodlandsgarden.org](http://woodlandsgarden.org) to register for a time slot to shop in.

## Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month in Decatur and Avondale Estates

Latinx culture is coming to Decatur and Avondale Estates, with a colorful and historical series of events to be held between the two cities during Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15-Oct. 15. Hispanic Heritage Month was created to promote the history, culture, and contributions of Hispanic-Americans from more than 30 countries that make up Latin America.

Placita Latina (or “Small Latina Plaza”) is a series of weekly “mini-events” highlighting Hispanic/Latinx performance, food, and culture. These events will include a mix of Latinx-inspired music, dance, art, education, and flavors.

### Sept. 16 • 4-7 p.m.

La Placita Latin American Coffee Tasting and Performance at Banjo Coffee in Avondale Estates (co-branded with “Welcoming America, Avondale Estates”). The event will also include an After Party, 7-10 p.m., at the “Beer Growler” in the same location.

### Sept. 18 • 8-11 p.m.

#### Salsa On The Square and La Choloteca After-Dance Party

Salsa band performance and dance instruc-

tion, followed by a party. Both events on the Decatur Square.

### Oct. 3 • 1-5 p.m.

Placita Latina Mercadito Pop-up Market at the Lost Druid Brewery in Avondale Estates.

### Oct. 8 • 6:30-8 p.m.

Emerging Latinx Artist Showcase (in partnership with the Decatur Arts Alliance); Closing Event at the Decatur Visitors Center.

The event team is also working with local businesses (and business associations), to offer tools for them to create their own “Placita Latina” special offers and mini events, during the month-long celebration.

When some people think about “Latin America” they are often unaware of the diversity of the people, history, food, music, culture and even languages from the countries included in this group. Placita Latina was conceived to help create awareness of the

many perspectives and people who are part of all of our communities.

### Learn more about Placita Latina at:

- [placitalatina.com](http://placitalatina.com)
- Facebook: Placita Latina Georgia – [facebook.com/placitalatina](https://www.facebook.com/placitalatina)
- Instagram: [@placitalatina](https://www.instagram.com/placitalatina)
- Twitter: [@placitalatina](https://twitter.com/placitalatina)



## West Ponce Music Stroll

### Saturday, Sept. 25 • 1-9 p.m.

West Ponce businesses will open their patios and parking lots on Sept. 25, transforming them into stages for a day of free live music and fun for the third annual West Ponce Music Stroll. Bands will play at businesses along West Ponce de Leon Avenue throughout the day. In the evening, a large stage outside The Marlay will host three bands to culminate the event, which is free and family friendly.

The event will kick off with one-mile and 5K Fun Runs hosted by Fleet Feet and Clarity Fitness. An Artists Market will feature local makers selling products. Chalk artists will be showcased and Yoga and fitness activities will be offered throughout the day.

Proceeds will benefit the all-ages nonprofit makerspace Decatur Makers. For more details about bands and scheduled events and to sign up for the Fun Run, visit [gowestponce.com](http://gowestponce.com).





## INDIGO GIRLS HEADLINE AMPLIFY DECATUR

**Saturday, Oct. 2 • 4-11 p.m.**

Grammy award-winning Indigo Girls will headline the 2021 Amplify Decatur Music Festival on the downtown Decatur square. The Saturday festival will also feature Old 97s; Grammy award-winning Blind Boys of Alabama; The Cactus Blossoms; and Michelle Malone. Tickets are \$60 for general admission, \$150 for VIP, and \$250 for premium VIP.

Amplify Decatur will also include a free outdoor concert the night of Friday, Oct. 1. Visit [AmplifyDecatur.org](http://AmplifyDecatur.org) to purchase tickets and for festival updates. Amplify Decatur is presented by Lenz and produced in partnership with Eddie's Attic. All proceeds will be directed to Decatur Cooperative Ministry (DCM) to aid their efforts to prevent and alleviate homelessness in Decatur and DeKalb County.

Event sponsors include Lenz, Eddie's Attic, Decatur Package Store, Leafmore Group, Iris and Bruce Feinberg, Oakhurst Realty Partners, Natalie Gregory & Co., Savannah Distributing Co., Three Taverns, and Creature Comforts Brewing Co.

Amplify is working with the City of Decatur to develop a plan that will ensure public safety and a healthy environment.



## YEAR ROUND COMPETITIVE SWIM TEAM!!

Also Offering Masters, Home School, Triathlon Prep, and High School Prep.



Located in the Heart of Decatur at Agnes Scott College

"Novice to National Level Swimming, Great Coaches, Family Orientated, BIG on instruction, and over 20 Years in Existence"

**Practice Starts September 5**

For more information go to [www.daqswim.com](http://www.daqswim.com) or e-mail [info@daqswim.com](mailto:info@daqswim.com)

## Estate Planning Wills & Trusts • Probate

As your family grows, or you prepare for retirement, it's important to have a plan.



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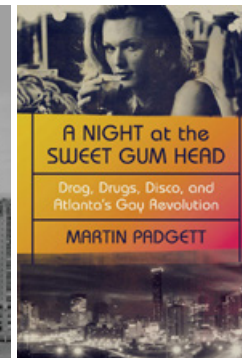
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## AJC Decatur Book Festival Moves to October

After 15 years of hosting literary events in downtown Decatur over Labor Day weekend, the AJC Decatur Book Festival is making a permanent move to the first weekend in October. This year's festival, themed *Diverse Voices Building Community*, and presented by Emory University, will be a one-day program taking place on Saturday, Oct. 2, at the First Baptist Church of Decatur, as part of a larger festival weekend lineup.

Booksellers will set up pop-up shops at the church along with food pop-ups from the Decatur Farmer's Market. The festival will feature several author events and panels in this compressed format:

- *The Second: Race and Guns in a Fatally Unequal America*, by Emory professor Carol Anderson (Bloomsbury, June 1). From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *White Rage*, the book takes a critical new look at the Second Amendment and how it has been engineered to deny the rights of African Americans. (nonfiction)
- *Late City*, by Pulitzer Prize winner Robert Olen Butler (Atlantic Monthly Press). A 115-year-old man lies on his deathbed as the 2016 election results arrive. He revisits his life in this moving story of love, fatherhood, and the American century. (fiction)
- *A Night at the Sweet Gum Head: Drag, Drugs, Disco, and Atlanta's Gay Revolution*, by Martin Padgett (W.W. Norton and Company). An intimate story of 1970s gay Atlanta through its bedazzling drag clubs and burgeoning rights activism. (memoir)



- *Why We Fly*, by Gilly Segal and Kim Jones (Sourcebooks). From the *New York Times* bestselling authors of *I'm Not Dying with You Tonight* comes a heartfelt story about two teen girls – one black, one white – whose friendship is tested by an act of rebellion against systemic racism. (young adult fiction)
- A Picture Book Panel will showcase *The Children's Moon*, by author/illustrator team Carmen Agra Deedy and Jim LaMarche, and illustrator Laura Freeman (Scholastic Press).
- Acclaimed Coretta Scott King illustrator Honoree Laura Freeman showcases a loving intergenerational family, and encour-

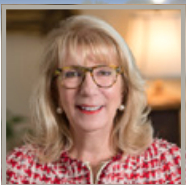
ages girls to find female heroes in their own lives in the book *Standing on Her Shoulders: A Celebration of Women*, written by Monica Clark-Robinson. (picture book)

- A Literary Fiction Panel will feature *Monster in the Middle*, by Emory professor Tiphonie Yanique, an electric new novel that maps the emotional inheritance of one couple newly in love, and *The Parted Earth*, by Anjali Enjeti (Hub City), a heartfelt and human portrait of the long shadow of the Partition of India on the lives of three generations of women. (fiction)

The festival is working within CDC COVID guidelines and the First Baptist Church of Decatur's COVID protocols to provide a safe and inclusive environment for all.

For more information, visit [decaturbook-festival.com](http://decaturbook-festival.com) or follow the festival on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

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# DEF Invites the Community to Come Together

**T**wenty years ago, a group of residents had an idea to create an organization that would connect resources in the the community to meet the needs of Decatur's children. In 2002, the Decatur Education Foundation was born.

Much has changed since those days, but one thing has remained constant. DEF has brought together people, resources, and ideas with a goal of ensuring that every student has what they need to learn and thrive.

The past 18 months have challenged our community in many ways, and has left many students feeling disconnected and isolated. Nonetheless, the community, through DEF, has continued to invest time, talent, and funds to mitigate the effects of COVID.

To celebrate its 20th year, DEF is offering

a variety of opportunities to connect and support our kids with a year-long campaign: Come Together: Celebrating 20 years of Community Support. The first phase of the campaign is a partnership between DEF and Decatur resident Marnie Grodzin of Gathered and Grounded to promote the "Look for Kind Project." The Look for Kind Project is the perfect antidote to our fractured world – who doesn't need more kindness in their life? The partnership's tag line is: See Kind. Do Kind. Be Kind.

DEF Executive Director Gail Rothman launched the partnership in August by recognizing three educators for their kindness to students during virtual learning: Danielle Edwards of FAVE, Kara Morrison of Talley Street, and Heston McCranie of Renfroe

Middle School. These three teachers were given recognition and Look for Kind swag after parents nominated them for an award to acknowledge their acts of kindness.

Over the coming school year, Look for Kind will show up in a variety of ways, and the community will be asked to "See Kind. Do Kind. Be Kind." There will be ways for individuals of all ages, businesses and organizations to participate. To learn more, visit [decatureducationfoundation.org/lookforkind](http://decatureducationfoundation.org/lookforkind) and follow DEF on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



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## ASC Announces New Chair and Board of Trustees Members

The Agnes Scott College Board of Trustees has announced that

**Elizabeth H. Noe '86** has succeeded Elizabeth (Beth) D. Holder '82 as chairperson. Holder's 13-year tenure on the board included serving the past five years as chair. Under her leadership, the board received the John W. Nason Award for Board Leadership, appointed Leocadia I. Zak as the college's ninth president, navigated a global pandemic and, most recently, affirmed a new strategic plan that will provide direction for the college over the next five years.

Noe, a 1986 Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the college, has served on the Board of Trustees for seven years, during which time she chaired the Governance Committee and co-chaired the Presidential Search Committee. She recently retired as a partner with the international law firm Paul Hastings LLP where she served as the chair of the Global Corporate Department for 10 years. A graduate of Leadership Atlanta, she served on the Atlanta Women's Foundation board from 2008 to 2014 and is currently a member of the board of directors of the International Women's Forum Georgia.

The board welcomes these new members whose four-year terms began July 1:

**Lewis Galloway** recently retired after 14 years as senior pastor of Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis and now serves as interim pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Spartanburg, S.C. He has been involved



in racial reconciliation and campus ministries, social justice and homeless initiatives. He is currently on the board of the Montreat Conference Center and is a graduate of Davidson College and Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Va.

**Parmeet Grover** is the senior partner and managing director for Boston Consulting Group in Atlanta, where he works with Fortune 500 and governmental clients in North America, Europe and Asia on strategy, marketing and sales and operational transformation. He serves on the Advisory Board at the Georgia Institute of Technology and as an Emeritus Advisory Board member for Georgia Tech's School of Materials Science and Engineering. He holds an M.S. and PhD. in materials science and engineering from Georgia Tech.



**Erica Stiff-Coopwood '98** is an active community volunteer in Memphis, Tenn., where she recently completed her term as president of the Junior League of Memphis, the chapter's first Black woman to serve in this role. Before relocating to Memphis, she practiced law in Nashville, Tenn., as an employment

defense litigator with Constangy, Brooks and Smith, and then as a business attorney for Bone McAllester Norton, and also clerked for the Tennessee Supreme Court. She holds a J.D. and a business certificate from Vanderbilt University.

**Mary-Crawford Taylor**

is head of industry consulting at Truist Bank. Taylor has held various sales, leadership and consulting roles in Commercial Banking, Corporate Banking and Investment Banking at SunTrust, now Truist, over the past two decades. She led strategy, products and capabilities for Not-for-Profit Banking and Government Banking and oversaw multiple efforts that enabled heritage SunTrust to meet clients' evolving needs, optimize the bank's balance sheet and achieve shareholder objectives. In addition, she led the formation of STI Institutional and Government, Inc. (STING), a bank subsidiary through which tax-exempt loans are processed. She holds a B.A. from Vanderbilt University in economics with a concentration in business.



Along with Holder, trustees ending active service on the board as of June 30 were Margaret D. McCray-Finke '89 of Denver, Colo.; Mary Lou C. Hawkes '65, Manchester by the Sea, Mass.; Elizabeth Rhett Jones '73 of Atlanta; Elizabeth McGregor Simmons '84 of Summerville, S.C.; and John R. Swallow of Kenosha, Wis.

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## WAY TO GO, MR. THOMPSON!

Nick Thompson (Mr. T), fifth grade teacher at Talley Street, has received the Extra Mile Award. His dedication made a year of virtual learning the best it could be! He was nominated by his student, Aaron Shannin.



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