

WESTVIEW NEIGHBOR

ISSUE 7

Remembering the Past. Creating the Future.

APRIL/MAY 2014

TREES ATLANTA IN WESTVIEW

Chad Carlson

When Westview was originally developed in the early 1900s, numerous oak trees were planted throughout the neighborhood. The lifespan of these trees is typically 80-100 years old. As a result, we have been losing a lot of trees in Westview. Since 2010, the non-profit group Trees Atlanta has helped address this loss of tree canopy by planting hundreds of trees in our neighborhood, at no charge.

Volunteer's plant and mulch trees for Trees Atlanta every Saturday in various neighborhoods throughout the city. Most of the trees that you see in the grass strips along the road way in Westview were planted by volunteers from Trees Atlanta, some of whom are your neighbors! These trees are selected to be small enough so as not to interfere with power lines and sidewalks.

Since their founding in 1985, Trees Atlanta has planted over 85,000 trees inside the perimeter of Atlanta. Their stated purpose is to protect and improve Atlanta's urban forest by planting, conserving, and educating. Trees provide shade during the hot summer months; shed leaves in the fall, which helps to nourish our lawns; and provide shelter for birds, and beauty for our communities.



Volunteers planting trees along Rogers Avenue

Some helpful tips for trees:

- In the hot, dry summer months, rather than watering a little each day it is best to water a tree with 10 gallons of water once every couple weeks.
- No need to rake your leaves in the fall; a pass over the leaves with your lawnmower makes a great mulch which nourishes your lawn over the winter making a healthier lawn for the spring.
- Vines on trees rob trees of moisture, harbor invasive bugs, add weight to a tree, and catch the wind like a sail. All of which can lead to the death and falling of a tree. Cutting a three foot swath from the bottom of the vines at the tree's base upwards will rob the invasive vines of their water supply, causing them to wither and die. Spray Roundup on the cut portions of the vines to kill the vines at their base.



Westview neighbors modeling the Westview t-shirts

WESTVIEW T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE

Rebecca Cater

Westview t-shirts are available for purchase!

They are available in women's and men's sizes S-2XL, as well as and youth sizes 2/4-10/12. The cost is \$12.

If you are interested in purchasing a Westview t-shirt please email us at info@westviewatlanta.com or attend the next Westview Community Organization meeting on Monday, June 2, 2014.

Do you have a story you would like to write about? Let us know: info@westviewatlanta.com.

TAX FREEZE FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Patrick Berry

Fulton County senior citizen homeowners may be eligible for a freeze on their property taxes.

To qualify, the homeowner must apply for this exemption on or before April 1st (of each year). Once granted, this exemption is automatically renewed each year as long as they continually occupy the home under the same ownership.

The home must be your legal residence for all purposes including the registration of your vehicles and the filing of your income tax. You must apply for these exemptions in person.

To be eligible for this exemption, you must meet the following requirements:

- Must be a legal resident age 65 or older on or before January 1 (of each year).
- Your annual household income cannot exceed \$39,000 for the preceding taxable year.
- Applies to city operating, city bond and city parks.
- Applies to county operating and county bonds.

This Tax Relief Program freezes the value of your residential property based on the previous year's value. Your



Long-time Westview residents, Mr. & Mrs. Park

frozen value will remain the property's value as long as the eligible senior occupies the residence.

Call (404) 612-6440 to learn more, or visit www.qpublic.net/ga/fulton/programs.html.



Westview table at Atlanta Streets Alive

ATLANTA STREETS ALIVE

Bruce Williams

Atlanta Bicycle Coalition reported that the first West End Atlanta Streets Alive Festival drew more than 16,000 participants! While that is exciting to me, I wish that more of my neighbors

knew about it. That is the only drawback of the event. I love that people came out and enjoyed each other's company in a relaxed, active, community honoring spirit. Our Westview hospitality tent was a hub of great conversations, relaxation and making a difference.

I thank Joe Fisher for advertising the Westview Summer Solstice Celebration, John and Pat Perdue, Donnie James, youth Leon Bell, Anthony Graves and Kayanna Thomas for helping prep the area, raise the tent, picking up trash, and grilling, and mowing the lawn. (By the way Pat Perdue was pushing the lawn mower in pearls!) Thank you Nidhi Williams for the use of your table and cooler! Octavia Vogel,

Rebecca Cater, Sherry Baily, Ayana Gabriel, Claudia Hicks for managing membership duties, Kendal Carey for running the Hula Hoop Activity, it was a real hit!, Antonio DeLaine from BEST Tumbling Allstar Cheerleaders (BTA).

Celebrating the community vibe, seeing friends, neighbors and enjoying our families and the occasion showcase our diverse community is the opportunity I see for our upcoming Westview Summer Solstice Celebration.

I invite neighbors and community minded people to bring their creativity to the planning and execution of the Westview Summer Solstice Celebration. The largest areas of importance are marketing and sponsorship.

WESTVIEW

SUMMER SOLSTICE

JUNE 21, 2014

FOOD

GRILL OFF! BRING \$7* TO SAMPLE AND VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE

MUSIC

BRING YOUR DANCING SHOES TO BOOGIE DOWN TO OUR DJ

FUN

ENTERTAINMENT AND FUN GAMES FOR THE KIDS

ART

BROWSE OUR ARTIST AND VENDOR MARKET

*\$5 early bird grill-off tickets online!

TIME: 2:00PM - 8:00PM

LOCATION: MUSE STREET ALONG BELTLINE BETWEEN LUCILE AND RALPH DAVID ABERNATHY

BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS AND PICNIC BLANKETS FOR A FUN AFTERNOON WITH FAMILY AND NEIGHBORS

ADDITIONAL INFO: WWW.WESTVIEWATLANTA.COM

BEST CHICKEN 2013:
WENAR



BEST PORK 2013:
CAPITOL VIEW



Sponsors: This event can not happen without your generosity – please consider joining our list of sponsors!

Interested in sponsoring the 2014 Westview Summer Solstice Celebration? Please email us at info@westviewatlanta.com for sponsorship opportunities.

Grill-Off Contestants: Are you the master of the grill? Come out and prove it in the Westview Grill-Off! Entries in the Grill-Off are \$25, but we will supply you with the food to cook! Individuals, organizations, and restaurants are all allowed to participate – please fill out our grill-off form. \$100 worth of prizes to the winners!

Artists/Vendors: If you are interested in participating in our artist/vendor market please fill out our vendor form. The application fee is only \$25 until Monday, June 17th, 2013 and \$40 thereafter! We'll supply you with a 10x10 space. You bring the tent, table, and other displays. Space is limited, so don't wait!

Grill-Off and Artist/Vendor Forms: <http://www.westviewatlanta.com/community-organization/westview-summer-solstice-celebration/>

Email: info@westviewatlanta.com

Phone: (678) 883-8849

WESTVIEW COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP

Rebecca Cater

Your Westview neighbors are actively involved in maintaining the community garden and pocket park, sponsoring clean up days, representing the neighborhood at NPU-T meetings and having a voice at city hall. Your membership in the Westview Community Organization (WCO) helps sponsor ongoing community efforts.

Westview Community Organization members can pay annual dues in person (cash or check) at meetings or online at <http://www.westviewatlanta.com/community-organization/membership/>. The annual fee per household is only \$20.00.

You can also mail your check payable to "Westview Community Organization" to:
 Westview Community Organization
 1540 Rogers Avenue
 Atlanta, GA 30310

----- cut here and return with your dues -----

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Circle any volunteer areas where you are interested:
 Summer Solstice, Newsletter, Block Captain, Development, Beautification, Public Safety, Membership, Special Events, Youth, Code Enforcement, Community Garden

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

- Zone 4 Police:
(404) 756-1903
- Pothole Posse:
(404) 768-4653
- Code Enforcement:
(404) 330-6190
- Sanitation/Public Works:
(404) 330-6333
- Fulton Tax Assessor:
(404) 612-6440
- Watershed Management:
(404) 658-6500
- Housing Authority:
(404) 892-4700
- In Case of Emergency Dial 911!**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Every Saturday:** Westview Community Garden Workday @ 1439 South Gordon Street, 10:00am-2:00pm
- Monday, June 2:** Westview Community Organization Meeting @ 1471 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd, 7:00-8:00pm
- Wednesday, June 4 & Monday, June 9:** Summer Solstice Meeting @ 1540 Olympian Circle, Apt 3, 7:00-8:30pm
- Sunday, June 8:** Ice Cream Social @ 1542 Ralph D. Abernathy, 3:00-4:00pm
- Tuesday, June 10:** WCO Membership Committee Meeting @ 1540 Rogers Avenue, 7:00-8:00pm
- Wednesday, June 11:** NPU-T Meeting @ 1444 Lucile Ave, 7:00-9:00pm
- Thursday, June 19:** Westview Pizza Night @ 1550 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd, 6:30-8:00pm

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

WESTVIEW COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Meetings on the first Monday of the month at 7pm, Calvary United Methodist Church, 1471 RDA Blvd.

- President – Ayana Gabriel
- Vice President – Octavia Vogel
- Secretary – David Cater
- Assistant Secretary – Josef Fischer
- Treasurer – Claudia Hicks
- Assistant Treasurer – Abbey Henderson
- Parliamentarian – Sherry Bailey
- Chaplain – Jamie Fischer

- Development Committee – Patrick Berry & Steffi Langer-Berry
- Special Events Committee – Kendal Carey
- Public Safety Committee – Darrick Young
- Zoning and Code Enforcement Committee – Bruce Williams
- Beautification Committee – John Davis
- Membership Committee – Rebecca Cater
- Youth Committee – Jamie Fischer
- Garden Committee – Abbey Henderson

STAY IN TOUCH

- www.westviewatlanta.com
- www.facebook.com/westviewatl
- www.twitter.com/WestviewAtlanta
- <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/westviewcommunity/>
- Phone: (678) 883-8849