

WESTVIEW NEIGHBOR

ISSUE 12

Remembering the Past. Creating the Future.

SUMMER/FALL 2015

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT - CELEBRATING PUBLIC SAFETY



The Westview Community will be celebrating National Night Out Tuesday, Aug. 4, from 5pm-9pm in the “park” or green space area across from 1711 North Olympian Way.

The event will feature free food and drinks, a talent show featuring participants from the 2015 Westview STEAM Empowerment Camp, and an art show and auction. We will acknowledge those community heroes that made the camp successful for a third straight year. It is also an opportunity to speak with local police and community leaders.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods a safer, better place to live. Together, we are making that happen.



National Night Out 2014 at Olympian green space.

To participate, volunteer or for more information, please call Bruce Williams at 404-447-5804 or send an email to jomoglobal@gmail.com.

THE VEGGIE TASTE IS COMING TO WESTVIEW

This yearly event is held to expose and educate individuals on how to include healthy eating into their daily diet. It's also a fun-filled day of food tasting for those who already maintain a healthy eating lifestyle.

You won't find these foods at traditional Taste Festivals. Vegan, Vegetarian and Raw food chefs are featured and will provide a variety of healthy dishes to sample.

Come to The Veggie Taste and enjoy:

- Presentation on planting a porch garden
- Presentation on monthly meal planning for a vegetarian lifestyle
- Food Demonstrations

- Product samples
- Artisan Marketplace
- Children's Art Station
- Music, Raffles, and so much more!

Date: Saturday, September 19, 2015

Time: 2:00pm - 7:00pm

Location: 1450 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd.

Admission: Free / Food samples \$3

Website: www.theveggietaste.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/theveggietaste

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

CASH MOBS - SUPPORTING SW ATLANTA BUSINESSES

Steffi Langer-Berry

We all love our neighborhoods, but how often do we find ourselves feeling like there are far too few high-quality restaurants and grocery stores nearby? In an effort to support local businesses and attract new food and restaurant businesses, neighborhood leaders of Adair Park, Capitol View, Capitol View Manor, Oakland City, Pittsburgh, Sylvan Hills, West End, and Westview are working together to encourage economic development in the area.

What are Cash Mobs?

"Cash Mobs" are events in which we call on all neighbors to patronize a specific business on specific days and times. This shows the business owner the potential of increased business if they agree to adhere to some basic standards. As part of the Cash Mobs we are asking local food businesses to commit to:

- 1) Creating a respectful & welcoming environment for all patrons;
- 2) Maintaining a clean establishment;
- 3) Providing a safe environment (including shopping, dining, parking areas, sidewalks, etc.);
- 4) Providing healthy food options; and
- 5) Providing fresh food options.

Publicity

While patronizing the business neighbors are encouraged to:

- 1) Use hash tags #iswatlcashmob and #intownsouthwestatl

- 2) Take photos while at the location or with their delivery
- 3) Post receipts of how much they spent
- 4) Post photos on www.facebook.com/ILoveIntownSWAtlanta

Upcoming Cash Mob Events:

Date: August 1 & 2, 2015

Location: D Café (Westview)

1540 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd, Atlanta, GA 30310

Date: August 13-15, 2015

Location: Kemper's Café Caribbean Cuisine (Sylvan Hills)

1955 Metropolitan Pkwy, Atlanta, GA 30315

Date: August 26-29, 2015

Location: The Mustard Seed BBQ (Oakland City)

826 Westmont Drive, Atlanta, GA 30310



Cash Mob Kick-off Event at Metro Lanes Bowling on June 26, 2015.

WESTVIEW COMMUNITY GARDEN

Wayne Gaskin

One sunny morning my son, Namir, and I were bicycling through the Westview community where we live. He's never far behind me. Sometimes I let him lead. As we powered up the South Gordon incline we saw a group working in a lot. A young lady flagged us down and invited us over. Why not? She introduced herself as Abbey and explained they were preparing the garden beds for planting. As we walked through the lot we saw the potential of this beautiful space. It sits right off the main road and it is open and accessible to the community.

From that day forward I tried to help on Saturday mornings, planting, pulling weeds, and harvesting. Most Saturdays I could not make it because I coach and my son plays soccer. Still, I found myself riding with my son after school and doing a bit of weeding. Any chance my son gets to ride his bike, he is up for it.

We had a destination. We had a purpose. The garden.

We claimed a bed and planted vegetables, all the while talking to neighbors and anyone who walked by. As Abbey had reached out to me, I reached out to others: offering tomatoes, okra, kale . . . whatever needed to be harvested at the time. This season I ordered rare heirloom seeds to plant. I was very excited! I had never even heard of these varieties

before, let alone tried to grow them.

As I eagerly awaited the spring clean-up, I learned the garden was being bulldozed. This can't be! The community put too much work into that garden. What happened?

Well, it turns out that the demolition of our garden was the result a bank closure and sale of the land by the FDIC. Now the Westview Community Organization is buying the land so the garden will always belong to the neighborhood.

As we wait for the final paperwork to be signed, we hope our garden planning will be relevant this year. Being able to go to the garden and literally shop for your dinner is nothing short of a miracle. Not only does it buffer the expense of produce, it also encourages the consumption of fresh and whole foods in a community where there are a slew of fast food joints, grease pits and convenience stores who stock way more Honey Buns, pork rinds and Colt 45's than the little basket of bananas they sell near the checkout. Fresh food is the best for the body. Being able to feed that to our children is priceless.

WESTVIEW STEAM EMPOWERMENT CAMP

Marcia Wilkerson

The Westview STEAM Empowerment Camp had another successful year, expanding the program to include almost 40 children for four weeks. With the help of dozens of volunteers, students were instructed in technology, engineering, art, writing and leadership. Campers enjoyed breakfast and lunch each day and even got time to have fun during recess. Campers went on field trips to some amazing



Art track STEAM camp participants after visiting a frame shop.

areawest
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How should you feel about the destruction of our garden? Angry? Disappointed? Defeated? Hopeless? I hope you feel motivated to keep planting, to keep the momentum going, to redevelop our garden.

You can support our garden efforts by coming to the monthly WCO meetings, supporting garden Saturdays, or contributing to the purchase and redevelopment of the garden online at <http://www.gofundme.com/uam4e8>

I love camp because people at my camp encourage me to do the right thing and they believe in me and every day I go to camp I feel good because they help me exercise and eat healthy every single day.

- Keith Owens, STEAM Camp participant

places, including The Apex Museum, The King Center, Fern Bank Museum of Natural History, Center for Civil and Human Rights, Mellow Mushroom headquarters and the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute in Birmingham, Alabama.

One highlight is a film production about life in the Westview community. The film is written, produced and cast by the children themselves.

The volunteer staff wants to thank you for entrusting your children to our care and giving us the opportunity to encourage knowledge, discipline and creativity within your children. It really does take an entire village to raise a child, and we are proud that the camp can make a difference and contribute to your child's future.

For complete history and information about the Westview STEAM Empowerment Camp please view our website at: www.westviewatlanta.com/steam-camp.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: THE GOOD HAIR SHOP

What services do you offer? We are a holistic business with eco-sustainable practices. Our shop is open four days a week, Wednesday through Saturday, to leave less of a carbon footprint. The majority of our suppliers are local. There is an ongoing artist co-op in the space featuring artwork and handmade goods. Our products are handmade, vegan friendly and phthalate free. We also offer heat-free care for naturally curly hair and locs.



What inspired you to start styling hair? The inspiration comes from the fact that I love creating things with my hands and loving on hair. I was the neighborhood girl doing hair in the kitchen since I was about 12.

What kind of experience would a customer expect when they come to the shop? The experience is an opportunity to come into a space where you are celebrated. Every woman that enters into our space I call beautiful. We value our customers' time, so we do not double book. Our space is where the community gathers and our customers are valued.

What made you decide to open the shop in Westview? I wanted to work where I live. We have had the shop since 2008. There is a lot of discussion about wanting businesses to come to the neighborhood. My husband and I thought we could be a part of the solution since we had a business that could relocate, and work with our neighbors.

What distinguishes your business from others? Everyone feels welcome in our space. We truly have expectations that every customer leaves satisfied. We do not double book, appointments can be made conveniently online, and we only use organic, non-toxic products for our clients.

Has there ever been a style you've helped a person create that you felt proud of accomplishing? If so, what was it? The hairstyle that I most proud of is my current hairstyle. About two years ago, my middle daughter lost all her hair due to an illness.

The Good Hair Shop

1548 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd.

Owners: Kiyomi, Mark, Lyric, Marley & Tosh Eschoe (Family Owned)

Located in Westview since March '15

There was a lot of conversation about my daughter being brave by wearing her hair short, so I decided to be an example by cutting off my waist-length dreadlocks in support of my her. I have been keeping my hair cut short in support of her.

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

WESTVIEW COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Meetings on the first Monday of the month at 7:00pm, Calvary United Methodist Church, 1471 RDA Blvd.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, August 3: Westview Community Organization Meeting @ 1471 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd, 7:00-8:00pm

Wednesday, August 12: NPU-T Meeting @ 1444 Lucile Ave, 7:00-9:00pm

Thursday, August 20: Pizza Night @ 1550 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd, 6:30pm

Saturday, September 5: Westview Brunch 1540 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd, 10:00am

Monday, September 14: Westview Community Organization Meeting @ 1471 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd, 7:00-8:00pm

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Zone 4 Police:
(404) 756-1903

Code Enforcement:
(404) 330-6190

Sanitation/Public Works:
(404) 330-6333

STAY IN TOUCH

www.westviewatlanta.com

www.facebook.com/westviewatl

[www.twitter.com/WestviewAtlanta](https://twitter.com/WestviewAtlanta)

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/westviewcommunity/>

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