Cabbagetown Neighborhood Improvement Association Volume Twenty-Nine • Issue Number Twelve • December 2020

"I once wanted to become an atheist, but I gave up - they have no holidays." ~ Henny Youngman



Artist Ashley Dopson autographs a poster for Cabbagetown resident Nora Baruch. Photo by Bruce Morton.

A BEAUTIFUL DAY

Ry John Dirac

Cabbagetown hosted a small ceremony with local officials on Friday, November 20th for the ribbon cutting & re-opening of the Krog Street pocket park. The ceremony celebrated new landscaping and Ashley Dopson's completed mural, "Fish Are Jumping and the Cotton is High". The artwork was supported by Fulton County Arts & Culture, and City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs. In cooperation with sponsor StreetArtMap.org, the Krog mural was a commemorative installation for "Atlanta Celebrates 1000 Murals".

Guests included Councilmember Natalyn Archibong, Department of City Planning Asst Director Leah LaRue, Mitsah Henry from Fulton County Commissioner Marvin Arrington's Office, metal artist & Krog fence designer Neil Carver of Carver Iron, APAB Representative & President of Stacks COA Dionne Gule, as well as

CI Board Members Tova Baruch and Lauren Appel. We extend a special thank you to Councilmember Natalyn Archibong for sponsoring two new trash bins at the corner of Estoria & Wylie.

The increased popularity of the Beltline Eastside Trail created a need to provide a little more volume in waste capacity to ensure a tidy little entrance to the neighborhood. Much appreciation to Natalyn & Valencia Hudson for coordinating the Department of Public Works, as well as focusing Watershed Management on repairing the fire hydrant adjacent to 97 Estoria Bar & Grill.

For more information: cabbagetown.com/krog

Holiday Tunes See Page 6

Cabbagetown

Cabbagetown Neighbor is a monthly newspaper produced by the Cabbagetown Neighborhood Improvement Association (CNIA), a non-profit organization. This publication is supported by advertisers. Please submit news articles, announcements, and advertisements to: newsletter@cabbagetown.com.

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Visit the official Cabbagetown website at: cabbagetown.com

ADVERTISE WITH US

Advertising with the *Cabbagetown Neighbor* is an inexpensive way to reach over 700 homes in Cabbagetown, which includes the residences of *The Fulton Cotton Mill Lofts and The Stacks Lofts*. It is also a great way to support the CNIA and the publication of this newspaper. Visit our website at www.cabbagetown.com or write the editor at newsletter@cabbagetown.com for more info.

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Ad Size	One Month	Three Mos	Six Mos	One Year		
1/8 Page 3.75" x 2.25"	^{\$} 25	^{\$} 70	^{\$} 135	^{\$} 255		
1/4 Page 3.75" x 4.875"	^{\$} 50	^{\$} 140	^{\$} 270	^{\$} 510		
1/2 Page Horz. 7.5" x 4.875"	^{\$} 100	\$280	\$540	\$1,020		
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Full Page 7.75" x 9.875"	^{\$} 160	\$450	\$870	^{\$} 1,680		

Classified ads are 25° a word for non-residents.

Classified ads of 25 words or less and announcements are free of charge to Cabbagetown residents.

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A Bit of Prose from the Secretariat



Bonjour and Happy Holidays Cabbagetown! Only a few more weeks until this year is DONE! As Cabbagetown's secretary, I record minutes at the monthly Cabbagetown Neighborhood Improvement Association (CNIA) meetings I'm sure you ALL attend! (Join us at our next meeting, December 8th, to learn the latest!)

Although this year has put us to the test, we still have much to be thankful for in

our little neck of the woods! Cue Julie Andrews....

My Favorite Things

Walks to our parks with a pit stop at Sweet Cheats, Supremo Tacos and their shrimp aquachile, Tad, Lee, and others strumming their strings These are a few of my favorite things

Our new heartfelt Friends of Cabbagetown Conservancy Saving our parks as we missed a real CHOMP-Y Facebook discussions over whose burger's best Don't mess with Little's cause they are the BEST

Milltown, Estoria, and Caroll Street Cafe's outdoor tables, These outdoor spots are a part of our fable, We gather together outside but apart, We love Jen Chan's Supper Club with all of our heart

When COVID strikes, when we can't work, when Berny drives too fast, We simply remember our favorite things and then we all raise a glass!

Agave's Fresh Market and Mary Todd's outdoor hair cuts, Art thanks to Forward Warrior and Stacks Squares all over, Seth & Lisa who collect food for y'all, Together we make this a great place for all

Neighbors like Dirga who keep the art coming, Ctown volunteers who keep our parks going, Deeply dedicated neighbors who keep us strong, Standing on the corner to protest what's wrong,

When Mr. Grumpy dies, when Jimmy Johns arrives, when you can't go on, Just check out our Bertha chillin out in a pond, and then you won't feel so bad.

When Krog tunnel floods, when our water meter reading's wrong, when we're feeling sad, Just remember we don't live in Buckhead and then you will feel so glad.

Happy holidays all! During this season, join me in reaching out to a few of your neighbors with love and kindness, and donate to keep ours parks Cabbagetown Strong. cabbagetown.com/ donate-to-the-park

CNIA Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, December 8th, 2020 at 7p PLEASE NOTE: We will be meeting via video conference https://zoom.us/j/95657039874 Meeting ID: 956 5703 9874 Password: 30316

NOTE: A digital copy of this month's agenda and materials can be found at: cabbagetown.com/agenda

7p: Meeting begins

I. Welcome and announcements

II. Review and approval of the November minutes

III. Atlanta Police Department

IV. City of Atlanta - Valencia Hudson

V. Financial Report - Saundra Reuppel, Treasurer

VI. Committee Reports

- NPU John Dirga, Cabbagetown Representative
- Historic Preservation & Land Use Committee Nicole Seekely, Chair
- Ctown-Rtown Transportation Committee Genevieve Barber, Chair
- Cabbagetown Initiative Kendall Rawls, CI President

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

- Film production (Landon Brown)
- Partnership with C'town Toronto (Lisa Hanson/Laura Bellinger)

8:35p: Adjourn

Top of the Charts

What music is Cabbagetown listening to? Good question. Here's November's hottest songs on the *Milltown Tavern* juke box.



JONNY LANG WISDOM

CURTIS SALGADO STRUNG OUT

BOBBY BLAND & BB KING DRIFTIN' BLUES

GRATEFUL DEAD SCARLET BEGONIAS

HUGH LAURIE YOU DON'T KNOW MY MIND

BROWNIE MCGHEE & SONNY TERRY PEOPLE GET READY

MUDDY WATERS I CAN'T BE SATISFIED

BROWNIE MCGHEE & SONNY TERRY SAIL AWAY

MIGHTY JOE YOUNG **TURNING POINT**

DENISE LASALLE YOUR HUSBAND IS CHEATIN'

TINSLEY ELLIS SPEAK NO EVII

BUDDY GUY THICK LIKE MISSISSIPPI MUD

SONNY BOY WILLIAMSON WEST MEMPHIS BLUES

ROBBEN FORD FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY

KOKO TAYLOR

Cabbagetown Neighborhood Improvement Association: General Meeting

Tuesday, November 10th, 2020, 7p via Zoom. Meeting conducted by Chelsea Arkin. Minutes by Laura Bellinger.

I. Atlanta Police Department

A. 911 was called about gun shots heard on Estoria St., near 97 Estoria on October 27. A car drove up, fired five shots into the air, and sped off. Police came to the scene quickly.

II. City of Atlanta - Natalyn Archibong

A. A short term rental legislation, HB 523, is being circulated to NPUs for comment. The proposal includes an 8% tax for all short term rentals. For details, visit www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-us/display/20192020/hb/523. If you have concerns about the legislation, please send comments to info@cabbagetown.com by December 20. CNIA will collate all inputs and send to Natalyn's office by the end of the year. Current AirBnB related issues documented affecting Cabbagetown include trash, parking, and sound issues.

B. A compliant was filed about hedge growth along Gaskill near Tye, close to a Grady property. Since then, the hedge has been trimmed, maintenance determined, work documented, and the complaint is being recorded resolved.

C. Additional garbage cans to be placed near the Krog Tunnel are pending location verification by *Keep Atlanta Beautiful*. City of Atlanta is following up.

III. October CNIA meeting minutes approved

IV. Financial Report - Saundra Rueppel

A. Report is posted on www.cabbagetown.com

V. NPU-N - John Dirga

A. Atlanta Watershed Management has extended its moratorium in light of COVID-19 but this may soon.

B. Any person who blows leaves into a drain can be issued a \$1,000 fine. Please avoid doing this.

C. A ribbon cutting for Ashley Dopson's mural near the Krog tunnel, featuring Bertha in a koi pond, will be held November 20 from 3p to 5p. It is not a public event but people are welcome to drive by and honk. Will try to livestream event.

D. The southwest corner of Krog Tunnel will be refurbished beginning on December 15 by Peter Ferrari and *Forward Warrior!!* If you like the new murals, thank *Cabbagetown Initiative* and join them. Or you can directly support Forward Warrior!! at

donorbox.org/forwardwarrior

E. NPU recommended approval of Monk's Meadery liquor license (579 N Highland; near *JavaVino*). Mead is an ancient process for making alcohol with fermented honey & spices.

F. The City of Atlanta's 2021 Comprehensive Development Plan Update is currently under review. Excerpts related to Cabbagetown can be found at *cabbagetown.com/agenda*. Additional details can be found at *atlantacitydesign.com/comprehensive-development-plan*. Ctown residents are encourage to read and provide comments for updating Ctown's 3-4 paragraphs. One current update references Hulsey Master Plan; *CSX* has not left but is not planning to stay forever. Interest has been expressed including language to preserve and protect the murals along Wylie street. Please send anything you

would like to add to *president@cabbagetown.org* or Natalyn's office. Would like to have it voted on by February 2021. NPU-N will be handing off the CDP to 2 subcommittees.

VI. Historic Preservation Committee - Nicole Seekley

G. A motion was made to support renovations presented for 678 Kirkwood Ave S.E.

H. Meads Eatery has put in an application.

I. *Stein Steel* is being developed into a mid-rise with 184 housing units - six stories tall in some places. Developers were encouraged to work with the neighborhood on some small changes.

VII. Cabbagetown Initiative - Kendall Rawls

J. Chomp merchandise did better this year than expected. We engaged a social media planner this year to help sell merchandise and this appears to have helped.

K. CI has a memo of understanding with City of Atlanta for who and to what extent Cabbagetown is responsible for taking care of Cabbagetown Park and access to the Community Center. The MOU mentions Ctown can purchase community center, but given the way it was written, this is not likely possible. City of Atlanta has extended the MOU for six months.

L. Friends of Cabbagetown Conservancy has been launched to develop an income stream for supporting maintenance of our parks. The last 3-4 years, CI has netted 85K to cover this. Due to COVID and not being able to have an in-person Chomp n Stomp this year, we are currently at 10K and have a gap to fill.

M. Beyond this, we're looking to raise money so we can continue maintenance of Esther Peachy Lefevre (EPL) Park. CI had gotten a grant from CSX to maintain Wylie street. Neighbors have band together to maintain 3 Points Park (at the intersection of Gaskill, Estoria, and Fulton Terrace) and EPL park. There is a monthly volunteer day to take care of EPL and a *GoFundMe*. Initiatives with EPL will be pulled to support a collective movement to take care of the park. Goal is to raise money to maintain and then begin enhancements. We're looking to create more flexibility on *PayPal*. Tell your friends and join us in helping take care of our parks.

VIII. Transportation Committee - Genevieve Barber

A. If you see speeding issues, please reach out to Genevieve. A neighborhood consensus is required for taking action.

IX. New Business

A. Lisa Myers and Anna Pfeffer are looking into how to help people in need at Thanksgiving. Reynoldstown does a great job with baskets. If you know of someone in need, let them know.

Our Battleground



Back in October 2004, I remember road tripping through Ohio and seeing all the yard signs for the presidential candidates lining the streets of small towns throughout the state. They seemed to be roughly evenly distributed between Bush and Kerry. It was my first in-person view of what a political battleground looked like. Sixteen years later, my home state is the

center of the political universe as our two

senate seats in the January 5th runoff will

determine the balance of power in Congress.

Georgia hasn't had this kind of spotlight in decades; perhaps since Jimmy Carter ran for President in 1976. We are not used to deciding the fate of national politics. Iowa and New Hampshire are accustomed to the attention, much like Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Michigan have been in recent years. Yet, now that the national election is over, Georgia alone gets the spotlight for the next five weeks.

Throughout the 2020 campaign, Georgia was often overlooked as a battleground. Our senate races were rarely mentioned as key seats in the election, yet now they are the key seats, with outside money pouring in from all over the country. Unless you've been under a rock, you've no doubt been exposed to the advertisements. They are nearly impossible to escape.

The question that keeps coming up for me is "what is Georgia going to say on January 5th?" We have a long history of playing a pivotal role in American life, and as the contingent from Cabbagetown that has been rallying at Memorial and Boulevard every evening for months reminds us, we're not done yet. We have a point of view and we're not afraid to speak out when it matters.

We get to set the political tone for the country for at least the next two years. We get to decide whether the vision put forth by President-elect Biden is embraced by the Senate or is met with resistance by the opposing party. We've seen how both scenarios play out in the past, so it's not difficult to imagine the implications of the decision.

Much like in 2009, the incoming president faces extremely challenging circumstances. Covid-19 has run rampant through the country and had major impacts on economic life for Americans everywhere. Racial unrest has bubbled up as a defining issue of 2020, and the struggle for minorities to be treated as equal, not only under the law, but in the hearts of fellow Americans is ongoing.

All eyes are on us. What are we going to say 'Yes' to in this election? When we look back on this moment in political history, what will we remember about our role in shaping the direction of The United States in the coming years? The rest of the country is watching. This is not one to sit out.

The deadline to register to vote is December 7th, early voting starts on December 14th, and the runoff election will be held on January 5th. *Please make a plan to vote and have your voice counted!*

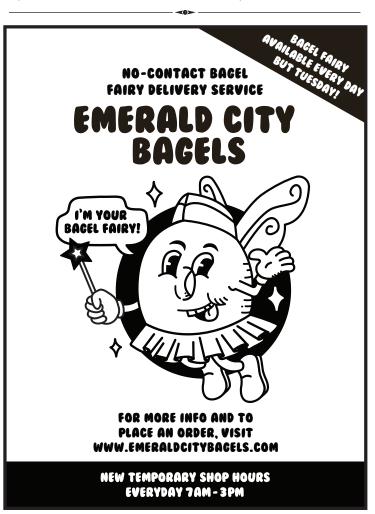
Shopping & Sleuthing

By Marcy Breffle

Support Oakland Cemetery by shopping and sleuthing this holiday season! The Holiday Hunt scavenger hunt, running now through January 3, is the best way to enjoy an afternoon outside with friends and family. Purchase your Holiday Hunt packet online, download, print, and gather a small group to solve cryptic clues.

There are three different packets: Easy, Medium, and Deadly. From tiny tots to old friends, everyone will enjoy this safe and socially-distanced cemetery sleuthing experience. Hunt packets cost \$25 (plus tax). All proceeds benefit Historic Oakland Foundation. Visit www.oaklandcemetery.com to learn more and purchase your Holiday Hunt packet.

Oakland Cemetery's Visitor Center may be closed, but the online Museum Shop offers local and unique gifts for the holidays. For the big reader in your life, choose from a wide selection of books on Atlanta history, Southern traditions, the macabre, and more. Stocking stuffers include enamel pins, Oakland wood wine bottle stoppers, and handcrafted sea salts by local food entrepreneur Beautiful Briny Sea. A t-shirt or hat from our apparel collection is the perfect gift for Oakland fans to rep their favorite Atlanta spot. Visit *oaklandcemeterystore.com* to shop. Cabbagetown and Reynoldstown residents receive free delivery on orders over \$35.



Slim's Holiday Tunes for Haters



Christmas music has never been very interesting for me, beyond the fantastic "Charlie Brown Christmas" soundtrack, which I believe EVERYONE should own. I growl in stores when they start spinning the same ol' muzak tunes the day after Halloween. Surely somebody at Sirius/XM can do better. Anyway, here is a list of some of the more diverse collections of Christmas music you may find tolerable.

On personal note, it's been a crazy year, and let's hope for a better 2021. Maybe live music will be back, and we can safely enjoy concerts again. Thank you to the folks who have read and/

or mentioned my rants, and especially to the Grand Poobah Mr. Bidlack for the opportunity. However you choose to celebrate the next seven weeks, I wish you happy holidays!

In the Christmas Groove (V/A)
Strut Records – A fun collection
of very obscure R&B influenced
original songs, with none of
the standards to be found.
What's not to love with a band
named Captain Elmo McKenzie
& the Roosters doing "Home
on Christmas Day"? May cause
spontaneous booty shaking
under the tree.

The New Possibility: John Fahey's Guitar Solo Christmas Album Vol. I & II, Rhino Records – Fahey

is one of the most underappreciated musicians of the 20th century, deserving a much wider audience. A sweet combination of classic melodies, oddities, and improvisations make this one a late night mellowfest. Pour a dram of good scotch, settle down in front of a fire, and relax.

Hillbilly Holiday (V/A) Rhino Records – Naturally, country music artists are all over the Christmas record bins, mostly rehashes of the same reverent "holy night" blahblah, but this is different. There are a few standards that deserve attention, such as the Louvin Brothers' "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear", but the fun stuff is the draw.

Commander Cody reflects on every kid's nightmare with "Daddy's Drinking Up Our Christmas"... or was that just my nightmare?

Kidding! My Dad loved Christmas! And Johnny Walker Red.

The Chieftains - The Bells of Dublin, RCA Records – I like this one a lot, as it includes a treasury of unique Celtic holiday songs, with

collaborations from folks like *Marianne Faithfull, Nanci Griffith, Elvis Costello*, etc. It works on multiple levels, as a conceptual piece and a history lesson of British and Irish songs.

The Jethro Tull Christmas Album, Fuel Records – A nod to one of my all-time favorite bands, Ian Anderson and Co. have quite a legacy. Their early affinity for traditional music blended with rock has always been an appealing combination, and their approach to holiday music is no different. Mostly originals with LOTS of flute solos and strings, there is plenty to love about this one, but no thick bricks or aqualungs included.

Punk Rock Xmas (V/A) Rhino Records – Even the counterculture cynical outcasts have a soft spot for the holidays, but don't let that fool you! Grandma may not take kindly to "Ain't No Sanity Claus"

by *The Damned*, or "*uck Christmas" by *Fear*, but she might like *The Ramones*' tune. Depends on who your Grandma is. This record may promote anti-social distancing.

Elton John's Christmas Party
(V/A) Hear Music – A veritable
cornucopia of pop music artists
doing various classic and original
holiday themed songs. Georgia is
well represented with Otis Redding
and Outkast, classic rockers Chuck
Berry, The Band, and The Beach
Boys are included, and my girlfriend
Kate Bush provides a lovely tune
called "December Will Be Magic
Again". This one is a guaranteed
crowd pleaser, even for Grandma.

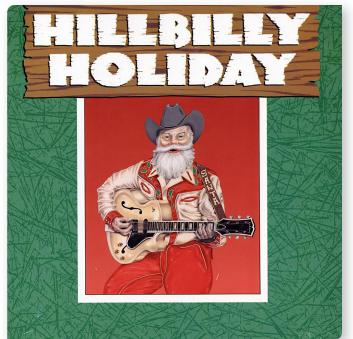
crowd pleaser, even for Grandma.

Jingle Bell Swing (V/A) Columbia

Records – While this one is a bit heavy on standards for my taste, the jazzy versions add a lot to the typical fare. A few standout tracks are *Miles Davis'* "Blue Christmas (To Whom It May Concern)" and **Glenn Miller's** "Snowfall". Safe for all family gatherings.

Rhythm & Blues Christmas (V/A) Hollywood Records – A nice collection of twenty tunes on one of those weird record labels that you can only find in truck stops and the random convenience stores. The inclusion of folks like the legendary Charles Brown, Hank Ballard, and Lowell Fulson gives this all the credentials it needs. Santa got some soul!

A Reggae Christmas (V/A) Ras Records – Yah mon, even da Rastas get dat holiday spirit down on the island. They probably too stoned to write anyting original, but these traditional tunes take on a whole new dimension. Maybe Santa bring you a big ol'spliff, oooh yeah.



Cabbage Claus: Visions of Sugar Plums



During these Covid+Holiday times, it's important for our community to come together to make sure all the kids in Cabbagetown get something from their Christmas list this year and maybe more. Cabbagetown's Chicken Noodle Network and Milltown Tavern have teamed up to put together a Covid-safe Cabbage Claus gift exchange! This exchange is open to everyone who makes Cabbagetown their home.

Here's how to get involved:

For the kids: Cabbagetown kids (or their parents) should fill out the Wish List Form and drop it off in the Milltown Tavern's Cabbage Claus Dropbox starting December 3rd. You can also email your Wish List information to chickennoodlenetwork@gmail.com. All lists must be received by December 11th. Please be thoughtful in creating your wish list, Cabbagetown doesn't allow for ponies and we can't fly in Grandma. Gift exchange information is below. If you're not available on Saturday, December 19th for pick-up, please include your address for gift drop-off following the exchange.

To be a Secret Cabbage Claus: If you're interested in giving a gift to a Cabbage town kid, please fill out the Cabbage Claus form and drop it off in the Milltown Tavern's Cabbage Claus Dropbox starting December 3rd. You can also email your information to chickennoodlenetwork@gmail.com. All gifters must sign-up by December 11th. Once you're on Santa's List, one of Santa's Helpers will let you know next steps.

The Cabbage Claus Gift Exchange: Saturday, December 19th This jolly and socially distanced gift exchange will take place in the "North Pole" parking lot at *Milltown Tavern* from 1p to 4p.

PLEASE CUT-OUT THIS CABBAGE CLAUS SIGN-UP & DROP IT IN THE CABBAGE CLAUS BOX AT MILLTOWN TAVERN BY DECEMBER 11TH

I Wanna be a Cabbage Claus!

Name:
Email Address:
Phone:

Are you available on December 19th from 1p to 4p and interested in helping?

Circle one: Yes No

Thank you!

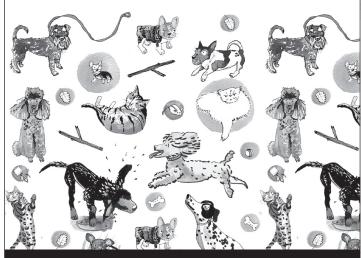
Cabbage Claus Wish List Child's Name: Child's Age: Clothing sizes (if applicable): Wish List: Parent's Email Address: Address (if not available for pick-up on December 19th) Special requests:

PLEASE CUT-OUT THIS WISH LIST & DROP IT IN THE



CABBAGETOWN PET CARE SERVICES

Keeping your pet bright-eyed and bushy-tailed while you are away.



WWW.SQUIRRELNATIONPET.CARE

Rubby Chuthers It's Happening



Hi there, let me introduce myself: I'm the guy who has been plastering "missing cat" posters all over the neighborhood for the past few weeks. Yes, it's true, our cute little Rubby got out on Halloween (which made it double scary because... you know, Draculas) and we've been searching for him ever since. So I figured I'd tell y'all his origin story, mostly to try to keep him front of mind for more folks as we continue to try to locate him, but also

because I know he really wants a career in acting and local press coverage can be a real help with that kind of thing.

I take you now back several lifetimes, to a magical time called: November 2019. My lovely wife Amber was directing "Christmas Carol" down the street at Dad's Garage, and there was a gang of street cats that would congregate in the back-lot because the theatre often left food out for them. Most of these dudes were pretty feral but one seemed to have maybe once been a house cat because he'd let people pet him. The jerks at the theatre called him "Kitler" because of his unfortunate mustache, but what was really unfortunate was when this particular cat got sick. He developed a serious Darth Vader vibe to his breathing. It was gnarly. But hey, my wife and I weren't exactly in a position to do anything about it, we'd never had a cat before and knew nothing about them. Or so I thought.

My big mistake was going down to Nashville to see a hockey game with some friends because when I came back, Amber had rescued this sick, little cat from living behind the theatre and set him up with a condo in our spare bathroom. Her "ask forgiveness not permission" style of bringing new animals into our life worked, and we soon adapted to life with a cat. We learned the art of the litter box. We learned to say farewell to pristine, un-clawed furniture. We learned how much of our annual income was now dedicated to vet bills. And we renamed him "Rubby Chuthers" because if he was going to have a comedy name, it was going to be on our terms.

Now Rubby is back to life on the streets, which I'm sure has its perks, but we're still completely dedicated to tracking him down and bringing him home no matter how long it takes. And let's be real, there's no way he's saved up enough money to pay for the medicine he needs to keep those recurring respiratory infections away, so I'm calling on all Cabbagetown residents to keep on the lookout for him, before he starts breaking into cars and stealing bikes to pay for his daily pill habit. All jokes aside, we really do love this little fella and so appreciate everyone who has been helping look for him. Fingers crossed that he returns home in December, that would not only make us the happiest family around, it'd also cement my long-held suspicion that Christmas miracles are a real thing!



In last month's edition of the Cabbagetown Neighbor we discussed the history and revitalization plan around Three Points Park, located at the intersection of Estoria Street, Gaskill Street, and Fulton Terrace.

On November 21st, many community members gathered to begin work on Phase One of this project. This included weeding, soil prep, mulching, and installation of sustainable plantings – this

means all the plants are both drought and cold tolerant and are extremely low maintenance for our climate zone here in Atlanta.

As we move into the spring of 2021, we will begin Phase Two and Phase Three of this project. This will include smaller sustainable plantings and hardscaping.



Because of the outpouring of generosity throughout the Cabbagetown community, we were able to meet our initial expected goal for Phase One. We want to thank everyone who donated to this project as well as all those who turned out for a fun day of community teamwork. We would also like to extend a very special thank you to Cummins Landscape Supply for generously donating all the mulch and hardscapes. Without these efforts and community involvement, none of this would have been possible.

Protection for Home Owners

The Atlanta City Council approved legislation to prohibit commercial harassment by investors seeking to intimidate and pressure Atlanta homeowners into selling their properties for prices far below the estimated fair market value.

The legislation notes that while Atlanta has seen increases in home values, legacy residents are missing out on those profits by selling their homes at artificially low amounts. Fulton County property records indicate that such predatory tactics are especially prevalent in predominantly Black communities such as Pittsburgh, Venetian Hills, Grove Park, and Sylvan Hills where more than one in four occupied homes were sold at less than half the estimated fair market value.

The Council also approved legislation to address street racing concerns in Atlanta by requiring the detention of a defendant until the initial appearance hearing for certain offenses related to street racing and unlawful operation of all-terrain and offroad vehicles that create dangers to people or property.

Other items approved include:

- An ordinance to transfer ^{\$}4.6 million to Invest Atlanta to address affordable housing in Atlanta.
- A resolution requesting the City's Department of Transportation commissioner develop a street lighting plan to promote safety along Atlanta's streets.
- A resolution requesting the City's Department of Transportation commissioner develop a sidewalk master plan that prioritizes installing sidewalks in high-injury areas, streets where mass transit is provided, and other highly traveled corridors.
- A resolution requesting the City's Department of Transportation commissioner conduct a study to determine the feasibility of establishing a program to train and hire City employees for transportation infrastructure-related job opportunities.
- A resolution requesting the City's Department of Human Resources work with all City departments to develop a preliminary plan to outline opportunities for eligible City employees to work remotely following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Legislation introduced to be considered in committee:

• A resolution urging the Georgia General Assembly to amend the Georgia Uniform Civil Forfeiture Act to allow vehicles used in a street race or exhibition of speed to be temporarily seized by local authorities and to further allow for the permanent forfeiture of vehicles where a driver has a prior conviction for certain serious driving offenses, such as reckless driving.

PAGE 9 NEWS

By Kyle F. Bidlack

Cabbagetown has it's fair share of weirdness and funk. But step outside of our friendly confines, and things get even weirder and funkier. Don't believe me? Read on...

Concerned citizens in Norman, Oklahoma, turned out on November 17th to help George Simmons, an arborist from Idaho, continue the search for his missing pet raccoon, an effort that had stretched into its second week and included support from the Norman Fire Department, which deployed its thermal imaging technology. Coonsie had accompanied Simmons when he traveled to Oklahoma to help cut trees around power lines after a freak October ice storm, but Coonsie got loose and Simmons says he won't return to Idaho until he locates her. He has been overwhelmed with gratitude for the residents who are helping him look for Coonsie every night: "I've been all over the United States and never seen the hospitality like I have here," Simmons said. At presstime, Coonsie was still missing.

Douglas Allen Hatley, 71, of Lakeland, Florida, was arrested on Nov. 16th after the Florida Highway Patrol said he found a metal light pole by the side of the road in Tampa and tried to sell it to Eagle Metals Recycling. The recycling center turned him away because he didn't have documentation for the pole, and officers responding to reports of a 1997 Camry with a pole twice its length strapped to the top pulled him over soon afterward. Hatley told troopers a highway maintenance worker "gave it to me." He was charged with third-degree grand theft.

The mayor of Oudenburg, Belgium, said it was not the city's intention that new Christmas decorations it installed resemble an iconic part of the male anatomy. City officials had set out to create lighted columns that looked like candles, but decided to do something different and placed blue spheres on top instead of flames. "I only realized (they looked phallic) when they were illuminated," Mayor Anthony Dumarey said. "I see the funny side of it myself (and) I see no reason to remove or replace them ... we will have the country's most talked-about Christmas lights this year."

Police in Middlesbrough, England, are asking for the public's help in locating those involved in an apparent egg fight at a local supermarket during the two minutes of silence meant to honor fallen servicemembers on November 8th. Most shoppers at the store on Remembrance Sunday stood still and quiet for the observance, but one customer continued shopping and talking, and objected when asked to be quiet. "We were all stood still, observing the two minutes' silence when we heard lots of screaming and shouting," one witness said. Police noted "a man allegedly assaulted two women ... following a verbal altercation."

A retailer in Australia known for its tongue-in-cheek merchandise, is drawing fire from moms and dads after marketing a Christmas ornament that features a small elf holding a sign that says, "Santa isn't real". One dad posted that the item led to an awkward discussion with his son and encouraged other parents to "complain and get these things taken off the shelves." The store said the ornament has been removed. "Sometimes we do make mistakes," a spokesperson admitted. "We certainly don't want to take the fun out of Christmas for anyone, especially after the year we've all had."

Assault and Shooting at Lenox Mall

Anthony W. Grant, Atlanta Police Department

Sexual Assault

On Friday November 6th, 2020 at around 7p a male suspect sexually assaulted a female victim near Lenox Square Mall. Security video captured images of the suspect entering the Mall. The suspect was described as a black male in his mid-30s with a short haircut, approximately 5'9" tall, and slim to medium build. The suspect was last seen wearing a black jacket, light colored blue jeans, and carrying a black backpack. The Atlanta Police Special Victims Unit conducted a canvass of the area on while handing out BOLOS of the suspect to citizens as well as Marta Police Department.

On November 27th, 2020, a Marta PD officer recognized the suspect inside the Marta station from the BOLO APD previously provided. Marta units detained the suspect and immediately notified investigators with the Atlanta Police Special Victims Unit.

SVU investigators responded to the scene and took custody of the suspect. Based on the evidence presented, the suspect was arrested and identified as Dwayne Bailey (DOB January 1986) He is currently charged with Rape, Aggravated Assault, and Kidnapping and was transported to Fulton County Jail without incident.

The Atlanta Police Department would like to commend the diligent work of the investigators with the Special Victims Unit and

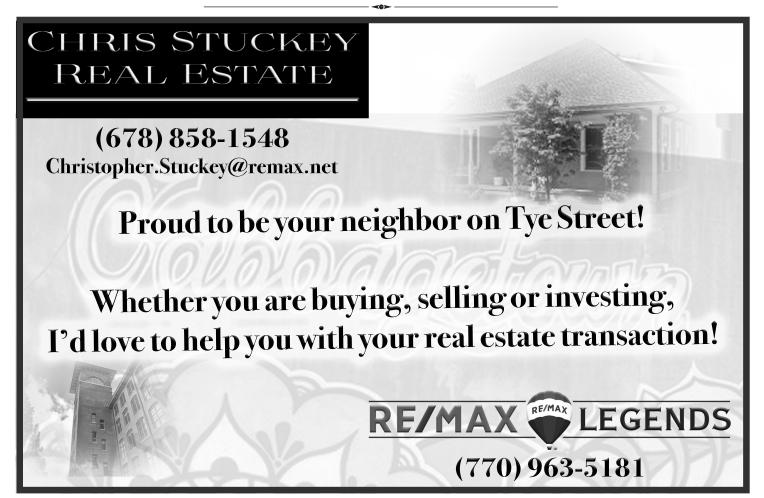
thank Marta Police Department for their assistance in bringing Dwayne Bailey into custody.

Shooting

On November 20th, 2020, around 3:03p, officers responded to a person shot at the location of 3393 Peachtree Rd NE. (The Apple Store at Lenox Square Mall). Upon arrival, officers located a male inside the location with a gunshot wound to his rear.

The male was alert, conscious and breathing and transported to the hospital for treatment. Preliminary investigation indicates the victim was involved in a verbal dispute with a group of male suspects. One of the suspects shot the victim in his rear, then fled the scene in what appeared to be a Blue Chrysler Pacifica with Georgia tag: CML8659.

One suspect has been detained and is currently being interviewed as Investigators work to determine the circumstances surrounding the incident. The investigation is active and ongoing at this time.



A Beautiful Day in the Park



Amid dignitaries, Artist Ashley Dopson officially unveils her latest mural and re-opens the pocket parks at Krog Tunnel. Photo by Bruce Morton.

Merry Birthday!

All of Cabbagetown wishes a merry birthday to Rick Perera, Leah Wiley, Micah Coleman, Gabriela Audano-Garcia, Damian Domingo, Nina Caltabiano Elsas, and David Goodrowe.

We love y'all!





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Dad's Brings Delight to the Polls

By Lara Smith, The Slate Group

Dad's Garage Theatre is typically a very busy space. In normal times, we have eight shows a week, plus rehearsals and workshops. But like so many cultural institutions during the pandemic, our building has sat mostly empty since mid-March. Still, because we're a nonprofit, I wanted to find ways for our community to benefit from the space, so I was excited when I heard that Fulton County was looking for more polling locations, and even more excited when we were selected! Voting this year was more important than ever, and I knew that Dad's Garage could make the experience unique and enjoyable.

We talk in theater all the time about how the experience of attending a show is just as important as the actual show. For us, the three P's are paramount: where people perch (sit), pee (bathrooms), and park – in all of these, comfort is key! So when Dad's Garage was selected as a polling place for the November election, and I was hired as poll manager, I knew I wanted to draw on that background and focus on the experience of voting. As poll workers, our job is to create a situation where everyone who is eligible to vote and wants to can do so while following all the rules and regulations. But what if we also thought of our jobs as creating an experience that made people look forward to voting?

In the performing arts industry, we know that every moment is a chance to create a positive experience, even in line – after all, this isn't the DMV! That's why we have lobby displays, volunteers greeting people at the door, and upbeat music playing. The entire vibe of the theater, from before patrons pick up their tickets to the moment they leave, is vitally important to creating a good experience and ensuring they come back for more.

In that spirit, on Election Day, we encouraged "line warming" activities to make sure everyone waiting to vote STAYED in the line. In Cabbagetown and Reynoldstown, a nonpartisan organization called Vote with Dignity is working to make the voting experience outside of the polls a more pleasant one. They provided snacks and water for free to anyone waiting their turn. They booked local musicians to play soothing ambient music (this was challenging as anything remotely political is a big no-no, so we couldn't have musicians playing their favorite Bob Dylan songs) and sourced the food from local restaurants. All of this helped to keep voters from abandoning the line due to boredom, as they had in previous years.

We saw tremendous response from people early-voting at State Farm Arena. For our theater's polling location, we took one major inspiration from them: providing voter guidelines on our outdoor digital marquee. We cycled through slides with information like "Have Your Photo ID Ready When You Come Inside," as well as slides showing where voters could double-check their registration and learn more about their ballot at the Georgia Secretary of State website. This meant that bottlenecks or voter confusion inside the polling place was less likely. It is fortunate that facilities like sports arenas and theaters have assets like digital marquees – other polling locations would benefit from them as well.

When first-time voters came into our polling place, we literally gave them a cheer and some applause! We won't know for sure until the next election, but I'd like to think this simple act will draw people back again.

On voting day, we reserved a special ovation for our 100th voter that walked through the door, and it was something that made everyone perk up! Coming up with creative ways to provide joy has such an impact in creating a good vibe in our facility. One of the women working with me said, "More theaters should run voting. This is what the voting experience should be." This, to me, confirmed my suspicions that the experience of voting has a huge impact on whether people vote in the future. If you have a lousy, long, miserable experience once, why would you want to trudge through that again?

Don't get me wrong, there are a lot of important rules and regulations to follow while poll working. But we can follow all those processes and procedures while being kind, welcoming, friendly, and cheering for first-time voters. And if we did, I suspect we'd start to see voter turnout increase, neighbors coming together in new ways, and, ultimately, more engagement in politics – which is a win for everyone.





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Thanks for a great year, Cabbagetown!

As 2020 comes to a close, we have been grateful to be a part of the Cabbagetown community in this unprecedented year.

Whether you're buying or selling, we are here to help you find your community!





649 Gaskill Street | SOLD \$675,000 | 3 bedrooms | 3 bathrooms



720 Mollie Street | LEASED \$2,500/month | 2 bedrooms | 2 bathrooms \$520,000 | 2 bedrooms | 2 bathrooms



115 Tye Street* | SOLD



131 Short Street | SOLD \$685,000 | 4 bedrooms | 3 bathrooms



213 Tye Street | SOLD \$625,000 | 2 bedrooms | 2.5 bathrooms



168 Powell Street | SOLD \$595,000 | 3 bedrooms | 2 bathrooms

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212 Berean Avenue, No. 5 | SOLD \$280,000 | 2 bedrooms | 1 bathroom

Meet The FOCCers!

By Kendall Rawls, Morgan Felts, and Kyle F. Bidlack

As you know, the pandemic hijacked Chomp & Stomp this year and created a revenue shortage for our parks upkeep. Cabbagetown Initiative (CI) is responsible for upkeep and beautification of Cabbagetown green spaces. CI also supplies all the poop bags (to the tune of \$700 annually) for the neighborhood! Become a member of Friends of Cabbagetown Conservancy (FOCCer) to help us supply bags and do our duty after the doodie.

Have you seen the groundskeepers in Cabbagetown park? They aren't from the City, but from the lawn service CI pays to take care of our green spaces. Many folks don't realize Cabbagetown is responsible for taking care of our parks and other green spaces. Now you know.

The art-filled walls of **CSX** is a passion-child of Cabbagetown neighbors. The Forward Warrior!! project attracts some of the best muralists around. Without their efforts (and support from FOCCers), the CSX wall on Wylie and Tennelle would be an eyesore.

Funds raised through Chomp and the Friends of Cabbagetown Conservancy support the Forward Warrior!! project. Become a FOCCer today so we can continue to support amazing artists and keep the CSX wall an amazing reflection of who we are.

FOCCers Statistics

29 members so far \$170 is the average contribution \$4,927.65 raised as of press time

We hope you will consider becoming a FOCCer.

We'd love to raise at least \$10,000. Your contribution will help keep the Cabbagetown you love, remain the Cabbagetown you love. To donate, visit this site: cabbagetown.com/donate-to-the-park

Donors receive some of the coolest swag (magnets, t-shirts, prints, and trucker hats) in all the land.

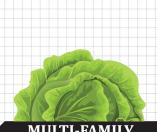
The Real Estate Report

This information is provided by Chrissie Kallio using the First Multiple Listing records and data from Housing and Urban Development postings. The information is not guaranteed or warranted. Listings courtesy of each listing agent. Any

questions regarding real estate in the Cabbagetown area can be directed to the following resident agents: Chrissie Kallio at 404.295.2068 • Lynne Splinter at 404.582.0006 • Debbie Weeks at 404.272.1906 • We wish you happy house hunting!

HOUSES For Sale Price \$719,000 253 Powell St. 4 BD/3 BA 620 Memorial Dr. \$399,000 2 BD/1 BA HOUSES

HOUSES					
Pending/UC	Price				
677 Gaskill St.	\$709,000				
3 BD/2.5 BA					
132 Tye Street	\$685,000				
4 BD/3 BA					
261 Pearl St.	\$624,000				
3 BD/2.5 BA					
633 Gaskill St.	\$617,000				
3 BD/2 BA					
200 Powell St.	\$535,000				
2 BD/2 BA					
593 Gaskill St.	\$475,000				
2 BD/2 BA					



MULTI-FAMILY

For Sale Price None this month.

LOTS

For Sale Price None this month.

COMMERCIAL

For Sale Price 678 Memorial Dr. \$495,000 690 Memorial Dr. \$495,000

CONDOS & LOFTS

For Sale Price The Stacks 170 Blvd Loft E112 \$580,000 2 BD/2 BA Loft E309 \$499,000 2 BD/2 BA Loft E218 \$495,000 2 BD/2 BA Loft E403 \$424,900 2 BD/2 BA Loft H102 \$400,000 1 BD/1 BA Loft H404 \$350,000 1 BD/1 BA 764 Memorial Drive Unit #23 \$324,900

1 BD/1 BA Unit #21 \$323,900 1 BD/1 BA

PENDING CONDOS & LOFTS

Pending Price 170 Blvd The Stacks Loft H325 \$539,500 2 BD/2 BA Loft H303 \$275,000 1 BD/1 BA **Under Contract** Price The Stacks 170 Blvd Loft E412 \$494,000 2 BD/2 BA Loft H504 \$440,000 2 BD/2 BA Loft F108 \$269,900 1 BD/1 BA **Conditional** Price

170 Blvd

\$345,000

The Stacks

Loft E126

1 BD/1 BA



agave



cabbagetown 242 boulevard s.e. 30312 404.588.0006 agaverestaurant.com celebrating our 21st year in cabbagetown



We wish you all a safe and wonderful holiday and a prosperous year ahead. Agave will be closed on Christmas Day. Happy Holidays!!!



Thanks for voting us Best Southwestern and Best Margarita again in 2020 in the newest edition of INsite Magazine Atlanta!

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