

# Cabbagetown

## NEIGHBOR

Cabbagetown Neighborhood Improvement Association  
Volume Twenty-four • Issue Number One • January 2015

*"Ring out the false, ring in the true." – Alfred Lord Tennyson*

### Neighborhood Meeting

The next neighborhood meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 7p at the Cabbagetown Community Center.

#### Agenda

6:45 to 7p: Networking & Snacks

#### 7p: Meeting

##### 1. Welcome & Announcements

- Valencia Hudson,  
City of Atlanta Liaison
- Atlanta Police Department

##### 2. New Business

##### 3. Minutes of Last Meeting

- Christina Bonaccorse
- Kelbi McCumber

##### 4. Treasurer's Report

- Julie Stephens

##### 5. Committee and Other Reports

###### Historic Preservation/Land Use

- Jared Sewer & Matt Wise

###### Public Safety/Neighborhood Watch

- Mitchel Watkins & Laura Belinger

###### Esther Peachy Pavilion

- Presentation of pavilion plans

###### CI Connect

- Lynne Splinter & Barbara Harper

###### NPU

- Ed Lindahl

##### 6. Old Business

##### 7. Public Input

The Community Center is located at 177 Estoria Street. If you have an item to add to the agenda, please email [cniaboard@gmail.com](mailto:cniaboard@gmail.com).

## CONGRATS REYNOLDSTOWN!

R-town was named "Neighborhood of the Year" by Curbed.com. They beat out Inman Park and last year's winner, Kirkwood. When asked if they were going to Disney to celebrate, R-town said "Heck no. Disney is coming to us!"

# Cabbagehead of the Year



*Jay Desai with a few of his many friends (Jay is the one in the middle with the luxurious beard).*

By Kyle F. Bidlack

**At midnight on New Year's Eve, Jay Desai was named the Milltown Cabbagehead of the Year.** The staff at Milltown say of Jay that he always knows what to say and when to say it. He knows when someone needs a lift and he unselfishly gives everything of himself for the benefit of others.

He does great and thoughtful things behind the scenes. You don't see him work his magic, but he gets it done, and often without a thank you.

David Crowder once said of Jay "He is one of the finest human beings ever made. He is a friend whom I admire and learn from all the time. Plus, he is funny. Sometimes."

After giving his heartfelt acceptance speech from high atop the Milltown bar, Jay cut the cord that suspended a cabbage from the Milltown rafters and sent it plummeting to earth, thus ushering 2015 into the magical village of cabbage.

**Fifty  
Best Bars!**  
See Pg. 5

# Cabbagetown NEIGHBOR

*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 ads to: [newsletter@cabbagetown.com](mailto:newsletter@cabbagetown.com). Previously published issues are available for download under the CNIA tab at [www.cabbagetown.com](http://www.cabbagetown.com).

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### Newspaper Contributors

Leah-Lane Lowe, Bill Phillips, Bryan Brunson, James Burns, Christopher E. Adams, Elizabeth Espy, Celine Bufkin, Maria Saporta, Tom Deardorff and Kyle F. Bidlack

### Newspaper Distribution

The Cabbagetown Neighbor is distributed the weekend before the CNIA meeting (the second Tuesday) each month to the residents of Cabbagetown. If you have any problems related to Receiving your newspaper please contact the newspaper editor at [newsletter@cabbagetown.com](mailto:newsletter@cabbagetown.com)

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And the parents' network of Cabbagetown kids at

[groups.yahoo.com/group/cabbagekids](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cabbagekids)

## ADVERTISE WITH US

Advertising with the *Cabbagetown Neighbor* is an inexpensive way to reach over 650 homes in the Cabbagetown neighborhood including the residences of *The Stacks Lofts*. It is also a great way to support the CNIA and the publication of this newspaper. Visit the CNIA website at [www.cabbagetown.com](http://www.cabbagetown.com) or write the editors at [newsletter@cabbagetown.com](mailto:newsletter@cabbagetown.com) for more info.

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

# President's letter

By Bryan Brunson, President, CNIA



**BRYAN  
BRUNSON**

Happy New Year, Cabbagetown! I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season and also got out and enjoyed another wonderful Cabbagetown Crawl which ended in traditional style at the Reverend's house on Estoria.

A reminder to some of those new to the hood – music is played o'plenty at Dave's house when dessert is held there – so bring your instruments (and possibly sheet music) of fancy next year so

we are not relying entirely on the expert (play by feel) piano skills of Patrick on Kirkwood (well done, sir!).

Pavilion is getting closer. CI presented various designs for the look and feel of the replacement pavilion in Esther Peachy Park back in November. Now, the next step is for CI to go through Historical Preservation (HP) for their input and then on to CNIA for a vote in order to go before the Urban Design Commission in Atlanta. This is on the agenda for January so I encourage all who have an opinion on this matter (that's everybody, right?) to come on to the meeting and participate in the process.

I also want to reach out publicly and say a big thanks to Ed Lindahl and Matt Wise who have stepped up in an interim role to serve in the roles of Neighborhood Planning Unit Representative and HP chair, respectively – thanks gentlemen! I hope everyone is looking forward to 2015.

I have been asked how long I've lived in Cabbagetown quite a bit lately and the answer is 8 and a half years! Where does the time go? But, when I think about how much the neighborhood has progressed during my time on Gaskill and hear the stories of where we were twenty years ago, it gives me great joy to think about where we can take us in the future!

And, just a brief pause to remember Sugar, a wonderful Gaskill canine who recently passed – you will be missed by many!

## **Zillow.com predicts Cabbagetown home values will increase 4.5% in 2015.**

The median home value in Cabbagetown is \$230,800. Our home values have gone up 20.1% over the past year. The median list price per square foot in Cabbagetown is \$211, which is higher than the Atlanta average of \$157. The median price of homes currently listed in Cabbagetown is \$232,500 while the median price of homes that sold is \$246,000. The median rent price in Cabbagetown is \$1,000 which is lower than the Atlanta median of \$1,289.

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# Damon Hege: A true and loyal friend

By Leah-Lane Lowe

The name Damon means “true and loyal friend.” According to Greek legend, Damon and Pythias were friends who lived on Syracuse in the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC. When Pythias was sentenced to death, he was allowed to temporarily go free on the condition that Damon take his place in prison. Pythias returned just before Damon was to be executed in his place, and the king was so impressed with their loyalty to one another that he pardoned Pythias. I cannot think of a better description of our Damon than “true and loyal friend.”

This quality is evident from the amount of calls, emails, texts, and facebook messages we have received expressing sorrow over his loss. It is quite a testament to the kind of man he was, and to the impact that Damon made on others.

Damon relished helping people. He was the kind of person who would give an entire weekend to help someone move, assist a neighbor building a shed, or decorate a house in preparation for a marriage proposal, to cook dinner for a friend’s mother, or just talk to an old friend on the phone (for hours) who was going through a tough time.

He made such an impact on others because he genuinely cared about people. He listened. He listened to everyone with equal enthusiasm, even those who others would shy away from. He honored people by being genuinely interested in their stories and by genuinely wanting to help them with whatever they were going through. That was just one of the unique qualities of Damon. He seemed to find people when they most needed a friend and befriend them.

Damon was truly a unique person in many ways. He was a talented musician, and artist, an amazing chef, an avid reader, a fantastic dancer, and a completely fun and insanely silly person to hang out with. He had an enthusiasm for love and life that was infectious. A friend recently described him as a big kid that made all of us get out of the house and play! He convinced a large group of grown-ass men to run around and play war with airsoft guns on his favorite playground in South Georgia, called “Mingo.” He also helped to purchase and outfit not one, but two go-carts for Mingo, which provided hours of entertainment and danger for quite a few years.

He convinced many a Cabbagetowner to get inside of a large plastic tube and roll down a long, steep hill in the space that is now known

as Cabbagetown Park... you know, for fun! He also rode down the same steep hill on a ridiculously tiny bicycle to our amusement.

During parties or when just hanging out on the porch, Damon might suddenly fling himself off the side of the porch into the yard – just to make someone laugh. This signature trick might have also come about because Damon NEVER stopped moving. Even when he was sitting and talking, he was like a hummingbird – just vibrating, swinging a leg, or bouncing in his chair. At any point of the day or night, Damon would be involved in numerous projects – not all of which made sense to other people. He was forever working on that same old car, that same old house with that same old fence. But he was always working cheerfully – as these mundane tasks were a joy

to Damon – something he took a lot of pride in.

Another way that Damon entertained himself was shooting his beloved bow and arrow – with a good deal of precision too. But my favorite part of that pastime was the endless effigies he made as targets to shoot arrows at. In addition, Damon fancied himself a master lock picker, and indeed he had some skill. To practice, Damon would take a long wooden 2 by 4, and fasten multiple locks on there in a row, and he would sit in front of the tv all night picking locks, practicing for when that might come in handy.

But maybe his favorite way to entertain his friends was

cooking amazing food for them! I can’t even begin to list all of the amazing meals that Damon created on the front porch of his Cabbagetown home. On his humble porch, friends and family could eat one of the fanciest and tastiest meals in all of Atlanta – some of which were 20 courses. The more courses the better to Damon! Dinner would take all night and that was by design. Because more than anything, Damon wanted to keep his friends on his porch laughing and talking all night. He made dinner parties into an art form that I have rarely witnessed elsewhere.

Damon, we are all so lucky to have had you in our lives! Thank you for making my life a more fun, loving and tasty adventure than it ever would have been without you. All my love, L3



*Christopher Damon Hege: December 29, 1971 to December 01, 2014*

# Take Flight

By Bill Phillips, Cabbagehead from *The Stacks*



**BILL  
PHILLIPS**

*You know, one day I will figure out that this writing thing requires me to write about things before they happen.* That day is not today, though, because today is the day after Christmas for me. And undoubtedly not for you if you happen to be reading this.

Just for the sake of this column, though, take a step back. Let's walk from here to there. And if you're here and you're on board with either the secular or religious

hype of this holiday, you were chimed right on up through Christmas Eve – getting ready for a candlelight service, maybe, or patching up the last few holes in your shopping list.

Then the day came, and you rode it out like I did yesterday. You opened up the presents, you strapped in for a good day of nothing. For the adult Phillips, Christmas is Thanksgiving: just add theme music, and subtract football.

And then there's the day after Christmas, where I'm at now. Some family was still around, if you did family. Maybe you made the rounds of friends and loved ones, piled into a car to visit the in laws, or to do an additional gift exchange. The seasons carried you onwards thought the arc had already peaked, and soon it was the following Sunday, the following Monday, with normal routines returning. (Or will return, if you're me. Which you aren't. Which we're both okay with.)

Of course, they didn't completely return yet. These things take time to die down. So all recongregate to respect that process. New Year's Eve: where many will have become good and drunk, some shy and depressed, some staying home. Some feeling the need for an appropriate spirit will have piped up Auld Lang Syne, without ever bringing to mind any acquaintances who were truly fond of it. Some others singing favorite old songs, maybe *Journey* or *Billy Joel*, and remembering the departed.

Many will have passed out after the party's demise, some maybe desiring never to wake up again out of either complex nostalgic joy or simple despair. Until they do wake up, in which case it will be New Year's Day, and they'll have a hangover and the day off. Neither of which ever come with a gift receipt, and so must be savored as they stand.

Nobody in January has the day off after that, though. (Unless you're lucky enough to get MLKJR Day off.) As you read this, all of that the aforementioned nonsense lies behind you, and you've just got an empty month. A good January, like a good New Year's Day is cold, clear, and solitary. And if you've got a pale blue sky and a somber mood, and nobody else is around, and you're down, well — is there ever a moment as free to take flight as that?

# Fifty Best Bars

By Kyle F. Bidlack

The Cabbagetown Neighbor loves *Atlanta Magazine* and recently they published their fifty best bars in Atlanta, and we think they did a top-notch job.

They went about creating their list by grading each bar on setting, food, activities, the mix of people, service, quality, depth of drinks and the "X factor". We're not going to list all fifty here but we will share some local favourites and their rankings:

#50: *Euclid Avenue Yacht Club*. #47: *Righteous Room*. #46: *The Earl*. #33: *Clermont Lounge*. #32: *Northside Tavern*. #31: *Midway Pub*. #23: *Bookhouse Pub*. #22: *Blake's*. #18: *Mac McGee*.

#17: *Argosy*. #14: *Sister Louisa's Church of the Living Room & Ping Pong Emporium*. #12: *H. Harper Station*. #7: *The Sound Table*. #6: *Manuel's Tavern*. #3: *Brick Store Pub*.

And the number one bar in all the land?: *Wrecking Bar Brewpub*. And while we were dismayed that no Cabbagetown bars made the list, we did take some solice in the fact that one of our favourite barkeeps of all time, Clay Miller, is a big part of what makes #18 *Mac McGee's* so special.



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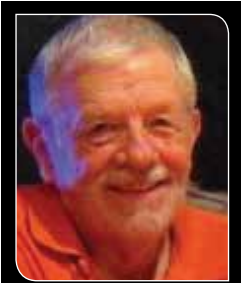


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# Very Old School: *Jasper Newton Smith*

By Tom Deardorff



**TOM  
DEARDORFF**

*We have about 70,000 neighbors right across the street from C-town. They reside in Oakland Cemetery.*

While Oakland is not technically part of Cabbagetown, it's close enough. So this reporter thought it might be fun to meet a few of the most fascinating residents in 2015.

I did an unscientific survey of Cabbagetown residents and discovered that many folks had never visited

Oakland Cemetery. Even those who have been there are unfamiliar with the great stories associated with the place.

Let's start with the guy who "guards" the entrance to Oakland: Jasper Newton Smith.

As you enter the main gate of the cemetery, there's a stone mausoleum a little ways back on the right. It's pretty hard to miss because there's a life-size statue of its resident on the pediment above the door. That's Jasper.

Jasper Smith keeps an eye on the visitors coming through the main gate at Oakland Cemetery

Jack, as he was known by most folks, was born in Walton County, Georgia in 1833. He served in the Confederate army during that tragic conflict known to some as "The War of Northern Aggression".

After the war, he started a brick-making business that was hugely successful. He was also a developer and built some prominent buildings in downtown Atlanta.

One, known as "the house that Jack built", was cobbled together

from remnants of other buildings. Jack stipulated that the cornerstone of the building must remain in perpetuity. You can still see it at the Carnegie Way entrance to the Peachtree Center MARTA station. He also developed "the bachelor's domain", a hotel-like residence for men only.

In 1906, Jack began construction of his mausoleum, made of Stone Mountain granite. It is said that he personally supervised every aspect of the construction. The centerpiece of the mausoleum is the statue of Jack gazing directly at the main gate of the cemetery. You'll notice that he is not wearing a tie. That was unusual for the time. But Jack was an unusual man. He had a phobia about things around his neck stemming from a childhood incident involving a vine choking him.



*Jasper Smith Statue at Oakland Cemetery. Photo courtesy gravelyspeaking.com*

There's a story about the lack of a necktie. It may or may not be true, but this writer doesn't let the truth ever get in the way of a good story. When Jack commissioned the sculpture, so the story goes, he posed for the part where the artist did his features and then left the worker to finish.

When the artist presented the statue, Jack rejected it because it showed him wearing a necktie. He told the sculptor he would not pay for it until the tie was removed. They argued back and forth for two years. In the end, Jack won out and the offending cravat was chiseled off.

Jasper Newton Smith went to his final reward in 1918 at the age of 85. In 2013, a major restoration of Jack's mausoleum was completed. It was cleaned and the mortar joints were repointed.

As we move through the months of 2015, we'll be visiting with more of our neighbors at Oakland. We'd love to find some Cabbagetown tie-ins at the cemetery. Alas, the majority of the folks in C-town could not afford a plot there.

# APD Adds 24

By Elizabeth Espy

The Atlanta Police Department is proud to announce the graduation of Class #237 held in the City Hall Atrium on Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 7p

Class 237 consists of twenty-one men and three women. Three graduates have military experience and nine are college graduates.

The keynote speaker for the ceremony was Robert C. (Robin) Loudermilk, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer of The Loudermilk Companies, LLC. Mr. Loudermilk has more than thirty years of management experience and founded the public safety organization, The Buckhead Alliance. He currently serves on the boards of Genuine Parts Company (NYSE GPC), The Atlanta Police Foundation and the Buckhead Community Improvement District.

The graduation ceremony concludes twenty-two weeks of rigorous training at the Atlanta Police Academy, along with twelve weeks of field training with veteran officers.

The training includes classroom courses in constitutional law, Atlanta Police Department policy and procedure, hands-on defensive tactics, arrest techniques and daily physical fitness.

# CRSP: Rise Up!

By Christopher E. Adams

CRSP's recent membership push highlights the power of neighbors in Cabbagetown and Reynoldstown committed to improving our hoods. As I was out for a walk in mid-November, a CRSP member stopped me to ask if they could donate \$1,000 – to be used to match contributions from new members.

While I was extremely grateful for this act, I was just as impressed with the response from C-town and R-town: One month later we have 18 new members – a record for any such period. Current members also joined the push with additional donations and matches. All told we raised over \$4,000 in much-needed funds.

People could not have picked a better time to step it up. In addition to the traditional crime challenges surrounding the holidays, there has been a spike in crime in surrounding In-town Atlanta neighborhoods over the past several months.

Increased membership has allowed CRSP to add a substantial amount of patrols in December and January (90-100 hours for each month, up more than 30% from last year).

CRSP is now nearing 200 members, over 100 in Reynoldstown, and almost 90 in Cabbagetown. We also have the support of more than a dozen businesses including *Milltown Lofts, 97 Estoria, Leerssen Built Environment, GSU 4 Rent, Chrissie Kallio Real Estate, Shailand Creative Group, Frank Chew Inc, Milltown Tavern, Nextran, Stein Steel, Sweet Cheats, the Stacks, and Colgate Mattress*. And we've received additional support through dineouts by *Agave* and holiday gifts to CRSP officers from *Park Grounds* and Milltown Tavern.

Finally, CRSP was proud to help Reynoldstown with its annual Thanksgiving turkey drive. The new CRSP car (aka "Silver Brussel") was an integral part of delivering Thanksgiving meals (compliments of *Kroger*) to families in Reynoldstown and Cabbagetown.

For more information about CRSP, or to join, check out [cabbagetownsecuritypatrol.org](http://cabbagetownsecuritypatrol.org)



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# Google Fiber: In slow motion

By Kyle F. Bidlack

It's not quite a lump of coal, but an update on the super fast internet connections we all put on our Christmas lists, won't be delivered until later this year.

**Google Fiber** promises to be up to one hundred times faster than the connection you currently have in your home. Atlanta and eight other cities across America are working towards being included in the next round of deployment.

Google is already deploying fiber in Austin, Kansas City and Provo, Utah, and is considering doing so in other areas, including the cities of Atlanta, Avondale Estates, Brookhaven, College Park, Decatur, East Point, Hapeville, Sandy Springs and Smyrna.

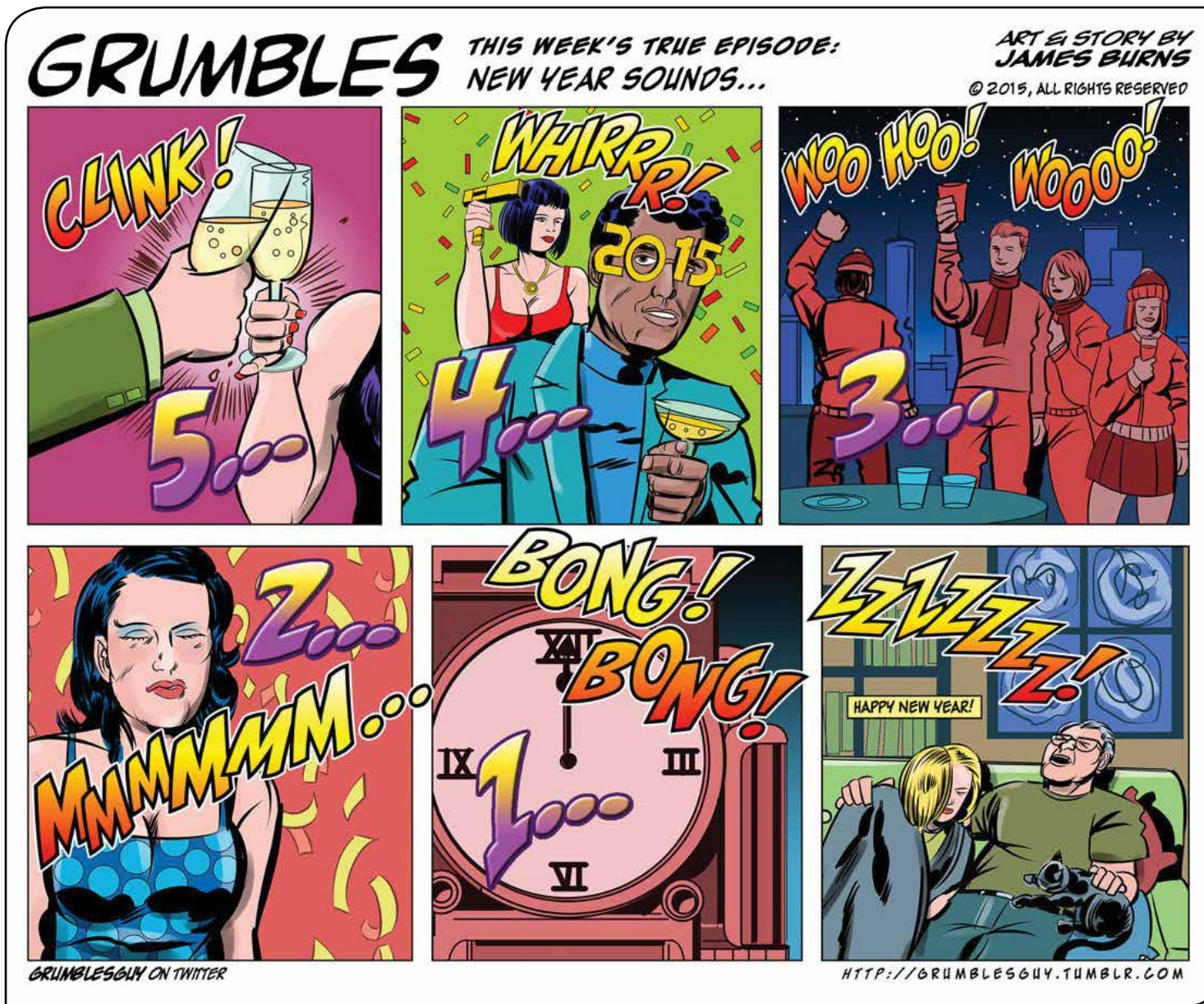
**AT&T** announced late last year that it will deploy its own gigabit-per-second speeds to homes inside the city limits of Atlanta,

Sandy Springs, Decatur and Newnan. But it hasn't disclosed when it will roll out the service or how much it will charge.

AT&T is still considering whether to provide the fast residential connections inside the city limits of Alpharetta, Duluth, Lawrenceville, Lithonia, McDonough, Marietta, Norcross, Woodstock as well as a number of other U.S. communities.

**An encouraging sign:** Back in December, Google posted a "City Manager, Google Fiber, Atlanta" job posting on LinkedIn.

Google unveiled its pricing plans for the Austin market: Gigabit internet would cost \$70 per month. Basic internet, at current speeds, would be available for a one-time \$300 construction fee or \$25 a month for 12 months. Gigabit Internet + TV would run Austin residents \$130 per month.



# Carroll Street Candy Canes

By Kyle F. Bidlack



Last year, an anonymous Christmas elf adorned our Carroll Street telephone poles with Santa outfits. And this year, he or she outdid themselves: They transformed the ugly ol' telephone poles into candy canes big enough for God himself.

**But be warned:** They are not really candy canes, so don't lick the poles (or do anything else of an adult manner) as you are guaranteed to end up with nasty, painful, unyielding splinters in uncomfortable nether regions.

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## The Street car rolls (finally)

By Kyle F. Bidlack

It was nineteen months late and more than six million dollars over budget, but on December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the Atlanta street car began carrying it's first passengers.

The 2.7 mile ride connects neighborhoods and passengers from Centennial Olympic Park to The King Center. It has twelve stops and wait times at each stop won't be more than fifteen minutes. The purple streetcar will pass the stations, from 6a through 11p, and until 1a on Fridays and Saturdays.

Cost is \$1 per ride, but the city is offering free fares for the first three months to encourage people to try the new system out.



# Underground Atlanta: The end of an era

By Maria Saporta, *Atlanta Business Chronicle*

"Today marks another milestone" for Atlanta, Mayor Kasim Reed said as he announced that the city had entered into an agreement to sell Underground Atlanta to **WRS Inc.**, a real estate investment company based in South Carolina.

WRS will pay the city \$25.75 million for 12 acres of downtown real estate, which the city will use to pay off the remaining debt on the property.

It also will cover the costs of buying out the 70-year sublease that existed on the property – a deal the city completed in March. That gave the city the flexibility to put the Underground Atlanta property out for bid as part of the mayor's strategy to rid the city of unneeded real estate. The mayor said the sale will save the city about \$8 million a year.

But Reed said the Underground sale was much more significant than just a land transaction. "It is also a great deal for the community surrounding Underground Atlanta," Reed said. "It will be a catalyst for the revitalization of this corridor."

The new development will be "a place where people can live and shop everyday instead of a place where they will visit once in a while," Reed added.

T. Scott Smith, president and CEO of WRS Inc., said he was intrigued by the built in market that already exists for Underground. The company is still undergoing market studies to determine how much residential the property can handle, but he plans to take advantage of the trends of people moving back to the center city and wanting to live close to transit and being part of a walkable community.

"We don't believe there's a better location," Smith said. "You can go in every major city. People want to be back downtown."

Smith added that they would like to start construction in mid-2016 and complete the development in three to five years.

WRS is primarily a retail developer – developing thirty retail anchored shopping centers with more than seven million square feet of space since 2001. Smith said that he already is talking to multi-family developers about building the residential towers on the property.

The plan is for WRS to leave the historic Underground part of the development pretty much as it is today but to bring in new retail and restaurants – especially to fill up the vacant spaces. The upper level – what is at the street – is what will be redeveloped with high density residential on the upper floors with retail at street level.

# Award-winning ink

By Kyle F. Bidlack

Over the past couple years, Cabbageheads Kevin Clark and Lisa Spooner have gotten a lot of ink (press coverage) for their inspired creation: **Homegrown**.

But last month, Gray Chapman and **Creative Loafing** gave Kevin even more ink for a whole new reason: Tattoo ink.



And the really cool thing about the story is Kevin's touted tattoos were created by Mark Green ("Gaucho") and Sam Parker at **Memorial Tattoo**. And in case you're wondering, Kevin's tats depict corn, broccoli, parsnip, okra, carrot, Brussels sprouts, a butcher's diagram of a hog, the Homegrown logo, and much more.

Gray says she is on a mission to, "explore a bunch of creative, inspiring, and downright rad body art sported by members of Atlanta's food service industry." Last year she wrote about Sarah O'Brien over at **The Little Tart**.

If you want to read the whole story as written by Gray, just **Google** "Food Ink #2: Kevin Clark, Home Grown".

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# Lady Gaga and the Clermont

By Kyle F. Bidlack

Speaking of Googling things... Did you hear about Lady Gaga's appearance on The Tonight Show last month? You probably did, but if you didn't, Jimmy Fallon asked Lady Gaga if she has ever taken advice from a stranger. She said yes, and the advice came from a stripper (Blondie?) at The Clermont. Honest Engine!

Don't believe us? Google it: "A Stripper at the Clermont Lounge Gave Lady Gaga Some Advice"

# Top Bagel!

By Kyle F. Bidlack

Do ya'll know Cabbagehead Deanna Halcrow? She's that pretty lady who created and owns ***Emerald City Bagels***. Not too long ago, Deanna decided to take a leap of faith and chase her dream of making the best bagels in all the world.



From left to right: Deanna Halcrow and Jackie Halcrow

And the folks over at ***Scout Mob*** are convinced Deanna has done just that. They've named Emerald City Bagels as one of the top four in all of Atlanta. Congrats Deanna! The Cabbagetown Neighbor concurs with Scout Mob, though we think Emerald City should have gotten top billing.

Be sure to "friend" Emerald City Bagels on Facebook so you can keep abreast on their pop-up sales and locations in and around Cabbagetown.

So far, they've sent up shop at ***Mary Todd Hairdressing Co., Milltown Tavern, Little's Food Store, The Earl, Candler Park Market, Green Market, Octane Coffee, Joe's Coffee, HodgePodge, Argosy*** and ***The Stacks***.

# Plywood: *It's not what you think.*

By Kyle F. Bidlack

There's an organization on Carroll Street that few people know about. It's called ***Plywood***. According to their website (***plywood-people.com***), Plywood is a non-profit organization that champions the community of social innovation in Atlanta. From Martin Luther King, Jr. to ***Coca-Cola***, our city has always cultivated an innovative spirit – and so they aim to creatively support individuals and ideas that have an uncommon ability to see a need and implement a problem-solving solution.

They support social innovation in two ways: through implementing projects and educating entrepreneurs. One of their projects caught our interest: ***The Gift Card Giver Project***

According to their website: "We collect gift cards and give them to people that really need them. Jeff and Andre Shinabarger went to a gathering and asked 8 people how much money in unused Gift Cards they had with them and walked away with \$50 in Gift Cards to help people in need. Gift Card Giver was born."

***Gift Card Giver is a new form of giving. Every year more than \$8,000,000,000 goes unused in gift cards and we believe there is an opportunity to match needs with these gift cards. Since inception we have given away over \$200,000 to over 150 stories.***

*How many gift cards do you have sitting in your wallet? We guess you have at least \$5 of unused gift cards right now. What's 5 bucks going to buy you? Maybe a pair of socks... but 10 people giving 5 bucks will buy a kid a winter coat."*

***What have they accomplished?*** Good question. Gas Cards matched with a family driving from Alabama to Boston for medical treatment.

Ice Cream matched with a children's after school program.

***Victoria's Secret*** matched to a women's shelter in need of undergarments for their residents.

Restaurants matched with non-profit volunteer programs. Phone cards matched with women rescued from a trafficking situation, being reunited to their families.

Department stores matched with a family of 12 devastated by a house fire.

Craft stores matched with an inner-city arts program.

Office supplies matched with nonprofits to help offset expensive overhead costs.

What to learn more about our neighbors on Carroll Street? Then check out their website at: ***plywoodpeople.com***

# Cabbagetown Christmas Crawl

By Kyle F. Bidlack

Waaaay back on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, close to one hundred Cabbageheads got together and celebrated Christmas by trekking from one house to another (and to another and another), where we ate, drank and made merry.

Big thanks go out to Patrick for tickling the ivories and leading a few Christmas Carols. And to Slim Chance for lending his perfect voice. Even bigger thanks to Karen Russian and Alicia Thompson for directing the event. They pulled together a beautiful team of ladies who made it all happened and made sure we all had fun and felt the love.

And to the incredibly gracious souls that opened their homes to us and gave us shelter from the cold, we say "merci!" Julie, Rev. Dave & Ann Marie, Nick & Cyndi, and Peter & Tova. You all rock!

The Christmas Crawl also raised in the neighborhood of \$3,000 which will be used to maintain our parks, our community center and generally keep Cabbagetown the magical little village that it is. This is a welcomed boost as we had a huge shortfall in revenue from Chomp and Stomp (due to cold and blustery conditions). Look for more events during 2015 aimed at making up for the deficit.



Mary and Alicia. Photo by Celine Bufkin



Barb and Jeanne. Photo by Celine Bufkin

## 15 Hottest American cities in 2015

By Kyle F. Bidlack

**MSN.com has declared Atlanta one of the 15 hottest cities in 2015!** Why? Good question. Among other reasons, they cite The Beltline, urban renewal projects and a slew of elite restaurants that now call Atlanta home.

Other cities joining Atlanta on the list are: Austin Texas, Burlington Vermont, Cambridge Massachusetts, Denver Colorado, Detroit Michigan, Houston Texas, Madison Wisconsin, Mobile Alabama, Nashville Tennessee, Oakland California, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania, Queens NYC, Venice California, and Washington DC.

COMMUNITY  
*driven*  
REAL ESTATE  
—  
INTOWN  
*and*  
BEYOND



785 Kirkwood Avenue



664 Kirkwood Avenue\*



210 Stovall Street\*



1027 Kirkwood Avenue\*



143 Estoria Street



The Stacks, Unit H-220



The Stacks, Unit H-411



248 Iswald Street\*



The Stacks, Unit H-414



1068 Manigault Street\*



800 Harold Avenue



153 Chester Avenue\*



265 Tye Street



185 Pearl Street



120 Flat Shoals\*



267 Tye Street

To our clients and all of you who refer business to us, our success is owed to your resounding support. It is an honor and privilege to serve you.

***Thank you for a successful 2014!***



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AtlantaFineHomes.com

Atlanta Fine  
Homes

Sotheby's  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

# 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. 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 404.272.1906  
We wish you happy house hunting!



## MULTI-FAMILY

<i>Pending</i>	<i>Asking</i>
243 Iswald St. 3 BD/2 BA	\$229,000

## HOUSES

<i>For Sale</i>	<i>Asking</i>
102 Estoria St. 2 BD/1 BA	\$319,900
238 Estoria St. 3 BD/3.5 BA	\$299,900
<i>Sold</i>	<i>Price</i>
121 Pearl St. 3 BD/2 BA	\$349,900
793 Harold Ave. 2 BD/2 BA	\$279,000
211 Estoria St. 2 BD/1 BA	\$224,900

## CONDOS & LOFTS

<i>For Sale</i>	<i>Asking</i>
<b>The Stacks</b> Unit E220 2 BD/2 BA	<b>170 Blvd</b> \$299,000
<b>Milltown Lofts</b> Unit 901 2 BD/1 BA	\$190,000
Unit 808 1 BD/1 BA	\$174,900

## COMMERCIAL

<i>For Sale</i>	<i>Price</i>
582 Decatur St.	\$4,500,000
536 Decatur St.	\$1,700,000
314 Boulevard	\$425,000
1270 Memorial	\$420,000
1270 Memorial	\$360,000
889 Wylie St.	\$599,900
<i>Pending</i>	<i>Price</i>
215 Chester Ave.	\$1,000,000

## DEVELOPED LOTS

<i>For Sale</i>	<i>Price</i>
218 Berean Ave.	\$75,000

**PENDING**

## CONDOS & LOFTS

<i>Contingent</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>Milltown Lofts</b> Unit 708 2 BD/2 BA	\$259,900
<i>Pending</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>The Stacks</b> Unit H527 2 BD/2 BA	<b>170 Blvd</b> \$285,000
Unit H127 1 BD/1 BA	\$210,000
Unit H312 1 BD/1 BA	\$199,000
<b>Milltown Lofts</b> Unit 204 2 BD/2 BA	\$267,500
Unit 207 2 BD/1 BA	\$217,000

**SOLD**

## CONDOS & LOFTS

<i>Sold</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>The Stacks</b> Unit E116 2 BD/2 BA	<b>170 Blvd</b> \$277,500
<b>Milltown Lofts</b> Unit 203 1 BD/1 BA	\$162,500



agave

an eclectic southwestern eatery & tequila bar  
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242 boulevard se . atlanta . 30312  
ph - 404-588-0006 web - agaverestaurant.com  
reservations welcomed by phone or online

### Agave Charity Dine-Outs January

Mark your calendars and plan to have dinner on these nights to help support our local community!

**Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Grant Park Cooperative Pre-School Dine-Out**



**Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Cool Girls Dine Out**

Dedicated to the self-empowerment of girls.

For more info..

[www.thecoolgirls.org](http://www.thecoolgirls.org)

## Happy 2015!!!

Thanks for all your support and business over the last year and we look forward to serving you all through the next. Have a wonderful and prosperous New Year!

agave

### Recent Agave Press

**Readers' Picks For Atlanta's Best Traditional Date-Night Restaurants**  
Atlanta Eater - [Atlanta.eater.com](http://Atlanta.eater.com)

*"It's a shame that Agave doesn't get the attention that some of Atlanta's swankier or newer restaurants do, because this cozy Southwestern spot has consistently great food - and an impressive list of margaritas. Bonus: two for one appetizers at the bar between 5pm & 7pm."*

Chris Fuhrmeister - Atlanta Eater



## Events

- This year make Agave your home for company events, private luncheons and group dinners. Our private rooms can accommodate groups of 25 to 60 and our budget friendly chefs menus and drink packages can be easily customized to suit your specific needs.

## AGAVE CNIA JANUARY DEAL

**\$10.00 OFF DINNER ANY SUNDAY-THURSDAY NIGHTS FOR 2 OR MORE GUESTS**

GIVE THIS NEWSLETTER TO YOUR SERVER ANY SUNDAY THRU THURSDAY NIGHT AND WE WILL DEDUCT \$10.00 OFF YOUR ENTIRE DINNER BILL!!

*not valid with any other agave offers, discounts, special deals or gift cards  
state of georgia tax & gratuity not included with this offer  
expires February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015*