

Cabbagetown

NEIGHBOR

Cabbagetown Neighborhood Improvement Association
Volume Twenty-three • Issue Number Three • March 2014

Platinum
Center
Page 5

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." - Winston Churchill

Neighborhood Meeting

The next neighborhood meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 11th, 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. Minutes of Last Meeting

3. Treasurer's Report

4. Committee & Other Reports

- Hospitality
- Historic Preservation & Land Use
- NPU-N
- Neighborhood Watch/Public Safety
- CI Connect

5. Old Business

6. New Business

- Election of CNIA Officers

7. Public input

Submit Membership form by or before our annual meeting in March to become a voting member. The form can be found on CNIA website:

www.Cabbagetown.com

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



Snow doesn't stop Cabbageheads!
Photo by Terrell Clark, tclarkweddings.com

Cabbagetown Needs You

As we near the end of our term of office, many of our officers will be rotating off (we are limited to two-year consecutive terms). I'm extremely proud of what this group – along with the many volunteers of Cabbagetown – has accomplished these past two years. Along with regular activities, here are some of the new ones:



LYN
DEARDORFF

- Established Land Use & Transportation Committee; held regular meetings throughout the year. Merged with Historic Preservation Committee. Prepared updates to the Cabbagetown Landmark Guidelines submitted to the Atlanta Urban Design Commission.
- Established Hospitality Committee & formalized relationship with Roll Call Events, a twice-yearly activity to welcome new residents; formalized Christmas Crawl as a function of the Hospitality Committee.
- Established a Neighborhood Watch Steering Committee; signed up Block Captains for our streets; recognized by City of Atlanta with signage as an official NW program; established a new communication platform at Nextdoor.com focusing on fast safety tips with over 350 registrants; prepared and received grant and donations to fund future training and activities.
- Established the Public Safety Committee with a Neighborhood Watch group as the active body.
- Mentored the newly created *Boulevard Tunnel Initiative* which is coordinating the clean-up, improvements and murals for the tunnel.
- Coordinated and spearheaded redesign of *Three Points Triangle*; held neighborhood workday to implement the design and plantings.
- Supported the revived Cabbagetown Reunion

event held on the first Saturday in June, as prescribed by Georgia Proclamation.

- Established a By-Laws Committee to create a new set of by-laws, the first complete reorganization since the creation of CNIA in 1994; held two hearings and adopted at Nov, 2013 CNIA meeting.
- Completed installation of *QuickBooks* for financial record-keeping; provides transparency and full access with easy transition each year for Treasurer, President and other key personnel.
- Redesigned the Cabbagetown website, including a repository with public access for vital documents of the organization. Included a subscription feature so residents can access announcements, information and documents (www.Cabbagetown.com)
- Designed & Installed seven "Historic Cabbagetown" Street sign headers.
- Worked with the City to get missing street signs and directional signs installed.

Calling all Residents!

Progress? Yes! And now CNIA needs you! We will be having our annual CNIA elections in March. Nominations are currently open and can also be made at the March meeting. The following positions are open: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. There are also various committees open for appointment. The Executive Committee, as established by our new by-laws, will consist of our four officers along with the NPU-rep, and the chairpersons of the Historic Preservation/Land Use Committee and the Public Safety Committee.

A lot of the catch-up work that needed to be done has been accomplished! Now it's time to move into those "wants" that will make our community a better place to live. Please consider giving back.

If not you, who?

Google
Fiber
See Pg. 14

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. Previously published issues are available for download under the CNIA tab at www.cabbagetown.com.

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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

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City of Atlanta Service Numbers

Missed Trash Pick-ups	404.330.6333
Bureau of Parks Work Order Office	404.817.6813
Illegal Dumping	404.330.6333
Bulk Rubbish	404.330.6333
Potholes	404.330.6281
Traffic Concerns	404.330.6501
Zoning Enforcement	404.330.6175
Housing Code Compliance	404.330.6190
Atlanta Workforce Development	
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Mayor's Office of Constituent Services	404.330.6023
Atlanta Police Department	404.614.6544
Atlanta Fire Department	404.853.7000
Community Cyber Centers	404.880.7220

KEEP UP WITH THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Join the Cabbagetown online community at

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CNIA>

And the parents' network of Cabbagetown kids at

<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 or write the editors at newsletter@cabbagetown.com for more info.

ADVERTISING RATES

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
1/2 Page Vert. 3.75" x 9.875"	\$100	\$280	\$540	\$1,020
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.

Cabbagetown Strong!

By Shirley Hughes

Save the date because we can't wait... Saturday, April 5th!
Milltown Tavern, Sweet Cheats & Atlanta Bicycle Coalition are partnering up to put together an Art, Roll & Stroll.

Our goal is to raise \$15,000 to help build three houses in a typhoon stricken area of the Philippines. My parents live in the Philippines and in the storm's aftermath, they took three families into their



Shirley's dad and mom

home. Now they want to do more. They want to build homes for these three families, but they desperately need help. And that's where Barb Keeney and Milltown jumped in. Barb is convinced Cabbagetown can make a difference

and I know we all can have fun, enjoy an evening with great friends, art and prizes... and change the world.

We all will *roll* or *stroll* to four different locations. There will be an artist exhibiting and selling their work at every stop. Beer, wine, cocktails and food will be provided at every location. Here is the schedule:

6 Feet Under: 5:30-7p

Agave Restaurant: 7 to 8p

The Stacks: 8 to 9p

Milltown Tavern: 9 to midnight

We have so much planned for the evening: Two bike raffles which were graciously donated by **New Belgium Fat Tire** and **Decatur Bikes**. The bikes will be hanging at **Milltown Tavern** and **97 Estoria**.

- Restaurant Gift Certificate Raffle
- Win/Win raffle – pick an envelope and win a \$10 or more gift certificate and one lucky winner will win an iPad!
- Silent Auction – wonderful prizes will be auctioned off.
- **FunFlicks Outdoor Movies** will set up a twelve foot movie screen in your backyard for thirty of your closest friends.
- Private dinner party in your home for 8 and 12 people with **Chef Massimo Gallioni**.
- Four Night stay at **Hotel Capital Park**.
- Private landscape consultation with **Wonderfalls, Inc.**

Tickets are \$35 before April 5th and VIP tickets are \$50.

To find out more, visit us on [facebook.com/CabbagetownStrong](https://www.facebook.com/CabbagetownStrong) and www.sweetcheatsatlanta.com. Tickets will be available for purchase starting March 5th on Handbid.com

SAVE THE DATE and come join us April 5th for this great fundraiser!

Also, we are looking for volunteers. If you are interested and want to make a difference for the wonderful souls in the Philippines, drop us a note. You'll get great stuff like a special volunteer t-shirt, beer glass, gift certificates, our never-ending gratitude and more! Contact us on our facebook page, shirley@sweetcheatsatlanta.com or barbara.keeney@gmail.com

CELEBRATE IRISH!

March 6th Hunger Walk/Run Fundraiser for Team Jeremy (in memory of our friend Jeremy Smith) 10% of Food Sales and \$5 Donation for Pint of Beer.

March 14th St. Patrick's Day starts and Doesn't End till March 17th!

Feel the Irish Luck with Special Irish Drinks and Irish Food!

Celebrate St Patricks Day and Sing Along with The Cabbagetown Criers!
 We will have Live Traditional Irish Music, Saturday, March 15th, 8p



Sara Clifford Hemingway, Printmaker, Art Opening: March 28th 7to9p

NEW: MILLTOWN MORNINGS

"A Proper Start For Your Day"

Monday thru Friday 7:30 to 10:30a

Breakfast Sandwiches \$4

Bagels and Cream Cheese \$2

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Cabbagetown Neighborhood Improvement Association: General Meeting

Tuesday, February 11th, 2014 – Cabbagetown Hall (Community Center). Minutes Recorded by Whitney Cheesbro.

Meeting called to order at 7:07p

1. Public Safety - Valencia Hudson, City of Atlanta Liaison for Natalyn Archibong. Street sweeping is going on, please try to keep cars off the street if possible. Neighbors discussed need for a one way – do not enter sign at Powell and Memorial, she will look into getting a sign.

2. APD Report – Due to the weather, Officer Shaver is not here this week.

3. Announcements – Barb and Shirley: Cabbagetown Strong In 2008, a tornado devastated our neighborhood, but the community worked together to rebuild. Now the annual event is held to remind everyone how the community came together. April 5th will see an **Art, Roll and Stroll** – visiting **Six Feet Under, Agave, The Stacks, and Milltown**. There will be an art auction and silent auction. The roll and stroll is \$35 for two beers and food. Every year they focus on a charity to help. This year the fundraiser is near and dear to Shirley at **Sweet Cheats** – her family lives in the Philippines and are helping others rebuild their lives. Her family has adopted three families that are now living with them. There is a group of retired air force men who will build the houses, they can build three houses for \$15k. Need volunteers. Goal is \$15k. There will also be a raffle for gift certificates of \$10 or more. There is a \$75 certificate for **Rathbuns**, two \$50 certificates for **One Eared Stag**, and an iPad!

4. Minutes of last meeting – approved unanimously.

5. Treasurers report – Karen is out – beginning balance was \$5,788. Wrote checks for newspaper and received advertising deposits. \$6,219 is the ending balance. CNIA budget for 2014 was read by Lyn. Motion to adopt approved unanimously.

6. Public Safety/Neighborhood Watch – Robert and Matt – no new news, it's been fairly quiet.

7. Hospitality – next roll call is coming up at Amada Bolster's house. Email Karen if you know of new neighbors to invite.

8. CI Connect – Lynne read CI treasurers' report and presented the balance sheet and program budgets. CI is currently undergoing a renewal of the lease agreement for the building and the parks. Lynne is trying to look into raising the funds into getting the building rebuilt and make it a green bldg. CI wants it to be a model community center. She spoke with Jared Serwer, an architect at **Perkins and Will** and dedicated member of our HP committee about his firm donating plans to us for a design. Over the history of CI- they have spent \$60k, of improvements, not including routine maintenance on the center. Neighbors were enthusiastic about the idea. Lynne wants to have an advisory committee – approved unanimously.

8. Historic Preservation – Katie. Milltown has asked for a change in hours to add breakfast. HP has approved. UDC has asked for more information regarding the parking lot. Milltown needs to have a clear listing of hours of operations for Milltown and **Profiling Solutions** and must have appropriate signage. At rear of Milltown, code requires there to be a 6ft. fence between the houses and the parking lot, but the hill

is so steep it doesn't stay up. Can't have two dumpsters, and they have to get rid of the recycling dumpster, which they are upset about. In the front lot, the landscaping area has to be a 3ft. buffer – they have a 5ft. buffer with the trees, wants an exception to leave the trees in place. They will start to open at 7:30a. Neighbor asked about the 5ft vs 3ft buffer. It is a buffer with low landscaping and evergreens. Yes they exceed the 3ft. buffer, they just want to not lose the tree. Motion to approve subject to condition – unanimously approved.

670 Memorial Drive – asking for variances that have been turned down by HP. Parking variance request is to park across the street at **BarOne**. They claim it is a modeling studio for children, we don't think crossing Memorial Dr., (a busy state highway), is appropriate for that use. UDC denied application due to multiple problems. They are up for a hearing with UDC next Wednesday and they have not spoken to HP or CNIA- that is their burden. Normal course of events without coming before the Neighborhood is to automatically send a letter to deny the application. However the letter is not binding on UDC. Lyn will be in touch with Doug Young of UDC, we want to know what the application is and will appear before the UDC next Wednesday. Neighbors that are impacted are encouraged to attend. What we specifically object to is the parking variances, the dumpster placement, and circumvention of our review process.

9. BLVD Tunnel – Angela who has been working with Ben and Nicki (they just brought their baby home!). Latest is **Living Walls** has paired an artist from NY with our walls; his name is **Momo** and does abstract large scale work. Passed around drawings so we can see what the neighborhood thinks. There is a stipulation that the neighborhood can provide input. Looking to complete in April and have a block party. Motion to approve the art – approved unanimously.

10. NPU-N just got approval for AC units for their meeting space. **Crywolf.us** to register your home alarm. You can get fined for false alarms. **BLVD Tunnel** got approval for cameras to link to APD. Watershed will give you leak detection tablets. If you have concerns about housing or business licenses, Lauren Clayton, neighborhood solicitor can help. Proactive rezoning for the beltline postponed due to snow. **Plaza Theater** applied for a liquor license.

11. Old business. Neighbor asked about the air quality study? We have been unable to get them to respond and follow up with the community about the project. We would all like to them to follow through and bring us the report. We agreed to pay for the sensors and data and to view the website. They are on the website. Two of three sensors work.

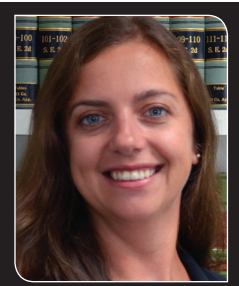
Request for nominations for officers for the March election, most of the board members must rotate positions and we need new volunteers!

Prestige plates drawings – we liked the drawings! Looks like the sign toppers on street signs. Will move forward with the car size tags to order and sell for \$15 plate, will commit to buying 100. Motion approved.

Meeting ended 8:50p.

SEABA Update

By Ashley McCartney



**ASHLEY
MCCARTNEY**

On March 20th, 2014, *Carumba Café* located at 349-E Decatur Street will be hosting our business networking soiree from 5:30-7:15p.



As always, we will be provided with some snacks to munch on and we are


responsible for our own bar tabs. Bring your business cards! This is where deals get started.

I am pleased to announce that Mr. Justin E. Giboney, External Affairs Manager/Redevelopment, *Invest Atlanta* (Atlanta Development Authority) has agreed to be our guest speaker for our next SEABA Luncheon on Thursday, April 24th at noon at *Zoo Atlanta* in the Ford Conference Center. Zoo Atlanta will provide an excellent lunch and Mr. Giboney will give a 20-30 minute presentation on what's new on the economic development front impacting local businesses.

In like manner, an update on TAD's, Turner Field Redevelopment; and share a list of resources, programs and funds available to assist new, small and medium sized businesses. This will be followed by a brief question and answer period of which members of the audience participate. The cost to attend is \$12. Please RSVP as space is limited.

Please check out our SEABA website at www.seabaga.org. If you would like to be on our mailing list or know more about our organization just send an email to ashmccartney@gmail.com and we'll get back to you. We are also on Facebook.

SEABA (South East Atlanta Business Association) was created through the merger of the Reynoldstown/Cabbagetown Business Association and the Grant Park Merchants Association in 2006. Our most important goals are to strengthen and grow the business community and enhance the quality of life for all residents. SEABA is a 501(c)(6) non-profit corporation operated by volunteers.



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A Platinum Center

By Lynne Splinter, Treasurer, Cabbagetown Initiative, CDC



**LYNNE
SPLINTER**

It's time once again to renegotiate our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Lease Agreement for the Community Center with the City of Atlanta. While we were hopeful back in 2004 that we would be able to support our own utilities by 2014, we find it would be impossible to do so with the cost of those utilities; gas, electric, and water being close to \$25,000 per year. And yes, our tenants, the *Grant Park Cooperative School*, had hoped they would be able to

support their 60% share of the utilities by 2014. However, at \$15,000 per year they would probably find themselves closer to closing their doors at the Cabbagetown Campus.

Therefore, our first and immediate goal is to negotiate with the city to maintain the utilities for at least the next couple of years and then begin to phase in one utility one year at a time. In the meantime, we are doing energy assessments on the gas and the electric. The larger issue is that the water bill is excruciatingly high coming in at around \$14,678 in 2013. This means there is a leak! On Thursday, February 20th, a licensed plumber found the leak under the concrete pad in front of the Community Center just west of the water meter. We are getting a bid for the repair and we will have the City foot the bill to correct. The electric assessment was performed on Tuesday, February 18th and we are awaiting the written report.

With all this said, we now realize that it is time to get proactive in regards to the Community Center. We know from our meeting with the Parks Department that they ultimately do not want to own the building. While they will honor another lease agreement with us, the day is going to come when they are ready to sell and tell us we can either buy the property at fair market value (fair market value is an entire article unto itself) or we will sell to someone else (*I double dog dare them*), which brings us to the following idea:

What if we were to pursue enough grant funds to buy the building and redevelop our community center and pre-school into a model community center? We're talking totally energy efficient systems including (if possible and if prudent) solar roof panels/shingles, geothermal heat, icynene insulation, cisterns for the gray water – have I left anything out? Yes, let's go for the Platinum Certification! I have spoken to a local architectural firm who believe this project could be viable.

The reason I have stepped up to write this article is that I have offered to lead an advisory committee to pull this project together. We'll dedicate this next year to getting it off the ground and thoroughly investigating the possibilities.

At our next CNIA meeting, we would love your thoughts, your input, and to vote if we actually want to pursue this concept. The meeting is Tuesday, March 11th, 7p at the Community Center. Please, please join us to put this idea into reality.

FROM THE TORNADO OF 2008 TO TYPHOON HAIYAN, WE ARE **CABBAGETOWN STRONG**



ART, ROLL AND STROLL! APRIL 5TH 5:30 TIL MIDNIGHT

7p to 8p at Agave • 8p to 9p at The Stacks • 9p to 12a at Milltown Tavern

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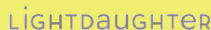
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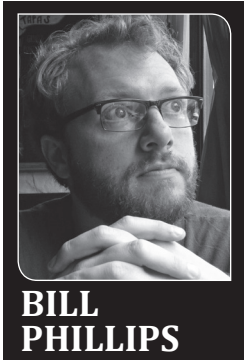
FOR MORE INFO PLEASE VISIT: [FACEBOOK.COM/CABBAGETOWNSTRONG](https://facebook.com/cabbagetownstrong)

Don't fence me in

By Bill Phillips, Cabbagehead from The Stacks

I've got something against fences, I think.

Why I'm thinking enough to levy such attention on fences is something I'd like to explain. See, I'm in India (yeah, I know) up in a hotel room, with nothing to do but think. I had thought that India would be all excitement, but it turns out that if you're in Bangalore over by where all the programmers work, you're hanging out in the subcontinent's version of Spaghetti Junction. Not a good place to walk around and gather one's thoughts.



BILL PHILLIPS

I'm better today than I was when I first arrived last weekend, though. When my cab pulled up to the hotel it took me a minute to see that it was there. From the street level all you could see was a wall with a small gap in it. The cab had to pull up to a swing arm and a couple of traffic cones and wait for a security guard to pop the trunk and take a look see before entering the compound.

I spent my entire first day looking out of my window down at that street. Waiting for the elevator, I would look out another window and see packs of wild dogs roaming the brush, dirt roads and shacks. I walked along the edge of the pool downstairs looking over that fence at the outer ring road traffic, reading about addiction in society, about community decline and tyranny from within and from without.

Man, I was terrified. No part of that town could ever have been as dull as the little part I made for myself with that wall.

This was not a good state of affairs. So I talked to the folks I was working with and asked them: wow, it must be a pretty dangerous neighborhood, right? Otherwise, why have that big old fence around it and all that security?

Nope. I got laughed at a bit. The only solid danger in my area would apparently be getting ripped off by an autorickshaw driver. So that evening, I went on a walk. My shoes got dusty, but I didn't feel like I was in any danger. There wasn't anything interesting to do, either, which is another thing, but I've managed to keep myself occupied by repeatedly overpaying autorickshaws to take me to the Shiva temple.

I'm not really sure what the fences lesson here is. That I'm a scared, naive American in a foreign land? Impossible. Fences are a little silly? Maybe - if nobody's getting held up at gunpoint, maybe they are. Fences help solidify socioeconomic barriers between peoples? Fences help part frightened foreigners from their money?

I have found that India has a solution that I can apply to this dilemma: they make big cheesy statues of people, and I can sit down in front of one of them. Which is why I've been going to the Shiva temple. That, and it's the only place I know to go to outside the fence.

Ctown Krewe!

By Debbie Weeks

Cabbagetown will host our fourth Annual *Krewe of Cabbagetown Mardi Gras Konvertible and Kool Kar Procession* on Sunday, March 2nd

"THROW ME SOMETHING MISTER!" The car line up will stage at **97 Estoria** at 2:30p. Procession begins promptly at 3p. Bring your decorated vehicle full of spirited people and lots of beads and candy to toss to Cabbageheads gathered on our sidewalks.



CABBAGETOWN RESIDENTS: Come outside between 3p- 4p so we can throw you something! **BE THERE!** Come Show Off! A potluck feast will take place at a location to be determined.

If anyone is looking for a place to purchase cheap beads, check out this website: emardigrasbeads.com

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A fond way to remember a friend

By Brandon Sutton



It was a warm and sunny Spring day in March 2012 when I last saw my friend and neighbor, Jeremy Smith. We met at the starting line of the Hunger Walk/Run down at Turner Field as we had done in so many years past. Jeremy was always one to support causes that mattered to him, but he was also a dedicated friend that knew when causes were important to those around him.

Jeremy knew the Hunger Walk/Run meant a great deal to me, and despite his hectic schedule in 2012, he formed a team and raised money to benefit the *Atlanta Community Food Bank*.

His spirit of giving could not be suppressed by busy schedules and late nights at work. Perhaps the fact that one in four Georgia children are food insecure, weighed heavily on him and he knew he could help.

When we met at the starting line that Spring day, I never imagined it would be the last time I would see him. The starting gun fired and he ran off into the beautiful sunshine.

Just over a week later, my neighbor, Ed Akins called and told me about Jeremy's tragic accident. Sadly, Jeremy was gone. My heart was broken beyond words, and I struggled to comprehend life around *The Stacks* and Cabbagetown without his magnetic personality.

The Hunger Walk/Run has come to signify much more to me in the light of Jeremy's death. It now has the added dimension of bringing up memories of what Jeremy meant to me, and the sadness surrounding our collective loss.

It is my hope that together, our community can continue to remember how special he was and continue the important

work of providing meals to those less fortunate than ourselves.

This year marks the 30th Anniversary of the Hunger Walk/Run, and as Co-Chair of the HWR committee at the ACFB, this means more to me than ever. To help the fundraising efforts and honor Jeremy's memory, there are three easy ways to contribute.

On Tuesday, March 4th, *Agave Restaurant* is hosting a Dine-Out for the HWR, and 20% of the night's proceeds will be donated to Team Jeremy. And on Thursday, March 6th, *Milltown Tavern* is donating a keg of beer and 10% of food proceeds to the team.

I would love to see the neighborhood come together for this occasion and honor Jeremy's memory while enjoying fellowship opportunities that are unique to Cabbagetown.



From left to right: Jeremy, a lucky girl and Brandon.

Please consider joining one or both of these events if you can, and bring your stories about Jeremy to share.

Online donations can also be made at: engage.acfb.org/goto/TeamJeremy.

Special thanks to Milltown and Agave for providing these opportunities to come together and remember Jeremy!

The gracious and neighborly deeds of Milltown Tavern

and Agave Restaurant are great examples of what makes Cabbagetown so awesome!

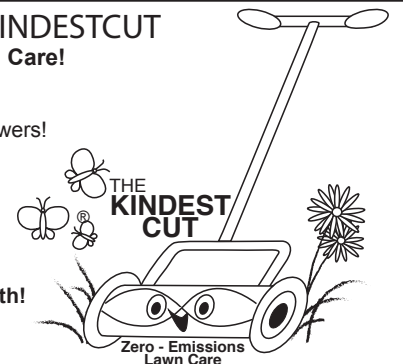
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Faugh A Ballaugh!

By Quinn Kane



QUINN
KANE

When I agreed to write the Cabbagetown nightlife piece, I did so knowing one certainty: March's column would write itself. Forget Margi Gras, the Equinox, and Oscar Night, March is all about **St. Patrick's day**.

With the Kane crest inked on my chest and the Irish flag on my wall, it's easy to see that I love this holiday. I own a t-shirt from nearly every Irish pub I've visited (*my favorite is from Finn McCool's in Equator*),

and after reviewing my collection, I've compiled my three favorite St. Patrick's day destinations in Atlanta for this year's celebration.

My first destination is where I spent last year's Paddy's Day: the annual **Kegs and Eggs** bar crawl in Virginia Highlands. From 10a to 2p on Saturday, March 15th. Kegs and Eggs covers four-bars, **Neighbors Pub, Dark Horse, Hand in Hand, and Diesel**. With green beer and Irish food and drink specials, the crawl isn't to be missed. *The best part?* the party literally goes from dawn-to-dusk, as live music will play long after the event ends, and the masses continue to flood into and from the bars and balconies to keep the celebration alive.

Next is **Fado Irish Pub**. Fado has been a great destination for me, hosting my high-school reunion, my birthday, and many late-night drinks long after last-call. Fado is in the heart of Buckhead, and is gearing up to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in a fitting way: from March 15th-17th, Buckhead Avenue will be closed down and set up with stages, bars, beer gardens, and food tents. Fado is authentically Irish and close to the heart, as our very own Kevin and Clay (**Milltown Tavern**) used to bartend at the original Fado.

Finally, the **Elder Tree Public House** makes for a perfect St. Patrick's Day for those who look to enjoy traditional Irish meals and beverages without all the fuss. Located in East Atlanta, Elder Tree has genuine feel and partners with Atlanta's own professional soccer club, **The Silverbacks**, so you know that a game or two will be on the flat-screens. Elder Tree is a great destination all-year-round with a homey feel and allows one to enjoy a tasty meal (my favorite is the Cumberland Pie), throw darts, and down a cold-pint while knowing that you're in good company.

So Faugh A Ballaugh (clear the way!), St. Patrick's Day is near!

Throw on some **Dropkick Murphy's**, dust off your green shirts, and enjoy the holiday where everyone's Irish for a night. After my journey to one (or all three) of these destinations, I'll be looking forward to capping my night at **Milltown Tavern** and swapping stories with fellow Cabbageheads about the holiday that represents cheer and unity for all. As always, until next time, I hope to see you out!

Change is coming

By Nicole Braxley

As you are hopefully aware, a group of folks have been working for the past year on getting **the Boulevard Tunnel** cleaned up. One of the greatest assets of living in **The Stacks** is the ability to walk to awesome restaurants and bars. Carroll Street is just out our back door, but while the Edgewood/Boulevard corner is just a block away, walking there is sketchy at night, to say the least!

In the past year, **the Boulevard Tunnel Initiative (BTI)** committee has succeeded in getting the pedestrian guard rails replaced and painted a lovely city-color of pistachio green (*not our first choice, but beggars can't be choosers!*). The lights have been updated to LED style and are much brighter. The road is slated to be re-surfaced in fall 2014. We are currently working on getting bright lights set up in those shady stairwells to keep down trash disposal there. Long-term goals include security cameras linked to the APD for 24hr monitoring.



An artist's rendering of what the Boulevard Tunnel mural might look like.

The next phase of the project is the most fun... a mural!

The artist, MOMO, has been chosen by **Living Walls** to paint the entire Boulevard Tunnel. His proposed dates in Atlanta are April 16-26th. Living Walls and BTI want to celebrate this awesome event by hosting a huge block party to celebrate art and beautification of the area.

Final details are forthcoming, but think vibrant businesses open with live music, food and drink specials. Think artist's tents, a pop up art gallery, and a chance to peruse the tunnel and practice your walk from Carroll Street, through the new and improved tunnel, up to the Boulevard/Edgewood businesses. The more that people walk our new tunnel, the less unsavory characters are going to want to hang out there. **Take back the tunnel!**

We need your help for upcoming events! We'll have a community clean up the week before painting starts, and we'll need lots of volunteers for the block party event. Living Walls may even need your help painting some! Please check us out on Facebook (Boulevard Tunnel Initiative). Send us a message to be included in this historic event.

Volunteer and be a part of something bigger than yourself! As always, thanks for your support, Cabbageheads! Check us out on Facebook or on our blog, www.blvdntunl.com

See You at the Park(side)

By Gila Herman

Remember when everyone moved to Cabbagetown in their 20's to party and then flocked in droves for the areas North and East of here with the better schools as soon as they hit their 30's and their kids were out of diapers? Well I don't. I moved here six years ago, when I was already pushing the age limit for **97 Estoria**, and just months before I became pregnant with my daughter. So for me, Cabbagetown has always been more of a close-knit, family-oriented community with two parks, walkable streets and a friend willing to watch my kid for a couple of hours on just about every block.

We bought our house on Pearl Street when our daughter was two, still not knowing what we would do about school, but knew we'd figure it out when the time came. And then, hallelujah, the great redistricting of 2012 came. Okay, maybe if you didn't have a soon-to-be-school-aged child and a deep-seated love of public schools, it might not have been such a big deal; but for me, it was HUGE. A group of concerned parents and neighbors got together and lobbied to get Cabbagetown zoned for **Parkside Elementary**. There were many neighborhoods vying to get it in there because of Parkside's outstanding reputation, and Cabbagetown was one of the lucky ones who got it.

For me, personally, it wasn't so much the fact of getting zoned for Parkside that was exciting, but the thought that maybe this strong community of parents and children would no longer be separated when their kids turned five.

Oddly enough, many folks in our neighborhood still don't seem to know about our local zoned elementary school, or how lucky we are to have such a great school with no waiting lists and no cost to attend. I just got back from their open house and I am so excited for the fall when my daughter will start there. We walked in to the natural light filled new state-of-the-art building and were greeted by warm, smiling faces and a table with fresh-baked goods, **Caribou Coffee** and orange juice. Not quite the picture many folks seem to have when they envision Atlanta Public Schools. We then got an hour long presentation where teachers, staff, parents and students alike all gushed about how great their school was and how proud they were to be part of the Parkside family. For me, that was truly one of the more remarkable things - here is a school that seems to run so smoothly and seamlessly, yet there was such a strong feeling of family and community there. We saw an entire class of kindergartners recite perfectly their pledge to learn, respect themselves and others and achieve.

Parkside is known for their commitment to educating the whole child. They have an average enrollment of 600 students per year and an average classroom size of 21. Parkside is able to attend to the need of a wide range of students, with strong support for the gifted and talent as well as special needs children. Title One grants allow for lots of amazing extras like cutting edge technology including tablets connected to smartboards in the classrooms, a community garden program, and Spanish class starting in Kindergarten.

And enrichment doesn't stop during the school day. They also have a comprehensive after-school program as well various after-school enrichment activities including soccer, dance, tennis, karate and piano lessons. Many teachers devote their free time to various clubs including an award-winning robotics and chess team. They have always had a strong and active PTA, with many opportunities to get involved with the school.

So, if you have kids, I hope to see you there in the fall or in years to come. Tours are offered every other Wednesday and registration should begin in April. For more information, contact 404.802.4100. If not, there's still plenty of ways to get involved through tutoring, group reading, administrative assistance or individual group or art projects with the kids. For more information, please contact daharris@atlanta.k12.ga.us.

And of course, if you ever want to chat about neighborhood schools, I'm around. I'll see you at the park!



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Cabbagetown resident for 19 years

Once upon a mattress

By Melissa Weinman, Atlanta intown

Tucked away in a brick warehouse in Cabbagetown is something you don't see much anymore: a small, family-owned factory. With around 25 employees, *Colgate Mattress* produces some of the most popular baby mattresses in the country.

"We're one on the few manufacturers left in the city," said Dennis Wolkin, national sales manager for the company. Wolkin is the third generation of his family to work at Colgate. His grandfather started the business when he moved to Atlanta after returning from World War II.

"There was a lack of quality baby mattresses and he said, I can build better ones," Wolkin said of his grandfather. One of their most high-profile fans is Martha Stewart, who bought a Colgate mattress for her grandchild, Wolkin said.

She later featured a Colgate mattress on an episode of the *Martha Stewart Show* focusing on nurseries.

Wolkin said they've always maintained a good relationship with Cabbagetown, even when the neighborhood wasn't so good. He said his uncle hired a lot of local people, especially young people, to work in the factory. They provided jobs, and in turn, they were able to avoid becoming victims of the crime that plagued the area at the time, Wolkin said.

Wolkin said his family saw potential in the neighborhood as well as a couple of other logistical advantages: easy access to MARTA and interstate highways.

"People are concerned about chemicals in mattresses," Wolkin said. "We give people an option."


GRUMBLES

THIS WEEK'S EPISODE:
SNOWPOCALYPSE NOW!

ART & STORY BY
JAMES BURNS


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EVENTS LIKE THE RECENT "SNOWPOCALYPSE" HERE IN THE SOUTH BRING TO LIGHT HOW VERY FRAGILE OUR CIVILIZATION CAN BE...



... IF SOMETHING LIKE A SNOW AND ICE STORM CAN BRING A MAJOR CITY TO ITS KNEES.


WE HAD OVER A WEEK TO PREPARE, BUT SOMEHOW THE STORM SEEMED TO TAKE EVERYONE BY SURPRISE...



CITY PARALYZED! STAY INDOORS! IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD!!


SNOWJAM 2011

I DIDN'T SLEEP MUCH THAT NIGHT. I KEPT HEARING ICE SLIDING OFF THE ROOF & SLEET HITTING THE WINDOW...




I WORRIED THAT THE POWER WOULD BE KNOCKED OUT AND WE'D BE PLUNGED INTO DARKNESS AND COLD...

IT TRIGGERED SOME SIMIAN PART OF MY BRAIN, AS I LISTENED TO THE PRIMORDIAL FURY OUTSIDE...



WITHOUT POWER WE'D BE LIKE OUR ANCESTORS; HOOPLING IN A CAVE, WITHOUT HEAT OR LIGHT.


WE WOKED TO 4 INCHES OF SNOW,* COVERED WITH GROWING ICE, BUT LUCKILY WE STILL HAD ELECTRICITY.



BUT WE WERE CUT OFF FOR 5 DAYS; NO MAIL DELIVERY, NO PACKAGE DELIVERIES, AND UNPLOWED, ICY ROADS.

*THERE ARE VERY FEW SNOW PLANS IN THE SOUTH...

IT JUST GOES TO SHOW YOU...



WE'RE BASICALLY A NATURAL DISASTER AWAY FROM TOTAL ANARCHY...

GRUMBLES64 ON TWITTER

HTTP://JAMESBURNSDESIGN.COM/COMICS/



An unknown runner braves the streets of Cabbagetown after our February snowfall. Photo by Terrell Clark, tclarkweddings.com

Your Cabbagetown bucket list

By Skyler Waldrop Minter

Art Crush Auction 2014

Sat, March 22nd, 7p - Le Maison Rouge inside Paris on Ponce

The Art Crush Auction is an annual fundraiser that supports the mission of BURNAWAY, an Atlanta-based nonprofit organization dedicated to providing critical coverage and dialogue about the arts in Atlanta and the Southeast. artcrushauction.com

2014 Publix Georgia Marathon and Half-Marathon

Sunday, March 23rd, 7a - Georgia World Congress Center

The race course will travel through some of metro Atlanta's most historic areas, including the Sweet Auburn District, Inman Park, Decatur, Druid Hills, Virginia-Highland and Midtown areas. Race day will also include the Luckie 5K at Centennial Olympic Park in downtown georgiamarathon.com

Dad's Garage Bacon Fest

Saturday, March 29th, 1p - Masquerade Music Park

This outdoor festival is an unbridled bash filled to the brim with the 3 B's: BEER. BANDS. BACON. It's also a fundraiser for Dad's Garage (yes, they're non-profit), so even if you're not in it to capture the world record for swallowing the most swine, you can rest assured that your cash is still going to a

good cause. See awesome local bands, hilarious carnival games manned by the best improvisers in the city, troughs upon troughs of cold beer and sizzlin' bacon, and more! dadsgarage.com

Stone Mountain Bluegrass Festival & Artists Market 2014

Saturday, March 29th, 10a to 6p - Stone Mountain Village

The Atlanta Foundation for Public Spaces is proud to announce the two-day festival, mixing sensational bluegrass musicians and self-taught southern artists and artisans. stonemountainvillage.com

Cabbagetown Strong Fundraiser

Saturday, April 5th, 5:30p - Midnight

Help a community rebuild from the typhoon that destroyed parts of the Philippines, in remembrance of how we helped one another after the 2008 tornado. Cabbagetown is partnering with *Sweet Cheats* and Shirley (Shirley's family lives in the Philippines) and *The Atlanta Bicycle Coalition* for an Art Roll & Stroll and we need your help and participation! For more info, please contact Shirley at Shirley@sweetcheatsatlanta.com or Barb at barbara.keeney@gmail.com. Visit: Facebook.com/cabbagetownstrong for all the latest info.

Spring is Almost Here ...

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1 Bedroom/1 Bath

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Google versus Comcast

By Kyle F. Bidlack

Cabbageheads rejoice! Atlanta is a candidate for **Google's** new, ultra-fast fiber optic Internet and television service, finally giving us an alternative to **Comcast**.

The service, called **Fiber**, operates at 100 times the speed typically delivered by Comcast, and at a competitive price. That makes it possible to download a feature-length movie in a few seconds. The more devices you've got running in your home, the more likely you'd be to notice a big improvement in performance with Google's 1-gigabit-per-second service.

The company's timing is either lucky or highly strategic: It comes amid hand-wringing over Comcast's bid to acquire Time Warner Cable, further collapsing the already slim number of cable Internet providers. By going public with its plans to evaluate 34 key markets nationwide as sites for Fiber, Google also creates buzz around what some onlookers have hailed as a serious challenge to existing providers like Comcast.

"Google is really out of the gate doing something different that is hard for incumbents," says Ron Hutchins, Georgia Tech's chief technology officer.

Hutchins' "*something different*" is a radical upgrade of the fiber optic networks in the markets Google Fiber enters. Where Google believes the market conditions are right, it's willing (*and able*) to supplant what has been a gradual, piecemeal evolution away from traditional copper transmission lines with a build-it-today strategy.

Depending on how many cities Google chooses, the cost could well be measured in billions. To make that investment worthwhile, Google is looking for two main things: a reasonably hospitable physical environment and a city government willing to help in a big way with logistical things like detailed maps and expedited permits. The Cabbagetown Neighbor hopes the City of Atlanta steps up.

In the few markets where Fiber currently exists –Provo, Utah, and Kansas City, with Austin up next — Internet service costs \$70 a month, and Internet plus TV is priced at \$120. The up-front "construction fee" and equipment charges can run to several hundred dollars, although Google waives most of that if the customer keeps the service for a year or two.

For more information, visit: fiber.google.com/cities

BOBBY'S DATE WITH JENNY WAS GOING JUST SWELL...

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Despite resurgence, vacancies dot Atlanta

By Josh Green, *curbed.com*

Look around: Atlanta's building surge involves more than glass towers and mega-retail projects. Intown neighborhoods are crackling with the thwack of hammers. Which makes it all the more cringe-worthy to see vacant homes rotting away. First stop: Funky little Cabbagetown, where fewer homes appear to be on the verge of toppling over than during the Recession doldrums.

Call it gentrification (bad) or blossoming (good), one thing's certain: vacant properties aren't doing anyone any favors. **Creative Loafing** floated novel (if quixotic) ideas as part of their Atlanta wishlist for 2014: "How about proposing a law that forces owners of abandoned homes to tear down or fix up the properties, something that could particularly help West Atlanta?" staffers enthused. "If they do neither, community nonprofits could take over the property and create a better use."



This small, tin-roofed home with dual entrances has stood on Iswald Street since the 1920s. Most recent valuation: \$70,400.

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
...happy house hunting!

DEVELOPED LOT

For Sale	Price
218 Berean Ave. .10 Acres	\$90,000

HOUSES

For Sale	Asking
597 Pickett St. 4 BD/2 BA	\$349,900
209 Pearl St. 4 BD/2 BA	\$334,900
125 Short St. 3 BD/3 BA	\$309,000
182 Estoria St. 2 BD/2 BA	\$274,900
800 Harold Ave. 2 BD/1 BA	\$225,000
648 Bryant St. 2 BD/2 BA	\$134,900
Contingent	Price
125 Short St. 3 BD/3 BA	\$309,000
248 Iswald St. 1 BD/1 BA	\$175,000

CONDOS & LOFTS

For Sale	Asking
The Stacks Unit E417 2 BD/2 BA	170 Blvd \$280,000
Unit F112 1 BD/1 BA	\$199,900
Unit H220 1 BD/1 BA	\$189,000
Unit D304 1 BD/1 BA	\$159,900
Unit H403 1 BD/1 BA	\$140,000
Milltown Lofts Unit 308 2 BD/1 BA	\$229,900
Unit 1103 2 BD/1 BA	\$149,900

PENDING

CONDOS & LOFTS

Pending	Price
The Stacks Unit E111 2 BD/2 BA	170 Blvd \$274,900
Unit E124 2 BD/2 BA	\$229,900
Unit E226 1 BD/1 BA	\$199,900
Unit H507 1 BD/1 BA	\$192,900
Unit E010 1 BD/1 BA	\$182,900
Unit D104 1 BD/1 BA	\$189,900
Unit H421 1 BD/1 BA	\$149,900
181 Powell St. Unit 10 2 BD/1 BA	\$75,000



COMMERCIAL

For Sale	Price
582 Decatur St.	\$4,500,000
536 Decatur St.	\$1,700,000
318 Boulevard	\$500,000
1270 Memorial	\$399,000
1270 Memorial	\$360,000



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