



# NEWS FROM CITY HALL

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF AVONDALE ESTATES · AVONDALE ESTATES, GEORGIA  
NEWSLETTER 386

May - June 2023

06

STATE OF THE CITY



13

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE



25

CONGRATS GRAD



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## Board of Mayor & Commissioners

**Jonathan Elmore**, Mayor  
**Brian Fisher**, Mayor Pro Tem  
**Lisa Shortell**, Commissioner  
**Lionel Laratte**, Commissioner  
**Dee Merriam**, Commissioner

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**Shannon Powell**, Assistant City Manager  
**Kayla Green**, Finance Officer  
**Gina Hill**, City Clerk  
**Lori Leland**, Planner and Permitting Coordinator  
**Brittany Marmol**, Director of Finance and Administrative Services  
**Kristen Moretz**, Capital Projects, Construction and Maintenance Director  
**Ellen Powell**, Creative, Marketing and Communications Director  
**Marcella Shaw**, Clerk of Court

## Police Department

**Harry Hess**, Chief of Police  
**Anthony Cappuccio**, Deputy Chief of Police

## Public Works Department

**Marcel Jackson**, Public Works Director  
**Don Huff**, Public Works Supervisor  
**Adrian Langston**, Greenspace Manager

### Cover photo: Caroline Aiken

*The Weekend Wind Down Concert series returns May 14 with Caroline Aiken (pictured on the cover) Donna Hopkins and Carly Gibson.*



Commissioner Lionel Laratte speaks with community members at the State of the City. pg. 6

## Stay in Touch with the City of Avondale Estates

Stay connected with what's happening through the many communications channels used by the city.

### Newsletter

To receive this bimonthly newsletter in the mail or electronically, please email [epowell@avondaleestates.org](mailto:epowell@avondaleestates.org).

### E-News

 The city emails an electronic newsletter once a week and as needed for special announcements and alerts. To sign up, visit [www.avondaleestates.org/e-news.html](http://www.avondaleestates.org/e-news.html).



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News from City Hall - Newsletter Disclaimer

### Purpose

The City Newsletter was created for the purpose of providing a written medium for regularly sharing information from City Hall. It is a vehicle for the Board of Mayor and Commissioners and the City Manager to share information relevant to issues discussed, actions taken, and plans made by the Board of Mayor and Commissioners, to share newsworthy information about our residents and businesses, and to provide a calendar of scheduled City events.

# From the City Manager



by Patrick Bryant  
City Manager

It's been a little over a year since Chief Hess took over the helm of the AEPD. In that time, he's focused his efforts on utilizing technology to create efficiency

and transparency, getting out into the community to connect with individuals and organizations, and building a culture based on the 21st Century Policing Model that enables future leaders. Through his efforts, we have engaged with multiple community members including the Avondale Alliance for Racial Justice concerning police reform. As we look at ideas to improve our police force, we do it through the lens of a contemporary approach to community policing. With the pillars of the 21st Century Policing Model in mind, we have created the following action items for 2023.

## Updating Policies

First, the Board of the Mayor and Commissioners approved a proposal to review and update all policies within the police department. We have contracted Lexipol to complete this process. Founded in 2003, Lexipol utilizes the expertise of 440 employees with more than 2,075 years of combined experience in a variety of professional backgrounds to assist law enforcement agencies with the evolving policing landscape. With their help, we'll ensure our policies are in-line with legal standards on the federal and state levels and address all legal updates to policies throughout the year. These policies will be uniquely crafted for Avondale Estates to meet the needs of our community. Contracting with Lexipol ensures our policies will remain up to date in accordance with best practices and legal standards. This investment will make our personnel, our agency, and our community safer and more secure.

## Encouraging Health and Wellness

Paying close attention to officers' wellness and safety is critical to our department's success. We implemented an officer wellness plan offered by Lexipol through a wellness app downloadable on any mobile device. This program provides support for the employee and their family members for stress, anxiety, depression, trauma-based incidents and other health needs. The program facilitates employees' physical, emotional, mental and financial health prolonging their career. This tool also helps officers make the best decisions while on the job.

## Connecting with the Community

Being a part of the community, not outside of it is vital to our team. The police department will host quarterly community events so the community can get a chance to know our staff and our staff can have the opportunity to further know the community we serve. In addition to these events, we will hold two listening sessions to address police reform, racial conflicts and concerns about bias-based policing.

## Training and Communication

Our training program will also be changing. Ensuring our officers receive the best training is always a goal. In addition to our mandated training throughout the year, we will be exploring professional training in fair and impartial policing.

We're also looking at better ways to communicate. One avenue we are considering is having a custom app built that provides anyone who downloads it with real-time information, the ability to submit crime tips, and resources on disaster and medical advice.

With a clear plan of action, we're building the groundwork to be a model police force for small cities across the state.

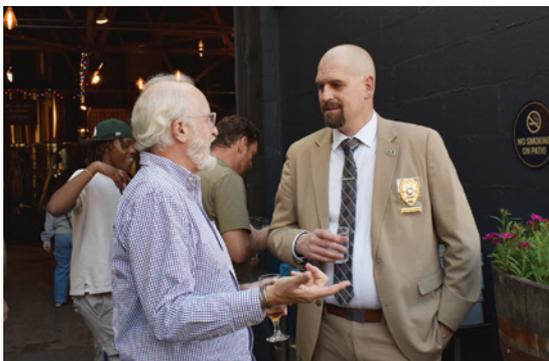


# What Is the 21st Century Policing Model?

The International Association of Chiefs of Police defines 21st Century Policing strategies as best practices designed to help agencies promote effective crime reduction while building public trust and safeguarding officer well-being.

The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing Implementation Guide outlines six underlying themes with recommendations on the following:

1. Change the culture of policing
2. Embrace community policing
3. Ensure fair and impartial policing
4. Build community capital
5. Pay attention to officer wellness and safety
6. Technology



Chief Hess speaks with a community member at the State of the City.



Sergeant Priess spent time with Avondale Elementary School students on Career Day.



Deputy Chief Cappuccio enjoys a cup of joe with residents at Coffee with a Cop.

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# 2023 State of the City Address

by Mayor Jonathan Elmore  
 Photos by Dodge Hill  
 March 30, 2023

**T**he community joined Mayor Jonathan Elmore and the city commissioners at Wild Heaven for the 2023 State of the City address Thursday, March 30. Mayor Elmore discussed upcoming development projects, the financial state of the city, as well as numerous capital projects currently in progress.

**It was a beautiful evening to enjoy refreshments and each other's company. The full State of the City Address follows.**

Good evening and welcome to the 2023 Avondale Estates State of the City address. Thank you for joining the Board of Mayor and Commissioners as we celebrate the accomplishments of the past year and look to the future.



At its core, Avondale Estates is a city that not only embraces creative thinkers and doers, but is a place where entrepreneurs thrive. With that in mind, I'm thankful that we're here at Wild Heaven tonight, a long-time Avondale Estates business that is resident owned. Wild Heaven's motto is "Serve Your Neighbor" which is incredibly appropriate to tonight's discussion. I'd like to thank President Nick Purdy, General Manager Hayden Markette, and the rest of the Wild Heaven team for hosting us.

Before we begin our discussion of the city, I want to recognize some people who have joined us from the community tonight.

I want to welcome Mayor Melanie Hammet from the city of Pine Lake. So glad she could join us this evening.



This year Avondale Elementary School is celebrating its centennial anniversary. Dr. Candace Sagers, the school's assistant principal, has joined us tonight. Let's give her a round of applause in honor of the AES Roadrunners and all they have accomplished in the last 100 years.

Last April, a group of motivated students created a video showcasing the leaking ceilings, exposed electrical wiring, mold and raw sewage inside Druid Hills High School. Resident and Druid Hills High alumnus Townes Purdy was among the group whose activity ultimately held the school board accountable and led to the repairs and improvements in the school. Kudos to Townes, Liam Sitz and their classmates for taking action and making a difference.

Avondale Estates is truly a special place where committed people are willing to roll up their sleeves and make a difference.

## Looking Back to Move Forward

As we look back at the accomplishments from the past year and discuss how we plan to move forward, I believe it's critical to reflect on what makes Avondale unique. At the outset, the city was fully planned with all the amenities a resident could want – a business district, lake, recreational opportunities, pocket and large parks, playgrounds and paved streets with easy access to Atlanta. Top international talent was brought in to help execute the concept.

Avondale was envisioned as a safe community in which to raise a family with green spaces for relaxation and recreation and a vibrant downtown that would serve the community.

The goal hasn't changed. We continue to relentlessly execute that vision – to create a robust public life and a great place to live, work and play.

In 2021 we developed the Comprehensive Development Plan that outlined six over-arching pillars. This plan continues to direct us – on the decisions we make and where we put our focus.

And as Willis brought in experts to bring his idea to life, building a vibrant city continues to be a team sport. The city is blessed with smart committed people – volunteers, community leaders, business owners and development partners – who are committed to helping the city grow and thrive.

## Smart Growth

Through strategic planning, we are building a city that is attractive to residents, businesses and investors by focusing on smart growth.

What is “smart growth?” For Avondale, smart growth incorporates a mix of different uses, building types, architectural styles and housing types interconnected through bike and walking paths, transit and roads. And for the last eight years, the Board has pursued smart growth.

We have talented, committed development partners and business owners who are working with us as we make progress on implementing the Downtown Master Plan and the Comprehensive Development Plan.

A big part of smart growth is setting the stage for quality development. Together we have done just that.

We delivered a Town Green.

And we are getting noticed.

Last year the Town Green:

- received the Great Place Regional Excellence Award by the Atlanta Regional Commission and
- was recognized in Atlanta Magazine's Best of Atlanta awards.

Over the last couple of years, we have added new buildings and renovated older buildings to keep the quirky, creative spirit that defines Avondale Estates. Many of those buildings have become home to some of our favorite new spots.



120 Olive Street is now home to several new businesses including one of the city's award-winning craft breweries – Little Cottage.



Olive & Pine, an extensive adaptive reuse of the old Mann Mechanical facility, is bringing new life to the downtown.

One new business at Olive and Pine is Mister John's Music which recently opened its doors to our smallest community members and their families. And other businesses including Lettie Lee's bakery and sandwich shop are scheduled to open in the complex this spring.

Next door to Olive & Pine, the Globe Arts Center is bringing another adaptive reuse project to the Rail Arts District providing more space for our growing arts community. This project was developed by Taylor Means who has chosen to return to Avondale and follow in his parents' footsteps. His parents are Bob and Marghe Means who created Little Tree Arts Studios and have been instrumental in Avondale's art scene for many years. I think it says a lot when our kids take pride in their town and come back.

Fabric Development is scheduled to start construction on the Town Green Marketplace adjacent to the Market Pavilion on Town Green in the fall. This two-story commercial development will bring restaurants, local retailers, office space and public bathrooms to the Town Green.

And at our city's northern entry, Toll Brothers will soon finish a community that will add for purchase townhomes and further diversity our housing options.

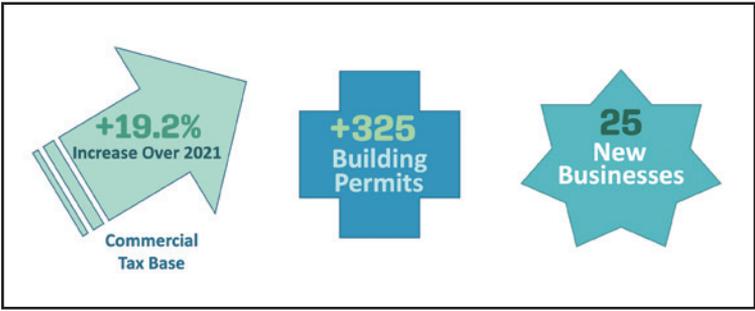
And soon, we will hopefully be making more exciting announcements about additional smart development.

The next frontier is Covington Highway on the east side of the city. With your feedback, we've started analyzing and planning how we'd like to see the Covington Highway corridor develop. The purpose of this is to put thought into future development so new projects are knitted into our city and won't just stand alone.

The results of all this work are paying off. In 2022,

- the commercial tax base increased by 19.2% over 2021,
- more than 325 building permits were issued, and
- we issued 25 new businesses permits within the city.

*Continued on page 8*



We’re bringing in more visitors to the city who are staying longer.

In 2022 414,200 visitors made 2.1 million visits to our city. They averaged over five visits per person and spent five hours per visit. Compared to 2019 (pre-Covid), there were roughly the same number of visits to the city, but in 2022 we saw an increase of +35k visitors who averaged +51 more minutes in the city during their visits.

And so far this year, the number of visits continues to increase.

What this means is our tax base continues to diversify and grow, reducing the tax burden on our single-family neighborhoods.

**Investing in Infrastructure**

One of our major goals is improving infrastructure, and so the city is undertaking a massive, multi-year capital infrastructure initiative focusing on beautification, sustainability, and functionality.

In addition to the Town Green, 2022 saw the completion of the North Woods walking trail and curb improvements, as well as major stormwater undertakings.

Flooding is one of the most aggravating issues facing residents in the city. Insufficient, broken or non-existent stormwater pipes are unable to handle runoff. They just weren’t built to handle it. While not always sexy, we’re making the investments and taking the steps necessary to fix the problem.

In 2022 we completed multiple high-priority stormwater projects including:

- the Majestic Circle drainage solution, one of the five priority projects identified in the stormwater master plan,

- the Berkeley sinkhole repair, and
- the development of the stormwater hydrologic model which will enable planning for future stormwater repair.

And while 2022 saw major impactful projects, we’re just getting started. 2023 will be a year of building and improving infrastructure. We’ll work on long-term opportunities and address overdue problems.

Arguably the most impactful project since the creation of our city, the 278 Complete Street project, met major milestones in 2022 and is rapidly moving forward to construction this fall. Building a true main street with a pedestrian and bike path from Sams Crossing to Clarendon will be truly transformative creating a much safer environment and connecting our residents to downtown. Rather than being a highway that people use to drive through our city, we’re creating an inviting space that encourages visitors to stop and explore.

Additionally, I’m excited to announce that the city received a grant from GDOT to address needed safety improvements to Laredo Drive. Not only will the grant provide for a full road replacement, but it will include the construction of a cycle track and improved connectivity at the entrances to the PATH’s Stone Mountain Trail. The Georgia DOT will design, fund and manage the project for the city. Construction is expected in 2024.

The Clarendon and Kensington Speed Study was completed and submitted to GDOT in February. The study is a required step to get approval to lower the speed limit from 30 to 25 mph. We haven’t received any specific timeline from GDOT, but it’s the first step in the process.

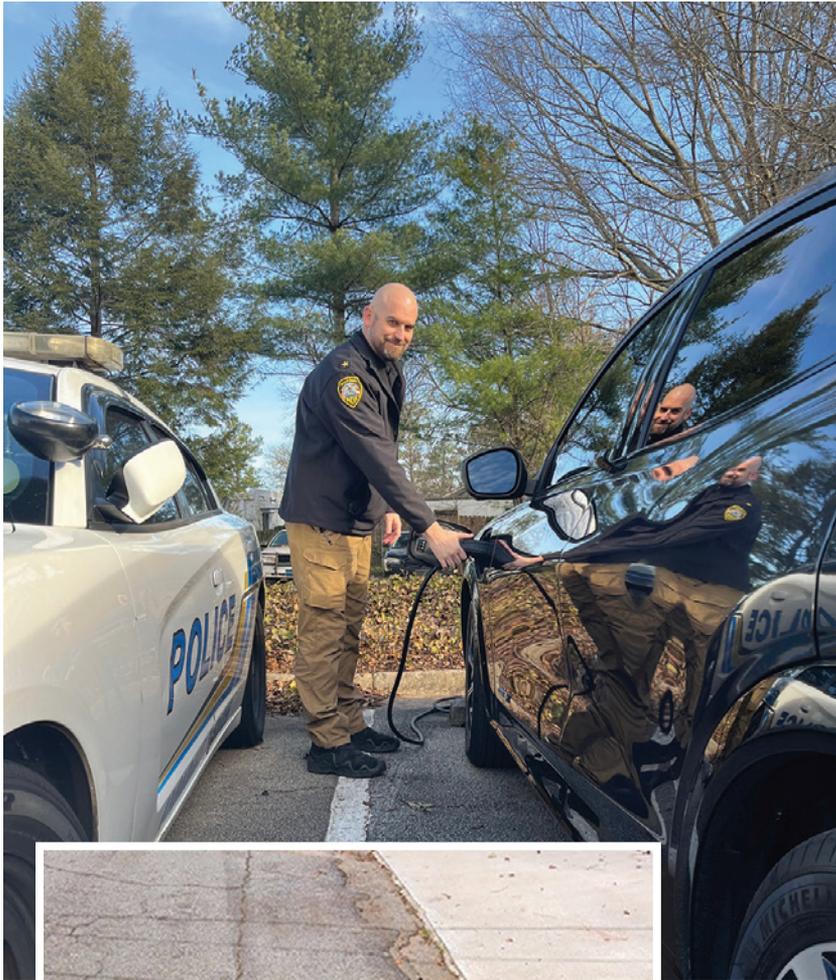
We will be repaving Clarendon, Nottingham, Parry, and Center Streets, and that’s scheduled to begin at the end of May.

Curb and sidewalk repairs will begin by early May and should be completed by the end of June. Planned repairs are also scheduled for Majestic, Clarendon, Oakham, Kensington, Dartmouth, and others.

North Woods Phase 2 design is complete and will include rain gardens and a woodland walking trail. Bidding is now underway and construction is slated to begin in 2Q of 2023.

Stormwater projects again will take center stage. We’ll use the hydraulic model findings to address high-priority projects. Concept designs are being developed for the remaining four priority stormwater projects. Construction plans will be completed for all projects by the end of the year with construction planned for 2024.

These are major projects that the city is undertaking. Going forward we will continue to tackle the challenges one by one to ensure that we have a sustainable future.



## Improving Services and Creating Efficiencies

Avondale Estates is a small city with big aspirations. As city management works toward the goals the Board has agreed upon, they make it a priority to stay nimble. Serving the citizens and community members drives decisions, and they continue to look for ways to improve services while creating efficiencies.

At last April's State of the City, I introduced Chief Harry Hess to you, and he's already had a great year. Recently, Deputy Chief Anthony Cappuccio also joined the force providing additional leadership to the team. With a focus on community policing, it's highly likely you'll see an AEPD officer out in the community at a school's Career Day, a local festival or even over a cup of joe at a Coffee with a Cop.

I'm happy to tell you that our police department was one of the first in the state to add electric vehicles to the fleet. (Ford Mustang Mach-Es)

And our police department has shown a willingness to listen to feedback and are working on new police policies that will involve community input.

The past year has seen the addition of exceptional talent to the staff - real pros who are bringing a fresh look at the city's practices and the experience to get stuff done. We've added more experience in the areas of finance, planning, stormwater, capital projects, greenspace and more. The city administration is primed to keep improving.

With the understanding that people need access to services beyond 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., the city is adding technology to become more accessible and transparent.

Business licenses are the first in many processes that are moving online.

In August we launched a Stormwater and Street Concerns form to get community feedback and help prioritize and track smaller projects.

- Out of 77 submissions
- 44 have been completed
- 33 are in progress, and
- 12 potholes repaired

Continuing in the city's tradition as a garden city, we'll work to reduce the city's environmental impact through actionable measures with the goal of being certified as an Atlanta Regional Commissions Green Community.

Soon we'll be making upgrades to the city's website so it's easier to use.

And we'll continue improving on our greenspace management program.

*Continued on page 10*

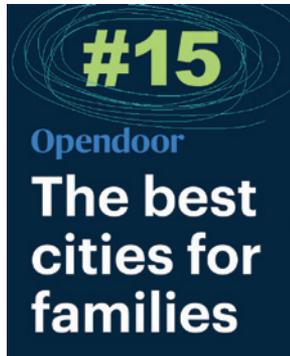


**Community**

One of the most notable characteristics of Avondale Estates is the level of engagement that residents and business owners have in shaping our community. More than 180 volunteers provided their time and expertise to our city in 2022. So, who here volunteered in the last year? Let's give them a round of applause.

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Voted Best Atlanta Neighborhood by Urbanize Atlanta
- Top 15 Best Family-friendly City in the Nation (Opendoor)
- Defended our title as the Best Small-Town Beer Scene in the Nation (USA Today)
- Consistently listed as one of the Top Cities in Georgia for our LGBTQ+ neighbors



In Avondale, we love a good festival. In 2022 we hosted 34 community events in the city that provided an opportunity for fellowship and fun.

- 4 Concerts at the Town Green including Juneteenth and Atlanta Pride Family Fun Day
- The 4th of July Fireworks moved to the Town Green, and included the DeKalb Symphony Orchestra
- Avondale Ale Days expanded to a full weekend.
- For the first time we had the Holiday Tree Lighting at the Town Green with performances by the DeKalb School of the Arts ballerinas and the Decatur Avondale Children's Choir
- 4 December to Remember Events including a movie night showing Elf
- Winter Wonderland drew holiday support for our local businesses
- Festivals including Frühlingsfest, Southern Surf Stompfest, WigWag and more.

Additionally, the city offered multiple opportunities to learn about the city's efforts, connect with staff and elected officials and provide your feedback.

These included:

- 2022 State of the City at the Town Green
- Spring and Fall Open Houses on Planning and Capital Project
- Downtown Business Meeting
- Coffee with a Cop
- Walk & Talk with the City Manager

And I'm happy to announce these upcoming events

- The return of the Antique Car Easter Parade
- On April 22 we will have Earth Day.
  - Electronics recycling from 9 - noon,
  - sustainability speakers and organizations from 2-5 p.m. and
  - concert from 6 -8 p.m.
- Mark your calendar for a special Mother's Day as our Weekend Wind Down Concerts return. Bringing back bands, food and beverage trucks, and vendors on the second Sundays in May, June, September, October and November.
- And the 4th of July Parade returns bigger and better than ever!

We'll continue activating the Town Green and explore opportunities to build community. Be on the lookout for yoga and other activities to be announced soon.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, I'd like to share a little thing that I'm proud of...

But none of these things could happen without our Downtown Development Authority... our City manager and staff... my fellow board members... bus most of all you – our citizens. Thank you!

And that concludes our 2023 State of the City! Have a great evening!

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### Yoga at the Town Green with Anurati Yoga

**May 16 and June 20 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

Join Avondale Estate’s Anurati Yoga Studio on the lawn in front of the Town Green stage for yoga on the third Tuesday of May and June. Bring a yoga mat and a water bottle. No experience is necessary. Classes will be accessible to all levels.

Yoga on the Town Green is possible with generous sponsorship from The Homegrown Team Bolst.



### Save the Date: Atlanta Pride’s Family Fun Day Returns

**June 3 at the Town Green**

In honor of National Pride month, Atlanta Pride returns to the Town Green on June 3 for their Community Family Fun Day. This year’s event promises to be bigger and better than ever. Stay tuned for details about activities and times.



## Weekend Wind Down Concerts Return to the Town Green

The Weekend Wind Down concert series returns to the Town Green for its second year starting on Mother’s Day. Concerts will occur on the second Sunday of the month. The free series will take a break in the middle of summer and resume in the fall. The events are free to the public and food and beverages will be available for purchase.

### CHECK OUT THE LINEUP:

**SUNDAY, MAY 14: 5-8 P.M. (MOTHER’S DAY)**

Caroline Aiken, Donna Hopkins & Carly Gibson, a trio of soulful songwriters join together with the awesome rhythm section of Richie Jones & Justin Boudreau for a special bluesy, folksy, acoustic evening – what a great way to celebrate moms.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 11: 6-9 P.M.**

A former Ray Charles Raelette and star of the blues musical film We Are Kings, Rita Graham is a consummate singer’s singer and one of the legendary women of jazz and blues. She’ll be joined by a full band.

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 10: 5-8 P.M.**

COT Band, Atlanta’s favorite Latin band with

a musical fusion of Caribbean Rhythms with elements of funk, pop and Brazilian beats, will kick off Hispanic Heritage Month.

**SUNDAY, OCT. 8: 5-8 P.M.**

Gurufish will bring a high-octane show, fueled by irresistible melodies wrapped around hypnotic, gritty, funky grooves.

**SUNDAY, NOV. 12: 5-8 P.M.**

Funk Cake brings the News Orleans brass to Avondale Estates and will keep folks dancing with their pop and groove. It’s all about the HORNS, baby!

Music will begin an hour after the event’s start time.

The Town Green is located at 64 N. Avondale Rd., Avondale Estates, Georgia 30002. Parking is available on streets in the downtown district unless otherwise marked. Public parking lots are located off Lake St. and at City Hall. Please respect the city’s businesses and do not park in their parking lots during their business hours.

### EVENT SPONSORS

These city events could not happen without the generous support of our sponsors. Please thank and support these local businesses.

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## What's Allowed in the Parade?

- Only those individuals that have applied and been approved by the Parade Committee through the official application process may participate in the parade.
  - Parade floats may not deviate from the submitted and approved design. Floats that deviate from the approved design will not be allowed on the parade route.
  - Floats shall not exceed 13 feet in height, 16 feet in width, or 50 feet in length.
  - All floats must be skirted to cover the wheel and underside of the trailer/vehicle.
  - Floats must be able to make all turns along the parade route without impairing the forward movement of the parade.
  - No vehicles are allowed on the parade route unless pre-approved by the Parade Committee during the application approval process.
  - Drivers of all vehicles in the parade must have a valid driver's license and be at least 18 years of age.
  - No one under the age of 18 is allowed to ride in the bed of a pick-up truck.
  - Parade units must maintain forward motion and may NOT stop along the route unless otherwise directed.
  - Objects of any kind shall not be thrown from floats or other vehicles. Objects may be passed out by marchers walking along the edges of the crowd.
  - The only amplified sound that parade participants are allowed to use is for background music approved in advance in connection with an application. Such music may not exceed 90 Decibels (dB) as measured at the nearest location of parade spectators.
  - Bull horns are prohibited.
  - Participants shall not jump on or off a float while it is in motion.
  - Participants shall not consume alcohol or any other substance that could impair judgment or the ability to safely participate in the parade.
  - Obscene dress, speech, music or signs are prohibited.
  - Words, actions or displays that would reasonably be perceived as an incitement to violence are prohibited.
  - Parade units must follow instructions from Parade Staff and Volunteers.
  - Parade unit leaders are responsible for the behavior of their members.
  - Participants must be at the designated location for line-up at the required time or forfeit the opportunity to participate in the parade.
  - All parade entries must observe parade rules and regulations, and local, state and federal laws.
  - The Parade reserves the right to accept or reject any parade unit application based on the rules stated above.
- All participants in the Avondale Estates Fourth of July Parade must abide by these rules and regulations. Any violation of these rules may be grounds for termination as a participant.

## Applications Open for the Fourth of July Parade

The Fourth of July Parade is coming back bigger than ever this year. Participate by creating a float, performing, biking or walking. Let those creative juices start flowing and register to be a part of the festivities. Scan the QR code to fill out the Fourth of July Parade Entry Application. There is NO CHARGE to participate. Make sure to review the entry rules.



Parade App

## Commemorative Wreath Ceremony for Memorial Day

May 26 at 10 a.m.

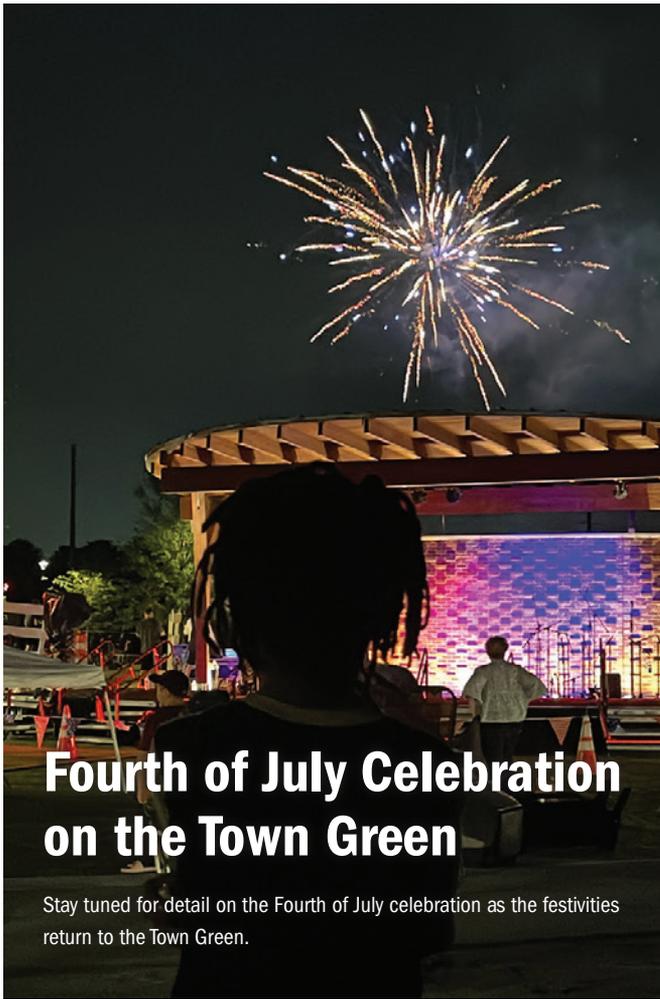
The Avon Garden Club and the Avondale Estates Garden Club will join city officials to place a commemorative wreath on the Blue Star Memorial Highway marker in front of City Hall the Friday before Memorial Day. This ceremony celebrates Memorial Day and honors the U.S. Armed Forces, past and present. All are invited to attend.



## Parade Volunteers – We Salute You!

Looking to experience the behind-the-scenes of putting a parade together? Volunteers will be needed the morning of the parade to assist with meeting groups, putting them into the correct order in the marshaling area and integrating the entries into the parade. The time commitment will be 8-11 a.m. on July 4. All volunteers must be 16 years of age and older. Look for a volunteer form announced in the upcoming E-News and on the city's social media channels.





## Fourth of July Celebration on the Town Green

Stay tuned for detail on the Fourth of July celebration as the festivities return to the Town Green.

## Got Valuables?

Take it, Lock it or Leave it. Remember this simple phrase to keep valuables safe and secure.

Take or hide valuables in vehicles.

Lock vehicles and residences.

Leave outside home lights on.

### In vehicles:

- Park in well-lit areas.
- Close and lock all doors and windows.

- Never leave a vehicle running.
- Do not leave valuables in a vehicle.
- Hide any valuables that must remain in a car so no one can see them from outside the vehicle.

### At home:

- Remove valuables from all vehicles.
- Lock cars and residences.
- Turn on exterior lights.



## Drug Take Back Day A Success

The Avondale Estates Police Department collected nine boxes of prescription drugs weighing 209 pounds during DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on April 22. Thanks to everyone who participated.

Couldn't make it on April 22? The AEPD has a convenient, secure drop box located in the main lobby of City Hall. The public is welcome to drop off prescription drugs Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. to help prevent their misuse.

IN THE PAST 8 MONTHS

\$

Saved \$2,247 in Fuel

✓

Saved 1,023 Gallons of Gas

✓

Saved 7,227 kg of CO<sub>2</sub>

## Repairs Improving Sidewalks and Curbs

Construction continues through May on curbs and sidewalks throughout the city. Based on inventory data gathered from Public Works and residents, the City prioritized over 3,500 square feet of sidewalk and 700 feet of curb to be repaired. Traffic control and rerouting may be necessary during construction. Community members should be on the lookout for changes in their daily walks and commutes. Notices will be placed where necessary for any parking changes or road closures.

The first two roads to be completed will be Oakham Place and Clarendon Ave. From now until the end of May the following streets will be affected:

Oakham Pl.  
Clarendon Ave.  
Dartmouth Ave.  
Kensington Rd.  
Windsor Terrace  
Clarendon Pl.  
Lakeview Pl.  
N. Avondale Plaza  
S. Avondale Plaza  
Exeter Rd.  
Sussex Rd.  
Coventry Close  
Wiltshire Dr.  
Oak St.



Staging for the contractors is occurring in the public parking area behind City Hall. Please be aware that fewer parking spaces are available.

Sign up for the E-News to stay up to date on road and sidewalk closures near your street.



## Tennis Courts Resurfacing Complete

The courts at Willis Park were resurfaced in April. Courts were cleaned, structural cracks were repaired, low-lying areas were filled, new scorekeepers were installed and net posts were repaired.

Additionally, the striping was updated to accommodate more activity.

Each tennis court now has two pickleball courts striped onto it increasing the number of pickleball courts to four. Portable pickleball nets have been provided for matches that can be moved out of the way for tennis. Now two pickleball matches can occur at once while still leaving a full court open for tennis.

The online reservation system has been adjusted to accommodate the new layout by

designating the tennis courts as “parent” courts that each have two “child” pickleball courts. If a tennis court is reserved, then neither pickleball court at that space will be available. If either pickleball court within a tennis court is reserved then the tennis court will not be available.

Some new rules for the courts apply:

- If you are the only party using a court, please select the rearmost court (Court 1 if pickleball).
- If you are the second pickleball group to arrive, please share a tennis court with the other group so that one tennis court remains open.
- When you have finished pickleball play, return the portable net to the side or rear of the play area.

## Municipal Court Clerks Recognized in June

Georgia Governor Brian Kemp proclaimed June 5-9 as Municipal Court Clerks Week. The week is dedicated to recognizing and extending appreciation for the contributions that Georgia Municipal Court Clerks make to the operations and public experience of Georgia Municipal Courts in cities and communities around the state.

“We are very excited to have a week dedicated to recognizing the hard work and dedication that Municipal Court Clerks put into helping cities across the state grow and prosper,” says Marcella Shaw, City of Avondale Estates Court Clerk and President of the Georgia Municipal Court Clerks Council. “We hope to create awareness and show appreciation for Municipal Court Clerks in Georgia for years to come,” she explains.

# News And Updates

## Road Repair and Resurfacing Nears Completion

In late April, milling and repaving began in Avondale Estates. Viscount Ct., Nottingham Dr., Parry St. and Center St. were completed and paving on Clarendon Ave. was finishing as the newsletter was going to print.

## North Woods Rain Gardens and Stormwater Improvements

Avondale Estates received increased grant funding from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division to install the rain gardens and provide citizen education workshops as part of Phase Two of the North Wood project. The project includes the addition of three rain gardens and a slate trail and boardwalk through the woods from Berkley Rd. to the Scout hut. The rain gardens will assist in stopping erosion on the banks of Cobbs Creek and help protect Lake Avondale in future projects.



*Ironweed (Vernonia noveboracensis) is one of the native perennials that thrive in wet soils that will be planted in the rain gardens.*

Construction is slated to begin in late May. Workshops that teach the benefits of disconnecting downspouts and using rain barrels for water conservation and stormwater management will occur during the construction period.

Keep an eye on the weekly E-News for notices on upcoming workshops as well as volunteer opportunities to assist in planting the rain gardens or reach out directly to Kristin Moretz at [kmoretz@avondaleestates.org](mailto:kmoretz@avondaleestates.org).

## City Receives Grant for Laredo Drive Improvements

The city received a grant from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) to fund, finish design, and manage improvements to Laredo Drive between the PATH Foundation's Stone Mountain Trail and Clarendon Ave. Improvements will include pavement reconstruction, the addition of a protected two-lane cycle track, better signage and entrance to the Stone Mountain Trail, and improvements to the Clarendon intersection.



## Speed Reduction Moving Forward

After reviewing the results of a speed study for Clarendon Ave. and Kensington Rd. the Board of Mayor and Commissioners approved a resolution during its April 26 regular meeting to reduce the speed limit from 30 to 25 miles per hour on both streets. The Georgia Department of Transportation approved the reduction from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour. The state Department of Public Safety will review the request and consider the recommendation for final approval.



## Help Identify Street and Stormwater

Continue to help city staff identify street and stormwater issues to address by filling out the Streets and Stormwater Concerns form. This database helps the city know where to focus efforts when hydrologic models are completed, street signs go missing or potholes need to be filled. Thanks for being the eyes and ears in the community, as the city works to improve infrastructure and drainage.

Scan the QR code or go to [avondaleestates.org/FormCenter/Service-Request-Forms-3/Stormwater-Street-Concerns-106](http://avondaleestates.org/FormCenter/Service-Request-Forms-3/Stormwater-Street-Concerns-106)

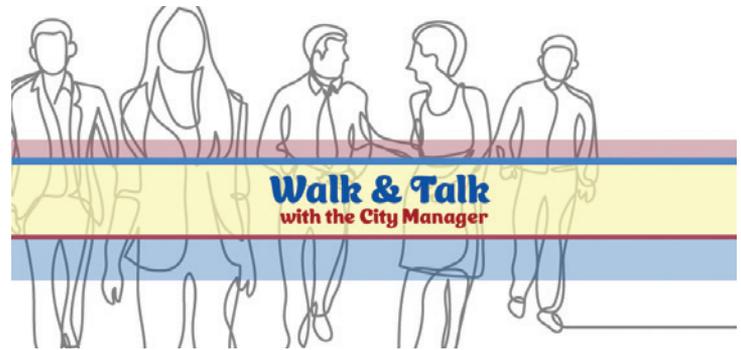


REPORT ISSUES

A service request will be created once the form is submitted. Expect a reply (if requested) within five to seven business days depending on the severity of the issue.

*\*Please note, submissions are only monitored during normal City Hall hours of operation Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Always dial 911 for emergencies.*

## Walk & Talk with the City Manager May 30 and June 27



Thanks to all the residents who joined City Manager Patrick Bryant in March to discuss the city's greenspace with Greenspace Manager Adrian Langston and Public Works Director Marcel Jackson and in April to discuss finance with Director of Finance and Administrative Services Brittany Marmol.

Community members are invited to lace up their tennis shoes and take a walk to discuss issues with City Manager Bryant on the last Tuesday of each month. Each month a special guest will join the city manager on the walk to focus on a different topic though residents are welcome to discuss whatever topic interests them.

**WigWag Fest Returns to Methane Studios**

**May 13, 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.**

Methane Studios, the award-winning illustration and design studio known for limited-edition screen-printed posters, is bringing the second annual WigWag Fest back to the Rail Arts District on Saturday, May 13. During the event the greenspace adjacent to Methane Studios will be transformed into a stage where seven local bands will perform live throughout the all-day free outdoor family-friendly festival.



Over 30 artists and vendors will showcase their works in booths along Washington Street and visitors can purchase posters during Methane’s poster sale. In addition to music and art, the event promises local brews, food trucks, live screen printing, plus some VIP perks. WigWag Fest was founded in 2022 by Methane Studios co-owner Robert Lee with Taylor Means, Melanie Parker, and Astrid Lyons. The idea came from a desire to create an inclusive and hyper-local festival that would provide a platform for musicians and artists to share their passions.

Methane Studios is in the heart of the brewery and arts district of Avondale Estates which has earned a reputation for excellent art and music events. WigWag Fest hopes to support local makers and creatives as well as encourage patronage of nearby businesses such as Little Tree Art Studios, Backside Press, Shades of Green, Little Cottage Brewery, Lost Druid Brewery, Wild Heaven Brewery, and My Parents Basement.

The 2023 WigWag Fest is supported by sponsors including the Little Tree Art Studios, Globe Arts Center and the Downtown Development Authority.



Images provided by Robert Lee of Methane Studios.

**NOW SCHEDULING AUDITIONS FOR SPRING 2023!**

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 404-405-5593

[www.decaturavondalechildrenschoir.com](http://www.decaturavondalechildrenschoir.com)



**Sunday Mushroom Market**

**Weekly - Noon to 3pm**

**Featuring Mushroom Growers, Foragers & related Specialized Vendors**

**Chefs & Live Music Start at Noon**



**#SERVEYOURNEIGHBOR**

# May 2023

## calendar of events



| SUN  | MON   | TUES  | WED  | THURS | FRI  | SAT |
|--|---|---|--|-------|--|-----|
|  | 1   | 2   | 3  | 4     | 5  | 6   |
|  | Historic Preservation Commission Meeting<br>6 p.m.                |   |  |       |  |     |
| 7  | 8   | 9   | 10   | 11    | 12   | 13  |
| Avondale Estates Farmers Market<br>10 a.m.-1 p.m.  |   | Downtown Development Authority Regular Meeting<br>5:30 p.m. | Board of Mayor and Commissioners Regular Meeting Work Session<br>5:30 p.m. |       |  |     |
| 14   | 15  | 16  | 17   | 18    | 19   | 20  |
| Mother's Day<br><br>Avondale Estates Farmers Market<br>10 a.m.-1 p.m.<br><br>Weekend Wind Down Concert Series on the Town Green 5-8 p.m. | Planning, Architecture and Zoning Board Regular Meeting<br>6 p.m. | Yoga with Anurati<br>Yoga on the Town Green<br>6:30 p.m.    |  |       |  |     |
| 21   | 22  | 23  | 24   | 25    | 26   | 27  |
| Avondale Estates Farmers Market<br>10 a.m.-1 p.m.  |   |   | Board of Mayor and Commissioners Regular Meeting Work Session<br>5:30 p.m. |       | Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Blue Star Marker in honor of Memorial Day<br>10 a.m. |     |
| 28   | 29  | 30  | 31   |       |  |     |
| Avondale Estates Farmers Market<br>10 a.m.-1 p.m.  | Memoria Day - City Hall Closed                                    | Walk & Talk with the City Manager<br>10-11 a.m.             |  |       |  |     |

# June 2023

## calendar of events

| SUN   | MON   | TUES  | WED  | THURS | FRI | SAT                            |
|---|---|---|--|-------|-----|--------------------------------|
|   |   |   |  | 1     | 2   | 3                              |
|   |   |   |  |       |     | Atlanta Pride's Family Fun Day |
| 4   | 5   | 6   | 7  | 8     | 9   | 10                             |
| Avondale Estates Farmers Market<br>10 a.m.-1 p.m.   | Historic Preservation Commission<br>6 p.m.                        |   |  |       |     |                                |
| 11  | 12  | 13  | 14   | 15    | 16  | 17                             |
| Avondale Estates Farmers Market<br>10 a.m.-1 p.m.<br><br>Weekend Wind Down Concert Series on the Town Green<br>6-9 p.m. | Planning, Architecture and Zoning Board Regular Meeting<br>6 p.m. | Downtown Development Authority Regular Meeting<br>5:30 p.m. | Flag Day<br><br>Board of Mayor and Commissioners Regular Meeting and Work Session<br>5:30 p.m. |       |     |                                |
| 18  | 19  | 20  | 21   | 22    | 23  | 24                             |
| Avondale Estates Farmers Market<br>10 a.m.-1 p.m.<br><br>Father's Day   | Juneteenth - City Hall Closed                                     | Yoga with Anurati Yoga on the Town Green<br>6:30 p.m.       | First Day of Summer  |       |     |                                |
| 25  | 26  | 27  | 28   | 29    | 30  |                                |
| Avondale Estates Farmers Market<br>10 a.m.-1 p.m.   |   | Walk & Talk with the City Manager<br>10-11 a.m.             | Board of Mayor and Commissioners Regular Meeting Work Session<br>5:30 p.m.                     |       |     |                                |



## It Was Easy Being Green on Earth Day

Earth Day in Avondale Estates had activities for everyone.

Residents safely recycled over four tons of electronics with eWaste ePlanet. 8,795 pounds of electronics were kept from the landfill including two pallets of LCD TVs and twelve additional pallets of mixed electronics including monitors, desktops, laptops, smartphones and other devices. Thanks for the great participation and a big shout out to BSA Troop 6 for volunteering at the event.

The community was able to see sustainable gardening tactics in action at the multiple stops on the Avon Garden Club's Eco Garden Tour.

Attendees of the Sustainability Fair heard from speakers on topics from home energy efficiency to stormwater control and living a plant-based lifestyle, got an up-close look at an AEPD EV and had the oppor-

tunity to meet 20+ local organizations and green vendors.

Thanks to Mike Barcik of Southface Institute, Brandy Hall of Shades of Green Permaculture, Tres Crow of Roots Down, Pandra Williams of Beech Hollow Farm, actress and activist Elaine Hendrix, Bill Harris from Café Campesino and the acapella choir Voices for their presentations and entertainment.

A big thank you to the organizations and vendors who participated in the fair and concert. Special thanks are due to Avondale ACTion and the Avon Garden Club who worked hard to make the event happen. And thanks to the community for celebrating and supporting the Packway Handle Band, Blue Gravy, Banjo Coffee and Stratford Pub at the concert.



Members of Scout Troup 6 helped eWaste ePlanet recycle more than four tons of electronics.



**Above:** Speaker Mike Barcik of Southface Institute chats with Assistant City Manager Shannon Powell.  
**Right:** Vendors and organizations provided educational information and activities at the Sustainability Fairs, and Packway Handle Band entertained concertgoers.



# Garden Club of the Year Goes to the Garden Club of Avondale Estates

The Garden Club of Georgia showered bouquets of awards, including the state Garden Club of the Year Trophy, on the Garden Club of Avondale Estates on April 20.

Winning Garden Club of the Year, from among the more than 300 clubs across Georgia, “was a huge honor,” according to immediate past president Peggy Burgess. “It was my privilege and honor to be president at this time. It was obviously a group effort We couldn’t have accomplished all that we accomplished without the involvement of everyone,” she said.

The top award as well as four other first-place and four second-place awards were announced at the annual Garden Club of Georgia Convention at the Evergreen Hotel and Conference Center in Stone Mountain.

Key to the win, Mrs. Burgess said, was the detailed application information compiled and submitted by AEGC member and past president Christi Granger. The application for the top award alone consisted of 12 pages of documentation about the activities of the 78-member club that was founded in 1931.

Criteria for the award included membership, finances, donations, services to the community, and programming.



Innovations in the past year included a new Environmental Speaker Series that was free and open to the public. Three programs were “Sustainable Gardening for the Southeast,” “Preventing Water Pollution in our Gardens” and “Storm Water Studies, Plans and Project” in the City of Avondale Estates.

Service projects include maintaining a Totem Garden at Avondale Elementary School, planting tree markers to identify trees within the historic district of the city, maintaining a red, white and blue themed garden around the Blue Star Marker in front of City Hall, as well as planting and maintaining garden areas at the City’s east and west entrances and at the city clock tower in the center of the downtown area.

Activities include the club’s biannual Secret Garden Tour (on even-numbered years), the Bonnie Phelps Memorial Tree Walk (on odd-numbered years), an annual plant sale, and a Holiday Bazaar.

In 2022, donations from the club totaling \$10,000 went to support eight local and regional groups that work toward the club’s goals of appreciating various horticulture arts and promoting the awareness of environmental responsibility.



Buyers flock to the Avondale Estates Garden Club Plant Sale on April 15 at the Lake House. The third annual plant sale for the club was an overwhelming success with more than 90 percent of the plants sold on sale day.



Garden Club of Avondale Estates 2020-2022 President Peggy Burgess, left, and current President Patricia Calcagno, show the Garden Club of the Year award.



Garden Club of Avondale Estates 2016–2018 President Susan Barton, left, 2020–2022 President Peggy Burgess, center, and 2019–2020 President Christi Granger, display the Garden Club of the Year award.



Avondale Estates Garden Club members show off Garden Week in Georgia sign at the group's annual plant sale. The club focuses on native plants and plants that grow well in the Atlanta region.

*In addition to the top award, the Garden Club of Avondale Estates also won:*

**First Place in the Civic Improvement Award Category**

for work at the Clock Tower, City Entrances, Blue Star Marker plantings, and as the Avondale Elementary School (garden) Totem Tenders.

**First Place in the Marker Award Category** for the Blue Star Marker Plantings.

**First Place in Litter/Recycling/Reclamation Category** for Recycle Rodeos to CHaRM, Aluminum tab recycling, and allocating \$1,500 for an environmental speaker series.

**First Place in the Social Media Category** for the group's Facebook page.

**Second Place in the Yearbook Award Category** for their yearbook.

**Second Place in the A3 Publication Award Category** for their newsletter.

**Second Place in the National Garden Week Award Category** for their Secret Garden Tour, Mayor's reading of the proclamation for National Garden Week, and placing of the garden week banner.

**Second Place in the Garden Week in Georgia Award Category** for the plant sale and Mayor's reading of the proclamation.

**Honorable Mention in the Special Achievement Award Category** for the Secret Garden Tour.

## Avon Garden Club Garden of the Month



**March:** 42 Dartmouth Ave., home of Tracy Lenahan and Gianluca Saccone



**April:** 4 Fairfield Plaza, home of Richard Davis and Jennifer McBabe

## Avondale Estates Garden Club Yard of the Month



**March:** Avondale Estates City's greenspaces, in honor of Public Works and volunteers



**April:** 40 Dartmouth Ave., home of Scott Legg and Adam Barton





# Congratulations!

## to the Class of 2023 Graduates from the City of Avondale Estates

|                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Hattie Andrews       | Druid Hills High School   |
| Jackson Austin-Cruse | Academe of the Oaks       |
| Jimmy Brady          | St. Pius X High School    |
| Camille Bush         | Druid Hills High School   |
| Banks Coffman        | Druid Hills High School   |
| Zoe Daniel           | Druid Hills High School   |
| Gabriella Deocampo   | Dekalb School of the Arts |
| Henry Deutsch        | Druid Hills High School   |
| Creighton Dunbar     | Decatur High School       |
| Elena Elmore         | Druid Hills High School   |
| Tyson Elmore         | Druid Hills High School   |
| Clare Flood-Eustace  | Druid Hills High School   |
| Jillian Fry          | St. Pius X High School    |
| Hannah Garrett       | The Paideia School        |
| Anson Ge             | Druid Hills High School   |
| Eleanor Harman       | Druid Hills High School   |
| Jelani Harris-Eades  | Riverside Prep Academy    |
| Robert Harvey        | Woodward Academy          |
| Bradley Hightower    | Druid Hills High School   |
| Z Hilden-Minton      | Academe of the Oaks       |
| Maia Higgins         | Druid Hills High School   |

|                      |                               |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Dodge Hill           | Druid Hills High School       |
| Delaney Hoffman      | Lakeside High School          |
| Ben Kelly            | The Paideia School            |
| Will Kelly           | Cumberland Academy of Georgia |
| Jack Knoop           | Druid Hills High School       |
| Maddi Kowalewski     | St. Pius X High School        |
| Gus Luber            | Druid Hills High School       |
| Katie Mallory        | Druid Hills High School       |
| Emma Murphey         | St. Pius X High School        |
| Ian O'Connor         | Druid Hills High School       |
| Noah Quintanilla     | Druid Hills High School       |
| Amelia Rector        | Druid Hills High School       |
| Harper Rollins       | The New School of Atlanta     |
| Miles Samford        | Druid Hills High School       |
| Maggie Schuckenbrock | Druid Hills High School       |
| Ellie Sears          | Druid Hills High School       |
| Izzy Sears           | Druid Hills High School       |
| Tre Smith-Battle     | Druid Hills High School       |
| Stephanie Vaughn     | Dekalb School of the Arts     |
| Sarah Yasine         | Druid Hills High School       |

# When Is The First 90 Degree Day in Atlanta?

- ✓ The month of May can bring wild temperature swings!
- ✓ Morning lows can dip as cool as the upper 30s to low 40s, while afternoon highs can vary between the mid 50s and the upper 80s.
- ✓ May is also the month when temperatures can soar into the 90s, and on average, Atlanta registers its first 90 degree day on May 31.
- ✓ However, the earliest 90 degree day on record for Atlanta was recorded on April 23, 1980. The latest first 90 degree day occurred on July 28, 1961.
- ✓ The hottest temperature recorded in the month of May is 97 degrees, which occurred on May 29, 1941.



**Connect with me!**

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# Green & Growing



*This bare spot in Lori's yard became a mini vegetable garden, now home to 3 cherry tomato plants.*

All good things must come to an end, right? Or, is the best yet to come with summer gardening?? Many of the pops of color on display during the bleak winter months, and even the short-lived, but much welcomed, spring blooms have now faded. After spending a week out of town recently, I was beyond grateful to return home to what had to be the height of spring color. Irises, rhododendrons and peonies were the brightest they've been in years! And with many days topping out around 80 degrees, long-lasting pansies and violas are starting to look leggy. So what's a gardener in transition to do?

Make any sized outdoor space a retreat! Hang birdhouses, add lawn ornaments or pathway lights, fill birdfeeders and birdbaths, and spruce up that old patio furniture! Take a mental health break from work and chores, and prioritize time to spend an afternoon browsing at the nursery. I've done a garden consult for my friend, WSB-TV news anchor Lori Wilson, and we had so much fun together, talking about ALL the possibilities for her newfound space! Gardener or not, who doesn't light up at the vision of beautifying an enjoyable and usable space?!

Don't let a bare space, with all its potential, become overwhelming. Instead, get excited about the ways it can be designed and planted to reflect personalized styles and tastes. Don't hesitate to ask friends and neighbors for a fresh perspective. And, sit in on a free garden class or workshop. Many times, these are offered throughout the year by county Extension agents and Master Gardeners. I keep an updated list of garden events around Atlanta at my website, [www.wsbradio.com/greenandgrowing](http://www.wsbradio.com/greenandgrowing).

Take note of whether a potential garden space is mostly sun or is comfortably shaded. That will guide what plants thrive and how healthy they'll be. Here are some recommendations for plants that can be enjoyed throughout the summer!

### Tolerates full sun

|  |   |
|--|---|
| New Guinea impatiens and those labeled 'sunpatiens'    | New Guinea impatiens appear to be tolerant or resistant to downy mildew |
| Celosia, a.k.a. Cockscomb                              | Deer rarely bother these  |
| Petunias may be perennial given mild winter conditions | Mini version are Calibrachoa  |
| Geraniums are great for hanging baskets                | Deadhead by removing spent blooms at the base of the stem               |
| Begonias like some light shade                         | Many varieties and sizes  |
| Dianthus, a summer blooming perennial                  | Good bedding flower like pansies  |

### Prefers partial to full shade

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Coleus is known for colorful foliage more than flowers | Fills in a bed, grows 1 - 3 ft. tall and wide |
| Hostas come in various shades of greens and whites     | Deer do love to browse                        |
| Elephant ears can overwinter in the ground             | Make a good visual border                     |
| Astilbe, a summer blooming perennial                   | Are clump forming and spread easily           |
| Heuchera, a.k.a. coral bells                           | Attractive foliage when blooms are gone       |



Ashley Frasca is host of the radio show *Green and Growing*, heard on 95.5 WSB Radio every Saturday from 6-9:00 a.m. For gardening tips, information, and advice, follow her Facebook page: [Facebook.com/greenandgrowingwsb](https://www.facebook.com/greenandgrowingwsb)

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| Neese Heating and Cooling .....                     | 678-856-4785 |
| <b>Shumate Air Conditioning &amp; Heating</b> ..... | 678-584-0880 |
| Superior Indoor Comfort .....                       | 770-664-9098 |
| Zen Air .....                                       | 678-883-7868 |
| <b>Accountants</b>                                  |              |
| Signature Accounting Services, LLC. ....            | 770-975-1609 |
| <b>Active Adult Community</b>                       |              |
| Holbrook/Dogwood Forest .....                       | 404-445-7777 |
| <b>Assisted Living</b>                              |              |
| Camellia Place .....                                | 770-876-3039 |
| Manor Lake BridgeMill .....                         | 678-990-5055 |
| <b>Attorney</b>                                     |              |
| Daryl L Kidd P.C. ....                              | 770-499-1274 |
| <b>Auto Detailing</b>                               |              |
| Polished Peach Car Wash .....                       | 770-592-8102 |
| <b>Banking</b>                                      |              |
| American Commerce Bank .....                        | 470-422-1200 |
| Credit Union of Georgia .....                       | 678-486-1111 |
| <b>Cabinetry</b>                                    |              |
| Cabinet Buyers Outlet .....                         | 706-972-4480 |
| <b>Cleaning Services</b>                            |              |
| House Cleaning Specialist, Inc .....                | 770-975-4995 |
| <b>Concrete Leveling</b>                            |              |
| Advance Concrete Lifting & Leveling .....           | 678-208-3426 |
| <b>Consignment</b>                                  |              |
| Finders Keepers .....                               | 404-377-1944 |
| Uptown Cheapskate-Cumming .....                     | 770-844-7600 |
| Uptown Cheapskate-East Cobb .....                   | 770-999-1967 |
| Uptown Cheapskate-Johns Creek .....                 | 770-495-1515 |
| <b>Dance Studio</b>                                 |              |
| CK DanceWorks, Inc. & CK Yoga .....                 | 770-975-7298 |
| <b>Dentist</b>                                      |              |
| Acworth Dental .....                                | 770-974-4146 |
| BridgeMill Dentistry (Scott Merritt, DMD) .....     | 770-704-1812 |
| Distinctive Dentistry .....                         | 770-445-6606 |
| Esthetic Dental Solutions .....                     | 678-352-1333 |
| Family Dentistry at Seven Hills .....               | 678-574-4837 |
| Northpoint Dental .....                             | 678-274-6987 |
| Roswell Dental Care .....                           | 470-288-1363 |
| Swords & Phelps Dentistry .....                     | 770-479-3713 |
| <b>Design &amp; Build Services</b>                  |              |
| HammerSmith, Inc. ....                              | 404-377-1021 |
| <b>Doors</b>  |              |
| EntryPoint Doors & Windows .....                    | 770-904-0094 |
| <b>Electrical Service</b>                           |              |
| Arc Angel Electric Corp .....                       | 470-239-5568 |
| Mr. Electric of Atlanta-Mr. Rooter .....            | 470-202-8023 |
| Mr. Electric of Canton .....                        | 678-408-7174 |
| Rocket Electric .....                               | 770-288-5855 |
| ServiceWise Electric, LLC .....                     | 404-704-4903 |
| Shumate Electrical Services .....                   | 678-584-0880 |
| <b>Eye Care</b>                                     |              |
| Georgia Eye Partners/OPAL Aesthetics .....          | 404-383-0956 |
| <b>Flooring</b>                                     |              |
| Dalton Wholesale Floors-Ellijay .....               | 706-515-1510 |
| <b>Funeral Homes</b>                                |              |
| In Their Honor of Jasper Funerals & .....           | 706-253-5060 |
| <b>Garage Doors</b>                                 |              |
| Platinum Overhead Door .....                        | 678-329-3100 |
| <b>Golf Equipment &amp; Supplies</b>                |              |
| Golf Cars of Canton .....                           | 678-880-1156 |
| LSV of Alpharetta .....                             | 678-689-5125 |
| <b>Government</b>                                   |              |
| <b>DeKalb County Board of Commissioners</b> .....   | 404-371-2899 |
| <b>Handyman</b>                                     |              |
| Happy Handyman LLC .....                            | 770-685-8421 |
| Shumate Handyman Services .....                     | 678-584-0880 |
| <b>Home Furnishings</b>                             |              |
| ARIANA Home Furnishings & Design .....              | 678-807-7422 |
| <b>Home Improvements</b>                            |              |
| Lighthouse Marine Solutions .....                   | 678-450-4212 |
| <b>Hospital</b>                                     |              |
| Northeast Georgia Medical Center .....              | 770-214-4492 |
| <b>Insurance</b>                                    |              |
| Allstate Insurance Nancy Wells .....                | 404-452-5066 |
| State Farm-Matt Cresap .....                        | 770-982-0064 |
| The Upton Agency .....                              | 770-361-6570 |
| <b>Kitchen</b>                                      |              |
| Housley Enterprises, Inc .....                      | 678-546-2276 |
| <b>Landscaping</b>                                  |              |
| Stone Edge Landscapes .....                         | 678-421-4763 |
| <b>Medical Clinic</b>                               |              |
| Prestige Medical Group .....                        | 706-692-9768 |
| <b>Nursery</b>                                      |              |
| Autumn Hill Nursery .....                           | 770-442-3901 |
| <b>Painting</b>                                     |              |
| 360 Painting .....                                  | 770-213-5071 |
| Benjamin Moore Paint Store-Alpharetta .....         | 678-404-5511 |
| Chris Brown Painting & Home Repair .....            | 770-323-3148 |
| Earthly Matters Painting and Contracting .....      | 770-346-0203 |
| Red Oak Painting .....                              | 678-800-6533 |
| <b>Superior Pro Exteriors</b> .....                 | 470-922-6151 |
| Verge Painting and Siding .....                     | 678-331-1102 |
| <b>Pest Control</b>                                 |              |
| <b>Breda Pest Management</b> .....                  | 770-466-6700 |
| Legacy Pest Control .....                           | 770-423-0160 |
| Windward Pest Services .....                        | 404-545-1651 |
| <b>Pet Services</b>                                 |              |
| <b>Soothing Streams Pet Cremation</b> .....         | 404-482-1441 |
| <b>Plumbing</b>                                     |              |
| Bryan Plumbing Services .....                       | 770-826-5277 |
| Mr. Rooter of Atlanta .....                         | 470-202-8178 |
| Serv'all Plumbing & Rooter Service .....            | 770-917-1852 |
| Shumate Plumbing Services .....                     | 678-584-0880 |
| <b>The Plumbers Guild</b> .....                     | 404-694-5128 |
| <b>Pre-Schools &amp; Kindergarten</b>               |              |
| Omega Learning Center-Acworth .....                 | 770-792-7431 |
| Primrose School of Acworth Bentwater .....          | 770-529-3925 |
| Primrose School of Harmony on the Lakes .....       | 770-704-0721 |
| <b>Propane Service</b>                              |              |
| Gas Incorporated .....                              | 770-720-1378 |
| <b>Real Estate</b>                                  |              |
| Ansley Atlanta Real Estate-Jody Tirone .....        | 404-451-3125 |
| Atlanta Communities-Carl Hawthorne .....            | 404-403-1789 |
| Atlanta Communities-Elizabeth Martin .....          | 678-373-9342 |
| Atlanta Communities-Jennifer and Associates .....   | 770-403-5639 |
| Atlanta Communities-Steele .....                    | 770-337-9529 |
| Coldwell Banker-Sherry Warner .....                 | 404-784-8848 |
| Compass Realty-Gipson and Co. ....                  | 404-405-5363 |
| Compass Realty-Natalie Gregory Team .....           | 404-373-0076 |
| Cory & Co. Realty .....                             | 404-564-5561 |
| David Cooke-Martin Lake Group at KW .....           | 770-652-6270 |
| Georgia Real Estate Depot-Nix .....                 | 770-401-4932 |
| Harry Norman Realtors-Pam Hughes .....              | 404-626-3604 |
| Keller Williams Realty-Cynthia Baer .....           | 678-358-3369 |
| Keller Williams Susan Stanford .....                | 678-677-3935 |
| Keller Williams-Linda Jacobs .....                  | 770-337-2006 |
| Keller Williams-Williams .....                      | 678-780-7556 |
| Park Realty-John Morgan & Drew Jackson .....        | 877-249-8533 |
| Remax Around Atlanta-Falkin .....                   | 770-330-2374 |
| Remax-Heerema .....                                 | 770-238-6759 |
| Robin Martin and Associates .....                   | 678-665-0202 |
| <b>Remodeling</b>                                   |              |
| Daniel's Home Services .....                        | 770-598-1379 |
| GCI Basements .....                                 | 404-569-8794 |
| Serv'all Plumbing-Remodeling .....                  | 770-917-1852 |
| <b>Restaurants</b>                                  |              |
| Luna Maya .....                                     | 770-720-4999 |
| Norsan Restaurant Group .....                       | 678-878-2513 |
| <b>Roofing</b>                                      |              |
| Earthly Matters Painting and Contracting .....      | 770-346-0203 |
| <b>Schools-Private</b>                              |              |
| Atlanta Academy .....                               | 678-461-6102 |
| McGinnis Woods Country Day School .....             | 770-664-7764 |
| <b>The Friends School of Atlanta</b> .....          | 404-373-8746 |
| Woodward Academy .....                              | 404-765-4001 |
| <b>Security Systems</b>                             |              |
| Classic Entry Systems .....                         | 678-330-1111 |
| <b>Skin Care</b>                                    |              |
| The Beauty Barn .....                               | 678-824-5466 |
| <b>Tree Service</b>                                 |              |
| Gordon Pro Tree Service, LLC .....                  | 770-282-1616 |
| <b>Water Heaters</b>                                |              |
| Serv'all Plumbing-Water Heaters .....               | 770-917-1852 |
| <b>Window Replacement</b>                           |              |
| Window Traditions of Georgia .....                  | 678-672-1963 |



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# AVONDALE'S OWN JEN NEWMAN WAS CHOSEN FOR A COVER STORY IN TOP AGENT MAGAZINE!



## Top Agent Jen Newman with Keller Williams Realty Metro Atlanta, assists clients throughout Avondale Estates and the surrounding areas.

A 20 year resident of Avondale Estates, Jen Newman has always possessed an entrepreneurial spirit.

Taking an interest in real estate, she was later drawn to the client-first approach at Keller Williams Realty Metro Atlanta, which inspired her to launch her career as an agent and start Jen Newman Homes in 2015. Today, Jen is a REALTOR® with Keller Williams Realty Metro Atlanta, where she assists clients throughout Avondale Estates and the surrounding areas.

Jen takes a comprehensive approach when listing a property. After helping her clients prepare, she collaborates with her expert social media coordinator to broadcast each listing via a targeted blend of digital campaigns. Meanwhile, she also utilizes grassroots resources like agent caravans, open houses, and her own robust sphere of influence to give clients an added advantage.

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“Every client, house, or project is different. But more than anything, **I love delivering outstanding customer service while providing genuine support** to all my buyers and sellers.”

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Jen is just as attentive when assisting her buyers. In fact, she enjoys keeping in touch long after the deals are done through regular check-ins, monthly market updates, yearly client appreciation events, and even closing gifts from local businesses like her favorite, Garage Door Studio.

Over the years, Jen has earned a fantastic reputation throughout Atlanta, with the entirety of her volume coming from repeat clients and referrals. Having closed 32 transactions as a single agent in 2022 alone, she remains focused on the leading standards that set her apart. “While being as thorough as possible, I still believe in keeping things fun and lighthearted for my clients,” she says.

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Jen loves **welcoming newcomers to her historic Avondale community**, with its picturesque scenery and unique cottage lifestyle.

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When she's not with clients, Jen can be found spending time with her children, caring for her three horses, attending Decatur's numerous art festivals, or dining out at local hotspots like Santo Cantina, no. 246 or Siam Thai—enjoying all the culture and cuisine Atlanta has to offer.

Having joined Keller Williams Farm & Ranch as well, Jen intends on expanding her reach. In the meantime, she looks forward to all the opportunities that await. “In real estate, no two days are the same,” she says.

Ready to make a move? **Jen is ready to help! 404-316-5265 · [jennewman@kw.com](mailto:jennewman@kw.com)**

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