

# **Decatur Heights Highlights**

## **News & Events in Our Decatur Heights Neighborhood**

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**November 2011**    **Announcement Line & Voicemail: (404)220-9777**  
**Website: [www.DecaturHeights.wordpress.com](http://www.DecaturHeights.wordpress.com)**

### **Seeking Communications Volunteers!**

Interested in helping out with neighborhood communications? The DHNA has openings for the newsletter and website. Committees will help out with content and updates. The website manager's position requires some computer know how, the ability to learn Wordpress (which shouldn't be difficult), and a friendly writing style. The newsletter editor's position is ideally suited for someone who enjoys gathering information, has an eye for detail, and will be able to compile each edition fairly quickly at month's end.

### **“Walmart Plan” Neighbors Meeting**

When: Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am

Where: The Community Room of The Church at Decatur Heights (735 Sycamore Drive)

Join neighbors to formulate the DHNA's strategy to address the anticipated impact from the Walmart planned for Suburban Plaza. Neighbors will discuss the information learned by neighbors who'll attend the Community Meeting being held on November 2 at 7pm at North Decatur Presbyterian Church. Because Suburban Plaza is zoned for big box stores, Selig Enterprises will only need to seek a variance for their proposed underground 500 space parking area. Selig plans to apply for it in November and formally present it at a Dekalb Commissioners Meeting in December. The Walmart will be built where Last Chance Thrift Store and Overstock Liquidation are currently located. Selig Enterprises has expressed interest in working with the community, and our neighborhood will want to weigh in with our concerns about the project.

The Medlock Park Area Neighbors Association and other neighborhoods have highlighted the needed traffic and pedestrian improvements for the Scott/N. Decatur/Medlock intersections, and Selig has agreed to pay for a traffic study. Neighborhoods to our side of Suburban Plaza will also need to speak up to request a traffic study for the expected negative impact on Church St., including the Church/N. Decatur and Church/ Forkner/Medlock intersections. Sycamore Dr. and Forkner Dr. will pick up additional cut through traffic, and egress for neighbors at Sycamore Dr. and Church St. will become dicier than ever. With a short time frame for action, we'll need all neighbors to be ready to help out on this issue.

### **Proposed City/Neighbors Traffic Calming Meeting Tabled**

Neighbors Deanne Thomas and Grace Ann Young met with David Junger, Assistant City Manager-Public Works, and John Madajewski, Chief Engineer, on Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup> to: review the draft plan for the Grove St. area curve; discuss the status of the petitions; go over several street signs items; and get input on a neighborhood entrance sign. It was agreed that the three traffic calming petitions need to be given continued consideration; therefore, there are no immediate plans for holding a Traffic Calming Meeting with the City. Grace Ann will investigate options for a neighborhood entrance sign.

## **Park & Garden Update**

The playscape will be professionally installed on Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, weather permitting! BIG THANKS to Beth Anderson, Herb Young, and Kevin, Ben, and Natalie Snedden for helping Park & Gardeners, Vicki Tuttle and Deanne Thomas, dismantle and move it to its new home! Nothing like a sunshiny day, terrific team work, and a little WD40 to make a big task fun and easy!

Want to pitch in on our neighborhood Park? Please contact us through the DHNA phone line or email: [deanneindecaturheights@yahoo.com](mailto:deanneindecaturheights@yahoo.com).

## **Neighborhood Watch Update**

Please admire our new Neighborhood Watch signs on each end of Sycamore Drive! Thank you to David Junger for having them installed so quickly! At the end of October, block captains started sending out letters and invitations to enrolled Watch neighbors to join Nation of Neighbors, our new email and texting hub. Enrolled neighbors are encouraged to sign up, then add on Decatur Heights as their community. All invitations should be received by early November, so please keep an eye out. “Unwired” enrolled neighbors will continue to receive alerts by phone or visit.

\* From Crimereports.com: 10/24/11 Burglary/Forcible Entry at 8am on 600 Block of Sycamore Drive.

Interested in joining the Watch? Please provide your contact info through the DHNA phone line or email, and your zone's block captain will follow up with you shortly.

**Special Thanks to Neighbor Dave Kell** for generously giving his time and talent to make the District 1(B) School Board Candidates Forum available on video and audio for Decatur residents. Dave put in hours to upload it, and he supplied it to the other local blogs. (To view or hear the Candidates Forum, please visit [www.ndecatur.com](http://www.ndecatur.com).) Dave also pitched in and made October's DHNA Meeting notes available on his [www.decaturreights.com](http://www.decaturreights.com) blog. Dave's efforts are much appreciated!

## **Don't Forget to Vote on Tuesday, November 8th! Polls are open from 7am to 7pm. On the ballot:**

- City Commissioner, District 1[B] (unopposed)- Bill Floyd, Mayor
- City Commissioner, At-Large (unopposed)- Jim Baskett, Mayor Pro-Tem
- City School Board , District 1[B] (open)- Peg Bumgardner-or- Garrett Gobel
- Sunday Alcohol Sales- Yes or No
- SPLOST continuation for Dekalb (and City of Decatur) Schools- Yes or No

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We hope you've enjoyed this month's edition of Decatur Heights highlights. The DHNA's goal is to keep all neighbors up to date on neighborhood news. Neighbors without internet access receive a delivered copy, and it is available online for “wired” neighbors.

[Note: This month's online copy may be delayed due the open DHNA website position. “Wired” neighbors are encouraged to join the Decatur Heights Neighbors Google Group to keep up with news and happenings. To become a member, please email a brief note that includes your name, address, and phone number to: [decaturreightsneighbors@gmail.com](mailto:decaturreightsneighbors@gmail.com).]