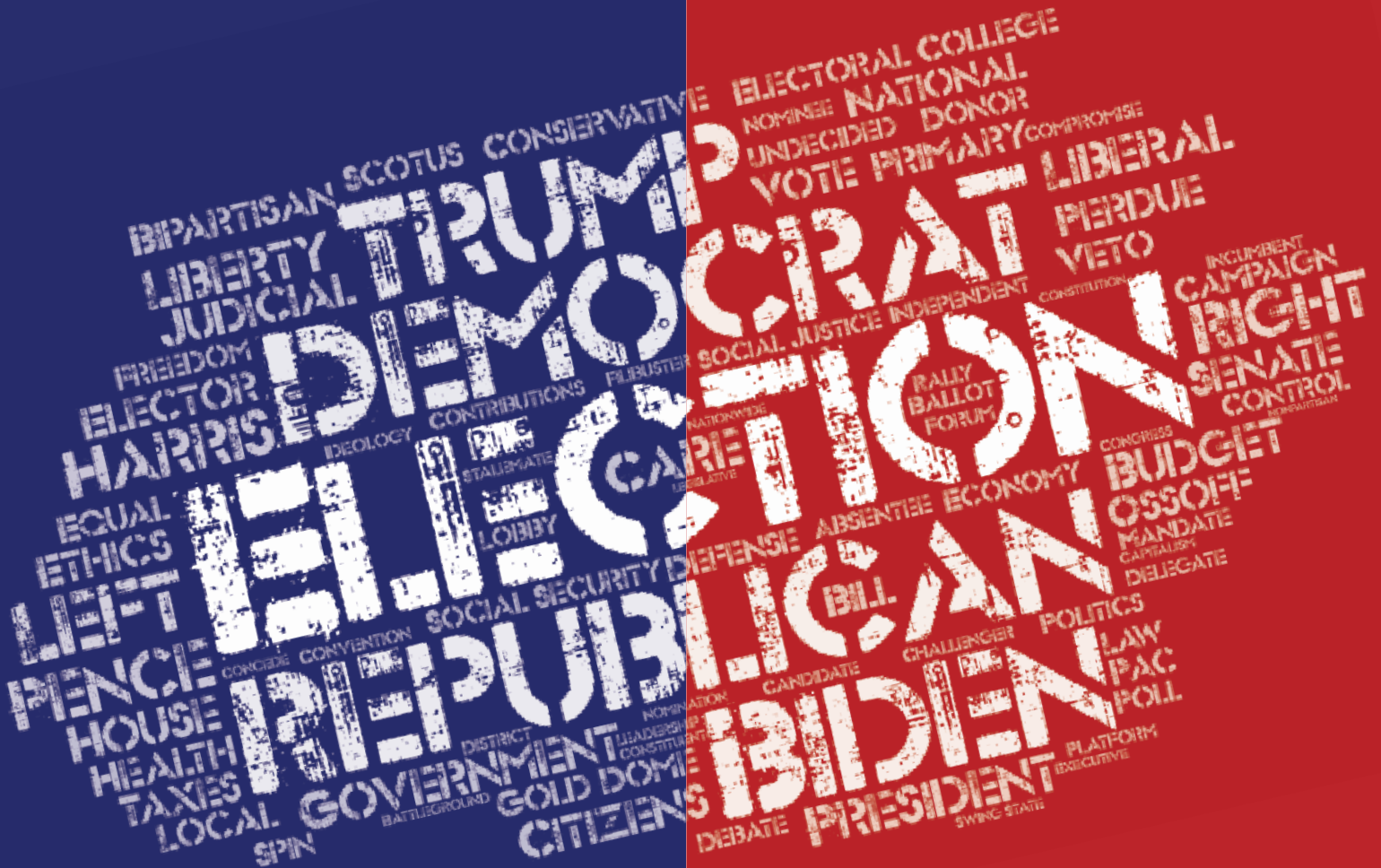




INTUCKER

OCTOBER 2020 | VOLUME 4 | ISSUE 10



DECISION 2020

THE WHERE, WHEN AND HOW OF CASTING YOUR BALLOT THIS FALL

EDITOR'S NOTE



It's election season and, for the first presidential campaign in some time, Georgia is in play as a battleground state.

That means you likely know more about the candidates than your cousin in Massachusetts or your aunt in Nebraska. Here in the Peach State, we're being inundated on every TV channel, every radio station, every streaming service every hour of the day with political ads. While it's exhausting, there is a purpose.

This ballot will be chock full of races from state representative to U.S. House, U.S. Senate to the White House. Lots of important people to decide lots of important issues. But the ultimate decision lies with you.

Although Election Day isn't until November 3, we wanted to put this issue of *InTucker* out in October because, well, Election Day doesn't hold the importance it once did politically. What I mean is more people than ever before are taking part in early voting, absentee voting, mail-in voting. We even have a ballot drop box here at Tucker's City Hall. A large percentage of votes will already have been cast by the time November 3 rolls around.

So, read up on our election feature on page 6. We want you to know about the important dates, races, and candidates; basically, anything and everything you need to know to cast an informed ballot this fall. Happy voting!

MATT HOLMES
INTUCKER EDITOR

IN THIS ISSUE



ON THE COVER

Election season is upon us. Aside from the presidential race, there are some pretty significant local races on the ballot. Read up on the campaign on page 6.



GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Students at Tucker's Idlewood Elementary School are using art to overcome language barriers. Hear from the staff behind the initiative on page 9.



BUSINESS BOOM

When the coronavirus pandemic struck, the City of Tucker was there to help local businesses weather the storm. On page 12, learn how the City's mask movement is positively impacting some of those businesses.



WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Tucker's Henderson Park has a beautiful Native Plant and Wildlife Walk. On page 8, meet one of the dedicated volunteers who brought the vision to life.



ASK RIP

The tennis courts at Henderson Park are "flush" with new amenities. Rip dishes on the upgrades and answers all the rest of your parks questions on page 15.



INTUCKER

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 10

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From the Mayor:



As the mayor of a new city, I get to be part of a lot of historic firsts. We certainly went through our fair share, whether it was our first City Council meeting, my first State of the City Address or our first city youth basketball league. It's fun to celebrate these milestones and all the work that goes into making them happen. And almost five years later, we're still breaking new ground.

This month, I'm proud to let you know that we have another first to commemorate: our first traffic court. For the life of our city, and for the decades preceding cityhood, if you got a traffic ticket in Tucker, you went through the DeKalb County court system to adjudicate it. Earlier this year, your City Council decided the time was right to take on traffic court as a city. Beginning September 1, traffic tickets written by our Tucker Precinct officers began the transition of having those cited appear at our newly constructed courtroom right next to the new City Hall (1975 Lakeside Parkway, Suite 350). October 7 will be the first day with our solicitors trying our cases before our judges.

There is a significant amount of revenue involved with traffic court, but please don't jump to the conclusion that this is all about revenue. Following our founding philosophy, we are evaluating every city service as to whether it makes more sense for us to provide it locally or

continue to contract it out. In every case, we are working hard to continue the great working relationships we have with DeKalb County. In this case, it just makes sense that if you get a ticket in Tucker you go to court in Tucker, rather than having to spend the day in Decatur with all that entails. It also allows us to set our own fines, and work with our own court professionals on how to best enforce the rules of the road in Tucker.

Taking on this change is a big challenge. Already our city staff and legal department have put in many months of work planning, going through safety protocols, and meeting with leadership at the Tucker Police Precinct to plan how best to start up traffic court. There are guaranteed to be some bumps in the road, but our court staff, including some we've hired just for the purpose, brings several decades of experience from other municipalities; I know we'll be in good hands, and Tucker's roads will be safer for the effort.

FRANK AUMAN
MAYOR

City Council Update



Tucker's Mayor and City Council met twice in the month of September, dealing with a number of relatively minor or administrative issues.

At the September 14 meeting, Council voted to approve an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with DeKalb County for funding to stabilize Johns Homestead. Commissioner Steve Bradshaw allocated just shy of \$100,000 of county money for upkeep on the beloved historic home. Council's vote allows the City to formally accept those funds and begin work on the property.

They also approved an agreement with Georgia Power that will pay the utility to install streetlights as part of the Tucker Streetscape Project. The City budgeted \$250,000 for the work, but the Georgia Power estimate came in significantly under budget.

Council then voted unanimously to award a contract to Green Heart Enterprises for installation of MARTA bus stop pads throughout the City.

There were first reads, meaning no votes were taken, on a number of issues, including:

- an ordinance to amend the City Code regarding choice in bail bondsmen
- consideration of an ordinance for post-construction stormwater management

- consideration of an ordinance for litter control
- consideration of an ordinance for illicit discharge and illegal connection

Lastly, Council discussed a resolution for a municipal special election referendum that would see the City take over certain aspects of public works from DeKalb County. This continued discussion from previous meetings about a potential March referendum. They agreed to continue the discussion at the Council work session on October 26.

Council then held a work session and brief meeting on September 28. They discussed several topics in that work session including setting a meeting calendar for 2020, distribution of CARES Act funds and transportation capital projects happening around the City. They also approved the ordinance regarding bail bondsmen from the previous meeting. Following an executive session, Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor to acquire the old county library property on Church Street from DeKalb County.

The next meeting of the Mayor and City Council will take place on Tuesday October 13 at 7 p.m. at the City Hall Annex (4228 First Avenue).

DATES TO KNOW

- October 5**
Downtown Development Authority
- October 6**
Urban Redevelopment Agency
- October 7**
Traffic Court
- October 13**
City Council
- October 14**
Traffic Court
- October 20**
Zoning Board of Appeals
- October 21**
Municipal Court
- October 26**
City Council
- October 28**
Municipal Court

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



 **Nextdoor**

ON THE BEAT with Lt. Schoeppner

Lt. D.G. Schoeppner is Tucker's liaison to the DeKalb County Police Department and can be followed at facebook.com/dgschoeppner or emailed at dgschoeppner@dekalbcountyga.gov



As I write this column, it is the day after a grand jury in Louisville, Kentucky handed down its decision regarding the death of Breonna Taylor.

This is a case that has garnered extensive media coverage and sparked protests, both in communities, as well as in professional sporting venues. Since the grand jury decision has been announced, there have been riots, countless dollars of property damage and, worst of all, the shooting of two police officers. My purpose in writing this month's column is not to adjudicate the Taylor case or to debate the findings of the grand jury, but rather to educate you on how our system works and how grand juries function.

Presenting a case to a grand jury is one of several processes through which a criminal case travels on the way to trial. The process varies by state but remains mostly the same. For the purposes of this article I will be talking about the process in Georgia. It would be the most relevant to you as a citizen. It is also the one I am most familiar with.

Grand juries consist of a panel of 16 to 23 citizens. These jurors are selected by the same process that someone would be selected for jury duty. Once a grand jury is convened they serve for a two-month term. During this term they meet regularly and consider numerous cases.

These cases are presented by the District Attorney's office. The prosecutor may or may not call witnesses. From my experience, either the case detective or an investigator from the DA's office presents it. The testimony is typically an outline of the incident and what evidence exists against the accused. Hearsay evidence can be presented in a grand jury but it still must be true and factual. Once the case is presented the jurors make their decision. The decision is not based on guilt or innocence, but whether there is enough probable cause. Probable cause is literally that there is enough evidence to believe the accused probably committed a crime. This is a much lower standard than at trial. There, guilt is found beyond a reasonable doubt. To move forward, 12 of the possible 26 jurors need to vote in favor of the indictment. This is called a "True Bill". Once this occurs the case moves forward to trial. If the grand jury chooses not to indict or "No Bill" a case, the prosecutor can try and present the case again with a different Grand Jury.

This brings us back to Breonna Taylor. The prosecutors who were trying to take this case to trial presented their evidence to a group of regular citizens, which had been essentially picked for jury duty. After hearing the evidence, these citizens concluded that only one of the three ex-police officers involved had "probably" committed a crime. Some people will agree with this outcome, while others obviously disagree. Before you jump into one side or the other on this debate, I wanted you to have a better understanding of how the grand jury process works. I have not seen it adequately explained in the media and I did not want to miss the opportunity to add some value to the debate surrounding this incident.



**Grand juries convene in DeKalb County and across the country to weigh evidence and determine whether possible crimes could go to trial.
(Credit: tuckerga.gov)**

BUSINESS BOOM

by John McHenry, Community and Economic Development Director



Over the last two months, the city of Tucker has continued its Mask Movement campaign with distribution of free masks to the public, as well as ensuring a range of businesses have boxes of masks for employees and customers.

We were pleasantly surprised to have over 4,000 masks requested by citizens online and by phone and then have them arrive in their mailbox. At the same time, the City's Business Outreach Coordinator Angela Brooks was visiting a range of establishments across the City and delivering over 15,000 masks.

"The silver lining is that I have been able to connect with and hear from our local businesses in this difficult time, as well as share city news," Brooks said. "In particular, the restaurants and salons really appreciated the City posters on mask wearing. The conversations also gave me the opportunity to share the new location of City Hall at Lakeside Center and explain how the City is continuing to provide services, just primarily digitally."

What we did hear from our business community is stories of declined revenue, the additional cost of adding safety measures, trying to stay afloat with reduced operations, wanting to try to keep their staff employed and use of federal assistance programs to fill the gap. We also heard about the gratitude for a loyal customer base in Tucker. Luis Finley, an owner of Local 7 on Main Street shared that the City's Mask Movement program was a success for them.

"The City poster was very helpful, and it was good to have additional masks on hand to share with patrons that needed them. We're serious about protecting our employees and our customers," Finley said.

Nhanh Nguyen of New Nails nail salon off Montreal Road really appreciated the City poster and masks.

"Health is so important," Nguyen shared. "We appreciate the City supporting mask usage so that we can all be well."

Devon Palermo, manager of Shorty's Pizza off Lawrenceville Highway relayed, "It was always helpful to have masks available to share and the posters drove the point home that the Mask Movement just makes sense."

Tim Allen, owner of Brockett Square Barbershop off Lawrenceville Highway was also a fan of the mask program.

"Tucker responded promptly to this crisis and without my asking," Allen said. "I'm grateful to work in a city that appreciates their small businesses and values my customers' safety."

An exciting recent development for the City is that it has received \$4.1 million in CARES Act funding from DeKalb County that it will be distributing to local social programs, and half of which will go to small business grants. Please visit the City's website for more information on this critical program and contact Angela Brooks at abrooks@tuckerga.gov with any questions.



BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

VISTA VIBES

Because of the pandemic, times have been tough, especially for restaurants. From having to close back in March to slowly opening their doors back up to the public in June, it has been a truly challenging time in the industry. That did not stop Zoubir Mesbahi from opening the Vista Vibes restaurant this summer. Vista Vibes, formally known as Coco Cabana, is located off Lavista Road and features live music and upscale southern cuisine.

"A lot of people pop their head in thinking we are associated with [Coco Cabana]," said Brandi McLoyd, the events and guest relations manager. "We've done a good job about walking around the neighborhood ourselves as a management team, introducing ourselves to our neighbors, inviting them in, especially for lunch. For the most part, I think it's just one of those things where Tucker has been missing something like this."

This southern upscale cuisine is not just Georgia cuisine, but features dishes from throughout the south that will have your palette wanting more. This menu includes some staples like fried chicken and peach cobbler, but other dishes, too, including mussels, frog legs, and blackened salmon. In the front of the restaurant you can also see the large black custom grill used by the cook for some of the popular smoked wings and ribs that you can smell from a mile away.

And while the food is spot on, the music adds a type of ambience that enriches the dining experience.

"On Fridays we have our resident musical director [and] also this incredible saxophonist....He knows a lot of people in this industry so he is constantly booking talent here. We're really mostly sticking to jazz or jazz fusion," McLoyd explained.

Some people may wonder why Tucker was chosen for this type of upscale food and entertainment. McLoyd tells us Mesbahi knew that this is what Tucker was missing and needed.

"He was looking for something outside of the City, something that you had to get to rather than it being the center of everything. I know parking was a big reason of why he chose this space," she added. "I think he realized that Tucker was missing a nice high-end venue like this....It just being a place where people can kind of get away from the busyness, madness, and noise of downtown and have a nice dinner somewhere and enjoy some live entertainment."

You can check out Vista Vibes at vistavibesrestaurant.com or visit them in person at 4073 Lavista Road in the Northlake Festival plaza.



ELECTION GUIDE

It promises to be the most bitter presidential election in...well...four years. President Donald Trump faces former Vice President Joe Biden with the White House and the direction of the country at stake. With razor-thin polling margins in the run up to the election, Georgia promises to play a critical role as a battleground state in this year's race.

But this ballot will be about a lot more than just the next president. Here in Georgia there are competitive races up and down the ballot. From the halls of Congress to Maloof Auditorium, candidates are vying for your vote to shape the future of our community.

Let these two pages serve as an Election Day primer for you, helping you to be an educated and informed voter before you cast your ballot.

CRITICAL DATES TO KNOW

- ★
 - ★
 - ★
 - ★
 - ★
 - ★
 - ★
- **October 7**
Vice-Presidential Debate
 - **October 15**
Second Presidential Debate
 - **October 30**
Early Voting Ends in Georgia
 - **October 12**
Early Voting Begins in Georgia
 - **October 22**
Third Presidential Debate
 - **November 3**
Election Day

DID YOU KNOW?



For the first time ever, Tucker's City Hall has a ballot drop box. Those casting absentee ballots, rather than sending by mail, can bring their ballot to City Hall 24 hours a day and drop it in the secure box. City Hall is located at 1975 Lakeside Parkway, Suite 350

ELECTION FUN FACTS

- ★
 - ★
 - ★
 - ★
 - ★
- Since 1980, Georgia has only gone for one Democratic presidential candidate (Bill Clinton, 1992)
 - The last time a third-party candidate won any electoral votes happened in 1968 when Georgia went for former Alabama governor George Wallace of the American Independent Party
 - Georgia has 16 electoral votes, tying it with Michigan for the eighth most electoral votes of any state
 - Twenty-one states, including Georgia, can claim status as birthplace of at least one U.S. president (Jimmy Carter)
 - Seven Georgia counties are named for U.S. presidents (Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Pierce, Polk, Taylor, Washington)



DECISION 2021



It's never too early to look ahead! Next fall, there will be four municipal offices up for election in Tucker. They include:

- Mayor
- City Council District 1, Post 1
- City Council District 2, Post 1*
- City Council District 3, Post 1*

Qualifying for the municipal elections will take place in August 2021. **incumbent is term limited*

Find more local election information at www.tuckerga.gov/elections.

FIVE RACES TO WATCH

U.S. SENATE – PERDUE VS. OSSOFF



Georgia's senior senator faces his first re-election test, a tight race with the former 6th district congressional candidate



- **U.S. SENATE – SPECIAL ELECTION** - The seat formerly filled by Sen. Johnny Isakson will see a slew of candidates on the November ballot. Expect a run-off on January 5.
- **STATE SENATE DISTRICT 40** - State Sen. Sally Harrell seeks to defend the seat she won from Republican Fran Millar in 2018. Harrell is opposed by Republican Garry Guan.
- **STATE SENATE DISTRICT 41** - The seat held for nearly two decades by Senate Minority Leader Steve Henson is up for grabs following his decision to retire.
- **DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 1** - Incumbent Nancy Jester takes on Democratic challenger Robert Patrick to represent the district that covers much of north Tucker.

CITIZEN OF THE MONTH

KIMBRA WISEMAN

Kimbra Wiseman is to be commended for her leadership with respect to Henderson Park's Native Plant and Wildlife Walk (NPWW). She became involved with NPWW as part of her Master Gardener internship. When Kimbra visited the site founded by Deborah Ashley with assistance from Dale Bartlett, she recognized what an asset it is to the area and has said, "I loved the concept of restoring the land to something closer to its pre-human inhabitant state."

This hard work has led to and will continue to lead to the discovery of native plants. Kimbra's enthusiasm has encouraged others to participate in planting natives. Kimbra and her hard-working volunteers can be spotted at least twice a month digging in the dirt year-round. A Park Pride grant and an Atlanta Audubon Society grant to fund efforts to clear the trail area of non-natives are just two accomplishments to ensure the success of NPWW.

This wonderful project is being recognized by, not only visitors to the trail, but also representatives from University of Georgia's Warnell School of Forestry. Kimbra is in communication with Warnell School members to use NPWW as a model and lab for urban reforestation.

In addition to NPWW volunteer activities, Kimbra stays busy with church and working part-time as an ESL instructor. In spite of those demands and taking care of family, Kimbra finds the time to make sure NPWW is cared for and ready to be enjoyed by Tucker residents and other park visitors. We are very fortunate Kimbra found her way to NPWW!

Nomination by L.O. Shinew



WORKS OF ART

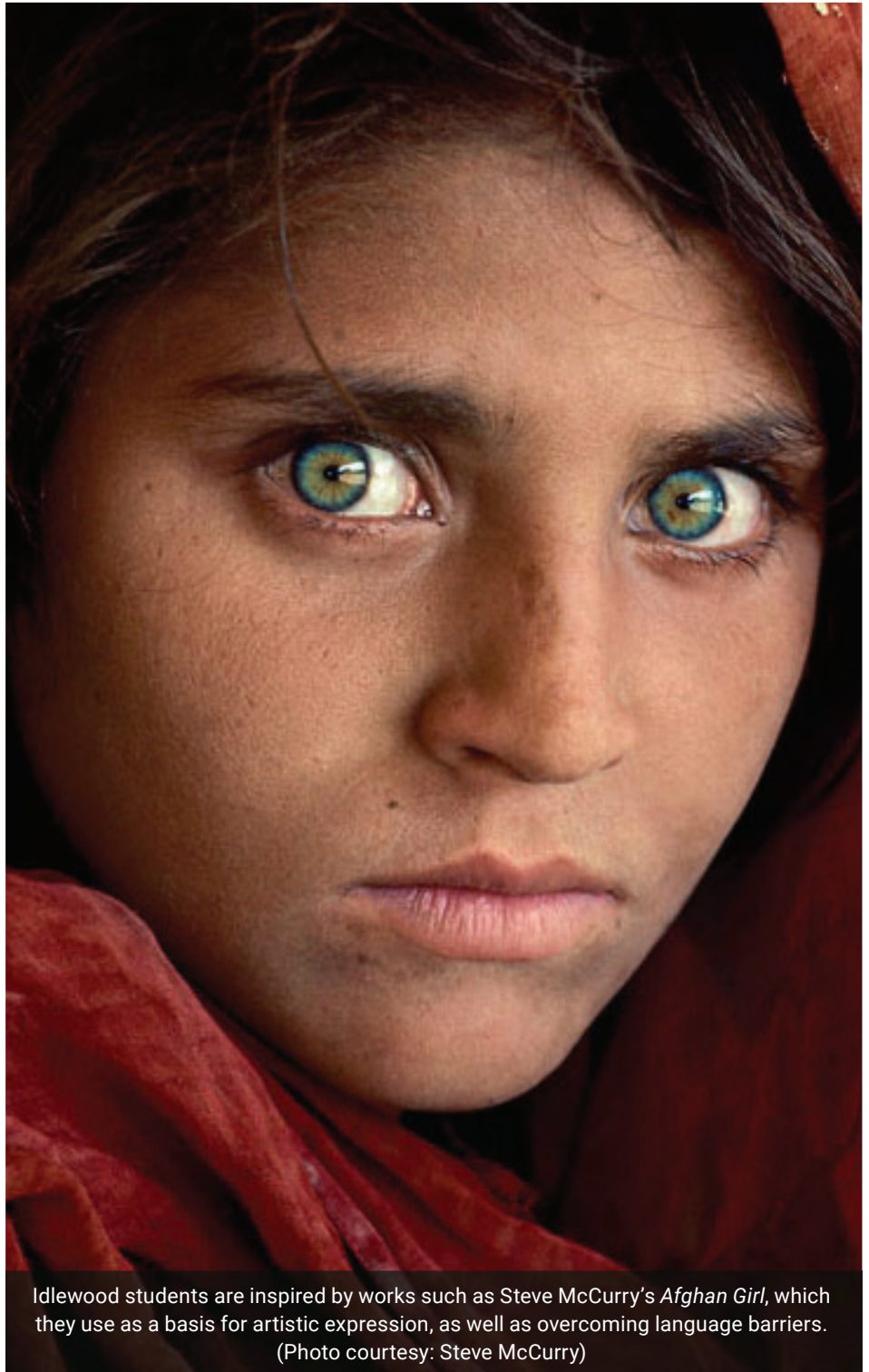
IDLEWOOD TEACHER USING PHOTOGRAPHY TO ENHANCE GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Photographer Steve McCurry traverses the globe documenting people from all walks of life. His work, captured in peacetime and wartime, has appeared on magazine covers and garnered multiple awards for its stark honesty and daring transparency. That photography is resonating especially within the halls of Tucker's Idlewood Elementary School.

"We have photographs of Steve McCurry's work in the building, all throughout, highlighting all the... nationalities," said Idlewood art teacher DeMeria Porter. "At the end of last year, I had the students try to replicate something similar from their own culture. They were able to make art with photography and then connect it to something they see every single day."

The project, and McCurry's work, is tailor-made for a school like Idlewood. Easily Tucker's most diverse school, Idlewood boasts a student population that hails from several dozen countries and speaks a variety of languages. Oftentimes, a subject like art can be what connects a non-English speaking student to their teachers and their peers.

"We have a very diverse student population with about 40 different languages spoken here and our school is about 40 percent English language learners," explained Idlewood ESOL coordinator Garlfar Andrews. "For the students, particularly the students who are learning English, it's using simple language, gestures, pictures and having them build a language from that point on."



Idlewood students are inspired by works such as Steve McCurry's *Afghan Girl*, which they use as a basis for artistic expression, as well as overcoming language barriers. (Photo courtesy: Steve McCurry)

WORKS OF ART (CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)



Porter and Andrews are both second year teachers at Idlewood, coming in at the same time as Principal Robin Elder. Elder says specialty classes like art have a long-term and beneficial impact on students from all walks.

"Integrating art, music [and] even introducing the international customs and cultures to all students is important to me," Elder said. "That's why we have the artwork all around the building because I thought it was important for students that come from other countries to see themselves in our school setting."

One of the keys to success, Elder said, is her teachers. Porter studied electronics engineering in college and worked for several years as a technical writer and illustrator before embracing her true passion, art.

Andrews has been an educator for almost two decades, teaching both here in America and overseas during a stint teaching non-English speakers in the United Arab Emirates. It is these diverse backgrounds that come together to shape the educational experience for students at Idlewood.

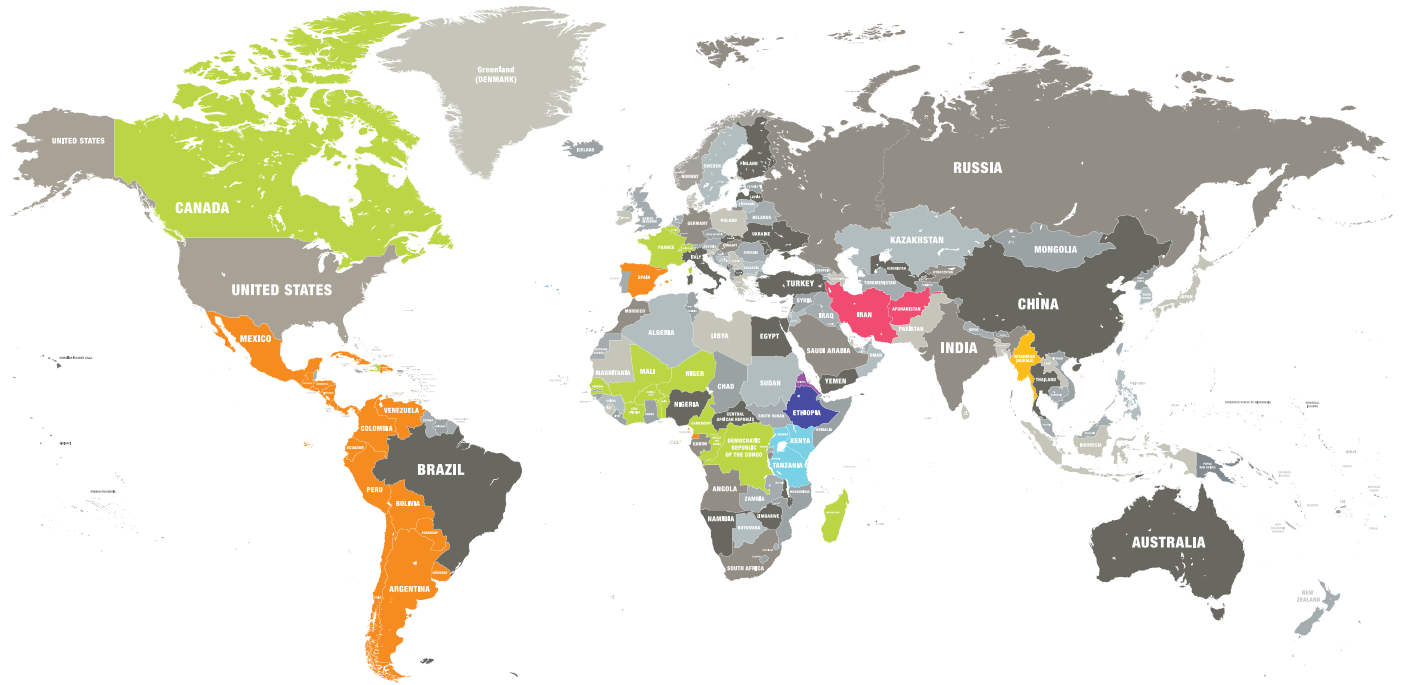
"Art has always been in my life. Always," Porter reflected. "[It is important] being able to pass to them what I know how to do artistically and just teaching them how art is connected to everything that we do: math, science, social studies, ELA. Integrating all of it together so they can make that connection to the real world."

Much like McCurry's photography, that real world stretches beyond Tucker, beyond DeKalb County, beyond our nation's borders and to the farthest ends of the earth. It is places like Idlewood where young minds are being primed to make a global impact as we move through the 21st century and where art will continue to be a medium for progress.



GLOBAL SCHOOL

Idlewood Elementary is home to students from around the world. English is a second language for many of them, as around 40 languages are spoken in the school's halls. To get an idea of how challenging educating these young people can be, consider this list of the most frequent languages spoken at Idlewood.



SWAHILI Central Africa 100 million	AMHARIC Ethiopia 22 million	FRENCH Various Countries 76 million	TIGRINYA Eritrea 7 million	BURMESE Myanmar 33 million	FARSI Iran 70 million	SPANISH Various countries 483 million
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Tucker Cluster BRAG SHEET

BROCKETT ELEMENTARY

- Brockett recently named their Staff Members of the Year. The honorees are Anna Gonzalez (5th grade teacher), Jennifer LaBell (academic coach) and Bonnie Jones (paraprofessional).

IDLEWOOD ELEMENTARY

- Idlewood Principal Robin Elder held her "Engage with Elder" event on September 24, giving parents and guardians a chance to get to know the administration and ask questions about the school.

LIVSEY ELEMENTARY

- Livsey has had a great start to virtual learning. Students, parents and teachers are following the school motto "Remember to work hard, try something new, learn from your mistakes, and don't fret if you haven't learned it yet!"

TUCKER MIDDLE

- Tucker Middle is so very thankful for the many resources DeKalb County Schools have included that have allowed them to reach out to students and parents. They have issued 350 Chromebooks to 6th grade students and students new to TMS!
- Dr. Kathy Cunningham was named DeKalb County's Region 2 Principal of the Year.

TEAM TUCKER *Spotlight*

CATALINA DUNN, SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR



What do you do for the City of Tucker?

I run the City Instagram and the Parks & Rec Facebook page. I also help film and edit all the videos seen on all of our social media channels.

What were you doing before you came to Tucker?

I was a swim coach at Atlanta Swim Academy and interning with a social media company.

What is the coolest thing you've gotten to do for your job?

The coolest thing I've gotten to do so far for the City of Tucker is create a web series and be the head of that project. (What's Good, Tucker)

What are some of the biggest challenges in your job?

Having to ask people if they want to be filmed or have a photo taken of them.

You're the youngest full-time member of Tucker's staff. Is that weird?

It was definitely weird at first since at my other jobs I was always the oldest. Now I like hanging out with the old folks.

Off the Wall

If you weren't working for the City of Tucker, what would you be doing?

If I wasn't working for the City of Tucker, I would like to be a travel blogger.

Do you have any nicknames?

I have a couple, but one of my nicknames is KitKat because when I was younger I loved the candy.

Do you enjoy travel or are you a homebody?

I love to travel! My dream would be to visit all seven continents.

What is the best thing you've ever won?

The best thing I've ever won was a makeup palette from a famous singer (Lele Pons) on an IG contest and over 1 million people entered.

“ASK RIP” *Answers Your Park Questions*

Rip Robertson is the Parks and Recreation Director for the City of Tucker. He brings to the job years of experience in Parks and Rec, as well as Public Works.



There are any number of topics I could cover this month, including the overwhelming success of our pickleball and golf leagues or the upcoming eSports tournament our department is hosting, but I checked, and the mailbox is full.

So, let's get to some of your questions about our Tucker parks!

Lisa Guyton – I see that Henderson Park has new restrooms at the tennis courts and we also have lights. Are the restrooms open to the public? Do you need a code? Also, since the park closes at dusk, how do the tennis lights work? I'm confused about why the lights were installed.

Lisa, the restrooms are open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. They have timed locks and are cleaned every morning and checked throughout the day. The lights for the courts will be on a timer and can be used until 9 p.m. The lights are only available as the days begin to shorten. The lights were installed for fall/winter use to extend play to 9 p.m. and possible league play, as needed. Open play ends daily at 9 p.m.

Fernando and Kayla Chen – We moved into Tucker recently and we enjoy spending time outside. We noticed that in Tucker proper, the parks and facilities are geared more towards families with kids and team activities. Can you please consider the needs of the rest of your city residents and have a couple of options for people who want to shoot some hoops or do pull-ups/sit-ups/dips, etc. outside?

We are currently renovating Peters Park to include an adult workout area. It already has outdoor basketball courts (presently closed due to COVID and construction), as well as a paved track. The park should be opened by the end of this month. We also have outdoor basketball at the rear of the Tucker Recreation Center (again, presently closed due to COVID). We have plans to add other workout areas over the next few years at other parks, as well. We also have outdoor tennis at Henderson Park and tennis and pickleball at Smoke Rise Pool/Park on Glacier Drive.

As conditions allow, we hope to reopen our Tucker Recreation Center gym to offer basketball, pickleball and volleyball.

We normally plan several “adult” events/activities throughout the year (runs, field day, sip and stroll, haunted trail, etc.). Due to the health crisis, our year has been rather curtailed. We hope to get some activities planned between now and the

end of the year to engage the community. We are planning on a “distanced” Haunted Trail at Henderson Park on Friday October 30.



Maggie Beltran - Any plans for a social distance friendly Halloween event for kids?

Maggie, as I mentioned above, we are planning on a “distanced” Haunted Trail at Henderson Park on Friday October 30. We will also have a candy giveaway at four of our Tucker parks with staff in costume. Please check our website and Facebook page for details on times and registration requirements.

Leigh Andersen – Could you send me information about pickleball, including when the courts are open? My husband and I had planned to learn the game and start playing about the time the pandemic hit.

Leigh, we're glad to offer some options to our pickleball players during this uncertain time. We provide outdoor pickleball courts at Smoke Rise Pool/Park on Glacier Drive, off of Hugh Howell Road in the Smoke Rise area of Tucker. They are open for first-come, first-served use. The nets are there with lines on the courts. Once you finish playing, please return the nets to the sidelines. We are working toward indoor play for the fall, with registration times available through our website. We will also be having an indoor fall pickleball league with beginner and advanced leagues.



TUCKER Community Corner



10/6 – DeKalb County Growing in the Workplace

11 a.m. - 12 p.m., virtual

DeKalb County business leaders and influencers are invited to join a virtual business roundtable event. Blind Spots: Exploring Unconscious Bias will talk openly about opportunities to promote awareness and understanding of issues that affect workplace diversity and equality in DeKalb County.

10/10 – Tucker Community Health Expo

9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.,
4315 Church Street

Join Omega Support Services Center for a day of health and wellness with free medical checks, COVID information and testing, arts and crafts, and other great vendors. The event will be held outside and CDC guidelines will be observed. It is free and open to the public.

10/13 – University of Government Affairs at Tucker

6-7 p.m., virtual

This six-session program offers residents an inside look at how their city government functions. The October session will focus on the City's efforts with communications and social media. Due to coronavirus restrictions, the class will be conducted via Zoom.

10/20 – Tucker High School Foundation Spirit Night at Chipotle

5-9 p.m.,
4347 Hugh Howell Road

THSF School Spirit Tastes Great! Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for a fundraiser to support the Tucker High School Foundation. Come to the Chipotle at 4347 Hugh Howell Road in Tucker for some good food and for a great cause.