by Casey Clavin



We're on the web at www.williamsparkneighbors.org

The end is near! The membership year for WPN ends March 31. Please take advantage of the membership form on page 5 to renew your membership today.

We have a new columnist-duo joining us in this issue. Amy and Kenzie Shay (mother and daughter) are teaming up to write Pet Profiles about all Williams Park's fabulous companion animals. Welcome to you both, and thanks for chipping in.

We encourage contributions to the MEMO. Deadlines for the next two issues are May 15, and August 15. We'll accept submissions in almost any form (though we prefer electronic). Send material to Casey at 770-333-9995 or at dingoblue@earthlink.net

Don't be left out when we send WPN e-mail updates. If your e-mail address changes (or has changed), please let us know. Send your new address information to Irdavis1351@yahoo.com

# Jonquil redevelopment update

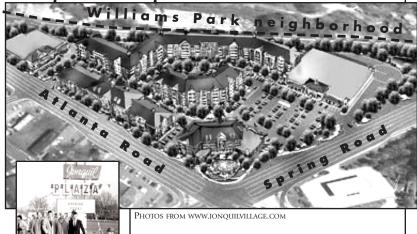
IN LAST SEPTEMBER'S MEMO we reported on plans to build a Publix supermarket as part of a Jonquil Plaza redevelopment project. The latest word is that the project is good to go and will be breaking ground in April or May of this year. "You'll see bulldozers rolling on the property by then," according to Alan Durham, Smyrna's Director of Economic Development.

The project will get a \$20 million helping hand

through Smyrna's Tax Allocation District (TAD) program, approved by voters three years ago. TAD is a mechanism by which future increased tax revenues are used to help override the high cost of redevelopment in depressed areas.

Here's how it works. Jonquil Plaza is currently worth \$16 million. The City, County, and County School Board each receive their share of the annual property taxes collected on that value. The redeveloped Jonquil Village will be worth \$190 million, so the City, County, and County School Board will benefit tremendously by the redevelopment. Under the TAD, the City issues bonds to investors to raise \$20 million to jump-start the project. These bonds differ in several respects from Municipal Bonds issued to fund a City project. Perhaps the most significant difference is that Smyrna does not guarantee the bonds in any way—the investors accept the full risk in exchange for a potentially high rate of return. Typically TAD money is used to pay for water and sewer lines, road and traffic improvements, demolition, and site cleanup costs.

The project gets built and the increased tax revenues start rolling in. The City, County, and



County School Board continue to receive tax revenue as per the previous \$16 million value while the balance of the increased revenue goes to pay back the bonds. Some years later (probably 16, depending on economic conditions), when the bonds are all paid off, the City, County, and County School Board commence to reap the benefit, each collecting their share of the tax revenue on the complete \$190 value of the property.

To gain approval, a TAD request must have the blessing of the City, the County, the County School Board, and Smyrna's Downtown Redevelopment Authority. Those hurdles have all been crossed for this project.

Besides the 39,000 square foot Publix, the new Jonquil Village will include an additional 120,000 square feet of retail shops, 20,000 square feet of office space, 300 regular market condominiums plus 70 senior living condominiums. Construction is expected to take an estimated 18 months.

There is one way you might want to participate. The developers are asking for input on what type of businesses people want to see locate there. Go to www.jonquilvillage.com, click on "play." You'll see the question, "What do you want to see at Jonquil Village?" with a window to type your thoughts into.

### 2007 CALENDAR

neighborhood watch kick-off meeting monday, march 19 7:00 pm at smyrna community center Block captains, bring interested neighbors along. Officer Lane will attend.

(Don Kinter 770-436-9380)

wpn happy hour friday, march 23 6:30 pm location tbd

wpn book club sunday, march 25 3:00 pm (Leanne 770-863-9580)

wpn bridge club wednesday, march 28 7:30 pm (Mary Helen 770-437-8620)

wpn happy hour friday, april 20 6:30 pm jill & larry jones 1423 spring street

wpn general assembly neighborhood meeting tuesday, April 24 7:00 pm at smyrna community center

wpn clean sweep saturday, april 21 huge yard sale & sunday, april 22 put junk out for trash amnesty pickup

wpn bridge club wednesday, april 25 7:30 pm (Mary Helen 770-437-8620)

wpn book club sunday, april 29 3:00 pm (Leanne 770-863-9580)

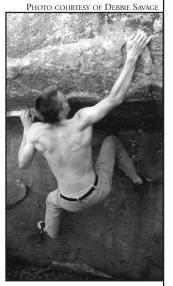
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# Kudos for neighbors

Kudos to Amanda Vogel (Nelson Lane) on her fantastic new job. Having worked the hotel industry from her native Australia, to China, to the Bahamas to Atlanta, Amanda has landed a "dream job" as Director of Operations at the historic West Baden Springs Hotel and Spa. Built in 1902, then closed during the Great Depression, the hotel later saw use as a Jesuit seminary and a private college, and a hospital before being left vacant and deteriorating. Now nearing the end of a very costly restoration, the facility is due to reopen in June of 2007 offering 246 ultra-luxury rooms and suites. Unfortunately, this means we loose Amanda and Ray as neighbors. We bid them good bye and good luck. And we offer our heartfelt gratitude to Amanda for serving our neighborhood as the unsung printer of the MEMO since its inception.

Associate kudos to **Debbie and Tim Savage** (Old Roswell Road)— their son **Alex**, a senior at Auburn, completed the first ascent of Smith

Mt. the terminator route (that means he was the first ever to do it without ropes) December. in Alex is in the top five amateur bouldering rock climbers in the Southeast, and the guys who finish ahead of him are generally professionals with sponsorship. He pictured was recently in the January issue of



*Urban Climber Magazine* competing for the bouldering Triple Crown. As you can see from the photo here, this guy is a lean, mean climbing machine. We'll resist the temptation to make "Spiderman" comments and simply say... way to go, Alex!

Kudos to the **WPN Board** of Directors. The eight members personally threw in equal shares to provide a \$100 "Sponsor" level donation to Keep Smyrna Beautiful, not in their own names, but in the name of Williams Park Neighbors.

### WPN Pet Profiles

Рното ву Аму Sha



Candy — Candy is a 12 year old, german shepherd/chow mix. She lives on Mimosa Circle with her "mother" Ava Jenkins. Candy sleeps on the side porch with extreme comfort. She has a heated water dish and heating pad under her bed. Ava's nephew found Candy and her sister in Ellajay and brought her to Smyrna to live. Candy's favorite food is Pedigree Dog food and leftovers. After her meals she gets a meaty bone which she really likes. Her tricks are sit and shake hands. When younger she got out once and got hit by a car on Atlanta Road, now she cares nothing about leaving the yard.

— Kenzie Shay (Mimosa Circle)

### Who knew?

By now, most of you know that our curbside recycling program no longer takes glass. Hearing complaints from some, I called Ann Kirk, Director of Keep Smyrna Beautiful, for an explanation. I learned that there's still a good market for recyclable glass, but only if it's separated by color. Our program used to sort recyclable material curbside, separating the glass by color into various bins. That's no longer economically feasible—recyclables now travel in a "single steam" to a sorting facility, a process which color-mixes and breaks the glass. Color-mixed means unsaleable, and broken means damaging to the sorting machinery and contaminating to other recyclable materials.

Fortunately, we do have a convenient place to take our glass jars and bottles. The Smyrna Recycling Center at 645 Smyrna Hill Drive, is open Mon., Tues., Fri., and Sat. 8-4 pm, and Thurs. noon-8 pm. They take a whole host of materials and can be reached at 770-431-2869.

— Casey Clavin (Roswell Street)



### 2007 CALENDAR

...continued from previous page

wpn anniversary party saturday, may 5 4:00 pm 1351 Roswell Street

MEMO submissions due may 15 (casey 770-333-9995)

wpn happy hour friday, may 18 6:30 pm location tba

wpn book club sunday, may 27 3:00 pm (Leanne 770-863-9580)

wpn bridge club wednesday, may 30 7:30 pm (Mary Helen 770-437-8620)

### WPN BOARD

president Ron Davis 770-431-9786

vice president Lem Ward 770-863-9580

secretary Kimm Martin 770-438-6596

treasurer Madge Jackson 770-432-3563

hospitality Nancy Smith 770-436-7833

social committee Sandy 770-435-5613 & Jill 770-434-5494

beautification com.
David Whited
770-435-1904

communications com. Casey Clavin 770-333-9995

security committee
Don Kinter
770-436-9380

# Beautification News

... David Whited

Our beautification Committee is responsible for Adopt A Mile walks, the Clean Sweep event, plantings, and other projects designed to improve the aesthetics of our community. We've done pretty well so far and we always have fun. Some areas of the neighborhood look like a war zone due to the development that we've had to endure for the last few years, but this too will pass, and it'll all come together with our efforts.

We do need more volunteers and ideas, though, so if you'd like to help, I'd encourage you to turn out for our next Beautification Committee meeting at 7:00 pm on March 22nd at 1499 Walker Street. We'll start planning for our 2007 beautification project as well as our annual Clean Sweep event which is scheduled for April 21st this year. That's earlier than in past years in order to avoid the Summer heat. It's amazing what we can do with your input, a little bit of money and a group effort. The date is creeping up on us pretty fast and we have a lot to do, so please pitch in. With enough helpers this won't be a burden on any one individual.

I'd also like to see more information sharing. Certainly we have a body of knowledge here that could provide ideas and tips for successful gardening in our specific climate and soil conditions. If you'd be willing to do a short presentation on this subject, please contact me and we'll set up some dates and times

If you can commit to some part of any of our projects or, better yet, take the lead in one area, it would be greatly appreciated. There are enough jobs to accommodate anyone who will help and, really, none of the jobs are all that time consuming. You can personally make a big difference in how our community looks. Currently we have an ongoing need for people to maintain ( weed, etc ) our planting at Williams Park so it will achieve it's full potential. This planting was well thought out and it should be very beautiful by this Spring. We do need to nurture it as much as possible though, until it is well established.

Feel free to call me at 770-435-1904 if you have any questions or comments. You may also email me at <a href="mailto:davidwhited@yahoo.com">davidwhited@yahoo.com</a>.

I look forward to seeing all of you at this year's events.

— David Whited (Walker Street)

### Trees ... Myrna Evans

Spring is just around the corner! Soon all our beautiful trees will start budding and before you know it, the leaves will be out.

This issue we'll take a look at some of the unwanted things spring will bring, as far as our trees are concerned. It seems that as the new leaves appear, there are damaging insects lying



in wait to pounce. Regular inspections should be performed, just like we go to the doctor for checkups. Take a look at your trees, particularly as they're leafing out. Once fully open, do the leaves seem smaller than they were last year? Are there areas of the tree that had leaves last year, but don't this year? Throughout the summer, look at the leaves about once a month checking for insect infestation as well as disease. If the leaves are high, use binoculars. With chewing insects you'll see evidence in the leaves. Also check the trunk, since this is a common place for boring insects to make their home. Look for a rough or cracked place in the bark accompanied by sap—this is usually an indication of boring insects.

I recommend you call a certified arborist if you think your tree is infested, rather than running off to the nursery for treatments. The reason is that you may have a problem accurately identifying the culprit and determining the correct product. On that note, I personally don't feel it's necessary to sign up with a company for a tree health care plan since that's quite expensive, and many times you're sold products and treatments you don't really need. You are the best first line of defense—all you have to do is pay attention to your trees. Usually the most accurate information about diseases and insects is from an independent arborist who does not treat the trees, but only identifies the problem. He'll tell you how to treat the problem yourself or recommend you call a company to provide a specific treatment. Remember, mature healthy trees are quite resistant to disease in the same way that healthy people are, because they have a good natural immune system.

As tree owners, we're in the best position to protect the natural immune system of our trees and it's pretty simple, really. If a tree isn't "stressed," it'll have a good immune system. What causes tree stress? Most of the time it's related to drought and compaction. Usually rainfall here is sufficient for most trees here, but we do need to pay attention during the hottest months and also during the winter when mature trees should be deep watered in their root zone.

continued on next page...

### MILESTONES

Dave and Jamie Ide (old roswell road) have a new baby girl, Pressley, born january 13.

#### illness

Andrea Kling (mimosa circle) was struck by a car february 14th while crossing atlanta road from williams park to the village market. She sustained no serious injury despite slidina up the hood and breaking the windshield with her head. She was treated and released from the hospital. We are extremely grateful that Andrea was not badly hurt. And we urge everybody to be very careful crossing that busy street.

#### deaths



We offer condolences to Sandy Hamby (Roswell Street) and her family. Sandy's sister **Heather Anissa Humbert** died February 19 after a nine year fight with a rare cancer, Cutaneous T-Cell Lymphoma. She was 40 years old. She's pictured here with her dog Ransom.

Large numbers of Williams Park's trees are being removed to make way for new buildings, many of which won't stand as long as the trees they displaced. More than 400 trees were cleared from the nineacre track now under development between Roswell and Whitfield Streets near five points. Only one tree still stands on the site.

## Trees ...continued from previous page

This means to a depth of 12 to 18 inches (where the feeder roots are) and not close to the tree trunk. You can check the moisture at this depth or just keep track of the time between good soaking rainfalls. A brief heavy summer shower that's over in five minutes probably won't supply water to the required depth-most of it will run off before it soaks in. Remember that root zones typically go beyond the drip line of a tree. Deep watering encourages deeper root growth which better anchors the tree. Normal grass watering which provides water to the top three or four inches of soil, will result in a shallow root system on your trees as they compete with the grass for water. One of the best articles I've read on tree watering is at www.treesforyou.org/Planting/Watering /watering your trees.htm. Although created by the Washington State University Cooperative Extension, it contains very useful instructions for tree watering anywhere.

Now, a few words about compaction, the packing down of soil around trees. If you already have a compaction problem, you should aerate the soil which you can do yourself with a three-inch auger and an electric drill. Holes are made on a three foot grid pattern throughout the root zone to a depth of at least 12 inches. It's a good idea to then fill the holes with peat moss, wood chips, pea gravel, or other materials which maintain aeration and support root growth. But the best thing to do is avoid compaction in the first place. Don't store heavy objects in the root zone (fireplace wood pile, bricks, stacks of lumber or a dumpster for a remodeling project). Don't allow any heavy equipment operation over the root zones; have the work done by hand. It may cost a little more, but what's that

compared to the value of an old tree? Lastly, do not allow anyone to park a car on the root zone.

Spring is a good time to refresh mulch. When doing so, make sure the mulch covers a wide area around your trees and is not too deep; two inches should be enough. And don't place mulch right up against the trunk—pull it back at least two inches. Mulch helps keep moisture in the soil and helps keep roots cool during the hot summer months, particularly true for dogwoods and redbuds, which are very susceptible to stress if their roots get too warm. That's probably why, in their natural state, they grow under a canopy of bigger trees!

Be careful when applying pre-emergent or broadleaf weed killers — some can be harmful to trees. The best solution is to pull the weeds, including their roots, as they appear. The best time to do this is after a rainfall when the ground is moist the weeds come out a lot easier. If you keep up with it, it doesn't take too long and if you get the roots, the weeds won't come back. For those who can't spare time for hand weeding, check labels and do research, then use the herbicide which will be least harmful to the trees. Maybe a good compromise would be to hand weed in the root zone and apply the weed killer products farther away.

One of the best websites for all around good information on tree care is www.treesaregood.com. It has very good sections on construction damage, and can assist in locating an arborist. Those of you who have bought new homes built near mature trees need to pay particular attention. These trees all have construction damage, whether you can see it or not. A large tree can take from two to five years to show signs of stress or to die, but if you act quickly you may save it. This is definitely a job for an arborist and you may want to consider a health care plan in this case until the tree is out of danger.

Finally, I urge everyone to get involved in saving our neighborhood's trees. The loss of trees, whether in your yard or not, affects the value of your property as well as your quality of life. If the time comes for the old For Sale sign to go up, you will not sell your house as quickly or for as high a price if only a few trees remain where there used to be a canopy down the entire block. New homes will have the same problem at re-sale time if the trees on the rest of the street are gone. Aside from all the other benefits our big trees bring us, there's no denying the affect on property val-

ues. If you live near a construction site, report it to the city when you see damaging things happening to trees that are supposed to be saved. I understand that a new Tree Committee for Smyrna has been formed, and I hope the outcome will be a new and better tree ordinance and personnel to enforce it. I'll try to bring more information for the next MEMO, but don't wait on me; do your own research!

Myrna Evans (Roswell Street)



### WELCOME

to these most recent new members:

> on spring street Ashley Wittan

> on walker street Amanda & Mike Blackwelder

on whitfield street Jon & Doty Hoffman Nadine Roland

as friends of WPN Mike & LaWana Streger

Our membership now stands at 115 families

Our mission is to promote community among neighbors through social interaction, emphasizing the unique character of Smyrna's oldest neighborhood.

You don't have to be a member to attend our events. But you'd be crazy not to join. For an application go to www.williamsparkneighbors.org

# Williams Park Cooks! ... Tom Haley (Old Roswell)

I'm no chef, but I sure like to cook. I bet there are many people just like me throughout the neighborhood—people who like to try new recipes and then dress them up to make the dish their own. Finding easy recipes for delicious meals can sometimes be a daunting task, but now you can find new flavorful ideas right here in your own urban village.

St. Patrick's day is right around the corner and what better way to mark the occasion than to plan a typical Irish feast! I have gathered a couple of Irish recipes that have been forwarded to me over the years and thought I would share two of them with you. These are easier to make than it sounds, but believe me—the luck of the Irish just might be sitting at your table!

#### Corned Beef and Cabbage

- 5 lbs. Corned Beef
- 1 sprig thyme
- 1 sprig parsley
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 teaspoon cracked pepper
- 1 head of cabbage, cut into wedges

Wash the corned beef and place it in a deep pot. Cover with water. Add herbs, garlic and pepper. Bring to a boil over high heat, skimming foam from the top. Cover pot and simmer, turning meat every 45 minutes. Cook until tender, 2 1/2 to 3 hours.

Remove meat from pot and keep warm. About 20 minutes before serving, bring cooking liquid to a boil. Add cabbage wedges and cook until crisp-tender, 5 to 7 minutes. Serve both with a mustard sauce.

#### Potatoes Patrick

- 8 medium-sized red new potatoes
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/2 cup ricotta cheese
- 1/2 head cabbage, grated and cooked tender crisp
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh chives
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper
- 1/2 to 3/4 cup milk, warmed

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Wash potatoes, removing eyes and discolored spots. Prick once with a fork. Bake for one hour or until very soft to the touch. Remove from the oven and let sit until cool enough to handle. Slice potatoes in half and scoop pulp into a mixing bowl. Reserve the skins. Mash pulp with a fork and add (in this order) butter, cheese, cabbage, chives, parsley, salt and pepper. Mix well after each addition. Add enough milk to soften potatoes, but keep firm enough to hold shape.

Choose the 8 best potato skin shells and divide three-fourths of the mixture among them, filling each one two-thirds full. Put remaining potato mixture into a pastry bag, fitted with a large decorative tip. Pipe rosettes onto each potato. (Note: I don't have a pastry bag, so I just heap the mixture into the potato—makes a great side dish for Easter dinner when done this way, as they look like Easter Eggs!)

Thirty minutes before serving, preheat oven to 375 degrees. Place stuffed potatoes in a shallow pan and bake for 25 minutes, until heated through and rosette ridges are slightly browned.

Next time you're looking for a new recipe to try, give these a whirl! And feel free to add your own special touch to make it your own. Be sure to drop me a line and tell me how it was. Or better yet, invite me over for a bite! Bon Appetite! And Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

MEMBERSHIP FORM    I'm new and joining WPN for the first time.   I'm renewing my WPN membership.		
W	illiams Pari	K Neighbors
	•	email:
		er:
I'd like to help out with:		
1		ne 🔲, +your address 🔲, +your phone number 🔲, + your email 🗌
		·
SEND TO: W	ILLIAMS PARK NEIGHBOR	S- P.O. BOX 813811, SMYRNA, GA 30081-8811
PLEASE SU	JBMIT ANNUAL DUES	IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15.00 PER FAMILY

#### CHARTER SCHOOL UPDATE

As many of you have heard, the International Academy of Smyrna is a charter school opening in the Fall of 2007 to meet the rapidly growing needs of our community. It will serve grades K through 8 and the enrollment process is currently underway. Parents received acceptance or notification of wait list letters by February 15 and had until March 1 to return the contract securing a child's spot in the school. The response has been overwhelming and we are excited to announce that the school will be filled to capacity at opening!

Gillian Horsley, Regional Director of Imagine Schools, the organization providing leadership in this community effort, released a statement last week. In it she thanked the community for sugested school locations, two of which are being drawn up by their architects. "Be assured that we are on track for opening in July 2007." She also indicated that an agreement with Principal candidate Cynthia De Luz did not come to fruition. "We are actively contacting prospective candidates... We anticipate sharing news with the community as soon as it is available."

For more information, contact Gillian Horsley at <a href="mailto:ghoster-up-nes-chools.com">ghorsley@imagi-nes-chools.com</a>

— Carra Fox (Whitfield St)

## Coach's Corner ... Ron Steiger

Stop wasting your time thinking of reasons for your failures and shortcomings. Instead, realize that the seeds of success were planted within you when you were born. Only YOU have the power to make those seeds grow. YOU are responsible, not your mother, not your father, not society, not capitalism, and certainly not the circle of friends or business associates you hang around.

The seeds, and the power to grow them, are contained in the most awesome machine ever created: the human mind. No computer can come close to duplicating the goal setting, goal seeking, goal-attaining mechanism of the human mind. Success is a choice and not a chance. YOU were born a winner. YOU were born rich. YOU can be a success if only YOU make the right choice.

"Success is not only reserved for the extraordinary gifted people, it is available for those who seek it with a commitment and vision."

YOU cannot be successful without first developing your self-esteem. Your level of self-esteem is always based on the degree of control that you are able to exercise over yourself, and thus over your life. People with low self-esteem are people who do not believe that they have any power, or responsibility for, their lives. They are the perennial victims and martyrs. They are leaves tossed by the winds of chance blown about with any sudden change in the weather. YOU can exercise control over your life only to the degree that YOU believe that YOU are responsible for everything that happens in your life. Failures think that everything happens by accident and chance. Successful people realize that they are responsible.

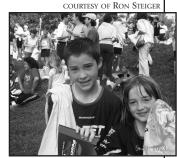
Everything happens as a result of something. If we can identify the cause, we can control the effect. Thoughts and beliefs cause everything. We are responsible for what we choose to think and believe. One generally rises to the level that one expects. We are responsible for setting our expectations. One's success is dependent upon one's level of confidence.

We are responsible for thinking confidently about ourselves and the attainment of our goals. Whatever the conscious mind accepts as true and chooses to believe, the subconscious will be driven to achieve. We are responsible for what we consciously choose to accept and believe. Our attitudes and actions are a result of habits ingrained in us over a period of time. We are responsible for either reinforcing good habits or unlearning bad habits and consciously replacing them with consistently practiced good habits.

If YOU associate with positive-thinking people, YOU are definitely going to achieve success.

### Success is a Choice

On the contrary, the opposite happens. We are responsible for finding, planting, and nurturing the seeds that contain future victory, born from setbacks. In short, in all areas of your life, whether they be financial, physical, emotion-



Kids at the Peachtree Jr. road race.

al, or spiritual, YOU are responsible. Once YOU recognize this, accept it, and firmly believe it, YOU are on the road to success. If YOU fail to accept this basic tenet, no success system or formula will pull you out of the hole you have dug for yourself.

Acceptance of responsibility is the crucial starting point of a successful life. None of the practical techniques for achievement are of value unless YOU first realize that YOU can take control of your life. YOU will not set a definite goal, with a plan for its attainment on a certain date, unless YOU realize that YOU will take control of your life by doing so. If YOU believe that you are totally controlled by fate, your environment, or other external forces, then YOU most certainly will be ruled by those forces. All causation is mental, and YOU can control your thoughts.

"IT'S UP TO YOU. IF YOU THINK YOU CAN OR IF YOU THINK YOU CAN"T, YOU ARE RIGHT."

—by business coach, Ron Steiger (Old Roswell)

### Quilt Exhibit

The Smyrna Library Galleries will feature a quilt collection by Atlanta resident Carole Noonan from March 1 through April 30, on display daily during regular library hours.

The artist, sewing since childhood, learned embroidery stitches from her grandmother which she now uses to embellish her quilts. "Carole's quilts are not only creative in design, but they also represent important themes in her life" stated Dorothy Sibert, coordinator of the Smyrna Library Galleries.

The galleries, managed by the Friends of Smyrna Library (FSL), showcase the works of local artists, craftspeople and collectors who have something unique to share with the community. The Friends, a non-profit organization serving our library since 1991, develops and executes various adult programs and helps fund children programs. The organization is continuously seeking thought-provoking and visually appealing exhibits for the gallery. To learn more about the Friends of Smyrna Library, visit friendsofsmyrnalibrary.org.

— Don Kintner (Ivy Spring Drive)