

Lithonia News

July, 2021 Volume 7, Issue 7 6920 Main Street, Lithonia GA 770-482-8136 http://www.cityoflithoniaga.org





ARABIA ALLIANCE TO CONDUCT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS REGARDING THE BRUCE STREET SCHOOL SITE



As efforts to preserve and activate the Bruce Street School ruins continue, officials are excited to announce forthcoming <u>community engagement sessions</u>. Feedback from the community engagement sessions will be used to shape the future of the historic ruins as a communal and historic local hub. Those interested can sign up for the sessions at <u>arabiaalliance.org/join-the-conversation/</u>. Dates and times of community engagement sessions will be announced soon.

The Bruce Street School dates back to the 1930s, when local Black leaders bought land to build a much-needed community school. The first graduating high school class (around 1943) included three pupils. By 1968, when the Bruce Street School was closed, there were over a dozen elementary and eight high school classrooms. Although in ruins today, the old school building still speaks to the power and resilience of Lithonia's Black community. People now have an opportunity to determine how this space can become an active part of the community once again. Anyone with artifacts, photos, stories and other materials relevant to the school and any future exhibits is especially encouraged to participate in the community engagement sessions.

COUNTY PARKS, POOLS, ARTS CENTER ARE OPEN

DeKalb Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs has reopened all facilities and amenities for public usage. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines will be observed during nature programs and activities to ensure protocols are being practiced. Park users will be able to utilize athletic fields, sports facilities, playgrounds, picnic shelters and outdoor basketball courts. The swim season began on Saturday, June 12. Pools and splashpads require patrons to preregister prior to entry.

Camp Superstars resumed this summer starting Monday, June 14. The program is a summer day camp for ages 5-15, which runs from 7 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday through Friday at a charge of \$66 per week. Breakfast and lunch are provided.

The Porter Sanford III Performing Arts and Community Center reopened on Monday, June 14, at a reduced capacity in accordance to CDC guidelines for indoor events.

For more information,cpntact LaShanda Davis, public relations specialist, at 404-710-6331 or Isdavis@dekalbcountyga.gov.

CAMP OPPORTUNITIES FOR QUALIFIED YOUTH

The DeKalb Human Services Department in partnership with the DeKalb Community Development Department is currently providing a limited number of summer vouchers and scholarships for qualified youth to attend in person approved summer camp programs in DeKalb County. The DeKalb Summer Camp Voucher Program provides summer camp options for youth from income eligible families. DeKalb youth ages 5 years-15 years may attend a variety of programs that are open now through July 30, 2021.

To obtain the list of approved program providers, please visit

https://dekalboys.org/voucher-program/.

Interested individuals must contact the location that they wish to enroll their child(ren).

To learn more about the Voucher Program, contact the DeKalb Human Services Department at 770-880-2434 or via email at ezansari@dekalbcountyga.gov









Every Week!



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JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION WITH FIRST ST. PAUL AME









Lithonia Historic Preservation Commission Volunteers Needed

Lithonia is a community that is rich in history. The City came into being because it was a crossroads between Lawrenceville and Macon, and Decatur and Milledgeville. IN 1856 the City of Lithonia was chartered. Approximately 250 people lived in the area at the time.

In 2016, the City of Lithonia was listed on the National Register of Historic Places due to a lot of hard work by many individuals, the unique homes and businesses in the city, as well as the unique gneiss granite which is locally quarried. This designation means we are a very special place.

In 2019, the City Council of Lithonia adopted a Historic Preservation Ordinance with the goal of stimulating and revitalizing the business district and historic neighborhoods. The ordinance creates a Historic Preservation Commission which is tasked with designating historic properties and districts, providing for Certificates of Appropriateness, and coordinating an appeals process, the repeal of conflicting ordinances, and other purposes.

The City is looking for a few people who may be interested in serving on the Commission Board. They would serve a maximum of two three-year terms. Requirements are that the person must live in the City of Lithonia and be a person who has demonstrated special interest, experience or education in history, architectural history, planning, archaeology or related professions.

If you would like more information or would like to be considered as a board member, please call the City Clerk at 770-482-8136 and submit your name. She will can send you a copy of the ordinance that details all the requirements.

Looking to the future while respecting the past!



CITY OFFICIALS AND STAFF

COUNCIL MEETINGS

JULY 6TH AND 19TH

MEETINGS WILL BE HELD BY CONFERENCE CALL DUE TO THE PANDEMIC

Call 770-482-8136 for dial-in information.

City Hall Council Chambers 6920 Main Street Lithonia, GA 30058

Mayor

Shameka Reynolds Shameka.Reynolds@lithoniacity.org

Council Members

William 'Ric' Dodd Ric.Dodd@lithoniacity.org

Vanneriah Hawk-Wynn Vanneriah.Wynn@lithoniacity.org

Darold Honore Darold.Honore@lithoniacity.org

Diane W. Howard Diane.Howard@lithoniacity.org

Amelia Inman Amelia.Inman@lithoniacity.org

PROGRESS ON THE NEW DEKALB COUNTY BRUCE STREET SENIOR CENTER IN LITHONIA





City Staff

LaThaydra Sands, City Administrator LaThaydra.Sands@lithoniacity.org

> Robinette Blount, City Clerk <u>CityClerk@lithoniacity.org</u>

Nathan Pollard, Chief of Police Nathan.Pollard@lithoniacity.org

Quinton Monson, Dir. of Public Works Quinton.Monson@lithoniacity.org

LITHONIA! A City With PURPOSE!





2021 Lithonia Farmers Market on Main Season

May	8	Mothers Day Pop-Up Market
June	5	Opening Day Market
	12	Celebrating Lithonia's Main St Businesses
	19	Juneteenth / Fathers Day / House Music
	26	Celebrating Native Lithonians
July	3	Celebrating Black Farmers
	10	Celebrating Lithonia's Faith Communities
	17	Celebrating Lithonia's Leaders
	24	NO MARKET – SUMMER BREAK
	31	Back To School / Celebrating Children
August	7	Vegan Market
	14	Celebrating Lithonia's Senior Citizens
	21	Celebrating Lithonia's Schools and Teachers
	28	Celebrating Police/Fire/Military
Sept	4	Celebrating Labor Day/Workers
	11	Celebrating Grandparents
	18	Celebrating Health Care Workers
	25	Dancin' In The Streets
Oct	2	N0 MARKET – FALL BREAK
	9	Breast Cancer - Pink Market
	16	Fitness Market
	23	Harvest Market
	30	Halloween / Closing Market
Nov	20	Thanksgiving Pop-Up Market
Dec	4	Holiday Pop-Up Market

SPECIAL PURPOSE HOME REPAIR PROGRAM FOR DEKALB COUNTY SENIORS & ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Special Purpose Home Repair Program (SPHRP) is designed to assist DeKalb County seniors (aged 62 and over) and adults with disabilities (aged 21 and over) in repairing property conditions that threaten the subsistence of their homes or present threats to health or safety due to hazardous and/or unsanitary conditions.

How to Apply

- Obtain a Special Purpose Home Repair Pre-Application Card at a DeKalb County Public Library or at the Community Development website: <u>https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/community-</u> <u>development/dekalb-first-time-homebuyersdown-payment-</u> <u>assistance-program</u>
- The homeowner must complete and submit a completed Pre-Application Card to the DeKalb County Community Development Department on or before **3:00pm on July 21, 2021**. Incomplete Pre-Application Cards will not be reviewed.
- Pre-Applications may be submitted on line at: <u>https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/community-</u> <u>development/dekalb-first-time-homebuyersdown-payment-</u> <u>assistance-program</u>
- Pre-Applications may be mailed or placed in the box at the office door of the address shown below:

DeKalb County Community Development Department 750 Commerce Drive, Suite 401 Decatur, GA 30030