

the

SmokeTree

SIGNAL

October 2025

In Case You Missed It: 2025 Season Recap

Operations & Upgrades

-  Pool open mid-May through mid-September (4 full months!)
-  Upgraded 2 of 5 Wyze cameras for clearer video + improved storage
-  New sign-in sheet to track visits, with raffle incentives
-  WhatsApp group created for quick, easy member communication

Events & Community Enhancements

-  Spring Work Day
-  Disco Rodeo
-  Water Aerobics
-  Fun Fridays
-  4th of July Potluck + Fireworks
-  Doggie Swim Day
-  Entryway Beautification
-  Fall Pool Cover Day

Board THANK YOU and Transition Submitted by Jayne Rauser

Please help me give a big thank you and round of applause to our outgoing SSRC Board! I would like to personally thank Saye, Kelsi, Jen, Betsy, Lorena, Rosalie, Teddy, Justin, Frank, Mysty and Mary Lu.

I truly appreciate the energy, effort, and time they put into helping maintain and improve our club this past season. Their commitment has made a lasting positive impact.

I am happy to serve as President again and would also like to welcome and/or re-welcome those that have been elected for our next board:

Tasiana, Kelsi, Pablo, Saye, Teddy, Betsy, Amber, Rich, Lorena, Rosalie, Frank and Mary Lu and also to those who have agreed to serve in support or special committee roles: Julian, Justin, Barbie, Andrea, Eric and Lillian.

Thank you for stepping up to take on these important roles. I look forward to working with you to make this another fantastic year for the SSRC!



Did You Know?

You can play a role in keeping our community safe by registering your home security cameras with Gwinnett County! The process is quick and simple at gwinnettsafecommunities.org.

Here's how it works:

- Voluntary program: You choose whether or not to participate.



- No live access: Police do not have access to your cameras or live feed.
- On-call support: If a crime happens near your home, investigators can see that you have a camera and may contact you to request video footage.

This program helps Gwinnett County Police identify where cameras are located, saving time during investigations and increasing the chance of solving crimes. Even a small piece of footage can provide the missing link. Taking just a few minutes to register could make a big difference in protecting our neighborhood!

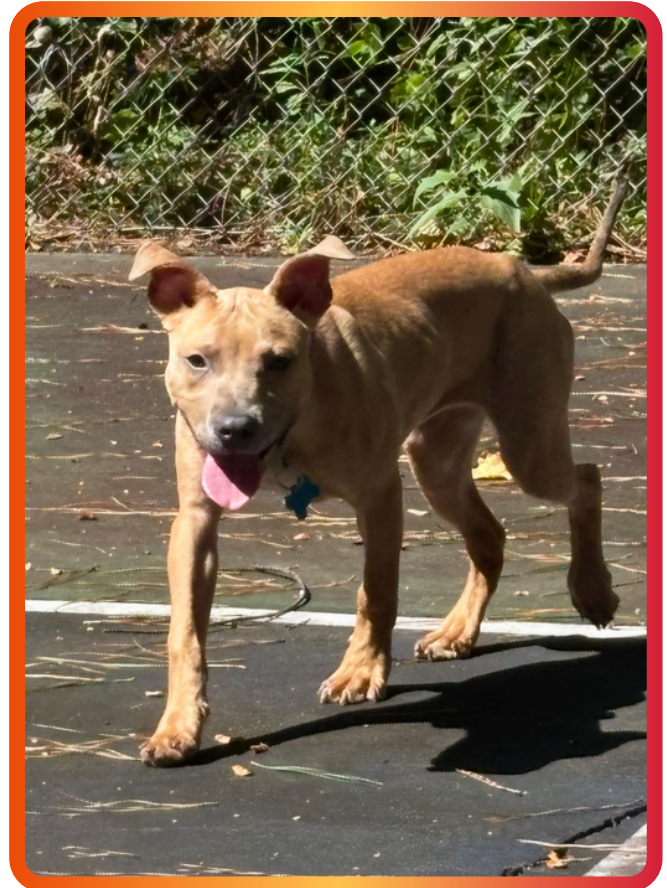
Pet of the Month:

🐾 Nyla 🐾

Meet Nyla, a 5-month-old pup being fostered right here in Smoketree! At just 24 pounds, she's the perfect mix of playful puppy energy and cozy cuddler—she loves curling up on the couch but is always ready for some fun.

Nyla walks politely on leash, gets along with dogs and cats, and learns quickly (she mastered "sit" in just a day!). Spayed and ready for her forever home, this sweet girl is waiting to meet you.

👉 Click "[I'm Interested](#)" to learn more!



Happening in Smoketree!

Young Entrepreneurs: Bin Cleaning Service

Smoketree is full of talent, and it's exciting to see our youngest neighbors stepping up with creative ideas! Meet Aiden and Graycen, two hardworking boys who started their own small business right here in the neighborhood.

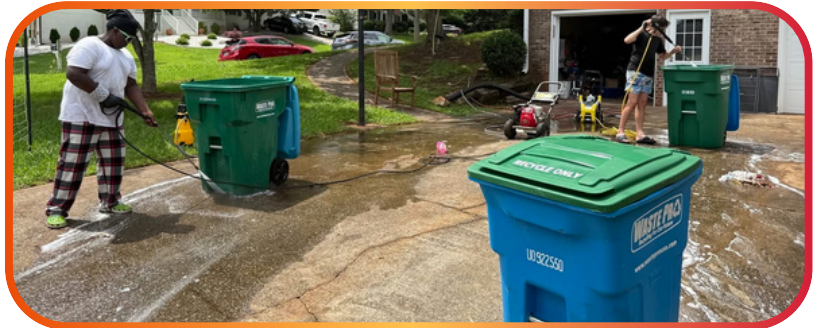
For just \$10 per bin, they'll clean your outdoor trash cans—making them fresh, clean, and much more pleasant to roll out on trash day. It's a simple service that makes a big difference, and it's inspiring to see our neighborhood kids learning entrepreneurship.

If you'd like your bins cleaned, reach out directly:

📞 Aiden – (404) 932-7246

📞 Graycen – (404) 991-8382

Let's support our neighborhood young entrepreneurs!



Tai Chi Classes

Smoketree neighbors now have a chance to enjoy Tai Chi close to home! One of our own community members is leading classes right here in the neighborhood.

Tai Chi is a gentle practice with slow, flowing movements that build balance, strength, and calmness. Often called "meditation in motion," it's perfect for reducing stress and improving overall well-being—and it's accessible to all ages and fitness levels.

Interested in Tai Chi lessons? Please fill out this [very short form](#) OR email Kelsi Thomas at kelsiojackson@gmail.com The first lesson is tentatively scheduled for Saturday October 12, but this is subject to change based on interest.



Best Decorated Halloween House Contest!

It's time to let your spooky creativity shine! We're excited to announce the Best Decorated Halloween House Contest in Smoketree.

If you'd like to participate, please email Amber at events.smoketree@gmail.com with your name and address to be entered.

👉 Deadline to enter: Friday, October 24th

📅 Judging will take place on Monday, October 27th, just in time for Halloween.

Our judges will be scoring homes based on:

- Overall Theme – Does your display tell a story or follow a spooky style?
- Creativity – Unique ideas that make your decorations stand out.
- Presentation & Detail – The finishing touches that bring everything together.
- Neighborhood Spirit – Effort and enthusiasm that spread Halloween cheer!

🏆 The winning house will receive a ribbon and a special sign to display in their yard on Halloween night, along with full bragging rights in the neighborhood!

So grab your pumpkins, lights, cobwebs, and skeletons—it's time to deck out your house and show off your Halloween spirit! Happy Haunting!



Haute Dogs + Hotdogs

Chili Cookoff & Dog Costume Contest

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 25th from 11 AM – 2:30 PM at the Smoketree Swim & Recreation Club Pavilion.

The event will feature music, prizes, a photo booth, grilled hot dogs, homemade chili, and fall desserts like caramel apples. Bring your pup in costume for the runway show, cheer on the chili competitors, and enjoy an evening of neighbors, fun, and food.

Admission: \$5 per dog, \$5 per adult (includes hotdog, chili, and dessert), and \$2 per child. BYOB.

Volunteers and those who bring chili or sign up in SignUpGenius get free admission! More info coming soon!



Local Events (October)

- Oct 3 – Norcross: First Friday Concert – Canyonland
- Oct 4 – Tucker: Taste of Tucker (Main Street)
- Oct 4 – Tucker: Plant Swap (Church St. Greenspace)
- Oct 4 – Atlanta: 18th Annual Arab Festival (Alif Institute)
- Oct 4 – Norcross: Neighborhood Cleanup & Recycling Day
- Oct 4 – Norcross: Bluesberry Beer & Music Festival
- Oct 7 – Tucker: National Night Out (Church St. Greenspace)
- Oct 9 – Tucker: Candidate Forum
- Oct 11 – Tucker: Cruise-In (Main Street)
- Oct 11 – Tucker: Rivers Alive Cleanup
- Oct 11 – Norcross: Art Splash Festival (Day 1)
- Oct 12 – Norcross: Art Splash Festival (Day 2)
- Oct 13 – Norcross: Movie Monday (1:30 & 6:30 PM)
- Oct 18 – Norcross: Pedal Norcross
- Oct 22 – Norcross: Day of Play
- Oct 23 – Norcross: Witches Night Out
- Oct 25 – Norcross: Deutsche Klassic German Car Show
- Oct 27 – Norcross: Movie Monday (1:30 & 6:30 PM)



Ongoing:

- Stone Mountain Pumpkin Festival (Sept 13–Nov 2, Fri–Sun) → Play by Day, Glow by Night



Spiced Snack Mix

Ingredients:

3 1/2 cups mini pretzels

2 cups toasted corn squares cereal (we used Corn Chex)

2 cups cheese crackers

6 Tbsp. unsalted butter, melted

1/4 cup sunflower seeds

2 Tbsp. sesame seeds

1 Tbsp. black sesame seeds

1 Tbsp. dried minced onion

1 tsp. caraway seeds

1 tsp. dried parsley

1/2 tsp. cracked black pepper

Step 1: Heat oven to 300°F. Line 2 large rimmed baking sheets with parchment paper.

Step 2: In large bowl, toss pretzels, cereal, and crackers with melted butter to coat, then toss with sunflower seeds, sesame seeds, onion, caraway seeds, parsley, and pepper.

Step 3: Arrange mixture in even layer on prepared baking sheets and bake, tossing once, until lightly toasted in spots, about 20 minutes. Let cool, then serve or store in airtight container up to 1 week.



Try this easy and delicious Fall or Football Snack this year!

Fun Football Facts for Our Neighborhood Fans

Football season is in full swing, and we all know the thrill of a game-winning touchdown. But did you know some of these quirky football facts?

- The first NFL game was played in 1920, and the Green Bay Packers are the only original team still playing in their original city.
- A football isn't always brown! Early footballs were made from pig bladders—and yes, they were pink!
- The longest touchdown in NFL history? A 109-yard run from one end zone to the other.
- A quarterback can be right-handed and throw with his left—some players are ambidextrous on the field.
- Cheerleaders weren't always part of the game. The first professional NFL cheerleaders appeared in the 1950s.

Next time you watch the game, impress your friends with these fun tidbits. Whether you're cheering from the couch or the backyard, there's always something new to learn about America's favorite sport!

Plant of the Month

Chrysanthemums (Mums)

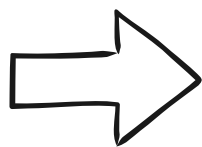
A fall favorite! These bright blooms bring pops of gold, burgundy, and purple to porches and gardens. They thrive in cooler temps and are perfect for seasonal décor.



October : Leaf Cleanup Tips

Falling leaves are beautiful, but they can block drains and damage grass if left too long. Mulch leaves with your mower to feed your lawn naturally, or bag them for pickup.

Bonus tip: shredded leaves make great compost for spring planting.



Want to see your announcement, idea, or event featured in the next Signal?
Email Amber at -
events.smoketree@gmail.com

Kid's Corner



Q: Why did the scarecrow win an award?

A: Because he was outstanding in his field! 🌾 😊

Share Your Feedback

We want to hear from YOU! Keep an eye out for an **anonymous survey** coming soon—all about Smoketree. This is your chance to share your thoughts, ideas, and opinions (the good, the bad, and everything in between).

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