

March-April 2021

Board of Directors Updates



Two great opportunities to impact and enjoy our beloved Community!



MIDTOWN

Saturday, April 24 | 9:30AM—12:00PM

WHERE? MidTown-wide, in neighborhoods, along our streets, in our parks. Organize your own neighborhood cleanup and we will supply gloves and bags. Sign up your neighborhood via e-mail at:

sara@midtowncolumbusga.org

EVENT HEADQUARTERS: MidTown, Inc. | 1236 Wildwood Avenue
Team up with our staff and board members to clean surrounding areas together.

EVENT AFTER PARTY | 12:00PM | 1236 Wildwood Avenue
Joins us for music, food, drinks and a neighborly comradery.

CLEAN MIDTOWN is an opportunity to come together throughout our 24 neighborhoods and demonstrate that citizens care about the place we call home.



MIDTOWN

Bike Around

Thursday, May 20th | 6:30pm | Dinglewood Park

Join us for a family friendly, 6 mile bicycle ride through beautiful, historic MidTown, and join fellow riders for a complimentary drink after the ride at Jarfly!

Free Helmets for the first 40 adults and children!

No registration required | More information at www.midtowncolumbusga.org



[Click here for more details](#)

[Click here for more details](#)

Victory Community Garden Site Visit & Gardening Supplies

We invite you to join MidTown, Inc. staff, fellow board members and Turn Around Columbus, for an exclusive, guided tour, of the site for the upcoming Victory Community Garden. Thursday, April 15th, 9:30am at the J. D. Davis Elementary school football field located between Shepperd Drive and Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard.

Thank you to all who donated new, or gently used, gardening supplies. We gave the first batch of supplies to members of the Victory Community Garden on Friday, April 9th. We will continue to collect gardening supplies for children between 12 and 16 years old. Such supplies may include, but are not limited to: Shoes (work boots or sneakers) Rakes, pruning shears, shovels, gloves, trash bags, weeders, etc.

[Click here to learn more about this initiative](#)



Great American Cleanup Event

On Saturday, March 6th, MidTown, Inc. teamed up with City Councilors R. Walker Garrett and John House, along with Georgia Representative Calvin Smyre, Columbus Police Department and community leaders, to clean up a 1 mile stretch in the East Highland neighborhood.

Thank you to our staff and board members for participating in this event.



10th Year Anniversary MidTown Mingle



We are excited for the opportunity to safely celebrate our 10th Year Anniversary MidTown Mingle on Thursday, October 14, 2021. Our board President, Muffy Schladensky, has done a stellar job at putting together a “Dream Team” Mingle Committee to plan and execute our signature event. Please join me in thanking Crystal Trawick, who is returning, for a second consecutive year, to Chair this event. Our committee is close to deciding and securing a location for this year’s event. Stayed tuned for more details!

Spring Fundraising and Capital Campaign

Despite the many challenges we faced in 2020 from the coronavirus epidemic, **we reached a historical 100% participation** from our board towards our Annual Fund. **We are very grateful for your support and generosity!** Many of you have submitted your updated pledges and have started to make contributions to our 2021 Annual Fund. If you would like to fill out a pledge form for 2021, [Click here to download](#). You can donate online by visiting www.midtowncolumbusga.org/donate/. We are planning on kicking-off our Spring fundraising efforts later this month. More details to follow.

Efforts towards the development of our upcoming Capital Campaign are well underway! Members of our Capital Campaign Committee and Staff have been working, alongside Columbus and the Valley, to produce a campaign booklet which will outline the purpose, programs and initiatives that we hope to launch later this summer. Within the next few weeks, we will share a campaign outline and budget for you to review and learn about this exciting and robust approach to better capitalize our organization and help us sustain and enhance our beloved MidTown community.

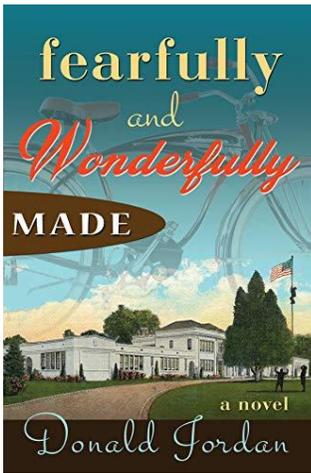
IRS Employee Retention Credit

With guidance from our auditor (Cedar Hill), we are exploring the opportunity to apply for the IRS Employee Retention Credit as part of the CARES Act. The Employee Retention Credit is a refundable tax credit against certain employment taxes equal to 50% of the qualified wages an eligible employer pays to employees after March 12, 2020, and before January 1, 2021. Eligible employers can get immediate access to the credit by reducing employment tax deposits they are otherwise required to make. More details coming soon.

MidTown, Inc. Staff and COVID-19

We are pleased to inform you that as of April 9th, 2021, all of our staff members have received both of their COVID-19 vaccines. This adds a much-needed layer of protection for our staff and those who visit our office. Staff members continue to practice social distancing, sanitation and wearing masks, as an added precaution, as we cautiously make our return back to the office.

A Friendly Reminder



We hope that you have had the opportunity to read this wonderful novel, written by one of our MidTown residents and supporters, D. L. Jordan.

Fearfully and Wonderfully made is the story of Skeeter, the narrator; a boy lost between his hard-knock childhood and the mysteries of a larger world. Framed by the strain of war and the growing pains of the New South, this novel is part coming of age tale, part ghost story, and, at every moment, a searching evocation of small-town life in America.

Please remember to send him your thoughts, comments or opinion of his novel to donaldjordan34@gmail.com.

Want to serve? Join one of our board committees!

Community Outreach Committee – Clean MidTown, MidTown GetDown, Full Moon Bicycle Ride, etc.

Economic Development Committee- 13th Street Beautification, Children’s Bicycle Park, Signage, etc.

Capital Campaign / Institutional Advancement Committee- 2021 Capital Campaign

Hilton Exploratory Committee- vision for feasible developments at 2551 Wynnton Road

Finance Committee- Investments, grants, loans, etc.

MidTown Mingle Committee – annual community fundraiser event.

Happy Birthday!

Please join us in wishing a Happy Birthday to our following board members:

Chuck McDaniel – March 20 | Gwen Ruff – March 21 | Sean Knox – March 22 |

Craig Burgess – April 4 | Pete Berry – April 13 | John Sheftall – April 24

Mark Your Calendars

- **Reminder: No board meeting in April**
- Thursday, April 15th, 9:30am | Victory Community Garden Site Visit
- Monday, April 19th, 1:00pm-2:00pm | Coalition for Sound Growth Update on Chattahoochee River | Register [HERE](#) via [Zoom](#)
- Saturday, April 24th, 9:30am-1:00pm | Clean MidTown
- Tuesday, May 4th, 12:00pm | MidTown, Inc. Executive Committee meeting
- Tuesday, May 11th, 4:00pm | MidTown, Inc. Board of Directors meeting
- Thursday, May 20th, 6:30pm | MidTown Bike Around