



AFTER YULE, BRING CHRISTMAS TREE TO THE CHIPPER

What can you do with your live Christmas tree after the holidays are over?

Bring it for the Chipper! Home Depot on Cumberland Parkway and Keep Smyrna Beautiful will again host the Smyrna-Vinings area site for the Christmas tree recycling event on Jan. 3.

Keep Smyrna Beautiful will offer citizens a free tree seedling for each tree dropped off while they last. Vegetable and flower seed packets will also be available. Volunteers will be on hand to direct traffic and to help citizens unload their trees. Davey Tree Experts will chip the trees and deliver free mulch.

If you would like to donate your tree, simply remove all the ornaments and the base and bring it to the Home Depot on Cumberland Parkway between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Jan. 3. Home Depot asks that trees not be dropped off until the day of the event because of space limitations. Also, please do not bring wreaths and garland. The wire used to hold them together cannot be chipped. To volunteer, call Keep Smyrna Beautiful at 770-431-2863. For information on mulch delivery call Davey Tree Experts at 770-451-7911.

Keep Cobb Beautiful is also sponsoring free Christmas tree recycling drop-off locations throughout Cobb County.

Trees will be accepted at select Home Depot locations on Saturday, Jan. 3, 2015 only:

- 1200 East-West Connector in Austell
- 1062 Richard Sailors Parkway in Powder Springs

Recycling trees creates mulch, fuel, wildlife habitats and other useful material.

For more information, call (770) 528-1135 or email keepcobbbeautiful@cobbcounty.org.



TILLMAN UMC CHRISTMON TREE

The Christmon Tree at Tillman United Methodist Church is decorated, from left, by LaShaw Paine, Jim Gaddy, Paul Chernutan, Mary Jane Kennemore and Pastor Dawn Britt. Christmons are a type of Christmas Tree decoration representing a variety of biblical and theological concepts. The term is a combination of Christmas and monogram. The church at 940 Concord Road, Smyrna, will hold a Christmas Eve service of Lessons and Carols at 7 p.m. Dec. 24. Scripture verses about Christ are read beginning in Genesis and ending in John. After each Scripture verse is read, one or two carols are sung relating to the scripture previously read. The Christmas tradition ends in darkness with only candles lit while "O Holy Night" is sung.

'ANGEL BUYER' SOUGHT TO PURCHASE, RESTORE HOOPER-TURNER HOUSE

A group of Smyrna area residents is working to find a buyer for the circa 1850 Hooper-Turner House who will restore the structure and save it for future generations.

This highly visible "time capsule" at 5811 Oakdale Road unifies The Historic Area of the River Line.

The River Line Historic Area stretches from Vinings to Mableton along the Chattahoochee River and includes historic Civil War battle sites and remnants of battle fortifications.

"There are plans to use the house as a multipurpose community facility to edify our area's American History, but because the Hooper-Turner House deteriorated during 10 years of vacancy, it is slated to be demolished by The City of Smyrna," said Roberta Cook, River Line Coordinator. "Losing this historic treasure to homogenization diminishes the Historic Area and subtracts from the River Line Historic Area identity, character and sense of place."

Cook urged potential buyers to contact The City of Smyrna Attorney, Scott



Hooper-Turner House on Oakdale Road.

Cochran at 770-435-2131 or Councilman Ron Fennel at 770-319-5312.

But city officials say they are losing patience, having held on to the structure hoping that some group would restore or move it.

"It's an unremarkable structure with mold and asbestos problems," said Councilman Ron Fennel.

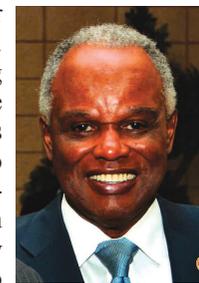
The City of Smyrna acquired the house from Ms. Frances Presley. It is a typical "hall and parlor" home, a rural design that was prevalent in the area from the 1840s until the 1890s. The house was added to

REP. SCOTT PUSHES VA TO TAKE OVER HOSPITAL SITE

With the closing of Emory Adventist hospital in Smyrna, Rep. David Scott is looking at the possibility of opening a Veterans Administration medical facility on that site.

Rep. Scott, who represents the 13th District which includes most of Smyrna, spoke at the Smyrna Business Association last week and urged members of the community to share their support of the idea.

Rep. Scott said he has cosigned a letter to the VA with Sen. Johnny Isakson urging that "we move the bureaucratic loopholes out-of-the-way" to turn it into a VA facility. Some \$68 million is earmarked for a new VA facility in metro Atlanta, Scott said.



Rep. David Scott

Smyrna Councilman Wade Lnenicka said that he is contacting new VA Director Robert MacDonald to look at the facility. Other council members indicate that they would rather see the property remain as a community hospital, rather than a government facility.

"We will lose it, waiting on the paperwork due to the VA slowness," Scott said.

With Republicans controlling the summit beginning next year, Sen. Isakson would become chair of the Veterans Committee.

"That would be good way to get the VA hospital here," Scott said, suggesting that the president could also expedite action on the request.

the Cobb County Historic Register with approval of the Cobb County Board of Commissioners on April 22, 2003 after its nomination by Ms. Presley. According to local folk lore, the house served as a Civil War hospital.

"To preserve the house, a viable buyer must make an offer before Christmas," Cook said. To keep informed and unite with others who want to save the HT House, contact hooperturnerhouse@gmail.com.

PHOTOS WITH SANTA CONTINUE

The City of Smyrna and the Smyrna Optimist Club continue their tradition of welcoming Santa again this year at Aunt Fanny's cabin on Atlanta Road across from the Smyrna Market Village.

Children can visit Jolly Old Saint Nick at Santa House (in Aunt Fanny's cabin) on Dec. 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22 and 23 from 6 to 8 each night. Donations for the pictures with Santa are given by the Smyrna Optimist Club to the Police Department's "Shop With a Hero" program.

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