

THE ROTARY CLUB OF ATLANTA WEST END

Friday, August 11, 2017 @ 12:15 PM

Georgia Tech Hotel & Conference Center

Membership & New Club Development Month

Call to Order	Elma McCutchen
Invocation	Danielle Carney
Pledge	CJ Stewart
Introduction of Guests	Don Schewe
Tasse Trivia	Don Schewe
Program	Neil Shorthouse
Announcements	Elma McCutchen
Adjournment	Elma McCutchen



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

This Week's Speaker: Bailey Webb, Stream Realty

Bailey Webb joined Stream Realty Partners in 2015 as a Graphic Design Coordinator for Stream's Atlanta Office. She works collaboratively with the creative team to develop brand strategy and deliver design components to completion. In addition to brand development she is tasked with integrating innovation to further Stream's brand across the Atlanta market, including a beer garden project under development on the Beltline in her neighborhood, the West End.

Bailey attended the University of West Florida where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design, a Minor in Communications Arts, and a Certificate in Sale's Management. Before leaving UWF, Bailey participated in the Department of Art's Art Gallery, and was awarded the Department of Arts Faculty Academic Excellence Award.

Last Week's Speaker: Melissa Johnson, Georgia Budget & Policy Institute

President Elma introduced **Melissa Johnson**, Senior Policy Analyst for the Georgia Budget & Policy Institute (GBPI). Melissa began by describing the work done at GBPI, a non-partisan, non-profit organization, founded in 2004. They produce research and state budget analyses to show ways Georgia can provide better education, health care and opportunity for everyone. Their vision is of a state in which economic opportunity and well-being are shared among all. Overall, Georgia has been ranked 10th poorest state in the country. However, opportunities for Georgia are that we are growing increasingly diverse, and we are attractive to business and entrepreneurs. Melissa discussed the State's 2018 budget. Highlights from the \$45.2B budget: half of our budget revenue comes from "general funds", a third from Federal funds, the rest from other sources, such as intra-state government transfers, motor fuel, and the lottery. Georgia's largest source of state revenue is from Georgia's income tax. The Georgia General Assembly shot down a flat tax proposal this past session. Education and health comprise two-thirds of the State budget. The Department of Education is receiving \$9.4B, however, austerity cuts of \$166M still remain – these are reductions Governors, going back to Governor Sonny Perdue, use to help balance the budget, leaving our public schools chronically underfunded for the past 16 years. Higher education funding is recovering, but is still below pre-recession levels. Governor Nathan Deal is looking at changing the education funding formula to tackle this issue. 40% of our students in Georgia receive Pell grants, these are federal grants available to and applied for by low-income students to help pay college costs. Georgia's Medicaid spending per person ranks low as compared to the rest of the country. The U.S. average is \$6,500, and Georgia averages \$4,200. Medicaid expansion is on the table, however; as of now many hundreds of people do not receive Medicaid because Governor Deal and the Legislature chose not to accept the offer from the Affordable Care Act, which would have paid for 95% of the Medicaid expansion costs. Human Services and Children are big areas of focus in the budget. 38% of households in the 30310 zip code, which includes large parts of the West End, receive Supplementary Nutrition Assistance Program –SNAP, usually know as food stamps. - *Leyla Compani*

Celebrations

🏠 8/14 - Elma McCutchen

♥ 8/18 – Alex & Grace Morgan

Atlanta's West End has historically been fertile ground where ideas and leaders take root and branch out to change the social environment. That history is reflected in the membership of the Rotary Club of Atlanta West End. We are diverse...young and old, male and female, from varied racial, ethnic, religious, and geographic backgrounds. Our membership has included leaders in the civil rights movement of the 60s, and leaders in social change today. We work in many professions...higher education, community service, law, government, business...but we have in common a commitment to building a stronger community, one committed to social justice and the celebration of diversity. The Rotary Club of Atlanta West End is living, breathing proof that fellowship flourishes when we seek our common humanity and celebrate our differences. If you are a visitor and would like more information about joining us, please speak with a club officer today. **Follow us on Linked In, Facebook, or Twitter @ATLWEndRotary**

Club Leadership, 2017-18

President: Elma McCutchen
 President Elect: Ernie Hughes
 Vice President & Foundation: George Dobbins
 Immediate Past President: Rachel Floyd Nelson
 Treasurer: Don Schewe
 Secretary: Neil Shorthouse, Sasha McBurse
 Membership: Leyla Compani

Administration: Richard Gerakitis
 Community Service: Pearlie Perryman
 Public Relations: Bailey Webb, Judith Fuller
 New Generations: CJ Stewart
 Vocational/Civic: Kimberly Weaver
 Historian: Eric John, Kimberlin Butler
 Keyway Editor: Paige McKay Kubik

Mark Your Calendars

- **August 20, 2 PM:** Rotary AWE day out at Essential Theatre.
- **September 1:** GRSP Student Presentation
- **December 14:** Rotary AWE Holiday Celebration
- **April 26-29:** District 6900 Conference
- **June 23-27:** Rotary International Convention, Toronto, Canada

You'll soon start seeing posters like this one as part of Rotary's new People of Action campaign. Mark Newman will share news today of how our club is helping to transform the West End through our microloan program.

