



City newslink

cityofstockbridge.com | Winter 2016

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Stockbridge Has A New Mayor



Mayor Judy Neal

An historic event occurred in Stockbridge December 6th when residents elected their first female Mayor. Before retiring, Judy Neal enjoyed a career spanning 34 ½ years of proven government leadership in Georgia state government. Twenty years of Neal's service was on Capitol Hill where she first worked for the Secretary of State and was involved in revisions to Georgia's voting laws and training of Georgia's election officials. She also worked in the office of the Lieutenant Governor; for the Governor's Senate Floor Leaders; and for the Senate Appropriations Committee before taking a position at the GA Department of Industry and Trade (today known as GA Department of Economic Development) where she became Assistant Advertising Director of Georgia Tourism.

Neal next served as the Executive Director of the Georgia Agrirama Development Authority, Georgia's Living History Museum, in Tifton, GA. While serving in that role, Neal was asked by Governor Zell Miller to return to Atlanta to direct the Governor's Children and Youth Coordinating Council (CYCC), an agency that focused on at-risk youth. In addition to managing state and federal funds, Neal raised large sums of money to fund prevention strategies to help youth that included Emmy award-winning film

Continue on page 5



*Happy Holidays from
Stockbridge City Council*

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4855 Jonesboro Rd, Forest Park, GA 30297

Stockbridge City Hall

4640 North Henry Blvd.
Stockbridge, Ga. 30281
770-389-7900

www.cityofstockbridge.com

Email: Initial of first name followed by last name @
cityofstockbridge-ga.gov (e.g. mharris@cityofstock-
bridge-ga.gov)

Mayor and Council

Judy Neal, Mayor

Anthony Ford, Mayor Pro Tem

Elton Alexander, Councilman

John Blount, Councilman

LaKeisha Gantt, Esq., Councilwoman

Neat Robinson, Councilwoman

Administration

Michael Harris, City Manager

Decius Aaron, Public Works Director

Anita Gunnoe, Clerk of Court

Vacant, Community Services Director

Vanessa Holiday, City Clerk

Diane Ide, Exec Asst to the City Manager/Editor

Linda Nabers, Treasurer

DaVida Robinson, Exec. Asst. to Mayor & Council

Renee Wheeler, HR Manager

Frequently Dialed

Utility Billing..... 770-389-7901

Code Enforcement 770-389-7900

Purchasing..... 678-833-3322

Occupational Tax..... 678-833-3302

Main Street..... 678-833-3306

Municipal Court..... 770-389-7906

Public Works..... 770-474-0972

Water & Sewer..... 770-474-1232

Merle Manders Conference Center,

Ted Strickland Community Center, Parks

..... 770-389-5982



STOCKBRIDGE CITY CALENDAR

All meetings are held at City Hall unless noted otherwise. Please check with City Hall at 678.833.3303 as meeting dates and times are subject to change. Council meeting agendas and minutes are available at www.cityofstockbridge.com.

January 9 6:00 pm
Council Meeting

January 31 6:00 pm
Council Work Session

February 13 6:00 pm
Council Meeting

February 28 6:00 pm
Council Work Session

March 13 6:00 pm
Council Meeting

March 28 6:00 pm
Council Work Session

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP?

City Hall E-Notifications:

Stay informed with E-Notifications at www.cityofstockbridge.com/notify.aspx

FACEBOOK



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Visit our page at <https://www.facebook.com/CityofStockbridgeGovernment>

SeeClickFix

SeeClickFix is an online and mobile app to help residents report and track non-emergency problems, such as graffiti, illegal dumping or potholes throughout Stockbridge. Visit www.cityofstockbridge.com/SeeClickFix

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Council Comments



Councilman Elton Alexander

2016 has been a great year with so much progress to be thankful for in Stockbridge! We expanded the hours of our Stockbridge Library to 6 days a week, Highway 138 overlay improvement guidelines funded, Downtown Amphitheater design funded, Youth Advisory Council introduced, Stockbridge selected as one of the top cities in America in terms of livability, and so much more! 2017 should see a groundbreaking for the \$300 million Jodeco Atlanta-South development!

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays Stockbridge, our time is now!



Councilman John Blount

I would first like to thank all of the citizens for an awesome first year as your City Councilman. As Community Relations Chairman, we have seen more citizen participation in our community than ever before. I am enjoying working closely in our commitment to schools, community, businesses and development here in Stockbridge. I look forward to working with our new Mayor to continue to serve, and to put you, the citizens, first. I am open to hear our citizens' great and innovative ideas for Stockbridge. Let's move this city forward together. God bless you all.

"Moving Forward Together"

Councilman John Blount



Citizens,

I appreciate the City Council's appointment as Mayor Pro Tem and your support as well as the dialogue surrounding your community concerns. The past eleven months were truly a worthwhile experience as I handled the assigned Mayoral duties of the City government along with the City Council's input to move the City of Stockbridge forward. I would want you to continue your engagement with and support of our newly elected Mayor and with the City Council have constructive dialogue about our community as we continue to move the City of Stockbridge onward and upward toward success. I believe it is our intent to make the City of Stockbridge the best "Live, Work and Play" community in the state. Happy Holidays to each of you and your families as we look forward to a very prosperous and most successful New Year in 2017. May God continue to bless the Citizens of Stockbridge.

Sincerely,

Mayor Pro Tem Anthony S. Ford



Councilwoman LaKeisha Gantt

Dear Citizens,

I love this time of the year, because it is the time to be thankful and give thanks. I am extremely grateful for our citizens and the new path the City of Stockbridge is embarking on. There are plenty of great new projects on the way, leading our City to a bright new future. Thanks to everyone for a great year 2016, and I am even more thankful for the new year in 2017 we're about to see!

Sincerely,
Councilwoman LaKeisha Gantt



Councilwoman Neat Robinson

Greetings Citizens,

What a great year 2016 has been, especially serving each and every one of you! I want to give a special thanks to everyone who participated in and supported the Pretty in Pink Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon, along with the Winter Housing Forum. Also, stay tuned for more information on our new and exciting upcoming Youth Council. May everyone have a safe and blessed holiday season.

Many thanks,

Councilwoman Neat Robinson

**Holiday
Sanitation
Schedule**

**Christmas – Sunday, December
25, 2016**

All collection is normal for all customers since the holiday falls on a Sunday.

**New Year's Day – Sunday,
January 1, 2017**

All collection is normal for all customers since the holiday falls on a Sunday and MLK Day.

For additional questions regarding the Holiday pickup schedule, please contact Waste Industries at 770-474-9273.

projects recognized nationally and seen on WSB-TV and Georgia Public Television. They were used on behalf of Georgia's youth throughout Georgia. While at CYCC, Neal worked closely with Georgia law enforcement and served on the Georgia Police Officers Standards and Training Council.

Following her retirement, she found other ways to serve, spending four years as Director of the Henry Council for Quality Growth and also served as the 2013 4th District SPLOST representative. She keeps her contacts and relationships at the Capitol current working for the Georgia State Senate while the General Assembly is in session.

Ms. Neal takes on the role immediately, and will complete the four-year term of former Mayor Tim Thompson, terminating on December 31, 2017.

We Welcomed the Following New Stockbridge Businesses



7M ENTERPRISES, LLC
ACOPIA HOME LOANS
ADVOCACY HEALTHCARE
ADULT
A'NITA EVANS
ALL ABOUT CHANGE
MINISTRIES
ARIME NATURALS
ARSALAN TRANSPORT
SERVICES, LLC
B3 SALON, LLC
BAR ESSENTIALS
BIG BEAST
TRANSPORTATION
BLEU LOTUS BEAUTY
BAR
BOUNCING HARTS, LLC
BRIDGEWAY HOSPICE
CBB TRANSPORTATION
CHERISH, INC.
CHERITEES, LLC
CHINA HOUSE
CORNER STORE FUEL
COVA BEAUTY
CROSS COUNTRY
AMERICA

CYNTSATIONAL
PRODUCTIONS
DEV FOODMART
ENA HAIR SALON
FAITH ELECTRIC
FIVE DOLLAR DELIVERY
GATOR HAULING, LLC
GEORGIA MUSIC
EDUCATORS
ASSOCIATION, INC.
GOD DESERVES ALL THE
GLORY
HARDIN COMPUTER
TECHNOLOGIES
HAUTE CLEANING
COMPANY, LLC
ISLAND GIRL, LLC
K ESSENTIALS, LLC
KELLY RICH FAMILY
MEDICAL
KERLINE'S DESIGNS
KINGDOM DESIGNING
PRODUCTIONS
KRAVE MEDSPA OF
ATLANTA, LLC
LE'GALL ENTERPRISES,
LLC

MASTER RECEIVER
TRAINING
MATT'S PRESSURE
WASHING, INC.
NEW YORK LIFE
INSURANCE
OUTERWALL INC. DBA
COINSTA
PD CIGAR SHOP
PEDIATRIC ORTHOPAEDIC
ASSOCIATION
PIEDMONT URGENT CARE
BY WELLSTREET
PINEY SPRINGS
PRO SOUND PLUS
REGAL NAILS SALON &
SPA
RODZ CLEANING SERVICE
RTC COMMERCIAL &
RESIDENTIAL CLEANING,
LLC
SAND FRED AUTO
BROKERS, LLC
SCOUR & SWAB
CLEANING SERVICE
SELF CARE SALON AND
SPA
SHADOW BODY SCULPT

SHAPES STYLES AND
CUTS
SIMPLY BECAUSE
CLOTHING
SMART STOP
WHOLESALE, LLC
SMOKIN CUES
STOCKBRIDGE THRIFT
SUPERIOR SNACKS &
BEVERAGES
TAMMY NOLL
TEDFORD GLAMOROUS
FASHION
TOWNSEND INCOME TAX
& ACCOUNTING
VELOX INSURANCE, INC.
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Stockbridge Appreciates our Veterans for Their Service

101-year-old Herbert Hicks Is Grand Marshal

All WWII and Korean War Veterans Designated Honorary Grand Marshals

November 11th was a beautiful, blue-sky day for Stockbridge's largest Veterans Day Parade, thanks to the many local high school school bands, cheerleaders, and marching performers who complimented the numerous veterans who marched or rode in the parade.



Herbert Hicks, Grand Marshal



High School Bands Added to the Excitement



WWII & Korean War Veterans
Honorary Grand Marshals

The multitude of elementary school children who joined with families and Stockbridge residents to line North Henry Boulevard and wave flags saluting the veterans added to the tribute. The City issues a special THANK YOU to the businesses who sponsored this special event and to Outback Steakhouse – ELP for enabling the City to provide a delicious meal for 200 veterans and special guests.

Proud 2016 Veterans Day Event Sponsors



Airstrike Aerial Photography, LLC; Allan Vigil Ford Lincoln; Christian City Rehabilitation Center & Christian City Assisted Living Center; City of Stockbridge; Crossroad Church; Fletcher & Sons Auto Repair; Georgia Power; Harvest Time Tax & Financial Services; Henry County Fire Department; Henry County Police Department; King David Grand Lodge of Georgia; King of Star Lodge – No. 0300; Merle Manders Conference Center; Moss Wear International; Outback Steakhouse - Eagle's Landing; Stockbridge Main Street; Visions Outreach, Inc.; Your Geek

To view all the photos from this event, visit the City's Facebook page, City of Stockbridge Government posting on November 14.

BridgeFest

Included HispaniFest This Year

The City of Stockbridge held the annual “BridgeFest” festival on Saturday, September 24th that included everything from food to live music, arts & crafts. It was a phenomenally creative and culturally delicious event. The festival was free and held on the big lawn next to Stockbridge City Hall. Cross Road Christian Church hosted the annual Community Health Fair that took place in the Ted Strickland Community Center from 11pm – 4pm. This year’s festival included a feature called “HispaniFest,” celebrating the heritage of Hispanic culture, live entertainment, arts and craft vendors, food vendors, and a children’s area. The entertainment was stellar featuring The 911 Band, Trenton Ewing, The Breeze Kings, Vintage Vixens, Hero the Band, Jeff Sparks, Casuell & the Soul Kitchen Band and many more. A special thanks to the following sponsors: Bimbo, Henry County CVB, Primerica, Radio One & IHeart Media. It’s always a pleasure to create events that can bring together a diverse community. Special events like Bridgefest allow a glimpse into the heart of the City of Stockbridge.



For more information on City events, please visit www.cityofstockbridge.com or call (770) 389-7900.

Employee Corner

Congratulations to:

Hugh Hamilton and **Steven Hammond** who are both celebrating 15 year anniversaries with the City of Stockbridge.



Hugh Hamilton



Steven Hammond

Lamar Cox and **David Shelton**, who achieved Level IA Certification from Georgia Soil & Water Conservation on November 4, 2016.



David Shelton (left); Lamar Cox (right)



Chad Hitzeman who recently received his Water Operator Class 2 license.

In Memoriam



The City was saddened by the sudden passing of Wynonia Williams on November 12th, a faithful servant of our residents and business owners for 10 years.

New Public Works Director

Decius Aaron joined the City of Stockbridge on December 5th as Public Works Director. Mr. Aaron previously served the city of Perry in that role, and we welcome his talents and look forward to his success.



Ribbon Cutting



Outback Steakhouse at Eagle's Landing Parkway
 November 29th
 200 North Park Court, Stockbridge
 770-507-4198
 chrisgoddard@outback.com

New Addition at Reeves Creek Trail



New fitness equipment at Reeves Creek Trail offers an opportunity to warm up prior to, or cool down following, walking or running the trail.

2017 Paving Projects Utilizing Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG) Funds:



- Oak Hill Terrace (Center Street to the dead-end)
- Turning Point (Center Street to the cul-de-sac)
- Willow Court (Lambert Drive to the dead-end)
- Wilson Street (Wilson Avenue to Jennings Way)
- Carrie Mae Lane/Silent Avenue (Second Street to Wilson Street)
- Payton Court (cul-de-sac to cul-de-sac)
- Whitaker Drive (Brentwood Parkway to the cul-de-sac)
- Bruin Court (Whitaker Drive to the cul-de-sac)
- Gresham Drive (Brentwood Parkway to the cul-de-sac)
- Avian Forest Drive (Flippen Road to Goldfinch Way)
- Goldfinch Way (Avian Forest Drive to the cul-de-sac)
- Sandpiper Cove (Goldfinch Way to the cul-de-sac)
- Brambling Way (cul-de-sac to cul-de-sac)
- Summer Hill Circle (Banks Road to Summer Hill Circle)
- Inverness Avenue (US Hwy 23/Ga State Route 42 to the cul-de-sac)

2017 Water-Sewer Rates

CITY OF STOCKBRIDGE				
WATER AND SEWER RATE SCHEDULE				
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2017 BILLING DATE				
(Refer to Ordinance 6.04.040-B)				
WATER AND SEWER RATE SCHEDULE				
Residents and Commercial Users on City of Stockbridge Water and Sewer				
Monthly Minimum Base Charge*				
Meter Size	Water		Sewer	
3/4" Most Residential	\$6.00		\$6.00	
1"	\$7.00		\$7.00	
1.5"	\$37.00		\$12.00	
2"	\$100.00		\$12.00	
3"	\$175.00		\$12.00	
4"	\$225.00		\$12.00	
6"	\$300.00		\$12.00	
8"	\$400.00		\$12.00	
10"	\$700.00		\$12.00	
Gallons of Water Metered				
Residential				
0 through 4,000 gallons	\$5.82	Per Thousand	\$5.82	Per Thousand
4,001 through 9,000 gallons	\$8.94	Per Thousand	\$8.94	Per Thousand
9,001 gallons and up	\$12.02	Per Thousand	\$12.02	Per Thousand
Commercial, Apartments and Mobile Home Parks				
0 through 10,000	\$7.37	Per Thousand	\$7.37	Per Thousand
10,001 gallons and up	\$8.85	Per Thousand	\$8.85	Per Thousand
Irrigation				
Per thousand gallons	\$11.82			
Hydrant Meter				
Per thousand gallons	\$11.82			
* Total Amount Billed includes Monthly Minimum Base Charge Plus Usage.				

Holiday Shopping Safety Tips

This Holiday Season is an opportune time for criminals to commit crimes against citizens who are unaware of their surroundings. The Henry County Police Department encourages you to protect yourself, your family, and your property by adhering to the following tips. Know your surroundings and don't become a "target". It's up to YOU to make sure that a criminal does not have the "opportunity" to take advantage of you and your family.

While Shopping:

- Stay aware of your surroundings and the people around you.
- Try not to shop alone; shop with a friend or family member. If not possible, let someone know where you are, and when you are planning to return.
- Avoid carrying large quantities of cash.
- If possible, carry only your driver's license, and a necessary credit or debit card.
- If carrying a purse, do not wrap the straps around your arms or shoulders. You could risk injury from a would-be snatcher. Consider carrying a clutch purse instead, tucked firmly under your arm.
- Don't carry wallets in a back pocket; place wallets in a front pocket to prevent pick-pocketing.
- Don't overburden yourself with carrying too many packages. This could jeopardize your safety when walking. Consider taking trips to your vehicle or send them to a package pick-up to retrieve later.
- If you do go to your vehicle to unload packages, place them out of sight in the trunk of your vehicle. Be observant of anyone watching, and if possible, move your vehicle to another parking space to deter criminals.
- Try not to shop until the store closes; remember fewer people are present at this time.
- Have your car keys in your hand before leaving the store. They can be used as a weapon, should you find that you need to defend yourself. You can also employ the panic button on your key fob, if needed.

In Parking Lots:

- If possible, shop early and leave before dark.
- Attempt to park your vehicle in a high visibility area and check for lighting in case you do leave after dark.

- Attempt to park your vehicle's driver's side door adjacent to the store to prevent someone hiding near your door.
- Try not to park beside any vehicles with dark tinted windows that enable waiting criminals to obscure themselves from being seen.
- Prior to parking and before shopping, lock all valuables in your trunk.
- Wait to leave the store with a group of people; never alone.
- Walk briskly, confidently, and directly to your vehicle. Be cautious of person(s) attempting to distract you with questions.
- ALWAYS BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS.
- Ask a security officer, store employee, or call the police to escort you to your vehicle if you feel uncomfortable.
- Watch for people who may be following you, both inside, and outside the store. If you suspect someone may be following you, stay in the store and/or call the police.

At Home:

- Keep the outside of your home well-lit and consider installation of motion sensor lights.
- Always keep your doors and windows locked and curtains closed.
- Don't display gifts under Christmas trees that are easily seen from windows or doors.
- Never discard large boxes such as TV's or expensive gifts to be "advertised" for trash collection. Destroy boxes and place in sealed, non-clear bags.

Wishing You & Your Family A Safe & Happy Holiday Season!!

Santa And Mrs. Claus Arrive in Stockbridge!

Santa and Mrs. Claus received a warm welcome as they pulled into the Merle Manders Conference Center on December 1st. The reindeer pulling Santa's sleigh delighted the children who took turns sitting in the sleigh. The Conference Center provided a warm and toasty setting for hot chocolate and cookies while families waited their turn for photos with the Clauses. There were numerous activities for children including the world's tallest elf, a puppeteer, the Christmas train, face painting, holiday crafts, inflatables, choral performances, singers, dancers and vendors selling their wares. Thanks to all who brought joy to the faces of Stockbridge children!



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**Business Planning Boot Camp
Writing the Plan & Knowing the Numbers**

Saturday
January 21, 2017
10:00 am—3:00 pm

Merle Manders
Conference Center
111 Davis Rd.
Stockbridge, GA 30281

\$99

Includes Lunch



This class is for current and potential business owners who need a plan for stability and growth. Attendees will be able to write a usable and flexible business plan and develop the financials to support it.

Audience members will learn the elements of a business plan and how to use research to improve the success of their plan. They will feel confident in calculating the needed revenues, additional money, and costs that the business needs. After leaving this class, entrepreneurs will be able to complete their own business plan and financials, using tools they will receive in class.

Part I, Writing the Plan:

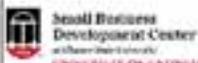
- Defining the vision, mission, and target markets of the business
- Finding answers and research to support the plan
- Developing a strategy for success
- Writing essential elements of a business plan

Part II, Knowing the Numbers:

- Calculating costs to implement the plan
- Setting realistic pricing that leads to profit
- Estimating daily operational revenues, costs, expenses, and cash needs
- Finding the money
- Creating a one-year budget

Seats are limited! To register, go to <http://bit.ly/1UW9P9D>

A Public Service and Outreach Unit of the University of Georgia. Financed in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Responsive accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. For more information, contact Cheryl Green at 678-499-0100 or email merle@georgiaincbo.org



USA Small Business
Development Center at
Clayton State University

678-499-0100
merle@georgiaincbo.org
www.georgiaincbo.org



Come make *Memories* with us!

111 Davis Road
Stockbridge, GA 30281

www.MMCCEvents.com
(770) 389-5982



**Merle Manders
Conference Center**

City of Stockbridge
Henry County, Georgia

