



# City of Stockbridge CITY NEWS LINK

## Stockbridge + Fiber = Big Win!

**M**ore jobs. Better educated students. Improved medical care.

These are among the benefits that Stockbridge citizens can expect to receive from a new public-private initiative that is bringing a \$15 million state-of-the-art fiber optic network to our City and beyond.

And at no cost to taxpayers.

In May, the City Council unanimously approved the deal with Savannah-based Community Broadband to give Stockbridge one of the fastest and most powerful Internet systems in Georgia.

Community Broadband is footing the entire cost of the project, made possible through an all-fiber optic network. The company, which will build, operate and maintain the system, already is hard at work. The system, which will deliver information 100 times faster than is currently possible, is expected to be up and running by September 2014.

The new network will be comprised of more than 200 miles of cabling, meaning that the county also stands to benefit from the deal. "This is a phenomenal opportunity, but it is not just a City of Stockbridge win," said Mayor Mark Alarcon. "This also will benefit the people of Henry County, particularly our students."

Local governments, commercial businesses, including the three area utility companies, and the schools in our area will be the primary beneficiaries of the new network. "Serving the schools is a very high priority," said Allen Davis, Community Broadband's president and CEO. Currently, our schools have to take turns using the Internet because there's not enough bandwidth. That is un-



Mayor Mark Alarcon signs legislation to bring a \$15M investment and 38 jobs to Stockbridge. Pictured from left to right are Councilman Harold Cochran, Mayor Pro Tem Richard Steinberg, Economic Development Director B.J. Mathis, Mayor Alarcon, City Manager David Milliron, Councilwoman Robin Buschman, Executive Director Steve Cash of the Henry County Council for Quality Growth, and Councilwoman Shirley Dabney.

ceptable.

We expect the new Internet system to attract new industry to Stockbridge. In fact, within 24 hours of the announcement of our deal with Community Broadband, we began fielding calls from technology businesses interested in possibly relocating to the area.

In the past, technology businesses — and other businesses for that matter — have flirted with making Stockbridge home because the city has no property taxes and its proximity to Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. "They ultimately decided to go elsewhere because we did not have the fiber optic infrastructure they needed to operate," said B.J. Mathis, Stockbridge's community and economic development director.

*Continued on page 4. See Big Win.*

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Tucker, GA 30084  
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## Stockbridge City Council

4640 North Henry Blvd.  
Stockbridge, Ga. 30281  
www.cityofstockbridge.com

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

Mark Alarcon, Mayor  
678.951.5561

Richard Steinberg, Mayor Pro Tem  
678.951.5626

Alphonso Thomas, Councilman  
678.951.5562

Harold Cochran, Councilman  
770.474.4440

Robin Buschman, Councilwoman  
678.713.8729

Shirley Dabney, Councilwoman  
770.362.3664

## Administration

David Milliron, City Manager  
770.389.7904

Rhonda Blackmon, City Clerk  
678.833.3303

Annette Anderson, Treasurer/CFO  
678.833.3313

Kevin Walter, Public Works Director  
678.833.3350

B.J. Mathis, Economic Development  
678.833.3348

Vicki Coleman, City Planner  
678.833.3354

Anita Gunnoe, Clerk of Court  
678.833.3321

## Frequently Dialed

Utility Billing  
770.389.7901

Code Enforcement  
678.833.3307

Purchasing  
678.833.3322

Occupational Tax  
770.389.7902

Municipal Court  
770.389.7906

Public Works  
770.474.0972

Water & Sewer  
770.474.1232

Merle Manders Conference Center  
Ted Strickland Community Center  
Stockbridge Multiplex  
770.389.5982



## STOCKBRIDGE CITY CALENDAR

All meetings at City Hall unless noted otherwise. Please check with City Hall at 678.833.3303 as meeting dates and times are subject to change. Meeting agendas and minutes are available at [www.cityofstockbridge.com](http://www.cityofstockbridge.com).

**July 18:** Downtown Development Authority at 3:30 pm

**Aug. 6:** City Council work session at 6 pm

**Aug. 8:** Urban Redevelopment Agency at 5 pm

**Aug. 12:** City Council monthly meeting at 6 pm

**Sept. 2:** City Hall will be closed in observance of Labor Day

### Sept. 2 Sanitation Schedule:

- No sanitation service
- No metal or bagged yard debris pick-up this week

### Sept. 2 Sanitation Schedule (cont'd):

- Chipper will run on Tuesday and Wednesday or as needed
- Tuesday-Friday sanitation routes will run as normal

**Sept. 3:** City Council work session at 6 pm

**Sept. 5:** Urban Redevelopment Agency at 5 pm

**Sept. 9:** City Council monthly meeting at 6 pm

**Sept. 19:** Downtown Development Authority at 3:30 pm

## HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR:

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## Big Win

*Continued from front page.*

Community Broadband has agreed to place its metro Atlanta headquarters in the City of Stockbridge for as long as our contract is in force. That will initially create some three dozen technology jobs right there.

“Industry is looking for local governments that are progressive with a business-friendly mindset and a governance willing to work hard to get a deal done,” said City Manager David Milliron. “And that’s what any business leader will find here in Stockbridge.”

Community Broadband’s Davis agrees. “From the very first call, the City of Stockbridge administration and elected officials have been responsive, proactive, and an absolute pleasure to work with,” he said. “As a result, they are encouraging and supporting opportunities and investments in the City for companies looking to expand their operations and employment base in an environment where government and the private sector work together to efficiently and effectively accomplish common goals and objectives for the benefit of communities, like Stockbridge, that they seek to serve.”

Almost 70 percent of Henry County residents commute to Atlanta and other places outside county lines for work. Stockbridge’s goal is to keep many of these people employed closer to home, in jobs made possible by this high speed Internet network. Mayor Alarcon foresees a day when not only new jobs, but new citizens, move into the Stockbridge area. “They won’t have to live, work and play somewhere else,” he said.

We anticipate that our citizens also won’t necessarily have to leave home for specialized healthcare. Piedmont Henry Hospital is a high priority of the new system, which will increase opportunities for telemedicine. “This network theoretically makes it possible for a patient in Stockbridge to be treated by a specialist in Los Angeles,” said Community Broadband’s Davis. “Imagine emailing or streaming an MRI in progress. That takes a lot of capacity that the area currently doesn’t have.”

Why would Community Broadband agree to cover all the costs? What is the company getting in return?

The company has been looking for an opportunity to move into Henry County for some time. “The demand for this service is very high and there is more business to be done in the entire area,” Davis said. “This investment just makes sense from our perspective.”

Bold. That is how Steve Cash, executive director of the Henry County Council for Quality Growth, described the City of Stockbridge’s deal with Community Broadband. “What a fresh turn of events for a government entity to be so progressive,” he said.

Those are nice sentiments.

From our perspective, this deal just makes sense for Stockbridge, too.

## Artist, Mayor choose granite base for sculpture of county’s namesake

A piece of history was set in stone when master sculptor Andy Davis and Stockbridge Mayor Alarcon visited the “rock quarry” to select a granite boulder that eventually will be the base of a statute of a pivotal figure in the history of Henry County, and the nation.

Davis, owner of the Andy Davis Gallery and Studio in McDonough, is working to raise money for a sculpture of the county’s namesake, Patrick Henry, to display near the McDonough Square. The Stockbridge City Council recently voted to donate \$10,000 toward the project, which will include a life-size bust to be displayed at Stockbridge City Hall.

Mr. Davis, Mayor Alarcon, and Stockbridge City Manager David Milliron recently visited the Stockbridge Quarry owned by the Vulcan Materials Company on Rock Quarry Road. After receiving a brief history of the quarry – which encompasses 762 acres of freshwater wetlands, woodlands and open fields, and an employee-managed wildlife habitat – Plant Manager Timothy “Joe” Gowens of Vulcan Construction Materials, L.P. took the group and others nearly 600 feet to the base of the quarry.

It took the renowned artist about 20 minutes to select the ideal granite boulder that will produce the five-foot by four-foot by six-foot base for the Patrick Henry Statute. Mr. Davis also believes the chosen boulder will also suffice for the four-foot high pedestal base for a life-size bust of Patrick Henry for Stockbridge City Hall.

“This will be a lasting piece of history that generations to come will be able to appreciate, and there will always be a local connection thanks to Andy Davis and the rock quarry,” said Mayor Mark Alarcon. “I especially want to thank the great folks at Vulcan Materials Company for helping make this happen and for all of their generosity to the community and local arts.”

Mr. Davis has set up a 501(c)(3) organization to collect donations for the sculpture project. Contributions designated for the Patrick Henry Sculpture Fund are tax-deductible and can be sent payable to Henry First, 140 Henry Parkway, McDonough, Ga., 30253.



*Pictured from left to right is Stockbridge City Manager David Milliron, Mayor Mark Alarcon and Artist Andy Davis.*



*The Patrick Henry sculpture is about a month from completion. When finished, the 6’10”, full-body sculpture will feature the county’s namesake with his hand on the back of a chair, and will ultimately be cast in bronze. A life-size bust of Patrick Henry – best remembered for his “Give me Liberty, or give me Death!” speech – will be displayed at Stockbridge City Hall.*

# No city property taxes?

## Even some in Stockbridge don't realize how

When you say zero property tax, people don't believe you, said Stockbridge Mayor Mark Alarcon.

It was Valentine's Day 1979 that then Councilman Ross McMichael made the historic motion – seconded by Councilman Harold Cochran – to adopt a resolution in support of the Local Option Sales Tax to reduce property taxes.

The initiative was supported at the county and state level and in July 1979, then Mayor Rudy Kelley announced to the City Council the first check under the new Local Options Sales Tax regulations had been received for \$7,000.

The Local Options Sales Tax is a 1 percent sales tax and anybody -- resident or visitor -- who buys goods and services in Henry County pays this tax and contributes to the total amount of revenue available to offset property taxes. The economic impact of tourism in Henry County alone brought in \$5.94 million in local sales taxes in 2011.

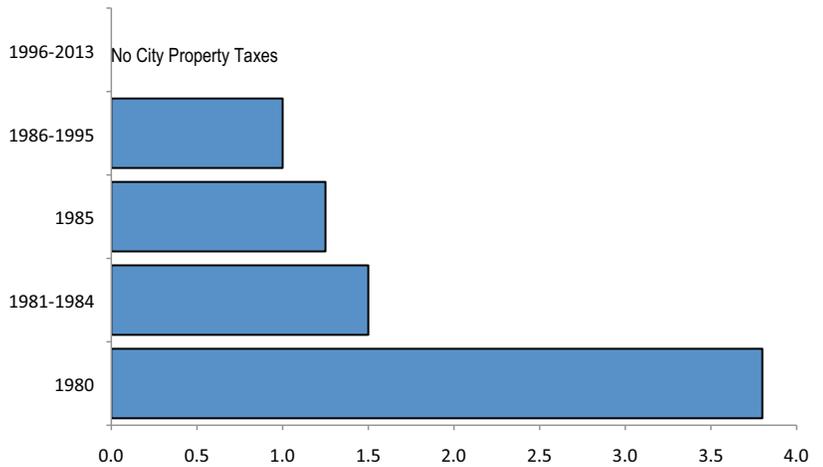
Stockbridge since 1980 has annually reduced the property tax burden on property owners thanks to the proceeds from the 1-cent Local Option Sales Tax. And in 1996, the City Council rolled back its millage rate to zero thereby eliminating property taxes altogether. Residents still pay county, state and school taxes.

Local Options Sales Tax proceeds are distributed among the cities and county. The county's share will increase to 66 percent two years from now, leaving Stockbridge, McDonough, Hampton and Locust Grove to split the remaining 34 percent. Until then, LOST funds will continue to be split 65-35.

But Mayor Alarcon is confident Stockbridge property owners will continue to pay zero property taxes for years to come with no reduction in services.

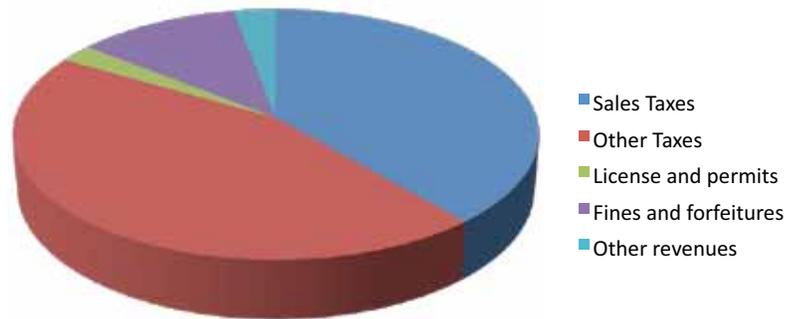
### Historical Stockbridge Millage Rates

Since 1996, the City of Stockbridge has rolled back its millage rate to zero. All ad valorem taxes except "special assessments" are calculated by multiplying a millage rate times a property value. The easiest way to think of millage is in "dollars per thousand."



### Stockbridge Remains Financially Healthy

The City's audited General Fund for 2012 – money used to fund city services – stands at \$8,583,065 in revenues and expenses. Property taxes made up \$0 of the revenues. Stockbridge operates mostly on a 1-cent Local Option Sales Tax and other taxes and fees. Excess revenue is transferred annually to reserves, debt service or the city's enterprise funds so as to defray the cost of providing services to the community. Stockbridge is financially healthy and has among the lowest sanitation, water, sewer and business license fees in the metro Atlanta region. The adopted 2013 budget is 1 percent lower – or \$94,805 – over the prior year's budget and 3.3 percent – or \$308,205 – lower than the 2012 amended budget.



*Mayor Mark Alarcon and the Stockbridge City Council presented the Henry County Atlanta Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. with a proclamation to celebrate the sorority's 100 Years of Service and Sisterhood. Congratulations!*



## Stockbridge Business Association kicks off with "Breakfast with the Mayor"

Nearly 100 Stockbridge area business owners and leaders attended the inaugural "Breakfast with the Mayor" event at the Merle Manders Conference Center. Stockbridge Mayor Mark Alarcon hosted the breakfast and an informal conversation with attendees as the launch pad for the revitalized Stockbridge Business Association.



Mr. Allen Davis of Community Broadband was the guest speaker, who gave an in-depth presentation on the \$15M public-private technology investment, which will bring broadband to Stockbridge area businesses, schools and government agencies that is 100 times faster than the standard internet service currently available in the region.

Mayor Alarcon and staff also introduced the members of the revitalized Stockbridge Downtown Development Authority, spoke about the city's \$100,000 Community Partnership Grant Program, outlined the grant the city received from the Atlanta Regional Commission to review and overhaul its sign ordinance, and discussed plans to reestablish the Stockbridge Business Association to serve the local business community.

A copy of the Mayor's presentation, along with that of Mr. Davis, is available on the city's website at [cityofstockbridge.com](http://cityofstockbridge.com) in the "News & Announcements."

## Appointments announced to board, authority

**The Henry County Council on Aging:** A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization made up of nineteen (19) volunteers who serve as directors. The council's primary objective is to support programs that serve Henry County senior citizens. Supported programs include Meal-on-Wheels, Nutrition Supplements, In-Homes Services, Senior Centers, and Volunteer Activities. The council members serve as advocates on behalf of the senior citizens of Henry County.

- Tarji L. Dunn, Real Estate Broker with Azone Realty

**Downtown Development Authority:** Oversees the revitalization and redevelopment of the central business districts and develops and promotes for the public good and general welfare, trade, commerce, industry and employment opportunities.

- Rocio Camacho, Insurance Agent & Tax Preparer with RCC & Associates
- Ron Castillo, Owner of Los Portales Sports Bar & Grill
- Robert "Rob" Beall, Market President for Hamilton State Bank
- Vivian Thomas-Smith, CEO of TooLooPeas, Inc.
- Robin Buschman, Partner/Manager of Empson's Deli & Café and Stockbridge City Councilperson
- J.T. Williams, Consultant with Killearn Inc. (and developer of the roughly 3,500-acre Eagle's Landing mixed-use golf community in Stockbridge and Eagle Brooke Country Club in Locust Grove)

## Inaugural Rock Quarry Brew Fest a huge success!



*Mayor Mark Alarcon had the honor of tapping the first keg of the Rock Quarry Brew Fest. Several hundred were in attendance for the event, which organizers expect to make an annual event. All proceeds from the event are to benefit the Stockbridge Business Association.*

Organizers of the 1st Annual Rock Quarry Brew Fest have declared the event a huge success. The inaugural event was held June 15th in the parking lot of Los Portales Mexican Restaurant on Rock Quarry Road in Stockbridge.

"The folks attending stopped me numerous times and reported that they were so happy that such an event was taking place in their Stockbridge!" said Dan Vallish, owner of Barley & Vine, one of the event organizers. "They thoroughly enjoyed the music, the food, their friends – both old and new – and the variety of Georgia craft beers there for them to enjoy."

As the Lord Mayor of Munich announces the Oktoberfest kick-off in Munich each year, Mayor Mark Alarcon was invited to kick off the Rock Quarry Brew Fest. In his signature red blazer, the Mayor was introduced and then escorted to the Max Lager beer tent, where a cask of Imperial Mocha Oatmeal Stout awaited the ceremonial tapping.

"He soundly hit the tap with the wooden mallet and seated the tap on the first try!" Vallish said. "With some encouragement from the Max Lager's brewery staff, he gave it a few more firm taps for good measure."

Three authentic Hoffbrau Haus steins were handed out, filled and followed by a hardy toast to the first Brew Fest in the City of Stockbridge.

The City was a sponsor of the event, having awarded the Rock Quarry Brew Fest a \$5,000 Community Partnership Grant to promote the event. Proceeds from the event are to benefit the Stockbridge Business Association.



*The Mayor and Council recognized the city's wastewater treatment plant staff for its "Gold" award from the Georgia Association of Water Professionals. The award recognizes a year of perfect compliance with state permit regulations. The Gold Award is a direct reflection of the professional commitment of the City's employees and to the City of Stockbridge residents we serve. Accepting the award on behalf of the City was Public Works Director Kevin Walter. Congratulations to Plant Superintendent Brad Holtsinger and operators Wayne Robinson, Chris Burdett and Adam Daniel.*

## Getting new employees off to a good start

Mayor Mark Alarcon and Stockbridge City Manager David Milliron hosted a luncheon for those employees who have joined the city since the first of the year. The employees had an opportunity to meet with the City's senior management and hear the vision for service to the community.



Pictured from left to right on the front row: Annette Anderson, City Treasurer; **Mary O'Day, Finance Administrator**; **Katherine Taing, Utility Billing Clerk**; Mark Alarcon, Mayor; **Nuquan Newcomb, Public Works Technician**; **David Scott, Public Works Technician**; **Stephanie Tigner, Deputy City Clerk**; and **Braden Moss, Wastewater Systems Collections Operator**.

And on the back row: **Leslie Norsworthy, Administrative Assistant**; Anita Gunnoe, Clerk of Court; **Kevin Walter, Public Works Director**; **Sansannah Jackson, Executive Assistant**; **Jeffrey Wilson, Water Technician**; **Charlie Marsh, Water Technician**; **Elizabeth "B.J." Mathis, Community & Economic Development Officer**; and David Milliron, City Manager.

Note: Names in **bold** denotes recent additions to city staff.

## Stockbridge shows its love for Boston with "Soles for Souls" initiative

Mayor Mark Alarcon and the Stockbridge City Council wish to say "Thank You" to everyone who showed their love for Boston with the Soles4Souls challenge. In the wake of the attack at the Boston marathon and to express sympathy for the victims, the City of Stockbridge wanted to turn a tragedy into something positive. So the City challenged residents to donate their old soles to souls who need them while honoring the athletes of the Boston Marathon. You responded with 192 pairs of shoes being dropped off to City Hall. As part of its mission of "Changing the World One Pair at a Time," the shoes have been shipped to soles4souls.org, a Nashville-based charity that will distribute them to people in need worldwide, regardless of race, religion, class, or any other criteria.



## City launches "robo-calling" to deter illegal signs

Businesses and individuals posting snipe signs in the right-of-way throughout the City of Stockbridge are getting lots of phone calls, but not from prospective customers.

Instead, Stockbridge Mayor Mark Alarcon has launched an initiative to deter these illegally placed signs by using "robo-calls" to the numbers listed on the signs informing the business that the signs are a violation of City code.

Snipe signs are the small plastic or cardboard temporary signs that are tacked, nailed, posted, pasted, glued or otherwise attached to trees, poles, fences or other objects and often display such messages as "Cash for Your House" or "We Buy Junk Cars." The City has been inundated with the illegal signs ever since a major hail storm hit the City on March 18th.

The City now uses an automated system to place repeated calls to the numbers listed on signs illegally placed in the right-of-ways throughout Stockbridge. The calls will continue, up to 20 per day, until the person or business responsible for the snipe signs removes them from the City and comes to Stockbridge City Hall to address their code violation.

The initiative follows a three-week community awareness effort by the City to educate the public that it is illegal under city, county and state law to place signs in the right-of-way of roads, which included messages in the City newsletter, email blasts to businesses and residents, and postings on its Facebook page and website. Nearly 1,000 snipe signs have been removed from the city right-of-ways since the program was first initiated.

"These signs pose a safety problem for drivers and pedestrians," said Mayor Alarcon. "Signs distract motorists, create blind spots, and present hazards for maintenance crews. The nails, screws and tacks used to place signs on utility poles are hazards for utility workers. In addition to the safety issue, the signs detract from the appearance of our roadways making the City and our neighborhoods look trashy."

For additional information, please contact Stockbridge Code Enforcement at 678-833-3307.



**Sign ordinances for Stockbridge and over 2,700 local governments are available online at [www.municode.com](http://www.municode.com)**



*Stockbridge Mayor Mark Alarcon is interviewed in front of City Hall by Karyn Greer with WXIA 11Alive. The 11Alive Morning Show was in Stockbridge on April 26, and topped-off the city's Georgia's Cities Week celebration.*

# Stockbridge awarded \$100,000 federal grant for South Berry Street project

The City of Stockbridge has been awarded a federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of \$100,000 to construct 900 feet of lighted sidewalks from the intersection of Nolan and South Berry streets near the Food Depot, south to Wilson Street.



Mayor Mark Alarcon said the project will improve pedestrian safety. Area residents currently walk along narrow streets on the grassy shoulder of South Berry Street to access the grocery store, Smith Barnes Elementary and Patrick Henry High schools, Stockbridge City Hall, as well as other merchants in the immediate area. Nearly 40 trains pass through the South Berry Street corridor daily.

Once complete, residents will have a continuous sidewalk with lighting to access those locations while also having safe access into Historic downtown Stockbridge. From there, residents will be able to access the County library and tag office, the Stockbridge Multiplex Recreation Center for youth and seniors, and Clark Park.

“I want to thank the residents who came out in support of this project as their voices were heard with the awarding of \$100,000 in federal dollars to this vital project,” Mayor Alarcon said. “Our City must be ever-vigilant to take advantage of every funding opportunity to increase service to our residents. And this project will greatly benefit our residents.”

The shovel-ready project has an estimated price tag of nearly \$261,000 and will allow seamless continuity to the \$1.2 million streetscape project currently underway on North Berry Street – from Nolan to Love streets. The CDBG funds will come from the county-wide pool of money for fiscal year 2012, which is reserved for public facility/infrastructure projects. The balance of cost for the South Berry Street project will be paid from the city’s general fund.

The city has also made application for \$150,000 from the county-wide pool of money for fiscal year 2013. That money, if awarded, will be used to construct a community pool.

# Georgia DOT’s new improved LMIG Grant awarded to Stockbridge

The Georgia Department of Transportation presented the City of Stockbridge a ceremonial Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) check for \$153,933.34. The City is required to make a 30-percent match on the grant funding for local road projects.

As many as 700 counties and cities across the state applied for LMIG funding, which is used to maintain roads throughout the city. The DOT is disbursing about \$110 million in LMIG funds statewide based on the populations and miles of local streets and roads in the various jurisdictions.



*Pictured from left to right are State Transportation Board Member Jamie Boswell, Mayor Pro Tem Richard Steinberg, state DOT Deputy Commissioner Todd Long, State Transportation Board Member Dana L. Lemon, LMIG Administrator Terry Gable, Mayor Mark Alarcon, state DOT District 3 Engineer Thomas Howell, and Public Works Director Kevin Walter.*

# Qualifying information for November election

This is to give notice that the City of Stockbridge will hold an election Tuesday, November 5, 2013 for the purpose of electing a Mayor and two Council members for four-year terms each.

Citizens wishing to qualify for any of these offices may qualify with the City Clerk at Stockbridge City Hall, 4640 North Henry Boulevard, Stockbridge, GA 30281.

Qualifying will be held from Monday, August 26, 2013 through Friday, August 30, 2013 between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm. The office will be closed for lunch each day between 1:00 pm and 2:00 pm.

The qualifying fee is \$324 for Mayor and \$252 for Council members.

To register to vote or check your registration status: <http://mvp.sos.state.ga.us/>

October 7, 2013: Last day a person may register and be eligible to vote in the Municipal General Election and Runoff

October 10, 2013: Candidate Forum for 2013 Municipal Election from 6:00 to 9:00 pm at the Merle Manders Conference Center. Open to the General Public.

Early Voting: October 14 to November 1, 2013

Election Day: November 5, 2013

Runoff: December 3, 2013 (if applicable)



# Legislative Update: City Council Takes Action

The Stockbridge City Council holds a work session the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm at City Hall, followed by its regular meeting the second Monday of each month at 6:00 pm at City Hall. The general public is always encouraged to attend. The following is a summary of key action items taken by the City Council in May, June and July. Copies of the council packets are available in the “Agenda & Minutes” section of the city’s website at [www.cityofstockbridge.com](http://www.cityofstockbridge.com). Please contact the City Clerk at 678.833.3303 for more information on any of the items below.

- Ratified the Eagle’s Landing Sign and Monument Project Agreement
- Awarded the “Rock Quarry Brew Fest” event a \$5,000 Community Partnership Grant to promote the event
- Approved a Public Right-of-Way Access Agreement between the City and Community Broadband, LLC that will bring a \$15M investment and 38 jobs to Stockbridge
- Awarded \$10,000 toward the Patrick Henry sculpture project by Artist Andy Davis, which will include a life-size bust to be on display at Stockbridge City Hall
- Appointed members to the Council on Aging and Downtown Development Authority
- Re-adopted the “City of Stockbridge 2013 Adopted Budget” so as to add the position of assistant public works director while eliminating two other positions, including minor job description and pay scale corrections
- Implemented a “Camera Ready” ordinance to promote economic development in the city
- Approved a text amendment to the city’s festival ordinance to make it lawful to sell food and beverages at outdoor festivals
- Eliminated the additional \$4/month sanitation fee for home-based businesses
- Amended the city’s General Park Regulations so as to allow for controlled alcohol sales and consumption at city-sponsored events
- Authorized city staff to seek \$150,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for a community pool
- Approved a six-month extension to the Conditional Use Permit for Next Generation Bible Church
- Initiated a 60-day sign moratorium while the city reviews and revises its sign ordinance
- Approved a Transient Permit for Southern Comfort Fireworks, Inc.
- Adopted an ordinance to incorporate the State Minimum Building and Construction Code into the city’s code of ordinances
- Adopted an ordinance to bring the Hotel/



Motel Excise Tax Ordinance in compliance with state law

- Adopted a proposed SPLOST IV list subject to voter approval in November
- Approved a change order for the Old Downtown Streetscape Project regarding utility poles
- Authorized the Downtown Development Authority to negotiate a lease agreement with Community Broadband, LLC for use of vacant city buildings
- Approved the purchase of 2.87 acres of land along Flippen Road so as to move forward with Phase II of the Reeves Creek Trail project
- Approved a six-month extension to the Conditional Use Permit for Cross Road Christian Church
- Adopted the project list as part of the annual update to the city’s 5-year Short-Term Work Program and Capital Improvement Element
- Adopted a balance budget ordinance for 2012 with revenues, expenses and expenditures totaling \$8,583,065
- Withdrew from the Joint Henry County Zoning Advisory Board and its processes
- Authorized the Downtown Development Authority to lease the Old Police Station Building, the Merle Manders Conference Center Management Building, Ted Strickland Community Center, Stockbridge Multiplex, and a portion of the parking lot at the City’s Public Works Building for economic development purposes
- Authorized the sale and disposal of surplus property
- Amended the existing Development Agreement for the Monarch Village Commercial Component

- Awarded Community Partnership Grant Program funding to The Academy Theatre (\$15,000), DDJ Event Productions, LLC (\$5,000), and Greater Atlanta Comic Con (\$10,000)
- Authorized a \$1M loan to the Stockbridge Downtown Development Authority with the proceeds coming from City reserve funds
- Rolled back the millage rate to zero for 2013 (no city property taxes)
- Issued a Memorandum of Understanding with The Academy Theatre in support of Georgia Department of Economic Development Tourism Division & Georgia Council for the Arts Tourism Product Development Agreement Grant Application
- Authorized the Downtown Development Authority to enter into an agreement on behalf of the City of Stockbridge for Cultural and Leisure Services at the multiplex on Burke Street
- Authorized a contract for \$5,000 between the City and DDJ Event Productions, LLC for a half marathon to be run in conjunction with Bridgefest event the first week-end of October 2013
- Amend the procurement ordinance to implement a nonbinding local preference for competitive sealed bids for Stockbridge businesses
- Repeal the existing ethics ordinance and replaced it with a new comprehensive regulation of ethics
- Repealed the existing parades ordinance and replaced it with a new comprehensive regulation of parades, marches, and demonstrations
- Repealed Title 9, Chapter 9.58 (Sections 9.58.010 to 9.58.040) of Code of Ordinances regarding “Street and Sidewalk Vendors and Portable Eating Establishments”
- Amended Title 9, Chapter 9.28 of the current Stockbridge Code be amended by adding a new Title 9, Chapter 9.28, Section 9.28.040 to the Code of Ordinances with respect to festivals in the city
- Amended the city’s sanitation ordinance so as to implement a \$25 one-time fee per pickup of special large items such as couches, appliances, or shelving units



## Seeking art, craft and food vendors for Bridgefest

The City of Stockbridge is accepting applications for art craft and food vendors for its Third Annual BridgeFest, south Atlanta's premiere fall festival to be held October 4th and 5th.

This year's festival will be a true BridgeFest as it is being relocated to historic Downtown Stockbridge, at the bridge near the Ted Strickland Community Center on North Berry Street. Included are art and unique craft vendors, food and beverage trucks, an interactive children's area, live music and entertainment, plus a whole lot more.

Deadline for vendor applications is September 10th. For more information or to obtain a vendor application, contact [mallen@cityofstockbridge-ga.gov](mailto:mallen@cityofstockbridge-ga.gov) or 770-389-5982. Visit us online at [www.facebook.com/bridgefestinfo](http://www.facebook.com/bridgefestinfo)

### BridgeFest Schedule of Events

#### Friday, October 4th

- Vendor booths open at 6 pm
- Free community concert from 7 to 9 pm

#### Saturday, October 5th

- Vendor booths open from 9 am to 5 pm

## Stockbridge adds bulky item removal service



The Stockbridge City Council recently amended its sanitation ordinance to allow its sanitation employees to remove bulky items throughout the city. The new service is available for \$25 per incident and bulky items will be picked up on Mondays by appointment only, excluding holidays.

According to Stockbridge Mayor Mark Alarcon: "The City Council set the fee low so as to discourage illegal dumping throughout the city given that the closest landfill is in Clayton County."

Items such as household furnishings, appliances, mattresses, box springs, lawn equipment and similar items too large to be placed in a standard garbage bin are considered bulky items. However, appliances containing Freon – such as refrigerators, freezers, or air conditioning units – must be certified Freon free prior to their removal.

Bulky items must be scheduled for collection. Items placed at the curb without scheduling will not be collected. For more information or to schedule a bulky pickup, call (770) 474-1232 or visit Utility Billing at City Hall.

Materials resulting from work performed by a contractor working for a homeowner will not be collected. Building materials will not be collected for any multi-family residential unit. Please contact a private waste company or landfill to discuss disposal of these items.



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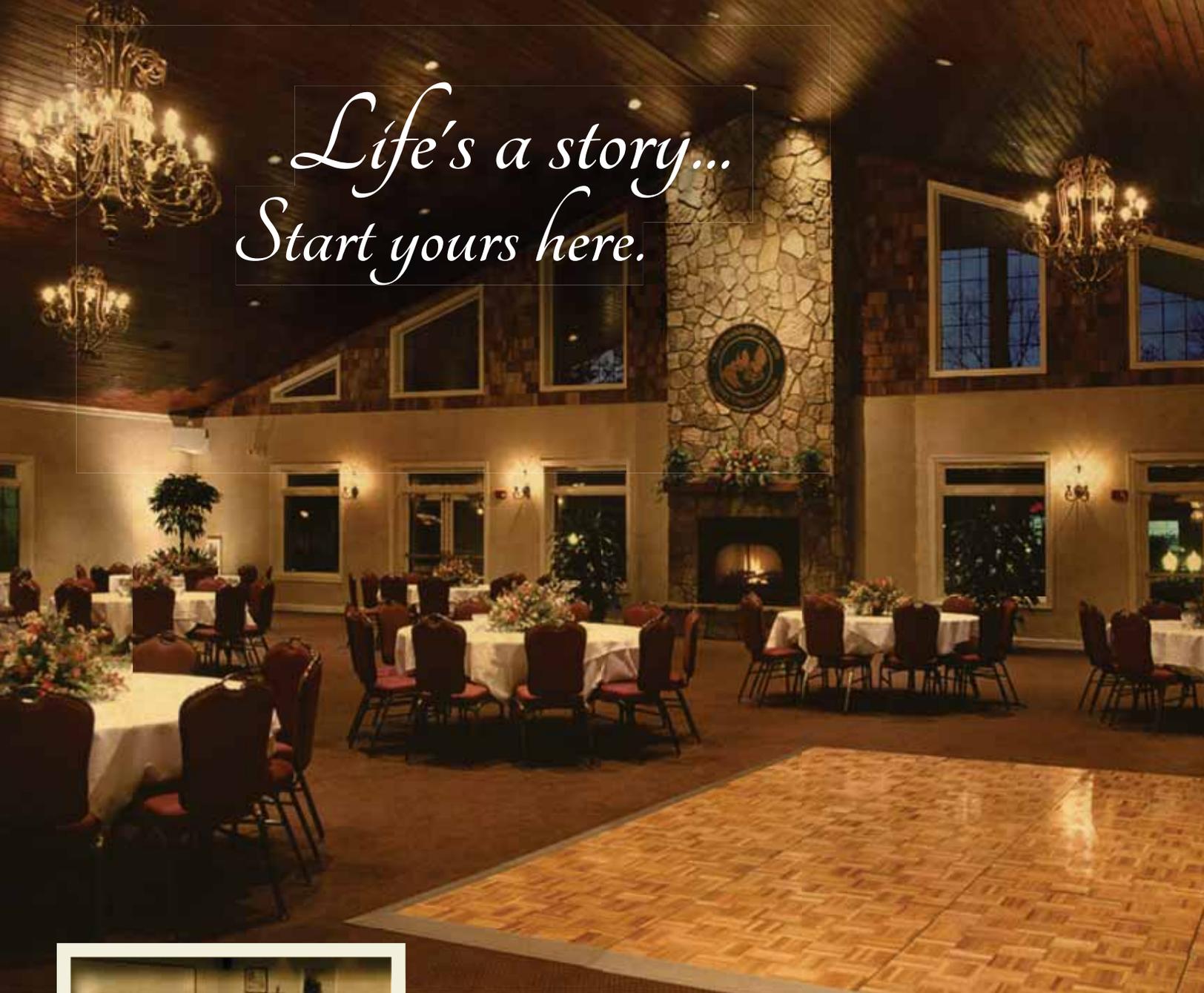
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