



City of Stockbridge

CITY NEWS LINK

Stockbridge Downtown Project to Add Streetscape Enhancements

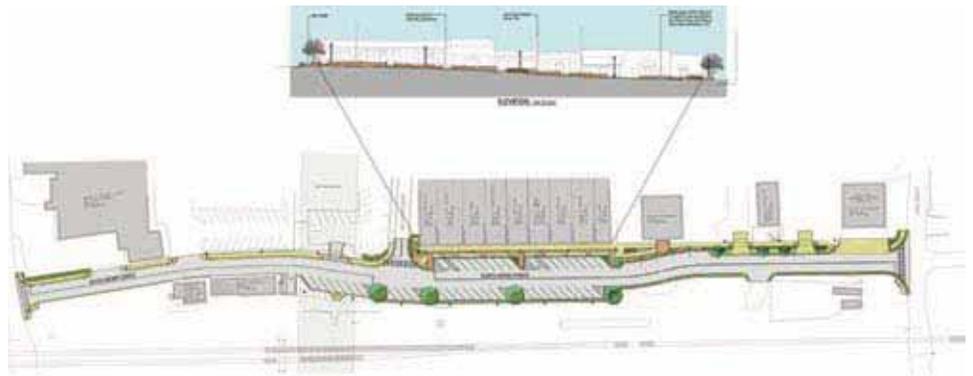
The City of Stockbridge is in the midst of an ambitious effort to reconstruct and improve the sidewalks, roadway, utilities, and visitor amenities of the city's Downtown corridor.

The \$1.2 million project on North Berry Street – from Nolan Street to Love Street – will greatly improve the look, feel, and accessibility of our Downtown.

“This will be a significant improvement for our Downtown,” Stockbridge Mayor Mark Alarcon said. “North Berry Street will have a brand new look, adding marketability to our businesses and buildings. The upgrades will clearly show Downtown is open for business.”

City leaders, business owners and honored guests gathered for a groundbreaking ceremony April 2nd that included representatives from the engineering firm Keck & Wood, Inc., and the lead contractor, Georgia Development Partners. The project is expected to be completed in October 2013. Downtown businesses and offices will remain open during the project, and construction crews will attempt to maintain access at all times.

The bulk of the project cost will be paid by federally-funded Transportation Enhancement (TE) program funds, with the remainder coming from the city. The total cost of the Stockbridge Downtown Streetscape Project is \$1.2 million, with roughly \$800,000 provided by federal grants.



The project will add streetscape improvements along North Berry Street, beginning at Nolan Street and ending at Love Street; re-construct the five-foot wide concrete sidewalks with decorative brick pavers; re-construct the curb and gutter drainage; re-construct the parking with new composite utility poles; and add handicap ramps, signage, decorative lighting, benches, trash receptacles, trees, and landscaping.

“On behalf of the entire City Council, the City wishes to extend gratitude and appreciation to Georgia Department of Transportation Board Member Dana L. Lemon for the approval of the initial application for funding,” Mayor Alarcon said. “Ms. Lemon represents the 13th Congressional District on the GDOT Board, which includes Henry County, and without her support there would be no project.”

The federally-funded TE program funds multi-use facilities such as walking trails, bike trails, and paths; streetscape and landscape projects in cities and towns; historic preservation of transportation-related facilities such as railroad depots; and scenic preservations of views and scenic by-ways.

“This is yet another very important step for the City of Stockbridge,” Mayor Alarcon said. “We are going forward with the Livable Centers Initiative vision that has been put forth and approved by our residents. Together, our city will take the lead in economic development and quality of life in Henry County and beyond.”

Indulge Your Taste Buds

Enjoy Our Mouth-Watering



OLYMPIA PIZZA

Mon-Thurs 11am-9pm • Fri & Sat 11am-10pm

\$5 OFF

\$25 or more purchase.

With this Ad. Can't Combine Offers. Exp 5/31/13.

- Pizza
- Gyros
- Salads
- Sandwiches
- Spaghetti and more

CALL NOW TO PLACE YOUR ORDER!

770.474.6744

www.pizzastockbridge.com



EAGLES LANDING CIGARS

- SMOKING LOUNGE
- WALK IN HUMIDOR
- ALL HAND MADE PREMIUM CIGARS

678-561-0231 • EAGLESLANDINGCIGARS.COM
1092 EAGLES LANDING PKWY, STOCKBRIDGE, GA

FREE Black Market "Dirty Hooligan" Cigar With Any 3 Alec Bradley Cigars Purchased
With coupon & valid ID. MTM. Exp 5-31-13

HAVE FABULOUS FLOORS AGAIN!

ONLY 99¢ per sq. ft.

FabulousFloors™
Wood Floor Resurfacing System

Complete Dustless & Odorless System

\$50 OFF Resurfacing

- In and out in one day
- Fast drying finish, can be walked on in hours
- Works on all types of wood floors

Min. 250 square feet. With this ad. Not valid with any other offers or discounts.

678-304-6262
FabulousFloorsAtlantaSouth.com
Decatur/South Atlanta

PAPIS

Cuban & Caribbean Grill

Come Experience a Taste of the Caribbean!!

AUTHENTIC CUBAN DISHES • TROPICAL DESSERTS
IMPORTED BEERS & WINE • MOJITOS • TROPICAL MILKSHAKES & JUICES

BEST CUBAN RESTAURANT IN THE CITY *Creative Loafing 2010-2012*

BEST OF ATLANTA <i>Access Atlanta</i>	BEST LATIN RESTAURANT IN KENNESAW <i>Kennesaw Patch 2012</i>	BEST RESTAURANT IN STOCKBRIDGE <i>Trip Advisor 2012</i>	BEST JERK CHICKEN SANDWICH IN GEORGIA <i>Trip Advisor 2012</i>
---	--	---	--

NOW RIGHT HERE IN HENRY COUNTY!
1375 Rock Quarry Rd, Suite 201A • Stockbridge, GA 30281 • **770-506-9664**

MIDTOWN 216 Ponce de Leon Ave Atlanta, GA 30308 404-607-1525	LAWRENCEVILLE 911 Duluth Hwy, Ste A1 Lawrenceville, GA 30043 770-237-8889	TUCKER 4349 Lawrenceville Hwy, Ste E Tucker, GA 30084 770-414-1335
--	---	--

www.papisgrill.com

KDA

communications

WANT TO GET NOTICED?

Advertise Today!

678.905.4842 • sales@kda-communications.com

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.

5/7/2013

City Council Work Session 6:00 PM

5/9/2013

Urban Redevelopment Agency 5:00 PM

5/13/2013

City Council Monthly Meeting 6:00 PM

5/27/2013

City Hall Closed: Memorial Day

Sanitation Schedule:

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

5/27/2013 Sanitation Schedule (cont'd)

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

6/4/2013

City Council Work Session 6:00 PM

6/6/2013

Urban Redevelopment Agency 5:00 PM

6/10/2013

City Council Monthly Meeting 6:00 PM

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR:

City Hall E-Notifications:

Stay informed about events, activities, and announcements with E-Notifications. Sign up at <http://cityofstockbridge.com/notify.aspx>

FACEBOOK



City of Stockbridge Facebook wants you to be a fan!

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

If you are interested in advertising in the City of Stockbridge quarterly newsletter, please contact Andy Aloisio at 678-905-4842 or email andy@kda-communications.com.

Stockbridge City News Link is a publication of KDA Communications. Subject matter published is the opinion of the author and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the publisher of this newsletter. Professional advice should be obtained before making any decision in which a professional is readily available. Advertisers assume responsibility for the content of the ads placed in this publication. Material published may not be reproduced without the written permission of KDA Communications.

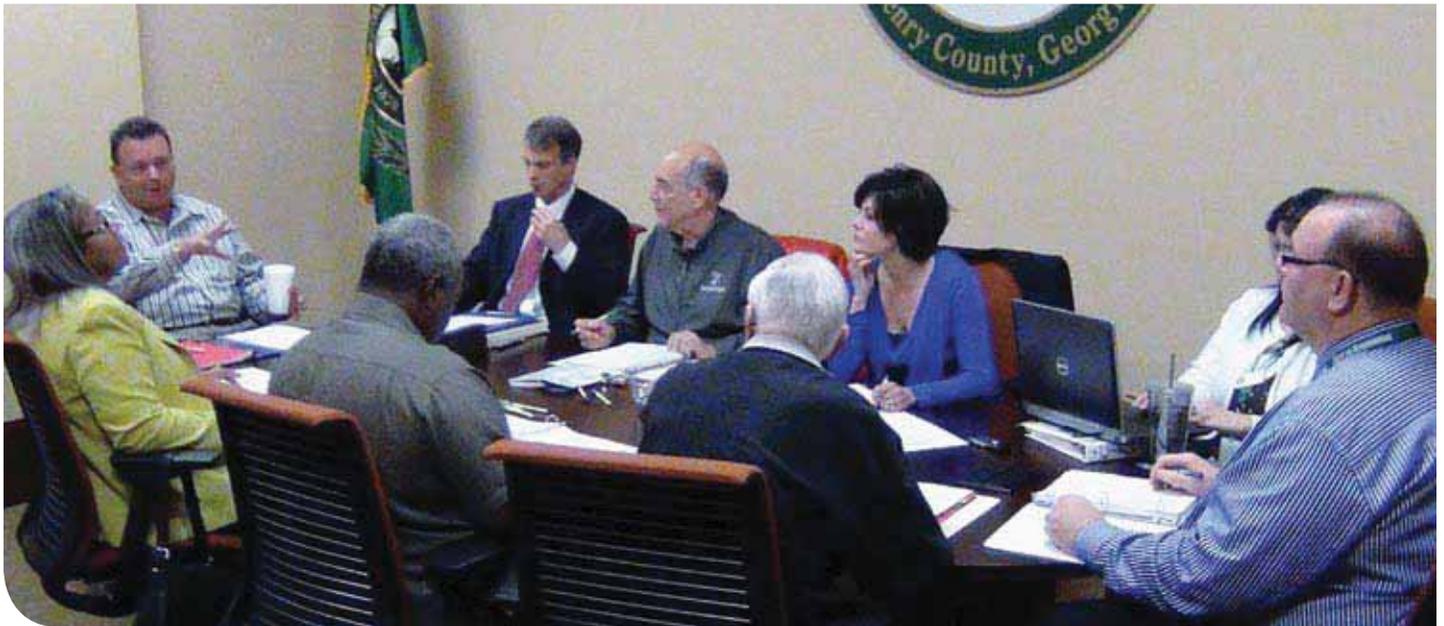
The information and advertisements contained in this Newsletter are provided for the City of Stockbridge as a courtesy only. No representations are made as to information presented, the quality of the goods or services advertised, or the veracity of the statements relating to the goods and services. The printing of opinions, information or advertisements does not constitute an endorsement by the City of Stockbridge of such opinions, information, goods or services.



Contact us today for more information!
678.905.4842 • sales@kda-communications.com
www.kda-communications.com

Stockbridge 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 the first four months of the current year. Please contact the City Clerk at 678.833.3303 x203 for more information on any of the items below.



- Adopted and amended the 2013 budget to include job descriptions, pay scales and a City organization chart
- Adopted a Capital Asset Policy, Investment Policy, and Debt Management Policy
- Adopted a revised Procurement Ordinance
- Confirmed the Mayoral appointment of a Public Works Director
- Authorized right-of-way negotiations and acquisitions for the South Berry Street sidewalk project
- Authorized right-of-way negotiations and acquisitions for the Reeves Creek Phase II project
- Entered into a contract with Falcon Design Group for project and contractor management of the City Hall roundabout project
- Amended the agreement for the Belt Press Facility, to be paid for with SPLOST III money
- Repealed the City's existing random drug testing ordinance, which is now included in the personnel manual
- Amended the 2012 budget to reclassify the City Events Fund as a General Fund expenditure
- Adopted a new employee manual
- Held a planning retreat that included the development of a vision and mission statement, and a strategic plan for the coming year
- Adopted a new ordinance to permit wine and growler malt beverage tastings
- Passed a resolution to permit half-day rentals of the MMCC ballroom on Sundays
- Adopted a new vesting schedule for the City's Defined Benefit Retirement Plan
- Approved the offense of Criminal Trespass to be added to the Code of Ordinances
- Approved a Vacant or Foreclosed Real Property Registry to be added to the Code of Ordinances
- Set the fee for entry on the City's Vacant or Foreclosed Real Property Registry at \$100
- Approved a new ordinance relating to the City Administrator so as to change the name of the position to City Manager, clarified the selection process, and clarified permissible interactions between elected officials and City staff
- Requested the Henry County Legislative Delegation to introduce legislation to create voting districts for the election of Stockbridge City Council members, raise the Hotel/Motel Tax to 8 percent, make three primary changes to the City Charter, and to legislatively permit the annexation of two unincorporated islands within the City limits
- Granted a six-month extension to the Conditional Use Permit for Islamic Society of South Atlanta
- Amend the Code of Ordinances relating to dealers in precious metals and gems, used automobile and truck sales, dealers in distilled spirits, and pawnshops so as to clarify when additional licenses may be allowed based upon census data
- Amended the Code of Ordinances relating to littering so as to clarify the penalties for violation of the City's littering ordinance
- Amend the Code of Ordinances relating to peddlers, solicitation, and door to door sales as to provide comprehensive regulation of such commercial activity
- Amend the Code of Ordinances relating to administrative fees, regulatory fees, and occupation taxes so as to provide that home owners associations are exempt from occupation taxes
- Reactivated the Downtown Development Authority for the City of Stockbridge
- Granted a Six-month extension to the Conditional Use Permit for Iglesia Hispana en Stockbridge

Stockbridge Taps Kubotas for Safe, Efficient Sanitation Vehicles



A new fleet of vehicles is now picking up refuse and yard waste designed to save taxpayers money while increasing service to residential and commercial sanitation customers. The city bought eight Kubota RTV900XT's from Mason Tractor in McDonough to replace its aging fleet of golf cart-style utility vehicles, most of which no longer have available replacement parts.

"The purchase will allow the city's large commercial garbage trucks to park in strategic locations while the Kubotas quietly maneuver in and out of neighborhoods picking up refuse," said General Maintenance Supervisor Jeff Greenway. "When loaded, the Kubotas will quickly return to the parked vehicle and dump directly into the rear-load refuse packer truck."

The city has been saddled with rising costs with its existing fleet of utility vehicles, which could only seat a single employee each, required driver's to have a motorcycle endorsement, and have less than satisfactory safety and maintenance records, Greenway said.

The Kubotas comfortably seat two passengers, operate with cost-efficient diesel engines, and parts and service are available at a local dealership. The units have custom hydraulic dump beds that hold 1,000 pounds of refuse or yard clippings, have a maximum forward speed of 25 MPH, and can maneuver in and out of residential and commercial areas and city parks with ease. The purchase is expected to extend the useful life of the city's existing four commercial sanitation trucks.



The city hosted one of four free workshops to educate residents on gun ownership and safety. Nearly 100 residents turned out for the workshop March 14th at the Merle Manders Conference Center that consisted of basic firearms safety and Georgia gun laws. The workshop was a combined effort of the Henry County District Attorney's Office; Henry County Sheriff's Office; City of Stockbridge; and the Henry County and City of Hampton, Locust Grove and McDonough police departments.

Stockbridge Leaders Hold Planning Retreat, Set Annual Goals

The Stockbridge City Council met Feb. 16-17 at the Evergreen Marriott Conference Resort in Stone Mountain for its annual planning retreat. Murray J. Weed with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government led the strategic planning session.

The Mayor and City Council along with key staff participated in team building, and creation of a strategic plan for the coming year. The strategic plan required development of a vision and mission statement as well as key goals that were then utilized to create a practical implementation schedule for the coming year.

Vision Statement

Stockbridge, plating the future where historic Stockbridge connects to the next generation:

- A leader in innovation
- A community supporting lifelong learning
- A center for economic growth and sustainability
- A connected community where citizens are valued and respected

Mission Statement

- Achieve stability of leadership and government (elected officials and staff)
- Staff the government appropriately
- Update the Charter and commission an ordinance review
- Improve internal communications
- Improve the economic development program including revitalizing the Downtown Development Authority
- Reinvigorate the use of proclamations and other recognition tools to connect with the community
- Generate a Capital Improvement Program

City of Stockbridge Goals and Implementation Program

The goals are listed in ranked/priority order and are based on a Feb. 18, 2013 starting point. This is the approved list but please know that several of the projects have already been accomplished prior to publication of this edition of the newsletter.

Priority	Task	Lead	Deadline
1A	Hire Necessary Staff	Human Resources	4/19/2013
1B	Staff Training and Development	Human Resources	5/19/2013
1C	Explore Council seats by districts adopt resolution	City Council	3/20/2013
2A	Develop Marketing Plan	Community and Economic Development Officer	4/4/2013
2B	Streetscape Projects	Public Works	Start by 3/20/2013, complete by 8/17/2013
2C	Develop Stockbridge Business Association	Community and Economic Development Officer	4/19/2013
2D	Revitalize Downtown Development Authority	Community and Economic Development Officer	4/19/2013
2E	Develop Community Partnership Grant Program	Community and Economic Development Officer	Phase I: 3/20/2013; Phase II: 4/19/2013
2F	Develop Facilities for Education	Community and Economic Development Officer	8/17/2013
3A	Purchase and Install Needed Software	Information Technology	8/17/2013
3B	Begin SPLOST III funded Belt Press Project	Public Works	3/20/2013
3C	Develop Feasibility Study for Multiplex Building	Community and Economic Development Officer	6/18/2013
3D	Reeves Creek Trail Development	Public Works	Begin Phase II by 6/18/2013 and complete by 10/16/2013
3E		Community and Economic Development Officer	Start between 6/18/2013 and 8/17/2013
3F	Living Centers Initiative Downtown plan	City Council	Complete by 2/18/2016
4	Revise and Review Charter and Code of Ordinances	City Attorney	Complete by 8/17/2013
5	Develop Capital Improvement Program	Public Works	Start June 1, 2013 and complete by 12/31/2013
6	Proclamations/recognitions	City Council	Ongoing
7	Rock Quarry Extension project (SPLOST IV)	Public Works	Estimated start date of 8/12/2014

Belt Press Project Underway at Wastewater Treatment Facility



Stockbridge Mayor Mark Alarcon and City Council members joined representatives from the Lanier Contracting Company and other distinguished guests March 11th for the groundbreaking of \$1.7 million in improvements to the city's wastewater treatment facility.

The city recently contracted with Lanier to install a high performance Dynamic Radial Wedge Belt Press, complete with a building and other necessary pumps, piping and electrical equipment. The belt press is an industrial machine used for the dewatering of sludge in the wastewater treatment industry. The SPLOST-funded project will improve operations and reduce operating costs at the plant.

"The current process to partially de-water the sludge uses 1980s technology that is no longer effective or cost efficient," said Mayor Mark Alarcon. "The equipment being installed at the city is manufactured by Siemens and is the most technologically-advanced belt press in the world today."

The wastewater treatment facility currently removes about 98 percent of contaminants from influent sewage prior to discharge of the treated effluent to local streams. A bi-product of the biological treatment process is sludge, which must periodically be removed from the system.

The city currently makes about 55 trips to have some 220,000 gallons of sludge treated and disposed of each month. The new equipment will squeeze or press the extraneous water and result into a sludge cake substance. The current 55 monthly truckloads will be reduced to about four per month.

Qualifying Information for November Municipal Election

The City of Stockbridge will hold an election Tuesday, Nov. 5th for the purpose of electing a Mayor and two City 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, Aug. 26th through Friday, Aug. 30th between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm. The office will be closed for lunch each day between 1:00 and 2:00 pm.

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

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

GDOT Awards Stockbridge \$153,933 for Local Road Projects

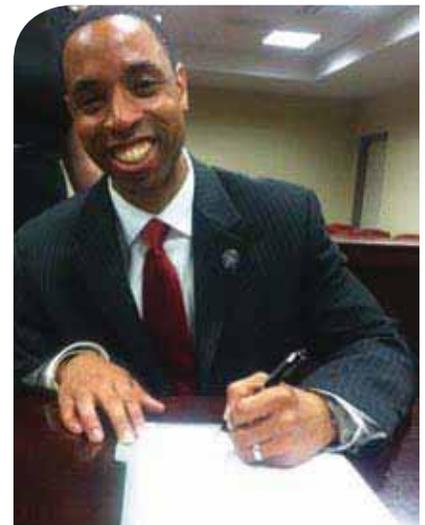
The City of Stockbridge received \$153,933.34 from the Georgia Department of Transportation's (GDOT) 2013 Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) program. The City of Stockbridge is required to make a 30 percent match on the grant funding.

"Stockbridge is committed to continually working to make transportation improvements throughout the city," said Mayor Mark Alarcon. "The resurfacing of roadways that this grant will help fund is an important part of those improvements. On behalf of the City Council, the city is very appreciative to the state Department of Transportation and to our state legislative delegation for its continued support of our community."

The city selects roads for the LMIG grant program by judging safety hazards, asphalt condition, traffic load, age of road, and date of last overlay. The following roads, with estimated project start dates, are slated to be milled or resurfaced with the grant money:

- Tye Street, to be resurfaced from Red Oak to Rosenwald Circle by June 3
- Childs Street, to be resurfaced from Tye Street to the Cul-de-sac by June 3
- Nolan Street, to be resurfaced from Tye Street to South Berry Street by June 3
- Church Street, to be resurfaced from South Berry Street to Second Street by June 3
- Parkwood Drive, to be resurfaced from Davis Road to West Burke Street by June 3
- Club Drive, to be milled and resurfaced from Club Drive to Creek Circle by Aug. 5
- Club Circle, to be milled and resurfaced from North Henry Blvd to Shields Road by Aug. 5
- Creek Circle, to be milled and resurfaced for about a 2,500-foot stretch near Davis Road by Aug. 5
- Club Place, to be milled and resurfaced from Club Drive to the cul-de-sac by Aug. 5
- Club Court, to be milled and resurfaced a 300-foot stretch near Club Circle by Aug. 5
- Wren Court, to be milled and resurfaced from Club Circle to the cul-de-sac by Aug. 5
- Stockview Terrace, to be milled and resurfaced from Creek Circle to the cul-de-sac by Aug. 5

The City of Stockbridge swore in a new Chief Judge at the G.W. Evans Jr. Municipal Court Building in January. Stockbridge Mayor Mark Alarcon administered the judicial oath of office to Chief Judge Santana T. Flanigan during the public ceremony. Mr. Flanigan was appointed by the City Council on Jan. 14th and will serve along with Christopher Chapman as Associate Judge, Jerry Patrick as Solicitor, and Jason Martin as Associate Solicitor.





Stockbridge Mayor Pro Tem Richard Steinberg participated in the Austin Road Elementary African-American Read-In on Feb. 4th as part of the 2013 National African American Read-In. The Councilman read three books by African-American authors to students in Ms. Bowlin's second-grade class.



Stockbridge Mayor Mark Alarcon and Councilman Alphonso Thomas were honored Jan. 27th at the Georgia Municipal Association's Annual Mayors' Day Conference in Atlanta. The Georgia Municipal Training Institute, a cooperative effort of the Georgia Municipal Association and the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government, provides a nationally recognized series of training opportunities for elected city officials. Mayor Alarcon completed 120 units of credit, including nine required courses and the Robert E. Knox, Jr. Municipal Leadership Institute to receive a Certificate of Excellence. And Councilman Thomas completed 42 units of training including three of the eight required courses in addition to the state mandated Newly Elected Officials Institute to obtain a Certificate of Recognition.

Publisher Offers Opt-Out Delivery For Freebie Newspapers

The City of Stockbridge has recently heard from a number of homeowners who would prefer not to have freebie newspapers littering their driveways or tossed into the yards of vacant properties in their respective neighborhoods.

The city reached out to The Henry Weekly Herald, which is published out of The Clayton News Daily office in Jonesboro. Circulation Manager Donna Goodson was empathetic and said homeowners not wishing to receive the free Henry Weekly Herald need only contact her at 770.478.5753 ext. 242 or dgoodson@news-daily.com and request to be removed from their distribution lists. Please provide your name, street address and telephone number or email address.

Ms. Goodson said she will then notify their contract distributor to remove your street address from future deliveries. Please allow up to three weeks to be removed from the opt-out distribution list.



Stockbridge Hosts District 5 Town Hall Meeting

Henry County District 5 Commissioner Bruce Holmes held his monthly Town Hall Meeting at the Stockbridge Multiplex Center on March 23rd. Jointly hosted by Mayor Mark Alarcon and the Stockbridge City Council, the meeting focused on the future of Stockbridge.

Those in attendance learned about the Opportunity Zone designation being pursued for the area, as well as tax incentives, Community Improvement Districts, the special-purpose local-option sales tax (SPLOST) and other exciting programs and plans for the city and northern Henry County that are expected to help jump start new business. County staff was on hand to discuss plans to extend Rock Quarry Road to improve connectivity from the north end of the County to the medical district in Fairview.

Mayor Alarcon discussed the city's plans and vision for the Town Center area as well as the new Stockbridge Multiplex Center, which will play a central role in establishing a vibrant downtown for the city.

A copy of Mayor Alarcon's presentation is available in the News & Announcements section of the city's website at cityofstockbridge.com/news.aspx.



Stockbridge Mayor Mark Alarcon read to Cotton Indian Elementary students to celebrate the 16th Annual National Education Association's "Read Across America Day" event on March 1st. The annual event, which celebrates Dr. Seuss's birthday and the joys of reading, expected more than 45 million readers to pick up a book and read. Mayor Alarcon read Dr. Seuss books to students in the classrooms of Ms. Neff, Ms. Butts, Ms. Nisoff and Ms. Williams.

City Aims to Connect Neighbors through Stockbridge Nextdoor Site

The City of Stockbridge has teamed up with Nextdoor.com to foster neighbor-to-neighbor and citywide communication.

Nextdoor.com is the first private social network for neighborhoods and is free exclusively to Stockbridge residents with internet access. Residents can create or join existing private websites for their neighborhoods on the site.

"Getting to know your neighbor can be as easy as logging onto a computer," said Stockbridge Mayor Mark Alarcon. "The free Nextdoor.com service provides a forum for neighbors to organize events, exchange advice, talk about safety concerns, or even sell stuff they may no longer need."

The city plans to keep residents informed about Stockbridge using the site. Members of Nextdoor.com will also be able to better communicate with city officials through the locally-moderated site.

Nextdoor.com was created specifically to make neighbors feel comfortable sharing information with one another. Go to Nextdoor.com today to register for access to the site. All residents must first verify their address within a given neighborhood before they will be granted access to the site.

Information shared on Nextdoor.com is password-protected and cannot be accessed by those outside of the neighborhood site. In addition, Nextdoor.com never shares personal information with any third parties.

Stockbridge Children Experience "The Greatest Show on Earth"



The animals and acrobats at Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus are an exhilarating spectacle from any seat in any venue around the country. However, on Feb. 15th, dozens of children with special needs and their families from Stockbridge experienced "The Greatest Show on Earth" up-close during a private, pre-show performance on the floor of The Philips Arena in Atlanta.

The children, selected by Mayor Mark Alarcon and Stockbridge City Council members, watched circus animals perform their tricks, mingled with acrobats and other performers, and put on makeup and costumes at Clown Alley. Many Thanks to Gas South, the Georgia Mayors Association, the Henry County Police Department and Stockbridge City Staff for making the circus event a huge success!



The former Stockbridge Florist & Gifts building at 4632 North Henry Boulevard was demolished on Feb. 12th. The City of Stockbridge purchased the property that abutted City Hall in December 2011 from co-owners Mark and Regina Meeks, who owned the shop for about 28 years prior to the sale. The City expects to utilize the property in its overall economic development plans for the corridor, including increasing parking at City Hall and the Municipal Court.



Stockbridge Announces \$100,000 in Economic Development Grants

The Stockbridge City Council is taking a new approach to city events by unveiling its Community Partnership Grant Program to allow local nonprofits to compete for a slice of \$100,000 to promote the city.

The goal of the program is to foster and fund activities, projects, special events, and programs that promote eligible tourism and cultural activities in Stockbridge.

Grant proposals should be for initiatives that have the potential to become significant and self-sustaining, for initiatives aligned with the economic development goals of the City, and that have the ability to recognize or demonstrate a return on investment, Alarcon said.

There is a May 31st application deadline and grant applications and more information are available from Stockbridge City Hall or in the document center on the City's website at cityofstockbridge.com/documents.aspx.

Those wishing to apply should call B.J. Mathis at 678.833.3348 to register for a mandatory grant overview meeting.

Stockbridge to Renovate Multiplex for Youth, Adult Services



The city recently purchased the former First State Bank's Operations and Conference Center on Burke Street with the intent of turning it into a multiplex facility for youth and adult services.

The 20,000+ square foot multiplex has a number of rooms available for various activities and will become a focal point for community activities in the city. The city used SPLOST money to purchase the complex for \$630,000, which is well below its appraised value of \$1.2 million.

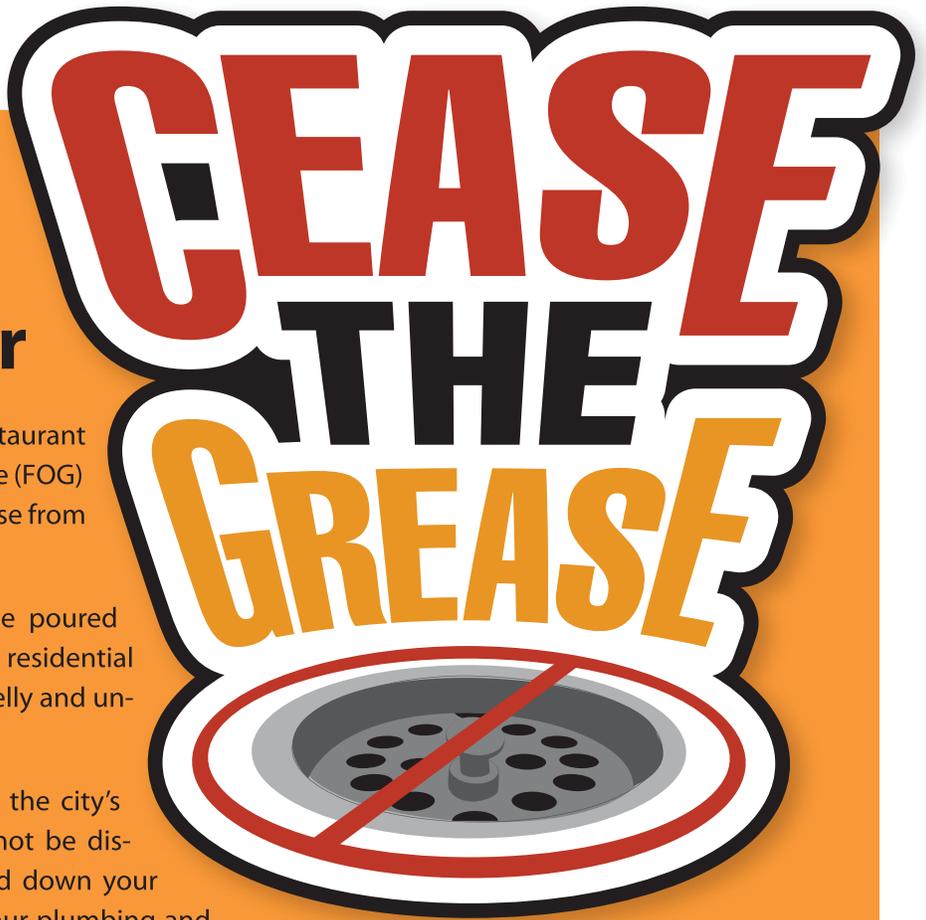
The City Council set aside \$350,000 in its current year budget to renovate the facility, which it expects to open for public use later this year.

PLEASE Don't Feed the Grease Monster

The inspection and monitoring of restaurant grease traps by the city's Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) program prevented 377,460 pounds of grease from reaching the city's sewer system last year.

However, did you know cooking grease poured down sink drains is the leading cause of residential sewer main clogs, resulting in unsightly, smelly and unhealthy sewage spills?

Cooking oil and grease are wastes that the city's sewer system cannot handle and should not be disposed of in your kitchen sink. FOG washed down your drain will end up sticking to the walls of your plumbing and clog the city's sewer lines – the same way bad cholesterol can clog heart arteries – causing sewage spills in your home or in nearby rivers and streams.



By following a few simple rules, you can help prevent costly repairs and sewer spills in the future:

- **Pour:** Allow FOG to cool. Pour any liquids into a sealable, disposable container and place in trash.
- **Scrape:** Use a spatula or a similar utensil to scrape any solid FOG and food particles into the trash.
- **Dry Wipe:** Use a paper towel to dry wipe any remaining FOG residue into the trash. Place used paper towels in trash.
- **Use a Sink Strainer:** Use a sink strainer to catch any food particles that may be left on dishware and place in trash.

New Code Enforcement Officer Patrolling Stockbridge Streets

There's a new enforcer in Stockbridge – Code Enforcement Officer, that is. Long-time staffer Melinda Davies is the city's new Code Enforcement Officer and has been scouring the streets and responding to complaint-based issues since taking over those duties from the county.

Code Enforcement helps empower residents to create and maintain safe, healthy, and attractive living and working environments. The aim is to help improve neighborhoods and eco-

nomie conditions so that the community is known as a good place to live, raise families, work, and retire in.

If you live in the City of Stockbridge and suspect a business or homeowner is in violation of city code, simply call 678.833.3307 or use the "Report a Problem" form on the left-hand rail of the city's website at www.cityofstockbridge.com.

A copy of the codes for Stockbridge and over 2,700 other jurisdictions is available online at www.municode.com.

Council Recognizes Stockbridge Elementary for Title I Progress Award

Congratulations to Stockbridge Elementary School on its recent accolades as a Title I high-progress reward school. The school will receive \$3,000 to give bonuses to teachers and staff or to purchase instructional supplies and services. Mayor Mark Alarcon and the Stockbridge City Council honored the school at Monday night's meeting with a proclamation. Accepting on behalf of the school were Principal Bonita Fluker, Assistant Principal Soraia Santos-Felgenhauer, and Third-Grade Teacher LaSynge Guyton. The Title I recognition is reserved for the Top 10 percent of Title I schools in Georgia that make the most progress in improving students' performance on the statewide assessments. The Mayor and Council proclaimed that the month of April 2013 be known as Stockbridge Elementary Title I Month in the City of Stockbridge.



Stockbridge City Council Honors Webbington's Peach Habanero Jam

Webbington's Peach Habanero Jam was a finalist in the 2013 Flavor of Georgia competition. Webbington's Peach Habanero Jam was one of three finalists for the State of Georgia. Mayor Mark Alarcon and the Stockbridge City Council honored Marc and Linda Widzowski, owners of Webbington's, LLC, with a proclamation at the April 8, 2013 City Council meeting. The Mayor and Council proclaimed that April 8, 2013 be known as Webbington's Day in the City of Stockbridge. Check them out at www.webbingtons.com.



Advertising Signs in the Roadway Are Illegal and Harmful

It is illegal under state and local law to place signs in the right-of-way of roads in the City of Stockbridge. The signs will be removed and the offenders prosecuted. These signs pose a safety problem for drivers and pedestrians. 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. Please report any violations to Code Enforcement at 678.833.3307 or by using the "Report a Problem" form on the City's website at www.cityofstockbridge.com.



Stockbridge Awarded Grant to Overhaul Sign Ordinance

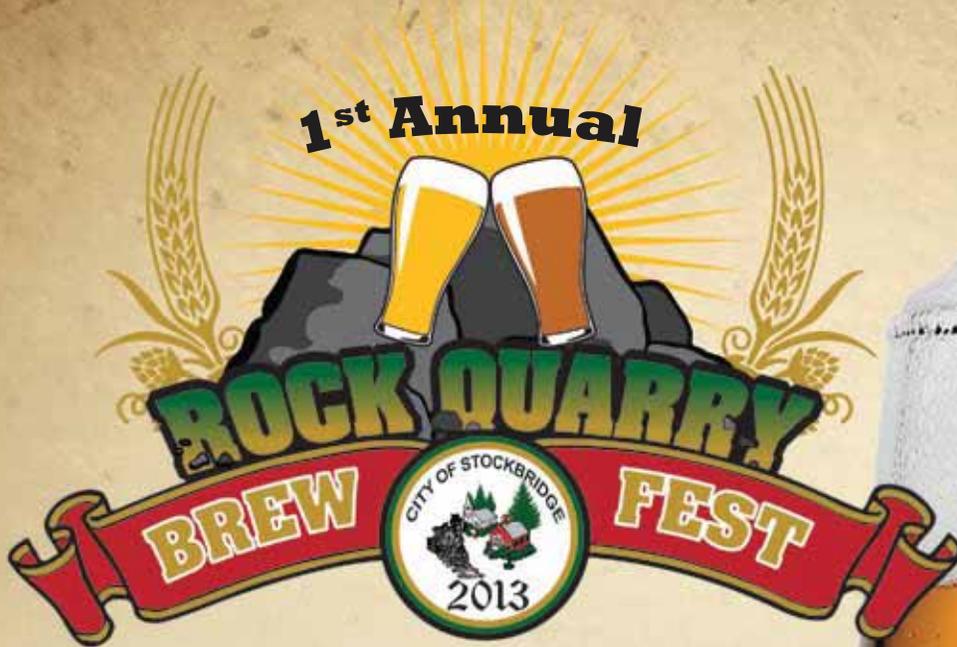
The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) has awarded the City of Stockbridge a technical assistance grant to review and rewrite its sign ordinance. Each year, through the Community Choices program, ARC provides cities and counties with the tools, resources and strategies needed to implement the unique plans they have for their communities.

"The application the City submitted touches on aspects of quality planning and development," said Stephen Causby, Principal Planner for ARC's Community Development Division.

A local stakeholder committee will assist with the development of a new, updated sign ordinance. Community members interested in participating in the process are encouraged to contact B.J. Mathis, the City's Community and Economic Development Officer, at 678.833.3348. Comments can also be submitted to emathis@cityofstockbridge-ga.gov. A copy of the current sign regulations is available in the document center on the City's website at www.cityofstockbridge.gov.



Community Choices



**Saturday, June 15
Noon to 6:00pm**

Los Portales Sports Bar and Grill parking lot
Located at 1745 Rock Quarry Road, Stockbridge, GA 30281

Directions from I-75:

Take exit 224 toward Eagles Landing Pkwy - 0.3 mi

Follow signs for Eagles Landing Pkwy and merge onto Eagles Landing Pkwy - 0.2 mi

Turn left onto Rock Quarry Rd. Destination will be on the left.



This event is designed to promote the local businesses in the City of Stockbridge. Participating will be many local businesses offering great food, ranging from Bar-B-Q, Mexican, Deli, Cuban and others. Two live cover bands will be playing all of our favorite music. Security will be provided by off-duty, uniformed Henry County police officers.



**Scan with Your
Smart-Phone for
Complete Details!**

**For more information,
Call 770-507-5998**

CRAFT BEER

GREAT FOOD

LIVE MUSIC

**\$10
Admission**

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:



www.barleyvine.com



www.losportalesmexican.com

*Life's a story...
Start yours here.*



Merle Manders
event center
Meetings & Events

Life is made up in moments in time. These moments weave the stories we tell about our lives. From new beginnings of weddings and receptions to making connections with family and business partners, the Merle Manders Center understands the importance of how just one single meeting or event can change your life. Let us help you create those memories and start a new story here.

MMCCevents.com |



111 Davis Rd. Stockbridge, GA 30281 | 770.389.5982