



# City of Stockbridge

## CITY NEWS LINK

### Mayor's Message

#### Great Things Are Happening In Stockbridge!

As I proclaimed in my February 9 State of the City address, great things are happening in Stockbridge – and we can all play a part! There are projects taking place that will position the City for future business and growth, however, I want to share with you a few of the many activities that are taking place that have a positive impact on the lives of our residents.

Families of children with special needs are being lifted up. Not only do we pray God's blessing on these people who struggle daily with the needs of their precious child, we are taking steps to see how we can help. Councilwoman Regina Lewis Ward holds this cause dear to her heart and has held a "Miracle Breakfast" in an effort to bring together members of these families for the purpose of providing them with knowledge concerning resources and to identify ways to provide assistance. I was privileged to take 19 families of children with special needs to



the Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus on February 13 and to see the entire family enjoy an exciting outing. I saw tears in a mother's eyes as she expressed how much it meant to her to be able to do something as a family unit, explaining that they seldom get to go out together. I am thankful for what I gained and am proud to be a part of making it a special experience for these special people.

The City also took the opportunity to honor former Mayor Rudy Kelley proclaiming February 9 as Rudy Kelley Day in Stockbridge. Mayor Kelley led the city and managed its finances in an outstanding manner for over 31 years with the support of Ted Strickland, City Manager, Merle Manders, City Clerk and many others. Numerous county and city leaders, business people and residents attended a reception to honor Mayor Kelley and to see his portrait hung in the lobby of the building that bears his name, the Rudy Kelley Municipal Building.

Neighborly love is not only alive and well in Stockbridge, but abundant as people from neighboring cities and non-profit organizations joined with The Fuller Center, the City of Stockbridge and numerous businesses and individual volunteers to provide livable housing for a Stockbridge family in need. The "Rosenwald Project" (named for its street address), afforded an opportunity for several of us to donate time, money, goods and

*Continued on page 5*

## Stockbridge City Hall

4640 North Henry Blvd.

Stockbridge, Ga. 30281

770-389-7900

[www.cityofstockbridge.com](http://www.cityofstockbridge.com)

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

### Mayor and Council

Tim L. Thompson, Mayor

Alphonso Thomas, Mayor Pro Tem

Robin Buschman, Councilwoman

Anthony Ford, Councilman

LaKeisha Gantt, Esq., Councilwoman

Regina Lewis Ward, Councilwoman

### Administration

Michael Harris, City Manager

Anita Gunnoe, Clerk of Court

Dale Hall, Admin & Community Svcs Director

Vanessa Holiday, City Clerk

Diane Ide, Exec Asst to the City Manager/Editor

Linda Nabers, Treasurer

Kevin Walter, Public Works Director

### 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](http://www.cityofstockbridge.com).

**March 17 6:30 pm**

Social Mixer for Non-Profit Organizations

**April 10 12:00 pm**

Main Street Advisory Board Meeting

**March 25 6:00 pm**

Finance Committee Meeting

**May 1 10:00 am**

Public Safety Committee Meeting

**March 31 6:00 pm**

City Council Work Session

**May 1 12:00 pm**

Main Street Advisory Board Meeting

**April 3 10:00 am**

Public Safety Committee Meeting

**May 2**

Don't Trash Stockbridge Day Event

## HAVE YOU SIGNED UP?

### City Hall E-Notifications:

Stay informed with E-Notifications at [www.cityofstockbridge.com/notify.aspx](http://www.cityofstockbridge.com/notify.aspx)

### FACEBOOK



City of Stockbridge Facebook wants you to be a fan!

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

## 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](http://www.cityofstockbridge.com/SeeClickFix)

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## Citizens Academy Notice

**Have You Ever Wondered How the City is Run? If So, You Have the Opportunity to Learn as Stockbridge Launches a New Citizens Academy Program**

The Stockbridge City Council voted unanimously to establish a program to familiarize citizens with City government as proposed by Councilwoman Regina Lewis Ward. Plans are to hold eight weekly sessions, each covering a different segment of City operations. This

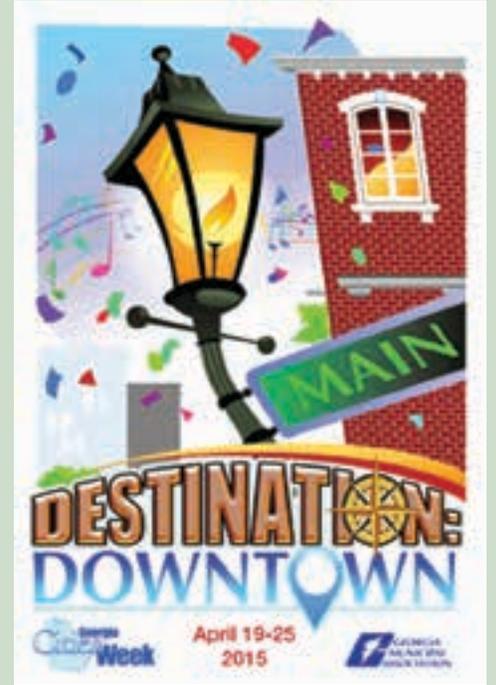
new program is tentatively scheduled to begin in June. Stay tuned to the City's website and/or Facebook page for more information and to register for a seat. Classes will likely be limited to 20 participants.

## Bridgeview Ribbon Cutting



On November 24, 2014 the City of Stockbridge Main Street Program hosted its first ribbon cutting to celebrate the opening of Bridgeview Country Cooking. This restaurant

is on the site of the former Phil's Country Cooking and continues the legacy of providing great southern cooking at this historic downtown location.



## Destination Downtown

For the week of April 19 - 25, cities across the State will celebrate Georgia Cities Week. This year's theme, Destination Downtown, encourages citizens to explore and enjoy their own downtown's commercial district for shopping, dining and entertainment.

The City of Stockbridge will kick off the week with special tours of City Hall and will host another Stockbridge Stories event that will highlight iconic women who have made their mark on Stockbridge throughout its history. This informative session will be held on Tuesday, April 21st at 6:00 p.m. at the Merle Manders Conference Center at 111 Davis Road in Historic Downtown Stockbridge.

*A complete listing of Stockbridge Georgia Cities Week activities will be posted on the City's website after April 1st.*

# Employee Updates

The following employees are celebrating milestone anniversaries with the City of Stockbridge:



Chris Swanson  
5 years



Jeff Greenway  
5 years

## Congratulations to:



**Stockbridge Mayor Pro Tem Alphonso Thomas** received the prestigious Certificate of Excellence from the Georgia Municipal Training Institute at the Georgia Municipal Association's (GMA) Annual Mayors' Day Conference in Atlanta on January 25, 2015.



**Councilman Anthony Ford** received the prestigious Certificate of Recognition from the Georgia Municipal Training Institute at the Georgia Municipal Association's (GMA) Annual Mayors' Day Conference in Atlanta on January 25, 2015.



**Steven Hammond** achieved Level 1-A Recertification for Wastewater/Stormwater.

## We Welcome the following new City Staff Members:

**Vanessa Holiday, City Clerk**

**Rashonda Favors, Lead Accountant**



## The City of Stockbridge is having a SURPLUS AUCTION

In the late Spring/early Summer timeframe, the City is planning a live auction of surplus material and we would like all interested citizens and businesses to come for a day of bidding and refreshments and leave with all of our unused, aged, and excess material and equipment! The auction will be a real-time bidding event and we will have a wide variety of items including:



- 2001 International 56,000 LB. GVWR Wastewater Pump Truck with 110,000 miles (see left photo)
- New Snapper 2005 lawn mowers
- 1850KW Honda portable generator, 5 years old works well
- 1991 GMC Cusholet Trash Hauler

- 1992 Ford E350 Truck
- 1999 Chevrolet 3500CR Truck
- Many miscellaneous tools
- Computers, computer screens, associated electronics
- Wide variety of used office furniture
- New Bronze water meters no longer used by the City
- Pipe Fittings and Pipe
- Many more items

By mid-April, the City expects to publish the date of the auction on its website, along with more detailed listing of items to be sold. **Please check the website for further details (cityofstockbridge.com).**



Anita Gunnoe



Kim Moye

**Anita Gunnoe** (first place) and **Kim Moye** (second place) took top honors in a recent Health & Wellness exercise challenge that promoted healthier lifestyles among city staff members. Each was presented a desk plaque and a \$50 gift card for their efforts and example. Plans are in progress for a team walking challenge for City staff that will begin in April.

## Mayor's Message Continued



services to take a home in dire need of repair and within three weeks return its occupants to a "reveal" that astounded them – all made possible by the interest and care of concerned local



New Interior

people.

City government is not just about providing services such as garbage pick-up and water and sewer, it's also about ensuring a better quality of life for our residents. Thanks

for all you do to help

fellow neighbors and residents of Stockbridge. I encourage you to share your thoughts and ideas on how to make life better for our citizens by sending me an email at [tthompson@cityofstockbridge-ga.gov](mailto:tthompson@cityofstockbridge-ga.gov).

Sincerely,



**Tim L. Thompson**  
Mayor of the City of  
Stockbridge



## F.O.G.

By Wayne Robinson

F.O.G. stands for Fats, Oils and Grease, which aren't just bad for your arteries, they're bad for our sewers too. F.O.G often is the result of meat fats, lard, cooking oil, butter/margarine, food scraps, baking goods, and dairy products that collect.

Grease is washed down the sink into the sewer system. Grease sticks to the inside of sewer pipes both inside your property and in the streets. Over time it builds up and can block the entire line. The results can cause raw sewage to overflow into your home and/or your neighbor's home. This can cause an expensive and unpleasant clean-up that must be paid for by the homeowner. When main sewer lines become clogged, it can cause raw sewage to overflow into our parks, yards, and streets as well.

Grease also arises from poorly maintained grease traps in restaurants and other businesses. The City of Stockbridge has a F.O.G Program that regulates restaurants on their system. We not only inspect restaurants but also the companies that pump these traps to make sure they properly dispose of the grease and to ensure the grease traps are functioning properly to protect our sewer system. *The City of Stockbridge's F.O.G Program has won an Outstanding F.O.G Program award from the Georgia F.O.G Alliance for the*



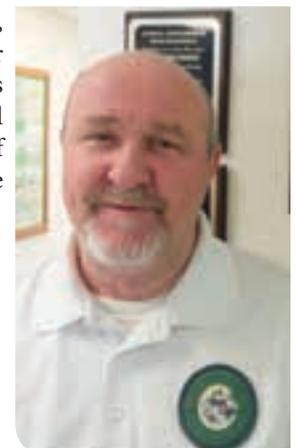
*past two years for our proactive approach to handling F.O.G.*

There are several ways that our residents can help. First, never pour grease down the drain or into the toilet. Put grease and food scraps into the trash for disposal. Use sink strainers to help catch food scraps, and lastly, talk with friends and neighbors about the importance of helping to keep grease out of our sewer system.

If you own a business, please make it a part of your training program to educate employees about the effect F.O.G has on internal pipes as well as our sewer system. If you have questions or need more information, contact:

**Wayne Robinson,**  
*City of Stockbridge FOG Inspector*

**Office: 770-474-1232 or  
Cell: 404-226-1761**



# Stockbridge is a Main Street City!



The City of Stockbridge received its Main Street designation at the 2015 Georgia Main Street Luncheon held in Atlanta on January 26, 2015. This honor was conferred by the Office of Downtown Development to City officials and Main Street Advisory Board members.

This designation reflects that the City satisfied the requirements and performance standards set forth by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Office of Downtown Development – in only six months!

The Stockbridge Main Street Program plays a part in the national movement that has spanned three decades and taken root in more than 2,000 communities. In becoming a Georgia Main Street entity, the City of Stockbridge is committing to encouraging economic development, entrepreneurship, and the revitalization of the historic commercial district to create a distinctive, pedestrian-friendly environment, that stresses personal service, local business ownership and a strong sense of community.



*Councilwoman Regina Lewis Ward (right) held a "Miracle Breakfast" in late 2014 for parents of children with special needs to provide support and to suggest resources and assistance. Several children enjoyed participating in the event, singing the National Anthem and performing a dance routine.*



*Stockbridge Mayor Pro Tem Alphonso Thomas co-hosted a standing-room-only 4th Annual Stockbridge Community African-American Heritage Celebration held at the Red Oak United Methodist Church in Stockbridge on February 28. The event provided an opportunity to recognize the efforts of many who make significant contributions to the people of Stockbridge.*



Come make *Memories* with us!

111 Davis Road  
Stockbridge, GA 30281

[www.MMCCEvents.com](http://www.MMCCEvents.com)  
(770) 389-5982

# The City of Stockbridge Upgrades Its Bio-Solids Program



The City started its Bio-Solids Program in March 2003 with the installation of a \$1 million digester that produces Class B Bio-Solids that are applied to farmlands in a liquid form. Because the City places a high priority on the environment and cost savings, in 2014 the City upgraded its Bio-Solids program with the installation and purchase of a new Belt Filter Press and Spreader Truck at a cost of \$2 million.

The Belt Press uses gravity and pressure to remove water from the residuals, producing a dry cake that is hauled by the spreader truck to licensed farmland sites where it is spread and used as fertilizer. By reducing the amount of liquid hauled, the City expects to reduce hauling expenses by as much as 75%.

Weather and timing play a key factor in spreading the liquid at farmland sites. Now, however, the Bio-solids can be moved at any time, regardless of weather, either to a farm or a landfill.

These changes are making significant improvements in the process of moving the by-products of our wastewater treatment process and will result in savings in reduced transportation costs.

For more information, contact Brad Holtsinger, Sewer Superintendent, at 770-474-1232.

Bio-Solids are nutrient rich organic materials resulting from the treatment of domestic sewage in the City's wastewater treatment facility. When treated and processed, these bio-solids, which are also called residuals, can be recycled and applied to farmland as fertilizer to improve and maintain productive soils and stimulate growth.

## Joint Townhall Meetings Are Taking Place In Stockbridge



*Stockbridge officials at Jan 31 Townhall*

### With Commissioner Bruce Holmes and the City of Stockbridge

Monthly Town Hall Meetings are taking place at the Merle Manders Conference Center that feature both District V Commissioner Bruce Holmes and City of Stockbridge officials. On January 31st the topic focused on "Doing Business in Stockbridge," with City Manager Michael Harris and City Treasurer, Linda Nabers, elaborating on doing business in Stockbridge and how to procure business with the City.

A second Town Hall was held on February 21st with the subject centering on "Economic Development in Stockbridge." Stockbridge Councilman Alphonso Thomas and Administration and Community Services Director, Dale Hall, discussed economic opportunities and development taking place in the City, while Charlie Moseley, newly appointed Director of the Henry County Economic Development Authority, presented his vision and ideas for economic development throughout the County. At this Townhall, special guest speaker and County Manager, Jim Walker, also gave a presentation on the State of the County. The next Town Hall meeting is March 28. The focus will be on legislative updates.

Check the City of Stockbridge website ([cityofstockbridge.com](http://cityofstockbridge.com)) and/or the City's Facebook page for dates and times for upcoming Townhall meetings.

**TOWN HALL MEETING**  
Hosted by District 5 Commissioner Bruce Holmes  
March 28th at 9am at the Merle Manders Conference Center  
111 Davis Rd. in Stockbridge  
**FOCUS WILL BE ON A LEGISLATIVE UPDATE  
FROM STATE OFFICIALS**  
Special guest speakers include Georgia State Rep. Sandra Scott  
and Rep. Brian Strickland  
who will update citizens on  
developments at the Capitol.

The poster features four photos of the speakers: Sandra Scott, Brian Strickland, and two other individuals. The background is a dark blue gradient with white and yellow text.

# Holiday Sanitation Schedule for Good Friday Week

Good Friday Week- Friday, April 3rd, 2015  
(Holiday Observed)

- Monday - NO COMMERCIAL PICK-UP
- Tuesday route will be on Monday
- Wednesday route will be on Tuesday
- Thursday route will be on Wednesday
- Friday route will be on Thursday including COMMERCIAL PICK-UP



No yard debris, chipper, metal or special pick-up service will be provided this week

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[admissions@landmark-cs.org](mailto:admissions@landmark-cs.org)

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777 Robinson Road, Peachtree City, GA 30269  
770-306-0647, K4 – 5th grade.

#### **Fairburn Campus**

50 SE Broad Street, Fairburn, GA 30213, 770-306-0647  
K4 – 12th grade.

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