



Around the Well

March 2019

Vol 10 No 3

City Updates

FY2020 Budget Calendar

The City budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year will be presented during the City Council work session on April 16 and will be made available on the City web site. Public comment on the proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) will be received at the April 16 council meeting. Public comment on the proposed budget document will be received at the May 21 council meeting. There will also be a public hearing opportunity at the June 18 council meeting.

Upcoming Events

Downtown Draw Down through the Decades

Friday, March 15, 6:30 pm - midnight
Standridge Color Conference Center

Lions & the Lion-Hearted Golf Tournament

Friday, March 29, 11:00 am
The Creek at Hard Labor Golf Course

Coffee with the City Manager

Wednesday, April 3, 8-9 am
City Hall Conference Room

Citizen Police Academy

Wednesday, April 10
Community Room

Taste of Social Circle

Friday, April 12
Downtown

To suggest a news topic, an update topic or to submit news items of community interest, please email aroundthewell@socialcirclega.com

Important Message about Natural Gas Safety ⚡ Natural gas, America's most popular home heating fuel, is increasingly popular for use by homeowners, schools, businesses, factories and electric power-generation plants because it is efficient, clean, reliable and a relative bargain compared to alternative energy sources. In our community, City of Social Circle provides natural gas to more than 1100 customers through a network of underground distribution lines. Main gas lines, typically 2-inch in diameter, branch into household service lines which are typically half-inch to three-quarter-inch in diameter and buried 12- to 18-inches below the surface.

To protect you and others in the community; federal and state government, along with your utility provider have made your safety a high priority. Any time you dig or move earth in any way, you are required to "Call Before You Dig" 48 hours before beginning any digging. When you call 811, they will contact utility owners who will locate all buried utility lines on your property, so you can safely dig and prevent a potentially hazardous condition. Failure to use the 811 system is a known cause of pipeline accidents. Calling before you dig can prevent a costly or even deadly mistake. For more information, see www.Georgia811.com, socialcirclega.gov or call City Hall at 770-464-2380.

Natural gas is a colorless, odorless gas. A chemical that smells like rotten eggs is added to help detect a possible leak. Some of the signs of a gas leak include seeing bubbling water, hearing a hissing or blowing sound from a pipeline or appliance, dead or discolored vegetation in an otherwise green area, dirt or dust blowing from the ground, or the smell of rotten eggs. If you smell gas, or just think you might be smelling gas, leave the area immediately and call your local gas provider at 770-464-2380 or 911 from a neighboring home or business. Never turn on or off switches or use a flashlight or phone in the presence of the gas smell, because an electric spark could ignite the gas, causing an explosion. Do your part to familiarize yourself and your family with these natural gas safety tips and continue to enjoy the value, comfort and benefits of America's cleanest, most efficient energy source! This message is brought to you by City of Social Circle as a public service. To learn more about our natural gas service and the benefits of natural gas, call 678-758-4256.

Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH) FAQ ⚡

What is GICH? A program to assist Cities to use a grassroots strategic approach to meet their housing needs.

Who created the GICH program? The Georgia Department of Community Affairs, the Georgia Municipal Association, and the University of Georgia. It is funded primarily by Georgia Power.

What will the Social Circle GICH steering committee be doing in the next 6 months?

1. Public Education about opportunities available to homeowners under the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing program.
2. Neighborhood Cleanups by volunteers in partnership with residents to beautify areas, hear resident concerns, distribute smoke alarms, and introduce housing improvement resources.
3. Downtown Old Mill public input to build a community consensus on the type of development and rehabilitation desired and determine if this is an appropriate area for downtown housing. Creation of a vision and concept plan can be used to attract private investment on this project.
4. Plan a Social Circle recreation/community center with Walton County to be constructed on Fairplay Road within the next 6 years (County SPLOST project).

How Can I Get Involved in the Social Circle GICH meetings, discussions and recommendations?

Attend a GICH stakeholder meeting, held at 10 am, the second Tuesday of each month at the Social Circle City School Board Administration Building, Conference Room. This is a grass roots stakeholder group, all are welcome.

Who do I contact for More Information or to Get Involved? Barbara Schlageter, Assistant Clerk at 770-464-6905 Or Adele Schirmer, City Manager at 770-464-6901.

Cherokee Road Bridge Construction Started ⚡ Demolition on the bridge on South Cherokee Rd at the railroad tracks started on February 19. S Cherokee will be closed at the bridge during the estimated eight months of construction. GDOT and Law Enforcement urge everyone to be patient and follow detour and traffic signs. Downtown businesses are open!

(continued)

Social Circle Designated as Tree City USA for 17th Year 🌳 Our Arbor Day celebration, sponsored by the Social Circle Garden Clubs, was held at Gunter Hall on February 21. Mayor Hal Dally read the Arbor Day proclamation. We appreciate the dedication of the Garden Clubs, the volunteers who serve on the Tree Board, and residents who care for our urban forest, and beautify the City with their horticulture expertise.

Coming Soon! 🌳 We are adding a “Keep the Change” option to your monthly utility bill. The money will go to the Fire Department’s Secret Santa fund, and the Back to School Bash to purchase school supplies for Social Circle Students. Look for details in next month’s *Around the Well* newsletter.

Police Department News

Spring Citizen Police Academy Registration Open 🌳 The Social Circle Police Department will hold their next Citizen Police Academy (CPA) starting April 10. The CPA class will meet one evening a week for five weeks and on one Saturday. This course gives citizens a hands-on look at the daily activities of our police officers. Applicants are required to be twenty-one (21) years of age and must provide their own transportation to and from training. Acceptance into the program is subject to review of the applicant’s background, including a criminal history inquiry. There is no charge for the course. For more information please contact Lt. Randy Downs at 770-464-2366 or rdowns@socialcirclega.com.

Citizen Firearm Safety Course 🌳 The next Citizen Firearm class is scheduled for Saturday, May 4. This class is designed for those individuals that want to become familiar with how to properly use a firearm. This course will include classroom and range instruction and provides the legal and lawful explanation of the use of force. To register, visit socialcirclega.gov/services/police/citizen-firearm-class/ or call Lt. Randy Downs at 770-464-2366 or e-mail at rdowns@socialcirclega.com.

Community Calendar

4th Annual Taste of Social Circle 🌳 Join us Friday, April 12 from 6-10 pm Downtown for a night of good food, family fun, music and more. For more information about participating, donating, or volunteering, please contact mainstreet@socialcirclega.com or 770-464-1866.

Coffee with the City Manager and HPC, May 1 🌳 Stop by City Hall on Wednesday, May 1 any time between 8 am - 9 am, to have refreshments with the City Manager and members of HPC in celebration of Historic Preservation month. Information will be available on the City’s history and historic district preservation guidelines.

School News

Coffee and Conversation 🌳 Please join Social Circle Elementary School Administrators and staff for coffee and conversation on Friday, March 15, 2019 from 8:30am-9:30am. We will meet in the Professional Learning Room. During this time, we will discuss Georgia Milestones testing and some important school events. We would appreciate input from our parents when planning the 2019-2020 school year. Please come out and share a cup of coffee with us. We hope to see you there! Your input matters.

Title I Request for Input 🌳 Its that time of year again and we need all of our parents to chime in on our 2019-2020 Title 1 documents for the upcoming school year! We need feedback on our School Improvement Plan, Student, Teacher, Parent compact and Family Engagement Plan. We will host numerous opportunities for parents to come and give their ideas. One on one meetings are also available by appointment. All Title 1 documents are listed on our school website. If you need paper copies, we will be happy to provide them. Please contact Yolondias.Colquitt@socialcircleschools.org for additional information.

City Calendar

Agendas for ALL meetings, regular and called, available on the city website socialcirclega.gov and at City Hall.

March 12	8:00 am	Main Street Commission Board (2nd Tue each month)	Church at the Grove
March 12	10:00 am	Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (2nd Tue each month)	BOE Conf Rm
March 12	6:00 pm	Historic Preservation Commission (2nd Tue each month)	Community Room
March 19	5:30 pm	Mayor and Council Work Session (3rd Tue each month) [Rescheduled]	Community Room
March 19	6:30 pm	Mayor and Council Regular Meeting (3rd Tue each month) [Rescheduled]	Comm Room
March 20	1:00 pm	Municipal Court (3rd Wednesday)	Community Room
March 25	6:00 pm	Planning/Corridor Commission (4th Mon each month)	Community Room
March 28	6:00 pm	Tree Board (4th Thu each month)	Community Room
April 11	10:00 am	Downtown Development Authority (2nd Thu bi-monthly)	City Hall Conf Rm
April 9	6:00 pm	Social Circle Development Authority (2nd Tues in Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct)	City Hall Conf Rm
City Hall will be closed: Friday, Apr 19, Monday, May 27, Thursday, July 4, Monday, Sept 2, Thursday, Nov 28, Friday, Nov 29, Tuesday, Dec 24, and Wednesday, Dec 25, 2019.			

Library Calendar of Events

Early Bird Book Club

Tuesday, March 26 at 10:30 a.m.

Location: Call for directions

Tales for Tots

Thursday, March 28th at 10:30 a.m.

Location: Church at the Grove

Library Hours

MWF 9 a.m.– 6 p.m.

Tu & Th 9 a.m.– 7 p.m.

Sat 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sun 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Like us on Facebook to keep up with all of the activities going on at your library!

<https://www.facebook.com/WHStantonMemorialLibrary>

For more info call (770) 464-2444

Find us at our temporary location:
216 Village Circle
behind the Blue Willow Inn Restaurant

Utility and Tax Payment Options

In-person at City Hall

Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Phone

1-877-840-5562

Online

socialcirclega.gov/payment-options/

Drive-thru

March 22, 8:30 am - noon, 1 - 4 pm

Night Deposit

available 24/7. **Do not deposit cash.**

Mayor Hal Dally
770-317-1638 hdally@socialcirclega.com

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District 4 Steve Shelton
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City Manager Adele Schirmer
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Police Chief Tyrone Oliver
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Fire Chief Ken Zaydel
770-464-0621 firechief@socialcirclega.com

Public Works Director Barry Parsons
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City of Social Circle

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