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Madeline Burgess, Editor Submit news items of community interest to aroundthewell@socialcirclega.com



Volume 8 Issue 2

FEBRUARY 2017

## CITY HALL NEWS

Golf Cart Ordinance Amended: On January 17, 2017, the Social Circle City Council adopted the amended colf cart ordinance. This ordinance allows motorized carts, aka golf carts, to be operated on city streets with speed limits not to exceed 35 mph. A complete copy of this ordinance can be found on the City of Social Circle website. If you own a golf cart and wish to operate it on public roadways, the golf cart must be registered with the City and must meet all safety requirements defined in the ordinance. Registration packets can be picked up at the police department Monday- Friday between 8:30 am and 5:00 pm. If you have any guestions, please call the Police Department at 770-464-2366. A Social Circle Comprehensive Plan Coming Soon! The City is seeking public input on a Vision for the future of the City. Through public participation, goals and a community work plan will be developed that support that vision. A workshop focusing on Downtown will be held at Magnolia Manor on February 9 at 11:00 am. A workshop focusing on the Historic District & Historic Resources will be held at Gunter Hall on February 13 at 6:00 p.m. A workshop to review the draft plan and future land use will be held at the Community Room on February 27 at 6:00 p.m. For more information, contact Adele Schirmer, City Manager at 770-464-6901 or see our web site at socialcirclega.gov/social-circle-vision-2040/. ¤ Social Circle Ranked as 25th Safest City in Georgia: Social Circle was ranked by Safewise, a pioneer in unbiased home security reviews, as the 25th safest city in Georgia. Their 2017 report of The 50 Safest Cities in Georgia, uses FBI crime report statistics from 2015 and population data to calculate the number of violent crimes and property crimes per 1,000 residents. The ranking makes Social Circle the safest city in Walton County as the only other city in Walton County that appears on the list is Loganville, with a ranking of 32. In 2016 Social Circle was ranked as the 36th safest city in Georgia. a Help Keep Storm Drains Clear: During heavy rain events, ditches and storm drains become full, and sometimes will cause localized flooding of roads and vards. We are in the process of improving some problem areas by increasing pipe size and removing built up sediment in ditches. However, citizens can help by keeping their ditch lines and driveway culverts clear of debris. A special note: Please keep away from culverts or storm drains especially during heavy rain events. Water is a powerful force and can easily sweep anyone off their feet, especially a small child. x Keep Sewer Clean-out Covers In Place: It is important for every residence in the city to ensure that the cover on their sewer clean-out is in place. This keeps rain from entering the sanitary sewer system and causing unnecessary costs related to the treatment of rain water. For more information, please call City Hall (770-464-2380). x Drought Response Continues: Although the recent rains have put a significant dent in the current drought by filling our reservoirs and streams, the State of Georgia has not issued an official update to the current drought conditions. We will remain in Level II Drought Response. Please call City Hall (770-464-2380) or see our website (http://socialcirclega.gov/notices/level-2-drought-response/) for more information.

**PUBLIC SAFETY NEWS** - The Fire Department thanks citizens of Social Circle for their generous donations to the tornado victims in south Georgia. They were able to take two truck's worth of supplies to Albany, Georgia. Reminder— Calls for Service: The Social Circle Police Department would like to remind you that calls for service are not dispatched through the Police Department's main line. Walton County 911 is our dispatch provider. If you need an officer to respond to any emergency situation, call 911 immediately. For non-emergencies call Walton County Dispatch at 770-464-0310. However, you are encouraged to call the Police Department's main line (770-464-2366) during normal business hours for guestions or concerns relating to police matters, obtaining copies of reports, and all other administrative matters, etc. Volunteer Firefighters Sought: Are you interested in helping your community? The Social Circle Fire Department is looking for volunteer firefighters. The department offers free training, pay per call, and enrolment in Ga. Firefighters Pension Fund. If you're interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter there will be an organizational meeting on March 13, 2017 at 7 pm at the fire station located at 165 East Hightower Rd. Volunteer Firefighter Applications can be found on our website at socialcirclega.gov/services/fire/. For more information, contact the Chief Ken Zaydel at 770-464-0621. Have Coffee with a Cop: The Social Circle Police Department will be hosting a Coffee with a Cop each month to give citizens a chance to meet the officers of the Social Circle Police Department. There will be no formal agenda for the meetings, so drop in when you can to discuss concerns, ask questions and get to know your police officers. The next Coffee with a Cop will be held March 8 at Butcher Block 7:00 am - 9:00 am. Visit our website (http://socialcirclega.gov/services/police/) or call the Police Department (770-464-2366.) for more information.

The John Clarke Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) in Social Circle will celebrate its 100th birthday on April 8 at Magnolia Manor so please "save the date"!! Our local Chapter is now raising funds for a flag pole at our City Hall to commemorate their 100 year anniversary. Your tax deductible donation would be a wonderful way to express your love of our country and all the freedoms we enjoy. Send your checks made payable to "John Clarke Chapter DAR" to Mary Lynne Reinagel at 102 Gabriel Way, Social Circle, GA 30025.

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

Mar 13	7:00 pm	Historic Preservation Commission (second Mon each month)	Community Room
Mar 14	TBD	Main Street Board (second Tues each month)	Welcome Center
Apr 11	8:30 am	Social Circle Development Authority (second Tue in Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct)	City Hall Conference Room
Mar 9	10:00 am	Downtown Development Authority (second Thu each month)	City Hall Conference Room
Mar 21	5:30 pm	Mayor and Council Work Session (third Tue each month)	Community Room
Mar 21	6:30 pm	Mayor and Council Regular Meeting (third Tue each month)	Community Room
Mar 15	1:00 pm	Municipal Court (third Wed each month)	Community Room
Mar 27	6:00 pm	Planning/Corridor Commission (fourth Mon each month)	Community Room
Mar 23	6:00 pm	Tree Board (fourth Thursday each month)	Community Room

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LIBRARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS - For more info cal Tales for Tots: Tuesdays, February 7 & 21; Mar Story Time with Renee Hanna: Wednesdays, F Early Bird Book Club: Tuesday, February 28 at For more information about our free legal form dat Like us on Facebook! Mathematical https://www.facebook.com	ch 7 and 21 at 10 a.m. ebruary 8 & March 8 at 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. abases: <u>https://www.uncleremus.org/stanton</u>	LIBRARY MWF Tu & Th Sat Sun	7 <b>HOURS</b> 9 a.m.– 6 p.m. 9 a.m.– 7 p.m. 10 a.m.– 4 p.m 2 p.m.– 6 p.m	K.

**HELP THE LIBRARY GROW:** Our town is quickly outgrowing our library and they are working on plans to expand, but they need your help. A State Capital Outlay Grant is needed to complete funding for the project. You can help by sending emails or letters of support to our Georgia House Representative Bruce Williamson (<u>bruce.williamson@house.ga.gov</u>) - PO Box 430 Monroe GA 30655 or Georgia Senator Burt Jones (<u>burt.jones@senate.ga.gov</u>) - 407 E Second Street Jackson, GA 30233.

**CURTIS HUDSON RECOGNIZED AS SOCIAL CIRCLE EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR:** Curtis Hudson, who has worked for the city for over 40 years, was selected by the Department Heads as the employee who has exhibited the values of the City, the employee who has really gone above and beyond the call of duty in the prior year and has done so with a great attitude, with teamwork, with hard work, with caring and attention to detail, and by giving his best effort to the public we serve. Curtis has worked in all sections of public works, the water system, sewer system, streets and drainage, gas system and property maintenance. He has even served as a volunteer fireman in years past.

## SCHOOL NEWS:

- GO SOCIAL CIRCLE CITY SCHOOLS! The SCCS has earned accreditation by AdvancED Accreditation Commission with high rankings in all subject areas. The accreditation is good for five years. AdvancED is a non-profit, non-partisan organization which conducts rigorous, on-site external reviews of Pre-K-12 schools and school systems to ensure that all learners realize their full potential.
- GO REDSKINS! Congratulations to the Social Circle High School Varsity Precision Rifle Team. In January they held their first rifle match in the Middle School gymnasium and set a team record score of 1142, defeating Fayette County High School with a score of 1070. 
  During the same match Team Captain Jarrett Dooley qualified as a State contender and will compete at the United States Army Marksmanship Unit in April along with teammates Ashley Clegg and David Brand. On January 26 our Social Circle Redskin varsity rifle team defeated the "previously undefeated" Luella High School 1,137 to 1,111. Our Redskin rifles are now ranked second in Area 5. Congratulations to Dane Coleman for a personal best score of 278.
  Bill Peters and the Walton County 4-H rifle team received an invitation to train in the Social Circle Middle School gym which doubles as the "Home" range for the Social Circle Varsity Precision Rifle Team. Another great opportunity in the Circle to have young people network amongst themselves while mastering the art of riflery. Colonel Bruce Chick, U.S. Army (Ret.), Senior Army Instructor, JROTC

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- The Social Circle Garden Club will meet Thursday February 16, 2017 AT 10:00 am. We will be hosting the Mayor and the Tree Board to read the proclamation for Arbor Day. Also, Dempsey Law will give a slide presentation of his trip to Holland when all the spring bulbs were in bloom. Please join us for refreshments, fellowship and a very informative meeting. For more information call Edith Foreman, President 770-464-3399.
- Boy Scout Troop 64 is having a chicken stew, February 18, 2017 at Social Circle United Methodist Church from 5 to 7:30 pm. This is a fundraiser for our troop trip to Washington D C.
- ⇒ Gateways Garden Club, members of the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc., will meet February 22, 2017. The topic will be "Native plants and Bees in North Georgia" and the speaker will be member Linda Cobb. For more information please call Molly Kimler 770-464-3589. COME JOIN US!
- GIVE BLOOD at Social Circle Community Blood Drive, Monday, February 13, 2017, 1:00 to 6:00 p.m., First Baptist Church of Social Circle, Fellowship Hall, 195 N. Cherokee Rd. For appointment visit www.RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor socialcircle or call 1-800-Red-Cross. For additional details contact Terry Stults at terrystults@bellsouth.net.

► The drive-thru window at City Hall will be open on Feb 20 from 8:00—4:30.

770-317-1638

770-464-0997

770-885-9483

404-713-1279 678-410-7971

770 464-2380

770-464-2380

770-464-2366 770-464-0621

**COFFEE WITH THE CITY MANAGER** First Wednesday each month, 8 am - 9 am, no appointment necessary, City Hall front Conference Room. Feel free to stop in if you have an idea or concern about City business or just want to chat.

Mayor Hal Dally						
District 1 Scott Simpkins						
District 2 Tyson Jackson						
District 3 David Keener						
District 4 Steve Shelton						
Manager Adele Schirmer						
City Clerk Susan Roper						
Police Chief Tyrone Oliver						
Fire Chief Ken Zaydel						

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Many thanks to Madeline Burgess and Jackie Thomas for producing the Around the Well newsletter since its inception!