



Around the Well

May 2017

Vol 8 No 5

City Updates

Budget Presentation Schedule

The Recommended City Budget for FY 2017-18 will be presented at the May 16, 2017 Council Meeting at 6:30 pm, and a public hearing will be held for citizen comment. The Council will hold work sessions during June to review the budget. Opportunity for citizen comment are scheduled for June 13 at noon and 6:00 pm. Another opportunity and final action on the Budget is scheduled for the June 20, 2017 Council meeting at 6:30. The Recommended Budget will be available on line and at City Hall on May 16, 2017.

Backyard Chicken Ordinance

An ordinance will be considered at the May 16, 2017 Council meeting that will allow the keeping of chickens in residential districts. The proposed ordinance would allow up to 3 chickens on lots of at least 8700 square feet, up to 6 on lots of at least 15,000 sf, up to 9 chickens on lots of at least 25,000, and up to 12 chickens on lots of 1 acre or more.

Hydrant Flushing

The Social Circle Fire Department will begin flow testing fire hydrants starting Thursday April 20th. Testing will run through the end of May. Fire Crews will test between the hours of 8am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

The fire hydrant flow testing will affect streets in all areas of the city. During flow testing you may experience discolored water caused by the opening of the fire hydrants. If you experience discolored water you can clear it by opening a faucet and letting it run until the water clears.

Fire Safety Inspections

The Fire Department has begun a fire safety inspections program for commercial buildings. Business owners will receive a letter detailing the program in the upcoming weeks. Questions about this new program can be directed to Chief Ken Zaydel at 770-464-0621.

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

Leaf and Brush Collection Schedule ♻️ To clear the piles of brush, grass, and leaves that have accumulated due to recent weather and city equipment challenges the city will start the following brush and leaf pick up schedule immediately. The goal of this change is to increase the efficiency of the pickup and enable the entire scheduled area to be cleared of the pickup material on its scheduled day each week. The routes and days will not change; however, the crews will concentrate on brush or leaves only during each week:

5/1 - 5/5 - Leaves Only,
5/22 - 5/26 - Brush Only

5/8 - 5/12 - Brush only,
5/29 - 6/2 - Leaves Only

5/15 - 5/19 - Leaves only

If an area is not completed on a scheduled day, the crew will begin at the point they left off on the next scheduled day for that area. A new truck has been purchased to enable simultaneous pickups of leaves and brush in each scheduled area to resume approximately late May. Citizens can assist in the efficiency of the collection by assuring that brush is piled separately from leaves and grass, and that no trash is in the piles.

Burn Ban in Effect ♻️ A ban on outdoor burning begins May 1 and runs through Oct 30 in 54 Georgia counties, including Walton County. During the hot summer months, ground level ozone increases, which can negatively impact air quality and people's health. Burning yard and land clearing debris may produce smoke and particulate matter that are linked to lung and heart disease in humans. During this time the Ga. Forestry Commission will not issue any burn permits for hand piled brush, yard debris, or Air Curtain Destructors. For more information, visit GaTrees.org.

City Code Inspections ♻️ We appreciate every one sprucing up their properties for the Summer! One of the most important issues raised by our Social Circle residents is the appearance and condition of the neighborhoods and properties throughout the City. Educating our Citizens about the Code requirements for property maintenance is our first approach. If a resident needs help, we can suggest some volunteer or civic organizations. The USDA also has funding options for home repairs for qualified individuals. If you have a concern about a potential City Code violation, please contact Barbara Schlageter, Assistant City Clerk at (770) 464-6905, bschlageter@socialcirclega.com.

Siren Testing ♻️ The City will be conducting audible testing of the emergency response sirens at 10:00 am on the first Wednesday of every month. The alarms will sound and then announce that it is a test. The tests will not happen if there is possibility of bad weather to avoid confusion. The fire department will only activate the tornado sirens if an immediate threat exists to the City or South Walton County. Tornado warnings normally occur with little or no warning. If you hear the tornado sirens during a storm take shelter immediately. Citizens are also encouraged to sign up for the Everbridge Public Notification System on the Walton County Government website. (<https://member.everbridge.net/index/453003085611716#/login>) This system allows you to receive emergency warning messages via cell phone, email, and home phone.

Parking on Streets ♻️ The Police and Fire Department request that when residents park on the streets that they not park directly across from another vehicle or in such a way that would make it hard for large vehicles, like fire engines and ambulances, to drive through the neighborhood. If you notice cars parked inappropriately, please call the Police Department at (770) 464 - 2366.

Girl Scouts Little Library ♻️ The Junior Girl Scouts of Troop 10133 Social Circle have chosen for their Bronze Award project, a Little Free Library to be placed in the park next to the post office. The Little Free Library allows anyone to take a book and leave a book and will be available for anyone of any age. The program (littlefreelibrary.org) helps to promote literacy for children by making it easy to get books. The Little Free Library will be dedicated on May 15.

City Hall Flagpole ♻️ City Hall wishes to thank the Daughters of the American Revolution and the American Legion for the flag and flag pole at City Hall. The flag pole will be dedicated in a ceremony on May 29.

Public Safety News

Coffee with a Cop ♻️ This month join us on Wednesday, May 10, from 9:00 am - 11:00 am at the Community Room at 138 East Hightower Trail. The Coffee with a Cop program gives citizens a chance to meet the Social Circle Police officers to discuss concerns, ask questions and get to know your police officers. There will be no formal agenda, so drop in when you can!

Teens Ride with P.R.I.D.E ♻️ The University of Georgia Traffic Injury Prevention Institute is pleased to announce its program Georgia Teens Ride with P.R.I.D.E. (Parents Reducing Injuries and Driver Error). These classes target parents/guardians and their teenage drivers who are either just beginning to drive or are preparing for learners permit. There is no cost for the course. This is not a hands-on, mechanical "how-to" course, but a class that addresses

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driving attitude and behavior of teenagers, 14 through 16. The teenager and at least one parent or guardian (who will supervise the practice time) must be present during the entire two-hour course. The class will be held on Thursday, June 8, 2017 at the Social Circle Police Department; 138 East Hightower Trail, Social Circle Ga. 30025. The class will be from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. To register please contact Sgt. Samantha Rose at rsrose@socialcirclega.com. The class is limited to (15) teens per class. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Citizen Firearm Course 🌀 The Social Circle Police Department will be hosting a Citizens Firearms Class on Saturday, May 20, 2017. The class will be held at the Community Room from 8:30am until 4:30pm. This class is designed for those individuals that want to become familiar with how to properly use a firearm and will include classroom and range instruction. This course will also provide the legal and lawful explanation of the use of force. Please contact Lt. Randy Downs at rdowns@socialcirclega.com for more information. The class size is limited to the first 15 applicants. Applications are due by May 16 and are available at the Police Department or on the web site. (socialcirclega.gov/documents/citizen-firearm-class-registration-form/)

Downtown News

Calling all Artists! 🌀 Would you like to see your artwork on the Independence Day Celebration T-Shirts? Drawings must be submitted on a plain 8 1/2 x 11 piece of paper and are limited to five colors. Submit designs to the Welcome Center at 129 East Hightower Trail or email to vhardy@socialcirclega.com. Include your first and last name, age, email address and phone number. Deadline for Submissions is May 31.

Name That Space! 🌀 Our event space needs a better name than 'the lot across from Ace' and we want residents to help name the City's new community space. The space will be transformed from a parking lot into a town green over the next two years as funding and community support allow. The one-acre park will offer a venue for events, a place for people to gather for lunchtime activities, a stage for live music in a gently sloping amphitheater, and the perfect spot for a farmer's market. Submit your creative and unique names to namethedowntownsquare@socialcirclega.com by June 30th. The Main Street Commission and Downtown Development Authority will recommend the top 10 to place on the City's website for community vote. Final approval will be made by City Council. The winner will be recognized at the grand opening ceremony.

New Businesses Coming Soon 🌀 Downtown Social Circle is growing! Keep an eye out for these new businesses coming soon to downtown: Rustic Home and Decor next to the Welcome Center opened April 21. Sacred Grounds Corner Cafe on the corner where Wiley General Store was located is scheduled to open in May. Goodfellas restaurant on Sycamore is scheduled to open in May. The Southern Way Salon and Gifts next door to Miller Insurance will open the end of May.

Looking for Performers 🌀 We are looking for musicians and other performers who would like to perform for free at city events throughout the year. Please email vhardy@socialcirclega.com.

Visit our new Downtown Social Circle Ga Facebook page: www.facebook.com/socialcirclega/

Community Calendar

Coffee with the City Manager 🌀 Come to the City Hall Conference room on Wednesday, May 3, 8 am - 9 am, no appointment necessary. Feel free to stop in if you have an idea or concern about City business or just want to chat.

City-wide Yard Sale 🌀 The City-wide yard sale will be held Saturday May 6. Maps will be available online, at the Welcome Center and at participating yard sale locations.

Farmer's Market and Lemonade Day 🌀 We will be hosting our first Farmer's Market in conjunction with national Lemonade Day in the parking lot across from Ace on Sunday May 7, from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm. If you grow produce and want to have a stand, please email Jenny Watt at JLWatt@SocialCircleGA.com or call (770) 464-1866. For details see our web site (socialcirclega.gov/city-events/farmers-market/).

Second Annual Taste of Social Circle 🌀 Join us at the parking lot across from Ace Hardware on Friday May 12 from 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm for the Second Annual Taste of Social Circle. Sample food from local area restaurants. There will be activities for the kids and a DJ. See our website for details (socialcirclega.gov/city-events/a-taste-of-social-circle/).

Independence Day Celebration 🌀 Our annual Independence Day Parade and Celebration will be held Saturday, July 1. We are currently looking for vendors to sell food and other items during the concert after the parade. Vendor applications are available at the Welcome Center or on the web site (socialcirclega.gov/city-events/independence-celebration/).

City Calendar

Agendas for ALL meetings, regular and called, available on the city website www.socialcirclega.gov and at City Hall		
May 8 7:00 pm	Historic Preservation Commission (2nd Mon each month)	Community Room
May 9 8:00 am	Main Street Board (2nd Tuesday each month)	Welcome Center
May 11 10:00 am	Downtown Development Authority (2nd Thu each month)	City Hall Conf Rm
May 16 5:30 pm	Mayor and Council Work Session (3rd Tue each month)	Community Room
May 16 6:30 pm	Mayor and Council Regular Meeting (3rd Tue each month)	Community Room
May 17 1:00 pm	Municipal Court (3rd Wed each month)	Community Room
May 22 6:00 pm	Planning/Corridor Commission (4th Mon each month)	Community Room
May 25 6:00 pm	Tree Board (4th Thursday each month)	Community Room
Jul 11 8:30 am	Social Circle Development Authority (2nd Tue in Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct)	City Hall Conf Rm

Library Calendar of Events

Tales for Tots
with Jessica Hutcheson
Tuesdays, May 2, 16
at 10 a.m.

Story Time
with Renee Hanna
Wednesday May 10
at 9:30 a.m.

Early Bird Book Club
Tuesday, May 30
at 10:30 a.m.

Library Book Sale
Saturday, May 6
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

We are now accepting donations.

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.

The Library will be closed May 29 for Memorial Day.

For more info call (770) 464-2444

[facebook.com/WHStantonMemorialLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/WHStantonMemorialLibrary)
uncleremus.org/stanton

The drive-thru window at City Hall will be open May 22, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

There are no deposit refunds for this month.

Mayor	Hal Dally
770-317-1638.....	hdally@socialcirclega.com
District 1	Scott Simpkins
770-464-0997.....	ssimpkins@socialcirclega.com
District 2	Tyson Jackson
770-885-9483	tjackson@socialcirclega.com
District 3	David Keener
404-713-1279.....	dkeener@socialcirclega.com
District 4	Steve Shelton
678-410-7971.....	jsshelton@socialcirclega.com
City Manager	Adele Schirmer
770 464-6901	aschirmer@socialcirclega.com
City Clerk	Susan Roper
770-464-2380.....	sroper@socialcirclega.com
Police Chief	Tyrone Oliver
770-464-2366.....	policechief@socialcirclega.com
Fire Chief	Ken Zaydel
770-464-0621.....	firechief@socialcirclega.com

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