



Around the Well

May 2021

Vol 12 No 5

City Updates

FY2022 Budget Calendar

The City budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year was presented to the City Council during the meeting on April 20th and made available on the City web site. Public comment on the proposed budget document will be received at the May 18th council meeting. There will also be a public hearing opportunity at the June 15th council meeting. The interactive budget document can be found at socialcirclega.cleargov.com

District 3 Seat Filled

The City Council of Social Circle recently appointed a District 3 Council Member for the balance of the current term which ends January 2022. Congratulations to Nathan Boyd for his appointment. The District 3 Council seat will be on the ballot during the regular election of November 2, 2021 for the term beginning January 2022.

Finance Dept. Recognized

The City of Social Circle is proud to announce that the Government Finance Officers Association (www.gfoa.org) has awarded the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to the Finance Department for the Adopted Budget 2020-21. This is the 4th year in a row that the Finance Department has earned this award and we are working hard with the current budget to make it 5 years in a row. Thanks to the people in the Finance Department for their hard work these past years to make a budget that is easier to use. The GFOA was founded in 1906 and represents public finance officials throughout the United States and Canada.

Coffee with the City Manager

Wednesday, June 2nd, 8am to 9am
Get yourself a cup of coffee and call into the City Manager during this hour at 770-464-6901

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

Library News 🌸 Spring has sprung and the W. H. Stanton Memorial Library is thrilled to announce a new offering for patrons of all ages! The AZRLS Technology Lending Program allows library patrons to check out Chromebooks and hotspots for up to 21 days with a valid PINES library card. For more information about this program, please contact the library (706-342-4974) or visit our website: <http://www.azalealibraries.org/member-libraries/w-h-stanton-memorial-library/>. Do you love your library? We want to read your library story or fondest library memory! Please take a moment to fill out our story form at the library or online at <http://www.azalealibraries.org/community-news/tell-us-your-library-story/> and tell us how the library has been able to keep you connected and reading during the pandemic.

Library staff are busy preparing for a fun-filled Summer Reading Program, which begins June 1, 2021, and children of all ages are encouraged to sign-up in Beanstack to track time spent reading over the summer and win prizes. Follow us on Facebook or Instagram for program and event updates. We appreciate your cooperation and support as we continue to develop new ways to best serve our community. Keep reading, everyone!

City Housing Study 🌸 The City has engaged Geoff Koski, of KB Advisory Group, to assist the City in defining a more strategic and refined housing strategy. The presentations from the City's Housing Study are available on the website at <https://socialcirclega.gov/housing-trends/>. Preliminary recommendations, your opportunity to comment, and future meetings of the Planning Commission and Council regarding these recommendations will also be posted at this location.

Citywide Cleanup and Yard Sale - May 22, 2021 🌸 Please join us as we come together this month to tidy up our City. These City wide cleanups are supported by many volunteers and groups in the City, and we appreciate their dedication to continuing the tradition!. In addition, we are designating the Weekend of May 22 and May 23 for our Spring Citywide Yard Sale. For further information, to volunteer for the cleanup, or to list your yardsale location please contact Amber McKibben at amckibben@socialcirclega.gov or 770-464-1866.

Social Circle Designated as Tree City USA for 19th Year 🌸 Our Arbor Day celebration was held at Veterans Park this year. Mayor David Keener read the Arbor Day proclamation in the presence of the Tree Board members. 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.

New Businesses in Downtown 🌸 Social Circle has seen some changes with two new businesses and one under new ownership. The Grill'n Station has changed owners and is back with a different menu and expanded serving hours. The Villa Pizza has opened in the location previously used by Buckeye's. Social Circle now has a local pizza place to enjoy. Local food options are more convenient than having to drive a while to get a meal. The other new business is not a restaurant but is Angel Dust Gifts and Décor which has opened next to Hong Kong Garden. Help keep our city vibrant and visit local merchants. #ShopSmall

TextMyGov Active 🌸 The TextMyGov service from Social Circle is now active and ready to use. If you are looking for information or forms, you can use 470-900-3966 to make the request. You can also use that number to report potholes, a dead animal in the road, a street light issue or to request a ride on the Social Circle Transit bus. This number is not for posting questions to the city, it is for reporting specific issues, obtaining forms, and finding information on the city website. There is also a City Notification service that you can subscribe to by texting SocialCircle to 91896. We are working on keeping down the City Notifications with the only one notification last month about the fire at the Old Mill. Walton County has a similar notification service which you can sign up for on their website at <https://www.waltoncountygga.gov/>, then click Sign Up for Notifications toward the bottom of the page. As normal with these things, carrier standard data and message rates may apply.



Utility News

Help Keep Our Sewers Healthy 🌸 Flushable wipes are not all degradable. Even when a wipe claims to be flushable, the wipe does not break down in the same fashion as toilet paper. The wipes are made from high strength fibers that do not lose their strength and do not breakdown with time, which can lead to clogs not only in your household lines, but also in City sewer lines. Our sewer filtering system has had issues clogging up with disposable wipes as well as creating clogs in the sewer pipes by combining with grease and food wastes. Please do not flush or dispose of any wipes

into the Social Circle sewer system. Just because something is labeled flushable, does not mean it should be flushed! Leaving flushable wipes and similar items out of the system will help us continue to provide outstanding sewer service and allow the outflow to run smoother. No one enjoys the smell or sight of a sewer backup.

Bag Your Grass Clippings 🌿 The Leaf Vacuum truck is not able to pick up grass clippings (wet or dry) or wet leaves. Please bag all grass clippings and leave the bags for pickup. Do not pile grass clippings with other lawn debris that is left for pickup.

No Garbage Pick-up on Memorial Day 🌿 There will be no garbage pick-up on Monday, May 31. Garbage service will be delayed by one day for the rest of the week. Pickup originally scheduled for Monday will happen on Tuesday with the rest of the pickups shifting by one day.

Community Calendar

Farmer's Market in Friendship Park 🌿 We need your help! We need vendors for our Farmers' Market which is held in Friendship Park on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. If you or someone you know is interested in being a vendor, please contact the Downtown Director at amckibben@socialcirclega.gov

Concert Series in Friendship Park 🌿 The first concert in our summer series will be Friday, May 14th with local favorites Chris, Jon, and Scott. Please come out and enjoy dining downtown in our local restaurants, then head over to the park for the concert from 7 to 9 pm.

Independence Day Celebration 🌿 We have moved the location this year! Join us for our Independence Day Celebration on Saturday, June 26th which will be held in Downtown Social Circle! We are excited to move the festivities to downtown to include Friendship Park! More details to come! If you have any questions, please contact Amber McKibben for information at amckibben@socialcirclega.gov or 770-464-1866.

City Reminders

Annual Summer Burn Ban in Effect 🌿 A ban on outdoor burning runs from May 1 through Oct 30 in 54 Georgia counties, including Walton County. The GA Forestry Commission will not issue any burn permits for hand piled brush, yard debris, or air curtain destructors. 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. For more information, visit GaTrees.org or the Georgia EPD site.

School News

Congratulations SCHS Class of 2021 🌿 This has been an interesting and challenging year, by working together we managed to get to the end of it. The High School Graduation Ceremony is scheduled for Friday, May 28th at 8 pm, tickets are required to attend the ceremony. Other dates of interest are:

System-wide

- Teacher Appreciation Week - May 3-7
- School Lunch Hero Day - May 7
- School Nurse Appreciation Day - May 12
- Armed Forces Activities Day - May 14
- ** Last Day of School - May 28 ****

High School

- Prom - May 1
- Honors Night - May 18
- Graduation - May 28

Middle School

- Principal's Student Advisory Celebration - May 13
- Beta Club Pinning Ceremony - May 14
- Virtual Honors Day - May 26
- PBIS/Field Day - May 28

Elementary School

- 5th Grade Field Day - May 14
- 4th Grade Field Day - May 18
- 3rd Grade Field Day - May 20
- Virtual 3rd Grade Honors Day - May 25
- Virtual 4th Grade Honors Day - May 26
- Virtual 5th Grade Honors Day - May 27

Primary School

- Kindergarten Grade Field Day - May 10
- 1st Grade Field Day - May 11
- 2nd Grade Field Day - May 12

City Calendar

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

May 11	8:00 am	Main Street Commission (2nd Tue)	Church at the Grove
May 11	10:00 am	Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (2nd Tue)	Zoom
May 11	6:00 pm	Historic Preservation Commission (2nd Tue)	City Community Room
May 18	6:30 pm	Mayor and Council Regular Meeting (3rd Tue)	Middle School Activity Center
May 19	1:00 pm	Municipal Court (3rd Wednesday)	City Community Room
May 25	6:00 pm	Planning/Corridor Commission (4th Tues)	Middle School Activity Center
May 27	6:00 pm	Tree Board (4th Thu)	City Community Room

Library Calendar of Events OUR STACKS ARE OPEN!

	Curbside	TCOB Stacks
Monday:	10 am - 1 pm	1 pm - 5 pm
Tuesday:	10 am - 1 pm	1 pm - 5 pm
Wednesday:	10 am - 1 pm	1 pm - 5 pm
Thursday:	1 pm - 3 pm	3 pm - 7 pm
Friday:	10 am - 1 pm	1 pm - 5 pm
Saturday:	10 am - 12 pm	12 pm - 2 pm

Visit our website or follow us on Facebook.

Visit the link below.

W. H. Stanton Memorial Library
[Website](http://socialcirclega.gov) | [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/socialcirclega) | 770-464-2444

Utility and Tax Payment Options

In-person at City Hall Drive - Thru:
Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Phone:
1-877-840-5562

Online:
socialcirclega.gov/payment-options/

Night Deposit:
Open 24/7. Do not deposit cash.

Dates:
May 24 - Last day to pay to avoid cut-off
May 25 - Cut-off
May 27 - Current payment due date
May 28 - Late fees applied

Utilities cut off in error?
Call 770-464-6938 or
Text CUT-OFF to 470-900-3966.

Utility Deposit Refunds

Refunds can be applied to account or a check processed after 12 on-time payments.
Request your refund by calling City Hall
770-464-2380 and press 1

Mayor	David Keener
404-713-1279	dkeener@socialcirclega.gov
District 1	Traysa Price
770-728-5893	tprice@socialcirclega.gov
District 2	Tyson Jackson
770-885-9483	tjackson@socialcirclega.gov
District 3	Nathan Boyd
404-213-4345	naboyd@socialcirclega.gov
District 4	Steve Shelton
678-410-7971	jshelton@socialcirclega.gov
City Manager	Adele Schirmer
770-464-6901	aschirmer@socialcirclega.gov
City Clerk	Susan Roper
770-464-6902	sroper@socialcirclega.gov
Police Chief	William Brinkley
770-464-2366	wbrinkley@socialcirclega.gov
Fire Chief	Ken Zaydel
770-464-0621	kzaydel@socialcirclega.gov
Public Works Director	Robbie Groves
770-464-6908	rgroves@socialcirclega.gov
Finance Director	Jennifer Fricks
770-464-6925	jfricks@socialcirclega.gov
Downtown Director	Amber McKibben

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