

McDonough Matters



www.mcdonoughga.org

Issue One—Volume Two

When Information Matters

January, 2010



TEAM '10

UNITED IN SERVICE

Four Officials Sworn In During 1-4-10 Council Meeting



The City of McDonough Council Chamber was packed as the January 4, 2010 City Council meeting began. The first session of '10 would include the swearing in of reelected Mayor Billy Copeland, Councilmembers Sandra Vincent and Rufus Stewart, and first term Councilmember Rufus Amis.

Family members and friends watched intently as 2009 Mayor Pro Tem Wayne Smith dropped the gavel and called the meeting to order while the Mayor waited in the audience to be sworn in for his second consecutive four year term.

Rufus Stewart, a 21 year veteran Councilmember, was the first to take the oath of office from Henry County State



Veteran Councilmember Rufus Stewart (Second from R) takes the oath of office from Judge James T. Chafin as his three sisters look on.

Court Judge James T. Chafin. Councilman Stewart was joined at the podium by three sisters, Martha Shepherd, Mandy Stewart, and Barbara Hill, who joined to-



(L-R) Councilmembers Rufus Amis, Monta Brown, and Rufus Stewart, Mayor Billy Copeland, Councilmembers Gail Notti, Wayne Smith, and Sandra Vincent raise hands symbolizing unity at the end of the Council meeting.

gether in holding their brother's Bible during the ceremonial oath of office.

Next to be sworn in was Sandra Vincent starting her second four year term in office. With her Bible open instead of closed, Judge Chafin read the oath aloud for the incumbent to repeat as a smile spread across her face. Councilmember Vincent was also nominated and received a unanimous vote as Mayor Pro Tem for 2010 from her fellow Councilmembers.



Sandra Vincent is sworn in for her second term as a City Councilmember by Judge Chafin.

Council newcomer Rufus Amis was the last Councilmember to be called to the podium. He was joined by several family members in front of the crowd gathered as his wife, Nonie, held the Bible while soon-to-be Councilmember Amis was sworn in.



Judge Chafin (R) administers the oath of office to Rufus Amis (Third from R) as his wife, Nonie, (Second from R) and family members proudly listen.

The final oath administered by Judge Chafin was to McDonough's incumbent Mayor, Billy Copeland. Mayor Copeland has served in this capacity for a total of 23 years as well as having served as a City Councilmember for sev-

eral years prior to being elected Mayor for the first time. His wife, Gloria, held the Bible as family members joined them.

The Mayor, a fifth generation McDonough

Mayor Copeland (Third from R) takes the oath of office as Gloria (Second from R) and family watch.



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resident, presented an inspiring oration following his swearing in. Mayor Copeland spoke about the future of McDonough and the commitment of the Council, Mayor, and the City Administrator to making McDonough, Georgia all that it can be. His speech was followed by inspiring words from all six Councilmembers.



Mayor Copeland (L) and his wife, Gloria (Second from L), stand next to the framed picture of 1950's downtown McDonough presented to the Mayor by friends Ease Ausband (Second from R) and Sara Ann Hightower (R) at the January 4th Council meeting.

The key word for these City officials, as a brand new year begins, is 'TEAM.' The direction has been chartered—*forward*; the path has been laid—*one of unity*; the focus defined—*positive results*; and the invitation has been extended by Mayor Copeland himself—*"Come Grow with McDonough!"*



Many of the members of the audience also attended the reception that was held on the third floor of McDonough City Hall following the Council meeting. A delicious spread awaited those who stayed.

As the journey begins, TEAM '10 will mark this new decade with both determination and cooperation as they strive together to make this City...truly the land of milk and honey"...as described by Councilmember Vincent in her timely remarks.

A reception, on the third floor of City Hall, followed the meeting to honor those public officials returning and the one new addition to the McDonough City Council.

2010 MLK, JR. PARADE IN MCDONOUGH
Monday, January 18th

(L-R) Judge James T. Chafin, Mayor Billy Copeland, and Councilman Rufus Stewart walk in the parade.



State Representative Steve Davis (Front L) is among the parade participants.



Both young and old can be seen taking part in the 2010 MLK, JR. Parade.



Henry County High School Marching Band proceeds down the street with music playing and flags waving.

The Shiloh Baptist Church Youth Ministry joined the mass of people honoring the memory and teachings of Dr. King.



Organizations, including the Boy Scouts, salute Dr. King by marching in McDonough's parade.

With a blue sky above, and the sun warming participants' faces, the parade continues as McDonough remembers.



Parades draw all types of characters. This character is from Woody's Jump n Play.



MAIN STREET DIRECTOR COMPLETES GEORGIA ACADEMY FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



Main Street Director Linda Schenk is pictured with her Georgia Academy for Economic Development certificate.

Main Street McDonough Program Director Linda Schenk, along with other metro businessmen and women, recently completed a Georgia Academy for Economic Development Program entitled 'Regional Economic & Leadership Development.'

Class participants represented a number of professional and non-professional economic development fields including elected officials, public servants, business leaders, educators, and social service providers from ten counties in Metro Atlanta.

The 2009 Region 3 Multi-Day Training Program was taught in four days over a four month period. The basics of economic and community development, plus specialized segments on business development, tourism product development, downtown development, quality planning, redevelopment, education, and other essentials for community success were part of this course. The curriculum also featured training in specific leadership skills such as consensus building, ethics in public service, collaborative leadership, and other segments needed for effective community leadership in economic development.

"The Academy is continually providing educational opportunities that allow participants to grow as government employees," said Director Schenk. "We were introduced to and worked on several interesting and informative studies aimed at making each of us a better employee. It's important to keep learning and improving oneself."

Councilmember and Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Chairperson Sandra Vincent commended Director Schenk on her accomplishment. She stated, "As a 2005 graduate of the Georgia Academy for Economic Development and one eager to make a difference in the economic future of McDonough, I applaud Ms. Schenk for seeking out those tools which make us better at what we do. I found the academy's program comprehensive and beneficial. As we move forward in developing strategic platforms for building our economic future, such skill sets are invaluable. Congratulations on a job well done."

The Mayor and City Council are always proud of employees who take the initiative to grow in knowledge and skills as they continue to serve the citizens of this historic city.

2009 McDONOUGH CHRISTMAS PARADE 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD PLACE FLOAT WINNERS RECOGNIZED AT THE DECEMBER 21ST CITY COUNCIL MEETING BY MAYOR & COUNCIL



Mayor Copeland presents the 1st Place Award to Marisa Craig, owner of the sponsoring business.



Sue Peterson, Children's Ministry Parade Organizer, accepts the 2nd Place Award from Mayor Copeland.



(L-R) Joan Angelini, Director of People First of Henry Co., Miss and Mr. SPECIAL Henry Co., Paige Copeland and Todd McEarchern, hold the 3rd Place Award.



First Place

Lake Dow Animal Hospital



Second Place

Glen Haven Baptist Church



Third Place

**Mr. & Miss SPECIAL
Henry County**

2010 City Board and Commission Appointments Confirmed

Planning Commission

Alan Shackelford
Eddie Elliott
Darryl Payton
John King
Stanley Head
Bill Fort
Swaine Thompson

Board of Zoning Appeals

George Horner
Melvin Pullin
Sam Humphrey
Terri O'Quinn
Aaron Cherry, Sr.
RoseMary O'Toole
One Remaining to be Chosen & Confirmed

Historic Preservation Commission

Jean Hanger
Solomon Barge
Linda McDaniel
Maynard "Robbie" Robinson
Jean Bell
Angelic Muhammed
Laura Crumbley



(L-R) McDonough Mayor Billy Copeland, Main Street Director Linda Schenk, eLements owner Leah Rice, and store manager Susie Greene, are pictured with the façade check during the presentation ceremony on January 13th at eLements, 16 Macon Street. Beth's Bargains was formerly located in this building. Businesses within the Main Street District that apply and are approved are eligible to receive a grant to cover a certain portion of an exterior façade upgrade. Visit the Main Street Office, 5 Griffin Street, for more information.

Photo by Cathy Lacey, Welcome Center Information Specialist



The Main Street McDonough Program held a ribbon cutting on January 14th for Dawgs N Jackets, 13 Hampton Street, just off the Square. Owner Paul Andzeski (Holding scissors) prepares to cut the ribbon marking the official opening. Mayor Billy Copeland (Front, Third from R), McDonough Councilmember Wayne Smith (Front, Second from L), Main Street Director Linda Schenk (Middle Row, R), other Main Street members, friends, and family members take part. The diner's menu contains a variety of choices that are sure to please and is open seven days a week for the convenience of its patrons. If the house is divided between the Dawgs and Jackets, they'll be united on the place to eat.

Photo by Cathy Lacey, Welcome Center Information Specialist

TOURISM VIDEO ABOUT FINISHED

The McDonough Hospitality & Tourism Board is wrapping up production on a brand new McDonough video.

The company creating the 8 minute video is I.D.E.A.S. located in Orlando, Florida.

This new video will be highlighting the beauty of McDonough and what makes this historic City an exciting and charming place to visit.

This video should be available for viewing at the...

What Happens in McDonough Stays in the HEART!

*...McDonough Welcome Center
5 Griffin Street
McDonough
in February!*

UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX HOSTS CHAMBER RIBBON CUTTING AT FACILITY IN McDONOUGH



Mayor Copeland (Right) talks with University of Phoenix's Vice President/Director Mike Hearon.

The University is located on Avalon Parkway.



UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX LEARNING CENTER • McDONOUGH

The University of Phoenix McDonough Learning Center officially celebrated the University's new location at 2030 Avalon Parkway, Suit 100, McDonough with a Henry County Chamber ribbon cutting ceremony on January 28th.

Michael Hearon, University Vice President/Director, spoke on behalf of the Learning Center expressing his appreciation for those in attendance. He also provided a little information on the facility itself and asked his staff to introduce themselves. Mayor Billy Copeland congratulated the university on such an outstanding facility and welcomed them to McDonough.



Surrounded by Chamber Ambassadors and University employees, Michael Hearon, UP Vice President/Director, cuts the ceremonial red ribbon. Mayor Copeland stands to Mr. Hearon's immediate left.



Roy Gardner stands in wet, red clay mud as work continues on a leak under Macon Street.

McDonough Water and Sewer Distribution

It's a hard job, but these City employees do a great job at keeping the City ship-shape when problems arise. Supervisor Ronnie Thompson and his team work in some pretty messy locations and situations, but it's all in a day's work. Humor helps!!



J. R. McMahan is operating heavy equipment but has time for a little humorous reaction for the camera.



Ron Harris feeds line under the road as needed to get this job done.



Derrick Stroud watches one end of the line.



Supervisor Ronnie Thompson (Back) assists Roy Gardner as he pulls the line.



**AROUND
TOWN**

You Count—Be Counted!



The Marine Corp League recognized the businesses and individuals that made exceptional efforts in collecting Toys for Tots for 2009. Eight businesses and/or individuals were presented a certificate for their contributions.

Congratulations, Councilmember Sandra Vincent, on becoming the City Council's 2010 Mayor Pro Tem by the unanimous vote of fellow Councilmembers during the January 4th meeting.



A Wesley Way United Methodist group stops for a photo during the 2010 MLK, JR. Parade.

High Trust Bank's Rhett Tucker (L) stands with President Obama look-alike Michael Hearon, University of Phoenix Vice President/Director, at the university's recent ribbon cutting.



Visit often for McDonough news, events, e-newsletter, and other information.



Veterans or Veterans' families wanting additional information may call McDonough City Hall at 770-957-3915, ext. 2265.

OFFICE HOURS:
Tuesdays, 10am-12pm
Thursdays, 1-3pm

The City of McDonough is currently participating in a

**Residential Toilet
Rebate Program**

on a first-come first-serve basis while funds last. For more information visit



<http://www.northgeorgiawater.com/html/315.htm>

Upcoming Events & City Meetings

Events • / Main Street McDonough Programs In RED

ALL DATES AND TIMES NOTED ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

JANUARY, 2010

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP 1-28 5:00 P.M.

FEBRUARY, 2010

CITY COUNCIL MEETING 2-01 5:00 P.M.
P/Z WORKSHOP 2-09 6:30 P.M.
BOZA 2-11 6:30 P.M.
COUNCIL MEETING 2-15 7:00 P.M.
HISTORIC PRESERVATION 2-18 7:00 P.M.
P/Z PUBLIC MEETING 2-23 6:30 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP 2-25 5:00 P.M.

MARCH, 2010

CITY COUNCIL MEETING 3-01 7:00 P.M.
P/Z WORKSHOP 3-09 6:30 P.M.
BOZA 3-10 6:30 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL MEETING 3-15 7:00 P.M.
HISTORIC PRESERVATION 3-18 7:00 P.M.
P/Z PUBLIC MEETING 3-23 6:30 P.M.

Events – Call the McDonough Welcome Center at 770-898-9311.
Meetings – Call McDonough City Hall at 770-957-3915.



Happy
Valentine's Day
February 14th