

McDonough Matters



www.mcdonoughga.org

Volume Four—Issue Eleven

When Information Matters

November/December, 2011

City Kicks off New Zoning Ordinance Project for Downtown McDonough

Press Release from November, 2011

The City of McDonough is beginning the process of writing a new zoning ordinance for its Downtown and surrounding neighborhoods. The new ordinance will be aimed at maximizing McDonough's opportunities to attract mixed-use and quality in-fill development; improve connections to recreational amenities near the Town Square; and enhance street and sidewalk appearance, safety and connectivity.

The first step in the process actually began in June of this year with a series of "Visioning Workshops" led by Atlanta Regional Commission staff. The next step will be to conduct the last of the Visioning Workshops from December 5-7. That workshop will include a public presentation the evening of December 6 during which ARC will hand the process off to City staff and the consulting team hired by the City to assist them.

The City staff expects writing the new ordinance to take about four months and conclude in late March or early April, 2012. The process will be guided by a steering committee made up of a cross-section of business, civic and neighborhood representatives. As part of developing the ordinance, planners will also be conducting "focus groups" with a variety of stakeholders and holding several public information and input open houses. The City plans to announce the dates for those events at the December 6 presentation.

The Atlanta Regional Commission awarded the City of McDonough a matching grant for the work through its Livable Communities Initiative (LCI). The City has hired an interdisciplinary team led by the Lawrence Group to assist them in drafting the ordinance. The ordinance is the latest in the City's efforts to implement its LCI Plan, which it put together in 2004.



John Cheek
Interim Community Development Director
City of McDonough

The December 6 Visioning Public Meeting had a large and diverse turnout.



2011 McDonough Christmas Parade

(L-R) Mayor Billy Copeland, Mrs. Gloria Copeland and Fire Chief Steve Morgan ride in the City's 1930's antique fire truck as they greet those along the parade route.



2011 Parade Theme:

Red

White

&

Blue

Christmas



2011 McDonough Christmas Parade Grand Marshall, the 2011 Roberto Clemente World Series Champions, the Elite Gamers, ride on their float waving at the crowd!



REMEMBERING JACK TANNER (retired City employee)



Jack passed away on Tuesday, November 22, 2011! Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, especially during the holidays.

You will be missed, Jack.

**2011 Christmas Parade
First & Second Place Floats**

(L-R) Joanie Martin and Donnie Martin, First Place float builders,



and Carol Kelly, owner of Praying for Paws, accept the first place prize of \$100 and congratula-



tions from Mayor Billy Copeland. (L-R) Carolyn Lee and husband, Tim-



thy Lee, Principal of Bible Baptist Christian School, are also congratulated by Mayor Copeland and presented their Second Place check for \$50. Both floats are beautiful examples of the creativity and imagination of local parade participants.



More parade photos on page 3

Council Member says So Long NOT Goodbye!



Council member Monta Brown said "so long" from his Council



seat at the end of the Monday, December 12, 2011, Council

meeting. He has served as a Councilman for the past six years.

As one of his parting remarks, he encouraged the remaining members and the Mayor to focus on this (job) because he would be watching, not as a former colleague, rather as a concerned citizen.

Each of the other Council members and the Mayor expressed their gratitude for his hard work and dedication to this City. Good luck in future endeavors, Councilman Brown.

"Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile."

**New Arrival at the Heard House
8 Week Old "Liz" Heard**

"Bought her in Arkansas over thanksgiving. Have been waiting a year for this little yellow female... she is a British Lab," said Public Works Director Lee Hearn.



Lee is a Lab breeder and has some gorgeous Lab puppies available for sale from time-to-time.

Lee says she has not barked much yet.



Wonder if she will bark with a British accent when she does put her barking gear in motion????? There will probably be some amazing looking puppies available at some point in the future.

This little darling is one beautiful blond. See no resemblance to you, Lee, except both your names start with an "L" and the last name is Heard!!!!!!

2011 Lighting of the Christmas Tree

A Main Street McDonough Event



LENDING A HELPING HAND!

The City of McDonough recently concluded its fifth annual canned food drive to benefit Helping In His Name Ministries. Nearly 1000 items were donated. This makes the 4th year in a row that the Wastewater Plant has won the free lunch for most canned foods brought in. Congratulations Plant employees for 5 great years of giving!!

Helping In His Name Ministries, Inc., usually referred to as "The Food Pantry", is an ecumenical, non-profit organization that provides temporary emergency help to the unemployed, the underemployed, to elderly people on fixed incomes, and single parents on a biweekly or monthly basis. No one with a legitimate need is refused help. A sincere 'thank you' to every employee that took the time to care and share!!

Keith Dickerson, Staff Organizer



The Mayor & The Baylor

Have you been following on the Mayor's Facebook the adventures of Baylor, the Mayor's latest addition to his office staff? If you have not, you have missed a very exciting adventure. This



Mayor Copeland (Right) and trusty assistant Baylor look over material during the December Workshop.



poor bear was found and arrested sometime during the last weekend in November on a local street corner, Phillips Drive and Head Street, and thought to be a possible threat to citizens.

He was questioned by McDonough's Police Department, but he never opened his mouth to explain or defend himself. The Police subsequently took paw prints but found no past record or identification on this suspect. He was charged with pan handling for hugs, however, and thrown in jail.

Apparently, Mayor Copeland has sprung Baylor and put him to work in his office. Baylor was seated beside the Mayor during the December 1st Council Workshop ready to advise if needed. Watch for the continuing saga of.....

The Mayor & The Baylor!

May you and your family have a very Merry Christmas and a bright, happy and safe New Year!

Mayor Billy Copeland, City Council and Staff



**2012
CITY OF MCDONOUGH
Schedule of City COUNCIL MEETINGS and WORKSHOP MEETINGS**

	JANUARY, 2012	
Organizational Meeting	January 5	5:30 p.m.
Workshop	January 5	6:00 p.m.
Council Meeting	January 9	7:30 p.m.
	**	
	FEBRUARY, 2012	
Workshop	February 2	5:30 p.m.
Council Meetings	February 6	7:00 p.m.
	February 20 (Presidents Day)	7:00 p.m.
	MARCH, 2012	
Workshop	March 1	5:30 p.m.
Council Meetings	March 5	7:00 p.m.
	March 19	7:00 p.m.
Workshop	March 29	5:30 p.m.
	APRIL, 2012	
Council Meeting	April 2	7:00 p.m.
	April 16	7:00 p.m.
	MAY, 2012	
Workshop	May 3	5:30 p.m.
Council Meetings	May 7	7:00 p.m.
	May 21	7:00 p.m.
Workshop	May 31	5:30 p.m.
	JUNE, 2012	
Council Meetings	June 4	7:00 p.m.
	June 18	7:00 p.m.
Workshop	June 28	5:30 p.m.
	JULY, 2012	
Council Meeting	July 9	7:00 p.m.
	**	
	AUGUST, 2012	
Workshop	August 2	5:30 p.m.
Council Meetings	August 6	7:00 p.m.
	August 20	7:00 p.m.
Workshop	August 30	5:30 p.m.
	**(only one monthly meeting)	
	SEPTEMBER, 2012	
Council Meeting	September 10	7:00 p.m.
Workshop	September 27	5:30 p.m.
	**	
	OCTOBER, 2012	
Council Meetings	October 1	7:00 p.m.
	October 15	7:00 p.m.
	NOVEMBER, 2012	
Workshop	November 1	5:30 p.m.
Council Meetings	November 5	7:00 p.m.
	November 19	7:00 p.m.
Workshop	November 29	5:30 p.m.
	DECEMBER, 2012	
Council Meetings	December 10	7:00 p.m.
	**	
	JANUARY, 2013	
Workshop	To be determined	

** (Only one monthly meeting)

*The
Beginning ~
March,
2011*



A good Samaritan doesn't pass by on the other side of the road when someone is in need of a helping hand.



Neither does Army Robinson and his band of merry men and women of all ages.



When Ms. Betty's house was in desperate need of an overhaul, Army saw that need and a neighbor lacking the physical stamina to handle the job herself, lacking the money to pay someone else, and no family members that could do the job.



But Army could, with the help of other big hearted citizens who heeded the call and gave their all.



Every necessary item was donated, including the labor.



Army's motto—
PAY IT FORWARD!!

Homeowner, Ms. Betty (Second from Right), says this is the best Christmas present ever! HO! HO! HO!

*And
The
End ~
December,
2011*





Main Street McDonough Program's

Ladies Night Out # 8 November 10th

HO HO HO

LNO will continue as a monthly Main Street Event!!



(L-R) Main Street Director Linda Schenk; Blumen Trio owner Bob Knowles; welcome November LNO winner Michelle Spain as she stops by the flower and gift shop to claim her prize.

Congratulations, Michelle Spain, November's Ladies Night Out gift basket winner. There is only one more LNO event before year's end. Ladies, come celebrate the Christmas holiday season and finish up that Christmas shopping too on the Square.

The basket has been on display at local business, Blumen Trio, on Griffin Street.

Main Street Director Linda Schenk and participating businesses invite you to enjoy the merriment of the season at December's LNO on Thursday, December 8th from 6:00-9:00 p.m.!!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Photo by Cathy Lacey, McDonough Welcome Center



Main Street McDonough Program's

Ladies Night Out # 9 December 8th



(L-R) Main Street Director Linda Schenk; Alexis House of Hampton, LNO December winner; and Paul Gaffney, owner and head chief of PJs Café, are pictured with the colorful December basket full of coupons and gifts from local merchants.

Congratulations, Alexis House, winner of the Main Street McDonough Program's December LNO gift basket.

The very colorful red and white striped basket has been on display at PJs Café and was picked up there by the winner.

Main Street Director Linda Schenk wishes all the ladies that have participated in the monthly LNO events a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and extends an invitation to start the new year off with a bang by attending the January 12 Ladies Night Out on the Square.

**The Next Ladies Night Out is:
January 12 • 6:00—9:00pm • McDonough Square**

City of McDonough Employees' December Birthdays

- Kyle Helgerson
- Martin Vaughn
- Dustin Pumm
- William Snead
- Jeremy Newton



"Promises are like the full moon, if they are not kept at once they diminish day by day."

-German Proverb

- Randy Lewis
- Shelby Holmes
- Pete Long
- Bobby Duncan
- Mayor Billy Copeland

Continued on Page 6



AROUND TOWN

City on Twitter

www.mcdonoughga.org (homepage right side)

The Community Development Department held a Lunch 'n Learn on Wednesday, 12-14-11. Cora Balmes, Project Manager, with SUPERABRASIVE, led the informative meeting on the subject of Superabrasive flooring.



Fire Chief Steve Morgan (Left) adds to the discussion during the first Lunch 'n Learn as Mark Dobson, (Center) and SUPERABRASIVE co-presenter Kiro Yorgov listen.



(L-R) Community Development's Nick Nichols, Rodney Heard, Tina Tebo, Charles Hoffman, and CD Director John Cheek finish lunch and listen to the slide presentation during the 12-14-11 Lunch 'n Learn.



Steve Autry, CSI, with DuPont is facilitator of the Tuesday, 12-20-11, Community Development Lunch 'n Learn. The subject of this meeting is 'Sustainable Building Enclosure Design'.



This Event is a....



Main Street McDonough Program

L N O

The next "Ladies Night Out" will be Thursday, January, 12th from 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Dine • Shop • Enjoy

www.mcdonoughga.org

Happy 2012 New Year 2012

Inaugural **Geranium Drop**
McDonough Square New Year's Eve
Fun Starts at 8:30 p.m.
Drop at Midnight beside Welcome Center

January 2012

Happy BIRTHDAY

- Joseph Kelly
- Cal Callahan
- Kelly Cross
- Tim Cook
- Michael Hogeland
- David Williams
- Ron Harris
- Taffini Guffie
- Paul Dalman

Upcoming Events & City Meetings

Events / Main Street McDonough Programs In RED

ALL DATES AND TIMES NOTED ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. VISIT www.mcdonoughga.org FOR ADDITIONAL EVENTS.

JANUARY, 2012		
CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING	1/05	5:30 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP	1/05	6:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL MEETING	1/09	7:00 P.M.
P/C WORKSHOP	1/10	6:30 P.M.
BOZA	1/12	6:30 P.M.
LADIES NIGHT OUT	1/12	6-9:00 P.M.
*HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMM.	1/19	7:00 P.M.
P/C PUBLIC MEETING	1/24	6:30 P.M.

CITY HALL WILL CLOSE AT NOON, 12-22-11, AND WILL REOPEN FOR BUSINESS ON TUESDAY, 12-27-11.

*HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION IF NO BUSINESS PENDING.

EVENTS • 770-898-9311 MEETINGS • 770-957-3915