



**CHAMBLEE**

# Signal

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Official Newsletter of Chamblee, Georgia

[chambleega.gov](http://chambleega.gov)

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## Main Street Commissions Peachtree Road Mural

**T**he Chamblee Main Street Program, a partnership of the city and the Chamblee Downtown Development Authority (DDA), is working with MARTA to brighten up some existing infrastructure along Peachtree Road with public art. This location was identified in the Chamblee Renaissance Plan as a key gateway into downtown Chamblee. Adding vibrant

art to drab spaces is an opportunity to highlight cultural and historic themes in the community while creating memorable landmarks. Chamblee is no stranger to public art – the city commissioned the existing mural along the Chamblee-Dunwoody Road tunnel for its centennial celebration in 2008.

For this mural, a public request for qualifications was made for artists to

submit relevant experience and examples of past work. There was a great deal of interest in this opportunity and 15 highly qualified artists responded. Their resumes and work samples were displayed for public review and voting, at I.D.E.A. Chamblee, a new art gallery in downtown Chamblee that creates a

see **MURAL** page 8

## City Manager Marc Johnson Retires



In May, Chamblee City Manager Marc Johnson announced his retirement. Johnson worked for the city for more than 40 years, starting as a dispatcher in the 1970s. In his 40th year with the city, the Chamblee City Council appointed him city manager, a position he'd held on a number of occasions on an interim basis.

Johnson started working for the police department as a dispatcher when he was 19 years old and in college. He was promoted to captain in 1989 and major in 1993. He was appointed chief in April 1994, a position he held for more than 20 years. He had a passion for public service – helping and protecting the public. As he moved up in rank and assumed management responsibilities, he was happiest when facilitating and empowering others to do the same. He embraced technology early in his career, and it became a second love for him.

A graduate of Marist High School, Johnson studied at Georgia State University. He lives in Cherokee County with his wife and the couple has two adult daughters. He plans to devote more time to his family in his retirement.

City of Chamblee  
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### CITY COUNCIL

Mayor ..... R. Eric Clarkson  
District 1 ..... John Mesa  
District 2 ..... Leslie C. Robson  
District 3 ..... Thomas S. Hogan II  
At-large ..... Darron Kusman  
At-large ..... Brian Mock

### CITY STAFF

Interim City Administrator ..... Jon Walker  
Chief of Police ..... Donny Williams  
City Clerk ..... Emmie Niethammer  
Economic Development ..... Adam Causey  
Finance Director ..... Travis Sims  
Parks & Recreation ..... Chris Madden  
Public Works ..... Reginald Anderson

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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Animal Control ..... 770-986-5019  
Development ..... 770-986-5024  
Parks & Recreation ..... 770-986-5016  
Police Department ..... 770-986-5005  
Municipal Court ..... 770-986-5004  
Code Enforcement ..... 770-986-5005  
code\_enforcement@chambleega.gov  
Police Emergency ..... 911

## Jon Walker Named Interim City Administrator



Jon Walker became the interim city administrator, upon Marc Johnson's retirement. Walker most recently was a key member of the SAFEbuilt leadership team during a period of growth that culminated in its acquisition by the Riverside Company in 2014. He opened and managed operations for the company in four Southeastern states before being promoted to vice president for client services.

Walker is a former city manager with broad public agency experience. He has a master's degree in public administration from the University of Georgia. He is a member of ICMA and is pursuing credentialing.

*The Signal* is the official publication of the City of Chamblee. It provides the citizens of Chamblee with timely information on events, activities and news related to the city.

**GOT NEWS?** Send press releases, announcements and other materials for consideration to [thesignal@chambleega.gov](mailto:thesignal@chambleega.gov). All material provided is subject to editing.

## Welcome to Our New College Intern



Claudia Colichon, who started her summer internship with the city in April, is a political science student at Georgia State University. Claudia is bilingual and is helping to translate city communications. This internship will count as class credit toward her degree, which she will receive at the end of the summer. Her projects with the city will include assisting with the *Signal*, assisting departments with performance measures, and helping with website updates. We are pleased and excited to have Claudia with us.



# Atlanta Regional Commission Approves \$96,000 Grant for Buford Highway Study

The cities of Chamblee and Doraville have been awarded a grant from the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) to undertake a joint study of the Buford Highway Corridor. The \$96,000 grant will be used to hire a consultant team to help identify needed public improvements and to form public-private partnerships to:

- Strengthen economic vitality
- Improve safety for autos, bikes and pedestrians
- Encourage more use of the street for pedestrians, bikes, and transit
- Improve the aesthetics and wayfinding along the roadside

The year-long project will begin in July.

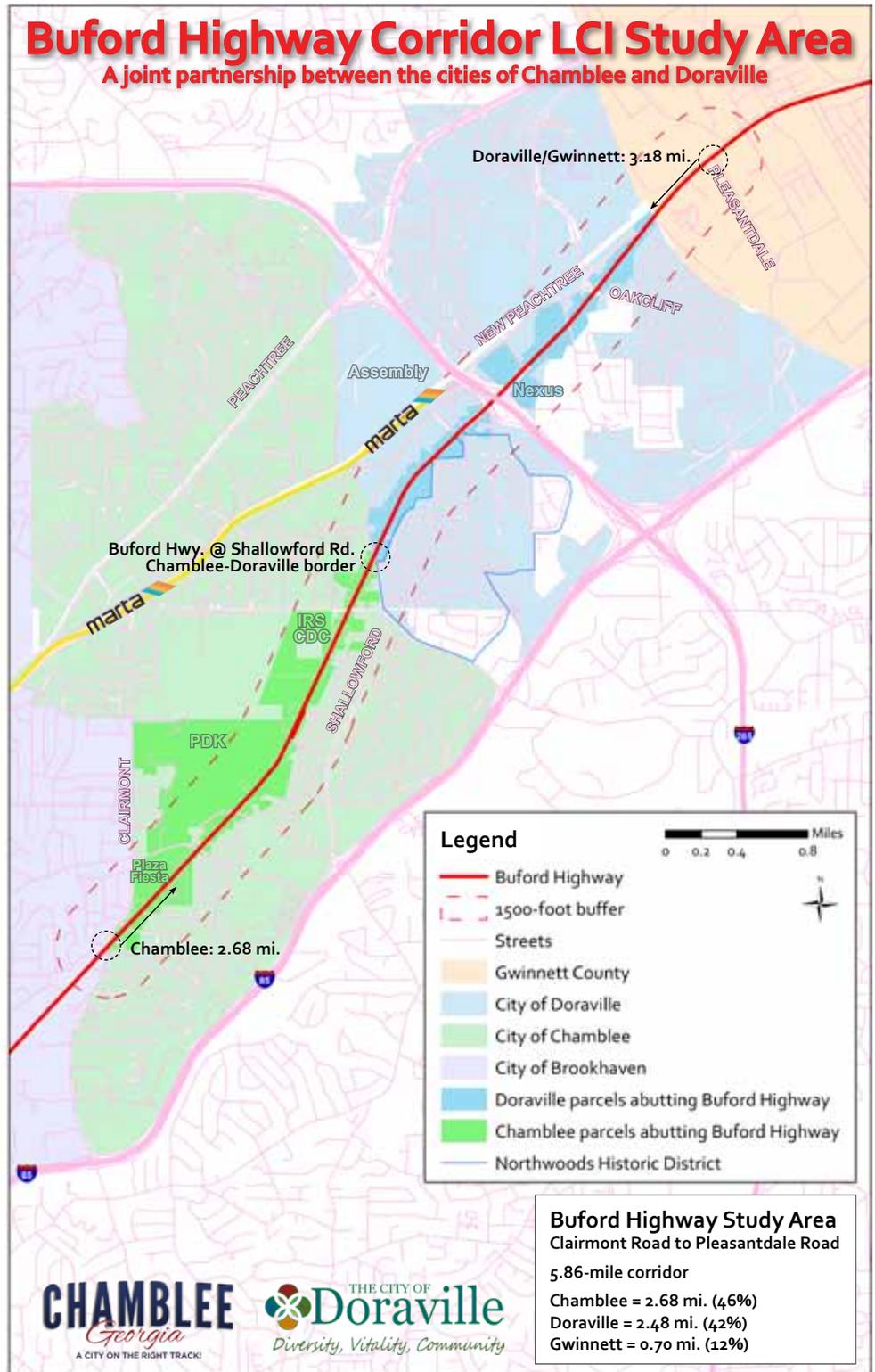
Since LCI began in 2000, 112 communities have received more than \$197 million in planning and implementation grants. Since 2000 the LCI program has funded three major redevelopment studies for downtown Chamblee. The third one – the Chamblee Rail-Trail Extension Study – is still underway today.

The same LCI program recently paid for a Downtown Plan for Doraville that shows how the redevelopment of the GM Plant can be linked to improvements and redevelopment in downtown Doraville. Another new development in Doraville, called Nexus, is poised to redevelop the Buford Highway/I-285 area, so it is a dynamic corridor.

The new study comes at a perfect time for Chamblee because of the plans being considered by the federal government to enlarge the offices of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in our city.

Ultimately the new study will forge a cohesive vision for a brighter future for the entire Buford Highway corridor, stretching more than three miles from the CDC on Buford Highway near Chamblee-Tucker Road all the way to downtown Doraville.

With Doraville and Chamblee working together with funds from ARC, we can tackle some of the projects that are bigger than one local government can handle alone. Stay tuned for public meetings offering opportunities for citizens to share this vision and work together to make it happen.





## Jodie Gilfillan Appointed Parks and Recreation Director

**J**odie Gilfillan, Chamblee's new Parks and Recreation director, served more than 16 years as a recreation supervisor for the City of Alpharetta. During her tenure there, she managed facilities that included aquatics, arts, athletics, and fitness. She also coordinated and secured sponsorships and grant funding for city programs, special events, and facility improvements.

Jodie is a member of the National Recreation and Parks Association and the Georgia Recreation and Parks Association, where she served on Leadership, Visibility and Professional Development committees. She holds a degree in exercise science and wellness/athletic training from Wayne State College. She is a certified parks and recreation professional and a certified pool operator.

Prior to working in recreation for Alpharetta, Jodie served as the assistant sports program director for the Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City and the assistant athletic director for Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy.

Jodie says, "It's an exciting time to be joining the City of Chamblee, and I look forward to helping shape the future of parks and recreation for Chamblee citizens."

## Enhanced Crosswalk Signals To Be Installed

Over the next few weeks, enhanced pedestrian signals will be installed at mid-block crossings in the city. The crossings were chosen based on their location on roadways with speed limits greater than 25 miles per hour.

The enhanced signals – rectangular rapid flashing beacons – will be installed at:

- Peachtree Road at Malone Drive
- Peachtree Road at 5300 Lofts
- Peachtree Road at Vintage Pizza
- New Peachtree Road at Watkins

A signal will also be installed on Chamblee Dunwoody Road at Chamblee High School during the upcoming Chamblee Dunwoody Streetscape project.



## Development 101 Schedule of Classes Announced

**I**n the fall, the Development 101 program will host a series of classes about development to educate residents and business owners on the Unified Development Ordinance, zoning, permitting and code enforcement. The classes are open to anyone who wants to take them, though spaces are limited and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Five classes are tentatively planned:

### **Aug. 9 ▪ UDO Organization and Administration**

What it covers, how to find information, whom to contact, overview of what's new

### **Sept. 13 ▪ Zoning**

Zoning districts, use table and provision, parking, signs, rezoning process

### **Oct. 11 ▪ Building Construction Permitting**

Types of permits needed, permitting process, building codes

### **Nov. 15 ▪ Code Enforcement**

Violations and non-conforming uses, who to contact, penalties and actions

### **Dec. 13 ▪ Land Disturbance Permitting**

Types of permits needed, permitting process, site codes (buffers, trees, soil erosion, floodplain, stormwater)

Classes will last 90 minutes and begin at 6:30 p.m. Confirmation of registration will be sent by email. It will include notification of the location of the class, which is tentatively set for a meeting room near City Hall, but will be determined later based on the number of participants.

The UDO 101 series is an excellent educational opportunity for anyone who has questions about the new code, or the city's permitting and development process, to learn firsthand from those who administer and enforce the code every day. Classes will be facilitated by members of the Chamblee Development Department staff, but when appropriate will also include instructors from code enforcement and building inspections. If you are interested in participating in any of the classes, please fill out the registration form online at [chambleega.com/registerdev101](http://chambleega.com/registerdev101).

# Chamblee 'Goes to Town' for Georgia Cities Week



Cities across Georgia celebrated Georgia Cities Week in April, with the theme "Go to Town." Participating for the second time, Chamblee worked with a group of community members to plan activities for the weeklong event.

**G**eorgia Cities Week gives cities an opportunity to share information about the valuable services cities provide to residents and how cities improve their quality of life. The week is also an opportunity to celebrate community achievements and recognize volunteers and city employees.

Chamblee's group of community members included Chamblee 101 graduates, Recreation Advisory Committee members, and representatives from Keep Chamblee Beautiful, the Chamblee Chamber of Commerce, and Arts Chamblee.

The schedule included a full week of activities. Keep Chamblee Beautiful (KCB) and the Chamblee Chamber of Commerce kicked off the week with the beautification of the Chamblee sign at the intersection of Chamblee-Dunwoody Road and Chamblee-Dunwoody Way. They also hosted two all-week events – a scavenger hunt and a yard improvement contest.

KCB also hosted two events during the finale of Georgia Cities Week: Chicks 101 (providing information on keeping chickens in your back yard) and a clean-up of Dresden Park cohosted by the Chamblee Chamber of Commerce.

All-week activities included Chamblee Trivia at 57th Fighter Group, Downwind, Galla's Pizza, Vintage, and Wing Factory. The city collected more than 40 children's and teen's books for Fiesta de Libros, a children's book giveaway/reading program run by volunteers at Plaza Fiesta on the fourth Saturday of every month.

Barbra Neuman of Keller Williams and Van Pappas of Oxygen Financial hosted a shredding event at Chamblee Plaza.

The finale was the Chamblee Family Field Day at Dresden Park. Festivities included a dog parade, touch-a-truck, and field day events for the whole family.



## The José Almaraz Story

# A Professional Soccer Player Among Us

Before he became the pope, Francis Bergoglio believed soccer could keep kids out of trouble. José Almaraz took that lesson to heart.

By Claudia Eva Colichon

**N**early every Saturday you can stop by Dresden Park and see a former professional Argentinian soccer player, José Almaraz, coach up to 200 kids in the fundamentals of soccer. This soccer program, which he funds through sponsorship and is at no cost to the participants, helps these kids stay away from gangs, keep up their grades so they can participate and allows them to just have fun.

José was born and raised in Buenos Aires, the city where he developed a passion for soccer. After retiring, José decided to spend his time giving back to the community and becoming a FIFA-certified soccer coach. Through his journey, he met people who changed his life — one of them was the now Pope Francis Bergoglio.



### A passion for fútbol

José says his passion for helping underprivileged kids began in Buenos Aires when he was introduced to the archbishop Francis Bergoglio, who would become Pope Francis. The archbishop had a program in a remote area of Buenos Aires called “Villa 31.” The goal of the program was to keep the underprivileged kids out of trouble and make them go to school. Pope Francis incentivized the kids to stay out of trouble and go to school through soccer. José explains that everything that he learned by working in this program is now used as a core concept, and is applied to his soccer leagues, here, in Dresden Park.

### A fresh start

José, like many immigrants, migrated to the United States for a better future, for him and his family. However, he never imagined that by coming to the U.S. he would change the life of so many people.

In the beginning, José worked for Sequoyah Middle School. While there, he noticed that many of the underprivileged kids in the school were not able to

participate in extracurricular activities because their families could not afford it. At that moment José decided that something needed to change. In collaboration with ex-Mexican Consul Teodoro Maus, José began a small soccer league in a space that Sequoyah Middle School provided; however, the league grew to the point that José had to relocate and search for a bigger space. Ever since then, José has trained “The League of the Underprivileged” in different places, and now in Chamblee.

### More than just a coach. Way more . . .

In the City of Chamblee, José has coached and mentored hundreds of kids and teens to keep them out of trouble. Participation is absolutely free, but in return, these children have to show José that they are doing well in school and that they are completing their household chores — José even checks with their parents and teachers. José claims that even if he wanted to do the program alone, he wouldn't be able to do it by himself. He has the support of influential people, communities, and businesses. One of his biggest sponsors is Talpa Supermarket. Talpa helps him by giving the parents of the underprivileged kids uniforms, food baskets, coupons, and vouchers. José believes their contribution to be of great importance to the success of the league. Years ago José noticed one of the kids from his league with food in-



► José says that helping these kids is his real passion and that he helps them out of the kindness of his heart, expecting only in return for them to do well in school and keep out of trouble.

side his pockets, and the child told him that he was saving the food that was given to him by the school so he could later eat it at home. Ever since then, José has made sure that his sponsors help facilitate ways for these families to bring food to their tables.

What José does for the underprivileged families of the Chamblee community is something worthy of admiration. He says that helping these kids is his real passion and that he helps them out of the kindness of his heart, expecting only in return for them to do well in school and keep out of trouble.

José truly is an admirable man who is giving back to the Chamblee community by helping hundreds of kids and teens stay out of trouble. Now, José is anxiously waiting for the month of August to come. After working so many years with Pope Francis, José received an invitation to visit his old friend Pope Francis at the Vatican. I am sure that Pope Francis will be proud of what José has accomplished in the Chamblee community.



## Rail Trail Closure Update



In late December the Chamblee Rail Trail was temporarily closed for construction related to the Parkview on Peachtree project. Connolly, the developer of this project, has had some unforeseen site and utility issues that have delayed the construction of the portion that affects the current Chamblee Rail Trail. The developer also plans to construct a decorative timber bridge over the Chamblee Rail Trail. The construction of this bridge will begin in July. Therefore, the trail will remain closed until August.

We know this is one of Chamblee's great public amenities and it is missed by our residents. We are working with the developer to assure the residents that the trail will be opened as soon as possible and to assure the safety of pedestrians.

With public safety as a top priority, pedestrian fencing and signs indicating trail closure will remain in place for the duration of the trail relocation project. Once reopened later this summer, the new section of the trail will be safely available for pedestrians and cyclists.

"We fully expect to open the currently closed portion of the Chamblee Rail Trail later this summer, with plenty of time to enjoy the beautiful weather and scheduled festivals around Chamblee," said Timothy "J.R." Connolly II, CEO of Connolly, developers of Parkview on Peachtree.

For more information and updates on this project, contact Connolly at 770-277-8000 or visit [parkviewonpeachtree.com](http://parkviewonpeachtree.com).

## Fireworks: Dates and Hours By State Law and City Ordinance

In response to past complaints over fireworks, the state recently passed a bill (HB 727) that updated the law on fireworks and clarified how it relates to local ordinances. The full content of the bill can be viewed at [legis.ga.gov/Legislation/20152016/162428.pdf](http://legis.ga.gov/Legislation/20152016/162428.pdf).

Fireworks are allowed any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 9 p.m. However, after 9 p.m. any noisemaking fireworks may violate the Chamblee noise ordinance. This ordinance allows fireworks only on the following dates:

- Approved fireworks may be used on July 3 and 4, 9 to 11:59 p.m.
- Approved fireworks may be used on Dec. 31, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. (Jan. 1) and on Jan. 1 from 10 a.m. to 11:59 p.m.

Violators will be charged with a violation of the noise ordinance and charged a fine of \$175.

The City of Chamblee urges you to be cautious when dealing with fireworks.

## Cinco de Mayo

### Assistant Police Chief Beller Addresses Large Crowd En Espanol

On a Sunday in May, Assistant Chief Michael Beller addressed a large crowd gathered to celebrate Cinco de Mayo at Plaza Fiesta. A/C Beller, who is a fluent Spanish speaker, presented his entire speech in Spanish. He addressed a variety of topics, including police interaction with the public, domestic violence, human, sex and drug trafficking, and gangs. This is the first time in Chamblee history that a member of the Chamblee Police Department addressed an estimated crowd of 15,000 in Spanish.

A/C Beller was born in Mexico where his parents were missionary Bible translators to the Aztec Indians. His childhood



years were spent in a very rural village in central Mexico. He attended high school in Dallas, Texas, and then graduated from Texas A&M University. He served in the Army in the 3rd Ranger Battalion, graduating from Ranger school and sniper school and deploying to Egypt and Panama as an infantry fire team leader.

Hispanic community has given A/C Beller frequent opportunities to use his Spanish skills throughout his career. The Chamblee Police Department has always had a great relationship with the Latino community and his recent speech to the large crowd at the local Cinco de Mayo celebration highlighted and strengthened this relationship.

He was stationed at Ft. Benning and in the last few months of his service participated in a Troops to Cops program in which he was able to attend the police academy while still on active duty. After finishing his military service he came to the Chamblee Police Department in 1997.

The large local

## MURAL

*continued from page 1*

platform for artists to realize the commercial value of their work.

During the weekend of June 3, the public was invited to the gallery on Peachtree Road to review and vote for their favorite artist. The public preferences will be considered by the Main Street Committee, which will provide a recommended artist to the DDA Board.

The chosen artist will be expected to engage further with the Chamblee community while creating a unique design for the wall. MARTA will then have an opportunity to approve the development of the mural on their wall, with the city overseeing and maintaining the work for five years.

The funds for this mural were allocated by City Council as part of the Downtown Renaissance Plan, and city staff is working to identify additional public and private grant funding to create the largest impact possible from available resources for future installations. It is hoped that these efforts will spur more interest in public and private art within the community.

For more information on Main Street, the DDA, or Downtown Chamblee in general, contact Adam Causey, Economic Development Office, City Hall.





# Chamblee 101 Just Keeps Growing!

**F**or the third year in a row, Chamblee 101 has grown to be the largest class in its history. This year's demand actually outgrew the physical space for the class, which created a waiting list. Thirty-seven residents participated this year and thirty-five participated in enough classes to graduate. The 2016 class graduated at the April Council Meeting.

Based on a survey of this year's class, 100 percent of the respondents would recommend this class to a friend. One respondent wrote, "I highly recommend this course if one is sincerely interested in how Chamblee works. A very positive experience with new relationships as a result. So impressed with every single individual involved and I'm hard to please." Staff plans to analyze all the results to make next year's class even better.

## 2016 Chamblee 101 Graduates

- |                  |                  |                    |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Rick Alvarez     | Peter Dyer       | Rickelle Lewis     |
| Chris Armistead  | Dolores Gonzalez | Liz Pastor         |
| Stacy Armistead  | Helen Halton     | John Pastor        |
| Anne Birnkammer  | Bob Hamilton     | Julio Penaranda    |
| Jeff Bonnell     | Jeffrey Hill     | Sandra Spence      |
| Sophia Borisova  | Jennifer Hill    | Holly Teresi       |
| Gregg Burke      | Carol Hittner    | Lisa Waller        |
| Susan Carpenter  | David Hodges     | Jim Welzbacher     |
| Mel Coe          | Brian Holmes     | MaryAnn Welzbacher |
| Brian Crowe      | Kelly Hughes     | Grant Yarbrough    |
| Steve Dettbarn   | Pervez Iqbal     | Ben Yoo            |
| Alexander Domoto | Shaun Lewis      |                    |



## Park Improvements Underway



Last year, Chamblee budgeted improvements for all of its parks prior to the implementation of the Parks Master Plan, which will guide future improvements. Current improvements in the works include repairs to existing structures, such as new roofing on picnic shelters at Keswick and Shallowford Parks, as well as cosmetic improvements to the parks. Also included are new trash cans, grills, benches and picnic tables, four new picnic shelters, and a sand volleyball court.

Renovations at Dresden Park, scheduled after the park was turned over to the city, include replacing bathroom fixtures, fixing water leaks, and installing playground equipment. Installation of the new equipment has begun and will be ongoing throughout the summer.



## State of the City

# 'Outstanding, Dynamic, and Awesome'

**C**hamblee Mayor Eric Clarkson delivered the annual State of the City address during Georgia Cities Week in April. The event was organized by the Chamblee Chamber of Commerce and hosted by the Marriott. A crowd of more than 200 attended, including state representatives, council members, city staff, business owners, and community members.

In his address, Mayor Clarkson said he's happy to report that the State of the City of Chamblee is "outstanding, dynamic, and awesome." He said Chamblee is seeing a resurgence of new housing, strong employment, upscale retail development and even a brewery. He praised the city staff for the work put into projects completed last year.

Mayor Clarkson said the outlook for Chamblee is bright and Chamblee will continue to thrive.



### 2015 Highlights for Chamblee

- Forty-two new employees help maintain service in our expanding city to levels residents have grown to expect.
- The Main Street Program has been re-accredited.
- The focus on jobs in Downtown Chamblee is showing results. More than 1,000 new jobs will be added by the end of this year.
- A new Unified Development Ordinance has been adopted.
- Land Disturbance Permits have increased by 74 percent over 2014.
- Building Permit applications have increased by 45 percent over 2014.
- Capital projects including Chamblee-Dunwoody Streetscape (Phase II) are underway.
- The Rail-Trail path extension is underway.
- MARTA mixed-use retail and office development is on the horizon.
- Two leaf collection vacuum trucks have been purchased.
- Sanitation costs are under control.
- Chamblee has taken over streets and maintenance this year.
- The CDC's expanding campus is bringing in new jobs.
- Parks and Recreation is receiving more attention and funding.
- Dresden Park is now a Chamblee park.
- The city is looking into creating a Community Improvement District (CID).
- The focus on Communications Department deliverables and Citizen Outreach efforts has increased.
- The Chamblee Connect mobile app has launched.
- The 11th Chamblee 101 class was the largest ever.

## Online Court Payment Options Now Available

**C**itizens can now pay traffic citations online or by phone from the comfort of their homes or offices. Chamblee has partnered with nCourt, a nationally recognized electronic payment processor to provide an easy-to-use website where payments can be made quickly and safely. nCourt's service also enables out-of-state drivers to pay their fines and fees remotely.

For more information, visit [chambleega.gov/court](http://chambleega.gov/court).

### How It Works

Citizens can pay a traffic citation by visiting [chambleega.gov/paycourt](http://chambleega.gov/paycourt).

The convenient, user-friendly website is available at any time day or night, and payments can be made quickly and easily – ensuring completion and avoiding potential penalties. MasterCard, VISA, American Express, and Discover credit cards as well as debit cards are all acceptable forms of payment.

Customers can also pay by phone via a toll-free payment line, 855-619-0150, where they are guided through the payment process Monday through Friday, 7 a.m.-9 p.m., and Saturday through Sunday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. EST.

# Community-Oriented Policing

A partnership with residents to improve public safety

**C**ommunity-Oriented-Policing (COPS) is a strategy that builds strong ties between police and community. Chamblee's COPS officer is Chris Poythress, who serves in this position as part of Special Operations. His services include residential and commercial security surveys, presentations to community groups on crime prevention and related topics, coordinating neighborhood watch programs, and providing statistical data to the public upon request.

As a COPS officer, Poythress partners with the community to identify problem areas within the city, such as drug houses or juvenile complaints, and then works with other police and non-police resources to resolve and eliminate the problems. He meets with apartment complex managers to provide information to assist property owners with various issues concerning their rental properties. These meetings cover areas such as tenant screening and evictions, crime data, and crime prevention tips. He also provides information to the managers about compliance with city code to avoid civil fines.

Officer Poythress recently attended training and was certified in the strategy of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) along with members of the code enforcement unit. CPTED asserts that law enforcement officers, architects, city planners, landscape and interior designers, and resident volunteers can create a climate of safety in a community right from the start. CPTED's goal is to prevent crime by designing a physical environment that positively influences human behavior. The theory is based on four principles: natural access control, natural surveillance, territoriality, and maintenance.



Officer Chris Poythress





Officer Poythress conducts a crime-prevention program.

## COPS Projects

**Neighborhood Watch** is one of the oldest and most effective crime prevention programs in the country, bringing citizens together with law enforcement to deter crime and make communities safer. It counts on citizens to organize themselves and work with law enforcement to keep a trained eye and ear on their communities while demonstrating their presence at all times. Neighborhood Watch works because it reduces opportunities for crime to occur. It doesn't rely on altering or changing the criminal's behavior or motivation.

The Chamblee Police Department's Community-Oriented-Policing unit is responsible for working with neighborhoods who desire to establish a Neighborhood Watch program. If you live in a neighborhood that does not already have an established program and are interested in getting one started, contact Officer Chris Poythress, 470-395-2441, or [cpoythress@chambleega.gov](mailto:cpoythress@chambleega.gov).

The **Women's Self Defense Program** empowers women with the knowledge, confidence, and resources to reduce the occurrence of sexual assault crimes. The program teaches women how to take an active role in their own self-defense and psychological well-being. In class, Officer Poythress discusses crime statistics, crime prevention, anticipation, avoidance, and self-defense techniques. The goal is to decrease vulnerability and instill a new sense of confidence and personal power. Class activities and discussions are designed to help women identify their risks, evaluate their strengths, and explore their options for dealing with the threat of sexual violence.

The **Crime-Free Multi-Housing Program** is a state-of-the-art crime prevention program designed to reduce crime, drugs, and gangs on apartment properties. The program has three phases that must be completed under the supervision of the local police department. Property managers can become individually certified after completing training in each phase and the property becomes certified upon successful completion of all three phases.

The anticipated benefits are reduced police calls for service, a more stable resident base, and reduced exposure to civil liability.

# COPS CORNER

## General Driving Tips for Safety

Something as quick and simple as putting on your seat belt or getting your windshield cleaned can mean the difference between life and death. Being aware of other drivers and practicing good road etiquette is equally important. Here are some tips to keep you mindful and safe.

### Simple but Crucial

- Obey the speed limits. Going too fast gives you less time to stop or react. Excess speed is one of the main causes of teenage accidents.
- Always wear your seat belt – and make sure all passengers buckle up, too. Don't try to fit more people in the car than you have seat belts for them to use.
- Adjust your car's head rest to a height behind your head – not your neck – to minimize whiplash in case you're in an accident.
- Make sure your windshield is clean. At sunrise and sunset, light reflecting off your dirty windshield can momentarily blind you from seeing what's going on.
- Experts now recommend that you hold the steering wheel at either three and nine o'clock on the wheel, or even lower at four and eight o'clock. If you're in an accident and the airbags go off, you'll be safer with your hands not flying into your face from the impact of the airbags.

### Consider Other Drivers

- Don't drive like you own the road. Drive like you own the car.
- Don't make assumptions about what other drivers are going to do. The only thing you can assume about another driver with a turn signal on is that they have a turn signal on. He/she might not be turning at all, and just forgot to turn it off.
- Watch out for aggressive drivers and try to stay out of their way. They are the cause of a lot of accidents – especially on freeways.
- Never pull out in front of anyone or swerve into someone else's lane.

### Constant Awareness

- Make sure your car always has gas in it – don't ride around with the gauge on empty.
- Watch out for deer and other animals. If you see an animal approaching, slow down and flash your lights repeatedly. Dusk and dawn are particularly bad times for running into animals, so be on the lookout for them.
- When the light turns green, make sure the intersection clears before you go.

*Information provided by [teendriving.com](http://teendriving.com)*

## Peachtree Streetscape Project Begins Soon

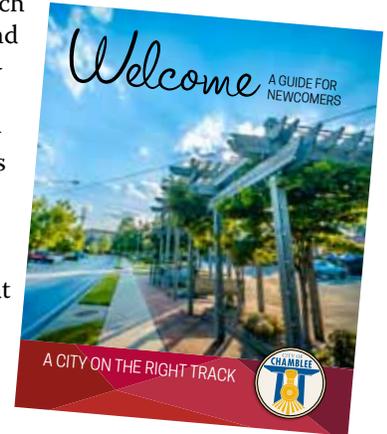
Recently completed streetscape work along Chamblee-Dunwoody Road.



**A**fter many years of coordination and negotiation with CSX railroad and the Georgia Department of Transportation, Chamblee will soon break ground on the Peachtree Road Streetscape. The project will include a five-foot sidewalk, a retaining wall and an ornamental fence along the existing CSX rail fence line. It will also include pavement resurfacing, pavement striping and landscaping. The project limits will run from Pierce Drive to Broad Street. The selected contractor is awaiting City Council approval and should begin work within the next few weeks.

## Welcome Packet for New Residents Now Available

Responding to requests from residents, Chamblee has created a Welcome Packet for new residents. Members of neighborhood watch groups and neighborhood and condo associations participated in the focus group that provided ideas on what should



be included in the packet, which will be distributed by neighborhood associations and real estate agents. You can view the packet at [chambleega.gov/newresident](http://chambleega.gov/newresident).

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# Join the July 4th Celebration at Keswick Park

**E**njoy a day of music, fun, games, and – of course – fireworks! The City of Chamblee will once again host the July 4th Celebration at Keswick Park on Monday, July 4th. This family-friendly event will begin at 5 p.m. and include a bike parade, trackless train rides, bounce houses, a corn hole tournament and more.

Music will start at 6 p.m. Departure – a nationally renowned Journey Tribute Band – will take the stage at 7 p.m. and will play until the fireworks display begins. The Chamblee fireworks show at Keswick Park has been known to compete with Atlanta fireworks displays as well known as Lenox. The approximately 25-minute show features a wide variety of fireworks. No need to compete with the Atlanta traffic to be able to see a phenomenal fireworks display – join us on July 4th to see why Chamblee Rocks! Visit [chambleega.gov](http://chambleega.gov) for more information on the Fourth of July Celebration.



## Chamblee Resident Sets World Record



**M**ost of her Wakefield Forest neighbors are accustomed to the sight of Betty Lindberg briskly walking through the neighborhood with her chocolate-colored cocker spaniel, Beau. What they may not know is that she's the fastest in the world in the 800 meters in her 90+ age bracket.



Betty is a 27-year member of the Atlanta Track Club, which sponsors about 30 events every year, including the annual 4th of July Peachtree Road Race. That event is the world's largest 10k run, despite only having 110 runners when first held in 1970. Now race entrants must be limited to 60,000 runners.

Betty was 64 when she entered her first Peachtree Road Race in 1988. She became interested in the event when her daughter and son-in-law asked her to drop them off at the starting point and then pick them up in Piedmont Park at the finish. She was caught up by the atmosphere of the race as well as the unmistakable accomplishment felt by the runners.

So, after getting the okay from her doctor, she started training to enter the race the next year. Since then, she also participates in a number of other events put on by the Atlanta Track Club every year. This year, at age 90, Betty participated in her 25th Peachtree.

She is a member of the Walking Club of Georgia as well as a certified official of USA Track & Field, where she is a race walk judge. Race walking is an Olympic sport with definite rules. The Walking Club of Georgia was formed in 1987, and is the only walking club in Georgia.

Before his death in 2006, Lindy (the name by which Betty's husband was known to their neighbors and friends) walked around the neighborhood daily with Betty, often stopping to chat with other residents. Lindy was loyal to regular exercise, but he was not tempted to run the Peachtree. He fully supported Betty's participation in the race, however, and volunteered to help at many of the other events.

The Lindbergs moved to their home in Wakefield Forest in 1960. Betty has seen a lot of changes come to the area, and is happy with most of them. Being recently annexed into Chamblee, she singled out the increased visible police presence, her amusement at watching the leaf sucker at work, and the efficiency of the street sweeper.

After graduating from high school in 1942, Betty, who is originally from Minnesota, attended a government-sponsored school, the National Youth Administration, where young women could learn to fabricate military aircraft or build radio equipment and install it in the planes. Betty's training allowed her to attain a Federal Communications Commission license, which led to a position as a ground radio operator with Northwest Airlines. She and Lindy moved to Atlanta in 1958. When her son and daughter reached school age, she started a 26-year position as secretary to the manager of Rich's Lenox Square store.

Nowadays, when you see Betty walking with Beau, wave to her, and be inspired.



# Parkview on Peachtree Project Breaks Ground

**A** groundbreaking ceremony in May, hosted by Connolly developers, affiliate Spruce Street Partners, and Terwilliger Pappas, kicked off the vertical construction phase of Parkview on Peachtree, a transit-oriented mixed-use development in Chamblee.

“The City of Chamblee has welcomed us with open arms and has trusted us with their hopes for the future. This property was designed with the input of residents who wanted more for their families and their community,” said Timothy “J.R.” Connolly II, CEO of Connolly, developers of Parkview on Peachtree. “Today is the day we start to realize that future as we officially break ground on a mixed-use development that will set a new standard for the entire region.”

Set to open in 2017, Parkview on Peachtree is designed to inspire a new model for mixed-use developments in the Southeast, seamlessly incorporating the surrounding greenscapes, mass transit, parks and fitness trails into a diverse blend of retail, office, and residential homes.

“The progress of the project is right where we expected, and we can’t wait to share exciting project updates in the weeks ahead,” said Connolly. “The local flavor and walkability of the development will fit perfectly with the direction of the city of Chamblee.”

Mayor Eric Clarkson and other city officials attended the groundbreaking ceremony, as well as representatives from the project developers.

For more information, including leasing opportunities, visit [parkviewonpeachtree.com](http://parkviewonpeachtree.com).



## About Parkview on Peachtree

Parkview is a new mixed-use retail, restaurant, office, and residential development set in a growing and thriving area within Metro Atlanta. Steps away from mass transit and back-dropped by greenscape and a network of walking and fitness trails, the development was thoughtfully designed by Connolly to reflect the modern South with a focus on walkability and an active lifestyle.

Set to open in the summer of 2017 and conveniently located near Buckhead, Brookhaven and Perimeter Center, Parkview on Peachtree’s design features 40,000 square feet of street front boutique shops, casual cafés, and restaurants. It will also include 14,000 square feet of office space and 303 multi-family units in phase one and an additional 200 in phase two. To discover business opportunities or learn how to live, work and play here, visit [parkviewonpeachtree.com](http://parkviewonpeachtree.com).

## June Concert

Hundreds turned out on June 3 for food and fun, and to see Face to Face, a Billy Joel/Elton John tribute act, perform in the City Hall parking lot. Next up in Chamblee's Summer Concert Series is the Molly Ringwalds on August 5. See page 20 for details.



### Chamblee Chamber of Commerce News

## Springtime Events – Informative and Fun

**T**he chamber's events committee has done a great job of organizing and promoting events that keep citizens engaged with the business community.

In March we gathered for Business after Hours at Plaza Fiesta where Julio Penarada and his staff treated us to some great music and food and drink. The March Business Breakfast featured a program, moderated by founding President Van Pappas, in which developers described their projects and took questions from the audience.

In April Business After Hours was hosted by Guardian Business Center, 5317 Peachtree Boulevard. Martin and his team were great hosts and we enjoyed networking and meeting some of the businesses that call GBC home. The April Business Breakfast was a very special one. A large

crowd of citizens, business leaders, and elected officials gathered at the Atlanta Marriott Century Center for the mayor's State of the City address. The chamber was honored to host this event in partnership with the city as part of Georgia Cities week.

Also during Georgia Cities Week we assisted Keep Chamblee Beautiful with the sign beautification project at Chamblee Dunwoody Road. The chamber takes pride in partnering with local volunteer groups as well as promoting the business community and its growth.

The development of an arts community in our city continues to progress with I.D.E.A., an art gallery that will open soon at 5346A Peachtree Rd. The owners, Peter Dyer and Amy Spanier, our newest chamber members, will head up our arts committee with the help of the growing arts community in Chamblee.

### Board of Director Additions

Kerry Mitchell, a chamber founding member, has joined the board as well as the executive committee. We look forward to his contributions and service. Paula Granger and Thom Abbott have also joined the board. They have both been active with the events committee and bring much enthusiasm and dedication to our organization. Julio Penarada, general manager of Plaza Fiesta, has joined and we look forward to his leadership as we continue to form a community of businesses from all parts of Chamblee.

The chamber is grateful for the opportunity to serve the business community and citizens of Chamblee. We hope to see you at our wine tent during the Summer Concert Series this year. For information and updates on upcoming events, visit [chambleechamber.org](http://chambleechamber.org) and our Facebook page.

## COPS

La ciudad de Chamblee tiene un oficial asignado para los Servicios Policias Orientados a la Comunidad, que por sus siglas en ingles es COPS. Esta posicion es parte de las Operaciones Especiales del departamento de policia de Chamblee. Chris Poythress, es el oficial de COPS que esta encargado de una variedad de responsabilidad y esta involucrado en distintos programas. Poythress provee servicios tipo encuestas sobre seguridad residencial y comercial, presentaciones para grupos en la comunidad sobre prevencion de crimenes y temas relacionados, coordinacion de vecindarios para tener programas de vigilancia y proveer datos estadisticos al publico cuando se lo pidan.

El oficial de COPS colabora con la comunidad para identificar los problemas en las areas dentro de la ciudad, y trabajar en conjunto con el resto del departamento policial y buscar recursos que puedan hacer que el oficial acargo, resuelva y elimine los problemas que aflijen a estas areas. Estos policias se reuneen con la gerencia de complejos de los departamentos para reunir informacion sobre como asistir a los dueños de la propiedad con los diferentes temas que les concierne acerca de sus propiedades de alquiler. Estas reuniones, cubren areas que detallan informes de inquilinos y desalojo, datos sobre delito y consejos de prevencion contra el crimen. Tambien, proven con informacion acerca de como evitar multas civicas, y multas sobre los codigos de construccion de la ciudad.

Si le gustaria reunirse con Chris o invitarlo a dar una charla en una de sus reuniones, contactarlo en [cpoythress@chambleega.gov](mailto:cpoythress@chambleega.gov).

## Las Nuevas Caras de Chamblee



Administrador de la Ciudad de Chamblee, Jon Walker



Directora de Parques y Recreacion de Chamblee, Jodie Giffillan

## Modifican Ley Acerca de Fuegos Artificiales

**R**esidentes de Chamblee, debido a las quejas que recibimos acerca de los fuegos artificiales, el Estado a decidido pasar un bill (HB 727) que modifica una ley acerca de los fuegos artificiales y la relacion que tiene con las ordenanzas locales. Aqui les presentamos un resumen sobre el bill, y para los que quieran investigar mas sobre el tema, pueden visitar el siguiente enlace: [legis.ga.gov/Legislation/20152016/162428.pdf](http://legis.ga.gov/Legislation/20152016/162428.pdf).

Los fuegos artificiales estan permitidos todos los dias entre 10 a.m. a 9 p.m.. Despues de las 9 p.m. cualquier fuego artificial que haga sonido, violara la ordenanza de Chamblee. Sin embargo, esta ordenanza tiene excepciones en las siguientes fechas:

Los fuegos artificiales que esten aprovados, pueden ser utilizados el 3 de Julio y el 4, 9 p.m. a 11:59 p.m.

Tambien, los fuegos artificiales que esten aprovados, puedes ser utilizados el 31 de Diciembre, 09 p.m. a 1 a.m. (1ero de Enero) y el 1ero de Enero de 10 a.m. a 11:59 p.m.

Los que violen esta ordenanza seran sujetos a una multa de \$175.

Como siempre, la Ciudad de Chamblee desea que sean cautelosos al jugar con fuegos artificiales.

## 4 de Julio

### Celebracion en el Parque Keswick

No te pierdas un dia lleno de musica, diversion, y – por supuesto – Fuegos artificiales! La Ciudad de Chamblee patrocina la Celebracion del 4 de Julio en el Parque de Keswick el dia lunes 4 de Julio. Este evento familiar comenzara a las 5 p.m. con actividades que incluyen desfile de bicicletas, paseos en trenecitos, juegos inflables, torneos, y mucho mas. La musica comenzara a las 6 p.m., y Departure – una banda de renombre nacional Journey Tribute Band, tomara el escenario a las 7 p.m. y tocara hasta que comiencen los fuegos artificiales. El show de los fuegos artificiales de Chamblee en el Parque Keswick, a comenzado a competir con los fuegos artificiales que nos brinda Lenox, en la ciudad de Atlanta. Este show dura de 20 a 25 minutos y nos brinda una gran variedad de fuegos artificiales. De este modo, no tendra que competir con el trafico de Atlanta para presenciar este increíble show en Chamblee con variados fuegos artificiales. Unete a nosotros este 4 de Julio y ve por que Chamblee es increíble! Visitanos en [chambleega.gov](http://chambleega.gov) para mas informacion acerca de esta Celebracion del 4 de Julio.

## Reciclando Electronicos

En un esfuerzo continuo para reducir desperdicio y promover la responsabilidad del reciclaje de electronicos, los electronicos que ya no usas, pueden ser llevados a nuestra facilidad de Public Works cada tercer Sabado de cada mes, de 8 a.m. hasta el medio dia. Estamos localizados en 3210 Cumberland Dr., Chamblee. Para mas detalles llamar al: 770-986-5019.

Monitores de computadoras, computadoras de escritorio, lap tops, todo tipo de baterias, teclados, impresoras, raton de la computadora, accesorios pequeños, CD/DVDs, celulares, equipo de jardineria, discos duros (nosotros no borramos la informacion que contenga), y solamente televisores de pantalla plana. Ahora ya no aceptamos otro tipo de televisores, solo pantallas planas. Si desea deshacerse de televisores que no tengan pantalla plana, sera sujeto a pagar por ello.

## August 5 is '80s Night in Chamblee

**B**e sure to join us for the fourth show of the Chamblee Summer Concert Series in City Hall Park when we welcome the Molly Ringwalds. VIP tables are available at [chambleega.gov](http://chambleega.gov), or you can bring a blanket or lawn chair and join us for an evening of entertainment – it's free.

The Molly Ringwalds offer a great '80s Experience. Hailing from Sheffield, England, this legendary quintet combines their individual and very formidable talents to express the true essence of that radical decade. The Molly Ringwalds reflect the era by honing their abilities to apply makeup and tease their hair while

showcasing all the musical genres of the times.

Thank you to our Chamblee Summer Concert Series sponsors – Jim Ellis Automotive, Plaza Fiesta, VCA Pets are People Too Animal Hospital, Skybound Aviation, TerraCraft Homes, the Debbie Leonard Group, and Kerry Mitchell State Farm.



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# Calendar

# CHAMBLEE.GA.GOV JULY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4 <b>Independence Day, City Offices Closed</b> <b>Fourth of July Celebration, 5-10 pm, Keswick Park</b>	5 <b>Trash and Recycling Routes for Monday and Tuesday</b> <b>Architectural Design Review Board, 7 pm, City Hall Conference Room</b>	6	7 <b>Recreation Advisory Committee, 7 pm, City Hall Conference Room</b>	8	9
10	11 <b>Youth Sports Registration Open for Non-Residents</b> <b>Court, 6 pm, Civic Center</b>	12	13 <b>Court, 6 pm, Civic Center</b>	14 <b>City Council Work Session, 6 pm, Civic Center</b>	15	16 <b>Electronics Recycling Day, 8 am-noon, Public Works</b>
17	18 <b>Court, 6 pm, Civic Center</b>	19 <b>City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm, Civic Center</b>	20	21 <b>Chamblee Chamber Breakfast Meeting, 7:30 am, Civic Center</b>	22	23
24	25 <b>Court, 6 pm, Civic Center</b>	26 <b>Downtown Development Authority Meeting, 6:30 pm, City Hall Conference Room</b>	27	28	29	30
31						



# Calendar

# AUGUST 2016

CHAMBLEEGA.GOV

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 <b>Main Street Meeting.</b> 6:30 pm, City Hall Conference Room	2 <b>Architectural Review Board.</b> 7-9 pm, City Hall Conference Room	3	4 <b>Recreation Advisory Committee.</b> 7 pm, City Hall Conference Room	5 <b>Summer Concert: Molly Ringwalds.</b> 6:30-10 pm, City Hall Park	6
7	8 <b>Court.</b> 6 pm, Civic Center	9	10 <b>Court.</b> 6 pm, Civic Center	11 <b>City Council Work Session.</b> 6 pm, Civic Center <b>Senior Breakfast Club.</b> 10 am, Civic Center	12	13
14	15 <b>Court.</b> 6 pm, Civic Center	16 <b>City Council Meeting.</b> 7:30 pm, Civic Center	17	18 <b>Chamblee Chamber Breakfast Meeting.</b> 7:30 am, Civic Center <b>Court.</b> 6 pm, Civic Center	19	20 <b>Electronics Recycling Day.</b> 8 am-noon, Public Works
21	22	23 <b>Downtown Development Authority Meeting.</b> 6:30 pm, City Hall Conference Room	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 <b>P.R.I.D.E. Driving Class.</b> 6 pm, Civic Center			

# Events



SAVE THE DATE: **OCTOBER 1**

**Proceeds benefit the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation**

Would you like to be a vendor? Applications are being accepted now. Go to [tasteofchamblee.net](http://tasteofchamblee.net) to learn more.

## BU-HI RACE DELAYED

The Bu-Hi Half Marathon date has been changed from May 14 to **Sunday, Oct. 2**. The change is due to a scheduling conflict with the annual Peachtree DeKalb Airshow. For more information about the change or the new date contact [info@iwelife.com](mailto:info@iwelife.com).



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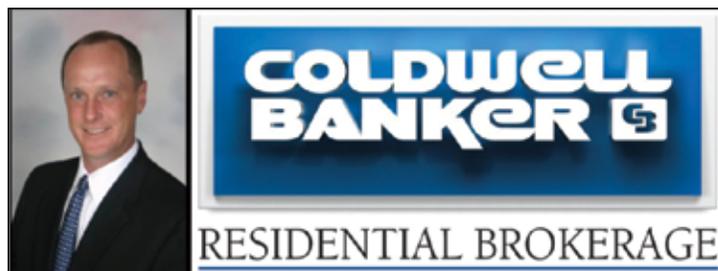
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