

## Chattahoochee Hills Civic Association Weekly Reader – October 3, 2008

To print and share copies of the weekly update see: [www.chatthills.org](http://www.chatthills.org)  
For the Civic Event Calendar see: <http://www.chatthills.org/Calendar.htm>

### ASSOCIATION UPDATES

#### **Buy Our Parks Now! Update – Presentation to City Scheduled for Oct. 7 \$145,761 Raised to Date – including \$13,106 donated in memory of Zack Wansley!**

You are invited to join the Chattahoochee Hills Civic Association and the Chattahoochee Hill Country Conservancy at the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, Oct 7 at 6 p.m. at City Hall, as we present a check to the mayor and city council to Buy Our Parks Now! The check will be presented on behalf of the nearly 300 residents and friends of Chat Hills who participated in this community-wide effort. If you would like your name added to the initial list we present, there is still time to send your donation or make a pledge. (See below).

#### **In a message from our Parks Committee Chair, David McMurrain writes ~**

I agreed to Chair the BUY OUR PARKS NOW Committee because I believe that every family in Chattahoochee Hills should have wonderful, nature-filled parks to enjoy. Our new city has the opportunity to buy 1,125 acres of parkland from Fulton County for \$100 per acre or \$112,500. Nearly 300 residents and friends of Chat Hills have contributed generously, and we have enough money to buy the parks including the “closing costs” such as required environmental studies, surveys and title searches. If you are among this group, you have my sincere thanks.

If you have not yet made a donation, I am seeking your support for a very important cause. You see, we need to raise another \$50,000 to maintain and improve the parks for the next two years. That is a lot of money, but with your financial support – regardless of the amount – we can provide for maintenance and upkeep of four parks. [\[Read More\]](#)

To learn more about Buy Our Parks Now! See [www.buyourparksnow.com](http://www.buyourparksnow.com)

To make a tax deductible donation, make your check payable to:

CHC Conservancy and write buy Our Parks Now! In the memo portion

Mail to: Buy Our Parks Now!

P.O. Box 204 Palmetto, GA 30268

To request a \$1 donation be made in your name, contact Laurie Searle at 770-463-5169 /

[lsearle@bellsouth.net](mailto:lsearle@bellsouth.net)

For a list of folks who have donated so far see: <http://www.buyourparksnow.com/donor.htm>

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#### **Adopt-a-Mile Committee Meeting – Oct. 6**

7 - 8 p.m. at New Hope United Methodist Church

Planning session for the Nov. 1 Community Clean-Up Day

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#### **City Clean-Up Day – Save the Date Nov. 1**

*Submitted by Committee Chair Molcie Trimble*

The Adopt-a-Mile committee is planning another clean-up day to pick up trash on our city roads. Save the date for Nov.1 and join the fun.

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#### **Civic Association Board of Dir. Meeting – Oct. 9**

7 p.m. at Cochran Mill Nature Center

Special guest Anne Haimes from the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System has been invited to give an update on the Library referendum, which is on the ballot next month.

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### **Historical Society Announces – Tom and Vera Gullatt Oral History**

Tom and Vera Gullatt have deep roots in our community. Tom was born in 1902 to a farm family in Rico; Vera grew up in nearby Fairburn. They led separate lives as missionaries in Japan -- he for 35 years, she for 43 years -- before fate brought them together in their golden years. Visit the Historical Society's Oral History page on the Gallant's for their audio interview, written transcript, and photo album. See:

<http://www.chattahoocheehillshistoricalsociety.org/Collections/OralHistories/Gullatt/gullatt.htm>

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### **Chat Hills Voting Guide Coming Soon**

Civic volunteers have surveyed several local candidates who will be on the ballot next month. Stay tuned later this week for the survey responses and a special Chat Hills Voting Guide to the General Election.

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## **CITY UPDATES**

### **Chattahoochee Hills Called "The Essence of Community" on 11-Alive News**

Chattahoochee Hills was the focus of a recent news story on WXIA 11-Alive about the return of salaries by the Mayor, City Manager and several Council members. The story gave high praise to the countless volunteer citizens who give their time and services to keep the city and its vision alive and running.

Anchor Brenda Wood called Chattahoochee Hills the "essence of community."

See the video on the City's Web site at: [www.chatthillsga.us](http://www.chatthillsga.us) or about it below.

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### **Elected Officials in Chat Hills Lead by Example**

*Submitted by Chuck Miller*

[This was a news story about the above Channel 11 news story]

Posted: 30 Sep 2008 10:18 AM CDT

When's the last time you heard of people cheering an increase in their taxes?

Well that's what happened in the year-old city of Chattahoochee Hills Country when the city council voted to double city property taxes in the face of sagging revenues.

The new city expected \$2.6 million in revenue in its first year. Instead, just \$1.4 million came in.

Firefighters and police officers are still needed, so city leaders said they did what they had to do. They doubled city property taxes. Last week, when the city council voted on the hike, citizens in the audience applauded. [Source: 11Alive.com, "South Fulton Mayor Works for Free", September 30, 2008]

In addition to the tax hike, the mayor, most of the city council and the city manager are all working for free. According to 11Alive, the money saved by the combined salaries will pay for two more police officers.

While no one likes higher taxes, the people of Chat Hills seem to be accepting the increase because A.) Their elected officials came to them and explained the problem; and B.) Their elected leaders aren't sitting around voting themselves pay raises -- they're saving the city money by working for free.

More elected officials could stand to learn a thing or two from the examples being set down in Chattahoochee Hills Country.

**City Hall Spruce Up**

Our city clerk reports that City Hall is undergoing a “spruce up” over the next several months. In addition to relocating the police services from the fire station to City Hall, they will be doing some painting and other light remodeling. We’ve been told that community programs that are already scheduled may still continue to use the facility during the spruce up, but that other new requests will be limited. If your community activity needs a place to meet in the interim, please contact [info@chatthills.org](mailto:info@chatthills.org) and we will provide some alternatives.

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**Next City Council Meeting – Oct 7**

The next meeting is Tuesday, Oct. 7; workshop at 3:00 p.m., followed by a Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. Meeting will be at City Hall

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**FULTON COUNTY UPDATES****Fulton County Public Meeting on FY 09 Taxes – Oct. 16**

The Fulton County Board of Commissioners will hold a series of public hearings at the following locations and times to receive taxpayers’ input regarding the 2009 General Fund and South Fulton Tax District Fund budgets.

Thursday, October 16, 2008, 7:00 p.m.  
South Fulton Service Center, 5600 Stonewall Tell Road, College Park, GA

Monday, October 20, 2008, 6:00 p.m.  
Harriett G. Darnell Senior Center, 677 Fairburn Road, NW, Atlanta, GA

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**VOTER INFORMATION****Voter Registration**

Last day to register to vote in the November Election is October 6, 2008

**Early Voting:** Voters may cast an absentee ballot in person on weekdays from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., beginning Monday, September 22, 2008 through Friday, October 24, 2008 at the following locations ONLY:

South Fulton Service Center  
5600 Stonewall Tell Rd., Room 105  
College Park, GA

Government Center  
141 Pryor St. Suite 4064  
Atlanta, GA

North Service Center  
7741 Roswell Rd. Room 290  
Atlanta, GA

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**Advanced Voting:**

Advanced Voting begins Monday, October 27 through Friday, October 31, 2008. Voters may cast their ballot during this week from 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the three locations above. (For other locations see [www.fultoncountyga.gov/county/election](http://www.fultoncountyga.gov/county/election).)

**The absentee application** may be downloaded from the Fulton County website at [www.fultoncountyga.gov/county/election](http://www.fultoncountyga.gov/county/election).

### **AJC Voter Guide**

This little online tool is pretty nifty.

<http://www.thevoterguide.org/a-ajc08/index.do>

### **Library Bond Referendum**

Learn about the \$275 million bond referendum for capital improvements to the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System, including our new Palmetto/Chattahoochee Hills Library.

[http://www.afplweb.com/cms/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=53&Itemid=23](http://www.afplweb.com/cms/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=53&Itemid=23)

See the fact sheet:

<http://www.afplweb.com/cms/images/stories/files/Facility%20Master%20Plan/Fact%20Sheet.pdf>

## **FROM OUR NEIGHBORS**

### **Financial Peace University – Coming to New Hope Church in Chat Hills**

Join the millions of Americans who are listening to Dave Ramsey and start dumping debt and building wealth today! New Hope Church will be offering Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University through a 13-week series beginning with the preview on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. The first class will begin October 26, and all classes will be held in their fellowship hall on Sunday at 5pm.

To register:

1. Go to [www.daveramsey.com](http://www.daveramsey.com)
2. Click on the "Quick Finder" box on the top left.
3. Then click on Find a Class under Financial Peace University.  
After you enter your zip code you will see New Hope listed.
4. Attendees must purchase a member kit and can get it for a discount of \$100 at the church.

New Hope Church is located at 7875 Atlanta Newnan Rd. Palmetto, GA 30268.

For the Financial Peace University Brochure see: <http://www.chatthills.org/foch/FPU-NewHope.pdf>

For more information contact: 770-463-8062

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### **Paisley Salon at Serenbe**

This weekend at Paisley Salon we will be celebrating and honoring Breast Cancer Awareness Month. 10% of all proceeds, Friday thru Sunday, will be donated to Susan G. Omen's race for the cure! We will be serving pink lemonade and cookies all day Saturday and Sunday. Please stop by and enjoy the refreshments, or make an appointment and donate to this awesome cause.

Paisley offers a complete menu of services for men and women including: haircut, color, highlights, blowouts, undoes as well as the complete line of AlterNet's Hemp with Organics Shampoo, Conditioner and Styling Products. Amber Avanossian is a stylist and color specialist with 14 years experience working in Atlanta's top salons (Vis-à-vis, Van Michael and Salon Red).

678-545-0674

9059 Selborne Lane

p.s. Some of you may be very excited to hear that a nail tech is joining the team! finally... Come by and meet Carmen tomorrow around noon.

**THIS WEEKEND****Old Campbell County Homecoming this Saturday – Oct. 4**

By MICHAEL BOYLAN

mboylan@TheCitizenNews.com

Fairburn will host Old Campbell County Homecoming this Saturday and the day will be filled with fun for the whole family.

The activities kick off at 10 a.m. with a parade and a full bill of entertainment starts at 11:30 a.m. Featured artists this year include Ross Pead, Sassy Seniors line dancers, Cedar Grove Bluegrass Band, Doris Russell Dancers, Fairburn Baptist Adult Choir, Rock Solid Revival and Amazed By Grace Youth.

In addition to the non-stop entertainment, there will also be activities for children including a free train ride and pony rides (which will require a small fee). There will also be a wide variety of arts and crafts to peruse, historical displays in the Old Campbell County Courthouse, lots of vendors selling your favorite fall festival foods, a cake walk and more.

The Old Campbell County Homecoming will last from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and promises to be a fun day for all involved.

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**Second Annual Landmark Champions Chase – Oct 4**

This 5K run starts and finishes on the Landmark Christina School Track in the Bill Thorn Stadium

8a.m. – 1 mile, 8:30 a.m. 5K

See race flyer: <http://www.chatthills.org/foch/Landmark-OCCHS%20Race.pdf>

**SAVE THE DATES****Thursday Oct. 9, Sat Oct 18 (PLU Th 10/23)****Canoeing down the Chattahoochee (Sense of Place learning series)**

As the air begins to cool and leaves change colors, we will embark on an odyssey down the Chattahoochee River by canoe. At our evening meeting, participants will learn about the river's water quality, as presented by Steve Lawrence of the US Geological Survey, along with Chris Tabit, aquatic ecologist at the University of West Georgia. The highlight of the month will be our Saturday canoe trip, accompanied by both scientists. We will take in the scenery while we learn about the environmental challenges currently facing the middle Chattahoochee River. And, we will pause partway on our journey to enjoy a riverside BBQ lunch. See: <http://www.hillcountrymontessori.org/institutesop.htm>

[We asked Clifford for a little more information about this interesting trip and he wrote]

In October, our focus will be the Chattahoochee River south of the city of Atlanta, particularly the stretch passing along the southwest boundary of Fulton County. The workshop will consist of a talk at The Studio at Serenbe Community at 6:30 pm on Thursday, October 9. The talk will be given by both Steve Lawrence of the BacteriAlert monitoring program along the Chattahoochee River, and Dr. Christopher Tabit, aquatic ecologist at the University of West Georgia.

Then, on Saturday, October 18, we will be embarking on a day-long canoe trip (canoes and equipment provided) along a little-traveled stretch of the Chattahoochee River. We will meet at 7:00 am at Hill Country Montessori School to caravan to the take-out and put-in sites. We will be canoeing the stretch of river between the South Fulton Parkway bridge and the Whitesburg bridge. Both Dr. Tabit and Steve Lawrence will be joining us on this trip, sharing their knowledge of river conditions. The trip will be planned and guided by Ben Simms, a seasoned wilderness trip leader. The workshop (both Thursday talk and Saturday outing) will cost \$60 a person or \$30 for those that supply their own canoes and equipment.

A barbecue lunch will be provided for all participants on Saturday. Participants should bring water bottles, sun hats, and insect repellent. Participants should register in advance by contacting Clifford Blizzard at [senseofplace@southeastpbe.org](mailto:senseofplace@southeastpbe.org) or 770-463-2221 (daytime) or 770-463-2887 (evenings). Children of elementary school age or older are welcome to attend in the company of a parent or guardian.  
[senseofplacese@gmail.com](mailto:senseofplacese@gmail.com)

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**Saturday Oct. 11**

3rd Annual Michael Dempsey Memorial Barbecue  
Providence Baptist Church in Rico  
Also - The Providence Great Pumpkin Sale from 10am – 3pm

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**Saturday Oct. 18**

Annual Barbecue at New Hope Methodist Church  
7875 Atlanta Newnan Rd, Palmetto, GA 30268. (770) 463-4076

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**Sunday, Oct. 19: Brubeck Brothers Quartet at Hutcheson Ferry Park.**

2-5pm. \$15 per vehicle. For the event flyer see: <http://www.chatthills.org/foch/brubeckposteremail.pdf>  
To become a sponsor, contact Steven Kopelman at [stevenchca@gmail.com](mailto:stevenchca@gmail.com).

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**Hill Country Montessori Harvest Carnival – Oct. 25**

10 a.m to 2 p.m.

*Contributed by Christina Pardue 770-629-4446*

An eco-friendly carnival all about improving life in our community. Lots of fun, food, and great prizes!  
Held in conjunction with the Serenbe Farmers Market from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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**Saturday & Sunday Oct. 25-26**

Rico Fall Festival

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**Saturday, Oct. 25**

Cochran Mill Nature Center Halloween Hayride and Family Festival - 5:00-9:00 pm  
Enjoy a hayride, arts and crafts, activities, games, a costume contest (at 7:30pm), night canoeing, a campfire and live animal education. Visit our Haunted Habitat, if you dare!

Admission: \$5 member/\$6 non-member, Children under two years old are free.

Dinner will be available for \$4.

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**Getting Around Serenbe 15K Trail Run – Nov. 15**

Presented by Getting Around, a bike rental store at Serenbe, this scenic 15k (9.3 mile) trail run will take you running through the woods, past a water fall, along farm animal fence lines, over open pastures, and onto the town center streets of Serenbe! It's a great race for both beginning and experienced trail runners!  
For more information and to register see:

[http://www.active.com/page/Event\\_Details.htm?event\\_id=1609078&assetId=939CDE32-2EC4-455A-905A-DDB196511993#](http://www.active.com/page/Event_Details.htm?event_id=1609078&assetId=939CDE32-2EC4-455A-905A-DDB196511993#)

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