

Chattahoochee Hills Civic Association Weekly Reader – November 14, 2008

For extended stories, and to print and share copies of the weekly reader see: www.chatthills.org

For the Civic Event Calendar see: <http://www.chatthills.org/Calendar.htm>

ASSOCIATION UPDATES

Chattahoochee Hills Singers - Rehearsal Nov. 19 at 8:30 p.m. at Providence Baptist Church

Submitted by Melea Brett, city celebrations committee co-chair

Anyone and everyone is welcome to join and make their debut performance at this year's tree lighting on Dec. 1. CD's are available of the music selections to be performed; there will be one rehearsal on Nov. 19th from 8:30 – 9:00 p.m. at Providence Baptist Church (next to Smith's Store on Campbellton Rediway in Rico.) For more information, please contact the City Celebrations Committee at mgbrett@bellsouth.net.

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Events Committee:

Check out the events in the last section of the news.

Christmas Tree Lighting on Dec. 1

Tour of Homes on Dec. 7

Enter the Tour of Homes Raffle and Help Remodel City Hall

As part of the upcoming Tour of Homes on Dec. 7, a raffle drawing will be held for a beautiful Christmas quilt that has been donated by Judy Hayes, wife of Mayor Don Hayes. Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$1 each from Judy Henderson in the library. Proceeds from the raffle will be used to support remodeling efforts at City Hall.

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Buy Our Parks Now! Update

Donations Received to Date: \$249,225

We thank the many residents and friends of Chattahoochee Hills who have participated. Since gifts and pledges are still coming in, we will continue to keep the campaign open.

To learn more about Buy Our Parks Now! see 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

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

CITY UPDATES

Essential Information

City Government Web site: <http://www.chatthillsga.us>

Citizens Call Center to notify the city of a problem, provide feedback, or other business: 770-463-5550

For all emergencies call: 911

Non-emergency number: 770-463-6306

Census Bureau Job Fair at City Hall – Nov 21 at 10 a.m.

U.S. Census Bureau is going to be hosting a “job fair” at City Hall on Friday, November 21st at 10:00 AM to hire individuals in our City to work on the 2010 Census. The jobs available are for full-time and part-time positions such as Clerks, Census Takers, Crew Leader, Crew Leader Assistant, Recruiting Assistant, and Enumerator. The pay ranges from \$12.25 to \$19.25 per hour. The work will continue through early 2010.

Anyone interested needs to pre-register by calling 1-888-586-9439. They will most likely get a recording so they will need to leave their name and telephone number. Someone is required to call them back and it might take up to 2 days to get a return call, but they will call back. However, if anyone calls this number and has not heard back by the morning of November 21st, they can come to City Hall at 10:00 a.m. and will still be considered. There is a 30 minute multiple choice written test that everyone is required to complete and the process is expected to take 2 hours. See flyer:

<http://www.chatthills.org/foch/CencusInformation1.pdf> and job descriptions:

<http://www.chatthills.org/foch/CencusInformation2.pdf>

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Residents are invited to chat with the Mayor and Council – Dec.1 at 10 a.m.

From the city's Web site

Chattahoochee Hills Now Serving Coffee with Council and Dunkin' with Don

Have you ever wanted to stop by and have a chat with Mayor Hayes or one of the City Council members? Now you can! On Monday, Dec. 1, residents are invited to drop by City Hall at 10 a.m. and enjoy coffee, birthday donuts and casual conversation with the Mayor, Council and staff during our very first “Coffee with Council and Dunkin' with Don.” This event will continue into 2009, with either the Mayor or one of the Council members hosting the event each month. We look forward to seeing you there and hope that everyone will enjoy these casual gatherings with your elected officials!

FULTON COUNTY UPDATES

**Public Notice – Reference Citizen Input on Issues for the General Assemble
Nov. 19, 7 p.m. Coverdell Legislative Office Building**

The Atlanta-Fulton House and Senate Delegations are sponsoring a public hearing on Wednesday, Nov. 19 at 7pm in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building, directly across from the State Capitol. The purpose of the hearing is to enable citizens to give input and feedback to their state legislators on issues they would like the upcoming session of the Georgia General Assemble to address. See:

<http://www.chatthills.org/foch/FC-publnotice2.pdf>

NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR

Farming in Chattahoochee Hills – Video Project

Our community has a long history of farming that dates back to the first settlers in the early 1800s and continues today, with a variety of small farms sprinkled throughout Chattahoochee Hills. One of our newest farmers is Paige Witherington, who manages and works the 15-acre organic farm at Serenbe. Paige is interested in learning more about the farming heritage of our community, so she contacted the Chattahoochee Hills Historical Society and offered to lead a video project.

Paige is in the planning stage of the video project and would like to speak with residents who are currently farming in our community, or have a history of farming in their family. She is interested in

meeting all types of farmers, including those who farm professionally, like Fuller Anderson and James Gullatt who are hay farmers, and Wayne Straddling and Charles Jackson who are livestock farmers; as well as those who farm for a hobby, such as our neighbors who raise goats or chickens, or who have family vegetable gardens or flower gardens.

If you have a farming story to share or know of a neighbor who may be interested in talking with Paige, please contact her at paigewitherington@yahoo.com.

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Stray pooch on Wilkerson Mill Rd

Someone's black lab has been running the streets at Crossroads Subdivision and Wilkerson Mill.

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Book Review: Dewey: The Small-Town Library Cat Who Touched the World.

By Laurie Searle

(It's been a slow news week, so I thought folks could use a little light reading.)

This book is a "must read" for anyone who loves small town libraries and/or cats. It's about a cat that was adopted by the Spencer Public Library after someone dumped it in the library drop box on one bitter cold night.

The narrator is Vicki Myron, who was born on a farm 15 miles from Spencer, Iowa. At the age of 34, after a failed marriage, single motherhood, and a stint on welfare, she graduated summa cum laude from Mankato State University. She landed a job as an assistant director at the Spencer Public Library and after some years when the director moved on, Vicki applied for and got the director's job, with the stipulation that she complete her master's degree.

One cold morning when Vicki opens the library, she hears an odd noise coming from the drop box and goes to investigate. The first thing she felt was a blast of freezing air. Someone had jammed a book into the return slot wedging it open. It was as cold in the box as it was outside; maybe colder, since the box was lined with metal. Vicki was still catching her breath when she saw the kitten.

It was huddled in the front left corner of the box, its head down, its legs tucked underneath it, trying to appear as small as possible. The kitten wasn't trying to hide, it didn't even appear scared, it was just hoping to be saved.

This is a heart warming story of how the library staff adopted Dewey the cat, and how Dewey came to be loved by the community. It's also a story that illustrates the passion communities can have for their libraries, and how libraries are more than just books and computers, they are the heart of many communities.

The book is available on Amazon: <http://www.amazon.com/Dewey-Small-Town-Library-Touched-World/dp/0446407410>

And there is a little blurb about Dewey the cat at: <http://spencerlibrary.com/deweybio.htm>

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Our Community Library

While we're on the subject of libraries, do not forget about our excellent city library. According to Judy and Gladys – our friendly neighborhood library volunteers:

We have a selection of 10,000 books, many videos/DVDs, audio books on CD and tapes, puzzles, games and even wheelchairs and walkers for check out. We check out over 1,000 items per month. We are a volunteer run library (No paid employees) and all books are donations from a wonderful city. We welcome folks who have a love of books to come help process books and folks with a knack for organization to help me rearrange things since our down sizing the past 2 months. We are open from noon till 6pm

Monday through Friday and Saturday from 10am till 2pm. (Library Closed 11/26, 27, 28, 29 for Thanksgiving Holidays). Come check out a good book!

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Job Searching Strategies

Contributed by Laurie Searle

There are many neighbors in our community who have recently lost their jobs due to the sagging economy. If you've never lost a job, I can personally tell you that it can be financially and emotionally draining. If you know of any job openings, or have job searching strategies to share, please contact me and I'll post them to the Weekly Reader. Here are a few tips for this week.

Networking Holds the Key

While the Internet is a handy tool for searching for job openings, nothing is more successful than networking. A human resource manager once told me that she gets so many resumes, she can only do a 5 second scan to select the best. But when someone in her company calls her personally with a recommendation for an employee, she gives that resume some serious focus.

How do you network?

1. Develop your elevator speech. An elevator speech tells who you are, what you've done, what you want to do and how you can be a valuable asset -- in 30 seconds. It's just like a commercial -- about you.
2. Tell everyone you know that you're looking for a job. Get the word out that you are available and looking for work. Ask for contacts you may be able to call to get more information about a career path or company.
3. Volunteer one day a week. Find a nonprofit like the American Cancer Society or Red Cross that needs volunteers and then go help. You'll meet new folks in other businesses that may open some doors for you, plus it puts you in a positive frame of mind.
4. Find a networking group. I highly recommend Jobseekers, a ministry for business professionals who are making a job change or career transition. This wonderful group provides Christian fellowship, spiritual inspiration and emotional support, and practical job search assistance. It meets on Friday mornings from 7:30 – 10 a.m. at the First Baptist Church of Peachtree City. Free admission and no reservation is required. For more information see:
<http://www.peachtreecitygaonline.com/businesses/jobseekers/jobseekers.html>

UPCOMING EVENTS

For community events, check out these Web sites:

- CHC Community: <http://www.chccommunity.com/whatsnew.html>
- Serenbe Community: <http://www.serenbecommunity.com/calendar.html>
- Civic Association Calendar: <http://www.chatthills.org/Calendar.htm>

A Chattahoochee Hills Christmas

Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m., City Hall

Tree Lighting, Special Musical and a visit from Santa Claus!

There will be bins at the tree lighting to receive canned goods for deserving families during the holidays.

Everyone Welcome!

Chattahoochee Hills Tour of Homes

Dec. 7, 2-5:20 p.m.

Homes will be open for tours from 2:00 to 5:30 PM, with all tours concluding by 6:00 PM. Tickets are \$10.00 and will be available for purchase by the end of this week from the Rico Library or any member of the City Celebrations Committee. The raffle quilt is on display at city hall. Tickets are \$1.00. (More information to come.)

Rico Pickin'

Dec. 12, 7 p.m. at City Hall

Enjoy a night of community music at the Rico Pickin' monthly jam session. Bring your acoustical instrument and join the fun, or come to listen and socialize with your neighbors.

Community Thanksgiving Luncheon

Nov. 20, noon at City Hall

Community Christmas Luncheon

Dec 18 (time to be announced) bring toys and food for local needy families

Blood Drive at City Hall

Dec. 22, 3-7 p.m.

Serenbe Events Next Week & Beyond

Every Monday, 5 – 7 p.m.: Blue Eyed Blue Plate Special at the Daisy. Enjoy a hearty three-course meal at the Blue Eyed Daisy Bakeshop for \$10.99 with soda or tea or \$12.99 with a glass of wine.

November 15, 8 a.m.: Getting Around Trail Run. Sign up at Getting Around, or email justin@goodrunproductions.com.

November 15, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Tom's Shoes Trunk Show at The Bilt-house

November 15, 5 – 7 p.m.: "Images from Both Sides of the Road" Exhibition Opening at Newington Gallery

November 16, 3 – 5 p.m.: Harris & Clark presents Seasonal Foods with Cassandra Loftin from The Farmhouse restaurant (\$25)

November 20, 6 – 8 p.m.: Girls' Night Out Holiday Dress Up Party at The Bilt-house

November 22, 4 – 6 p.m.: Harris & Clark presents What's for Dinner? Greek with Helen Swanston (\$30)

November 22: Herb Walk with Getting Around: Discover herbs growing around Serenbe on a fun and fascinating walk. Contact Jennifer Williams at Getting Around for all details. 770.815.3447.

Thanksgiving, November 27: Make reservations at The Farmhouse for Thanksgiving, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. The prix fixe (\$39) menu includes: Molasses Roasted Turkey Breast, Green Bean Casserole, Cornbread stuffing, Cranberry and Orange Relish, Sweet Potato Puree with House Granola, and Pumpkin Tarts. The Hill and the Daisy will be closed on Thanksgiving Day.

November 30: Serenbe Holiday Tree Lighting

December 6, 3 – 5 p.m.: Harris & Clark presents "Sunday Morning Biscuits and other Sweet Breads" with Cassandra Loftin (\$25)

December 7: Serenbe Christmas Bazaar

December 21, 3 – 5 p.m.: Harris & Clark presents Pastries (\$25)

Laurie Searle, Communications Chair and
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