

Chattahoochee Hills Civic Association Weekly Update – September 18, 2008

ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Buy Our Parks Now! Update – Still Time to Participate

\$130,865 Raised to Date

Thanks to your continued support, we are moving closer to our goal of raising \$200,000 for the City to Buy Our Parks Now! If you have already participated, please encourage your neighbors to give, even if they can only give a little. Remember that the number of people who participate will help us win grants in the future to sustain our parks.

If you haven't made a donation yet, it's not too late. All donations received before Oct. 7 will be recorded on the Big Check we present at the city council meeting that night. All donations received after that date will definitely go to support the parks – but will be reported to the Council in a supplementary report.

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>

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Chattahoochee Hills Historical Association – Next meeting is Oct. 2

The Historical Association is working on some exciting exhibits. See their latest report on “Scoot” Rainey, who was a local Blues musician in the Rico Community in the late 1920s.

See: <http://www.chattahoocheehillshistoricalsociety.org>

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Communications Committee Needs Your Help

The communications committee is looking for a volunteer to help build a contact database in Microsoft Access. If you can help, contact Laurie at lsearle@bellsouth.net.

CITY UPDATES

From the City's Web site: www.chatthillsga.us

Letter from Mayor Don Hayes

Read this letter from Mayor Hayes explaining the need to raise property taxes in FY09.

http://www.chatthillsga.us/forms/pdf/Mayor_Property_Tax_Letter_09-15-08.pdf

Public Hearing for FY09 Budget – Sept. 23, 6pm

Special Called Public Hearing #2 and Council Meeting: 2009 Budget (6:00 p.m.)

The City held the first of its public meetings Sept. 2 on the FY09 Budget. There are some important changes in the budget and residents are urged to attend the next meeting on Sept. 23 at 6pm. The City is proposing a significant property tax increase, and it is best if you hear the presentation first hand and ask questions so you fully understand the economic factors that are driving this increase for our city, and for many other cities in Georgia.

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Fulton County announces payment plan for back taxes

Chatt Hills received a letter from the Fulton County Tax Commissioner indicating that, in order to help with the payment of the back taxes, a payment plan for up to one year can be provided to citizens. See: http://www.chatthillsga.us/forms/pdf/Tax_Commissioner_08-29-08_R1.pdf

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Planning Commission Meeting – Oct. 14

The work session scheduled for Sept. 9 has been cancelled. The next meeting, at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 14, will be a work session instead of a regular meeting.

FROM OUR NEIGHBORS

Zack Wansley’s Memorial Service – Sept. 18, 4pm

Thursday, September 18, 2008 at 4:00 at First Baptist Church of Fairburn

If you would like to attend, the family is encouraging folks to wear bright clothing to celebrate Zack’s life.

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Help Fill Our Empty Shelves – Now until Saturday morning

Help Chattahoochee Hills help the Food Bank fill their empty shelves by making a nonperishable food donation as part of Hunger Action Month. Resident Karen Reed has a donation receptacle on her front porch and will carry the donations into the Food Bank on Saturday. You may drop off donations at her home, 9147 Selborne Lane in Serenbe. For more information on the Food Bank, see:

<http://acfb.convio.net/site/Calendar?view=Detail&id=100621&JServSessionIdr012=q22vm92hb1.app46b>

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C.E.R.T. Training – Sept. 20, 8:45am

The Citizens Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) holds its third session this Saturday at Providence Baptist Church Fellowship Building.

Pre-registration is required. Bring a sack lunch.

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In Farmer Days: Agricultural history of the Chattahoochee Hill Country - Sept. 18

Thursday Sep 18, Sat Sep 20 (PLU Th 10/2)

During the month of September, we will explore the agricultural history of the Chattahoochee Hill Country, as intimated by scatterings of rusting farm equipment and inscribed on the landscape by terrace patterns. Our evening talk and Saturday outing, both led by Dr. Joe Anderson of the

University of West Georgia, will explore the traces of that history in the Hill Country region. We will conclude our Saturday outing with a look at modern-day agriculture, by visiting a local organic CSA, Serenbe Farms.

Sense of Place - <http://www.hillcountrymontessori.org/institutesop.htm>

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Hill Country Montessori's Cedar Creek Clean-Up – Sept. 19

Email Clifford Blizard if you'd like to help: senseofplacese@gmail.com

We will shuttle down to the Cedar Creek bridge on Atlanta Newnan Rd. around 9am. and focus on the stream area on both sides of Atlanta Newnan Road, plus a short distance along the roadside (particularly on the Fulton County side of the creek).

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Medicinal & Edible Herb Walk w/ Certified Nutritionist – Sept. 20

Join Getting Around for A Herb Walk at Serenbe

9:00 AM. Cost: \$25 Per Person. (incl. beverage and all-natural insect repellent)

Join us on for an enlightening walk through the Serenbe trails to learn about the interesting vegetation in this Eco-friendly community. Walk will be lead by certified herbalist/teacher Holli Richey. Bring a pencil for note taking and lots of curiosity to this 2-hour event that will be chuck full of fascinating facts and figures about the plant life that surrounds the 1,000 acre Serenbe neighborhood.

Important Walk Facts:

Arrive at 8:30 for a pre-walk briefing

Wear comfortable walking shoes

9110 Selborne Lane, Suite 120

Palmetto, GA 30268

(770) 463-0007

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Group Guided Bike Tour to Cochran Mill Nature Park – Sept. 27

Join Getting Around for A Group Guided Bike Tour from Serenbe to Scenic Cochran Mill Nature Park.

Saturday September 27th at 8:00 AM

Enjoy the beautiful Chattahoochee Hill Country from an eco-friendly bike. Ride cost is \$20 and includes your bike, helmet, tour leader and complimentary beverage. (\$15 if you bring your own bike).

RSVP: By Thursday September, 25th and bring a friend. The more the merrier.

9110 Selborne Lane , Suite 120

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[Local endorsement from Laurie Searle] – if you haven't been to this new Adventure / Bicycle Shop at Serenbe, it's worth a visit. (It's around the corner from the Hil Restaurant.) The owner, Jennifer Williams is delightful and enthusiastic about serving the community. Even if you've lived here all of your lives, there is nothing quite like riding a bicycle at a leisurely pace down our country roads. This trip sounds like a perfect opportunity for home folk to share their personal knowledge with others about Cochran Mill and to get to know some of our newer neighbors. Why not sign up today?)

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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>
 - **Saturday Oct. 11**
3rd Annual Michael Dempsey Memorial Barbecue
Providence Baptist Church in Rico
Also - The Providence Great Pumpkin Sale from 10am – 3pm
 - **Saturday Oct. 18**
Annual Barbecue at New Hope Methodist Church
7875 Atlanta Newnan Rd, Palmetto, GA 30268. (770) 463-4076
 - **Sunday, Oct. 19: Brubeck Brothers Quartet at Hutcheson Ferry Park.**
2-5pm. \$15 per vehicle
To become a sponsor, contact Steven Kopelman at stevenhca@gmail.com.
 - **Saturday & Sunday Oct. 25-26**
Rico Fall Festival
 - **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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FROM OUR FRIENDS

Bulk Trash Amnesty Day – Sept 27

Drop-off time: 8 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Bulk Amnesty Day is designed for Fulton County residents who want to keep their neighborhoods beautiful while disposing of bulk waste such as old refrigerators, computers and furniture, etc. Drop-off locations are throughout South Fulton. Bulk Trash Amnesty Day is sponsored by Fulton County Commission Vice Chairman William "Bill" Edwards, District 7. Get rid of your bulk waste items free of charge. (We have a call into Comm. Edward's office to find out the locations and will post next week. Or you may call his office at 404-612-3079.)

From the Atlanta Regional Commission

- **ARC Photo Contest**

What makes metro Atlanta the region it is today? What do you find unique or worth preserving? What kind of place will metro Atlanta be in the future? These are just some of the questions being asked during the visual component of Fifty Forward called "Framing the Future", a region-wide photography contest open to all metro region residents. The goal of "Framing the Future" is to foster a visual exploration of what is valued about metro Atlanta now and what it could and should be in 50 years. The deadline for submissions is midnight, Sept. 30.

[Contest rules and submission.](#)

Laurie Searle, Communications Chair and
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www.chatthills.org