

THE SIGNAL



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District 2

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District 3

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District 4, At-Large

Dan Zanger

District 5, At-Large

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City Manager

Kathy Brannon

Chief of Police

Marc Johnson

City Clerk

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Parks & Recreation

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Development

Dan Schultz

Permits & Inspections

Marci Hooper-Smith

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(770) 986-5010

Public Works/Animal Control

(770) 986-5019

Development

(770) 986-5010

Permits & Inspections

(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@chambleepd.com

Police Emergency - 911

Chamblee Recognized for 100 years:



On August 16th the City of Chamblee wrapped up a year long celebration of the City's Centennial with a finale that included a classic car show, arts and crafts vendors, live music and a presentation of a documentary film chronicling the history of Chamblee's first 100 years. There was also the dedication of the City's newest park, Chamblee Centennial Park located next to City Hall, which was attended by several of Chamblee's past and present elected officials.

The City was also recognized with several resolutions from other governments. Congressman Hank Johnson sent congratulations and Mayor Ray Jenkins delivered a resolution from the City of Doraville. State Senator Dan Weber and State Representative Jill Chambers also had resolutions passed in the State Senate and State House of Representatives recognizing the accomplishments of the City of Chamblee.

Along with our Government Representatives and neighboring cities, we need to send a special thank you to our Centennial Sponsors and to all of the volunteers, businesses, residents and participants that helped to make all of the festivities in this past year a huge success. The City of Chamblee now looks forward to another 100 years of success and prosperity as a "City on the Right Track!"

R. Eric Clarkson
Mayor

CHAMBLEE CENTENNIAL BOOK AND FILM AVAILABLE SOON!

As those of you who attended the City's centennial year finale celebration on August 16th know, the City commissioned a documentary film maker to capture some of the City's current and past residents' memories. More than 20 hours of interviews and hundreds of photographs were edited into a 1 hour film. The City has approved funding for an electronic library that will make the interviews, film and photographs available to the public at City Hall in their entirety.

A contract is also now in place to produce a history book that commemorates our 100 years as a city with emphasis on the last 25 years. The book is scheduled to be published in December and the City has plans to have the book available for initial purchase at an evening event that will include another screening of the film. If you would like to be on the contact list for the event and/or a copy of the book, please contact the City Manager, Kathy Brannon at 770-986-5018 or kbrannon@chambleega.com.

Occupation Tax Renewals – Here Are A few Reminders:

1. Renewals for Occupation Tax Certificates will be mailed as close to November 15, 2008 as possible for the 2009 Tax Year. To receive your Certificate in a timely manner, please renew early!
2. If you are a contractor, electrician, plumber or HVAC contractor needing a 2009 Occupation Tax Certificate number to pull permits in January 2009, you will need to renew your license in December 2008. **If you wait until the January 31, 2009 deadline you will not receive your Occupation Tax Certificate until February 2009 and Certificate numbers cannot be issued until all money owed for 2009 has been paid in full.**
3. All monies must accompany the renewal form. The renewal will not be processed without the monies included. Please ensure the correct amount is sent (designated on the renewal form).
4. The businesses that have an Alcoholic Beverage License will need to provide a 2009 State Alcohol License. Your Chamblee Alcohol License will not be released if you do not have a 2009 State of Georgia Alcohol License.
5. Businesses that relocated in 2008 and did not notify the Occupation Tax Department will need to complete a new application form, provide an updated DeKalb County Fire Marshal approval and a copy of your new lease.
6. Non-profit organizations do not pay an administrative fee but must send in the renewal form for a current Occupation Tax Certificate.

If you have any questions, please give me a call at 770-986-5010, ext 226.

Linda McDaniel, Assistant City Clerk
Occupation Tax Department

SAVE A TREE?



We are compiling a list of residents who prefer to receive the city newsletter via email instead of regular mail. Many thanks to one of our residents, Kim Goff who brought this to our attention with this insight: “I would guess many folks would prefer email to the waste (dollars and environmental) of printing and mailing. I know the police report (which everyone enjoys) probably has a pretty big email list now. BUT if you email me....please delete me from the snail mailing list.”

If you, like Kim, would like to conserve our resources, please send an e-mail to Libby Galvin, lgalvin@chambleega.com, and ask to be removed from the newsletter mailing list. Be sure to include your current mailing address in your request. You will continue to receive your monthly calendar and bi-monthly newsletter through the City e-mail lists.

Assistant Chief Mark Bender On Duty in Afghanistan



Chamblee Police Department's Assistant Chief Mark Bender is currently serving a nine month tour in Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan. Asst. Chief Bender is a Command Sergeant Major in the Georgia Army National Guard and was selected to fill a slot on an Embedded Training Team or ETT. Chief Bender is currently assigned to Camp Mike Spann as the Afghan Regional Support Integration Command-North (ARSIC-N) as the Command Sergeant Major. His responsibilities include oversight of U.S. enlisted personnel assigned to ARSIC-N. He also advises the Afghan National Army and Police command staffs on matters involving training and operations. The sector is controlled by an International Coalition and Chief Bender also works closely with other foreign command staffs in developing and administering training and mentoring of the Afghan National Army and Police. Chief Bender will complete his tour in late spring or early summer of 2009.

Winter Camp:

Parents need some down time for the holidays too! Send your kids to Chamblee Camp! Kids will participate in craft projects, games and a field trip! Just 30 spots available each day so register soon! NOW available – online registration!! Just visit the Parks & Recreation page of www.chambleega.com for instructions!

Camp will be held on December 22, 23, 29, and 30. Activities will be held from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm but parents can drop off as early as 7:30 am and pick up as late as 6:00 pm. The cost is just \$20 each day except the 30th which will cost \$30 since it includes the field trip (TBA) and lunch! Call 770-986-5016 for more information

Breakfast**With****Santa:**

Our annual FREE Christmas kick-off is being held on Saturday, December 13th. Reservations are required but Santa has time for 100 children each hour! Join us for breakfast at 9, 10, or 11 am and enjoy:

- A hot breakfast courtesy of McDonald's
- Arts & crafts
- Face painting
- Entertainment
- A photo with the big man himself, Santa Claus! This year we have upgraded to digital prints – no more Polaroid's!! Take home a frame worthy photo for free!

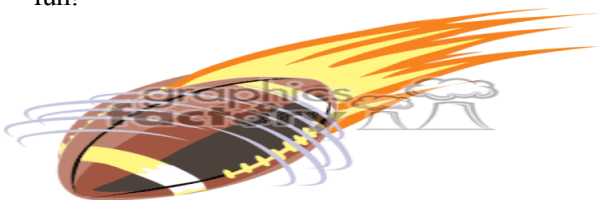


Call 770-986-5016 to make your reservation!



Flag Football Is Coming!!

Adults – it's your turn to play!! Get a team together and come out to toss the pigskin! We have openings for men's and co-ed teams. Anyone age 16 or older is welcome to play. The cost is just \$400 per team! Teams must have matching jerseys and co-ed teams must have an even number of males & females. Call 770-986-5016 for more information. Registration will be open through the month of November and games will begin mid-December. The season will end with a Chamblee Super Bowl tournament! Don't miss the fun!

**CREDIT CARDS**

The City of Chamblee is now taking payments by credit card. Feel free to stop by City Hall or the Parks & Recreation Department at the Civic Center.

The city also takes credit card payments on court nights.

For those of you sports minded people, you can register online now.

We take Visa, Mastercard, Discover and debit cards. Unfortunately, we do not take American Express.



A REMINDER FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Please remember to place rocks, limbs, logs, garbage, and leaves in separate piles for pickup. All these items are recycled and have different end users and are collected by different trucks. Therefore, they must be piled separately to ensure proper handling without impeding service times. Do not mix construction debris with yard trimmings. Any of the above items mixed with leaves will damage the impeller inside the leaf machine and this could jeopardize collection times and create unsafe conditions for the workers. Leaves are to be placed in loose piles on the ground on the residents' side of the curb. The leaf machine is in operation throughout the city once a week.

Also, please do not put plastic bags of any kind in your recycle bins. The only bags allowed in recycle bins are brown paper bags. Please have your trash at the curb by 8:00 am. If you have any questions, please call the Public Works Dept. at 770-986-5019.



This month's Public Works employee is Jill Mullins. She started working for the City in September of 2001 as the Receptionist at City Hall and transferred to the Public Works Dept. in March of 2007 as the Administrative Assistant. Besides handling the daily office functions, she also conducts monthly safety meetings and assists the Director with the Annual Storm Water Report for the E.P.D. Jill participated in the fireworks display at the July 4th festivities in Keswick Park for the first time this year.

Jill is married to Dan and has two grandchildren, ages 5 and 1. She enjoys exercising, baking and crafts. She plans on traveling to Europe and taking some cooking classes.

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING PROGRAM

In our continuing effort to reduce landfill use and promote responsible re-use of electronic waste, the following items can now be brought to the Public Works facility at 3210 Cumberland Drive for recycling. We are open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:00 am until 6:30 pm. For your convenience, we are also open on the third Saturday of each month from 8:00 am to 12 noon. For more details, call 770-986-5019.

- ◆ Computer monitors
- ◆ Computer towers
- ◆ Computer desktops
- ◆ Laptops
- ◆ Batteries of all types
- ◆ Keyboards
- ◆ Cables
- ◆ Printers
- ◆ Computer mice
- ◆ Small appliances
- ◆ CD/DVD players
- ◆ Cell phones
- ◆ Pagers
- ◆ Lawn equipment
- ◆ Power tools
- ◆ Hard drives (we **DO NOT** erase your hard drives)



Please make sure all of the information stored on your hard drive has been completely erased before it is brought to us. **We will not be responsible for any confidential information left in your computer.**

Centennial Items for Sale

The City of Chamblee has some nice items for sale that commemorate our centennial.

For the Women we have red, turquoise, and black T-shirts along with beige polo's. For the Men we have white, beige, and black T-shirts along with beige polo's. All shirts have the Chamblee logo sewn on the shirts in various colors.

There is also the etched ornament/sun catcher and Centennial doormats.

WATCH FOR THE DATE:

The "History of Chamblee" documentary will be shown free of charge at the Civic Center. Don't miss your chance to see this intriguing film.

Also, the 100 Years of Chamblee will be published in a book that captures a view of our history by written narratives and photography. Please reserve your copy today at City Hall.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The City of Chamblee, Georgia will hold Public Hearings on Thursday, November 13, 2008 @ 6:00pm at the Civic Center, 3540 Broad Street for the following:

1. Golden Plaza LLC, at 3302 to 3308 LaVenture Dr is requesting a sign variance to allow for a master sign package for the Golden Plaza Shopping Center.
2. Dye Aviation Facilities, Inc. at 1 Corsair Drive is requesting a variance to allow a metal building.

For more information please contact Dan Schultz, Development Director at (770) 986-5010 or dschultz@chambleega.com.

Review of remaining Holidays

The City has numerous holidays quickly arriving upon us and we would like to review these with you:

All city offices will be closed on these days. Please look at the monthly calendars for the sanitation schedule. If you have any questions regarding sanitation during a holiday week, feel free to call 770-986-5019.

Veteran's Day – November 11th
Thanksgiving – November 27th & 28th

Christmas – December 25th & 26th
New Years Day – January 1st

The 2009 holiday closing will be posted in January. As always, please do not drink & drive.

Chamblee Community Wildlife Habitat November, 2008

First and foremost – MANY THANKS to the city of Chamblee and the National Wildlife Federation for honoring me with a tree planting on September 22nd. You all made me feel so special!

All is going great in the Chamblee Habitat. We have lots of plans for future projects, including having an outdoor classroom and habitat at Chamblee Middle School. Coordinator, Tom Reilly, is working with the school at the present time and has these young folks excited about their outdoor projects.

We are excited that our monthly meetings will continue to be held at D'Youville Condominiums. We meet the first Monday night of each month at 7:30 pm. November 3rd will bring us Michael Ellis of A.W.A.R.E. (Atlanta Wild Animal Rescue Effort) who will bring a few of the critters we protect in our habitats. December will be our annual holiday party (date and place to be announced.) If you wish to be added to our monthly mailings, please send your e-mail address to kpackard@bellsouth.net. All are invited at anytime to our meetings!

It's getting time to dig and divide perennials. When you do this, please remember to share with our schoolyard habitats, especially Huntley Hills Elementary. Bulbs can be planted through December. Also, keep new plantings well watered until they are settled in. (Keep in mind that we are still under water restrictions. Refer to "The Signal" May newsletter for details).

We are pleased that we were the first in getting Chamblee started toward being a GREEN city! Thanks to all who have become certified habitats and to those of you who haven't, there's no time like the present! Keep up the good work and keep joining in all our efforts to keep Chamblee GREEN!



New State Law for General Contractors



Until recently, Georgia has been one of the few states where almost anyone with the ability to obtain a business license could act as a general contractor. There were no financial or educational standards to be met which led to notorious abuses in the building industry - especially in residential development. In 2005, the Georgia Legislation passed a new law that all Residential and General Contractors MUST be State licensed in order to practice. The law established a Licensing Board and minimum professional standards. Those contractors unable to be “grandfathered” in must now qualify for the state exam and meet the insurance and credit requirements, along with stipulated amounts of accredited college education in construction, engineering and business fields or equivalent construction experience.

Four main types of contractor licenses were created by the Board, based on the type of work performed:

- **Residential-Basic Contractor** (*one and two-family detached houses and town homes three stories or less*)
- **Residential-Light Commercial Contractor** (*multifamily and multi-use light commercial buildings/structures*)
- **General Contractor-Limited Tier** (*private, public, institutional and industrial work up to \$500,000 in scope*)
- **General Contractor** (*unlimited commercial construction*)

Effective as of July 1 of this year, permits can only be issued to qualifying state licensed general contractors, with some limited exceptions for specialty contractors, such as, graders, masons, carpenters, framers, roofers, etc. A list of exempted traditional and specialty contractors can be found at www.sos.state.ga.us/plb/contractors. Electricians, Plumbers and Conditioned Air (HVAC) contractors have been State licensed for years.

What Does This Mean To Our City’s Commercial Businesses?

Despite all the attempts to advertise the new law, there still are many contractors who are unaware of the regulations. If you are planning any renovations or additions to your building or business, be sure that the General Contractors you get bids from have their State License. Get a copy of their license or verify it online

at: <https://secure.sos.state.ga.us/myverification>. Note that the licenses are issued to a person - not the company.

How About Residents?

Homeowners may still act as the General Contractor to permit work at their own home, if they choose to do so, and coordinate the licensed and un-licensed trades needed for the job and call for the required inspections. If they hire a General Contractor, he must have at least a **Residential-Basic** state license. Remember, permits are required for almost everything except cosmetic work, including building a shed, garage, swimming pool, fence or deck - AND there are specific zoning requirements/restrictions for these projects. All permits require plans to be reviewed by the Building Inspector. It is always best to **contact the City Permits Staff at 770-986-5024** before planning any project to find out what the requirements are so that your project will get off to the right start.

Tips for Homeowners

1. Get recommendations from friends and neighbors. Check with the City Permits Department before deciding on a contractor; find out if they have worked in the community before and if there were any problems.
2. Ask for copies of their liability and worker’s comp. insurance, state and business licenses.
3. Obtain a written contract detailing all work to be done, materials to be used, and final clean-up details. Include a completion date and payment schedule.
4. NEVER pay the entire cost of a project before the work is complete. A significant portion of the payment should be held until the City Permits Department has issued a Certificate of Occupancy or Completion.
5. Avoid hiring persons going door-to-door selling services or offering services for a short time only or who refuse or are reluctant to complete contracts in writing.

ALWAYS call your friendly Chamblee Permits Department (770-986-5024) any time you have a question about work to be done or permit requirements. We are here to help you through the process.

