July 2009 Volume 6, Issue 7





# City Millage Rate Stays at 3.8

The Sugar Hill City Council voted to hold its tax rate steady for an eighth consecutive year. Despite an anticipated tax revenue drop of 3 percent, the council voted to keep the City's millage rate at 3.8 mills, the rate it was decreased to in 2001. The Mayor and Council believe Sugar Hill should live within its means and not borrow as extensively as some counties and cities have done. "We'll just tighten our belts and do things a little better and a little smarter," City Manager Bob Hail said. "I think holding the line is a good thing to do." Hail said the City portion of the annual property tax, could have been raised by state formula as much as .11 mills. That would have added about \$66,000 to the City's budget. Instead, Hail believes he can save the City that much by negotiation of City contracts, as well as prudent deployment of City works. More importantly, he believes the City can avert the service cuts Gwinnett warns will be inevitable if its taxes aren't increased.

## Sugar Hill hosts the National Select Football 7 on 7 Qualifier

Football fans were in for a treat as the North Gwinnett National Select 7 on 7 Qualifier was held in E E Robinson Park here in Sugar Hill. The inaugural event brought some of the 🚃 top football prospects in the nation, including from Byrnes S.C. the No. 1 running back, Marcus Lattimore. Besides the team from Byrnes (SC), Bob Jones (AL), Columbia (FL), Mainland (FL) and Spartanburg (TN) made the trip. A total of 16 teams played in several elimination games to find the eventual winners that will play in the national tournament in Hoover, Alabama. North Gwinnett coach Bob Sphire said in hosting the first 7 on 7 that "The City of Sugar Hill's been really great to work with on this." E E Robinson Park allowed all four fields to be at the same site. Sphire hopes that next year's qualifier will be held on Gary Pirkle Park's new synthetic fields. (Pictured are players from North and Central Gwinnett, Gainesville and Norcross HS.)



Send your comments on the newsletter, e-mail menriquez@cityofsugarhill.com

# Public Service Announcement for Sugar Hill Gas Customers

### If you smell Gas inside your home:

- Leave the house immediately!
- Make an emergency call from a neighbor's home.
- Do not take time to shut off valves or open windows.
- Wait at the neighbors until a certified gas technician arrives.

Make note of these numbers to call, keep them along with other emergency telephone numbers

**770-271-2137**—Gas Department 7:00am until 4:00pm

**770-945-6716**—City Hall after 4:00pm and on weekends

If you are unable to remember these numbers call 911

**Underground piping beyond the meter.** Sugar Hill operates a safe, well maintained underground gas system in accordance with Federal Regulation. Any underground gas piping beyond the meter is the responsibility of the customer. If not properly maintained, metallic pipes, may be subject to corrosion. Make sure any underground piping beyond the meter is properly maintained.

**Call before you dig - It's the law.** Please contact the Georgia One Call Center at (770) 623-4344 or 811, three days prior to digging in order for all utility owned buried pipe and cable to be located. All digging should be carefully done by hand in the vicinity of the pipe. This service is available free of charge. Call the Sugar Hill Gas Department for information: (770) 271-2137

#### News Bites:

- "Reels at Robinson" will continue our movie season in E. E. Robinson Park Friday, July 31st at dusk with the feature film "Indiana Jones" rated PG-13.
- Mosquito Control Program continues in July. We will have two more spraying rounds this summer. Round 2 will be the week of July 20th-streets and subdivisions north of Hwy 20, then on the week of July 27th-streets and subdivisions south of Hwy 20. The product we spray is environmentally safe, US EPA-registered insecticide. The spray is applied late evening, and is rendered inert with water or sunlight. Check our web site for additional information. You may call City Hall to request that your property be excluded from spraying.





#### Did You Know?

The City of Sugar Hill offers a 40% Stormwater Utility Fee Credit to those septic system users who have their septic system inspected and pumped out. Or, if you had it inspected and pumped out within the last 5 years, you can still qualify for a Credit. By keeping a properly working septic system, it helps keep our watershed cleaner. To learn more about how to qualify for your Stormwater Utility Fee Credit, visit the City of Sugar Hill website.

#### Meeting Schedule 2009:

#### July / August

July 6 / August 3 7:00 PM, City Council Work Session - City Hall Annex

July 7 / August 4 4:00 PM, City Court Session, City Hall Annex

### July 13 / August 10

7:30 PM, City Council Meeting, City Hall Annex

July 20 / August 17 7:00 PM, Planning and Zoning Meeting, City Hall Annex

July 28 / August 25 6:30 PM, Downtown Development Authority, City Hall Annex Everyone is invited to attend Sugar Hill's monthly Work Sessions and Council Meetings. All meetings for the City of Sugar Hill will be held in the City Hall Annex located at 4988 West Broad Street, next to City Hall. Your comments, suggestions and support will help make your city a community to be proud of Videos of our monthly City Council meetings are shown on Charter Cable channel 19, @ 6:30 pm, every 3rd, 4th and 5th Sunday of each month.

Agendas and meeting minutes can be found on the Sugar Hill website at: <a href="https://www.cityofsugarhill.com">www.cityofsugarhill.com</a>.