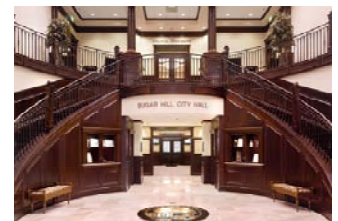


2013 - The Year in Review:

This past year has proven to be pivotal in the advancement of Sugar Hill. The new City Hall building was opened in January and the city staff and operations moved in. The dedication was attended by dignitaries from around the County and many residents who had a chance to tour the new building. This brings positive change in showing us as a growing city with a small town feel. The transformation of the new downtown area will become the cornerstone in the creation of our City Center. Highlights include: a new amphitheater for concerts, movies, and special events; a lighted walking trail; on-street parking; and a detention pond with water plantings, landscaping and fountain.

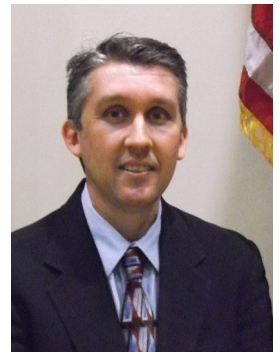
Our residents and neighbors flock to our yearly events at our parks - such as the “Touch a Truck”, “Pitch Hit and Run” competition, and our ever popular Easter Egg Hunt which seems to bring out every kid and parent in the area. Heavy rains in July flooded the parks however could not stop (only postpone until August) our famous “Sparks in the Park” annual fireworks show, enjoyed by a huge crowd. The World Changers crew came back in July with 200 volunteers to fix and repair 10 homes in Sugar Hill. They’ll be back in 2014 thanks to funding from the Sugar Hill Housing Authority. The new streetscape down West Broad Street from Hwy 20 and to PIB, brings on street parking, crosswalks and traffic calming measures. The traffic circle features an antique sugar wagon to represent one of the stories of how Sugar Hill got its name. The October Fall Festival moved from EE Robinson park to downtown - featuring a parade, craft vendors, car show and chili cook-off - this family event was well attended. In other area news the groundbreaking for the widening of Highway 20 (from PIB to Samples Rd in Cumming) began - the landscape already looks different with the trees down. For the first time in recent years the City did not hold an election and we saw a major change in the make up of City government. After 12 years at the helm, Gary Pirkle stepped down as Mayor handing the reigns to City Councilman Steve Edwards who ran unopposed for Mayor and takes office in January. Two other sitting Councilmembers, Curtis Northrup and Mike Sullivan both picked up another term. Filling the remaining two years on the seat vacated by Edwards, is Downtown Development Association Board Member Brandon Hembree who also ran unopposed. City Manager, Bob Hail announced that he would be retiring next summer after serving the citizens of Sugar Hill for 13 years. A new City Manager (serving in an Economic Development capacity until taking over on July 1) Paul Radford brings tremendous management experience with the State Department of Community Affairs and the Georgia Municipal Association and will work towards developing a Sugar Hill business corridor. Sugar Hill as an economic engine is most evident at the Kroger center which continues to welcome new shops, restaurants, training and recreation facilities.

Finally the year ended with the Annual Holiday Tree Lighting on the City Hall Lawn, complete with singing, horse drawn sleigh rides and a visit from Santa. Best of all we have been able to do all of this with no increases in taxes, no debt, and most efficient use of SPLOST funding.



Meet Your Elected Officials:

- Incoming Mayor Steve Edwards is in sales for an Environmental Company. His family: wife of 25 years, Denise / Daughter, Abbi, Graduated from N. Gwinnett High School, is now a junior at Valdosta State University / Son, Ryan, is a Senior at Lanier High School. Why we love Sugar Hill: it's a great place for families and to start a business. I also love to help High School Sports Grow and Thrive. In my spare time I enjoy golf, hunting and fishing. What we see for the year: The start of the widening Hwy 20 which will improve our quality of life. I really appreciate our City of Sugar Hill employees who work hard everyday to make Sugar Hill a better place. Steve.Edwards@advanceddisposal.com
- Brandon Hembree is our newest City Council member. Brandon Hembree is currently a Partner with Massey, Watson, Bowers & Hembree LLC, and he has been with the firm since 2003. Brandon serves in a leadership capacity on the Georgia Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs Committee, Technology Association of Georgia Governmental Affairs Task Force, and Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce Technology Leadership Council. He is also the Treasurer and Secretary for the Sugar Hill Downtown Development Authority. Brandon was born in Georgia and has lived in Gwinnett County most of his life. He graduated from Georgia State University with a B.A. in Political Science/Pre-Law. Brandon and his wife Tara (and pets) live in the Glen at Level Creek. Brandon enjoys hiking, fly-fishing, reading, travel, history, and family genealogy. We love the family oriented nature of Sugar Hill and sense of community. I see a year of continued growth for Sugar Hill including new businesses and expanding downtown area. brandon.hembree@b2gsouth.com
- Curtis Northrup, after 25 years at all levels in the Retail Industry, became a stay at home Dad in 2008. Outside of work he is Chairman, Gwinnett County Animal Advisory Council, Board Member, North Gwinnett Co-operative Ministry and a Patriot Guard Rider. I enjoy being a musician, motorcycling, cooking and woodworking. Married 29 years to wife, Jorgia. Son, Albert, 17. I love that small town feeling in a community that deeply cares about its citizens. This year I see the City beginning the process of developing the downtown area into a vibrant center in which our citizens and visitors will want to visit and spend time. I also see the groundwork being laid to attract commercial interests to the PIB, Buford Highway and GA 20 corridors that will broaden our tax base and provide the goods and services our citizens need to shop, eat and play locally. Recreation will remain a prime focus as we continue to upgrade and expand our parks and activities. curtisnorthrup@cityofsugarhill.com
- Mike Sullivan is beginning his third term and has been on the Sugar Hill City Council since 2006. Married to Linda for 24 years, they have one daughter, Alyssa, 15. Mike grew up in Cobb County and received a BEE/MSEE from Ga. Tech in 1987/1991 respectively. He manages a team of software engineers working on High Speed Internet/Data equipment for his day job. Mike is currently Secretary with the local North Gwinnett Kiwanis, on Lanier High school council, and runs the chess club at Sugar Hill Elementary School. "I'd like to see an increase in commerce in the area, to allow it to pick up more of its share for the city. Right now the city pretty much runs exclusively on residential funds. If we can put commerce in the right areas of the city, it's a win/win for everybody. I also like the fact that the artificial turf at Gary Pirkle Park sparked a change in Gwinnett's approach to fields in the rest of the county." mikesullivan@cityofsugarhill.com



- Marc Cohen is a third term member of the Council and works in Healthcare Technology Marketing. He is active with the Riverside ES and North Gwinnett MS School Councils; Boy Scouts of America; NGHS DECA Advisory Board; Event Management/Security; Sugar Hill 75th Anniversary Committee (Chair); American Red Cross . He has a BA, Economics - UCLA; MBA, Marketing - San Francisco State Univ; Certificates of Distinction in Municipal Government and Policy - UGA. His hobbies are: reading; computers; working special events; watching hockey; finding good restaurants He enjoys spending time with wife Marie, son-Seth, and daughter-Jamie. “We love Sugar Hill because it’s a larger City with a small town feel - the kind of place you want to raise a family. I see economic growth from the Hwy 20 expansion project, and the downtown area.; and with the City celebrating its 75th Anniversary there will be a lot of events to promote the city, its residents, and our amenities. I look forward to the day as it fast approaches when residents have more and more options in where they eat, shop, live and play within our city limits. We have a very cohesive Council that is doing some great work together. Sugar Hill has some of the best employees around - who take tremendous pride and get things done!” marccohen@cityofsugarhill.com



- Susie Gajewski is a Business Lead Specialist, with Sage North America. Outside of work she plays ALTA, USTA, T2 tennis, gardens, and enjoys fishing. Her daughter Jessica was born and raised in Sugar Hill, graduated from North Gwinnett High School and currently attends Gwinnett Tech. The area is a family affair as her parents Skip and Barbara Bast also reside in Sugar Hill and live in the same subdivision. “My Dad plays on my mixed tennis team with me. I have lived in Sugar Hill almost 30 years and love it because it remains to have its small town feel. It is a close knit community, close to the river and lake and the several parks are outstanding. What we see for the year-the widening of Ga 20 and forward movement in regards to developing our downtown. My heart is here in this City. It’s a great place to live. I am serving my 2nd term on the City Council. We truly have the same goals in mind and work so well as a team. I am honored.” susiegajewski@cityofsugarhill.com



News Bites:

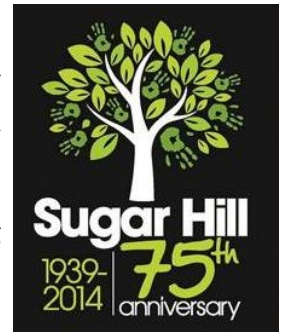
- The annual seniors Valentine Dance is Saturday February 8th from 7 - 9:30 pm in the Sugar Hill Community Center. Seniors will enjoy dancing to the big band sounds of “The Junction”. Valentine photos and refreshments will be offered. Grab your honey and have a fun, FREE evening in Sugar Hill.
- Local Businessman, Marc Orcutt was appointed to the Sugar Hill Downtown Development Authority to fill a vacant Director’s seat. He is the owner/manager of Marketing and IT outsourcing company - Xener Media Group. His background in commercial construction, financial services, and authoring tactical sales process for Princeton eCom and Softgate Systems will make him a valuable member of the board. Marc is a designer/developer of websites, HTML e-mail campaigns, product brochures, logos, style guides, document templates and business plans. He has an Associate Degree in Electrical Engineering from Vermont Technical College. Xener Media Group is located at 5192 Nelson Brogdon Blvd. Suite #300 in Sugar Hill. Their phone: 678-889-7995. His wife Elizabeth is active in creating the Sugar Hill Business Alliance and is actively recruiting members. Check out the Alliance web site. Marc and Elizabeth live at 622 Brook Valley Way in Sugar Hill.

morcutt@xenermedia.com www.xenermedia.com



News Bites:

- 2014 kicks off the City’s **75th Anniversary** and the Committee is working on a number of exciting projects. We are currently looking for items to include in the time capsule (which will be buried at a public City Hall ceremony on March 23, 2014) so let us know what you would like to see enshrined for posterity or contribute. Check our web site for more information on the events/activities. If you are interested to help manage or volunteering for one of the many planned activities during the year, please contact, Marc Cohen: marccohen@cityofsugarhill.com



- **SEPTIC SYSTEM IMPACT TO OUR LOCAL STREAMS**

The Environmental Protection Division has identified more than 200 miles of streams within Gwinnett County that are impaired due to fecal coliform bacteria – this includes both Richland Creek and Level Creek that flow through our area. This type of bacteria will not necessarily make you sick, but it is an indicator of the possible presence of other disease-causing bacteria. There are multiple sources of fecal coliform bacteria, including pet waste, sewer overflows, septic systems, and wildlife. Improperly maintained septic systems can be a direct cause of fecal coliform bacteria. Several parcels within the City of Sugar Hill have septic systems that are getting older and may be in need of maintenance. If you are unsure about how your septic system works, or how to maintain your system, the Clean Water Campaign has an informative brochure on their website at: http://www.cleanwatercampaign.com/files/septic_tank_brochure.pdf



Additionally, you may be eligible for a 40% Stormwater Utility Fee Credit for maintaining your septic system. For further Stormwater Utility Credit information, please visit: http://www.cityofsugarhill.com/filestorage/62/6025/SW_Credit_Manual_Updated_011410.pdf

- “Principal for a Day”! Both Marc Cohen and Mike Sullivan participated in the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce and Gwinnett Public Schools “Principal for a Day” program. Councilman Cohen served at The Buice School where Principal Kim Holland welcomed Marc and brought him to Lauren NeSmith’s class where he read to a group of kindergartners, and also learned about the Federal/State/County partnership for Pre-K and Kindergarten programs. Councilman Sullivan attended Mill Creek and was impressed by the quality of the teachers and the problems and solutions they address every school day. He stated that Gwinnett County should be proud of its schools.
- Mayor Gary Pirkle was pleased to accept a large donation of canned food from Mr. Garish Patel owner of the Yogli-Mogli frozen yogurt store in the Kroger Shopping Center. The food is destined for the N. Georgia Food Co-Op. This time of the year the pantry is low. The Co-Op has a year round need for packaged food. You may drop off donations at City Hall or the Community Center.



<p>2014 Meeting Schedule : January / February</p> <p>January 6/ February 3 7:00 PM, City Council Work Session - City Hall Annex (Jan.)</p> <p>January 13 / February 10 7:30 PM, City Council Meeting, City Hall</p>	<p>January 17 / February 15 1:00 PM, City Court Session, City Hall</p> <p>January 20 / February 17 7:00PM, Planning and Zoning Meeting, City Hall</p> <p>January 28 / February 25 6:30 PM, Downtown Development Authority, City Hall</p>	<p>Everyone is invited to attend Sugar Hill’s monthly Council Work Sessions and Council Meetings. All meetings for the City of Sugar Hill will be held in City Hall located at 5039 West Broad Street, Your comments, suggestions and support will help make your city a community to be proud of</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Agendas and meeting minutes can be found on the Sugar Hill website at: www.cityofsugarhill.com.</p>
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