

# UNION CITY SPOTLIGHT

OFFICIAL  
NEWSLETTER  
OF UNION CITY,  
GEORGIA  
SUMMER 2012



**Keith Sweat**  
**SUNDAY,**  
**SEPT. 2**  
**8PM**  
**Open to all!**



**This Awesome Show Will  
Be Held Rain or Shine!**

Bring your blankets, lawn chairs and picnic baskets! Enjoy smooth R&B and classic jazz while savoring delicious food and beverages provided by food vendors. Parking lot will be closed and reserved for the evening's performance.

## There's Magic In Your UC!

The City of Union City participated in the 2012 Magic of Cities Week, April 22-28. The Week was designed to share information about the valuable services provided to residents. It also highlighted how their quality of life is positively impacted through infrastructure, economic development and essential services including public safety, public services, and parks and recreation. Activities included an Art Contest, Economic Empowerment Summit as well as Hands on Saturday Volunteer Day, and a Touch a Truck Program.

### Elementary Art Contest

Elementary students were asked to draw pictures of their favorite parts of living in or visiting Union City. More than 30 entries were received from students at Liberty Point Elementary School. A special thanks to Principal Vanessa Johnson, Ed.D, Parent Liaison Garolyn Grooms, and Art Teacher Mrs. Essic, as well as the leadership, staff, and parents. Two students, Joseph Hardwick and

see **MAGIC**, page 2

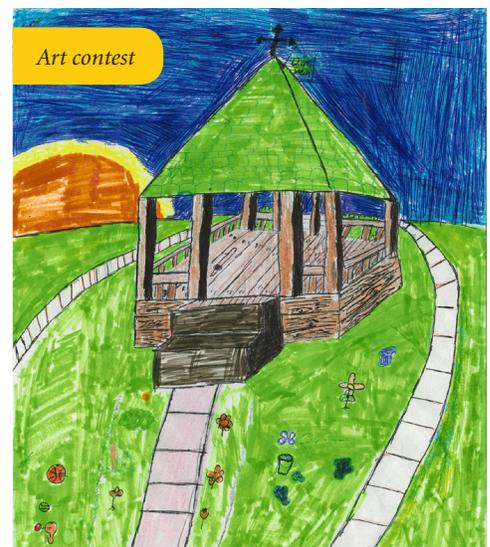
**Movies by Moonlight**  
**SATURDAY, AUGUST 11**



**The Help**

Show starts at Sunset

**7:30 PM**  
**Open to all!**



Artwork by Joseph Hardwick

**The Magic of Cities** *continued from page 1*



*Hands On Saturday*

William Watson, were chosen as winners and presented with a Kindle reader during a City Council meeting. The readers were sponsored by Councilman Vince Williams.

**Economic Empowerment Summit**

Georgia Power and Gas South partnered with the City to host a small business Economic Empowerment Summit. The speakers provided valuable resources designed to assist in the sustainability of the City's business base. Speakers and

participants included representatives from local, state, and federal government as well as the private sector.

**Hands On Saturday**

Volunteers joined forces beautifying City Hall's grounds with flowers and plants. A tree was planted in honor of Maureen Rice, a long-time volunteer. A sculpture was donated by Inferno Art Foundry. Snacks were provided by Costco and Kelloggs. A special thanks to all volunteers and donors



*Touch a Truck*



*Art contest*

*Artwork by William Watson*

for partnering with the City.

**Touch a Truck**

The City's first "Touch a Truck" event was an awesome opportunity for children of all ages to see, touch, and interact while learning about the vehicles. Vehicles included cars and trucks from the City and local businesses. There were a wide variety of vehicles on site from fire trucks, SWAT trucks and construction vehicles to CLM trash trucks and HERO units.



**PLAY BALL!**

*Mayor and Council along with Marquis Grissom and the winners of the banner competition at 2012 Opening Day activities*

**MORE ONLINE**



Scan this code with your smartphone to view this Union City Spotlight online and see past issues.

# STOP STORMWATER POLLUTION!

The Public Services Department wants to team up with citizens to prevent stormwater pollution

## What is Stormwater?

The term stormwater refers to rainwater. Stormwater washes down storm drains on the curbs of roads and leads directly into lakes, rivers, and streams. Unlike wastewater, it is untreated and can carry pollutants, sediments, and trash directly into our natural water resources.

## Why should I care?

As stormwater runoff travels, it picks up chemicals, waste, and trash that are not naturally found in waterways. Stormwater runoff enters the storm drain system through inlets and discharges untreated into creeks, lakes, and rivers. Some chemicals and other substances in stormwater can be toxic, even at small levels, endangering plant and animals that depend on the water to survive. Pollution of our waterways can also mean we cannot boat, swim, or fish because it is unpleasant or even unsafe.

## Pollution Prevention

Stormwater pollution can be controlled if everyone plays a part in preventing these substances from entering the storm drain inlets in the streets where they live and work. You can help prevent stormwater pollution by eliminating illicit discharges; exercising responsible use of herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers in lawn and landscape maintenance; and by properly disposing used oil and toxic materials.

## Types of Stormwater Pollution

Pollutants enter the water environment from two main sources: point and non-point sources, also referred to as direct or indirect flows. There are three types of stormwater pollution:

- Illicit discharge
- Herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers
- Oils and toxins

## Understanding Illicit Discharge

An illicit discharge is defined in the federal regulations as “any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) that is not composed entirely of storm water.” Indirect entry flows in the storm drains created by pollutants that enter the storm drain system through an inlet or through the joints of the pipe (infiltration). Businesses should have grease, sand or oil traps tested and pumped annually. This will keep the City’s sanitary sewer system from having back-ups. This is an EPD regulation.

Nationally, one fourth of the pollutants found in rivers and streams originate from residential use of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers. These materials can enter into the storm drain system through illegal dumping, runoff from excessive lawn irrigation, and from heavy rains and from there they can be discharged directly into our waterways.

### Help prevent pollution - recycle these items:

- Motor oil
- Antifreeze
- Batteries
- Paints
- Oil filters
- Brake fluid
- Solvents

## Yard Debris Pick Up

Union City provides yard waste pickup to its residential sanitation customers. The following amounts of monthly yard debris are collected as a part of your normal sanitation charges:

- Up to 10 large bags of clippings or leaves (Leaves must be placed in bags)
- A pile of limbs not to exceed 4 feet wide x 5 feet tall. (Limbs must be no larger than 4 inches in diameter.) Please bundle your limbs with the cut end (thicker end) closest to the street.

Please note that yard waste will only be picked up for residential customers. Biodegradable bags are preferred but not required.

At this time, the City is unable to offer yard debris collection services to those who are not City of Union City residential sanitation customers. Services are provided by the City and not CLM.

Please call Public Services 770-306-6855 to be placed on the list by the first and third Wednesday of the Month. The pick-up will be done on the first and the third Friday of the month.

Union City also hosts a **Spring** and **Fall Clean-up** every year for residents. The events are provided at no charge. Residents may bring an unlimited amount of bagged leaves or limbs to this event. The maximum limb diameter of 4 inches still applies.

## STORMWATER UTILITY FEE

All local governments in the Metropolitan-Atlanta area are required to manage stormwater under the Federal Clean Water Act. In an effort to meet this requirement, Union City is implementing a monthly stormwater utility fee of \$4. Funding will support pivotal capital improvement projects that are essential to compliance. The user fee will be included as a component of water, sewer, and sanitation bills and will be reflected on your September 2012 bill.

# Union City Officers Receive Awards From MADD

**A**lcohol related crashes in the United States continue to be a reoccurring problem for the motoring public. One in three people will be involved in an alcohol related crash in their lifetime. Every sixty seconds a person is injured in an alcohol related crash, and there were 10,839 fatalities last year as a result. These statistics equate to one death every 50 minutes. In Georgia, there were 298 fatalities as a result of alcohol related crashes and within the past five years there have been 1,931 fatalities. Drinking and driving is not a victimless crime.

Union City's Police Department has taken a tough stance as it relates to impaired drivers on roadways. Several officers from the Police Department were recently recognized at the Golden Shield Awards, hosted by Mothers Against Drunk Drivers. The Golden Shield Awards recognizes officers across the State for the number of driving under the influence arrests made each year.

There were a total of six officers from the Union City Police Department recognized, with each officer having at least thirty DUI arrests for 2011. The Officer's were MPO Michael Bowman, MPO Kevin Gilham, MPO Francisco Cedeno, Officer William Oxford, Officer Jason McDowell, Officer Michael Corvino and Sergeant Paul Berry. Each of the officers worked hard to make the streets a safer place for the motoring public of Union City. They are congratulated on their accomplishments and awards.

# Get Important UC Updates Fast via Text or Email

**U**nion City's Police Department is utilizing a new communications service that will send pertinent community information directly to citizens. The service is secure, reliable and easy to use.

The Nixle service supports the creation and publishing of messages that are delivered to subscribers instantly via cell phone text message and/or e-mail. Notifications can also be accessed online at Nixle's website at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com). Messages may include severe weather, natural disasters, missing person reports, as well as other relevant safety and community event information.

Information can be sent specifically to residents registered as close as within a ¼ mile radius, giving them the opportunity to receive trustworthy information relevant only to their neighborhood. Subscribers can choose the way in which messages are received, whether it is by email, text message, or over the web.

Union City residents and those in neighboring communities can immediately begin receiving pertinent information for free by registering at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com).



**CONGRATULATIONS!** The South Fulton Municipal Regional Jail is proud to announce the 2011 Officer of the Year . Please join us in congratulating Officer **Rochelle Frost**.

# UNION CITY SPOTLIGHT

on City Clerk Jacqueline Cossey

**U**nion City is honored to recognize Mrs. Jacqueline R. Cossey, City Clerk, for her outstanding achievements in education by receiving the International Institute of Municipal Clerk (IIMC) designation. Within the same year Mrs. Cossey also completed the Clerks Master Education Program. Mrs. Cossey has served in government for over sixteen (16) years and in municipal government for over eight (8) years. Since her tenure in Union City, Mrs. Cossey has provided the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies and other governmental agencies. As the information center on functions of local government and the community, the City Clerk's office at the direction of Mrs. Cossey has excelled. We take this moment to acknowledge her exceptional accomplishments.



## 2012 BIKE RACE

Mayor's Bike Race Attracts National Visitors as Union City hosts the Georgia Cup Bike Race Series

# Recreational Opportunities

**SIGN UP NOW** Union City offers recreation programs for all ages. Visit the Parks and Recreation page at [www.unioncityga.org](http://www.unioncityga.org) for more information.

**Programs include:**

**Senior Adult Program**

**Youth Program**

- Football
- Cheerleading
- Basketball
- Baseball
- Karate
- Summer Camp

**Fitness Program**

- Zumba
- Circuit Training
- Yoga
- Dance Aerobics



## SeeClickFix

**Are you looking for a way to document neighborhood concerns and improvements?**

Have you seen potholes, graffiti and broken streetlights that you would like to report to the City?

We have an app for that! Three easy steps and you are ready!

- 1 Download the mobile app at [SeeClickFix.com/apps](http://SeeClickFix.com/apps).
- 2 Register at [SeeClickFix.com/citizens](http://SeeClickFix.com/citizens).
- 3 Use your mobile phone app to document and report your concerns.

## Looking for the Perfect Place to Hold Your Special Event?



Ronald Bridges Park and the Etris Community Recreation Center has rental space available. Whether for business or pleasure, you and your guests will find the perfect setting for fun and fellowship. The location is an exceptional site for your special event or meeting.

- Business Meetings
- Trainings
- Family Events
- Birthday Parties
- Wedding Receptions
- Baby Showers
- Anniversary Parties

To learn more about renting the facility, please contact Jaye Pearson at (770) 964-1236 or visit [www.unioncityga.org](http://www.unioncityga.org) and go to the Parks and Recreation homepage.

### For More Information:

**Community Center Information**  
770-964-1236

**Leisure Center Information**  
770-964-1449

## Shop Locally!



**W**hen you shop locally, you are helping to enhance the community where you live, work and play. Spending with local merchants maintains jobs and helps job growth, promotes competition, ensures diversity of goods and services, and funds public initiatives.

### Top Reasons Why You Should Shop Locally

- 1 You are guaranteeing your funds to remain within your community. Dollars spent in other communities are used to enhance their communities.
- 2 Local businesses provide a majority of jobs for residents.
- 3 Local sales taxes are used to support the City by repairing roads, maintaining recreational facilities, police & fire protection, etc.
- 4 Local businesses may offer fairer prices than neighboring communities.
- 5 Local stores help to maintain vibrant walk-able town centers to reducing sprawl, automobile use and air pollution.
- 6 Local business owners invest in the community and have a vested interest in the future of this community.

**Share this information with your family and friends. Shopping locally will ensure the growth and stability of Your Union City.**

# Union City

5047 Union Street  
Union City, Georgia 30291-1497

## Mayor and City Council

Mayor Ralph Moore  
Councilwoman Shirley Jackson  
Councilman Brian Jones  
Councilwoman Angelette Mealing  
Councilman Vince Williams

## DEPARTMENTS & SERVICES

City Administration . . . . .	770-964-2288
City Clerk . . . . .	770-964-2288
Code Enforcement. . . . .	770-306-3401
Court Services. . . . .	770-306-6847
Police. . . . .	770-964-1333
Fire. . . . .	770-964-9934
Parks and Recreation . . . . .	770-964-1236
Permits, Licenses, and Taxes . . . . .	770-515-7951
Planning and Zoning . . . . .	770-515-7950
Public Services . . . . .	770-306-6855
Utilities . . . . .	770-964-2288

## Contact Information

770-964-2288 • Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

# www.unioncityga.org

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City of Union City  
5047 Union Street  
Union City, Georgia 30291-149

