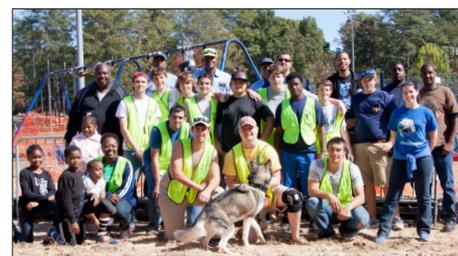


New Playground Built in a Day by Volunteers



A dream was realized for Union City youth as the community pulled together to build a new playground at Ronald Bridges Park located at 5285 Lakeside Drive. In just one day, a play space was built with the help of over forty committed volunteers including parents participating in the City's parks and recreation program, Sigma Nu Fraternity, City employees, and City Council members. Everyone worked hard to install new play equipment, spread mulch, and fill holes with concrete.

The new play space was established as a result of a grant from Kaboom, a national non-profit organization dedicated to community-built play areas. The grant was also leveraged with funding and strong support from the Mayor and Council.

"This playground is another shining example of the wonderful opportunities that manifest when a community stands together," said Lee Blich, Parks and Recreation Director. "It is absolutely

rewarding to see the big smiles on the children's faces and to know that they now have equipment that will help them both physically and socially."

The playground is state of the art and includes new swings, a zip line, climbers, and spinners among other equipment. It is placed in close proximity to the ball fields, surrounded by several seating areas, and sits conveniently to the park's walking track.



Police Department Receives Lo-Jack Systems

The Police Department recently received four Lo-Jack systems from Nalley Honda of Union City. This technology is used in locating stolen vehicles and will serve as an important aid to officers with the department. The units will be installed in patrol cars. Once a vehicle has been reported stolen, the Lo-Jack unit is activated and emits a signal. The signal emitted is then received in the Lo-Jack unit in the patrol vehicle. A police officer is subsequently able to locate and recover the vehicle. The Lo-Jack systems came at no cost to the citizens of Union City or to the Department. The City expresses its appreciation to Nalley Honda and to all those who made the Lo-Jack system possible.

Parks and Recreation Highlights

Senior Leisure Services

Union City is dedicated to providing high quality services and programs for older adults who wish to remain active. These programs are aimed at enhancing quality of life and are strategically designed to promote healthy and productive lifestyles. Ronald Bridges Park/Etris Community Center serves as an ideal space for implementing fun and sustainable leisure programs. Knitting and Crocheting, Bridge and Anything Goes meet at Etris Community Center, 5285 Lakeside Dr.

Knitting and Crocheting

Every Wednesday at 10 a.m. the participants meet for Knitting and Crocheting projects. This class is led by expert knitters and crocheters skilled to assist novice or advanced participants.

Bridge

This class is for both beginners and experts and occurs every Monday at 10:30 a.m. Learn all of the tricks and secrets of Bridge.

Anything Goes

Come out for games or perhaps you have a DIY project you need help with or maybe you have just figured out a new recipe you want to share with someone. Well you've found the right place. This activity is especially designed for seniors and occurs on Wednesdays at 11 a.m.

CITY CALENDAR

Visit the Union City website at www.unioncityga.org to view the calendar.

Union City Awarded Medals for Addressing Childhood Obesity through Let's Move! Cities, Towns and Counties

The National League of Cities (NLC) has recognized

Councilman Vince Williams for his recent completion of key health and wellness goals for Let's Move! Cities, Towns and Counties (LMCTC). LMCTC is a major component of First Lady Michelle Obama's comprehensive Let's Move! initiative, which is dedicated to solving the childhood obesity epidemic within a generation.

"I want to commend our Union City Team and community partners for their dedication to making this a reality and supporting our unwavering commitment to eradicating childhood obesity," said



Councilman Williams. As a participant in this important movement, we will continue to lead and enhance the work of LMCTC. We've only just begun!"

Seven medals were awarded for action taken to improve access to healthy affordable food and

increase opportunities for physical activity. "We applaud local elected officials in Union City for stepping up to the challenge of Let's Move! Cities, Towns and Counties and making measurable progress in their efforts to improve children's health," said NLC President Ted Ellis.

To learn more about Let's Move! visit www.unioncityga.org

Recreational Advisory Committee



Hat's off to Union City's Recreational Advisory Committee for a successful 2012 program year. The committee advises and makes recommendations to the City regarding the improvement and growth of parks and recreation activities. Their work during the year has culminated into additional programs, new park amenities, and enhanced services. Members of the committee are pictured above with Councilwoman Shirley Jackson.

UC Eagles Flying High

Union City Eagles Youth Football Teams and Cheer Squad continue to soar and bring exceptional athletics to Ronald Bridges Park. The program has grown tremendously and has a loyal following of fans. During the 2012 season, UC Eagles continued their reputation of not only great football and cheer but providing structure and positive role models to local youth.

Fans remain steadfast in their claim to be the “Best Fans in the Land.”

Their unwavering commitment was demonstrated by several activities including building a new playground, volunteering to assist Parks and Recreations staff, and bringing high participation rates during games and practices.



Beaming with pride, UC Parks and Recreations Director Lee Blicht said, “The accomplishments made this season by our teams and cheer squad is clear testament to the power of not only our youth but our community.” “Six teams made the Youth Alliance Football League (YAF). We secured two championship titles, and a second place title.”

Mr. Blicht also applauded the accomplishments made by the UC Eagles Cheer Squad. “Our cheerleaders are absolutely stellar. They bring

high energy to our teams and games and have made their mark in their sport.” UC Eagles Cheer squad scored high in their recent YFA League competition. They landed the Spirit Award and won four second place trophies. Go Eagles!

Ronald Bridges Park



Ronald Bridges Park has grown very quickly in the past year. New equipment and activities have been added to enhance the community and provide residents with local options to maintain healthy, active lives. Come out to Ronald Bridges Park today and see all Union City has to offer.

5 Ways to Exercise at Ronald Bridges Park

1. The Etris Community Center offers Zumba and Yoga. These popular classes are excellent for both fitness and mental exercise.

2. Union City’s brand new Nature Trail is a good way to experience the beauty of this great City while keeping your heart rate up.
3. Utilize our outdoor exercise equipment to tone those muscles.
4. Play Basketball! There are several outdoor Basketball courts that are well maintained and conveniently located to parking and restrooms.
5. Walk, jog or run on our track. Even with children in tow this well cared for path offers residents a convenient way to exercise while the kids ride their tricycle, sit in the stroller, or enjoy the new playground.

PLAY BALL!

Union City Baseball and Softball Registration has started. Season lasts until June. We accept boys and girls ages 3-14. Registration slots are limited. Please call 770.964.1236 for additional information.

Community Development Highlights

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 and go to the Parks and Recreation homepage.

For More Information:

Community Center Information
770-964-1236

Leisure Center Information
770-964-1449

Winter 2013 Senior Tax

The Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption is a tax savings on homestead property available to homeowners age 65 and over. Homeowners must own, occupy and claim the property as their legal residence on January 1st to be eligible for the homestead exemption during that tax year. Rental property does not qualify. Under the program 1,400 homeowners have saved \$460,769. To learn more about the Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption or to download an application visit www.unioncityga.org.

Union City Targets Commercial Vacancies

The City's Community Development Department ends the 2012 year by conducting a massive inventory of vacant commercial structures throughout the City. Findings will assist in the development of citywide projects



for the 2013 year and position the City well for helping future businesses relocate and invest in Union City. To learn more about Economic Development initiatives, please visit the City's website at www.unioncityga.org.



Wreaths Across America

The mission of the Wreaths Across America Program is to Remember, Honor, and Teach. South Fulton Municipal Regional Jail and city employees partnered with the Georgia National Cemetery and participated in the Program by placing more than 5,000 wreaths in honor of fallen soldiers.



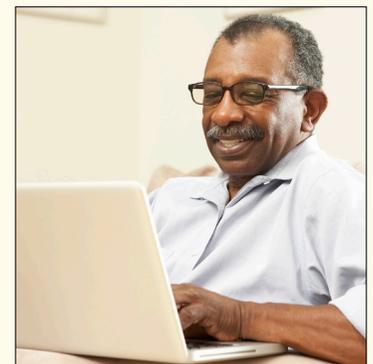
Helvey Plant Donation

Special thanks to Lewis and Carole Helvey for helping City Hall stay beautiful and inviting for our residents and customers.

HOME OCCUPATIONS

Starting a Business in Your Home

Residents who wish to conduct a business from their home must obtain a permit from the Community Development Department. All applicants must complete and submit a home occupation application. Home Occupations are considered conditional uses in all residential zoning districts. For residents who reside in apartments or do not own the house or condo they reside in, it is necessary for the management or owner to provide a signed and notarized letter granting permission to have a home occupation.



Public Services Highlights

Big Belly Solar Powered Waste Units Bring Green Technology

Have you seen the new 'Big Belly' Solar Waste Units? As part of the City's efforts to support decreased litter, six free-standing solar waste units have been placed at local parks to allow citizens to conveniently dispose of trash in public areas. They have a sleek design, are user friendly, and promote a positive message using the City's brand.

Big Bellies operate using solar energy and compact trash to approximately twenty-five percent of its typical size. Municipalities are purchasing the units to decrease the number of pick up trips waste handlers have to make. This, in turn, cuts down on fuel cost, reduces street congestion, and saves tax payers dollars.



Yard Waste Removal

Yard waste pickup services are provided to all Union City 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. (Must be in bags)
- A pile of limbs not to exceed 4Ft wide x 5Ft Tall. (Limbs no larger than 4" in diameter.)

Call 770-306-6855 to learn more about this program and to be placed on the list for pickup.



Extra Trash Removal

CLM is the City's waste disposal contractor. The company offers two free pick-ups the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. Pick ups are scheduled by calling (770) 515-7888.

- No hazardous materials (pesticides, wet paint, chemicals etc)
- One load per household
- Items must be placed at curbside no earlier than the day before scheduled pick-up
- No building materials

Public Service Personnel

Congratulations to Walter June Pope and John Williford for their years of service to the Public Services Department. Union City wishes them the very best in their upcoming retirement.

Karen Cumby, Kenneth Johnson, and Nodja Williams are also congratulated for their recent certifications in the field of Public Services.

Gas South Discount Program for Union City Residents and Businesses

"Have you heard about Union City's partnership with Gas South? As part of Gas South's commitment to the communities they serve, they have teamed up with 10 cities, 6 electric membership corporations (EMCs) and one county to bring savings to their customers. Union City residents receive a discounted rate

on any of their standard rate plans for as long as they remain a customer as well a discount on connection fees. The savings really add up!

We are very proud of our alliance program with Gas South and we hope you will take advantage of the savings.



Please visit our partner page at www.gas-south.com/unioncity to learn more about the additional savings, including \$50 in bill credits when you enroll online."

Public Safety Highlights

Union City First in Georgia to Pass New Ordinance Requiring High-End, Heat Limiting Technology for Multi-Family Dwellings

The City's recent adoption of an ordinance regarding heat limiting technology is an amazing step taken to save lives and reduce cooking fires in the community. By December 31, 2016, all new or replacement electronic coil rangers in multi-family dwellings will need to be equipped with the technology. It allows the burner on a stove to only reach a certain temperature before it shuts off, dropping down the temperature before it begins to heat back up.

Fire Truck Donated to Chattahoochee Hills



UCFD donated a fire truck to its South Fulton neighbor, Chattahoochee Hills. The Department has updated and replaced most of its equipment providing the community with a reliable and state of the art fleet of fire trucks. "As a result, we are able to partner with other departments in the community," said Fire Chief Don Leasher. "It is truly a win-win situation."

New Fire Rescue Now in Service



Rescue 20 was proudly placed into service the first week of 2013 providing residents of Union City with a medical rescue unit at each fire station. Like its predecessors, the unit has Advanced Life Support capacity and greatly enhances emergency medical coverage services.

E911

On January 1, 2013, the Union City Police Department Communications Center began receiving 911 calls and dispatching emergency units for the City of Chattahoochee Hills. This move culminates several months of planning and cooperation between Union City Police Chief Charles Odom and Chattahoochee Hills Police Chief Matt Rook.

Chattahoochee Hills police and fire units will be dispatched using an

upgraded state of the art trunked digital communications system that was recently installed by the City of Union City. The enhanced equipment was funded, in part, through federal grants and 911 user fees and was initially installed to enhance the City's communication needs as a result of recent land acquisition and growth.

The cities of Union City and Chattahoochee Hills are proud to partner together in this endeavor and support each other's public safety initiatives.

South Fulton Municipal Jail Partners with Family Unification Network

The generosity of the Family Unification Network is helping the South Fulton Municipal Regional Jail provide inmates with toiletries while saving City resources. Toiletries are provided by Ms. Joann Cash through the organization. "Many people don't realize how many inmates are in the Jail," Assistant Chief Keith McGhee said. "The Network's assistance will go a long way in helping us maximize a tight budget."



Union City Fire Department Welcomes Fire Chaplain Jose L. Montez, Jr.

Chaplain Montez is an active firefighter/paramedic and has been responding to fire/EMS alarms since 1984. During those years, he has held rank in Lieutenant and Captain's positions and received and completed over seventy different licenses, certifications and instructorship.

Chaplain Montez is well established in the surrounding communities as a

parent, neighbor and coach. He is on call 24 hours a day for emergency situations, hospital visitations, or other crisis needs. He is also available for memorial services, baby dedications/baptisms and participation in Fire Department weddings. Chaplain Montez can be reached by email at jmontez@unioncityga.org



Community Spirit Provides Assistance for Families

Food and Toy Drive

The City Council partnered with Dendreon, Union City Housing Authority, Resurrection House for All Nations, and Jackson Ford to make a difference for families in need during the holiday season. They set an example by collectively providing food to Housing Authority families and toys for their children. The project is a favorite. It is an excellent example how the City can partner with faith based organizations and businesses to demonstrate the power of community.



The partners collectively provided food to Housing Authority families and gave several toys to their children.



Mayors' Motorcade

We are proud to report another successful year for the Mayors' Motorcade program. The program, implemented by the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA), brings the joy of the holiday season to patients at state regional behavioral health hospitals. GMA partnered with the City in obtaining gifts for patients, many of whom would not receive gifts or be recognized without the generosity of others.

Blanket Drive

Union City employees, residents and Gas South teamed up to donate nearly 200 blankets to the Salvation Army shelter in Atlanta. The successful drive was part of Gas South's launch of Project SHARE through the Salvation Army, which allows customers to donate money on their monthly natural gas bills to needy families throughout Georgia. Project SHARE helps with food, shelter, clothing, medical supplies and utility bills. For every customer contribution to Project SHARE, Gas South matches up to \$5. Visit www.gas-south.com/projectshare to help your neighbors in need today.

This is Your 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



www.unioncityga.org

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