

# *the* Guide 2004

COVERING SOUTH FULTON AND AIRPORT AREA



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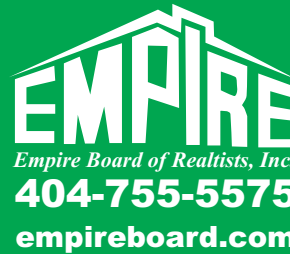
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# South Fulton

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# South Fulton Region Map



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# South Fulton Chamber of Commerce

# the 2004 Guide

COVERING SOUTH FULTON AND AIRPORT AREA

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## ABOUT OUR COVER...

A sampling of South Fulton area offerings!  
 Clockwise from top right:  
*A happy student at Parklane Elementary, photo courtesy of South Fulton Board of Education; The GICC, photo by Warren Bond; Brighten the room with flowers from Toni's; John Boothby, President of the South Fulton Chamber of Commerce, Marie Liang Schlosser, sales executive for the Guide, and Bill Davenport, Past-Chair of the South Fulton Chamber of Commerce at the Annual Meeting; Rugby Street in full Bloom; In the flight simulator at Alteon, photo by Rob Felt*



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Photo by Rob Felt

Betsy Box, Founder of The Bedford School

*South Fulton County is blessed with resources and opportunities. But the area's greatest blessings are the people who make up our communities. From the medical professionals healing our families to the small business owners investing in and improving our local economy, South Fulton residents are reaching out to help our neighborhoods thrive.*

*This year, our featured South Fulton Faces' include successful business people, an exceptional educator and an upcoming sports star.*

#### **BETSY BOX**

As founder and director of The Bedford School, Betsy Box knows she is following the path she was meant to tread. "All I ever wanted to do was teach," she says. To achieve her dream, Betsy first had to overcome a learning disability. In the first grade, she'd write her b's and d's backwards.

Once home, Betsy's mom would take time and re-teach her all the information she'd been unable to master in class. "Then I'd go out on my porch and line up my dolls and cat to teach them to read. The dolls were good listeners,

but the cat definitely had a short attention span," she remembers.

Betsy went on to college and received her BS in Elementary Education from Samford University in Birmingham, AL. She earned her Masters and Educational Specialist Degrees from Georgia State University and later received her PhD in Education. While in college, she worked for Dr. Charles Shedd of the Reading Research Program in Berea, KY. Dr. Shedd was a pioneer, investigating why some children learn differently.

"My first student was a fellow from

Mobile, AL. He was a welder, 21 years old, and reading at a second-grade level. His goal was to get up to a sixth-grade level so he could fill out job applications," Betsy says. "We worked hard for eight weeks. At the end, he was not reading at a sixth-grade level, but at a seventh-grade level. He looked at me and said, "Thank you for my life." At that moment, I knew that I wanted to develop a whole school for children with learning disabilities so they wouldn't have to be frustrated and struggle."

Betsy began working at Woodward Academy in 1971 and developed their



program for dyslexic children. In 1980, she started the Squirrel Hollow Camp, a 5-week program addressing the academic needs of children with learning disabilities in a residential camp setting. The Bedford School began in the fall of 1985 with 34 students; classes were held at the Southwest Christian Church. Five years later, with 54 children, the school moved to the campus of Atlanta Christian College.

The Bedford School bought 47 acres in Fairburn in July of 1996 and immediately began raising money to build. In the fall of 2001, classes opened at the new school - spacious and bright — on Milam Road. Each class has 8 - 12 children and is taught by teachers specially trained to work with children with learning disabilities. Students are separated into skill groups, so that each child can maximize his or her potential.

Every day, Betsy is reminded that she's exactly where she's meant to be. "One of the most exciting parts of this job is that every day, students are doing things that they couldn't do the day before."

**BEN DECOSTA**

Benjamin R. DeCosta has directed Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (HJIA) since June of 1998. As general manager for the City of Atlanta's Department of Aviation, he's made customer service, safety and security some of his top priorities.

The Airport's mission — "to be the world's best airport by exceeding customer expectations" - has brought it the number one ranking in the overall passenger satisfaction survey for large hub airports conducted by the International Air Transport Association. This is especially impressive when you consider that Hartsfield-Jackson is the busiest airport in the world, accommodating more than 78 million passengers last year.

One way that DeCosta and his staff reach out to assist passengers is through the Operation Heartbeat program, launched in April 2003. Through the program, 200 Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) were

installed throughout the Airport. Since then, four passengers suffering from cardiac arrest have been rescued with the assistance of bystanders using the medical devices.

"With the heaviest passenger volume of any airport in the world, it only makes sense that we lead the way in making these potentially life-saving devices available to airport passengers and personnel," DeCosta says.

And lead the way they have. The Airport's Operation Heartbeat is a model for other airports and has attracted interest from officials at airports across the US.

With stepped-up security measures, Hartsfield-Jackson has its share of challenges. But there are great opportunities, too. DeCosta and his staff continue their positive approach with the Hartsfield-Jackson Development Program - "Focus On the Future." The expansion program spans 10 years and costs more than 5.4 billion; it's well into its second year and includes the construction of a new fifth runway and a new international terminal.

Under DeCosta's leadership, Atlanta's airport has received numerous awards and national recognition in many areas including airfield safety.

In fact, in July 2003,



Photo courtesy of Hartsfield-Jackson

Ben DeCosta

the Airport received an award from the Air Transport Research Society for being first in productivity and efficiency among 90 leading airports worldwide.

"When you care about people, you're going to do a good job for them," says DeCosta. "That's why our entire team at Hartsfield-Jackson works so well. We care about everyone who passes through our airport."

A native New Yorker, DeCosta received his Bachelor of Arts degree in physics at Queens College and went on to earn his Juris Doctor from New York Law School in 1975. Prior to his present position, DeCosta worked for the Port Authority of New York and served as the general manager of Newark International Airport.

**TRUETT CATHY**

S. Truett Cathy, Founder & Chairman of Chick-fil-A® is well known, though perhaps not as well known as the cows that picket us to "Eat Mor Chikin." That ad campaign has done a lot to popularize his chain of restaurants.

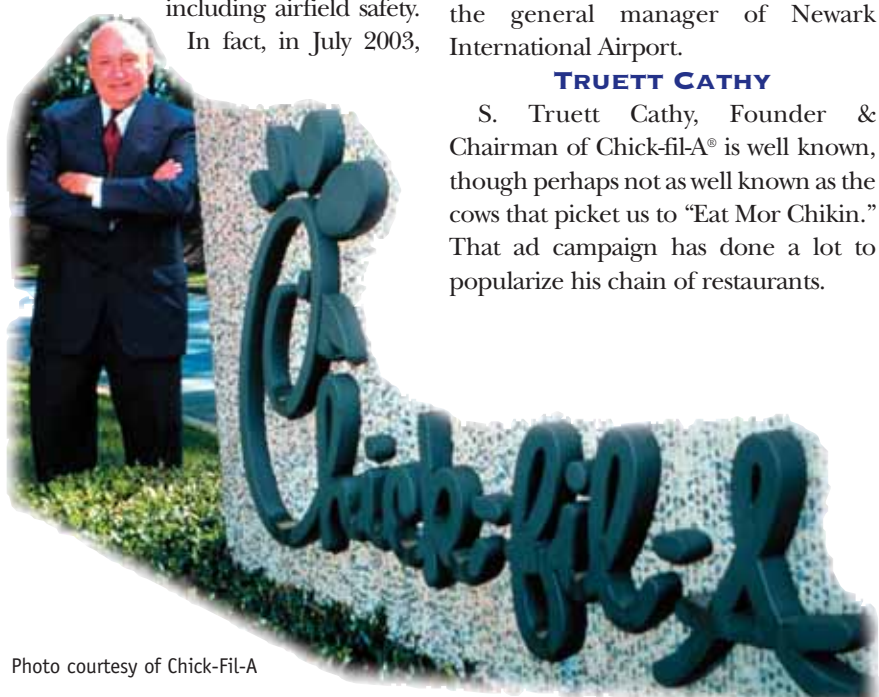


Photo courtesy of Chick-Fil-A

Born in Eaton, GA in 1921, Cathy was the sixth of seven children. As a youngster, he helped his mother run a boarding house, delivered newspapers and operated his own business selling soft drinks. He served in the army after high school.

Then, in 1946, he opened a tiny restaurant — the Dwarf Grill (later renamed the Dwarf House)—with his brother. In 1967, the first Chick-fil-A® restaurant opened in Atlanta. Chick-fil-A® now has over nearly 1,100 restaurants with more than 40,000 restaurant employees around the country. The chain surpassed the \$1 billion sales milestone in 2000 and has posted consecutive sales gains for the past 36 years.

His secret for success goes beyond great-tasting chicken. A good product at a good price is an important of the equation, but Cathy stresses quality of service, as well.

“I tell our people here that they have to remember to do things right each and every time, not just sometimes,” Cathy says. “A person can have a pleasant experience in a restaurant 50 times but be disappointed or treated rudely just once and never come back. It is so important to be consistent in your service as well as the quality of your product.”

Cathy relies very strongly on his faith and brings it into every aspect of his life. The Chick-fil-A® purpose statement reads: “To have a positive influence on all who come in contact with Chick-fil-A.”

He has done just that. Chick-fil-A® restaurants are never open on Sundays because, Cathy says, it’s one way to honor God. Through the WinShape Centre Foundation funded by Chick-fil-A®, foster homes are operated for more than 120 children, a summer camp for more than 1,600 children is sponsored and college scholarships for over 16,500



Photo by Rob Felt

Yolanda Reynolds

students have been funded. And, just as he has done for nearly 50 years, Cathy teaches a Sunday school class to 13-year-old boys.

Cathy and his wife, Jeannette, have a strong family life with three children, 12 grandchildren and more than 135 “foster grandchildren.” Sons Dan and Don (Bubba) hold positions at Chick-fil-A®. Dan is president of Chick-fil-A® and Bubba is senior vice president of the company and president of the Chick-fil-A® Dwarf House division. Daughter Trudy, the youngest, is the Director for Camp WinShape for Girls in Rome, GA.

If you think there’s no place for faith in business, S. Truett Cathy disagrees. “I see no conflict between biblical principles and good business practice,” he says. “Corporate America needs faith in something more than the bottom line.”

#### YOLANDA REYNOLDS

Yolanda Reynolds understands the importance of good relationships and she knows how to build them. That’s the basis for her success both personally and professionally.

As the President of Reynolds ADsociates, relationship building is what she does. Founded in 1991, Reynolds ADsociates is a community/ public relations, event planning and sponsorship

sales firm. “My main focus is to build relationships that develop into win-win results for my clients,” Reynolds says.

She has used her expertise in raising funds, planning promotional events and developing publications for a range of non-profit businesses and organizations such as the Atlanta Business League, Concerned Black Clergy of Metro Atlanta, East Point Business Association, Gate City Bar Association and the American Red Cross. In 2003, Reynolds generated over a million dollars for her clients.

How does she do it? Reynolds has a strong base of corporate clients and maintains close working relationships with many companies, including Cingular Wireless, Morehouse School North American Properties-Camp Creek MarketPlace, BellSouth, MARTA, AGL Resources, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, The Coca-Cola Company, UPS Foundation, HBO Atlanta, Washington Mutual, Delta Airlines and General Electric. By working with all these companies, organizations and community groups, she is able to match up resources to the benefit of all.

Reynold’s work has helped bring growth and prosperity to East Point and



South Fulton. As Marketing and Promotions Consultant for Camp Creek MarketPlace, she was instrumental in getting the builders, North American Properties, actively involved in the community. She helped develop their partnerships with Parklane Elementary and Tri-Cities High School, local business organizations and community initiatives, especially initiatives impacting South Fulton's youth.

"A lot of Camp Creek MarketPlace's promotional events and marketing strategies are still centered around these partnerships, which greatly contributes to the success of the MarketPlace and the strength of the community," Reynolds says.

One of her finest achievements came earlier this year, when the Blood Donation Center at Camp Creek MarketPlace opened. As Co-Chair of the Advisory Board for the American Red Cross Minority Recruitment Program, Reynolds was a major force lobbying for the first blood donation center to be located in a primarily African-American community. The grand opening in March 2004 was the culmination of years of effort.

Reynolds brings her energy and charisma to several distinguished Boards. Besides her role with the Red Cross, she is also a Board Member for the East Point Business Association, Fulton County Partnership for Tomorrow and South Fulton Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Atlanta Association of Black Journalists and the Atlanta Business League. She also serves as Publisher of the Who's Who in Black Atlanta Book, Atlanta's Premier Networking Guide.

She has been recognized by Cingular Wireless as "Minority Entrepreneur of the Year" and has been on the Atlanta Business League List of 100 Most Influential Women for the past four years. Women Looking Ahead named her one of Georgia's Most Powerful and Influential Women in Business. Recently, Reynolds received the 2003

Home Based Business Achievement Award from the East Point Business Association and the 2003 "For Sisters Only" Community Service Award from V-103 Radio Station.

Of course, her most important relationships are those with her family. In November of 2004, she'll mark "15 wonderful years" married to Sylvester Reynolds. Together, they enjoy raising their two boys, 10-year old Ashton Sinclair and Wildon Chandler, age 3.

#### **DONALD YOUNG, JR.**

There's a rising star right here in South Fulton - Donald Young Jr. The 14 year-old's athletic ability is often compared to Tiger Woods, except that Young's game is tennis. And it has been since he was two years old.

Young, now a member of the USA Jr. Davis Cup Team, has accomplished a lot within those twelve years. In June 2004, he qualified as a Wild Card for Wimbledon in the boys' 18 category.

His list of wins and honors, starting back in 1999, fills pages. In 2002, at the age of 13, he was ranked the #1 Boy in the USTA 14.

In 2003, Young made debut at the US Open Jr. Championships and was part of the Arthur Ashe Kids Day on CBS. He swept the singles and doubles titles at Teen Tennis in Telford, Great Britain, The El Paso youth Tennis Centre ITF Tournament in El Paso, Texas and Les Petits As in Tarbes, France.

Young also became the first African-American to win a singles title in the 57-year history of the Orange Bowl International Championships in the boys' 16s finals, the first American winner since Jim Courier.

Among his awards in 2004, Young won the singles title and was a doubles finalist at the Easter Bowl, USTA National Spring Championship; there, he became the youngest person ever to win the boys' 18 title, as well as the first to win the boys' 14 and 18 titles in back-to-back years.



Photo by Rob Felt

Donald Young, Jr.

A lot of young kids swing the racket, but only a handful have such innate talent, and even fewer have the dedicated coaching that Young enjoys. That's because the coaches are his parents - Illona and Donald Young Sr., both tennis pros, have nurtured their son's skills while protecting him from the "too much too fast" lifestyle that can come with talent and accomplishment.

Born in Chicago, Young and his family moved to the South Fulton area so he could train at the Tennis In Motion Academy, operated by his father, at the Donald Young TennisPlex, formerly the South Fulton Tennis Center, in Atlanta.

For all his talent and love of the game, Young is a typical teen who enjoys playing video games, going to the movies and listening to music whenever he can. A typical teen making plans to win the Grand Slam of tennis — and celebrate his fifteenth birthday. **G**

# Revitalized!



The Old National Highway Merchant's Association sponsored a tour of Smyrna's Successful Revitalization Program to give local leaders a first hand look at a successful revitalization program that is similar to the Old National Highway's own plan of complete renewal of their area. Left to right: Allan Lane, Economic Development Specialist, City of College Park; Don Winbush, Vice President, Old National Highway Merchants Association; Inga Kennedy, President Old National Highway Merchants Association; John Boothby, President, South Fulton Chamber of Commerce; Jennifer Bennett, City of Smyrna; Odalys Huggins City of Smyrna; Judy Knowles, President, Keep South Fulton Beautiful.

*Old National Highway has a proud history as the commercial heart of South Fulton County. That history may include some rough-and-tumble times, but it has survived and is now turning the corner on revitalization.*

The highway stretches over six miles, from I-285 to Highway 138 at the Fayette County line and runs through College Park, alongside the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.

According to Joseph Johnson Jr., Director of Economic Development with Fulton County, about 44,000 cars go up and down Old National daily, bringing a good flow of traffic to the

226 businesses that thrive there. And there's more opportunity to tap into, he adds. Every day, occupants of the 10,000 hotel rooms in the area look for nearby places to eat and shop.

It's not all just opportunity, though. Much of the new development is already here or currently underway. College Park Economic Development Specialist Allan C. Lane cites the Alteon Training Center, the John Wieland Homes reno-

vation of the old Levitz building, as well as a few upcoming projects.

The former Kroger Plaza at 5134 Old National Highway has been purchased and plans are in motion to convert it into a fitness center, a \$6 million investment. Along Godby Road, just east of Scofield Road, construction has begun on an 8,000 square foot Chevron service station and convenience center, a \$2 million investment.



# John Wieland

## URNS AN EYESORE INTO OPPORTUNITY

For more than eight years, the old Levitz building along the Old National Highway corridor in College Park has been abandoned. What many saw as an eyesore, John Wieland Homes & Neighborhoods saw as an opportunity.

In February of this year, the company purchased the 243,000 square-foot structure situated on nine acres. John Wieland Homes & Neighborhoods is investing \$2.5 million in renovations to convert the building for John Wieland Support Companies. The support companies include: two manufacturing companies - one for cabinets and another for windows and exterior door units; three distribution companies - one for construction material, one for lighting and plumbing fixtures and a third for nursery products; and a remodeling company that handles

adding rooms and finishing basements for customers who own John Wieland homes.

According to Ron Meehan, president of John Wieland Support Companies, the facility attracted them for a number of reasons. The overall size of the structure allows a number of the support companies to be housed in one place. It was in very good condition. "And the location is ideal," he says. "It's accessible to our corporate office and the nearby interstate exchanges are convenient when it comes to moving our products to construction areas."

The renovation will bring major benefits to Old National Highway and the entire area. Once it's open, the facility will bring 33 jobs to College Park, with another 70 to be added later.

Photo by Warren Bond Photography

Buildings at the former Anderson Communications Co., 2245 Godby Road, are undergoing renovation so the new owners, Universal Cargo Management, Inc., can use them as office space, a \$1.5 million investment.

In addition, plans for development of the Texaco Service Station at the corner of Godby Road and Old National are being reviewed by the City of College Park and the Radisson Hotel has been purchased for conversion into a Wyndham brand. Several prime areas along Old National are in the early stages of renovation and development — the Service Merchandise Plaza, the Target site and 5.3 acres on Old National near Godby Road.

Lane also points out that an Old National Highway LCI has been submitted to the Atlanta Regional Commission, which would bring streetscape and traffic improvements to the highway.

Old National Merchants Association  
It's not hard to see the potential with

Old National's current rate of the growth and renovation - and with the money that corporations are willing to invest. But one of the most enduring

investments has been made by the Old National Merchants Association (ONMA).

Since 1989, ONMA has been work-



Photo by Rob Felt

Helen Zaver, owner of Howard Johnson Express Atlanta Airport, and Chief Gary Yandura of the College Park Police

ing to sustain and improve the economic vitality and quality of life of the Old National Corridor - working closely with schools, churches and neighborhood associations.

“Old National is very much a community-invested corridor and we’re keepers of the vision,” says Inga Kennedy, President of ONMA. “Our community focus means we work closely with all departments of the government - the police, fire dept, economic development. We make sure the government sees us as an organization that knows what we want. ONMA has been the promoter of Old National for these 15 years, setting the vision and tone.”

Kennedy’s positive energy and strong vision, combined with her tireless devotion to the residents and businesses along Old National, keep the organization focused on where it’s going and what it needs to do to get there.

“Our monthly meetings are real forums,” Kennedy says. “Businesses show up and government agencies are well-represented. It’s a good opportunity for people to deal with a variety of issues and get the attention of government representatives. If a process is not working well, it usually comes up at the meetings and we can begin to address and improve it.”

ONMA has been a consistent catalyst, the one constant working for the development of Old National, adds Don Winbush, ONMA’s vice president. “There has been business interest, both large and small companies, government involvement and neighborhood associations helping out, but ONMA is the one constant. We’ve been the pushers and the prodders for the last 15 years.”

Winbush got involved with ONMA after being a home-based, marketing



Neighborhood Enforcement Team Officers DeJuan Robinson and Boyd Burns with NET Team Supervisor Sgt. James McGee

Photo by Rob Felt

copywriter living in the community. He’d asked to speak to the organization when he was heading up an umbrella group of neighborhood associations concerned with the vitality of Old National, so it seemed like a natural link. Winbush decided to volunteer at ONMA because “I can’t help but be impressed and inspired by folks who take their destiny into their own hands.”

Through the years, ONMA has drummed up support for such initiatives as streetlights, sidewalks and an overlay district. The overlay district was developed to improve quality and create visual consistency along the highway. It set the standards for such things as lighting, parking, colors of buildings, height of signs, landscaping. ONMA was among the first in Fulton County to pass it.

“It was a challenge,” Winbush says. “We had to battle a hodgepodge to build visual quality and identity. And

while we’ve tried to be aggressive and consistent in applying our standards, we also work to not be overly restrictive. Old National is an older commercial district. If we were too strict, we would create burdens on established businesses. So we try to be understanding while remaining strong.”

ONMA has also sponsored several events that highlight local businesses and bring the community together. There has been a Business Expo, a road race and two years ago, the Taste of Old National Festival. It was a real family event and had great participation. The Fulton County health department had a booth with health info, there was live entertainment, activities for kids, businesses displaying their wares, and all kinds of music including gospel and rock.

Inga has a message for all of the residents, business and supporters. “Don’t leave now. We need you more than ever! Things are getting ready to take



off and we need good stable, committed people to work right here.”

Felker W. Ward, Jr. of Pinnacle Investment Advisors, LLC has been an area resident for the last 18 years. He sees the potential of Old National Highway and what it will take to achieve it. “In addition to the current mix of starter homes, the area needs more development of middle- and upscale housing,” he says. “That will draw in more residents, a viable market for investors, businesses and premiere dining facilities.”

**HOWARD JOHNSON - ATLANTA AIRPORT**

The Howard Johnson on Old National Highway was available for purchase in



Photo courtesy of The Old National Merchants Association

The Old National Merchants Association works with the community and local government to help the Old National area thrive

2002. Helen and Brandon Zaver had been working in the hospitality business for more than 15 years and they knew a good opportunity when they saw it.

“We were attracted to Old National for the major benefit of close proximity to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. The hotel is only 3 miles from

continued on p.22

# Ackerman & Co.



Our Southside Team from left to right: Chitra Subbarayan, F. Keene Miller, Dwana L. Jackson, Trenna Ross, Tom Pugh, Bryant Cornett, Al Sapoznik, Kris Miller. Not pictured: Mike Barron, Ryan Goldstein, Bo King.

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Photo and inset by Rob Felt

### ALTEON TRAINING CENTER

On February 26 of this year, Alteon Training L.L.C. officially opened its brand-new \$75 million aviation-training center in the City of College Park. The 52,000-sq. ft. facility sits on six acres on Godby Road at Old National Highway.

The state-of-the-art training center provides pilot training, aircraft maintenance training, advanced technology training devices and learning tools. Six full-flight simulators are housed in the two-story building. The facility employs 15 full-time positions and can accommodate up to 200 trainees per day, comprised of pilots, maintenance technicians and cabin crews.

Alteon is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Boeing Company within Boeing Commercial Airplanes' Commercial Aviation Services group. The training organization supports the world's aviation community with more than 70 full flight simulators in 20 locations around the world.

"We are consistently increasing training value by placing our training centers at locations that support our customers' operational needs," says Pat Gaines, president of Alteon.

Fulton County Economic Development officials, Atlanta airport officials, and the cities of Atlanta and College Park led the successful recruitment effort that ultimately resulted in Alteon's decision to locate the aviation training facility project in Atlanta.



Above: Roland Desjardins, General Manager, Alteon.



Left: Flight simulator on final approach to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.

Top: Alteon classroom



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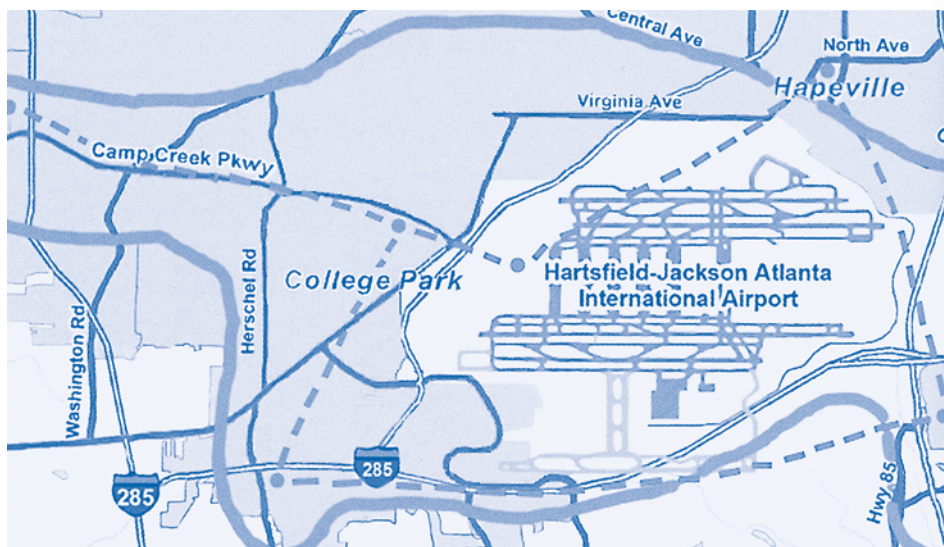


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Cheryl DeDios  
Executive Director of HATMA

# HATMA Smooths the Road

TO A QUALITY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

“You can’t get there from here.” It may sound funny, but sometimes it’s all too true. HATMA is working to change that.

HATMA stands for The Hartsfield Area Transportation Management Association. It’s one of the eight Transportation Management Associations (TMAs) in Georgia whose goal is to connect workers with workplaces, customers with businesses and travelers with destinations in efficient ways that relieve congestion and pollution.

That’s a big goal, but it’s one that HATMA’s Executive Director, Cheryl DeDios, has had success with in the past. She worked as Director of Alternative Transportation at Emory University and Executive Director of the Clifton Corridor TMA. While at Emory, she was instrumental in consolidating shuttle contracts that led to more efficient, better coordinated and more economical shuttle service throughout the Clifton Corridor. By conducting a cost comparison of building a new parking deck to fully subsidizing MARTA cards for employees, DeDios convinced University officials to initiate a MARTA distribution program, thus reducing demand for parking.

As HATMA’s first executive director, DeDios began in February 2000. The group has steadily gained support ever since. The General Manager of Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International

Airport (HJIA), Ben DeCosta, is one such backer; he’s a former HATMA Chairman of the Board.

“I certainly believe in HATMA’s mission, and am proud to have been part of the effort to bring this wonderful organization to the Airport,” DeCosta says. “I was delighted to recently learn of the HATMA Connector, and the fact that public and private partners are seeing the vision for its importance.”

“Once employers and businesses understand the benefits that HATMA can produce, they are eager to participate,” says DeDios. She adds that there are many incentives — reduced demand for employee parking, increased customer flow, improved employee retention and recruitment, living and working conditions to name a few.

“As a membership organization, we work with employers to implement a variety of creative solutions to help relieve gridlock and reduce smog, such as incentives to carpooling, vanpooling, tele-working and mass transit,” she adds. “With all of these options, we have had several successes converting up to 10% of a company’s employee population — that’s a significant improvement.

“As an advocate to reducing traffic congestion, improving air quality and mobility, and promoting economic development, we work with local and state agencies as well as consultants to bet-

ter understand the relationship between land use and transportation.”

HATMA’s territory covers about 60 square miles with HJIA right in the middle; it also includes Hapeville, East Point, College Park, Forest Park, Old National Highway, Camp Creek Marketplace and the State Farmer’s Market.

While some individual businesses and cities have worked out solutions for their own transportation concerns, they often don’t connect with other areas. And, DeDios explains, it becomes a question of coordination. Without interconnectivity, transportation problems remain and individuals are forced to use their own cars to reach their ultimate destination. “The airport area is undergoing a renaissance that will completely transform business and way of life. That’s why we believe it’s so important to rally behind the HATMA Connector project.”

“We’ve already gotten tremendous support,” says DeDios. “But we need more businesses, organizations, leaders and individuals to step up and help us solve our transportation problems today. Together, we can build a strong system that helps everyone maintain a high quality of life and get them where they’re going.”

Contact Cheryl DeDios at 404-761-6774 or visit [www.hatma.org](http://www.hatma.org) for more information or to pledge your support.



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[www.hatma.org](http://www.hatma.org)

continued from p.17

there,” says Helen. “There was one major drawback to this hotel, though, the property had been neglected.”

The Zavers met the challenge head-on and refurbished the inside of the hotel inside. The rooms received new carpeting, walls and added features;

the lobby and breakfast area also got major makeovers with the aim of making guests feel welcome and at home. The renovation on the outside will begin soon.

“In order for our guests to have a positive experience while staying with

us, we had to make a tremendous amount of changes,” Helen says. “The most important change was training our staff that customer service is our number one priority. We’ve now met our goals and are confident that each guest staying with us feels that we exceed their expectations in service and quality.”

Internal changes weren’t the only priority for the Zavers. They knew that community involvement was critical to improve the Old National corridor as a whole. Again, they became proactive.

When they requested more police patrols, they received cooperation from the College Park Police Department and Chief Gary Yandura. Since then, the crime rate has dropped over 40% and is below that of Buckhead. Helen joined the South Fulton Chamber of Commerce and Old National Merchant’s Association and has since become a Board Member of both organizations.

“There are several issues that ONMA is working to change,” Helen says. “The first is false perception of the area. I’ve found that some people feel there’s a stigma attached to Old National; I see the corridor as an urban area on the rise.

“The South Fulton Chamber of Commerce has also played a key role through support of the improvements proposed and involvement in events such as our Crime Prevention Summit and Economic Development Roundtable.”

Helen adds that Old National is the perfect place to be-at the intersection of two major interstates, I-85 and I-285, and next to the world’s busiest airport. And, she points out, the area is drawing developers who see its potential.

“As a business owner on Old National Highway, I know I’m in the right area,” Helen says. “We’ll see major changes occurring within the next two years as we become the New “Old National”. **G**



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Merchants  
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# Real Estate



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**THE EMPIRE BOARD OF REALTISTS  
BRINGS INTEGRITY TO REAL  
ESTATE**

Through its vision of democracy in housing, the Empire Board of Realtists (EBR) has been here for homeowners and real estate professionals. Through its membership, school of real estate, scholarship program, and various other community activities, it's been here for citizens of Metro and surrounding Atlanta areas for 65 years now.

The Empire Board of Realtists is the Georgia chapter of NAREB, The National Association of Real Estate Brokers, Inc. Among the Board's educational and membership activities, the Board has their Annual Awards Scholarship Dinner at the top of the list. Through corporate support, this major event held in November of each year affords the organization the opportunity to give scholarships to deserving youth whose educational goals are in the field of real estate and business administration. Recently, the Board added a Golf Tournament to their list of scholarship fundraisers.

From the group's very beginning, the EBR has filled a need in the Atlanta area. And, they bring the highest standards of honesty, integrity and professionalism to the real estate market. The major concern for the Empire Board is for minorities to gain and maintain an equal footing in the real estate market whether it is buying, selling, and/or developing real estate.

"Above all, we believe in democracy in housing," says Lawrence Batiste, Empire President.

It's a democracy that the group claimed for themselves when they organized back in 1939. Seven Black Real Estate Brokers — W. H. Aiken, John G. Allen, O. T. Bell, Wendell Cunningham, Roger Henderson, J. R. Wilson, Jr. and N. D. Jones — were dissatisfied with the housing conditions in Atlanta for Blacks.

They were also unhappy with the conditions for Black real estate practitioners. In fact, they had been denied membership in the Realtors' trade



Cascade Point Subdivision

organization. With their vision of better housing for Blacks and acceptance of Black real estate professionals, the seven pioneers formed the Empire Real Estate Board, Inc. (EREB).

During the early years, EREB's main thrust was in the area of professional standards for its membership. By 1944, a new breed of Brokers emerged as leaders — W. L. Calloway, the late Q. V. Williamson and T. M. Alexander, Sr. It was due to their initiative and foresight that, in 1949, EREB joined the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, Inc. (NAREB), and adopted the designation "Realtists" as their trade name. Today, Realtists are located across America and are a part of the "American Pie."

Though comprised primarily of well-trained Black and minority real estate professionals, the "Realtists" organization is an integrated entity open to qualified practitioners of all races. The only requirement is that they believe and live the motto: "Democracy in Housing."

As the decades rolled on, EREB grew and evolved into a powerful organization. Many of the members became business and community leaders, dedicated to serving the public. The group has always supported worthwhile causes and organizations, such as SCLC, NAACP, United Negro College Fund, Urban League and various community and charitable fund-raising groups.

In 1994, the Board won a lawsuit for all professionals to receive the privilege of joining the MLS, and in

1995, EREB officially changed its name to the Empire Board of Realtists, Inc. (EBR). The motto and the commitment remained the same, however.

How can EBR help you achieve your vision? By helping you own your own home. "We can give you all the information you need and help you through every phase of the process," Batiste says. "Realtists can also help you with home buying, selling, homeowner education, a mortgage, home improvement, inspection or appraisal. No matter what you need, a Realtist can make it a reality."

Past president Q. V. Williamson is credited with making EBR's goal clear when he said, "A free man's most cherished dream is to own his own home, in the place of his choice." The EBR continually dedicates itself to making this dream come true for everyone. The American dream of homeownership for all begins and ends with the Realtists motto of "Democracy in Housing."

For more information, contact Empire Board of Realtists, Inc. at 404-755-5575 or visit [www.empireboard.com](http://www.empireboard.com).

**A&W REALTY**

East Point, and all of South Fulton County, has great potential for growth. No one knows that more than Andrea Harris Wynn. Not only does she know it, she's helped make it happen.

Andrea and her husband, William, started A&W Realty as a second career, after having lived and worked in the community for many years. While marketing newly developed properties, they realized that they could make an



even more positive impact by developing the properties themselves. With that incentive, they began Wynn-Works, a builder/development company.

It was a financial risk, since they did it all on their own — no help from government grants or subsidies. But the Wynns shared a strength of character and clarity of vision that helped them to take that risk. And, Andrea adds, they did get plenty of encouragement and cooperation from the community and the City of East Point.

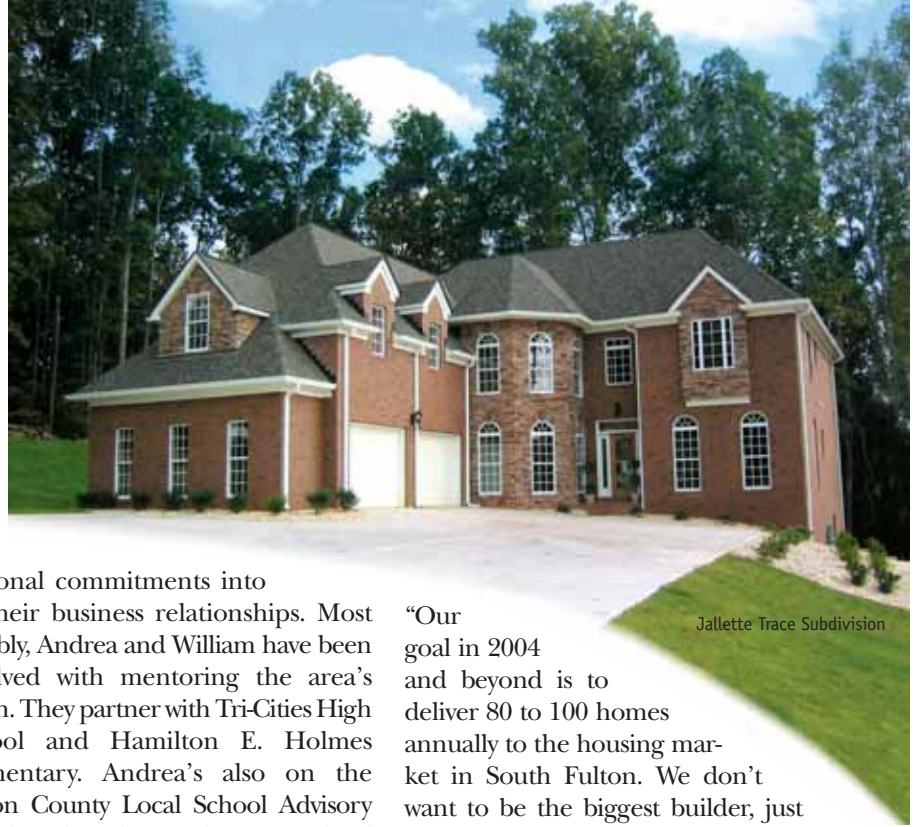
“We didn’t rely on market studies to dictate our decisions; that concerned many of our supporters,” says Andrea. But she and William knew the area and knew what it needed. Even though they had limited experience in construction, they had more important assets that assured their success - a strong work ethic, a love of people and a commitment to quality.

McCoy Place, located off Ben Hill Road, was their first development. The Wynns put in the infrastructure - streets and utilities - then built 32 single-family homes there. “We never doubted that the houses would sell,” says Andrea. “And they did - from the \$180s to the \$250s, much higher than anyone expected.”

It was a good beginning. Since then, Wynn-Works has built and marketed over 150 single-family homes in their developments, which include McCoy Place, Summerhill, Dean’s Village, Dodson Corner and Wynn’s Way. The homes range from affordable pricing to \$800,000.

Hilliards on Main, one of the first new developments in East Point’s historical Main Street business district, is a mixed-use development project and a particular point of pride with the Wynns. “We house commercial and retail facilities on the first floor. The upper floors have lofts and condos from the \$110s and up,” Andrea says. “And all this goes on in a building named in honor of Mayor Patsy Jo Hilliard.”

The Wynns have a strong community spirit and they carry their strong



Jallette Trace Subdivision

personal commitments into all their business relationships. Most notably, Andrea and William have been involved with mentoring the area’s youth. They partner with Tri-Cities High School and Hamilton E. Holmes Elementary. Andrea’s also on the Fulton County Local School Advisory Board and Pathway Christian School Board.

A&W Realty, Inc., with its 25 plus real estate specialists, is dedicated to providing the community with “caring full service real estate experiences for people seeking to buy or sell property throughout Atlanta.”

A&W Realty is also a member of the Atlanta Board of Realtors, Empire Board of Realtists, South Fulton Chamber of Commerce, Atlanta Airport Chamber of Commerce, East Point Business Association and a host of other business and community organizations. “We don’t just build and sell homes, we build and promote the community,” Andrea says.

**MAYFIELD HOMES:**

**A COMMITMENT TO QUALITY**

Throughout South Fulton, new housing developments offer a variety of living options to residents. One of the premier homebuilders, Mayfield Homes, constructs high-quality houses that range from the low 100’s to \$300,000+ in subdivisions throughout the area. This means everyone can afford to live in a comfortable, well constructed home.

“I’m excited by the growth in South Fulton and look forward to seeing what the next ten and twenty years have in store here,” says Sean Doughtie, Mayfield Homes President.

“Our goal in 2004 and beyond is to deliver 80 to 100 homes annually to the housing market in South Fulton. We don’t want to be the biggest builder, just the best!”

Doughtie adds that while Mayfield Homes is a small company, he hopes to play a huge role in the quality of lifestyle in South Fulton. Toward that end, the company is developing seven new home communities in the area.

In Palmetto’s Wilkerson Mill Park, Mayfield Homes builds on 1 to 4 acre lots priced from the low 200’s. This community is just across the street from Wilkerson Mill Park where a track has been constructed by Mayfield Homes for all of South Fulton’s residents to enjoy. The other communities are: Bishop Place, Brookwood, Falling Waters, Heatherwood, Ivy Creek and Rivertown Hill Country.

Mayfield Homes, LLC was begun in 1977 when Chris Doughtie switched from a financing career to full time homebuilder. By the 1980’s, he was the winner of many awards, including Builder of the Year for Gwinnett 1982, 1983, 1985, and also Metro Atlanta Builder of the Year 1985.

Chris was joined by his son Sean Doughtie, a financing major from Auburn University, in the early 90’s. Sean took over the building aspect of Mayfield Homes and freed Chris to develop and acquire new land. “By coordinating the development of land





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with the building of homes, we're able to offer homes with more features for a lower price," says Chris.

"Our goal is to make the American Dream possible for families," adds Chris, "and Mayfield Homes has stayed true to that goal."

**FRIENDS JOIN VISIONS AND CREATE CONSORTIUM DEVELOPMENT GROUP**

More than 30 years ago, two young boys played together in New Jersey. Who could have guessed that Delroy Davy and Theo Clark would not only become the best of friends, but also great business partners?

After high school, Davy and Clark both went on to serve their country in a time of war — Davy joined the Marines and Clark went into the Navy. They kept in touch and maintained their friendship during that time.

In 1999, he began working in the mortgage industry as a loan officer. It



Theo Clark and Delroy Davy

was through that job that he became a developer.

Meanwhile, Davy became a builder in the Northeast. He graduated from Del Tech University with a degree in Construction Management and started building apartments. He went on to start his own company negotiating with non-profit organizations to build

homes for clients in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

In 2002, Clark convinced Davy to move to Atlanta where they formed the Consortium Development Group (CDG). The CDG is a construction firm organized to provide clients with professional and quality service as a complete package. The group handles Urban Development - office, multi-family, retail, entertainment and mixed-use properties - as well as Industrial Development - office parks, industrial facilities and corporate headquarters.

"Our overall focus is customer service and commitment to our clients, with a careful eye towards budgets, scheduling and quality," says Clark. "We take pride in every project we undertake."

Davy adds: "Our vision is to imagine and create environments that are expressive, cultured and tailored to the needs of the organizations and the communities we serve. We work to facilitate and develop opportunities to enhance the prosperity of our cities, country and the world."

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Tabitha Daniel is broker/owner of RE/MAX MarketPlace. She has been a real estate professional and associate broker at RE/MAX for many years. Her 7 years of real estate experience has given her a solid base of experience in helping people find just the right house for their lifestyles and budgets. She is a graduate of Georgia State University and holds a B.B.A. degree in management and human resources.

"With my education and real estate background, I feel exceptionally qualified to work with people looking for



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SOUTH FULTON

# Parkway Alliance

The South Fulton Parkway stretches for 20 miles through lush woods and fields. As the entire South Fulton area is growing, the parkway is prime for development.

The South Fulton Parkway Alliance (SFPA) has worked to promote a comprehensive program of quality development since 1995. It accomplishes this through the cooperative partnership of area communities, businesses, landowners and the chamber of commerce, along with local, county and state agencies.

Tom Williams, president of the SFPA, says that the SFPA is committed to balancing the parkway's

natural resources while promoting development.

In February 2004, the final segment of the South Fulton Parkway was begun with a groundbreaking near the intersection of Cochran Mill Road, where the existing southern segment begins. The northern existing portion ends at Rivertown Road; the final segment will connect these two points.

The \$4.8 million project will construct 2.1 miles of road and is expected to be complete in summer 2005.

For more information, visit SFPA's website at [www.southfulton-parkwayalliance.com](http://www.southfulton-parkwayalliance.com). **G**

their dream house and a sound financial investment," Tabitha says. "And it's always satisfying to match families with just what they need to grow."

Now Tabitha has put together a dynamic team of real estate professionals that make up RE/MAX MarketPlace. They specialize in new construction, re-sales and commercial real estate. RE/MAX Marketplace is an easy place to work and easy to find. The office is located at the new Camp Creek MarketPlace in East Point, situated on the northeast side of the intersection of I-285 and Camp Creek Parkway.


RE/MAX Marketplace came on the scene at the right time. The area around Camp Creek MarketPlace is growing rapidly. Retail and industrial developments are expected to create 46,000 new jobs and approximately 40,000 new housing units are expected to spring up in the area.

"As new jobs are created, new housing will be in demand," Tabitha adds. "Here at RE/MAX MarketPlace, we're committed to meeting that demand. Our strategic location makes us convenient to local homebuyers and sellers. And for people relocating here, we know the area and can help them find their house and get settled."

The RE/MAX name means that clients can feel confident that a multinational organization is backing Tabitha in her efforts to serve them. Across the country, RE/MAX Associates lead the real estate industry in performance and quality, averaging more experience, more sales per agent and more advanced Realtor designations than other real estate professionals. That is why no one in the world sells more real estate than RE/MAX.

When you choose a RE/MAX Marketplace Associate, you choose a real estate professional you can trust who has advanced real estate education and experience. The agents at RE/MAX Marketplace also live, work and play in your neighborhoods.

RE/MAX Marketplace continues to be active in the community and in edu-



**SOUTH FULTON PARKWAY ALLIANCE**

**OUR MISSION:**

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cating families about homeownership. Associates conduct free monthly home buying workshops that educate potential homebuyers about the home buying process. Agents have participated in community events like the Southwest Festival, Keep East Point Beautiful Parade, Camp Creek MarketPlace Easter Egg Hunt and the Single Moms' Conference.

In addition, RE/MAX MarketPlace will be launching the first ever "102 Days of Homeownership" in partnership with Classic Soul 102.5FM. They are committed to putting 102 People in homes in 102 Days, beginning September 1, 2004.

For more information or to reach Tabitha Daniel, call RE/MAX MarketPlace at 404-494-3939.

**OAKLEY TOWNSHIP**

D.R. Horton has several communities in the South Fulton County area - all of them offering high-quality living with well constructed homes and a host of amenities. As the nation's number one homebuilder, D.R. Horton constructs high quality residences in 20 states and 44 markets. The building and developing company has over 35

great neighborhoods in the Atlanta market and continues to grow.

Oakley Township is currently in Phase IV and will consist of approximately 1,000 homes upon completion. The neighborhood features trails, parks, plenty of greenspace and upscale amenities, including junior Olympic swimming pool, two tennis courts and a picnic area. Oakley Township also offers superior on site education for the children of its residents, thanks to a land donation from D.R. Horton.

Homes at Oakley Township start in the \$150s to the \$200s and feature special touches, such as tray ceilings, elegant owners' suites and gourmet kitchens. Homeowners can choose from several innovative floorplans, each with standard features that other builders consider upgrades.

**HERON BAY**

At D.R. Horton's new communities, Wildewood at Heron Bay and The Woodlands at Heron Bay, there's everything that a community could want, including an eighteen hole championship Cannongate Golf Course, an Aquatic Center, a Tennis Center, a

Children's Play Park, Sports Field and hiking trails.

The Woodlands feature elegant homes from the \$260s on large wooded lots. Wildewood homes start in the mid \$170s and have great livable floor plans. Combined the communities will offer approximately 91 homes when completed.

**VALLEY LAKES**

At Valley Lakes, there are natural homesites available as well as homes on the lake. Priced from the \$150s, the homes include standard features such as tray ceilings, hardwood floors, elegant owners' suites with garden tubs and gourmet kitchens. The Valley Lakes amenity area has a swimming pool, tot lot and gazebo.

D.R. Horton homeowners can take advantage of the Design Center. Homeowners have control and choice when it comes to the selection of interior finishes of their new home, choices that are usually enjoyed only by those who build a custom home. Early in the process, buyers choose counter-tops, light fixtures, carpeting, hardwood flooring, paint color and much more. **G**

**SOUTH FULTON COMMUNITIES**

**ATLANTA**

- Amhurst Park - From \$130, W. Stubbs Rd
- Audubon Estates - From \$500, Cascade Rd
- Barrington Trace - From \$290, Enon Rd
- Cambridge Commons - From \$240, Reynolds Rd
- Canaan Walk Estates - From \$300, Union Rd
- Cascade Commons - From \$117, Fairburn Rd
- Collier Pointe - From \$150, Burton Rd
- Cottages/Cascade - From \$180, New Hope Rd
- Dodson Corner - From \$180, Dodson Dr
- Emerald Forest - From \$159, Emerald Ct
- Estates at Guilford Forest - From \$490, New Hope Rd
- Highgrove - From \$130, Derrick Rd
- Highgrove Townhomes - From \$119, Derrick Rd
- Park Place South - From \$150, Pryor St
- Peyton Crossing - From \$250, Peyton Rd
- Regency Hills - From \$340, Boat Rock Rd
- Regency Oaks - From \$240, Enon Rd
- Regency Pointe - From \$200, Cascade Pkwy
- Sable Chase - From \$120, Buffington Rd
- Sandalwood Estates - From \$130, Campbellton Rd
- The Enclave/Esha Court - From \$200, Childers Dr
- The Regency - From \$440, County Line Rd
- The Summit at Cascade - From \$190, Cascade Rd
- The Villages/Cascade - From \$140, Benjamin Mays Rd
- Walden Park - From \$170, W. Stubbs Rd
- Wellesley - From \$180, Butner Rd
- Willow Creek - From \$130, Butner Rd
- Wolf Creek Country Club - From \$250, Enon Rd

Wynn Way/Kings Lake - From \$450, New Hope Rd

**COLLEGE PARK**

- Amhurst Estates - From \$204, Amhurst Pkwy
- Buffington Park - From \$120, Buffington Rd
- Cambridge Park - From \$400, Old Fairburn Rd
- Highland Lake - From \$290, Old Fairburn Rd
- Jallette Trace - From \$350, Jallette Rd
- Magnolia Walk - From \$160, Red Oak Rd
- Sable Chase - From \$116, Buffington Rd
- Sandpipers Cove - From \$118, Godby Rd
- Stoneywycle - From \$135, Old Bill Cook Rd
- Wexford - From \$100, Stonewall Tell Rd
- Windsor Forrest - From \$113, Godby Rd

**EAST POINT**

- Heritage Park - From \$120, Ben Hill Rd
- Hillards on Main - From \$130, Main Street

**FAIRBURN**

- Berkshire Place - From \$120, Jones Rd
- Cedar Grove Village - From \$130, Cedar Grove Rd
- Fairhaven - From \$120, Plantation Rd
- Foxwood - From \$140, Milam Rd
- Herndon Woods - From \$113, Herndon Rd
- Joshua Crossing - From \$160, Bethsaida Rd
- Merrywood Estates - From \$119, Merrywood Dr
- Oakley Township - From \$150, Malone St
- St. Johns Crossing - From \$150, Campbellton Rd
- The Glens at Creekside - From \$160, Scarborough Rd
- The Lakes/Cedar Grove - From \$120, Cedar Grove Rd
- The Magnolias - From \$140, Rivertown Rd

Trotter Farm Estates - From \$170, Fayetteville Rd  
Woodland Hills - From \$170, Hwy 92

**JONESBORO**

Lake Royale Estates - From \$140, Albania Rd

**PALMETTO**

Carlton Woods - From \$130, Carlton Drive  
Milam Manor - From \$140, Autumn Green Dr

**RIVERDALE**

Stone Ridge - From \$130, Old Natl Hwy

**UNION CITY**

- Barrington - From \$160, Buffington Rd
- Brentwood Place - From \$110, Flat Shoals Rd
- Brookstone - From \$110, Jonesboro Rd
- Deep Creek on Highpoint - From \$130 High Point Rd
- High Point Commons - From \$100, Highpoint Rd
- Lake Overlook - From \$140, Highpoint Rd
- Lakeview - From \$110, Highpoint Rd
- Manorwood - From \$130, Bethsaida Rd
- Oakley Commons - From \$100, Oakley Rd
- Ravenwood on Highpoint - From \$110 High Point Rd
- Red Oak Walk - From \$120, Red Oak Circle
- Swan Creek - From \$120, Chatterton Rd
- Union Station - From \$130, Lwr Dixie Lake Rd
- Valley Lakes - From \$150, High Point Rd

**SOUTH FULTON COUNTY**

Jallette Trace - From mid \$300, off Jallette Rd



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- 🏊 **Magnolia Walk**  
From the \$160's (770) 909-6597
- 🏊 **Oakley Township**  
From the \$150's - \$200's (770) 306-7429
- 🏊 **Valley Lakes**  
From the \$150's (770) 774-1441
- Martin's Park at Cascade**  
From the Mid \$200's (404) 691-5697
- 🏊 **The Summit at Stonewall Tell**  
From the \$160's (404) 349-5863
- 🏊 **The Summit at Sandtown Center**  
From the \$180's (404) 691-5697

## Henry County

- 🏊 **Wildewood** at Heron Bay Golf & Country Club  
From the Mid \$170's (678) 583-1078
- 🏊 **The Woodlands** at Heron Bay Golf & Country Club  
From the \$260's (678) 583-1078

🏊 SwimCommunity

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## BUSINESS BRINGS

# New Life

TO SOUTH FULTON



Camp Creek MarketPlace opened in Spring of 2004

*South Fulton County's residential growth, strong transportation systems and prime location all add up to burgeoning business opportunities. A mix of local, national and international companies are all taking advantage of the great business climate that the area offers. One of the latest and greatest offerings for local residents and visitors alike is the Camp Creek Marketplace. It offers a great variety of shopping opportunities in a location that is easy to reach.*



## THE NEW GICC SETS RECORDS

The first year of the GICC's new facility, opened June 2003, has been a record-breaker. That's hardly a surprise, though.

Located just a quarter mile from Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, the GICC offers meeting planners a huge variety of options so just about any event can find a home here. Flexible walls allow functions of all sizes to feel comfortable and get the room they need.

The 150,000-square-foot Exhibit Hall, divisible into up to four separate halls, can fit up to 863 ten-by-ten-foot booths, with a ceiling height of 32 feet. Seventeen loading docks make move-ins and move-outs easy, and there's drive in access for each hall.

Boasting the largest Ballroom in Georgia with 40,000 square feet, the GICC Ballroom can seat up to 3,000 guests for dinner at one time. Chef Dennis Graeff and his staff create culinary treats every day in the state-of-the-art Culinary Arts Center.

The sophisticated, electronic access-control system, CyberLock by Videx Inc., uses programmable locks and keys. It also features electronic auditing capabilities, enhances security and costs less to maintain than traditional keyed locks.

Businesses and organizations also have use of a theatrical lighting system, the Janus LCD system, automatic lights and secured Internet high speed, fiber optic T-1 service and in-house Intranet. All of this adds up to high-quality, impressive meetings and conferences.

"We wanted GICC to offer features that add to the experience of the meeting professionals and their guests," says GICC Executive Director Hugh Austin.

The GICC tucks away a deluxe, high-level security Green Room for VIP guests, entertainers and dignitaries. Austin has no doubt he'll host presidents, high-level executives and entertainers who can take advantage of the Green Room's his-and-hers showers, Internet ports, top-of-the-line audiovisual elements and bar service.



Photo by Warren Bond

The Georgia International Convention Center - GICC

Balancing all of the technology and high-functionality, the GICC boasts grace and beauty. While it was being designed, the GICC's proximity to the airport dictated much of the building's structure. It had to be able to accommodate low-flying planes and soften the noise from hundreds of daily take-offs and landings.

"Curves and circles became a pervasive theme, both inside and outside the building," says Jack Pruitt, the firm's interior design lead on the project. "By sheer necessity, this building had to have a lot of hard edges, primarily to make it soundproof, so we added a lot of circular forms to soften them."

Inside the Ballroom, circular patterns are repeated in the ceiling and in the swirling carpet underfoot. The carpet, with its intense color and shapes, was designed to add contrast to the neutral wood tones, white walls and metal accents in much of the building, according to Pruitt.

"We used metal sculptures to play off of the materials of aviation," says Pruitt. At the entry drive to the new GICC, seven tall windsail sculptures were fabricated in the same way that airplane wings are made; inside the building, metal shapes play into the signage and the commissioned artwork.

"We have created a world-class facility with many cutting-edge and state-of-the-art features, that's aesthetically pleasing as well," Austin says.

## GICC HIGHLIGHTS

Breaking records and setting new ones became the norm all through last year as the GICC took the spotlight on the south side of Atlanta. Here's a sampling of the highlights:

The newly opened GICC set a record by hosting over 300,000 people during the month of July 2003.

Air Tran chose the beautiful, new facility to celebrate its 10th Anniversary. The event, with 4,500 peo-

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ple attending, was the largest food function ever held at the GICC.

The new GICC is being used for high profile functions. Last year saw events that included celebrities such as John Ashcroft, the Tom Joyner Morning Show, Oliver North and singer Patti Labelle.

Some of the diverse events held at the new GICC during its first year include the Georgia International Boat Show, Woodworking Expo, National Women of Color Technology Awards, Spirit of the South Cheerleading Competition and Birdwatch America.

#### **CUSTOMER SERVICE FLIES HIGH AT HARTSFIELD-JACKSON**

As one of nearly 100 Hartsfield-Jackson Host Volunteers dedicating their time to the world's busiest airport, Vera Addis spends an average of four to six hours a week staffing the Airport's general information booth. Typically, she works as a team with another volunteer, or a member of the Customer Service staff in the main terminal. On a daily basis Ms. Addis can assist many people at

the booth, which is located midway between the car rental agency counters on the western end of the North and South terminal baggage claim areas.

Equipped with a one-inch binder of information, from telephone numbers and maps to convention and conference information, the volunteers enjoy providing personalized customer assistance.

"Basically, any question anybody has, we have find an answer for them," explains Addis, who recently assisted an arriving passenger in her late 70's find a specific location of a shuttle she was scheduled to board. "She'd been given a lot of different information and when she came here (to the booth), she asked me to walk with her so she'd know exactly where she was supposed to be. I was happy to escort her," says Addis.

It's delivering that kind of exceptional customer service that makes the Airport's volunteers an integral part of the atmosphere at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International. The volunteer staff originated in 1996 to prepare for

the Summer Olympic visitors arriving in the city, but the demand for their service and success was so overwhelming, they continue meeting a need even in 2004.

#### **A MONEY-MAKING VENTURE**

If you're looking for a way to use your money and achieve financial freedom, John Hallwood wants to help you. Hallwood, who had been a pilot with Eastern Airlines for 29 years, now works with currency trading.

"This is something that wasn't available to most people until recently," says Hallwood. "Now, though the Internet, everyone has a chance to make money through trading currency."

Hallwood works with Concorde Forex Group, Inc., dba CFG Trading<sup>SM</sup>. The company's objective is to develop new Foreign Currency Traders through a training and mentoring program that allows individuals to trade in the largest daily cash flow industry in the world.

The Forex is the foreign currency exchange Market in which more than 5,000 international banks and thou-





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sands of small and large speculators participate. This worldwide market exchanges more than \$3.5 trillion daily in dozens of different currencies. With the current growth rate, the market is projected to grow to more than \$6.5 trillion per day by the year 2005.

It's important to be aware that currency trading may not be suitable for all investors, as it does carry a high level of risk. But for those who are willing to take the risk and devote a few hours each day, Hallwood says, there's a huge potential for making money grow.

#### WASHINGTON MUTUAL CELEBRATES HOME OWNERSHIP IN SOUTH FULTON

Washington Mutual's Home Loan Center at Camp Creek Marketplace in East Point is celebrating its first year with impressive results for the community.

The center opened last Fall in partnership with Earvin "Magic" Johnson's Johnson Development Corporation. Since then, a staff of 12 loan consultants has helped hundreds of borrowers purchase homes and refinance existing property. Other services have been aimed at getting potential borrowers one step closer to homeownership through

first-time homebuyer education.

"We opened last year to further demonstrate the company's commitment to our emerging markets," says Percy A. Brinkley, Jr., Emerging Markets manager who oversees two additional offices in metro-Atlanta. "Clearly, our communities have benefited from this strategy and we look forward to assisting more residents this coming year."

Washington Mutual opened the first of several such centers in 2003 across the country to specifically help residents in urban areas achieve homeownership. With targeted marketing, advertising, and a number of educational tools, the centers help potential borrowers, especially those at low- and moderate-income levels, gain easier access to the home loan process by being located in urban neighborhoods.

"We believe the key to keeping communities stable is to help make it easier for people purchase homes and to help them rehabilitate so that they can experience increased property value," says Brinkley. "Being a part of the community helps us achieve this goal."

At the core of the centers' focus is

homebuyer education. Adult financial literacy is offered through curriculum aimed at raising homebuyer education levels. Also, the staff at the centers was recruited from the local communities to ensure employees reflect the diversity of the market.

"Education is a key component to ensuring that potential borrowers have success in the purchase process," says Brinkley. "Along with that, we hope to show our existing homeowners how to take advantage of loan products that will help them with the rehabilitation or upgrading of their existing homes which, in the long run, will mean that our communities will continue to thrive and remain vibrant."

In the last five years alone, communities of color accounted for almost two-thirds of US household growth, comprising more than 40% of new homeowners, according to a report issued by the Joint Center for Housing of Harvard University. By 2020, these same communities are expected to make up more than a quarter of all homeowners, adding a projected 15.3 million households, as reported by the 2000 Census Bureau.

In WaMu's targeted markets, no major competitor has more than nine percent of the ethnic minority market share.

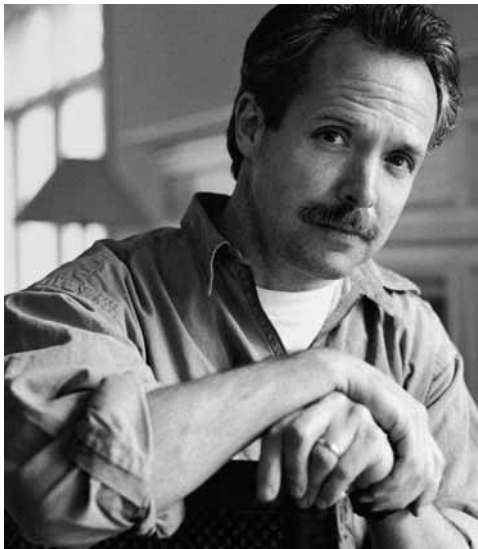
For more information, contact Percy A. Brinkley, Jr. at 404-346-5713.

#### GREYSTONE FINDS THE ENERGY TO SERVE

You'd think that the employees of GreyStone Power Corporation would be too busy to do much community work. After all, the member-owned, non-profit electric cooperative keeps the electricity flowing to more than 81,000 homes, businesses, schools and industrial accounts in portions of eight west Metro Atlanta counties, one of the US's fastest growing areas.

While its main office is in Douglasville and district office in Dallas, GreyStone Power distributes power to members in Fulton, Bartow, Coweta, Carroll, Douglas, Fayette, Cobb and Paulding

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counties. In addition to meeting the area's power needs, the cooperative also offers services such as credit union membership and security services. It's a big job, but the energy of GreyStone Power's employees is limitless.

GreyStone Power encourages their employees to be involved in the community, and the employees, who number over 240, have taken up the challenge with exceptional results. They've coordinated fundraising campaigns for several different charities in Georgia, most notably United Way, March of Dimes and Relay for Life. In 2004, volunteers raised over \$7,000 for the Relay for Life, over \$4,600 for the March of Dimes, and over \$21,000 for the 2003-2004 United Way Campaign.

Through the One-2-One Mentoring Program, positive adult role models were paired with students in need of extra attention. The adult companions also served as a friend, listener,

resource and guide. At this year's One-2-One Mentoring Program luncheon in May, seven GreyStone Power employees were honored for their commitment to the students.

The greatest power at GreyStone emanates from their dedicated employees and benefits the whole state. It's no wonder that GreyStone Power has been named "A Company That Cares" by the United Way of Metro Atlanta, joining the ranks of other companies including Coca-Cola, Delta Air Lines, IBM, and Cox Enterprises.

In 2002, the cooperative joined with 15 other Georgia electric cooperatives to create Green Power EMC. In May 2004, GreyStone and Georgia Energy Cooperative entered in a power supply agreement with Progress Energy Ventures, Inc., a subsidiary of Progress Energy, Inc. for their wholesale electricity needs through 2010.

"We considered other alternatives to meet an increased demand for power, including the possibility of building additional power generation facilities. After evaluating the cost, benefits and risks associated with all of these plans, we felt Progress Energy Ventures was best positioned to provide the most benefits to our members," says Gary Miller, President and Chief Executive Officer of GreyStone Power Corporation.

"This agreement is the result of years of research, negotiations and study nationwide for the most reliable and most economical source of wholesale power. It signifies our pledge to continue to keep rates as competitive as possible for our members, following our tradition of 12 years with no rate increase."

GreyStone Power keeps its members connected, too. By visiting [www.greystonepower.com](http://www.greystonepower.com) and clicking on the menu option "Town Square," members



GreyStone employees are active in the community

can find out just what's happening throughout the service area.

The cooperative spirit is going strong at GreyStone Power Corporation - to the benefit of customers and community.

#### INSURANCE WITH A FAMILY EMBRACE

Tripp Insurance Services, Inc. is a family-owned, family-operated independent insurance agency. And the agency's family spirit carries over and embraces each one of their clients.

Roslyn W. Tripp, President of Tripp Insurance is a native of Atlanta and a graduate of Clark College. Before she and her husband George co-founded Tripp Insurance in 1983, Roslyn held various retail management positions with the Sears Corporation. She was the first Black woman Sears retail trainee in the Southern territory during the affirmative action initiative and was featured in *Ebony* magazine.

Roslyn and George became aware that the south side of Atlanta was underserved as a community. There were not many viable, operating insurance agencies in the area and many of the residents were not adequately informed about alternative avenues to purchase personal insurance.

"Many people had no idea or understanding of their many insurance options," says Roslyn. "When they were sold insurance, it was through an agent who only represented one company. We offer choices, and explain what those choices are. We can customize coverage and policies to suit each of our



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

#### Greetings from the Airport Area Chamber of Commerce!

Whether you are a resident, business owner, visitor or a newcomer, you will soon come to realize (if you don't know already) that this area is a wonderful place to live, work and play. I pledge that we here at the Chamber will certainly do our part to maintain that popularity for years to come, while being conscious of our responsibility to safeguard the positive characteristics that make our community unique. That's a commitment that we've honored since the Chamber began more than 56 years ago.

*The Airport Area Chamber of Commerce is located at the Regions Bank Building, 600 S Central Ave. Suite 100, Atlanta, Georgia 30354 (404) 209-0910*

Sincerely,

Michael J. Simpson  
Executive Director





George and Roslyn Tripp with their daughter LaTanya Simmons

clients' needs." All the agency's companies are highly acclaimed in the industry and are financially secure with superior ratings.

It's that professional, personalized service that's the hallmark of Tripp Insurance. "We take care of everyone as if they were our only client. When they call, we don't need a policy number," Roslyn explains. We know each client personally and we're available to them every day, all day. There's no one more important than the client we're working with."

Tripp Insurance customizes policies for each customer, according to their needs. As a full-service personal lines agency providing protection for every insurance need for individuals and families, the agency offers home, auto, rental, life, boat insurance, umbrella policies and specializes in designing coverage for high value homes and luxury cars that require unique protection.

"We can cover everyone, from the first-time homebuyer to owners of multi-million dollar homes, blue collar workers as well as professionals. We do work with a number of pro athletes and entertainers," Roslyn adds. "Being independent, we can help 98% of the people who call us. For the few whom we cannot help, we cheerfully refer them to someone who can."

Clients appreciate the service and care they receive at Tripp Insurance

and are pleased to refer their friends and family members to the agency. The customer retention rate is 95%; the agency is now serving the adult children of many of their original clients.

Roslyn is often featured on radio call-in shows and visits neighborhood associations, businesses and schools — talking to people of all ages and income levels about insurance and its benefits. In schools, from kindergarten to college,

she's taught very young children and young adults about the importance of insurance and, even more importantly, entrepreneurship.

"When we visited World Changers Christian Academy, we introduced the young students to the world of insurance. In the Academy, they're taught how Christ is involved in every aspect of their lives. We want them to start thinking about entrepreneurship even at a very young age," Roslyn says.

A devoted Christian, Roslyn credits her faith in God, through Jesus Christ, for any achieved success. A charter member of Christian Fellowship Baptist Church, she served as Director of the Sunday School, Church Council and Choir member. She, her husband and daughter LaShaune are now members of World Changers Church International, Inc. in College Park.

Roslyn and Tripp Insurance have been honored by the US Dept of Commerce with the Minority Business Development Agency "Special Entrepreneur of the Year" award, as well as many other awards and citations for services and volume production. The agency is also a member of the Old National Merchant's Association and South Fulton Chamber of Commerce.

In February 2000, Roslyn and George's daughter, LaTanya Simmons,

joined the staff of Tripp Insurance Services as Vice-President/Producer. She had been introduced to insurance by her parents and initiated her professional career in insurance with SAFE-CO Insurance Company.

An honors graduate of Woodward Academy and Spelman College, LaTanya holds a degree in Economics with a minor in Management and Organization. Her most recent professional accomplishment is the attainment of the Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) designation, a recognition awarded to individuals in the financial services industry who have completed a rigorous 10-part course of study. LaTanya is one of the few young women in the US to hold this designation.

She and her husband, Sean, are the proud parents of Kyle and Jaida. They live in Stone Mountain and are members of Antioch AME Church. **G**

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Wolf Creek offers great golf and great views

By Shar Peters

*South Fulton sits on an abundance of wealth—a rich background of history and community, a bountiful business climate and, most importantly, people dedicated to the area’s growth and welfare.*

*Through coordinated efforts of its citizens and leaders, South Fulton has become a wonderful place for families to raise their children, for visitors to enjoy fine dining and quality entertainment, for seniors to retire, and for everyone to experience the area’s natural beauty.*





Photo courtesy of the Georgia Renaissance Festival

Above: Princesses enjoying the Georgia Renaissance Festival

**SOUTH FULTON SENIOR CENTERS**

Age has its privileges—and rightly so. South Fulton County recognizes the needs of its senior population and provides a gamut of services and activities that keep the three local Senior Centers bustling. Peeking into one of the centers you might be surprised by all the activity. Along with a noon meal, the Centers offer seniors who are at least 60 years old, games, exercise classes, and dancing. You might see seniors discovering their creative side with arts, ceramics, and crafts. Or, you may observe their intensity and drive as they take adult basic education, Spanish, or computer classes. Their involvement is amazing and inspiring.

For Seniors in need of in-house services such as case management services — Meals on Wheels, home-maker services and respite care — please contact the Fulton County Information and Assistance Line at 404-730-6000.

The Senior Centers are located in Palmetto, Hapeville, and College Park. Call 404-559-0070 to locate the Center closest to you and to learn about the services and activities offered.

**SOUTHWEST FULTON ARTS CENTER**

Expression through the arts is part of the culture and heritage of our nation. The expanding South Fulton community is no exception. The Southwest Fulton Arts Center, operated by the Fulton County Arts Council, encourages art by supporting community art programs and encouraging citizens to discover their creativity through dance, music, theater, visual arts and graphic design.

The Council offers classes and workshops in various art forms for all ages and skill levels. The Art-at-Work program is just one of the many specialized programs available to introduce young people to a variety of arts performances and experiences.

Below: Future artists practice their craft



Photo courtesy of the Southwest Fulton Arts Center

Neighborhood outreach initiatives and cultural expansions are increasing art awareness throughout the communities. Free arts-based classes, performances, workshops, and residencies are available to all residents, from preschoolers, to youths, adults, families, and those with special needs.

Who knows? The next great artist or performer may be a product of this great initiative.

#### CANONGATE GOLF CLUB

Golfers like to talk—whether it's about the deadly accurate putt that teetered on the edge of the cup, the drive that headed straight for the woods, or the current condition of the greens. However, when South Fulton residents talk about golf, you're almost certain to hear comments about this area's "best kept secret." That secret is the versatile and affordable golfing packages offered through membership in Canongate Golf Clubs. Their unusual packages allow members to play on their home course, and also play at any of the nine clubs and twelve courses that are part of the Canongate family. If you



One of the many great Canongate Courses  
Photo courtesy of Canongate Golf

play golf at a daily fee course 2 to 3 times a month, you can probably afford to belong to Canongate. It's the best package combining quality courses, great value and multiple courses to play. The Georgia Canongate courses are located in Peachtree City, Villa Rica, Douglasville, Newnan, Sharpsburg, and Locust Grove.

Another reciprocal course is nearing completion in Bluffton, SC.

It's not unusual to hear relocated retirees state that, after doing considerable research, they chose to retire in this area based on Canongate's program and other financial, social, and weather-related factors.

#### GEORGIA RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL

Ready to attend an award winning festival? Then mark your spring calendar for one of South Fulton's favorites—the Georgia Renaissance Festival. The event is held over eight weekends in Fairburn, and once you attend, it is sure to become an annual tradition. In 2005, the festival will run from April 16 through June 5.

When you walk through the gates,

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 Flat Creek Golf Club  
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 Planterra Ridge Golf Club  
 Chapel Hills Golf Club  
 Mirror Lake Golf Club  
 Heron Bay Golf Club  
 Pinecrest Golf Club

Newnan  
 Sharpsburg  
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 Peachtree City  
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*Opening Fall 2004*  
*Opening Fall 2004*



For information call  
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you'll enter an elaborate 15th Century Kingdom inhabited by more than 1,000 colorfully costumed characters. Of course, you'll meet the stately king and glamorous queen, and be entertained by jousting knights, strolling minstrels, comedians, jugglers, magicians, and dancers. Ten stages make up the theatre area, offering non-stop entertainment. And the food is, well, a feast! Turkey legs, ginger beer, fried pickles, and other delectable delights tempt your taste buds.

Stroll through the Artisan Market, which covers 32 acres and features more than 150 artisans. You'll find handcrafted treasures including clothing, candles, stained glass, jewelry, musical instruments, sculptures, perfumes, and toys. And, you can see nationally acclaimed artisans demonstrate their unique crafts.

Children delight in discovering the activities at the Renaissance Festival. They'll enjoy old-fashioned pony rides, medieval pirate games, archery, and century-old games that test skills they never knew they had. Plus, a haunted castle and numerous



Robin Hood in action at the Renaissance Festival  
Photo courtesy of the Georgia Renaissance Festival

thrilling rides provide plenty of active adventure.

Come-step back in time, live the fantasy, and let the fun begin!

#### **CARING MEETS TECHNOLOGY AT THE KIDS 'R' KIDS @ CASCADE**

At the Kids 'R' Kids @ Cascade, children receive everything they need to succeed in school and, more importantly, in life. The family-centered child care facility is run by co-franchisees, and sisters, Kimberly Wynn Lewis and Keisha Wynn.

Kimberly and Keisha are the daughters of Andrea and William Wynn, owners of Wynn-Works and A&W Realty. The Wynns have exclusive rights to build Kids 'R' Kids fran-

chises throughout South Fulton

The South Fulton family is dedicated to the community and committed to helping children incorporate family values and the skills for success. Preschoolers from 6 weeks to 4 years of age receive age appropriate early childhood education from certified, experienced early childhood care providers.

There are pre-K classes for 4 and 5 year olds as well as after-school programs for 5-12 year olds. Breakfast is available; lunch and two snacks are served daily. A summer camp is available for children aged 4-12 years.

The 14,000 square foot learning facility currently services more than 140 children. Kids 'R' Kids @ Cascade has 12 classrooms, a full service kitchen, café and state-of-the-art technology throughout. Through the Watch Me Grow program, parents can use their computers to view their children at the center during the day.

The main focus at Kids 'R' Kids @ Cascade is quality care for the children there. For more information, contact the center at 404-629-KIDS (5437).

## **RECREATION LISTINGS**

Whatever activity you enjoy, there's something for you in South Fulton. Probably a lot more than you expect! Here's a sampling of some of the recreational choices you can enjoy in the South Fulton area.

### **Arts Centers**

Southwest Arts Center  
915 New Hope Road, Atlanta  
404-505-3224

### **Events**

Georgia Renaissance Festival  
www.georgiarennaissancefestival.com  
770-964-8578

### **Senior Centers**

#### **Camp Truitt Neighborhood Senior Center**

4320 Herschel Road, College Park  
404-762-4802

#### **Fairburn Neighborhood Senior Center**

109 Milo Fisher Street, Fairburn  
770-306-1555

#### **Hapeville Neighborhood Senior Center**

527 King Arnold Street, Hapeville  
404-762-3660

#### **Helene S. Mills Senior Multipurpose Facility**

515 John Wesley Dobbs Avenue, SE, Atlanta  
404-523-3353

#### **H.J.C. Bowden Senior Multipurpose Facility**

2885 Church Street, East Point  
404-762-4821

#### **Palmetto Neighborhood Senior Center**

510 Turner Avenue, Palmetto  
770-463-4990

#### **Southeast Neighborhood Senior Center**

1650 Newtown Circle, SE, Atlanta  
404-624-0641

### **Sports**

#### **Cycling**

Dick Lane Velodrome  
Sumner Park, East Point  
www.dicklanevelodrome.com



## Fencing

Atlanta Fencers' Club  
1556 Nabell Avenue, East Point  
404-762-7666  
www.atlantafencersclub.com

## Golf

**Brown's Mill Golf Course**  
480 Cleveland Avenue, East Point  
404-366-3573

### Canongate Golf Clubs

www.canongategolf.com  
404-391-1672

### College Park Municipal Golf Course

3711 Fairway Drive, College Park  
404-761-0731

### Lakeside Golf Club

3600 Old Fairburn Road, SW, Atlanta  
404-344-3629

### Wolf Creek Golf Course

3000 Union Road, Atlanta  
404-344-1334

## Shooting

### Tom Lowe Shooting Grounds

3070 Merk Road, Atlanta  
404-346-8382

## Tennis

### Burdett Tennis Center

5975 Old Carriage Lane, SE, College Park  
770-996-3502  
8 Lighted tennis courts.

### Donald Young TennisPlex

5645 Mason Road, Atlanta  
770-306-3059  
Pro Shop: 770-964-8282  
20 Lighted Hard Surface Tennis Courts and 4  
Lighted Clay Surface Tennis Courts.

## Parks

### Burdett Park

2945 Burdett Road, College Park, 770-996-9145  
Facilities include Athletic Fields,  
Gymnasium/Activities Building and a Picnic  
Shelter.

### Cedar Grove Park

7375 Rivertown Rd., Fairburn, 404-730-6200  
Facilities include a Softball/Baseball Field and 2  
Picnic Shelters.

### Clarence Duncan Memorial Park

6000 Rivertown Road, Fairburn, 770-306-3136  
Facilities include an Activities Building, a Lighted  
Combination Football/Adult Softball/Youth

Baseball Field, 4 Lighted Youth Baseball Fields, 2  
Lighted T-ball Fields, 2 Lighted Tennis Courts,  
Lighted Multi-Purpose Court, Playground, 2  
Concession Stands, Hiking Trails/Nature Trails, 3  
Picnic Shelters and a Lake and 4 Piers.

### Cliftondale Park

4645 Butner Road, College Park, 770-306-3061  
Facilities include an Activity Building, Lighted  
Soccer Field, Youth Baseball Field, Soccer Field, 2  
Lighted Tennis Courts, Basketball/Multi-Purpose  
Court, Picnic Shelter and a Playground.

### Cochran Mill Nature Preserve

6875 Cochran Mill Road, Palmetto, 770-306-0914  
Facilities include an Activity Building, Hiking  
Trails, Ropes Course and Wildlife Habitat.

### Cochran Mill Park

6875 Cochran Mill Road, Palmetto, 404-730-6200  
Facilities include Hiking, Jogging and Horse Trails,  
Primitive Camping, Playground, Picnic Shelter and  
Wildlife Habitat.

### Creel Park

2775 Creel Road, College Park, 770-996-4189  
Facilities include 2 Picnic Shelters, Community  
Center, Basketball Court, Walking Trails, Soccer  
Field, 4 Lighted Tennis Courts, 3 Playgrounds and  
Picnic Areas.

### Delano Park

4730 Bailey Street, College Park, 404-730-6200  
Facilities include an Adult Softball/Youth Baseball  
Field, Multi-Purpose Court and Playground.

### Mason Road Park

5650 Mason Road, College Park, 404-730-6200  
Facilities include a Lighted Softball/Baseball Field.

### Old National Park

2400 Pleasant Hill Road, College Park, 404-730-  
6200  
Facilities include a Lighted Adult Softball Field, 4  
Lighted Little League Fields, Lighted Youth league  
Field, T-ball Field, Football Field, Picnic Shelter and  
a Playground.

### Rico Park

6505 Rico Road, Palmetto, 770-463-6303  
Facilities include a Park Center Building, Athletic  
Field, Playground, Picnic Shelter, Sand Volleyball  
Court, Walking Trail, 2 Picnic Tables and 2 Grills.

### Sandtown Park

5320 Campbellton Rd., SW, Atlanta, 404-346-8360  
Facilities include a Lighted Combination  
Football/Youth Baseball Field, 2 Lighted Youth  
Baseball Fields, 2 Lighted T-ball Fields, Concession  
Stand, Walking and Nature Trail, Girl's Softball  
Field, Soccer Field, 4 Picnic Shelters, 2 Playgrounds  
and a Gymnasium.

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### Trammell Crow Park

4980 Cascade Road, Atlanta, 404-730-6200  
Facilities include 4 Tennis Courts, Multi-purpose  
Activities Field, 2 Picnic Shelters, Playground,  
Nature Trails and a Lake.

### Welcome All Park

4255 Will Lee Road, College Park, 404-762-4058  
Facilities include a Park Center Building, Meeting  
Rooms, Arts and Crafts Rooms, Aerobics Room,  
Activity Rooms, Gymnasium, Indoor Swimming  
Pool, Lighted Football Field, 5 Lighted Youth  
Baseball Fields, Lighted Soccer/Football Field,  
Playground, 2 Lighted Tennis Courts, Lighted  
Multi-Purpose Court, and 2 Picnic Shelters.

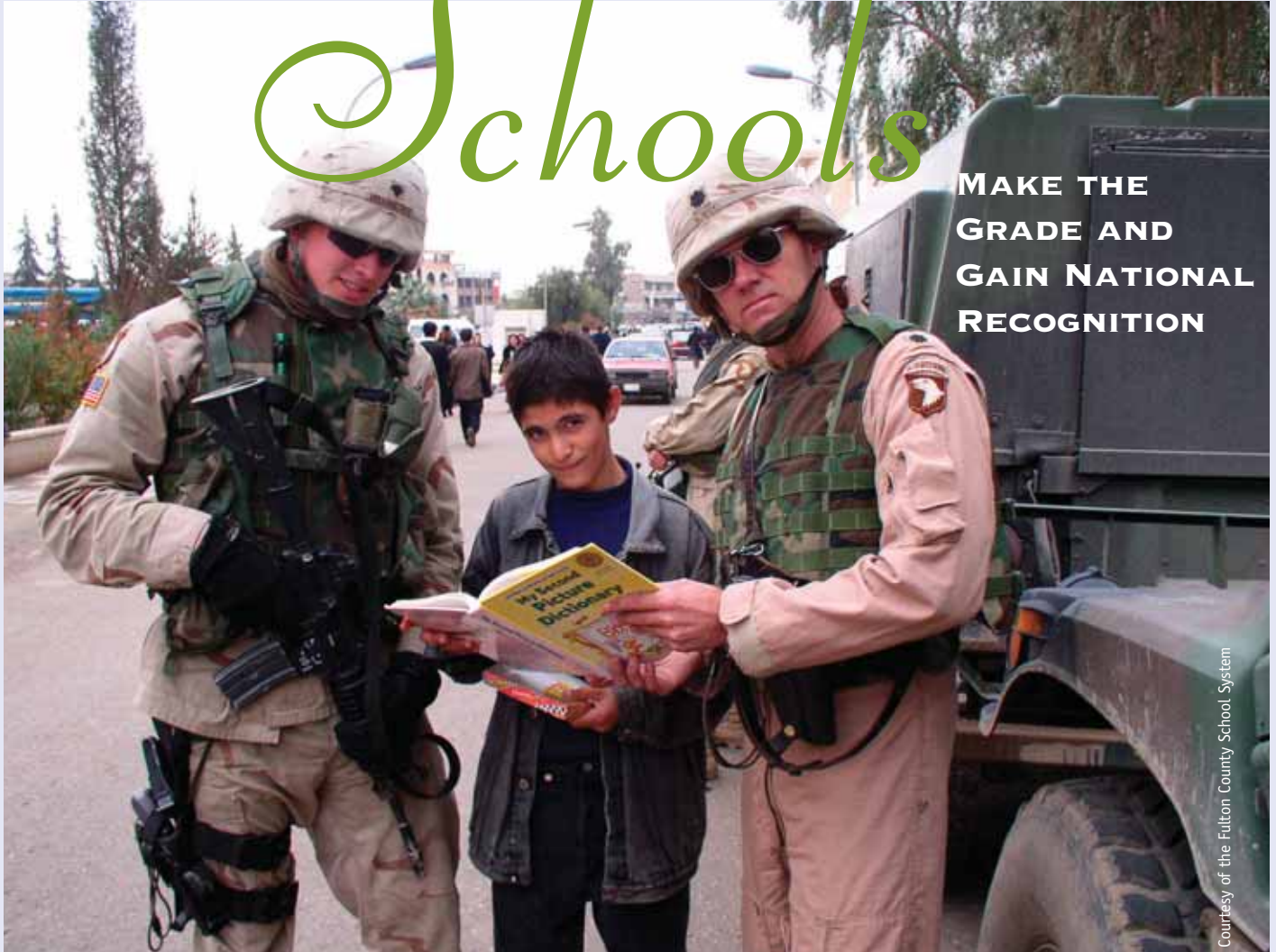
### Wilkerson Mill - Farris Park

8095 Wilkerson Mill Road, Palmetto, 770-463-6300  
Facilities include 2 Concession Stands, 2 Picnic  
Shelters, Playground, Football Field, 3 Adult  
Lighted Softball Fields, 2 Youth Lighted Baseball  
Fields, and Soccer Field.

SOUTH FULTON

# Schools

MAKE THE  
GRADE AND  
GAIN NATIONAL  
RECOGNITION



Courtesy of the Fulton County School System

Textbooks reach Iraq through the efforts of the Fulton County School Board

By Sheila Phinazee

Adding to its growing list of accomplishments, the Fulton County School System gained recognition this year as the first in the nation to achieve districtwide accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The school system reaped high marks as the evaluation team met with more than 350 leaders, including principals, teachers, parents and business partners before making its recommendation. Among many accolades, Fulton County was praised for its talented teaching and support staff and its high standards for students, parents and stakeholder involvement.

On March 24, Dr. Mark Elgart, CEO of the SACS' Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (CASI), proclaimed, "It is a great honor to announce that the Quality Assurance Review Team [for the SACS/CASI] recommends, without reservation, that the Fulton County School System be awarded district accreditation as a quality school system."

The school system also was recognized for embracing diversity, establishing a "customer service focus" toward its schools, utilizing technology for enhanced communication, securing professional staff and allocating resources that support the teaching and learning process.

At the helm of this award-winning school system is Michael J. Vanairsdale, Superintendent of Fulton County Schools. Under Mr. Vanairsdale's leadership, first as the Assistant Superintendent of Operations and now as Superintendent, all new schools have opened on time and under budget, which has reduced costs to county taxpayers and relieved school overcrowding in this growing region.

Since its founding in 1871, many state and national awards have been bestowed upon students, staff and schools in this district. Several schools in South Fulton were honored this year by the Georgia Department of



## Fulton County Schools Send Books to Iraqi Children

Superintendent Vanairsdale has not only improved educational opportunities for the children of South Fulton by spearheading opportunities like the school system's partnership with Sheltering Arms, which provides low-cost, high-quality pre-school education, but his influence has stretched across the world to war-torn Iraq.

Vanairsdale, who served 26 years in the U.S. Army and retired at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel before working with the school system, received an email request for educational materials from a former colleague, Lt. Col. Sliwicki of the 101st Airborne Division on assignment in Northern Iraq.

Vanairsdale took up the challenge, and with the School Board's help, he secured more than 50,000 surplus textbooks to donate to Iraqi schools. In December 2003, Lt. Col. Sliwicki delivered the textbooks to Mosul University, which distributed them to local school children.

"It was important for the school system to do the right thing - to help these children get access to books and other instructional materials," Vanairsdale says. "This was an opportunity to help Iraq rebuild its educational infrastructure and to give these children exposure to information, ideas and a culture that they never before knew." **G**

Education as 2004 Title I Distinguished Schools. Stonewall Tell Elementary in College Park received a recognition certificate for three consecutive years of achievement, while Bethune Elementary in College Park and Randolph Elementary in southwest Atlanta received monetary awards for five consecutive years of achievement.

In addition, Campbell Elementary School in Fairburn received the 2004 Georgia Schools of Excellence distinction by the Georgia Department of Education.

Praising his district, Vanairsdale remarks, "Teachers are effectively teaching the curriculum, using student testing data, and making adjustments to their teaching delivery so that every student can achieve at their highest potential. These factors, as well as strong community support, help our schools to be successful and deserving of recognition by the Georgia Department of Education."

### ATLANTA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Atlanta Technical College equips students with new skills or helps them to update existing ones through its diplomas, associate degrees, continuing education, business and industry training, and technical certificate pro-

grams. Located in Southwest Atlanta, the college takes its mission seriously by helping Atlanta's workforce remain competitive and productive as Georgia's capital continues to attract new businesses and industries to the Southeast.

Atlanta Technical College is a public, two-year technical college for traditional and nontraditional stu-

dents who are entering the job market or enhancing their careers. It is the largest single site technical institution in Georgia. Accredited by the Commission on the Council on Occupational Education, Atlanta Technical College is part of the Georgia Department of Technical Adult Education. Enjoying its 37th year, the college offers a diverse stu-



Hapeville Elementary teacher and student

Courtesy of the Fulton County School System

dent community of 4,000 per quarter.

There are over 70 programs of study at Atlanta Technical College. Courses are offered within Business, Media, and Information Technology, Health and Human Services, and Skilled Trades and Technical Divisions where a student may complete a diploma.

Students desiring an Associate of Applied Technology Degree may concentrate in Paralegal Studies, Dental Hygiene, Computer Information Systems or Early Childhood Care and Education.

Keeping abreast of the ever-challenging job market, Atlanta Technical College also offers Technical Certificates of Credit that are completed in two quarters or less. These certificates may be obtained in areas such as CISCO Systems, Dental Assisting or Aviation Maintenance to name a few.

Atlanta Technical College sees learning as a lifelong endeavor for success in a global economy and partners with businesses, like Delta and Nabisco, to create company-specific training.

Atlanta Technical College delivers classes to community settings like senior facilities and its Continuing Education program has over 500 classes ranging from technology to personal growth, renewing a plumber's license to sewing your own window treatments.

Evening and online classes are also available.

#### THE BEDFORD SCHOOL

On Milam Road, students at The Bedford School enjoy a learning environment that gives them everything they need for success - academically and in life.

About 130 students with learning disabilities currently attend the school. They're separated into skill groups; teachers and staff make sure that each student masters all the skills before advancing to the next level.

Every teacher has special training for working with children with learning dis-

### ATLANTA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE



Founded in 1937, the mission of Atlanta Christian College in East Point is to "provide education in biblical and theological studies, the arts and sciences, and professional studies to equip men and women for service in the church and society."

Providing a solid academic foundation in the context of a community of faith, Atlanta Christian College prepares the student to be a strong servant of Christ regardless of the profession he or she chooses. Students may major in Biblical Studies, Humanities, Music, Business, Human Relations or Early Childhood Education. All graduates have at least a minor in Biblical Studies.

Atlanta Christian College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) to award associate and baccalaureate degrees. Each year, the college awards over \$1,000,000 in institutional financial aid.

The college promotes a spirit of fun and enrichment. It is a member of the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) offering intercollegiate opportunities in soccer, basketball, baseball and golf as well as intramural sports. Students also participate in activities such as retreats, drama groups, bonfires, devotions, movies, concerts, service projects and student government.

Students at Atlanta Christian College benefit from small classes and personal attention. **G**

### TRI-CITIES HIGH SCHOOL LEADS THE HONOR ROLL

One of only three schools in the nation, Tri-Cities High School of East Point garnered the College Board's 2003 Inspiration Award in honor of its achievement in improving college admittance, particularly for the disadvantaged. Tri-Cities has made great strides in preparing students for college despite cultural, social and economic barriers. Principal Amelia Davis is an inspiration. She encourages her students to "never say never" when it comes to a college education.



Tri-Cities High School

Indeed Tri-Cities had an award-winning year. It first was recognized by the State Board of Education in 2003 as a Georgia School of Excellence. Tri-Cities received first place in the Circle City Classic National High School Band Competition and also has received numerous state awards for its One Act Play teams. And with more than 40 major business partners involved with the school, Tri-Cities received the Georgia Association of Partners in Education's Collaborative Education Partnership Award. **G**





# OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Our Lady of Mercy is a Catholic co-educational, college preparatory high school guided by the Archdiocese of Atlanta. We offer a challenging academic and co-curricular program to a diverse student body. Emphasizing "the sacred value and dignity of every human person," Our Lady of Mercy fosters the Christian virtue of love and service to God, family and neighbor.



- Fully accredited by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools(SACS)
- Excellent faculty, small school environment, and a broad range of academic and co-curricular opportunities
- Vibrant Campus Ministry and religious education
- College prep academics
- AP and Honors courses
- 21 Varsity sports (Member GHSA)
- Fine arts programs include dance, band, chorus, art and drama
- Average class size is less than 20

Visit the Bobcats of Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School and experience the feel of a college preparatory school where we

***"Strengthen the body,  
Enlighten the mind,  
And Inspire the soul"***



**Our Lady of Mercy** accepts students of all racial and ethnic backgrounds and all religious denominations. Financial aid opportunities are available for Catholic families. 41% of our Catholic families received tuition assistance for the 2003-2004 school year.

**For additional information** about Our Lady of Mercy, contact our Admissions office or visit Mercy on the internet at [www.olmbobcats.org](http://www.olmbobcats.org)

**OUR LADY OF MERCY  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

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- Courses transfer to four-year colleges.
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- Daytime, evening, and weekend classes.
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Georgia Military College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award Associate Degrees.

abilities and classrooms are limited to 12 students. The teaching method is highly structured and language based, with plenty of multi-sensory learning equipment like memory boards.

Roomy and bright, the school has an inviting library and computer room filled with iMacs. The gymnasium is home to the Bedford “Bears” during basketball season. Outside, the soccer field and track invite the children to develop their skills in other sports. A challenge-by-choice course in the woods offers the per-

fect setting to build teamwork.

Some of the important life lessons stressed at The Bedford School are self-reliance and personal responsibility, according to Founder and Director, Betsy Box. “We teach our students to be their own advocates,” she says. “If they have trouble understanding concepts or getting the attention they need, they are taught to ask for help in an appropriate manner.”

Linda Peeler, The Bedford School’s Director of Development and the moth-

er of two children with learning disabilities, explains the importance of the school. “A child with a learning disability can be overwhelming for parents. Hours are spent on schoolwork in the evening; parents often feel like failures and there’s a good deal of stress at home,” she says. “Here at Bedford, we’re not only serving the needs of the child, we’re restoring the family.”

GEORGIA MILITARY COLLEGE

A college education is available in Union City at the distant learning center campus of Georgia Military College located at 6280 Bryant Street. GMC, founded in Milledgeville in 1879, offers associate degrees in general studies, education, pre-nursing, criminal justice, early childhood education and business administration. There are no military requirements associated with attendance at the college’s distant learning center. Students may take advantage of daytime, evening or weekend classes. Credits transfer to four-year colleges.

Jim Price, director of GMC’s Union City campus, says almost 500 students took classes during the spring quarter. He says about a third are traditional college students—recent high school graduates taking classes from 8am to noon. The remaining students are non-traditional students taking classes at night and on the weekends. “Our non-traditional population includes a broad selection of the population who simply have determined it is time for them to finish their college degree,” he explains.

The open enrollment policy makes it more convenient for them to sign-up since they only need a high school diploma or GED to enroll. “A placement test helps us determine the student’s academic schedule,” says Price. “It is critical that we place them in the appropriate classes at the start since the majority of these students will be eligible to receive the HOPE Scholarship if they have a “B” average

continued on p.55



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<b>Conference Center</b>	<b>404.756.3813</b>

[www.atlantatech.edu](http://www.atlantatech.edu)

# OUR *Lady* OF MERCY

Blending academic excellence with spiritual encouragement, Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School offers a valuable private school alternative for students in the area. Opened in 2000, Our Lady of Mercy already boasts of 100% college attendance for their first two graduating classes of 2003 and 2004. Many prestigious colleges and universities including the United States Air Force Academy, United States Military Academy at West Point, Yale University, University of Georgia, Georgia Tech, Emory University, Morehouse College and Spelman College have accepted these classes of graduating seniors.

Students find their studies challenging while developing a foundation for their faith. Our Lady of Mercy is open to students of various denominations.

A Catholic co-educational, college preparatory high school, Our Lady of Mercy is under the guidance of the Archdiocese of Atlanta. The high school is located on 54 acres in Fayette County's city of Fairburn where the faculty and administration "strengthen the body, enlighten the mind, and inspire the soul."

The core beliefs at Our Lady of Mercy are charity, integrity, courage,

diligence and responsibility. Consistent with its Christian values and interdisciplinary curriculum, the school requires that all students volunteer for 15 hours with public service organizations in the community each semester. Students must also volunteer for 10 hours at his or her local church.

Our Lady of Mercy proudly offers a diverse student population of various religious, ethnic and racial backgrounds. 68% are Catholic, 46 % are Caucasian, 41% are African American, 5% are Hispanic, 4% are Asian, and 4% are of other ethnic background. Fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Our Lady of Mercy's average class size is under 20.

Offering a worthwhile educational investment, Our Lady of Mercy is among the lowest in tuition of area private schools. The school and its founders believe that a Catholic education should be attainable to everyone. Many Catholic families at Our Lady of Mercy obtain financial assistance and scholarship opportunities from the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

Our Lady of Mercy's college preparatory curriculum exceeds graduation requirements mandated by the

Georgia Department of Education. The school's courses include English, Religion, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical and Health Education, Technology, Economics, Music, Fine Arts and Foreign Languages. Every incoming 9th grader is required to take Freshman Seminar. There are also Honors classes for core courses as well as Advanced Placement courses in seven areas.

A well-rounded high school experience is gained by students at Our Lady of Mercy High School. Over 85% of the students participate in athletics and other extracurricular activities. Students take part in 21 varsity sports, campus ministry programs and Fine Arts programs, which include dance, band, art, drama and chorus.

Our Lady of Mercy is a member of the Georgia High School Association. Seven of its varsity teams advanced to the state playoffs.

Focusing on "the sacred value and dignity of every human person," Our Lady of Mercy promotes the Christian virtue of love and service to God, family and neighbor while giving its students a solid educational background.

**G**





continued from p.52

after 4 quarters with us.”

Taking classes in Union City is a good deal financially for area students, Price adds. The average tuition cost for students attending full-time is \$575 per quarter, and the students can live at home. Most students receive some sort of financial aid, and students qualifying for the HOPE Scholarship attend school tuition free. Tutoring is also available to all students and the distant learning center now has an e-library available on site.


#### WOODWARD ACADEMY

Woodward Academy, one of Atlanta’s more established private schools and the largest day school in the United States, offers high quality education for preschool through grade 12 and a wide variety of extracurricular activities for its students.

A college preparatory school, Woodward Academy sends most of its graduates on to four-year colleges and universities. There are six schools at three locations: Busey Campus in Riverdale (PK-6 on 24 acres), Woodward North in Duluth ( PK-6 on 35 acres) and Main Campus in College Park (K-12 on 75 acres). Woodward Academy’s mission is “Excellence, Character, Opportunity.”


The school consistently produces National Merit Finalists, National Achievement Finalists, National Achievement Semi-finalists and National Merit Commended Scholars. The school also provides special courses for students with diagnosable learning disabilities through a transition program.

There are 21 varsity athletic teams and each team has made it to the play-offs in their respected sports. With a variety of performing and visual arts as well, Woodward abundantly provides enriching and rewarding experiences for its students. **G**




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THE CITY OF  
*College Park*

Jack Longino, Mayor of College Park, Joyce Rhodes, Project Manager, Fulton County Department of Economic Development Roland Desjardins, General Manager of Alteon; Allan Lane, Economic Development Specialist with the City of College Park at Alteon which opened in February 2004. See page 18 for more about Alteon.

*As south metro-Atlanta is experiencing an increase in growth and development, more people are discovering the City of College Park's historic charm and resources. And there's plenty of it to find!*

Photo by Rob Felt





Photo by Rob Felt

Roland Desjardins, General Manager of Alteon, at the controls of the flight simulator

IT HASN'T  
*taken*  
*long*  
 FOR THE WORD TO  
*spread*  
 ABOUT DEVELOPMENT  
*opportunities*

From tree-lined Rugby Avenue and the historic Main Street Shopping District to Old National Highway, this City is in the midst of a comprehensive redevelopment that has brought new residential housing and specialty retail back to the tri-Cities area. Named one of Metro Atlanta's "Best Places to Live" in 2003 by Atlanta magazine, College Park's success in development is the result of progressive leadership and business recruitment that has resulted in over \$1.5 billion in re-investment since 1998. The city's proximity to Hartsfield-Jackson Airport has made it a prime location for hospitality-related development.

It hasn't taken long for the word to spread about development opportunities. Over 700 new residential single-family homes are in the

process of construction throughout the City with an emphasis on traditional town planning and recreation venues. "Innovative partnerships and creativity have resulted in the City attracting high end investment such as Boeing-Alteon Flight Safety Center and numerous new Main Street businesses such as The Feed Store, Blue Bay and Kosmo's," states Mayor Jack Longino.

The first project of its type in the nation - Princeton Village is a mixed-use residential project that will cover 32 acres, former airport property on the east side of Main Street, with single-family homes, town-homes and commercial sites. The neighborhoods will feature the beauty of old-growth trees along with high-quality schools. Another residential development northwest of Woodward

Academy, Eagles Grove, will consist of 26 homes built on a former warehouse site with historic infill houses. Other projects include, Yorktown Place, off Godby Road, and Madison Place, off Charlestown Drive, that will bring over 200 single-family homes to the Old National Highway and Camp Creek corridors.

Downtown Main Street continues its success with new businesses and eateries drawing residents and visitors. Since 1998, over 21 new businesses throughout the city have brought \$50 million in investment and over 200 employees to this community.

Earlier this year, Alton Training, L.L.C. opened the \$75 million Atlanta Training Center on Clipper Drive, just off Old National Highway. Alton Training is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Boeing Company and its Atlanta location joins a network of 20 other training facilities worldwide, from the United Kingdom and Spain to Australia, Singapore and Mexico City.

Occupying six acres of property owned by Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, the Aviation Training Center can accommodate up to 200 trainees a day. The two-story, 52,000 square-foot center will provide pilot training, aircraft maintenance training and advanced technology training. It houses two Boeing 717-200 and one 737-700/800 series full-flight training simulators, according to Roland Desjardins, general manager of the Atlanta Training Center. And there's room for more.

Redevelopment is abundant, along the Old National Highway corridor with a strong emphasis placed on re-use of former big-box retail sites such as Target, Service Merchandise and Kroger.



Oscar Morales provides upscale dining in College Park at Oscar's

The former Levitz warehouse Highway/Sullivan Road corridor. stood empty for more than eight Recently, John Wieland Homes & years along the Old National Neighborhoods purchased the







Photo by Warren Bond Photography

John Wieland discusses the renovation of the former Levitz warehouse


243,000 square-foot structure and will invest \$2.5 million in renovations. It will house John Wieland Support Companies.

“We’re here to make sure that our customers get the highest quality homes at the best cost,” says Ron Meehan, president of John Wieland Support Companies. “That includes everything from manufacturing the lighting and cabinetry to providing remodeling services for our customers when they want to add a room or finish a basement.”

When the facility opens, it will immediately bring 33 jobs to College Park with another 70 added later.

With its rich history and record of quality growth and development, College Park is looking toward a bright future. **G**

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# East Point



Photo by Rob Felt

Mayor Patsy Jo Hilliard in front of East Point City Hall

**By Martha W. Barksdale**

*In 2003, East Point received some well-deserved recognition when it was named one of the “Best Suburbs to Live In.”*



**EAST POINT ATTRACTS  
RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES**

There are quite a few reasons that people and businesses are drawn to the area, according to Gerald Sanders, City of East Point Director of Economic Development. The location is a great asset; East Point is just minutes south of downtown Atlanta, so residents are near a major metropolitan city while still enjoying the small town ambience.

Everyone is welcome in East Point. The City has embraced its ethnic and culturally diverse populations and the wide variety of housing options in the area include townhouses, condos and single family residences in all price ranges. Over 200 residential units have been constructed in the City in subdivisions such as Grant Estates, Walden Park and Cascade Green.

Businesses are feeling the draw to East Point, too. Lucent Technologies, Porsche Distribution, Clorox and Worldspan are a few of the world-class companies that are located here.

“The location is unrivaled in many respects due to the proximity to the Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport and access to three major interstate highways — I-75, I-85, and I-20,” says Sanders. “The City has several hundred acres of prime industrial and commercial land available for prospects within the Camp Creek Trade Center and South Meadow Business Parks.”

The Camp Creek MarketPlace, situated at the intersection of I-285 and Camp Creek Parkway in East Point, draws shoppers to over 40 specialty stores and restaurants as PetsMart, Barnes & Noble, Lowe’s and Target. Also in the MarketPlace is the American Red Cross’ Camp Creek Donor Center, the first blood donor center located in a primarily African American community.



Photo by Rob Felt

Gerald Sanders, Director of Economic Development of East Point

And things are only going to be getting better for East Point. Sanders says the City’s vision for the future is one where the quality of life is maintained or enhanced through the redevelopment of the City’s infrastructure, acquisition of greenspace, preservation of park lands. The City’s Master Town Plan serves as a blue print for the current and future residential and commercial development.

As you drive through East Point, you can see the vision unfolding before you. The City is attracting investors and developers who are restoring historical neighborhoods,

while others are introducing affordable and high-end housing to the market.

“I am convinced that East Point will continue build its image as a destination option for specialty shops, quaint restaurants, small and major employers. If successful, we will better accomplish our goal to become a live, work, play community,” he adds.

In 2004, East Point was granted Livable City Initiative (LCI) status by the Atlanta Regional Commission. According to Sanders, this distinction provided the City with planning funds to hire a consultant to assist with the

enhancement of the downtown central business district's sidewalks, landscaping, traffic management and lighting concerns.

Other initiatives include efforts to reach a 20% goal of greenspace set aside properties throughout the community and the development of the Camp Creek corridor by Duke Realty and North American Properties. Updated zoning ordinances have contributed by helping the City to better manage growth while protecting the integrity of neighborhoods and the environment.

Sanders wants to spread the word about East Point and its balance of family-friendly environment and business opportunity. "I want the public to know that East Point is now a comparable option to live in and raise a family, that it offers a quality of life equiv-

alent to any other small City in metro Atlanta," he says. "On the other hand, it's also important that businesses feel welcome to expand and or relocate to the City. As a City, we strive to be customer service oriented as well as a place where the costs of doing business are competitive."

**SOUTH FULTON MEDICAL CENTER  
ACHIEVES EXCELLENCE...AND  
KEEPS STRIVING FOR MORE**

Walking into South Fulton Medical Center (SFMC), you get an immediate sense of being surrounded by people who care - about you, and about the community.

From the nurses, dressed in white and equipped with mobile phones for quick response to patients' needs, to the more than 450 physicians and specialists, some of the most respected in their fields, everyone is focused on delivering the highest level of healthcare possible.

In 2003, SFMC ranked #1 among Tenet hospitals in Georgia in patient satisfaction by becoming a four star Tenet hospital; that means over 87% of their patients were completely satisfied with their care.

"We're striving for 100% satisfaction rating," says Christopher

Hummer, CEO of SFMC. "That's the basis of our Target 100 program."

It's no secret that the acute care medical center has seen challenging times. Established in 1963, the hospital was a mainstay of the community for decades, providing healthcare and employment for area residents. But in April of 2000, SFMC filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. Despite the staff cuts and financial loss, the remaining 900 employees pulled together to make sure that no services were discontinued.

One year later, in April 2001, Tenet Healthcare acquired the hospital. The positive effects were felt immediately. All hospital workers retained their positions at full wages. Tenet also committed to invest \$30 million in general improvements and a much-needed \$8.5 million expansion of the hospital's emergency department.

Hummer credits the dedication of the medical center's staff, the support of the community and Tenet's commitment to quality for the medical center's growing success.

"Ethics and compliance are the bedrock of Tenet Healthcare," he says. "By concentrating on providing the best quality healthcare with the



The newly renovated lobby of the South Fulton Medical Center

Photo courtesy of South Fulton Medical Center

**Q: What do the following have in common?**

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| A & A Tax Service                      | Green Realty                        |
| A & W Realty, Inc.                     | Hair á la Parisienne                |
| Alignment and Frame Service            | Hampton Inn                         |
| Anchor Partners, LLC                   | Jay Scott                           |
| BellSouth                              | J. Maxwell's                        |
| Brown Design Group                     | MARTA                               |
| Brown Office Systems                   | Newell Recycling of Atlanta, Inc.   |
| Camp Creek Marketplace                 | Pathway Christian School            |
| Concerned Citizens & Clergy            | Payne Industries                    |
| Duke Realty, Inc.                      | Regions Bank                        |
| East Point Clean Community             | Rehabilitation Exposure             |
| East Point Flower Cottage              | Reynolds Associates                 |
| East Point Hardware                    | Tenet - South Fulton Medical Center |
| Engineering Solutions Associates, Inc. | Turning Point Chiropractic          |
| Georgia Military College               | Victory Charter School              |
|  | W-TJH 1260 AM Radio                 |
|  | Wachovia Bank                       |

**A: They are a part of a growing list of**

**East Point Business Association members** - a results-oriented group of committed businesses, community organizations, and individuals that are making positive change happen in the East Point Business community.



**East Point  
Business  
Association**

Come grow with us...  
*Join the excitement*



best service, at the best possible cost, I'm confident we'll attract people to SFMC for all the right reasons."

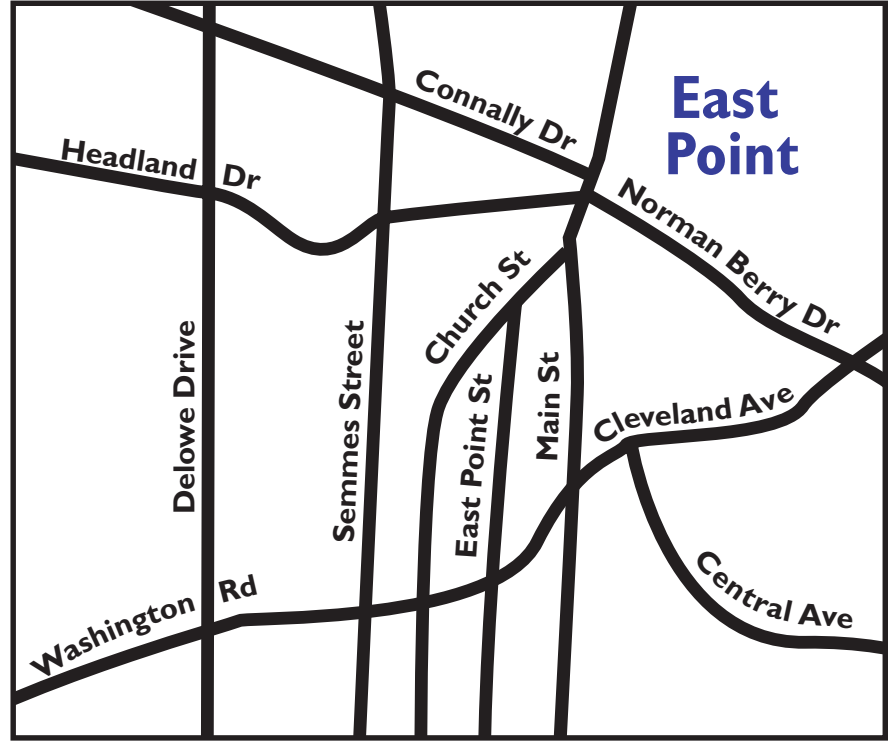
Two new labor and delivery rooms have been added to the Women's Center. All rooms are equipped with an infant warmer and crib, hardwood floors, reclining chairs and television which includes dedicated "New Mommy" programming. The entire center is welcoming with soothing colors and unique artwork.

The recently opened Sleep Disorder Laboratory gives residents a nearby option for the diagnosis and treatment of potentially serious sleep disorders, such as sleep apnea, excessive snoring, narcolepsy, restless leg syndrome and periodic limb movement disorder.

Presently under construction, SMFC's \$8.5 million Emergency Department (ED) expansion is on target to open this August. The ED will feature 27 private treatment rooms and a Fast Track area for treating minor illnesses and injuries. With lots of windows and plenty of room, the new lobby will offer a comfortable wait for patients while the new ED nurses' station will improve flow of traffic and access to patients.


Other improvements and additions include the opening of a new nurses' lounge, educational women's center classes and renovation of the gastrointestinal diagnostic unit.

The 338-bed acute care community medical center serves residents of South Fulton, Coweta, Fayette, Clayton and Douglas counties. Specialties at SMFC include cardiac services, an emergency services trauma center, outpatient surgery services, rehabilitation services, women's health and a sleep disorders center.




City of East Point

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*To New Horizons...*



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F A B U L O U S

# Fairburn



Photo by Neal DuPre

Antique Shops in Fairburn

## By Martha Barksdale

*Fairburn has a lot to offer to residents. There is an increasing choice of housing, quality education, both public and private, and dining, shopping and entertainment in the quaint downtown.*

*The city has a lot to offer businesses, too. With its strong infrastructure, including a fiber optic communications network, and prime location, it's a natural choice for corporations and small businesses to locate here.*





Mayor Betty Hannah

Fairburn's motto is "history lives here," and Betty Hannah, the city's long-time mayor, wants emphasis on the word "lives." Indeed, with a large number of new residential developments, growing business and industrial projects and a number of leisure opportunities, Fairburn offers seemingly unlimited opportunities.

From its first days in 1849, Fairburn has been a center of activity. The city was named county seat of Campbell County when a depot was constructed. After the Civil War, Fairburn was a center for banking, and the two railroad depots meant a steady stream of guests for the town's hotel. However, Campbell County merged with Fulton County in 1932, and Fairburn became a sleepy little town until Atlanta's suburban sprawl woke it up in the last part of the 20th century.

Fairburn hasn't forgotten its past. The old Campbell County Courthouse is still used for special

events, and the former Campbell High School is the home of Landmark Christian School. The quaint downtown is on the National Register of Historic Places and still has the original railroad depots, along with a row of brick stores.

Fairburn has maintained its historic charm while attracting new growth to areas recently annexed into the city limits.

Construction is about to begin on the first phase of Durham Lakes, one of the largest residential projects in the state. Durham Lakes, a 700-acre golf course community, is being developed by Killearn Properties, the firm responsible for Eagle's Landing in Henry County. Eventually there will be about 2,000 homes in Durham Lakes, Fairburn City Administrator Jim Williams notes.

Also underway are several cluster home projects. "People are beginning to look for homes on smaller lots. The high-



Fairburn is an antique lovers heaven, with several antique shops

er density development leaves room for more greenspace," Williams says.

By fall, Fairburn will have a major new employer, a 600,000 square foot S.C. Johnson Company distribution warehouse. In addition to bringing a number of jobs and money to the community, the developer, Williams

says, will be completing Oakley Industrial Boulevard to Bohannon Road, keeping industrial traffic out of downtown Fairburn.

After being closed for a brief period, the popular Duncan Park is open again. Williams says the city is leasing the park from the county and hopes

to have the swimming pool open by summer.

For 30 years, people have been flocking to Fairburn to see plays by the Southside Theatre Guild. The theater troupe is made up of volunteers who produce comedies, musicals and dramas for appreciative crowds.

The Georgia Renaissance Festival was voted a "Top 20 Event in the Southeast" from the Southeast Tourism Society. And it's no wonder why. The festival features a 32-acre artisan market, medieval amusement park and 10-stage theatre with nonstop entertainment. While feasting on turkey legs and ginger beer, revelers enjoy the parade, joust tournament and shows. Nearly 1,000 colorfully costumed characters, including minstrels, jugglers, magicians and dancers stroll the grounds and entertain the crowds.



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Another attraction unique to Fairburn is the Cochran Mill Nature Center and Arboretum, 850 acres of woodland surrounding a lodge dedicated to educating the public about the environment. The center is open year-round and hold regular activities for the public.

Each October, downtown Fairburn comes alive with the Old Campbell County Homecoming, a day of arts and crafts, a parade, entertainment and good festival food. Christmas time brings a community tree-lighting ceremony, complete with caroling and hot chocolate.

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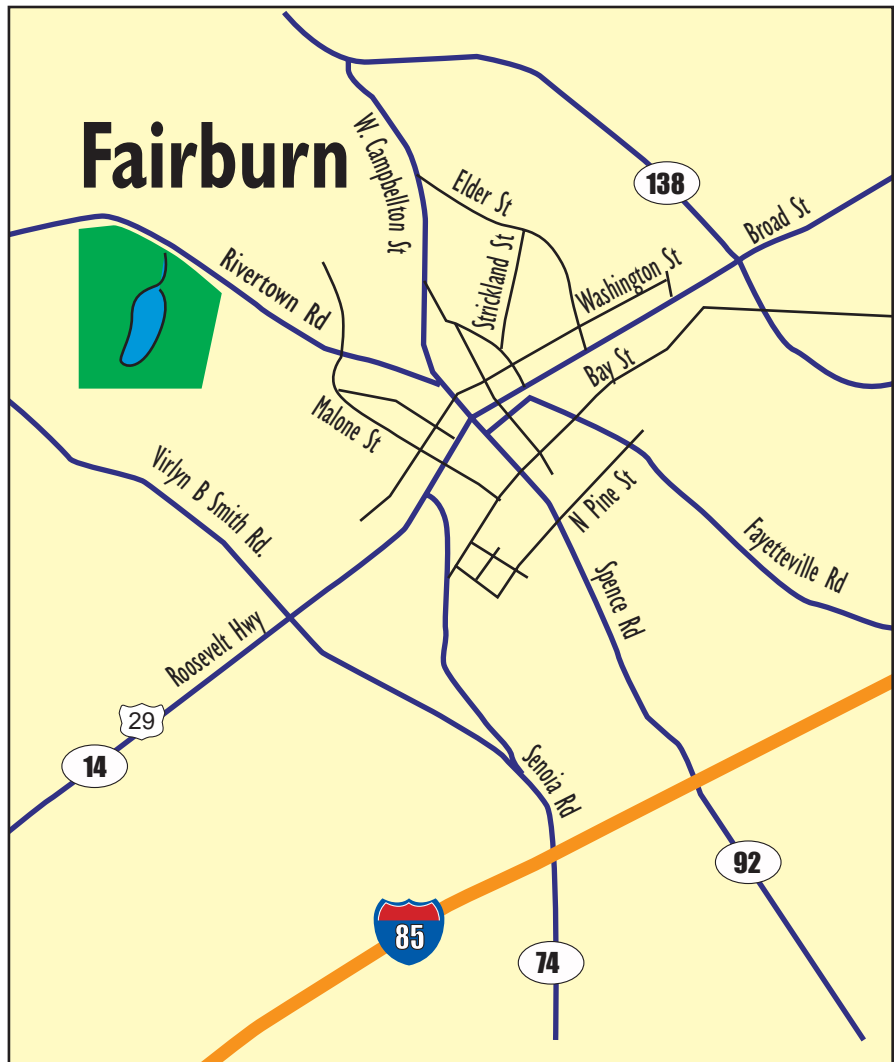
In June of 2004, 1st Community Bank with its five full-service banking offices in Peachtree City, Newnan, Fairburn, Union City and Palmetto, became a member of United Community Banks. This partnership represents United Community Banks' entry into Atlanta's attractive southern metropolitan area and highlights its commitment to expand into selective new, high-growth banking markets around Atlanta.

Headquartered in Georgia, United Community Banks, Inc. has assets of \$4.3 billion and operates 21 community banks with 78 banking offices throughout Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee. The company specializes in providing personalized community banking services to individuals and small to mid-size businesses. For additional information see United's web site at [ucbi.com](http://ucbi.com). **G**



Fairburn Mural

Photo by Neal DuPre



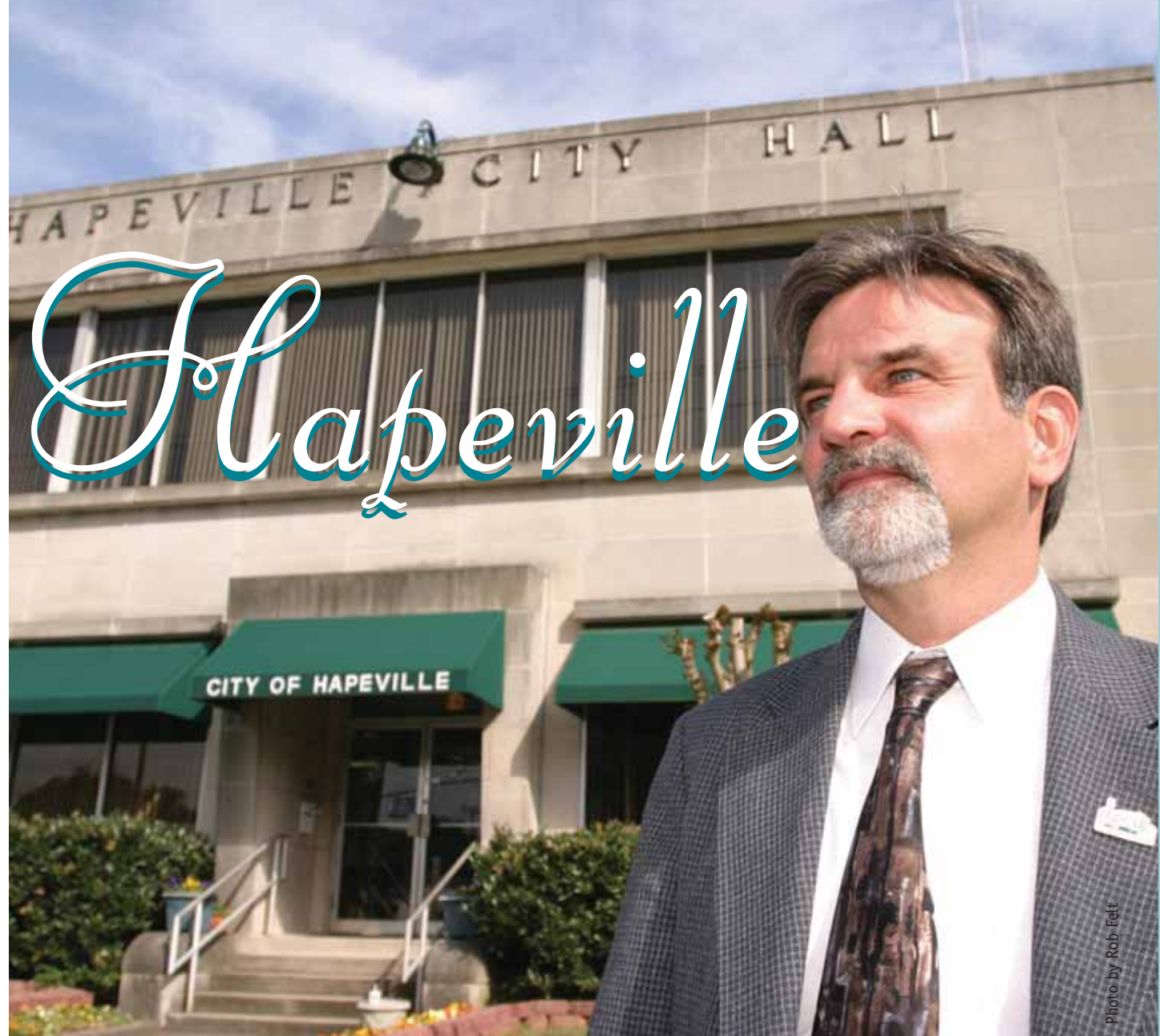


Photo by Rob Felt

Mayor Alan Hallman

*Though it's South Fulton's smallest municipality in land mass, Hapeville has a big, bright future. That's largely due to the "can do" spirit of the residents, approximately 6,180 of them, according to the 2000 US Census.*



Add to that the strong vision shared by Hapeville's leaders, and you have a city that's kept its small town appeal while embracing the convenience and technology of the 21st century.

With a committed Mayor and Council and with fine leadership from staff, Hapeville is in the process of shaping its future while maintaining the small town charm that makes Hapeville "home" to residents.

"A Community with a Heart, rebuilding the Heart of the Community" is much more than a bland mission statement, it's a sign of the commitment that we have for our future," says Hapeville Mayor Alan Hallman. "As a Main Street City, with Anna George as the Main Street Manager, and with the recent appointment of Economic Development Director Robin Howarth, Hapeville has shown that we are committed to controlled, quality growth. We look forward to an exciting future as we work together to make Hapeville the best town in Metro Atlanta."

Located just six miles from the heart of downtown Atlanta, Hapeville is a haven for businesses. Delta Air Lines, Inc.'s world headquarters, the Wachovia Operational Center and Ford Motor Company's southeast assembly plant are all right here.

Residential real estate is booming, too. Many of the City's historic homes are being renovated and new construction, including houses and townhomes, are cropping up throughout the area. Two of the growing sections are Virginia Park, slated for single family and commercial redevelopment, and the Loop Road, a mixed-use redevelopment project.

In 2003, Hapeville was the only city in the state of Georgia chosen for the coveted Main Street Designation Award. Under the leadership of Main



Diners enjoying 623 restaurant in Hapeville

Street Manager, Anna George, the city will continue to reinvent its downtown.

George says, "Downtown Hapeville is rapidly transforming into the heart of the community with a variety of restaurants, stores and businesses that capture Hapeville's historic character and small town charm." Improvements to the revitalizing downtown area will include new landscaping, signage and building facades as well as a new faade for the pedestrian overpass.

"Downtown development is a high priority," adds Hapeville City Manager Mike Rast. "It's important to our residents, our businesses and our visitors. We're working to make sure our downtown reflects the beauty, diversity and strong spirit of our community."

Another reflection of Hapeville's character is their commitment to youth and quality education. This year, a new math and science charter school is being added to the two exist-

ing schools in Hapeville. This will be South Fulton's fourth charter school, the seventh in the entire county. Hapeville Middle School will open this fall at the First United Methodist Church on Atlanta Avenue. The science and math curriculum will be the same as that at the Fulton Science Academy in north Atlanta.

Additionally, Hapeville's charter school will enroll all students in Spanish at the sixth-grade level.

About 180 students are expected to attend Hapeville Middle School this fall. While the school will offer only a

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**TO AN EXCITING**

*future*

**AS WE WORK**

*together*

**TO MAKE HAPEVILLE**

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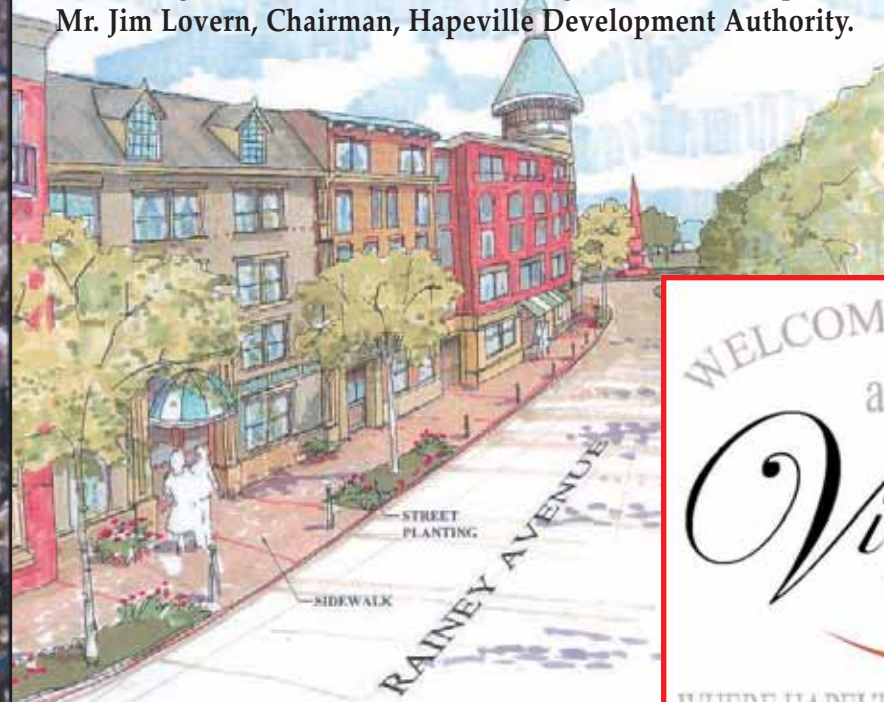
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# HAPEVILLE

"The recreation of Hapeville's historic Virginia Park neighborhood will serve as a regional model for Traditional Neighborhood Development."

Mr. Jim Lovern, Chairman, Hapeville Development Authority.



WELCOME TO THE VILLAGE  
at  
*Virginia*  
PARK

WHERE HAPEVILLE'S PAST MEETS THE FUTURE



sixth-grade curriculum at first, it will expand to include seventh grade during the 2005-2006 school year; by 2007-2008, an eighth grade will be established.

Hapeville Elementary, part of the Fulton County School System, has earned a number of awards including Georgia Principal of the Year, Reading First School and National Title I School. The school, housed in the former Hapeville High School and designed by renowned Atlanta architect Philip Shultze, has been restored to its original splendor.

St. John the Evangelist, a Catholic school for grades pre-K through eight, was opened in 1954. The City is also home to the Fulton County School System's Teaching Museum, which features exhibits about the history of education in Fulton County and offers programs and workshops suited to the present day.

And while the future's bright, Hapeville also has a proud past, too. Founded in 1891, the City gets its name from Dr. Samuel Hape, who purchased the land with other investors and was the town's first mayor serving from 1882-83. Dr. Hape was a Civil War veteran. It's unlikely he ever attended medical

school, but received the title "doctor" because of his business, the Atlanta Dental Supply Company.

Hapeville was ready for take-off in the 1920s when Asa Candler began allowing planes to land in the center of his oval racetrack on Virginia Avenue. The City of Atlanta purchased this land in 1929 for a municipal airport and the site was used until the mid-1970s. Then, of course, the current airport, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, opened nearby and soon became one of the busiest in the world.

If you want to see busy, join the lunchtime crowds at Hapeville. People indulge their appetites at the many restaurants and neighborhood sidewalk cafes.

One of the homegrown Hapeville gems is Chick-fil-A's Dwarf House. Brothers Truett and Ben Cathy opened a restaurant called the Dwarf Grill in 1946. The restaurant was later enlarged and renamed the Dwarf House. Still one of Hapeville's most popular dining



Customers enjoy great ribs and smoked meats at Michon's



Chick-fil-A began as the Dwarf House in Hapeville

spots, it was the birthplace of the Chick-fil-A sandwich in 1963. Chick-fil-A is now one of the world's most successful restaurant franchises.

There are a host of other restaurants to enjoy. The Café on the Corner has been a local favorite for ten years. They specialize in tasty soups, sandwiches and desserts with a French flair.

623 restaurant serves delicious food in a trendy setting with exposed brick walls, wood floors, soaring ceilings, and local artwork. And just around the corner is a delightful flower and gift shop at Toni's Touch of Class. The Asian Express has converted a streamlined historic 1930's gas station into a restaurant complete with the best hibachi in town.

Michon's has smoked meats and ribs that will make your mouth water. They also feature live entertainment and dancing to the house DJ. Check their website for details; [www.michons.com](http://www.michons.com).

For authentic Cuban cuisine, Chupi's Cuban Café is the place to go. Chapman's Drug Store serves



lime-aids and handmade malts at their old-time soda fountain. Looking for a jolt? Visit Perk Place and get internet access while you sip a coffee, cappuccino or latte. Of course, there are desserts, including scoops of Ben and Jerry's ice cream.

Residents of the City know how to throw a party, as is evidenced every year at Hapeville's Happy Days Festival. Held each fall, the celebration draws thousands to share in the entertainment, festival food and arts and crafts.

There are other big events, too. On the eve of Thanksgiving, hundreds of residents gather to sing carols. The Christmas holidays are celebrated with a lighting of the City's Christmas tree in the park and a Holiday Tour of Homes.

Any time of year, the beautiful downtown park is open to visitors, with its 1/3-mile walking trail, as is Hapeville's historic railroad depot. An impressive collection of transportation memorabilia, including a 1921 Ford Model T, delights young and old.

Hapeville's city leaders are especially proud of their recreation and service activities, and with good reason. The Recreation Department operates a large youth sports program and offers classes and activities for pre-schoolers



Sidewalk dining at Perk Place in Hapeville



through senior citizens. Director Rip Robertson isn't bragging, he's just stating a fact, when he says that Hapeville spends more per capita on recreation services than any other municipality in the State of Georgia.

But it's not all fun and games. Hapeville's citizens are involved in more than 30 national and international community service organizations. When you've got a big heart, like Hapeville does, it's natural to reach out and share. **G**

# Palmetto



All Palmetto photos by Neal DuPre

Mayor Clark Boddie at one of Palmetto's historic homes

**By Nicole DuPre**

*Hospitality is second nature to the small yet dynamic community of Palmetto. Ironically named in the early 1800s by a group of soldiers from North Carolina (the Palmetto State), the impression has nonetheless been the same: Palmetto is a place of rest; a shelter on a journey; a respite from the hectic world.*



**PALMETTO PLANTED**

According to Mayor Clark Boddie, "One of the great things we've been able to do, in looking toward Palmetto's future, is to preserve its past." That kind of insight has helped to make the town a place in which people feel proud to bring up a family, start a business or visit again and again. And it isn't a new idea.

Palmetto's rich history dates back to 1833, when John H. Johnson built a general store and eventually became Palmetto's first postmaster. Next, in the 1840s, Willis P. Menefee, called the "father of the town," settled and built a plantation which included almost all the land that is now Palmetto. The Menefee House is one of the many historical buildings in town. Major Menefee donated his land for churches, homes, schools and parks. A group of soldiers found rest and refuge on his land before they moved on to the Mexican War, according to a history of the town, which was put together in the early 1980s by members of the community and sponsored by The Town and County Homemakers Club.

Mr. Menefee had a vision for a "cohesive and lasting community" and his idea flourished into the town of Palmetto. The people are friendly and helpful, the countryside is beautiful and the residents take care of it and each other. To this day, it is a community in every sense of the word.

**PALMETTO SERVING WITH A SMILE**

In downtown Palmetto, a shopper can amble from a relaxing spa to a cozy florist, an adorable gift shop and even a hardware store where you might just get to test-drive an all-terrain vehicle. Such shops are located on Main and Toombs Streets across from the old train depot and Highway 92.

Annabelle's Spa and Salon is the newest addition to the Main Street fare. Owned and run by Wanda "Annabelle" Bearden, the shop is an extension of her line of body and bath products, skin care and scents called



Southern Moments. The salon is southern-themed with a portrait of Scarlet from *Gone with the Wind* greeting all who enter. Bearden's shop offers a range of styling and spa essentials including a massage room and a room for spray tanning. Each room has a different theme such as the Mint Julep room and each is painted and decorated to match.

A master cosmetologist, Bearden has sold her products for 24 years, although Annabelle's is the first shop she's had of her own. She says she wanted a historical building to tie in all of her "southern ambience" and, since she was raised in Palmetto, she wanted to do something nice for the community and restore some history. The building, which is over 100 years old, had been owned by the beloved Dr. McKenzie in

the days before chain drug stores. Residents still remember his pharmacy and soda fountain. Shoppers shouldn't miss the colorful mural depicting the history of Palmetto on the side of the building.

A couple of doors down is Nell's Florist, Woodwork and Gift Shop. It contains a delightful mix of elegant floral arrangements and sweet, fuzzy stuffed animals, delicate woodwork

Stained glass at the Georgia Baptist Children's Home





Mayor Boddie visits with the seniors

and sturdy shelves. Nell Lee started her business twenty years ago and thought, "It's not like work, we enjoy it!" Her husband Donald, who does woodwork, has helped for about 5 years with shelves, specialty pieces and deliveries. As Lee explains, Donald learned his

trade on his own, although his brother and father both practiced woodworking.

Across the street from Nell's is Lynn Hagerup's Vintage Blooms, a store devoted to classy gifts and decorating as well as jewelry items and home decor. Hagerup had done wedding design and worked with caterers doing food display for 15 years. She has had her Palmetto shop open since March of 2003.

One of the things Hagerup loves about being in Palmetto is the small town atmosphere away from the "great hustle bustle" of a big city. She says it "just brings it back to the personal, more of a hometown." And her attitude matches what she loves,

because when she serves customers, she truly wants them to find what they need. She offers what most department stores lack with her one-on-one help.

Other notable places to stop are the charming My Favorite Things, next to Nell's, Jack Peek Sales and Service, by Annabelle's, and a wonderful new bed and breakfast, The Rusch Home B&B. There is also a great place to eat, located just next to I-85, called Frank's. Locals travel from all around to eat in the restaurant, which sits next to a gas station. The ambience is friendly and unique and the food is remarkable.

The history and surroundings of Palmetto offer a beautiful and serene stay for any traveler, and the nearness to Atlanta, the interstates and MARTA, offers a quick getaway for further travels. Mayor Boddie comments on the lack of traffic and the ease of joining Interstate 85 from Palmetto.



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## CITY OF PALMETTO

509 Toombs Street  
Palmetto, Georgia 30268

*"Come Grow With Us"*



Palmetto... a turn of the century town. Located 20 minutes from Atlanta International Airport, ten minutes away from Shannon Southpark Mall, Palmetto has the charm and atmosphere of a small town with the convenience of a large city. Quaint but prosperous, Palmetto is expanding. Come grow with us.

### PALMETTO TOUCHING LIVES AND REACHING OUT

One of the well-known landmarks in Palmetto is the Georgia Baptist Children's Home, a safe haven for children who need a loving and caring environment. Though it was started in 1872 as a place for children orphaned by the Civil War, the Home has grown and evolved over the years.

The Palmetto campus was created in 1968 when the construction of the Atlanta airport necessitated a move from its original Hapeville location. The famous Arch that stands over a memorial garden on the campus was moved stone by stone from Hapeville to Palmetto because of its significance to the organization and to many who grew up in the Home.

Former Palmetto resident Marian Dudash remembers summers when a little girl from the Home would stay with her family, spend time with them at church, the swimming pool and many other family activities. According to Renee Wright, Executive Assistant to

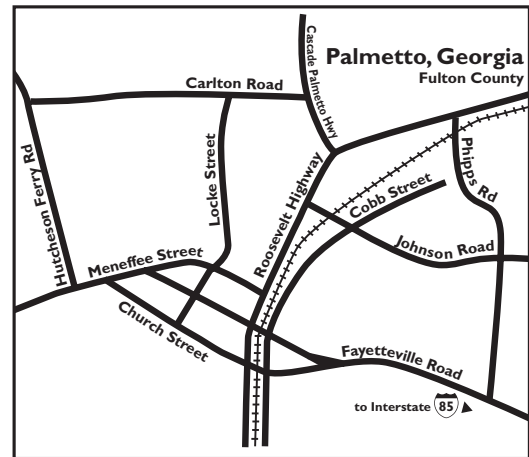
the Children's Home President, "the Children's Home has many opportunities where individuals can offer their financial support and volunteer in various campus activities."

The Home offers love and support for many children and young people, ranging in ages from 5 - 18. The mission of Georgia Baptist Children's Home and Family Ministries is to enhance the spiritual, physical and emotional well-being of children, youth and families.

"We are proud to be part of the Palmetto community," Wright says. "We hope that we are able to somehow give back to the community as well by being a good neighbor."

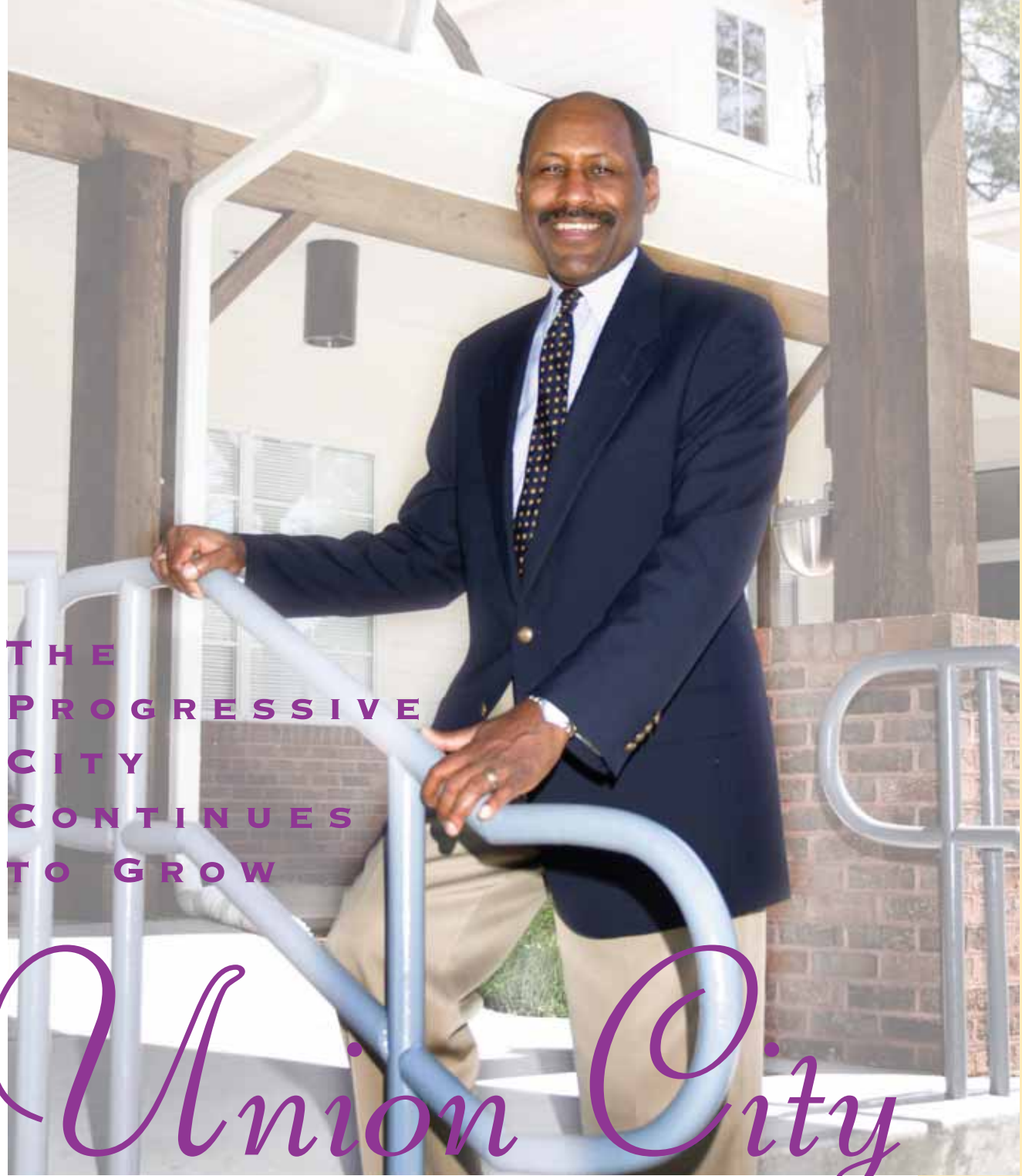
### Palmetto Growing

The residential development is booming and homes can't seem to be built fast enough, Mayor Boddie says. More historical buildings are being renovated and there are plans for a new Water System and a new Waste Water



Treatment Facility in Palmetto. Not having to rely on other areas for water and treatment is a big plus, offering Palmetto a way to "control its own destiny."

The future looks bright for the small town with the heart of the South, and the town will surely continue to thrive as it preserves the past yet evolves to fit into the future. With yearly festivals and celebrations, it is no wonder Palmetto makes a great place to live and work in South Fulton. **G**



THE  
PROGRESSIVE  
CITY  
CONTINUES  
TO GROW

# Union City

Mayor Ralph Moore

**By Martha Barksdale**

*As it prepares to enter its second century, Union City is living up to its nickname of “The Progressive City” with plans for integrated retail and residential growth.*

Photo by Bob Shapiro Photography



## HOPE HOUSE

Progress is at the heart of Union City. It was incorporated in 1908 and takes its name from the Farmer's Union Cooperative, which established its national headquarters in the settlement.

Union City's leaders continue to meet modern-day challenges as they encourage residential, industrial and business growth while maintaining a good quality of life for the City's 17,000-plus residents.

One way they intend to do this is by making the area around Shannon Mall a community where people live, work and play, says Union City Director of Development Ann Lippmann. Last year, the city received \$60,000 from the Atlanta Regional Commission's Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) and used the money to complete a study creating a vision for creating a downtown area for a city that has never really had one.

"We want to bring mixed-use developments to this area—a combination of homes, stores and office space. We need to get people to stop using their cars so much," she says. The city has received additional funding to create a Town Center Overlay Zoning District to advance the vision of the LCI Study.

It's appropriate that the LCI would focus on the area around Shannon Mall; it has been the hub of the town's business activity since it opened more than 20 years ago. With more than 60 stores and eateries, including anchor stores Sears and Rich's-Macy's, the mall is a responsible member of the Union City community and helps in a number of ways. One major contribution is the Cash Back for Schools program, which has donated over \$90,000 to

Caring for a medically fragile/special needs child can be a full-time job. Hope House Children's Respite Center, located in Union City, offers respite care for families of these special children. Respite allows the parents and siblings of medically fragile children to have some time for their own pursuits and to have a break from the constant demands of caregiving.

Hope House, according to program director Mark Andrews, began in 1996 by providing in-home respite care for seriously ill and disabled children in the south-metro area. In June 2002, the Hope House facility was opened to provide expanded services to special needs families. Staffed by licensed registered nurses and nurses' assistants, Hope House is the only facility in Georgia that offers overnight respite care for medically fragile children. Currently, the program serves about 70 children, ages birth through twenty-one from all over the greater metro-Atlanta area. Services are provided at no cost to their families.

Hope House also gives the children a chance at having fun. "We have a Children's Garden and accessible play-



Photo courtesy of the Hope House

ground, adaptive computer equipment and a hydrotherapy room. Our Rainbow Club activities program offers art, music, story time and culinary arts," Andrews says.

In addition to serving medically fragile children, Hope House has expanded to include the WeCare Home Volunteer Program. This program serves non-medically fragile children with conditions like Down Syndrome, Autism and other Developmental Disabilities. It is staffed by carefully selected volunteers.

Hope House is located at 7225 Lester Road in Union City. For more information about their services and volunteer opportunities, call 770-969-8354 or visit them on the web at [www.swchospice.org](http://www.swchospice.org). **G**

local elementary, middle and high schools.

According to Shannon Mall's David Long, the Union City Town Center, as the project is currently called, would cover about 500 acres.

"Right now, Shannon Mall is putting effort into working with the community and the city to explore all the opportunities that are available," Long adds. "We want to connect the roads in the area, bring in

transportation options, add sidewalks, build housing, office space and retail, place parking lots behind buildings and develop landscape buffers and a park."

The Union City Town Center will take cooperation, rezoning and working with city codes and design guidelines, but all the parties are focused on bringing smart growth and development to the area.

There is other commercial devel-

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770-306-3252

opment underway, too. A Super Wal-Mart is scheduled to open in Union City in the spring of 2005 across from the current Wal-Mart on Highway 138, according to Lippman.

Union City has not been granting residential rezonings or annexing land for homebuilding because it has been expanding its sewerage system this year in anticipation of future growth. That doesn't mean no homes

were built; Lippmann points out that 450 residential building permits were issued last year.

Not all development involves new buildings. Lippmann says the city is working on 40 acres parallel to Windham Creek at Mayors' Park, creating an area of greenway trails and wetlands for residents to enjoy.

Community events help make Union City an attractive place to live.

On the second weekend in October, the city holds a fall festival with entertainment, carnival rides, arts and crafts booths and a variety of good food. The first evening of the festival is designated as Fiesta Friday, with Mexican food

for sale and Latino music filling the air. Saturday's activities begin with a parade and end with fireworks.

Every June, hundreds of cyclists from all over the southeast flock to Union City for the Union City Mayor's Race, sponsored by Hank Aaron BMW. The riders compete in a circuit race, an individual time trial and a road race.

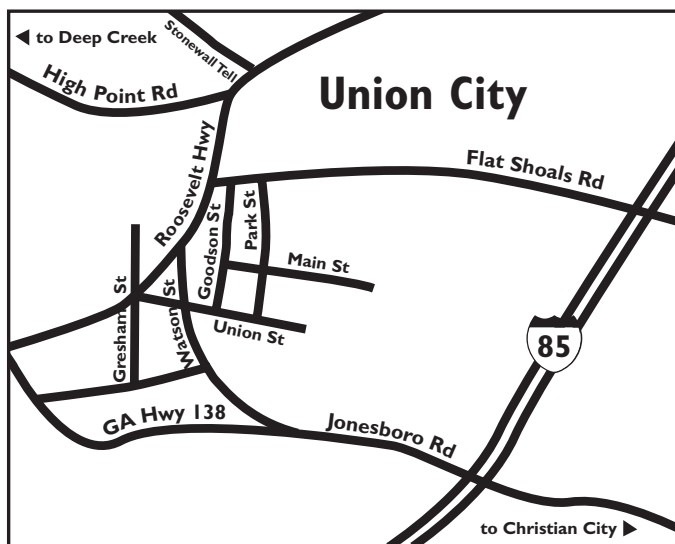
Georgia Military Academy offers college classes at the Union City Community Center on Bryant Street. GMA is fully-accredited, and credits transfer to any four-year school.

The community's youngest and its oldest residents all have a place at Christian City, located in the eastern part of Union City. Founded more than 40 years ago as a haven for homeless children on 50 acres of donated land, Christian City has grown to 96 buildings on more than 400 acres. Homeless, abused and neglected children, along with active seniors, the aging and the infirm, live there.

President/CEO Bob Crutchfield says Christian City is licensed to care for 86 children, who live in family-type settings in cottages on the campus as well as in foster care in private homes for children under age 6.

The more than 1,000 elderly adults live in several types of housing, including triplex and quadraplex patio homes, subsidized apartments for seniors on limited incomes, a 200-bed skilled nursing facility as well as a 200-bed assisted living/personal care and Alzheimer's Disease Center.

Whatever the age, circumstance and needs of its residents, Union City brings offers more than a home, the City also offers them a comfortable place to live and grow. **G**





# UNION CITY GEORGIA



**The Progressive City**



*The City of Union City is located in north central Georgia on Interstate 85 in south Fulton County, the largest county in the State of Georgia. Approximately 15 miles south of downtown Atlanta and only 5 miles from Hartsfield-Atlanta International Airport. The city is part of the metropolitan statistical area as designated by the Bureau of Census; a small town America with the sphere of downtown Atlanta serving a population of approximately 15,000.*



SOUTH FULTON

# Dining

*There's a bounty of delicious eateries throughout South Fulton.*



Andy Camp, owner of Spondivits, and Chef Glenn celebrate Spondivits 25th anniversary

One of the most popular restaurants in the area is Spondivits on Virginia Avenue. It's known around the world as the place to go if you have a stopover at the Atlanta Airport. The menu abounds in seafood, steak, salads and sandwiches choices. Spondivits has just celebrated its 25th anniversary of serving up the best casu-

al dining experience around.

Of course, the fine dining experience remains most important for business lunches and dinners as well as personal celebrations. The area's signature gourmet restaurant, Oscar's on Main Street in College Park, has been acclaimed by all and is in everybody's Top 10 Restaurants in Atlanta. You can't go

wrong when you choose Oscar's for your special night out.

Another local indoor restaurant worthy of consideration for a special dinner or lunch is the Feed Store in College Park with its trendy menu. In the same class are Kosmo's, also in College Park, and 623 Restaurant in Hapeville.

Looking for a tasty "Southern Style"



dining experience? The Green Manor in nearby Union City serves up delicious Southern fried chicken and country-cooked veggies in a real Southern home. The BBQ Kitchen on Virginia Avenue has consistently been a local favorite for many years - and the menu provides a lot more variety than the name implies.

More BBQ of the smoked variety including fish and meat are the mainstay at Michon's in Hapeville. Michon's was an immediate success when it broke onto the scene last summer. The live jazz and smoked fish and meats were a tremendous hit with the local crowd.

BBQ Texas style awaits you at Manny's BBQ in Union City - the price is right and the taste is out of this world. Manny's has just recently renovated their restaurant and added a bar and live music.

Want to take out a box of wings? Then you must try D'bo's Buffalo Wings

& Things on the south side of the Airport, on State Hwy 85 (not the interstate) just south of I-285.

If you're looking for convenient, good Italian foods try Il Forno on Main Street in College Park or Johnny Carino's in Camp Creek MarketPlace. The Main Street Bar and Grill in East Point features Cajun food of all kinds.

Blue Bay Fish Market and Grill in College Park a great place to stop for seafood. Just down the road, the Brake Pad at Main Street and Rugby Ave remains a perennial lunch favorite.

OZ Pizza serves up a wide variety of tasty pizzas at their locations in East Point and Fairburn. Slice in Hapeville offers dine-in or take-out.

The Hapeville Dwarf House, successor of the original Dwarf Grill, is known as the birthplace of the Chick-fil-A chicken sandwich. Since 1946, they've been serving customers freshly prepared food and are now famous for their delicious

fried pies.

While in Fairburn, a must-stop is Casablanca Café on West Broad (State Hwy 29). Besides delicious dining, they also offer a large banquet room and cater special events for up to 300 guests.

Many of our best restaurants are all but hidden from view inside of some of the larger hotels. While catering to their hotel guests, these wonderful restaurants offer variety to our visitors and residents alike. Inside of the Hilton Atlanta Airport on Virginia Avenue, you'll find fine dining at Andiamos featuring northern Italian Cuisine and a friendly atmosphere in the Magnolia Grill. At the Marriott, you can enjoy the Sushi Bar for an appetizer and Bentley's for a delicious steak. Inside the Renaissance Concourse Hotel is the Concorde Bar and Grill and at the Crowne Plaza, you can enjoy the consistent high quality of Benton's. The Sheraton Gateway has the 1900 Grill. **G**

## LISTINGS OF DINING IN THE SOUTH FULTON AREA

### FINE DINING

**623 Restaurant**  
623 N. Central Ave  
Hapeville 404-768-5559

**1900 Grill**  
(Sheraton Gateway  
Atlanta Airport)  
1900 Sullivan Rd  
Atl 770-997-1100

**Andiamos**  
(Hilton Atlanta Airport  
& Towers)  
1031 Virginia Ave  
Atl 404-767-9000

**Anthony's**  
3109 Piedmont Rd  
Atl 404-262-7379

**Bentley's**  
(Atl Airport Marriott)  
4711 Best Rd  
Atl 404-766-7900

**Benton Grill**  
(Crowne Plaza)  
1325 Virginia Ave  
Atl 404-768-6660

**Chin Chin**  
2100 Hwy 54 E  
Peachtree City  
770-487-9188

**City Café & Bakery**  
215 Glynn St South  
Fayetteville 770-461-6800

**Concorde Grill**  
(Renaissance Concourse)  
1 Hartsfield Centre Pkwy  
Atl 404-209-9999

**Kosmos**  
3383 Main Street  
College Pk 404-766-3788

**Magnolia Grill**  
(Hilton Atlanta Airport)  
1031 Virginia Ave  
Atl 404-559-6880

**Oscar's**  
3725 Main St  
College Pk 404-766-9688

**Pascal's Bistro**  
217 Commerce Dr  
Peachtree City  
770-632-0112

**Sushi Bar** (Marriott)  
4711 Best Road  
College Pk 404-766-7900

**The Feed Store**  
3841 Main Street  
College Pk 404-209-7979

**Village Cafe**  
175 Banks Station  
Fayetteville 770-460-9449

**SPORTS BAR/ GRILL**

**B-52's**  
3420 Norman Berry Dr  
Hapeville 404-765-0280

**Bentley's Pub**  
(Marriott Atl Airport)  
4711 Best Rd Atlanta  
404-305-1878

**Brake Pad**  
3403 Main St  
College Pk 404-766-1515

**Buffalo's Cafe**  
745 Shannon Mall  
Union City 770-969-5850

**City Cafe**  
4894 Old Nat'l Pkwy  
404-763-3366

**East Point Corner**  
**Tavern** 2783 Main St  
East Point 404-768-0007

**Fifth Runway Cafe**  
3749 Main St  
College Pk 404-761-0140

**Finish Line Sports Bar**  
(Hilton Atlanta Airport)  
1031 Virginia Ave  
Atl 404-767-9000

**Hammer's Beach and Sports Bar**  
898 Virginia Ave  
Hapeville 404-768-5200

**Hartsfield Grill & Bar**  
1325 Virginia Ave  
Atl 404-763-9922

**Jester's Cafe**  
1597 White Way Ave  
East Point 404-761-4450

**Liz & Lee's Live**  
1613 White Way Ave.  
East Point 404-767-1188

**Lunch on Main**  
3569 Main St College Pk  
404-767-0470

**Main Street Bar & Grill**  
2787 Main St East Point  
404-305-0685

**Malone's**  
1258 Virginia Ave  
Atl 404-762-5577

**Michon's**  
811 Virginia Ave  
Hapeville 404-766-7770

**Ruby Tuesday**  
Airport View Park  
College Park  
770-994-1122

**Ruby Tuesday**  
Camp Creek MarketPlace  
404-344-0221

**Spondivits**  
1219 Virginia Ave  
Atl 404-767-1569

**AMERICAN/STEAKS**

**Chick-Fil-A**  
461 North Central Ave  
Atl 404-762-1746

**Longhorn Steakhouse**  
5403 Old Nat'l Pkwy  
Atl 404-761-8018

**Longhorn Steakhouse**  
Camp Creek MarketPlace  
404-346-4110

**Palio's** (Westin Atlanta  
Airport) 4736 Best Rd  
Atl 404-762-7676

**Steak & Ale**  
1477 Virginia Ave  
Atl 404-768-7842

**BARBECUE**

**D'bo's Buffalo Wings & Things** (take out)  
5883 Hwy 85, Ste B  
Riverdale 770-909-3666

**Dean's Barbecue**  
9840 S Main St  
Jonesboro 770-471-0138

**Flying Pig**  
856 Virginia Ave  
Atl 404-559-1000

**Harold's Barbecue**  
171 McDonough Blvd SE  
Atl 404-627-9268

**Manny's Barbecue**  
6701 Roosevelt Hwy  
Union City 770-964-9933

**Michon's**  
811 Virginia Ave  
Hapeville 404-766-7770

**Q's Southern Style**  
1599 White Way Ave  
East Point 404-767-9894

**Ray J's Barbecue**  
1474 Southlake Plaza Dr  
Morrow 770-961-4433

**Sonny's Barbecue**  
641 Mt. Zion Rd  
Jonesboro 770-968-0052

**ASIAN/CHINESE/ETHNIC**

**Asian Express**  
655 N Central Ave  
Hapeville 404-767-9208

**China Cafe**  
5436 Riverdale Rd  
Atl 770-907-7789

**Happy Buddha**  
1457 Virginia Ave  
Atl 404-762-0412

**Human Village**  
301 Jonesboro Rd  
McDonough  
770-954-9999

**Jamaican Cove**  
610 S Central Ave  
Hapeville 404-766-6630

**Jamaica Jamaica**  
4801 Old National Hwy  
College Pk 404-559-0500

**Panda Express**  
Camp Creek MarketPlace  
404-629-9060

**Silver Dragon**  
5477 Riverdale Rd  
Atl 770-996-6200

**Thai Spice**  
238 City Circle  
Peachtree City  
770-632-3573

**Zheng's Buffet**  
5036 Old Nat'l Hwy  
College Pk 404-768-1898

**DELI/COFFEE/JUICE**

**Cafe at the Corner**  
636 S Central Ave  
Hapeville 404-766-1155

**Coffee, Tea & U**  
3767 Main St, College  
Park 770-997-9197

**Especially for You**  
1650 Virginia Ave  
College Pk 404-766-3465

**Marble Slab Creamery**  
Camp Creek MarketPlace  
404-629-1156

**Mocha Delites at BuggyWorks**  
1513 E Cleveland Ave  
East Point 404-762-7765

**OZ Coffee**  
2807 Main Street  
East Point 404-761-7006  
**Perk Place**  
673 N Central Ave  
Hapeville 404-768-7678

**SOUTHERN**

**Barbecue Kitchen**  
1437 Virginia Ave  
Atl 404-766-9906  
**Historic Green Manor**  
6400 Westbrook Ave  
Union City 770-964-4343  
**Mary Mac's Tea Room**  
224 Ponce De Leon Ave  
Atl 404-876-1800

**Martiza & Frank's**  
3442 Dogwood Drive  
Hapeville 404-559-6110  
**Sweet Potatoes**  
1603 White Way Ave  
East Point 404-761-0700

**Q's Deli**  
1599 White Way Ave  
East Point 404-767-9894

**ITALIAN**

**Il Forno** NYPizza & Pasta  
3823 Main St  
College Pk 404-767-9292  
**Johnny Carino's**  
3330 Camp Creek Pkwy  
Camp Creek MarketPlace  
East Point 404-494-3000

**Valentino's**  
460 Crosstown Rd  
Pchtree City 770-631-7779

**PIZZA**

**Domino's Pizza**  
515 N Central Ave  
Hapeville 404-669-2666  
3435 Roosevelt Hwy  
College Pk 404-768-0099

**OZ Pizza**  
2807 Main Street  
East Point 404-761-7006  
5 West Broad St  
Fairburn 770-306-0603

**Pizza Hut**  
3126 Washington Rd  
East Point 404-669-8400

**Slice Pizza**  
3486 Dearborn Ave  
Hapeville 404-559-0404

**MEXICAN**  
**Casa de Pollo**  
Main Street East Point  
404-768-2511

**Catalina Mexican**  
2873 Main Street  
East Point 404-559-1102

**El Mariachi**  
3293 Dogwood Dr  
Hapeville 404-762-9232

**El Ranchero**  
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Marble Slab Creamery 404-629-1156  
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William "Bill" Edwards 404-730-8230  
404-306-3079

[william.edwards@co.fulton.ga.us](mailto:william.edwards@co.fulton.ga.us)

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[karen.handel@co.fulton.ga.us](mailto:karen.handel@co.fulton.ga.us)

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[district6@co.fulton.ga.us](mailto:district6@co.fulton.ga.us)

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