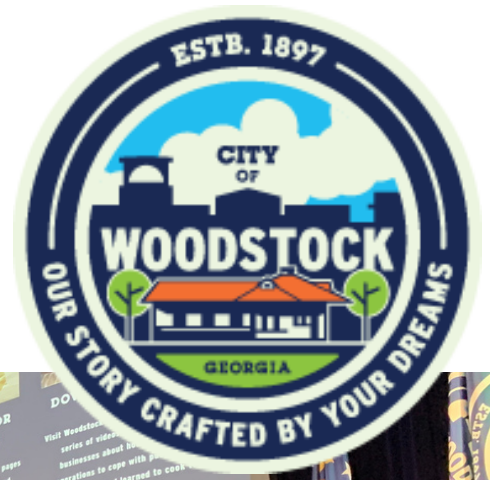


# THE TOWNE HALL NEWS



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Event Calendar



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Greenstock Day



Milestones



## STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Woodstock Mayor Donnie Henriques delivered his 2021 State of the City Address on Friday, January 22nd at the Elm Street Theater to members of IN WDSK. The address was live streamed on the City of Woodstock Facebook page and YouTube channel.

The Mayor began by recapping the city's coronavirus response. According to Henriques, "In a very trying year, the city was able to act nimbly to respond to the pandemic and support its residents and businesses with financial support, virtual business assistance and communications and new programs to promote new ways of doing business."

The City of Woodstock provided six local food pantries over \$40,000 to provide assistance to families in need. The city also presented the Cherokee County School District with a \$90,000 grant to provide 231 mobile wifi devices to Woodstock area school students needing remote access.

The city communication team produced a series of public statements and PSAs by the Mayor to disseminate important information during the shut down.

(Continued)

## THE MAYOR'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Woodstock Police provided more than 2,000 personnel hours of security to the COVID testing site in Woodstock. The department also participated in several drive-by birthday parades.

With funding from the CARES Act and help from partners at First Baptist Woodstock and Vingenzo's, Meals for Woodstock has provided over 2,400 meals at the ten events held to date. City Council waived or reduced business license, regulatory and other fees for qualifying small businesses. It is estimated that businesses will save a total of over \$150,000 dollars through these waivers. Visit Woodstock GA launched landing pages on its website to promote pickup and delivery options for local restaurants as well as online shopping for retail stores. Visit Woodstock GA visited and produced a series of videos talking with local businesses about how they pivoted operations to cope with public health restrictions (and learned to cook too).

The IT department quickly setup a system to hold completely virtual and hybrid council and planning commission meetings. Through CARES act funding, the Chambers is receiving additional physical and technology upgrades to continue to hold safe (and distant) meetings. With building and office closures the norm in the early part of the year, IT was able to quickly install systems that allowed staff to work from home. Additional resources were put in place to allow the public to continue to conduct business with the city electronically.

City of Woodstock is staffed by over 200 full-time, part-time, and seasonal employees across 9 divisions who work daily to provide the highest level of professionalism, leadership, and customer service to citizens, stakeholders, and visitors. Three council persons were sworn into office in 2020. Ward 2 Council Member David Potts, Ward 4 Council Member Tracy Collins, and Ward 6 Council Member Rob Usher began new terms. Rob Hogan was promoted to Assistant City Manager - Public Works in January overseeing the Public Works Department and the Water/Sewer utility. Jeremy Parker was promoted to Director of Public Works. Coty Thigpen joined us in January as Assistant City Manager and oversees the HR, IT, GIS and Municipal Court functions. Ron Shelby joined the city in February as our Chief Financial Officer and Crystal Welch was promoted to Deputy Chief Financial Officer.

Janet Masey retired in August as the Senior Center Coordinator after 10 years of service. Barry Martin was hired to replace Janet and charged with re-opening the center in accordance with public health guidelines, while offering new and exciting program opportunities. K-9 Dugan retired in 2020. In his retirement, Dugan will be a family pet and reside on a 25-acre farm with Danny West, retired EMS Chief of Operations with Cherokee Fire. The K-9 Unit welcomed Tesa, a two year old mainois from Serbia. She is certified in narcotics, apprehension, evidence recovery, and tracking. Officer Butler and K-9 Exo earned a 2nd place finish at the 11th Annual South Georgia K-9 Training and Certification Workshop. Mayor Henriques honored the memory of former Woodstock Police Chief James E. Stone who passed away at age 89 in August 2020 at his residence.

(Continued)

# THE MAYOR'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

The City's Sustainability Plan was completed and adopted in 2020. The City of Woodstock is taking proactive steps to provide its citizens with a sustainable living environment. The goal of these programs is to define and implement the necessary steps to minimize the city's negative impact on the environment while promoting energy efficiency and cost savings.

The 2020 Little River Clean Up accounted for 200 volunteers hours cleaning up over 2 tons of litter and debris. The Bring One for the Chipper event recycled 397 Christmas trees. The Street Sweeper collected 255,3359 pounds of leaves and debris.

The Adopt-A-Trail Program initiated in 2020 allows businesses, corporations, and organizations to adopt one-mile sections of the trail system for cleanup events. There are currently nine sections, all of which have been adopted.

City of Woodstock Public Works completed an auto-meter system upgrade allowing customers to monitor water usage through an app on their smartphone and reduce staff time through virtual meter readings.

Even with the economic struggles of the year, Woodstock has seen a continuation of its robust local economy. While overall revenue was down 4.6% due to certain revenue streams being lower, the local economy was driven by retail sales and investments in construction. There was a \$65 million dollar increase in construction value from 2019 bringing the 2020 total to \$185 million. Six hundred new businesses were licensed up 42% from 2019. Forty-five hundred total permits were issued, up 44% from 2019. Four hundred and fifty six single family permits were issued up 42% from 2019.

The City of Woodstock reduced the millage rate 3.77%. The city's today debt decreased \$2.5 million and the debt rating was raised by Moody's Debt Rating Scale to Aa2. The Finance Department received the Achievement in Financial Reporting Award for the 27th consecutive year by the Government Finance Officers Association.

The Woodstock DDA opened Made Mercantile in November with seven member companies located in the retail small business incubator. In conjunction with the city, the DDA closed on the purchase of the current Morgan's Ace Hardware site. The current store will relocate to their new location this spring.

The city continued to invest in infrastructure improvements through smaller projects that incrementally improve traffic flow and pedestrian facilities. A major project that was funded this year utilizing a \$3.27 million infrastructure grant from the state is the Hub Transformation Project that will change Mill Street to two-way, add a roundabout, and add a left turn lane from Towne Lake Parkway to Main Street.

Woodstock Public Works completed 5.4 miles of paving, 4.511 miles of sidewalk, and opened the Ridge Trail

(Continued)

## THE MAYOR'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Extension and the Reeves Street Connection to Woodpark. Water treatment plants were completed as well.

The Mayor shared photos of completed projects such as the roadway realignment and sidewalk construction of Rope Mill Road, the installation of dual left turn lanes at Buckhead Crossing and Ridgeway Parkway, the installation of a kayak launch at Olde Rope Mill Park, and the completion of the Downtown Playground and the trailhead restrooms.

In a year of distancing and reduction of public events, the city continued to provide outreach and engaging programs for its residents and visitors. Woodstock Parks and Recreation produced a virtual Memorial Day Ceremony that garnered national media attention. Instead of annual ceremonies, Parks and Rec created an exhibit in the visitors center to commemorate Patriots Day and produced a virtual Veterans Day Observance. Parks and Rec hosted the annual Christmas parade at River Ridge High School by organizing a reverse parade of Lights allowing parade-goers to enjoy from the safety of their vehicle.

The Woodstock Public Safety Foundation raised more than \$100,000 for community outreach programs like the Shop with a Hero event. Explorer Post 1609 earned second place in their category against more than 3,500 other explorers at their annual competition in Gatlinburg. IN WDSTK raised more than \$20,000 in Scarecrow Invasion and Jingle Mingle fundraisers, all of which is re-invested into the community.

The Communications Team rebuilt and launched a new topic-based city website making it easier to find information. Parks and Recreation sought input for a Master Plan Update and received more than 300% more responses than the previous plan, allowing staff to plan for facilities and programs based on citizen feedback. The SMART Woodstock plan for technological advances for a better experience in the Main Street corridor was completed and adopted. Pilot projects being considered include in-ground lighted crosswalks and parking availability technology. The city received a \$135,000 grant towards a \$175,000 Livable Centers Initiative Study to update the downtown and Highway 92 corridor development plans that were adopted in 2002 and 2013 respectively. The community engagement process begins in February 2021.

Woodstock Police Department completed a three year assessment and maintained national and state certification in 2020. Reported crime was down 21% from 2019, the lowest level in a decade. WPD instituted implicit bias training and provided training in social intelligence, doubling the state's requirement. Governor Brian Kemp recognized Woodstock Police Department for its Internet Crimes Against Children Investigations Team.

Woodstock Fire & Rescue reached 7,152 citizens through outreach efforts even with reduced in-person interactions. The department responded to 5,720 calls for service maintaining a 5 minute average

(Continued)

## THE MAYOR'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

response time. Fire personnel completed an average of 309 hours of training per employee with a 100% EMS training and recertification for all personnel. The IT Department completed an Initial Security Assessment and assisted Fire & Rescue in moving to the new county-wide dispatch system. GIS launched DATA HUB with free data, maps, and web apps and worked with WPD to develop an accident analysis dashboard to improve information gathering on accident trends and causes. Using City Reporter Parks Inspection Software, staff found and repaired over 200 faults at park facilities.

At the end of his address, Mayor Henriques announced the 2021 season of the Woodstock Summer Concert Series. An article on the season is included in this edition of the Towne Hall News.

The Mayor spent some time at the end of the address answering questions. The Mayor also presented the address at the Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council on Monday, January 25th at The Chambers at City Center.

You can find the entire address on the City of Woodstock Facebook page and YouTube channel. There is also a link on the main page of [woodstockga.gov](http://woodstockga.gov).



## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The City of Woodstock, Georgia is seeking a GIS Analyst II. This full-time position performs advanced technical work associated with the development, maintenance, and administration of the City's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and related technology, under the direct supervision of the GIS Manager. To apply, go to [woodstockga.gov/jobs](http://woodstockga.gov/jobs).

# Upcoming Events

march

- Mar 4 Downtown Development Authority Meeting 6 pm
- Mar 4 Planning Commission Meeting - CANCELLED
- Mar 8 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
- Mar 15 Mayor and Council Worksession
- Mar 22 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council

- Apr 1 Downtown Development Authority Meeting 6 pm
- Apr 1 Planning Commission 7 pm
- Apr 12 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council 7 pm
- Apr 19 Work Session of the Mayor and Council 7 pm
- Apr 24 Greenstock Day Recycle Event
- Apr 24-25 City Wide Yard Sale
- Apr 26 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council 7 pm

april

may

- May 6, 13, 20, 27 Brown Bag Concert Series 12 pm
- May 6 Downtown Development Authority Meeting 6 pm
- May 6 Planning Commission 7 pm
- May 10 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council 7 pm
- May 17 Work Session of the Mayor and Council 7pm
- May 24 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council 7pm
- May 31 City Holiday : Offices Closed
- May 31 Memorial Day Ceremony 10 am

## Election Update

Our next Municipal General Election is on Nov. 2 to fill the positions of Mayor and Council Seats for Ward 1, Ward 3, and Ward 5. The terms are for four years beginning on Jan. 1, 2022.

Anyone wanting to run may qualify in the office of the City Clerk on Aug. 16, 17, and 18. More information including qualifying fees is available at [woodstockga.gov/elections](http://woodstockga.gov/elections).

## Holiday Trash Schedule

The City's residential trash service provider, Waste Management, observes Memorial Day.

The holiday occurs on Monday. Collection will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week.

## IN WDSTK PRESENTS CHECK TO WPSF

IN WDSTK COO Sylvia Breitbart presented a check to Chiefs Moss and Soumas for the Woodstock Public Safety Foundation recently.

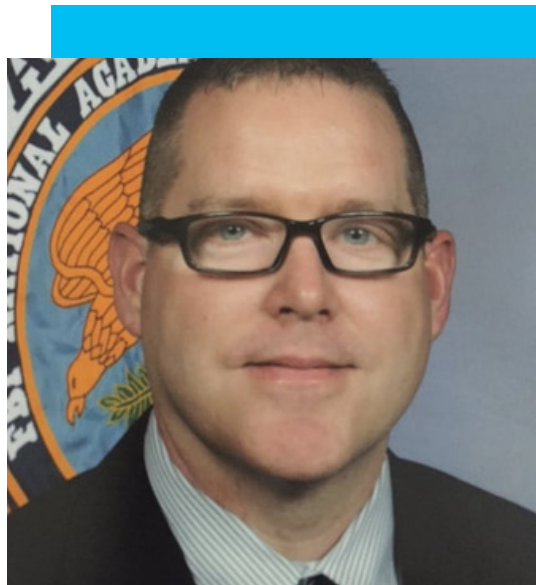
The check was for the funds raised at IN WDSTK's Jingle Mingle Event in November 2020. Thank you to all who participated in the annual event and the raffle.

## COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

The City of Woodstock has partnered with LifeSouth to host a community blood drive at The Chambers at City Center on Thursday, May 6th. Online registrations are encouraged, please visit the LifeSouth website to reserve a time. Walk-up donations will be accepted.



## CAPT. HAND SELECTED AS DIRECTOR OF LAW ENFORCEMENT FOR GEORGIA TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT ENHANCEMENT TASK FORCE



Captain Mark Hand has been selected by the Georgia Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) Task Force to serve in a volunteer capacity as its Director of Law Enforcement for 2021. In this capacity he will be a TIME TF Board Member, responsible for representing the interests of Georgia's law enforcement community and serving as a liaison supporting Traffic Incident Management and the quick clearance of roadways.

The TIME Task Force was formed in 2002 to address the critical issues of mobility and safety related to incident management in the Metro Atlanta region. The task force is made up of concerned incident responders from transportation agencies, fire, rescue, police, towing, emergency medical services, etc. In 2017 the TIME Task Force voted to expand their coverage outside of Metro Atlanta and are now a statewide program.

# THE CITY OF WOODSTOCK LAUNCHES ITS OWN PODCAST SERIES

Woodstock's City Seal says, "Our Story Crafted By Your Dreams". The city of Woodstock was inspired to launch a podcast because the format is such a wonderful way to share a story. Through the City of Woodstock Podcast, we are telling the stories behind the initiatives, events, and policy that makes this the community of our residents' dreams. The City shares information in a lot of ways. In addition to our website, there are newsletters, videos on YouTube, Facebook and Instagram posts, tweets, etc. A podcast episode allows us to dig deeper into news. These conversations bring a topic to light in a naturally richer way than a written piece can.



The first episode of The City of Woodstock Podcast introduces a wonderful effort called Meals for Woodstock started by Vincenzo's and supported by the faith community that we want to help grow. Episode 2 is a conversation with Economic Development Program Manager Sylvia Breitbart and Fashion Cupcake Owner Amanda Topper about the Sip + Shop event series to help Downtown retailers. There will be a conversation soon with Assistant City Manager Rob Hogan and Economic Development Director Brian Stockton to dig into downtown improvements including the hub project. Quite a few people want to hear from Smith Johnston. Smith has recently rebuilt his family's namesake building at the corner of Main Street and Mill Street. Smith has agreed to an episode and it will be published closer to the opening of Main and Mill Public in that space. The Johnston family was integral to the establishment of Woodstock and Smith has an interesting story all his own. An episode about the makers scene in Woodstock is in production. Startups and people who have an idea for a product of their own won't want to miss it.

Episodes consist of a conversation hosted by Marketing and Communications Manager Stacy Brown in two parts. The conversation is paused midway through the episode so that Stacy can share a news brief of events and announcements from various city departments. At the end of each episode there's a business spotlight that will highlight aspects like what a business is doing to connect with the community, why they're thriving in Woodstock, or what the community's support means to them. There will be conversations with Department Directors, business owners, representatives from organizations like Visit Woodstock GA and IN WDSTK, and Council Members - Colin Ake has some very good ideas for episodes and a voice made for radio so expect to hear from him soon.

"It's my job to iterate the character and the identity of this community," stated Brown. "I want to host authentic conversations and I sincerely hope listeners come to know Woodstock and the people pouring their hearts into its story quite well."

The City of Woodstock Podcast will be published every other week. It's presented by Carriage Kia and produced by BG Ad Group. Residents can subscribe via Spotify, Google, and Apple podcasts.



# 2021 WOODSTOCK SUMMER CONCERT SERIES ANNOUNCED

The lineup for the 2021 Season of the Woodstock Summer Concert Series has been finalized by City of Woodstock officials. There will be five concerts in this year's series which begins in June and ends in September. The May concert was rescheduled at the request of the artist.

The 2021 season opens at Northside Hospital-Cherokee Amphitheater on Saturday, June 12th when The Black Jacket Symphony will recreate Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers' classic album "Damn the Torpedoes" live in its entirety - note for note, sound for sound. The group of hand-picked musicians changes based on the album being performed and no sonic detail is overlooked.

On Friday, July 9th, Woodstock will welcome The Ultimate Queen Celebration starring Marc Martel who played an unseen role in the 2018 biopic "Bohemian Rhapsody." Martel contributed vocal recordings that were used alongside Queen master tapes of Freddie Mercury for actor Rami Malek's singing scenes in the movie. The Ultimate Queen Celebration is an explosive, attention-commanding tribute where some of the most iconic rock anthems of all time collide with a theatrical, eye-popping performance.

On Saturday, August 14th, Steep Canyon Rangers will perform. These Grammy winners from Asheville, North Carolina are frequent collaborators of the renowned banjoist (and occasional comedian) Steve Martin. While it's not likely Steve Martin will be with them in Downtown Woodstock, these perennial bluegrass Billboard chart-toppers will be a hit either way.

Singer-songwriter Christopher Cross takes the stage on Saturday, September 18th. Cross won five Grammy Awards with his self-titled debut album including Album of the Year and Song of the Year for the single "Sailing" as well as Best New Artist. He later won an Oscar for Best Original Song "Arthur's Theme." Now more than thirty years into his career, Cross has released a new album, Take Me As I Am, that evokes the artistry of mentors like Joni Mitchell.

On Saturday, September 25th, Rumours will take Woodstock by storm with their authentic recreation of a live Fleetwood Mac show. Rumours will make you believe in miracles and the way of magic once again.

There are a few updates to concert series rules this year. No plastic sheets, blankets, towels, or tarps will be allowed. All tables are prohibited this year. Information regarding COVID related restrictions for the concert series will be released at a later date. The Woodstock Summer Concert Series is presented by City of Woodstock, Carriage Kia Woodstock, and Woodstock Parks and Recreation. Opening acts begin at 7:30 p.m. and headliners take the stage at 8:30 p.m. The event is rain or shine. There are food and beverage vendors on site and dozens of great restaurants within steps of the amphitheater, but attendees may bring small coolers of food and drinks. There is a children's area near the gazebo in the upper level of the park with face painting, balloon animals, and inflatables. Public parking is available at Chattahoochee Technical College, at City Center, and in smaller public parking lots and on-street parking in Downtown Woodstock. Free shuttles run before and after each concert beginning at 5 p.m. and ending at 11:45 p.m. from three locations: Northside Cherokee/Towne Lake, Woodstock City Church, and Little River Elementary School.

For details on Woodstock Summer Concert Series including sponsorship information, go to [woodstockconcertseries.com](http://woodstockconcertseries.com).

## WOODSTOCK NAMED 2020 TREE CITY USA

Woodstock was named a 2020 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management.

Woodstock achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

"Tree City USA communities see the impact an urban forest has in a community first hand," said Dan Lambe, president of the Arbor Day Foundation. "The trees being planted and cared for by Woodstock are ensuring that generations to come will enjoy a better quality of life. Additionally, participation in this program brings residents together and creates a sense of civic pride, whether it's through volunteer engagement or public education."

If ever there was a time for trees, now is that time. Communities worldwide are facing issues with air quality, water resources, personal health and well-being, energy use, and protection from extreme heat and flooding. The Arbor Day Foundation recently launched the Time for Trees initiative to address these issues, with unprecedented goals of planting 100 million trees in forests and communities and inspiring 5 million tree planters by 2022. With Tree City USA recognition, Woodstock has demonstrated a commitment to effective urban forest management and doing its part to help address these challenges for Woodstock residents now and in the future.

## APRIL IS DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

Though traffic has dropped significantly since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, our roads have only gotten more dangerous. On a typical day, more than 700 people are still injured in distracted driving crashes. Talking on a cell phone – even hands-free – or texting or programming an in-vehicle infotainment system diverts your attention away from driving. Keep yourself and others around you safe and #justdrive.

Join National Safety Council during Distracted Driving Awareness Month in April to help make our roadways and our people safer. Whether you're driving a forklift, semi-truck or just headed home after work, attentive driving is more important than ever. Create a distracted driving program and engage your workforce with ready-made communications and resources. Sign up at [nsc.org](https://nsc.org) and you'll receive access to materials as soon as they're ready.

Commit to driving distraction-free by taking the NSC Just Drive Pledge at <https://cloud.safe.nsc.org/ddam-pledge>.



## PRESENTED BY



- JUN 12 – BLACK JACKET SYMPHONY  
(TOM PETTY'S "DAMN THE TORPEDOES")
- JUL 9 – ULTIMATE QUEEN CELEBRATION  
FEATURING MARC MARTEL (FRIDAY CONCERT)
- AUG 14 – STEEP CANYON RANGERS
- SEP 18 – CHRISTOPHER CROSS
- SEP 25 – RUMOURS  
(A FLEETWOOD MAC TRIBUTE)

CONCERTS BEGIN AT 7:30 PM

THIS INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME.  
PLEASE VISIT [WWW.WOODSTOCKCONCERTSERIES.COM](http://WWW.WOODSTOCKCONCERTSERIES.COM) FOR UPDATES  
BEFORE HEADING OUT TO ANY EVENT.



## KAYAK LAUNCH

The EZ-Launch Kayak Dock is currently undergoing repairs from damage received during a flooding incident. The project is estimated to be completed in early April or late March. In the meantime, there are many areas at Olde Rope Mill Park that provide access to Little River and those options are available year round. The EZ Launch each winter will be partially removed due to the significant changes in water levels and will be replaced each spring when the water levels are sufficient.

## DISCOVERING RUCKING

What is rucking? Simply, it is walking with weight. You wear a weighted backpack (or better yet, a rucksack) and hike a course. Discovering Rucking is an introductory ruck led by an instructor in a Woodstock Park or on a Woodstock Trail to help participants learn the basics of rucking and its health and social benefits. With a goal of a 20-minute mile, the ruck will include a few light physical training components to get the sweat flowing. Your weighted rucksack (backpack) should be between 10lbs - 20lbs. Weighted rucksacks are encouraged, but a limited number will be made available. Reflective clothing and safety lights are encouraged as well.

Friday, April 23 at 6:30 pm at Northside Hospital-Cherokee Amphitheater. Free but registration required at [woodstockparksandrec.com](http://woodstockparksandrec.com).



# Greenstock Day Recycle Event!

Saturday April 24, 2021 Woodstock Elementary School

Please join us as Woodstock continues its journey to "Go Green!"  
Reuse ~ Repurpose ~ Recycle ~ Rethink ~ Reduce

## RECYCLE & PAPER SHREDDING EVENT !

9 am – 1 pm Woodstock Elementary School – 230 Rope Mill Rd. Drive through, we'll unload for you!  
The City of Woodstock, Waste Management, Premier Surplus, and A-1 Shredding & Recycling, bring you a day for recycling! For a list of all acceptable items visit [www.WoodstockParksandRec.com](http://www.WoodstockParksandRec.com).



### Electronics - Cell Phones - Batteries

All equipment will be broken down by Premier Surplus and processed so it can be re-used, thus lessening demands on local landfills and keeping toxins from leaking into our soil and waterways! All collections will be done free of charge, **except** for TV's which require a fee of \$25. Projection TV's \$40. CRT Monitors \$10 and LCD Monitors with a Broken Screen \$5. Cash Only Please. Cell phones will be collected for the Georgia Lions Lighthouse. Please place a piece of clear tape over the terminals of the batteries prior to drop off.

### Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs - Hearing Aids - Eyeglasses - Magazine/Newspaper

Light bulbs must be in a clear plastic, sealed bag. No long, tubular style fluorescent light bulbs. Home Depot stores will accept compact fluorescent light bulbs all year long!

### Document Destruction

A1 Shredding & Recycling will be on site to shred your residential, confidential documents. There will be a limit of 8 boxes per car. For business shredding service, please call A1 Shredding at 770-795-9744 ext. 109.

## CITY WIDE YARD SALE ! Weekend of April 24<sup>th</sup> See website for participating addresses!

The Great American Cleanup organizes millions of volunteers in activities that encourage individual stewardship for the environment and care for the community. Efforts in litter prevention and removal, waste reduction, recycling, beautification, and community greening result in cleaner, greener, safer and more beautiful public spaces. In conjunction with Earth Week, residents are encouraged, city-wide, to hold yard sales! Sign up on our website to have your yard sale added to the list on our website, flyer, e-mail blast, [Craigslist.com](http://Craigslist.com), and newspaper ads free of charge. **Deadline for ads is 4-12-21.**

## SPECIAL TRASH PICK UP

Any time you have large items that you need to dispose of, first consider a charitable donation. If not, AND you live in the Incorporated City Limits of Woodstock, you can call Waste Management and schedule a special pick up of your items. Please be aware that there may be limits on what they can accept. NO CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS! To schedule a pick-up call, 404-794-6707.



Premier Surplus, Inc.



105 East Main Street, Suite 142 • Woodstock, GA • 30188 • 770-592-6000 ext. 1952

[mstockdale@woodstockga.gov](mailto:mstockdale@woodstockga.gov)

[www.WoodstockParksandRec.com](http://www.WoodstockParksandRec.com)

City Sponsored Event

[www.WoodstockConcertSeries.com](http://www.WoodstockConcertSeries.com)



# Greenstock Day Celebration 2021! *City Wide Yard Sale*

**Weekend of April 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Please join us as Woodstock continues its journey to “Go Green”!  
Reuse ~ Repurpose ~ Recycle ~ Rethink ~ Reduce**

## Why?

The Great American Cleanup organizes millions of volunteers in locally-directed activities that encourage individual stewardship for the environment and care for the community. Efforts in litter prevention and removal, waste reduction, recycling, beautification, and community greening result in cleaner, greener, safer and more beautiful public spaces. In honor of Earth Day and Keep Georgia Beautiful, residents are encouraged city-wide to hold yard sales!

## How do I sign up?

Easy sign up! Visit [www.WoodstockParksandRec.com](http://www.WoodstockParksandRec.com) Special Events and submit your address online. Only your address and subdivision will appear in the advertisements. Please put up **your** individual street signs for days, hours, and directions. **Be sure to remove the signs immediately after your sale. Reuse them next year! (Addresses for the Yard Sale Ads will be accepted until 4-12-21)**

## Is there a Fee?

There is no cost to you!

## Where will you advertise my sale?

City of Woodstock/Parks & Rec Website  
Flyer  
The Park at City Center Kiosk  
City of Woodstock E-mail blasts  
Woodstock Patch

Craigslist.com  
City of Woodstock Cherokee Tribune Ad  
City of Woodstock Ledger News Ad  
Parks and Recreation & City Facebook Pages

## What should I do with my leftover garage sale items?

Recycle: After your sale, if you have clothing, bedding, shoes, towels, stuffed animals, belts, hats, purses, and backpacks left over, please donate them for reuse or recycling at any USAgain bins which can be found at [www.usagain.com](http://www.usagain.com).

Donate: Call your favorite charity, they would love your donations!

Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation  
KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE

Woodstock  
Recycles

GREAT AMERICAN  
CLEANUP  
GEORGIA

105 East Main Street, Suite 142 • Woodstock, GA • 30188 • 770-592-6000 ext. 1952

[mstockdale@woodstockga.gov](mailto:mstockdale@woodstockga.gov)

[www.WoodstockParksandRec.com](http://www.WoodstockParksandRec.com)

City Sponsored Event

[www.WoodstockConcertSeries.com](http://www.WoodstockConcertSeries.com)



# *Memorial Day Ceremony*

**Monday, May 31, 2021 10:00 am**

**The Park at City Center**  
(101 Arnold Mill Rd., Woodstock, GA 30188)

The City of Woodstock along with the American Legion Post 316,  
Marine Corps League Detachment 1311,  
Warriors' Watch Riders, and other local veteran's groups,  
honor those who fought and died to keep us free.

**Join us on Memorial Day for a special service of remembrance.**

Highlights include the POW/MIA Remembrance,  
the reading of Woodstock's Honor Roll,  
placing of the memorial wreath, dove release,  
rifle honors and playing of taps.

Making the event even more special are  
performances by the New Horizons Concert Band  
and bagpiper, Brigadier General, Richard R. McPhee.

Heartfelt and meaningful readings of the  
*Memorial Day* and *Red Poppy Proclamations*,  
*The Other Side of the Wall*, *In Flanders Field*,  
*Keep the Faith*, *Marine Corps Memorial Ritual*,  
and *Dedication of the Dove Release*  
will emphasize the importance of this day.



**Honoring All Those Who Have Given the  
Ultimate Sacrifice, Life Itself.**



City of Woodstock Parks and Recreation

105 East Main Street, Suite 142 • Woodstock, GA • 30188 • 770-592-6000 ext. 1952  
mstockdale@woodstockga.gov

[www.WoodstockParksandRec.com](http://www.WoodstockParksandRec.com)

City Sponsored Event

[www.WoodstockConcertSeries.com](http://www.WoodstockConcertSeries.com)

# RAFFLE FOR RET. WFD SGT. ED ST. ROMAIN

FOLLOWING DOUBLE LUNG TRANSPLANT



Woodstock Firefighter Dave Sargenski is raffling off one of his stunning handcrafted, hardwood American flags to raise funds for fellow firefighter Sgt. Ed St. Romain.

Ed was forced to retire recently due to lung disease and was rushed to Vanderbilt University Hospital two weeks ago in respiratory failure. He was placed on a transplant list and received a match in two days. Following the 8-hour surgery and multi-week hospital stay, Ed and his wife Doris must stay in the immediate area of the hospital for 3 months. Their teenage sons are staying with family near their home in Blue Ridge. This is a huge financial burden and the St. Romains need our help.

100% of proceeds go directly to Ed. Flag will be raffled on March 26, 2021 and winner will be announced on the Woodstock Public Safety Foundation Facebook Page. Retail value begins at \$250. Tickets are \$5 each and are sold in packs of 5, 10 or 20.

**[Go to wdstk.ga/wpsfraffle](http://wdstk.ga/wpsfraffle) to purchase tickets**





## FARMERS MARKET

In 2021, The Woodstock Farm Fresh Market will be open every Saturday from April 17th to December 18th. Market hours are 8:30 am to noon. The market will be located on Market Street and in Reformation Brewery's backyard in Downtown Woodstock.

If you are interested in being a vendor in the Woodstock Farm Fresh Market, all the vendor slots for the 2021 market are full however the visitors center is still accepting applications. Vendor applications submitted will be added to the waiting list and will be considered if space comes available in the market in 2021. The vendor application can be found on the farmers market page at [visitwoodstockga.com](http://visitwoodstockga.com).

In an attempt to make a safe environment for shoppers and vendors:

- Shoppers are asked not to touch any items on vendor's tables. Vendors will bag the items you are purchasing.
- Vendor booths are spaced further apart. Please do not walk or stand between the booths.
- Please be patient while vendors work with other shoppers. In order to maintain proper distancing, please understand that only one customer can be assisted at each booth at a time.
- While waiting in line to be served, please maintain a proper distance from others.
- Please be prepared to avoid cash transactions. Most vendors have electronic options for payment.

There will be hand sanitizing stations throughout the market area. Please utilize these as you move throughout the market. Public Restrooms are now open at the Noonday Creek Trailhead.

For more information on the Woodstock Farm Fresh Market call 770-924-0406 or email [kbennett@woodstockga.gov](mailto:kbennett@woodstockga.gov).



## TRAIL STORY

Created by Sequoyah Regional Library System and Woodstock Parks and Recreation, TrailStory is a project aimed at giving elementary school aged children and their families a fun, active and socially safe way to read a book and enjoy Woodstock's trails at the same time.

For the month April on the Towne Lake Pass Trail from the Woodstock Park connection towards Woodstock High School and running through the month, 15 signs will be placed along the trail with pages of the book *A Very Hungry Caterpillar*, a national bestseller, by Eric Carle on one side of the sign and interactive/QR code questions about the book on the other side of the sign. Children and their families can enjoy the book and the trail at their own pace, anytime, as many times as they like through the entirety of April.



## STORYTIME LIVE

Join us at the Gazebo in the Park at City Center for Storytime Live. Your children's favorite characters will read a story, pose for photos, and interact with little ones. The events begin at 11 am.

Saturday April, 24: Cinderella

Saturday, May 22: Alice from Alice in Wonderland

Saturday, June 19: Belle from Beauty & the Beast

Presented by the FoxTale Book Shoppe and Woodstock Parks and Recreation. Free admission and socially-distanced.



## BROWN BAG CONCERTS

Entering its 23rd season, the Brown Bag Concert series is expanding into the month of May! Every Thursday at noon a local musician will play an hour-long concert for a great way to spend a lunch break.

May 6: Ben Bostick

Bostick is a South Carolina-raised, Georgia-based outsider country singer-songwriter and one man band. His influences range from Johnny Cash and Bruce Springsteen to Otis Redding and Tommy Emmanuel.

May 13: Rich Gunderlock

Gunderlock is a "jack-of-all-trades" musician sure to please with multiple instrument skills and a variety of genres.

May 20: Patrick McCann

A mixture of classical, jazz, blues, and funk come together in McCann's music, which make for a great time in the park.

May 27: Layne Denton

Storyteller, songwriter, and frontman for the Layne Denton Band.

## DISCOVERING GOLD PANNING

With a nod to the rich heritage of Cherokee County's gold industry, Discovering Gold Panning will be a historical and functional introduction to panning for gold enabling a participant to pan the many authorized gold creeks of Woodstock and Cherokee County. This program hopes to keep an area tradition alive through teaching the history and technique of gold panning to a wide age range allowing for multiple generations to enjoy.

Woodstock resident Rob Kelly, a long-time recreational gold panner, and his team from Allatoona Gold Panners Association will describe the history of the Georgia Gold Rush, the geological origin and properties of gold, the gold mines of Georgia, and how locate an authorized gold creek that may be in your backyard. Also discussed will be how to "read" a gold creek to spot potential pay streaks, and finally the steps of panning the gravel for flakes of Georgia's 23-karat, placer gold, some of the purist in the world.

Saturday, April 17 from 1 to 3 pm at the senior center. Free but registration is required at [woodstockparksandrec.com](http://woodstockparksandrec.com).

## Did you know?

Parks and Rec will be placing an order for commemorative bricks soon. It costs \$25 to place a brick in the park in honor or memory of a loved one. Deadline for orders is May 15th. Find more info or register at [wdstk.ga/bricks](http://wdstk.ga/bricks).

# VISIT WOODSTOCK GA ELECTS BOARD MEMBERS

The City of Woodstock's official destination marketing organization, Visit Woodstock GA, established a board of directors at a meeting held Thursday, January 28th at Comfort Suites in Woodstock. Eleven stakeholders in Woodstock's tourism and hospitality industry accepted positions on the board.

The Woodstock Area Convention & Visitors Bureau was created at the request of the Mayor & Council by the state legislature on May 5, 2006 as a Tourism Authority. The Downtown Development Authority has acted as the CVB board until now. In an effort to better align with destination marketing goals and state funding requirements, City Council recognized Visit Woodstock GA as its 501c6 DMO partner and a board was nominated by staff according to the organization's bylaws.

According to the organization's bylaws, the board will consist of lodging members, tourism members, and trade members. A lodging member is any entity that collects and submits hotel occupancy taxes to the city except short term rentals. Tourism members must be a qualified attraction that derives a significant amount of revenue from visitors from outside the area. An attraction must be located within 5 miles of the closest city limit for membership consideration. Trade members are businesses, agencies, or individuals such as retailers, restaurants or attractions that do not meet the requirements of tourism membership which derive revenue from visitors, and suppliers to the aforementioned trade.

Members at large are as follows: Roy Kumar of Comfort Suites Woodstock, Mia Green of Dixie Speedway, and Charlie Loughran of Outlet Shoppes of Atlanta. City of Woodstock Mayor Donnie Henriques, Woodstock City Manager Jeff Moon, and Woodstock Parks and Recreation Director Michael Huffstetler will also serve on the board. The board elected Spencer Nix of Reformation Brewery as President, Christopher Braselton of Elm Street Arts as Vice President, and Jay Wilkes of SORBA Woodstock as Secretary Treasurer.

Members will serve two-year terms and the board of directors will meet quarterly. The organization is staffed by the city's economic development team. Economic Development Director Brian Stockton serves as Executive Director. Tourism Manager Kyle Bennett, Program Manager Sylvia Breitbart, and Marketing Manager Stacy Brown are instrumental as well. To learn more about Woodstock as a tourism destination, go to [visitwoodstockga.com](http://visitwoodstockga.com).

Pictured L to R:  
Stacy Brown, Kyle Bennett,  
Michael Huffstetler, Jeff Moon,  
Donnie Henriques, Jay Wilkes,  
Brian Stockton, Spencer Nix,  
Christopher Braselton, Roy Kumar



# BUSINESSES CELEBRATE MILESTONES IN THE CITY OF WOODSTOCK



On February 11th, IN WDSTK held a ribbon cutting to celebrate the grand opening of Agave Azul Mexican Kitchen and Tequila Bar located at the Outlet Shoppes at Atlanta.



On January 19th, investors in IN WDSTK celebrated the opening of Tranquility Fine Arts in Downtown Woodstock.



On February 22nd, IN WDSTK held a ribbon cutting to welcome The Innovation Spot to Downtown Woodstock. This co-working solution facility is a great addition to our community.



On February 26th, IN WDSTK held a ribbon cutting to celebrate the grand opening of Circle of Friends Coffee Shop at The Circuit. Circle of friends fosters appropriate and supportive employment opportunities for young adults with disabilities.



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