

INTUCKER

OCTOBER 2022 | VOLUME 6 | ISSUE 10



PUBLIC WORKS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



EDITOR'S NOTE



Autumn is hands down my favorite season of the year. Football, cozy sweaters, crisp air and my favorite holiday, Halloween!

Many see the turn to colder weather as a time to slow down and prepare as nature does but I am one who is energized into action every fall. Around here at City Hall we are all abuzz about the Public Works referendum. We are motivated and committed to informing you, our citizens, on what standing up a Department of Public Works would look like. We have been in discussions for months on the information to provide, how to make it easily digestible and even try to predict questions!

This issue is dedicated to providing that information as much as possible and where pressed for space I would direct you to our website tuckerga.gov/publicworks. I also hope to see you on October 18 or 26 for our remaining community information meetings here at City Hall.

In this issue we also learn about the DeKalb County Police Athletic League and their Inaugural PAL Pumpkin 5k Run/Walk. Our Citizen of the Month is Ms. Ruth Fruit. Ms. Fruit celebrates her 90th birthday this month and many in Tucker remember her as a teacher, mentor and strong yet kind principal to our Tucker students through the years. Don't forget next month is election month, we have the list of important dates provided by DeKalb County Registrar's office as a reminder to make sure you are registered and check your polling location. Some Tucker residents that have been voting at Tucker High School will now be voting at Tucker First United Methodist Church.

Always make sure to check our social media channels for more up to date posts and information.

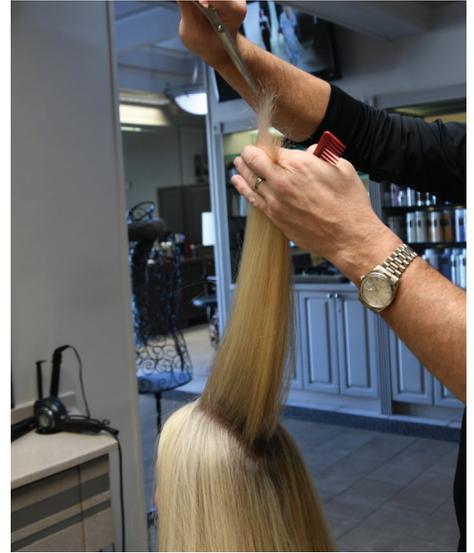
SONJA SZUBSKI
INTUCKER EDITOR

IN THIS ISSUE



ON THE COVER

Check out pages 8 and 9 for our Frequently Asked Questions on the possibility of standing up our own Department of Public Works.



BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

Help us congratulate Siggers Hairdressers on over 60 years of styling and receiving the 2022 Mayor's Business Award, read more on page 12.



TEAM TUCKER SPOTLIGHT

On page 7 we invite you to meet Ariel Caldwell, Team Tucker's Multimedia Coordinator for the Parks and Recreation Department.



BUSINESS BOOM

Our Jackie Moffo writes about the University of Georgia's Small Business Development Center, their process and how to learn more on page 13.



INTUCKER

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From the Mayor

I often use this column to go back and revisit our messaging and the goals of the 2013-2016 effort to incorporate Tucker. It's important to note how much thought was put into the startup of the City and how we as a community have benefitted. The City Charter is what we all voted on and approved as the basis for our authority and responsibilities. I reiterate this because in about a month, we are asking our community to approve a change to our charter that will allow us to take direct responsibility for a critical city service.

Our charter includes numerous checks and balances to ensure our elected officials do their jobs responsibly on behalf of our citizens. Tucker was initially charged with providing three essential services. Importantly, the charter also allows our citizens to authorize the city to take on additional services whenever we believe we can do so more effectively or cost efficiently. When we identify such an opportunity, the Mayor and Council are to call for a city-wide referendum to get approval from the voters. And that's what we've done by calling for a referendum about Public Works on the November ballot.

Another safeguard we built into the charter is a significant restriction on our ability to raise the tax rate. Currently, the Mayor and Council of Tucker can only tax property up to a total of 1 mill. Our rate was Zero until we assumed responsibility for Tucker's park system. At that time, we enacted a tax of 0.9 mills, which was accompanied by an identical decrease in the county tax rate. I think we can all agree that's been a very successful change, resulting in a much higher level of service in our Parks and Recreation Department. In fact, due to responsible management and diligent oversight, this year we were actually able to reduce that rate slightly!

The question on this ballot represents another opportunity to control our own destiny and provide a much-improved level of service. It's actually two questions: Shall we provide the listed services directly in the City of Tucker, and are we authorized to collect property taxes and fees to pay for them? Note that again DeKalb County would cease collecting taxes and fees for these services. A few page turns away is the actual question on the ballot and



our full Frequently Asked Questions that covers just about everything you need to know. We also have a dedicated page on our website with in-depth information. We also mailed a postcard to all residents inviting you to three informational meetings. Our first one was well attended, and I am looking forward to seeing many of our friends and neighbors at the two upcoming meetings.

It is imperative that our citizenry comes out and votes their will. A no vote would leave us to continue accepting the current level of service from our partners at DeKalb County. A yes vote allows us to forge ahead with a higher level of service and more direct accountability to our residents. Be aware this question is the very last item on the ballot, so please - whoever and whatever else you vote on, please go all the way to the end, and cast your vote on this important item!

For full information on meeting dates, FAQs and more, please visit tuckerga.gov/publicworks.

**FRANK AUMAN
MAYOR**

City Council Update



Tucker City Council thanks Major Craig Medlin for his years of service with the DeKalb County Police Department and to the residents of DeKalb County and City of Tucker.

DATES TO KNOW

October 10
City Council Meeting

October 12
Traffic Court

October 18
• Public Works Information Meeting
• University of Government Affairs Tucker

October 19
Traffic Court

October 24
City Council Work Session

October 26
• Environmental Court
• Public Works Information Meeting

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



nextdoor

September's regular scheduled meeting had a full agenda and started with six items on the consent agenda:

- Meeting Minutes for the two August meetings and the special called on September 1
- 2022 GOSP Grant Agreement
- August Financial report
- And the second for a text amendment concerning municipal court

The three items listed for Old Business were all second reads with public hearings and were approved by the Mayor and Council with 6-0 votes. These include:

- Amendment to the Tucker Code Chapter 10 Businesses relating to coin operated amusement devices, promotions, and lotteries
- Amendment to the Tucker Code Chapter 10 Businesses to provide for the mandatory use of video surveillance systems at convenience stores, and for other purposes
- Amendment to the Tucker Code Chapter 46 Zoning Ordinance including revising Article 6 to add regulations

for pervious pavement systems and revising Article 9 to add a definition for pervious pavement systems

New business included a first read and public hearing for the purpose of amending the Tucker Code Chapter 4 Alcoholic Beverages relating to event permitting for alcoholic beverage catered functions open to the public and other purposes. This was followed by a quick succession of contract approvals and change orders.

The second meeting of the month is typically a work session and an opportunity to hear about upcoming and ongoing plans. This month there was a special called meeting prior to the work session where Mayor and Council approved a contract agreement with Heath and Lineback Engineers for the Tucker-Northlake Trail Design with a 6-0 vote and also a text amendment to the Tucker Code Chapter 4 Alcoholic Beverages discussed at the first meeting of the month. This also was approved with a 6-0 vote.

All City Council meetings are held at City Hall, 1975 Lakeside Parkway, Suite 350B, Tucker, GA 30084.



ON THE BEAT with Lt. Berg

For this month's On The Beat, I've asked Sgt. Howard Jenkins to write something about our PALS unit and a great fundraising event we have coming up at our headquarters in Tucker.

Since 2006, the DeKalb County Police Department has operated the DeKalb County Police Athletic League Plus to aid in the prevention of juvenile crime by providing mentorship, civic service, athletic, recreational, enrichment and educational opportunities and resources to DeKalb County children. The DeKalb County PAL PLUS organization conducts a youth Career Development Program, an After Dark Summer Basketball League, a dance team, a boxing program along with hosting community events and festivals for DeKalb County youth. Based at DeKalb County Police Headquarters in Tucker, DeKalb County PAL bridges the gap between law enforcement and the community through youth engagement programs. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, DeKalb PAL Plus raises 100% of its budget to go directly to programs that support youth programs that provide essential out-of-school activities for young people most in need.

Specifically in Tucker, DeKalb PAL Plus has a deep partnership with Tucker High School offering a four-month career development program (CDP) for young people ages 15-19. CDP helps prepare these young people for after-school jobs and future careers through a series of life skills workshops that cover conflict resolution, financial literacy, interview skills, coping with trauma as well as technical college programs like welding and HVAC. DeKalb County police officers help program participants obtain their GEDs and get enrolled in Georgia Piedmont Technical College to lead to high paying practical vocational careers.

Additionally, DeKalb PAL Plus has taken hundreds of DeKalb County elementary school children to the movies at the local Tucker Movie Tavern through its "Movies with a Cop" program. This fun and engaging event gives children an opportunity to

experience police officers in a fun and engaging way that builds relationships and trust. DeKalb PAL Plus is currently working on a mentorship program for teenage boys in partnership with Tucker Middle School. All these programs are paid for through charitable donations and sponsorships, many coming directly from Tucker businesses and civic organizations.

One of their upcoming community-wide programs is coming up on Saturday, October 22, 4:00pm at the PAL Pumpkin 5K Run/Walk. Tucker residents have an opportunity to have fun and support DeKalb PAL Plus directly. The 5K Race is an event to raise awareness for the DeKalb PAL Plus program and to raise money for its youth mentoring program. All participants will receive a signature t-shirt and medal. In addition to the 5K run/walk, after the race we will have several family-friendly free activities.

DeKalb County PAL Plus is honored to be based in Tucker and have many of its efforts going directly to support Tucker youth. Together we can partner to reduce juvenile crime by mentoring DeKalb County youth with love and an empathetic approach. Please use your cell

phone camera to open the QR code and register for the PAL Pumpkin 5K Run/Walk.

Registration: <https://www.active.com/tucker-ga/running/distance-running-races/dekalb-pal-pumpkin-run-5k-2022>

•100% of the profits will go directly to our local PAL youth mentoring, sports, and academic programs.

Please contact Sgt Howard Jenkins for help registering for the PAL Pumpkin 5K Run/Walk or for any PAL Program related questions. (404-840-3225)

INAUGURAL PAL PUMPKIN 5K RUN/WALK

DEKALB COUNTY POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DEKALB COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

OCTOBER 22, 2022, 4PM
1960 W. EXCHANGE PLACE
TUCKER, GA

FAMILY FUN AFTER THE RACE!

RACE REGISTRATION IS \$35
ALL PARTICIPANTS
RECEIVE A SHIRT & MEDAL.

Sign up with
QR code

All profits go to PAL MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS

CITIZEN OF THE MONTH

RUTH FRUIT

We would like to nominate our mother, Ruth Fruit, for Tucker Citizen of the Month.

We can't think of anyone that loves and supports and is prouder of Tucker than our mom. There's good reason for her pride: our Tucker family roots date back to 1820 and she's lived through the changes of this community since she moved here in 1956. More personally, she has directly or indirectly touched the lives of thousands of Tucker citizens through her 32 years as an educator in Tucker schools.

Ruth Fruit was the Lead Teacher (a position now known as Assistant Principal) at Brockett Elementary then served as Principal of Livsey Elementary. She later moved to be Principal at Smoke Rise Elementary. After her service at Smoke Rise, she was appointed Area Director for Dekalb County Schools with oversight of 12 schools. Mom's love of education, children, and working with teachers and parents was evident in her motto, "Education With a Hug." She retired in 1995 to care for her mother.

Many Tucker residents may have met Mom during Little League baseball or softball on our backyard ball field on Idlewood Road. Others remember her many years of teaching adult Sunday School or serving on the Finance Committee at Atlanta First Methodist Church.

Mom has worked tirelessly over the years to do everything she can to make Tucker a great place to live. She frequents and encourages support of Tucker small businesses. She was an avid supporter of Tucker's city status initiative and Mom actively participates in her Homeowners' Association in the Browning Chase subdivision (which was named for one of our ancestors, Andrew Browning). In recent years she has led the effort to rejuvenate the New Fellowship Cemetery on Fellowship Road.

Through her example, Mom taught us the importance of a strong work ethic and kindness to others. Every day, she continues to be a role model for her two daughters, five grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. Mom celebrates her 90th birthday on October 16. I often think what a wonderful place the world would be if there were more Ruth Fruits.



Nominated by Raylene Lowe and Jeannine Kivi

TEAM TUCKER *Spotlight*

ARIEL CALDWELL, PARKS & REC. MULTIMEDIA COORD.

What are your primary duties as the Multimedia Specialist for Parks and Recreation?

My primary duties consist of social media management, capturing and creating content, e-mail marketing, and promoting events and programs to our community and those around the City of Tucker.

What is your favorite part of working with the Parks and Rec team?

My favorite part of working with the Parks and Rec team is the events. I love to see people creating experiences and memories that they will always be able to reflect on. Being at these events and capturing these moments also allows for me to reflect on how great the community is here in Tucker.

You are a Tucker local, care to share just how long?

I am proud to say that Tucker has raised me. I have grown up in Tucker from Brockett Elementary to Tucker Middle and Tucker High School.

What was your school and work journey that brought you back to Tucker?

I attended Tennessee Wesleyan University where I was a cheerleader and student orientation coordinator amongst holding many other leadership roles in different organizations. During the spring semester of my senior year in 2020 I actually returned back home because of the pandemic. After finishing college, I decided to start my own Etsy Shop. Then about a year and a half later I decided that I wanted to go back to school for my masters. So, currently I am working towards an MBA in Marketing and along the way I've found my way of being able to become involved in a community that I know and love.



Off the Wall

What is your favorite book?

One of my favorite hobbies is reading. My favorite book that I read during the summer was *The Hotel Nantucket* by Elin Hilderbrand.

Are you currently bingeing any shows?

While I am not currently binge watching any tv shows I have recently been binge watching Disney movies. I've recently watched *The Little Mermaid*, *Encanto*, and *The Parent Trap*.

What is your favorite Tucker restaurant?

This was a tough question that boggled my brain because there are so many great restaurants in Tucker! One restaurant that I am currently loving is *Village Burger*. My go-to order is the hot honey lemon pepper wings with fries!

Frequently Asked Questions PUBLIC WORKS REFERENDUM

During the November 8 General Election, City of Tucker residents will have an opportunity to vote on a public works referendum that will transition current public works services from DeKalb County to the City of Tucker.

WHAT SERVICES ARE INCLUDED UNDER PUBLIC WORKS?

Public works services consist of two distinct functions: Roads & Maintenance and Stormwater services

ROADS & MAINTENANCE SERVICES	STORMWATER SERVICES	NOT INCLUDED IN THE REFERENDUM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation engineering services • Pavement marking maintenance • Right-of-way maintenance • Traffic sign/signal maintenance • Bridge maintenance • Asphalt patching • Sidewalk and curb repair • Pothole repair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stormwater infrastructure • Catch basin repair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drinking/tap water • Sanitary sewer • Sanitation

IF THE PUBLIC WORKS REFERENDUM IS APPROVED DURING THE UPCOMING ELECTION, WHAT WOULD THE FINANCIAL COST BE TO A RESIDENT?

An average homeowner with a property valued at \$328,000 would see an increase of \$94 annually for roads and maintenance services and stormwater services combined.

- Roads & Maintenance Service Increase: \$70 a year for a home valued at \$328,000
- Stormwater Service Increase: \$24 a year for a home valued at \$328,000

IF THE PUBLIC WORKS REFERENDUM IS APPROVED DURING THE UPCOMING ELECTION, WHAT IS THE TIMELINE ASSOCIATED WITH THE CHANGE IN PUBLIC WORKS SERVICES?

If residents approve the transition of public works services from DeKalb County to the City of Tucker during the November referendum, the Tucker Public Works Department would officially launch on July 7, 2023.

IF THE PUBLIC WORKS REFERENDUM IS NOT APPROVED DURING THE UPCOMING ELECTION, WHAT HAPPENS TO PUBLIC WORKS SERVICES IN THE CITY OF TUCKER?

Nothing changes. DeKalb County will continue to maintain all public works services. Additionally, all emergency public works issues will continue to be managed by DeKalb County.

PROJECTED TIMELINE

Nov. 8
2022

Referendum
Decided by Voters

Dec.
2022

If referendum is approved, City submits millage rate to DeKalb

Jan.-
Jul.
2023

City advances procurement process and hiring efforts for Public Works Dept.

Jul. 1
2023

City of Tucker assumes Public Works responsibilities from DeKalb County

WHAT WILL THE CITY OF TUCKER'S INITIAL OBJECTIVES BE IF IT LAUNCHES ITS OWN PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT?

- **YEAR 1 OBJECTIVES** - Within the first 365 days, the City of Tucker will prioritize any deferred public works maintenance and key repair needs. Additional public works assessments will take place to determine critical needs and capital project alignment.
- **YEAR 2 OBJECTIVES** - After prioritization of deferred public works maintenance and key repair needs, the City of Tucker will focus on reducing service delivery times by 50% or more.

TUCKER VOTES

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 8

HOW WILL THE PUBLIC WORKS REFERENDUM LANGUAGE APPEAR ON MY BALLOT?

City of Tucker residents will have the opportunity to vote 'yes' or 'no' during the General Election time period, inclusive of advance voting, absentee voting and Election Day voting.

Transition of Public Works Services From DeKalb County to City of Tucker

Shall the City of Tucker be authorized to directly provide road construction and maintenance including curbs, sidewalks, streetlights, devices to control the flow of traffic, and stormwater management rather than rely upon DeKalb County to provide such services on its behalf and to levy and collect ad valorem property tax at a millage rate not to exceed 3 mills simultaneous with the ending of the collection of DeKalb County road and transportation special district ad valorem property tax?

WHAT IS A "MILL" AS REFERENCED IN THE REFERENDUM AND HOW DOES IT IMPACT MY PROPERTY TAXES?

A mill is the rate at which property owners are assessed property taxes on the taxable value of their property (40% of assessed value). 1 mill = \$7 per \$7,000 of taxable value

IF THE PUBLIC WORKS REFERENDUM IS APPROVED, WOULD I PAY BOTH DEKALB COUNTY AND THE CITY OF TUCKER FOR PUBLIC WORKS SERVICES?

No. Similar to when Parks and Recreations services were transferred to the City, residents will no longer pay DeKalb County for the management of Public Works services.



WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WATER AND SEWER SERVICES AND STORMWATER SERVICES? WILL THIS REFERENDUM ADDRESS THE COUNTY'S WATER/SEWER SERVICES?

Stormwater facilities address the impact of rain and runoff to City streets. Water and sewer services involve treated water delivered to your home or businesses and waste that leaves them.

The public works services outlined do not include water and sewer related services. Those services will continue to be provided by DeKalb County.

For more information about the City of Tucker's Public Works Referendum, visit tuckerga.gov/publicworks.

TUCKER CLUSTER YEARBOOK

THE FACES OF OUR LOCAL PRINCIPALS



Dr. Antoinette Seabrook
Brockett Elementary

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader."



Dr. Tara Dougherty
Midvale Elementary

"A good education can change anyone. A good teacher can change everything."



Ms. Robin Elder
Idlewood Elementary

"We are what we repeatedly do... therefore excellence is not an act, but a habit."



Ms. Pamela McCloud
Smoke Rise Elementary

"If the opportunity doesn't knock, build a door."



Ms. Shawna Pickett
Livsey Elementary

"Every day we are growing."



Dr. Deborah Satterfield
Tucker Middle

"Knowledge is food for thought, and while food is perishable, thoughts persist. Teachers feed the whole world many times over."



Dr. Eric Parker
Tucker High

"Tucker is an awesome place and I am excited to continue to see the growth and opportunity that exists here."





TUCKER HIGH HOMECOMING

PARADE ON MAIN STREET

**FRIDAY
OCTOBER 21
3 p.m.**

TUCKER CLUSTER

Updates & News

IMPORTANT DATES

October 7

Schools closed for Fall Break

October 10

Schools closed for Columbus and Indigenous Peoples Day

October 17

Board of Education Meeting

BRAG SHEET

IDLEWOOD ELEMENTARY

- Idlewood has had a busy month celebrating students and teachers. Recently they also held a parent workshop and new shoes giveaway, and ended the month with a lunchtime glow stick party to recognize students' good behavior.

LIVSEY ELEMENTARY

- Livsey will offer the Girls Who Game extracurricular club again this year. This program gives young girls and underserved North American students the opportunity to develop their communication, critical thinking and creativity through gaming and the use of Minecraft as a learning tool.

MIDVALE ELEMENTARY

- Midvale recently held a reading fundraiser and raised 20,000 dollars, which is higher than pre-COVID numbers. They also have a new ukulele club.

SMOKE RISE ELEMENTARY

- Smoke Rise's Back-to-School Dance on September 8 was a hit as students enjoyed games, food, and dancing with their friends. In addition, they held Grandparents Appreciation Day, during which grandparents visited their grandchildren's classes, attended the book fair, and took photographs.

TUCKER MIDDLE

- Tucker Middle's football team is having a great start to the season as they are undefeated and are working to add a girls' softball team to their athletic offerings. They also successfully collected 500 books to send to a school library in Botswana.

TUCKER HIGH

- Tucker High is celebrating 400 students who have made strides academically in the first few weeks of school, and they will continue to do so as the year progresses.

BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

SIGGERS HAIRDRESSERS



John Siggers trained with the best in Atlanta back in 1960 with Styles by Styles, a premier beauty salon run by Styles Adamson. John spent his learning years with recognizable names like Jameson and Don Shaw whose friendships have lasted a lifetime, but John is the only one working 80 hours and still cutting hair. Hair has been a true passion for John and his family, inspired by his mother. Eucal Siggers started shampooing friends' hair out of her home in Alabama in 1938. She eventually opened her own shop and brought up many stylists during her working years, including John and his wife Carol. Under the guidance of Eucal, John and Carol traveled the world representing the United States in international styling competitions. In both 1962 and 1963, John was named United States Hairdresser of the Year.

John and Carol opened their first salon, John's Coiffures, when North DeKalb Mall launched in 1965. John and Carol soon realized that they would prefer to own their property rather than rent and bought the current building in Tucker in 1980. They were drawn to relocate to Tucker because by this time he and his wife had moved to the Smoke Rise neighborhood and their son Chad was attending school in Tucker. When the move was complete, they rebranded the salon Siggers Hairdressers.

In Georgia a beautician has two options to train for the certification: beauty school or apprenticeship. Siggers has based their business model on apprenticeship and that has

greatly added to their success and their staying power. "Having a trained and ready pool of stylists to promote as we grew just made sense," said John as he sat in the sun-filled break room.

John and Carol's son Chad and his wife Amy have been part of the stylist team and leadership for years as well. Chad added, "Mom and Dad have been good to the business and the business has been good to them," referring to their long list of loyal clients. In addition to having clients that have traveled to Tucker from around the southeast for decades, many stylists have remained for decades as well, "Helen Wilson, we all call her Grandma, has been cutting hair with us for over fifty years and has an incredibly loyal client base,".

Every year Mayor Frank Auman selects a Tucker business to receive the annual Mayor's Business Award. This was started back in 2018 as a way to recognize and thank long-standing local businesses. The past four recipients were Local No. 7, Cofer Brothers, FODAC and Northlake. This year the Mayor would like to honor Siggers Hair Dressers for their longevity and service to not only Tucker but the Southeast. The Mayor and Council will present John, Carol, Chad, Amy and their staff with the 2022 Mayor's Business Award later this month at the salon. You can find Siggers Hairdressers online at siggershairdressers.com and at 2166 Northlake Parkway, Tucker, GA 30084.

BUSINESS BOOM

by Jackie Moffo, Economic Development Manager



Georgia is consistently ranked in the “Top States for Doing Business”, taking the #1 spot eight

years in a row from 2013 – 2021 by Area Development Magazine. What is it exactly about Georgia that is so advantageous for businesses, and how can existing Tucker businesses be sure that they are accessing programs they are eligible for?

For mega projects such as the recent landing of Rivian, an electric car manufacturer which announced a \$5B manufacturing plant that will cross Morgan and Walton counties and bring 7,500 jobs, the State of Georgia Economic Development Department (GDEcD) acts as the dedicated recruitment arm. Recruitment includes connecting these large employers to incentives such as job tax credits and full training programs such as Georgia Quick Start.

While there are specific GDEcD programs for mega projects that create thousands of new jobs, business incentives and programs benefit businesses of all sizes, including small businesses. Tax credits vary by a tier system that is established by the State annually and determined by need levels. The State’s programs are designed to assist and encourage the growth of targeted industries, including manufacturing, warehousing, distribution, logistics, software development and fintech, telecommunication, research, and development.

For small business owners and entrepreneurs in Georgia, there are dedicated programs that have also been created to provide support, regardless of industry. Through its 18 locations across the state, the University of Georgia Small Business Development Center



(UGA SBDC) provides a wide range of educational and training services for small businesses, including confidential no-cost, one-on-one professional consulting. For Tucker residents and businesses, you can take advantage of DeKalb’s Small Business Development Center located just outside of Tucker’s city limits.

The UGA SBDC has a simple mission “to enhance the economic well-being of Georgians by providing a wide range of educational services for small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs”, says Candice Mays, SBDC Business Consultant, which makes sense since according to the US Small Business Administration, 99.6% of all Georgia businesses and nearly 43% of all Georgia employees are from small businesses.

Candice describes that the services provided by the UGA SBDC aim to, “offer tools, training, and resources to help small businesses grow and succeed. We help for-profit business owners across

the five core business areas – strategic planning, marketing, human resources management, financial reporting, and operational excellence.” Businesses often visit the DeKalb UGA SBDC office looking for assistance with how to start their business or are experiencing slowed sales and are hoping to find ways to turn things around. Candice shares that, “every business owner’s situation is different. Helping them start or manage their businesses more effectively could be a matter of reviewing their finances, or conducting a website and social media analysis, or even helping them prepare for loan approval”. Other examples of business support the UGA SBDC provides are strategic planning, market research, assistance in loan applications, and low-cost continuing education courses which are available online.

Candice gains her experience from her private sector background leading brand strategy for a portfolio of animal health products focusing on branding, go-to-market strategy and implementation. UGA SBDC Business Consultants all have master’s degrees and consult on general business areas. Like Candice, each UGA SBDC Business Consultant also has an area of expertise, and if you are looking for something specific, DeKalb’s UGA SBDC office is happy to connect you with any of the SBDC consultants across Georgia and co-consult for no additional costs.

If you are interested in any services of the UGA SBDC please reach out to the DeKalb UGA SBDC office located at 1990 Lakeside Parkway, Suite 250 or call 770-414-3110.

You can learn more about the UGA SBDC and review classes available online by visiting the UGA SBDC website georgiasbdc.org.

DEKALB COUNTY VOTER REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS

★ ★ ★ 2022 KEY DATES ★ ★ ★

Oct. 11	Last day to register to vote for the November General Election and Runoff Election
Oct. 17 - Nov. 4	Advance Voting period for the November General Election
Oct. 22	Saturday Voting for the November General Election
Oct. 23	Sunday Voting for the November General Election
Oct. 28	Last day to submit absentee ballot application for the November General Election
Oct. 29	Saturday Voting for the November General Election
Oct. 30	Sunday Voting for the November General Election
Nov. 7	Last day for a person to register to vote in the General Election Runoff for <i>Federal Races</i>
Nov. 8	General Election Day
Dec. 6	General Election/Special Election Runoff

Below are advance voting dates for November's General Election

Monday - Friday
Oct. 17 - Nov. 4
7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturday
Oct. 22 & 29
8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday
Oct. 23 & 30
12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

“ASK RIP”

by Rip Robertson, Parks and Recreation Director



Summer camp has ended, the pools are closed and we danced the night (and summer) away with the island tunes of A1A Band, a Jimmy Buffett tribute, and

folks are asking what's next? The

fun is just beginning. Our fall events kicked off with the Sip 'n Stroll at Tucker Nature Preserve and will continue with our next event, Movie on the Green where we will show Encanto on Saturday, October 8 starting at 6 p.m. Come enjoy some popcorn and family time at the Church Street greenspace. That will be closely followed by the annual Haunted Trail on Friday, October 28. This family fun walk through Henderson Park's White Trail will feature a "Ghostbusters" theme. Come see if you can help the Tucker Recreation Paranormal Division rid the park of these ghostly intruders.

The start of fall brings some exciting new programs at the TRC including our kids drumming, tumbling, Zumba, yoga classes, and a Lego league. New to the roster for our adults are kickball, painting and drawing, and watercolor painting. Our regular programs continue with pickleball, golf, men's basketball and registration has also begun for our winter youth basketball league. It's our goal this year to develop our girl's division and build on the success of our basketball "all-star" teams from last season.

One of our most asked questions and requests has been about programs for teens. This month we are launching our first Tucker Rec Teen Night. This is for our teen participants to come out, play, eat and engage. We will also be offering some community and park improvement opportunities over the course of the fall and into spring next year.

Finally, come by the TRC and meet some of our newest team members: Tucker local, Jessica Joyner-Marshall is our new Administrative Assistant. Molly Martin is the new Recreation Leader and will be assisting and leading many of the new programs. Ariel Caldwell, also a Tucker resident, is our new Multimedia Coordinator. Stop by and meet them and the rest of the crew at the Tucker Parks and Recreation Department!

A colorful poster for the "Movie on the Green" event. At the top, a large pile of popcorn sits on a red banner that reads "Church Street Greenspace". Below this is a red marquee with yellow lights and the text "MOVIE ON THE GREEN" in white and green. Underneath the marquee is another red banner with "4316 CHURCH STREET" in white. At the bottom, a white box with a black border contains the text "OCTOBER 8" and "6-9 p.m." in black. The background is dark blue with yellow stars.

A poster for the "Haunted Trail" event. At the top, the text "WHO YA GONNA CALL?" is written in white. Below it, "HENDERSON PARK" is written in large, green, bubbly letters with a yellow outline. In the center is a diamond-shaped logo with a white ghost and the text "PARANORMAL DIVISION" in red. Below the logo is "CITY OF TUCKER GEORGIA" in white. At the bottom, "HAUNTED TRAIL" is written in large, green, bubbly letters with a yellow outline. At the very bottom, "OCTOBER 28" and "4-7 p.m." are written in white. The background is a dark, misty forest scene.



TUCKER Community Corner



10/8 – Tucker Cruise-In

11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Main Street

Your local monthly car show is back! Check out the wide range of classic cars and motorcycles at the Tucker Cruise-In. Grab lunch at one of the many incredible restaurants on the historic Main Street while meeting and greeting other automobile fans.

10/15 – Rivers Alive Cleanup

8 a.m.- Noon

3071 Lawrenceville Highway

Join Tucker Civic Association to give back to the community through participation in Georgia's annual volunteer waterway cleanup event. For TCA's thirteenth year of contribution, they will remove invasive plant species and pick up trash at Twin Brothers Lake.

10/15 – Tucker High School Casino Night

6:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m.

Tucker Recreation Center

The Tucker High School Foundation's second annual Casino Night features games of chance such as blackjack, craps and Texas Hold 'Em. There will also be a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle for five dollars a ticket. Support Tucker High School and register online!

10/22 – DeKalb County PAL 5K Race

4 p.m.

1960 Exchange Place

The DeKalb County Police Athletic League is hosting a 5K Run/Walk fundraiser to fund PAL youth programs. There will be a post-race fall festival-themed fair with candy and children's games, and race contenders will receive a shirt and participation medal.