



# The City News Express

Fall

Connecting Austell Government With Its Citizens

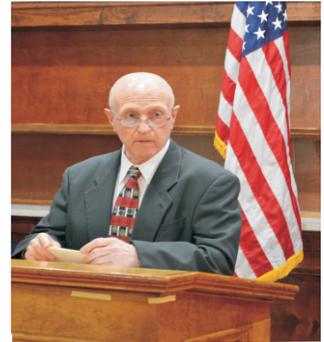
2015



## A Message From the Mayor

As we are ready to begin a new year, let's pause to reflect for a moment on 2015 in Austell. The financial health of our city is excellent. We are able to provide a high services to our residents to maintain a high standard of living with NO TAX INCREASE! Improvements have been made throughout the city have been made using SPLOST Funds - resurfacing streets; drainage improvements; pothole repair; sidewalk repair and speed bump installation.

In April, we reached out to the community with our first Annual Run-Walk with the Mayor. More than 130 people - young and old - signed up for the event. A portion of the proceeds benefitted the Sweetwater Mission Food Bank, and medals were awarded to the overall top three male and female participants in each age group.



Joe Jerkins, Mayor

We also held a Family fun Day at Collar Park on Saturday, May 30th. children and their parents came out to enjoy the day. Free pony rides, a bounce house, train rides and games were fun for the children as well as music food and entertainment. The focus of the festivities was an opportunity to interact with our Police Officers and providing free ID kits for the children. More than 800 people came to enjoy the day with family and friends.

The November 3rd election brought two new members to the Austell City Council. Valerie Anderson was elected to serve in the At-Large Post 2 position and Sandra Leverette was elected to serve Ward 4. The Mayor and Council welcomes each of these ladies and looks forward to serving with each of them. Scot Thomas was re-elected to four years representing Ward 2 and I was re-elected to serve four years as Mayor.

The City of Austell lost a much loved Council Member this year. On September 18, 2015, long time Council Member Virginia Reagan passed away. She served as a dedicated member of the Council since 1995 and was always well informed about the issues facing our community and made sound decisions. Her leadership will be missed. In her honor, a concrete bench is being placed in Mayors Park.

On behalf of each Council Member and the entire staff of the City of Austell, I wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Your Public Servant,

*Joe Jerkins*



*Come One, Come All!*

**Annual Lighting of Austell's Great Tree**

**December 4th**

**Collar Park, 6:00 pm**

**Free hotdogs, candy, coffee  
cookies, cake and hot chocolate**

*Special guest...Santa Claus!*

*Christmas bags for all the children.*

### Council Members

Ward 1 - Kirsten Anderson  
Ward 2 - Scott Thomas

Ward 3 - Randy Green  
Ward 4 - (Vacant)

At Large Post 1 - Ollie Clemons  
At Large Post 2 - Suzanne Thomason



# PUBLIC WORKS

## HOLIDAY TRASH AND RECYCLE COLLECTION SCHEDULE



Wednesday, December 23rd  
Trash & recycle as scheduled

Thursday, December 24th - Christmas Eve  
Trash & Recycle as scheduled

Friday, December 25th - Christmas Day  
No Collection Merry Christmas  
Trash & recycle will be serviced on Saturday

Wednesday, December 30th  
Trash & recycle as scheduled

Thursday, December 31st - New Year's Eve  
Trash & Recycle as scheduled

Friday, January 1, 2016 New Year's Day  
No Collection Happy New Year  
Trash & recycle will be serviced on Saturday

### Office of the Mayor

**Thank You, Citizens of Austell!**

Serving as your Mayor for the past twenty five years has been an honor and a privilege. During these years our city has grown and changed, and I am proud to have played a part in Austell's revitalization.

I want to thank each of you for your support and encouragement through the years. We have experienced some challenges, but together we have met them and continued on in strength.

Just as I have been, I am open to hearing from you and look forward to working with you in the next four years.

Thank you for your confidence to elect me to serve you for four more years. And thank you for your well wishes as we face Austell's future with confidence.

Your Public Servant

*Joe Jerkins*

### Holiday Schedule for the City of Austell

Offices for the City will be CLOSED beginning at noon on Wednesday, December 23rd for the employees Christmas Party. Offices will re-open at the regular time on Monday, December 28th.

Offices will be CLOSED on New Year's Day and re-open at the regular time on Monday, January 4th.

Police, Fire and Emergency services will maintain their regular schedule throughout the season.



## FIRE DEPARTMENT

The City of Austell Fire and Emergency Services has had a busy summer and fall. The department has moved forward with Chief Pat Maxwell and Asst. Chief Brandon Merritt after Chief Tim Williams retired earlier this year.

Our new water rescue boat has been ordered and is expected to be delivered later this fall.

Congratulations to Firefighter Alex Layton who was promoted to Lieutenant. The promotion process was very competitive and yielded several good candidates.

We are also very proud of firefighter Matt Landrum for receiving recognition from the South Cobb Club for outstanding work in Public Safety.

Austell Fire and Emergency Services also welcomes its newest full time employee, Brent Worsham. Brent is a recent graduate of the University of South Carolina. He lives in Kennesaw and soon will complete his State Certification as a firefighter. He is already an Advanced Emergency Technician.

Three new part-time employees have also been hired. These employees are already well trained from other departments. They will work as needed to help with critical staffing needs.

As a reminder to all of our citizens, the state wide burn ban has been lifted until May, 2016. You may burn only natural vegetation which has fallen, and Sunday burning is never allowed in the City of Austell.

*Visit the Threadmill this Season*



Please stop by the Threadmill Complex for coffee or hot tea and cookies this holiday season. Stop in to visit our Museum and enjoy the lovely Christmas decorations.