



North Augusta FORVARD

A Publication for the Citizens of North Augusta, South Carolina June 2010 Volume XVII, Number 2

### **CITY COUNCIL**

Lark Jones, Mayor Jimmy Adams Carolyn Baggott Pat Carpenter Ken McDowell Arthur Shealy Jason Whinghter



### CONTENTS

Municipal Center Virtual Tour 1
Strategic Planning Workshop 1
Spring Collection Events 2
Wildlife Ordinance2
Music in the Park3
Brick Pond Park Treats Stormwater 3
Upcoming Events & Holiday Closings 4
Arts & Heritage Center4
Chamber of Commerce Survey Reminder

### Municipal Center Enters —— SECOND YEAR ——

The Municipal Center enters its second year of operation this month and has become a familiar sight on the North Augusta skyline. In addition to housing the City's administration, financial, planning and engineering services, the Municipal Center offers attractive event and training spaces, large and small, throughout the building and is home to the Arts and Heritage Center of North Augusta. Since its grand opening last June, the Municipal Center has hosted multiple public meetings and industry training sessions. The Center is a popular wedding and reception

venue, has hosted three local high school proms this spring and, along with the recently remodeled North Augusta Community Center, offers a variety of resources to serve the meeting and celebratory needs of the CSRA.

To assist members of the public in learning about the Municipal Center and Community Center's available rental spaces and amenities, virtual tours have recently been added to the City's website. To access the virtual tours and the rental policies and fees for both venues, visit *www.northaugusta.net* and click on "Community" and then "Facility Rentals". For additional information, please contact the Events and Facilities Supervisor at 803-441-4350 or email *npayne@northaugusta.net*.



The Municipal Center's Palmetto Terrace offers elegant outdoor and indoor entertainment space.

### City Council Holds North Augusta Forward —— STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP ——

On May 20 and 21, the North Augusta City Council and senior staff held a workshop to set the City's direction for the near future. The agenda for the two day event covered a dozen or more topics related to current City conditions and future projects, including plans to expand the water treatment plant and improve the Pole Branch sewer line; proposed modifications to Riverview and Summerfield Parks; and the planned construction of Northview Park. Also discussed were the City's recycling program; schedules for area transportation improvements, including a proposed Park and Ride facility; transportation project ranking criteria; the impact of anticipated changes to Federal air quality standards; Public Safety Department enhancements; budgetary issues; and a review of the Municipal Center's first year of operation.

The North Augusta Forward planning workshop is an annual event and is open to the public. For more information on the topics discussed, please contact the City Clerk's office at 803-441-4202.

## **Response to Spring Waste Collection Events-SHOWS ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS**

#### E-Waste

Area residents and property owners demonstrated a continued commitment to the environment at two recent events. On March 6, with strong community support, almost 800 electronic waste (e-waste) items were processed in a three hour period at the City's semi-annual Electronics Recycling Event. More than half of the items were computers or computer-related and the total weight of all items approached 13,000 pounds. The collection and processing effort was offered as a public service to participants and staffed by volunteers from the Aiken office of the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) and five City of North Augusta employees.

The City began sponsoring e-waste collection events in 2007 and, since that time, has successfully recycled almost 108 tons of electronic material through the Material Recovery Facility. In addition to semi-annual collection events, the City offers e-waste pickup as a service to residents on regular collection days throughout the year.



City employees and DHEC volunteers process electronic items collected for recycling

The recently passed SC House Bill 4093, effective July 1, 2011, bans all computers, monitors, printers and televisions from landfill disposal and underscores the value of the City's "ahead of the curve" electronic recycling program. The next electronic recycling event will be held on Saturday, September 18, from 9:00 am until noon at Kroger on Knox Avenue. For more information, visit the City's website *www.northaugusta.net* or contact the Sanitation Services Department at 803-441-4245 or 803-441-4331.

### **Hazardous Waste**

The eighth annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event was held on Saturday, May 15. The purpose of the highly successful annual event is to provide area residents and property owners with a means to dispose of household hazardous



City of North Augusta employees remove hazardous waste materials for processing

waste materials, including paints and pesticides, in a manner that does not harm the environment. With the assistance of a qualified contractor, the City collects, separates and hauls all hazardous materials away for processing and proper disposal. The event is staffed by employees from several City departments and managed by the City's Stormwater Management Department.

Since the City's first hazardous waste collection event in 2003, the number of participants has varied with an overall net increase of 83%. More than half of the hazardous materials collected are paint products. Other materials include motor oil, herbicides, antifreeze and aerosol cans. For more information on both the impact of hazardous waste on the environment and future collection events, contact the Stormwater Management Department at 803-441-4246 or email *stormwater@northaugusta.net*.

### City Ordinance Prohibits Feeding of Wildlife ON PUBLIC LANDS

On May 17, 2010, the North Augusta City Council adopted an ordinance which makes it unlawful to feed wildlife in City parks and other publicly owned land within the city limits. Persons who are found to be in violation of the ordinance provisions are subject to a fine of up to \$500 per violation.

As defined in the ordinance, wildlife includes animals which are not normally domesticated in South Carolina, including, but not limited to, feral swine, coyotes, deer, feral cats, foxes, opossums, raccoons, skunks, alligators, turtles and waterfowl. Waterfowl are further defined as birds that live on or near bodies of water, including, but not limited to, ducks, geese, swans, heron and egrets.

It has been established that the feeding of wild animals and waterfowl alters natural feeding and foraging habits by creating artificial feeding areas and can make animals more susceptible to disease. Further, improper feeding can result in wildlife dependency on human provided food and can lead to inappropriate interaction and potential injury to the animals, to humans, and to pets.



# Music in the Park - SUMMER 2010–

The summer concert series, Music in the Park, is underway again this year at The Verandah in Maude Edenfield Park. Music in the Park is presented by the North Augusta Cultural Arts Council and sponsored by University Health Care System and the City.

Music in the Park concerts are held free of charge on Thursday evenings in June and July at 7:00 p.m. The setting is informal. Concertgoers are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs or blankets and are welcome to bring a picnic dinner. In the event of rain, concerts are held in the adjacent Community Center. For more information, visit the Cultural Arts Council website at *www.naartscouncil.org*.

#### 2010 Music in the Park Schedule

- June 10 The Savannah River Brass Works
- June 17 Split Rail
- June 24 Fred Williams and GM Five
- July 8 The Hillarys
- July 15 Microwave Dave and the Nukes
- July 22 Eryn Eubanks and the Family Fold
- July 29 Ft. Gordon Signal Corps Concert Band and Art Show at the Wesley Center



Concertgoers enjoy a 2009 event at The Verandah at Maude Edenfield Park.

# Brick Pond Park Design PROVIDES EFFECTIVE STORMWATER TREATMENT



Waterfalls oxygenate stormwater runoff that enters Brick Pond Park

It is well known that Brick Pond Park, the thirty acre wetland and wildlife habitat located between the Greeneway and the Savannah River, offers a unique outdoor experience to area residents. It provides walking trails and views of ponds, turtles, deer, fish, several species of birds, alligators and other wildlife. An important but lesser known fact about the Park is that it plays an important role in improving the quality of the City's stormwater before it enters the Savannah River. Constructed wetlands and waterfalls, specifically designed to filter and remove pollutants, treat stormwater runoff that drains into the Park. Planted and natural vegetation continues the filtering process by trapping sediment before it can reach the River.

Since 2008, Brick Pond Park water has been tested regularly to determine the effectiveness of the Park's ecosystem in treating stormwater runoff. Concentrations of nine chemicals are measured in each test and results are averaged to determine yearly totals. While testing can be influenced by factors such as time of year, recent rainfall events and sampling methodology, the overall results suggest that the Park provides effective stormwater treatment. Levels of six of the nine chemicals measured, including copper, lead and zinc, decreased by more than ninety percent between 2008 and 2010. Levels of the remaining three chemicals decreased more than seventy percent during the same time period.

Brick Pond Park is beautiful and a great place to visit. More important, Brick Pond Park is an effective ecosystem that improves water quality for North Augusta's citizens and the Savannah River. For more information on the science of Brick Pond Park, please visit the City of North Augusta website at www.northaugusta.net or email stormwater@northaugusta.net.

## Upcoming Events AND HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Details of upcoming community events, official holiday closings and holiday sanitation schedules are also available online at www.northaugusta.net.

#### <u>JULY</u>

**City Offices Closed – Monday, July 5.** Residential sanitation service is delayed by one day.

**Nike Invitational Peach Jam Basketball Tournament – July 12-15** at Riverview Park Activities Center. Call 803-441-4311.

Nike Nationals Girls Basketball Tournament – July 28-31 at Riverview Park Activities Center. Call 803-441-4311.

#### **SEPTEMBER**

**City Offices Closed – Monday, September 6.** Residential sanitation service is delayed by one day.

Electronic Recycling Collection Event – Saturday, September 18, 9:00 a.m. to noon at Kroger on Knox Avenue. Call 803-441-4245 or 803-441-4331.

## Upcoming Exhibits at North Augusta — ARTS AND HERITAGE CENTER —

The History of North Augusta Garden Clubs - Through June 26

Tying the Knot – Through June 26

Augusta Photography Festival – June 8 through August 21

Art Abilities – June 29 through September 11

**Savannah River Site Heritage Foundation** – June 29 through August 28

**North Augusta During World War II** – July 6 through August 28

Westobou Festival Exhibits and Events – September 16 through September 25



Wedding dresses from several decades are showcased in "Tying the Knot" at the Arts and Heritage Center.

Call 803-441-4380 or visit *www.artsandheritagecenter.com* for more information.

### Survey – WHERE IS NORTH AUGUSTA GOING?



The City of North Augusta has agreed to assist the Chamber of Commerce with a brief survey designed to measure public perception of growth and development in the City. Please visit the North Augusta Chamber of Commerce website *www. northaugustachamber.org* and complete the survey.

1	POLICE & FIRE EMERGENCY911
	PUBLIC SAFETY
1	Non Emergency 279-2121
	Administration441-4251
	Records/Court Services 441-4271 Investigations 441-4274
	Investigations441-4274
)	C Kal
	PARKS, RECREATION & LEISURE SERVICES
1	Riverview Park Activities Center 441-4300
	Activities Coordinator 441-4311
•	Community Center 441-4290
)	
	GENERAL SERVICES & FINANCE
	Taxes
-	Utility - New Service/Disconnects441-4219 Utility Billing Services441-4212
1	Business Licenses (Non-Contractor) 441-4214
1	Human Resources
	Events and Facilities Supervisor 441-4350
1	Events and racinges supervisor
	ENGINEERING & PUBLIC WORKS
	After-Hours Emergencies 279-2121
	Engineering441-4223
	Engineering441-4223 Building Standards441-4227
	Code Compliance 441-4258 Permits 441-4227
	Permits
	Business Licenses (Contractors) 441-4227
	Animal Control 441-4298
	Sanitation Services 441-4223
3	Sanitation - New Services 441-4219
	Stormwater Management 441-4295
)	
	PUBLIC UTILITIES
_	After-Hours Emergencies279-2121
	Utility - New Service/Disconnects441-4219 Utility Billing441-4212
	Water and Source Densire 441-4212
	Water and Sewer Repairs 441-4240 Streets and Drains Repairs
1	
_	PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
	Zoning 442-4221 Planning 442-4221
	Planning442-4221
	Economic Development 442-4221
1	ADMINISTRATION
	Mayor 441-4202
	City Administrator 441-4202
1	
	OTHER FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS
	North Augusta Chamber of Commerce 279-2323
	Nancy Carson Library 279-5767
	North Augusta Health Center 278-3621
	Comcast (cable) 706-733-7212
	S.C. Electric & Gas 442-2000 A T & T 1-888-757-6500
	A T & T
	S.C. Department of Transportation 1-800-442-1368 Magistrate 202-3580
	Arts & Heritage Center 441-4380
	Ans a mentage Center 441-4300

2

Ζ

C

Т

۵

ш

**CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS** are held every first and third Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers of the Municipal Center. Citizens are encouraged to attend these meetings.



CITY of NORTH AUGUSTA 100 Georgia Avenue PO Box 6400 North Augusta, SC 29861-6400

#### www.northaugusta.net

North Augusta Forward is mailed quarterly to every city water customer. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please write to: North Augusta Forward P.O. Box 6400, North Augusta, SC 29861-6400 or call 803-441-4221.