



# WINTERVILLE GAZETTE

## OPTIONS FOR READING THE GAZETTE

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#### INFORMATION

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706-742-5295

POST OFFICE

706-742-8875

LIBRARY

706-742-7735

ANIMAL CONTROL

706-613-3540

STREET LIGHT

REPAIR

888-655-5888

PUBLIC UTILITIES

706-613-3470

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OR DRAINAGE

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706-613-3501

Did you know the *Gazette* is online as well as print? A digital version of each issue is made available immediately on the city's website, and past issues are archived there, as well. In addition, a limited number of copies are placed in the news box at City Hall. If you would like to opt out of receiving the hard copy, please email your name and address to [wintervillegazette@gmail.com](mailto:wintervillegazette@gmail.com). To ensure that you receive notification when a new issue goes online, follow the *Winterville Gazette* on FaceBook and/or subscribe to the NextDoor email list for Winterville. If you want to continue to receive a print copy, you need do nothing.

Thank you,  
Lee Ann Pingel, Editor

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Just as we were beginning to come out of the COVID-19 fog, the Delta variant arrived with a vengeance and is still spreading. We will get through this, but it is going to take a little more time and a little more sacrifice for the greater good. Please get vaccinated and wear a mask. It works! We will continue to provide opportunities to get the vaccine with the help of the Department of Public Health. A big thank you goes out to the Clarke County DPH gang for providing vaccines and information during our Charter Day Celebration and a recent Front Porch Bookstore Concert, and to Councilperson Amanda Mooney for working with the DPH to make that happen. If we all do our part, we will minimize the opportunity for new variants to emerge and we'll put this pandemic behind us sooner. So thanks also to all of you who are caring for your neighbor by getting vaccinated and masking up. It makes a difference.

In the meantime, the city has been busy with projects that can be enjoyed by citizens during times like these. Chandler Park is mostly finished and is getting a lot of compliments. The project was completed on time and under budget even after adding the Front Porch Bookstore patio, parking, and greenspace. I look forward to celebrating the grand opening with all of you at the dedication ceremony hosted by the Winterville Civitan Club on Thursday, October 14, at 4:00 p.m. The event will be held outside in the park to allow social distancing. We have a lot to look forward to when we get to back to a new normal, so hang in there and let's work to get there as soon as we can. I can't wait! Until then, I'll see you on the streets.

Sincerely,  
Dodd I. Ferrelle, Mayor



# CIVIC CALENDAR

**All times and locations of meetings are subject to change due to COVID-19 and will be announced prior to the meetings. Check the city website or each committee’s FaceBook page for updates.**

Monday, October 4	Planning & Zoning, 5:30 p.m., City Hall
Tuesday, October 5	Council Workshop, 5:30 p.m., City Hall
Thursday, October 7	Citizens Advisory Committee (SPLOST/TSPLOST), 6:30 p.m.**
Monday, October 11	Municipal Court, 5:00 p.m., City Hall
Tuesday, October 12	City Council, 6:30 p.m., City Hall
Wednesday, October 13	Downtown Development Authority, 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 13	Firefly Local Action Committee, 7:00 p.m.
Monday, October 18	Community Garden Committee, 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 19	Historic Preservation Commission, 6:00 p.m., City Hall
Thursday, October 21	Citizens Advisory Committee (SPLOST/TSPLOST), 6:30 p.m.**
Tuesday, October 26	Winterville Arts Council, 6:00 p.m.
Monday, November 1	Planning & Zoning, 5:30 p.m., City Hall
Tuesday, November 2	Election Day, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Depot
Tuesday, November 2	Council Workshop, 5:30 p.m., City Hall
Thursday, November 4	Citizens Advisory Committee (SPLOST/TSPLOST), 6:30 p.m.**
Monday, November 8	Municipal Court, 5:00 p.m., City Hall
Tuesday, November 9	City Council, 6:30 p.m., City Hall
Wednesday, November 10	Downtown Development Authority, 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 11	Firefly Local Action Committee, 7:00 p.m.
Monday, November 15	Community Garden Committee, 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 16	Historic Preservation Commission, 6:00 p.m., City Hall
Thursday, November 18	Citizens Advisory Committee (SPLOST/TSPLOST), 6:30 p.m.**
Tuesday, November 23	Winterville Arts Council, 6:00 p.m.
Thurs–Fri, November 25–26	Thanksgiving Holiday, City Hall Closed
Thursday, December 2	Citizens Advisory Committee (SPLOST/TSPLOST), 6:30 p.m.**
Friday, December 3	Christmas in the Park (subject to pandemic status)
Monday, December 6	Planning & Zoning, 5:30 p.m., City Hall
Tuesday, December 7	Council Workshop, 5:30 p.m., City Hall
Wednesday, December 8	Downtown Development Authority, 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 8	Firefly Local Action Committee, 7:00 p.m.
Monday, December 13	Municipal Court, 5:00 p.m., City Hall
Tuesday, December 14	City Council, 6:30 p.m., City Hall
Thursday, December 16	Citizens Advisory Committee (SPLOST/TSPLOST), 6:30 p.m.**
Monday, December 20	Community Garden Committee, 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 21	Historic Preservation Commission, 6:00 p.m., City Hall
Tuesday, December 14	City Council, 6:30 p.m., City Hall
Thurs–Fri, December 23–24	Christmas Holiday, City Hall Closed
Tuesday, December 28	Winterville Arts Council, 6:00 p.m.

\*\*Meetings held at Pittard Park or, if needed, by Zoom.



## CITY NEWS

### CITY COUNCIL RESIGNATION/ELECTION

There will be a special election November 2 to fill the City Council seat vacated by Mary Quinn. Melissa Metzger and Mark Farmer have qualified to be on the November 2 ballot. The Winterville Civitan Club will host a candidate forum Thursday, October 7, at 7:00 p.m. in the Pittard Park pavilion, so make plans to attend that event and meet Melissa and Mark. The candidate receiving the most votes in November will begin serving immediately and will finish out the remaining two years of Mary's term. No reason was given when Mary Quinn resigned in September. We certainly appreciate her service and wish her well. Find out more about the candidates on p. 6.

### 2022 BUDGET

The finance committee, made up of City Council members Gary Snow and Mary Quinn, worked diligently over the last several months to draft the 2022 budget. The draft will be put forward at the council's October workshop (see the Civic Calendar on p. 2), and public hearings will be scheduled in November to give everyone plenty of time to look over the numbers. Thanks to all department heads and employees for their input, particularly to Gary Snow for the work he puts into this process each year. Thank him when you see him!

### MASK MANDATE EXTENDED

The mask mandate has been extended through October 12. Masks are required to enter any city-owned buildings. Thank you!

### DEDICATION OF CHANDLER PARK

The grand opening and dedication of Chandler Park will take place on Thursday, October 14, at 4:00 p.m. Cultivation Landscapes has done a wonderful job bringing the project in on time and under budget. The Front Porch Bookstore also benefitted from this project with some upgrades all around the building. The entire project has been well received by the community. The park, dedicated to George H. Chandler, will bring joy and rest to citizens near and far for many years to come. We hope you all can attend the dedication. The event will be held outside in the new park so that we can maintain social distancing. Please see the invitation on p. 5.

### COMPLETE STREETS PROJECT

Our partners at the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission have been busy working on a Complete Streets plan for the city. The plan will include trails, sidewalks, crosswalks, traffic calming measures, and a much needed parking plan for the city square, Pittard Park, and the pump track/frisbee golf area. City Council will meet to look over the draft and approve it for the next step: public comments. The council values your comments, concerns, and requests, so please be on the lookout for these sessions in October and November to let your voice be heard.

*cont.*

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

By the time this issue hits your door, City Council will have held a retreat to look at the Historic Preservation Commission's recommendations for historic district boundaries and guidelines. The recommendations will likely be on the council's agenda in October. We appreciate the hard work and dedication the HPC has put in over the last few years to get us to this point. Winterville's Comprehensive Plans have called for these districts and guidelines to be established in order to preserve our town's unique charm. The goal now is to arrive at a set of protections for our historic buildings that are in line with national specifications and are acceptable to both council and citizens.

## MONEY FROM AMERICAN RECOVERY PLAN ACT

The city has received the first of two disbursements of ARPA funding and will receive the second next year. We are waiting for final guidelines from the federal government regarding use of this money, but we are considering investing it in the Marigold Collective (see p. 14), broadband internet service, and infrastructure improvements. We would love to hear from you if you have any ideas for good use of these important dollars.

## 2023 TSPLOST PROJECTS

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) will be seeking input from the community regarding 2023 TSPLOST projects, so check their page on the city website (also see p. 2) and let your voice be heard. On another front, the city has requested county TSPLOST dollars to fund three major projects: a) upgrades to the stormwater drainage system along Main Street, b) a five-foot wide sidewalk (plus improved curbs, gutters, drainage, driveways, and accessibility ramps) along the south side of Smithonia Road from North Church Street to Smokey Road, and c) a similar sidewalk along the west side of Smokey Road from Smithonia Rd. to N. Church St. Cumulatively, these projects will cost several million dollars, and Winterville's TSPLOST allocation is not enough to get the work done in a timely manner. We will continue to press our case for county funds, so cross your fingers!

## CROSSWALKS ON MAIN STREET

The Main Street crosswalks at Parkview and Henry Meyer are shaping up nicely, calming traffic without impeding travel. The new flow makes much more sense, and both pedestrians and drivers are safer for it. Due to supply chain issues with the RFIB crosswalk signs, the project will miss its completion date by two weeks but will come in at or under budget. Expect the improvements to be complete by the end of October. The next crosswalk slated for improvement is on Parkview between Pittard Park and the Community Garden and disc golf course. The previous crosswalk was removed due to concerns that the steep slope of the entry and exit created a hazard for pedestrians and especially for wheelchairs and children on bicycles. The potential danger was only heightened by high vehicle speeds, reduced visibility from the curve in the road, and the difficulty in patrolling that stretch. WA Engineering will soon be on site to survey the area and provide the city with a much safer crosswalk plan that will be funded by 2018 SPLOST and Local Maintenance Improvement Grants. The city appreciates the recommendations from the SPLOST/TSPLOST CAC.

## DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The DDA and the City of Winterville are hosting a quarterly luncheon for all local business owners or business leaders on Thursday, October 14, at 12:30 p.m. in the Pittard Park pavilion.

## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE FORMING

The city is looking to form a communications committee. If you are interested in making sure your neighbors stay up-to-date on all the latest news and events, applications will be available soon.

## MARIGOLD FESTIVAL

The Marigold Festival Board of Directors has welcomed three new members: Sara Cross, Mandy Blalock, and Mary Ann Edens. The board is planning to bring the festival back, live and in-person, on May 14, 2022.

## NEW MURALS

The Front Porch Bookstore will soon be graced by two new murals to further enhance Chandler Park. Nationally renowned artist David Hale and, we are sure, soon-to-be-nationally-renowned artist Marisa Mustard will create individual pieces to fill the north and east walls of the annex (the south wall features the Firefly Trail mural done by students at Winterville Elementary). We hope to have both murals finished before the October 14 dedication. We think you'll love them!

## WELCOME OFFICER SHOEPF

Kathryn Schoepf (pronounced "Shuff") is the first full-time female police officer to serve on the Winterville Police Department. We are very lucky and proud to have Officer Shoepf. Be sure to say hello and extend a warm welcome when you see her.



The City of Winterville and the Winterville Civitan Club invite you to the dedication of CHANDLER PARK, 101 Marigold Lane in Winterville, Georgia.

The event will be held on Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 4:00 in the afternoon.

Immediately following this ceremony, there will be a memorial reception in the Depot for George H. Chandler, who passed away on October 15, 2020.

For additional information, please contact Dodd Ferrelle at [wintervillemayor@gmail.com](mailto:wintervillemayor@gmail.com).

# CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

## CANDIDATE PROFILES

### Melissa Metzger

I'm delighted to live in and help build the "screen-door community" of the City of Marigolds. When the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) was formed, I saw it as an excellent opportunity to give back to Winterville through community service, and have been the DDA secretary since its inception. I enjoy collaborating with the other DDA members and city leaders in our efforts to revitalize the commercial district through smart economic growth that supports commerce, investment, and employment opportunities while also preserving Winterville's unique cultural and community character.



A former teacher of art and computer technology in the public school system, I have been fortunate to translate those interests into a career in creating educational programs for K-12 schools, higher education, professional organizations, industry, and government. At Western Governors University, I lead a team that develops curricula, including instructional design and technology. We build the course from start to finish, always looking for ways to improve. I also consult with organizations on creating effective online training.

When my husband Chris and I aren't working to restore our home on Church Street, I love keeping my creativity flowing with design projects (for example, the Winterville DDA logo). In the evenings, you are likely to see me walking the Firefly Trail with Chris, our children Jacob (age 20) and Jolie (age 14), and our two border collies.

I value accountability in all my pursuits and, should you elect me as the next member of the City Council, I pledge to be accountable and responsive to all citizens of Winterville. I welcome your questions and invite you to contact me at [MetzgerForWinterville@gmail.com](mailto:MetzgerForWinterville@gmail.com) or visit my website: [MetzgerForWinterville.com](http://MetzgerForWinterville.com).

### Mark Farmer



Mark and his family moved to Winterville in 1989 and have lived in the same house on Springbrook Drive for all that time. His children (now grown) attended Winterville Elementary and Coile Middle Schools before graduating from UGA (daughter) and a famous trade school on North Avenue in Atlanta (son). Both Mark and his wife Dorset work at UGA, where he currently serves as the Head of the Department of Cellular Biology. Having served on City Council four separate times, he has worked with three different mayors and many wonderful Winterville neighbors. While his professional obligations sometimes take him far afield, he never once missed a council meeting, commuting between Washington

D.C. and Winterville when he served as a program officer for the National Science Foundation and participating via internet when he was teaching a course in New Zealand. Today both kids have moved away, so Mark and Dorset now share the house with their big, white, rescue dog, Chloe.

Remember to  November 2 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Depot!

# CHARTER DAY CELEBRATION

The city held its very first Charter Day Celebration on August 15 in the Winterville Auditorium (now known as the Marigold Auditorium for Arts and Culture; see p. 9). The City of Winterville was incorporated on August 15, 1904, with the signing of the charter that still guides us today. The Welfare Liners, a Winterville favorite, provided musical entertainment, we honored our first responders, and workers from ACC Public Health provided free vaccines and information.



Photos by Matt Brewster

# WINTERVILLE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The next Food Pantry distribution will take place on Saturday, October 16, in the CLC parking lot.

Homecoming Sunday is October 10 and will feature Meadow Lane from Cleveland, Tennessee. Sunday school begins at 9:15 a.m. and is followed by the worship service at 10:30. After the service we'll enjoy a covered dish dinner with fried or baked chicken and drinks provided. Invite a friend!

The Missions Committee will host its second Boston Butt Fundraiser to support Grace Children's Home on Saturday, October 23. Tickets are \$35; pick up at the FBC CLC from 3:00–5:00 p.m.

Trunk or Treat will take place Sunday, October 31, at 5:00 p.m. in the FBC parking lot.

The Christmas season will begin Sunday, December 5, with a Christmas musical by the Worship Choir during the regular service. A Carols and Candles Service will be held Sunday, December 19, at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

# VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

It has been a whirlwind of emotions at the fire department over the last month. We lost one of our fire brothers, Ricky Knight, to Covid recently. He was our Safety Officer, but more than that, he was our friend. It is a tough loss, but we cherish many memories of the good times together in such a short three years. Our prayers continue to be with his family.

In some good news, we are expecting the arrival of our brand new fire engine very soon. Our current engine will serve as a spare in case of mechanical issues. We want to thank the Citizens Advisory Board as well as Mayor and Council for recommending that SPLOST funds be used to help us maintain our equipment. The National Fire Protection Association requires fire departments to meet certain criteria to continue operating. We follow the same guidelines as a fulltime department, while operating as all-volunteer.

We encourage all interested citizens to stop by during our weekly Monday-night training sessions.



# FRONT PORCH BOOKSTORE

Come see the new patio and get some great books to curl up with in this cooler weather. Remember, every Saturday is a \$10 Bag Sale! Fill a bag provided by our volunteers with as many books, CDs, and DVDs as you can fit into it. The Front Porch Bookstore is run by the Friends of the Winterville Library. All books are donated, and all proceeds support the Winterville Library.

# SATURDAY CONCERT SERIES

All concerts are FREE and start at 6:00 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs, family, and friends

- October 2: Scarlet Stitch
- October 9: Ken Will Morton
- October 16: Blues Communion
- October 23: Borderhop Trio

# WINTERVILLE CAMPUS FOR ARTS AND CULTURE



The Center for Community and Culture has been rebranded as the Winterville Campus for Arts and Culture, incorporating both the Winterville Community Center (WCC) in the old school building and the Marigold Auditorium next door. That is only one of several developments. As reported in the previous issue of the *Gazette*, David Matthews-Morgan is the interim director. Dr. Betsy Arrington has come on board as the new marketing manager, and Ms. Magdalene (“Maggie”) Collins Mobley and Mr. William Pitts are helping out through the Senior Community Service Employment Program. You can learn more about all of them at the revamped website.

## NEW WEBSITE

In addition to staff bios and photos, the website now includes online, self-service room rentals and class signups. Individuals who want to rent one or more rooms at the WCC can look at the calendar, pick an open time slot, and then book and pay for the rental with little to no involvement by WCC staff. Soon, the site will offer a virtual tour of all the rentable rooms, so potential renters don’t have to come to the WCC to see what the rooms look like and what their amenities are. Class participants can sign up and pay for classes without coming to the WCC. (If renters or class participants want to pay via cash or check, they will have to come to the office.)

## RENOVATIONS AND UPGRADES

The website is not the only thing being updated. The final phase of the Marigold Auditorium renovation is beginning, which will add public restrooms, men’s and women’s dressing rooms, a backstage unisex bathroom, and an ADA-compliant ramp providing access to the backstage area and to a commercial deck. The Community Center is getting an upgraded, more efficient HVAC system that will both increase comfort and reduce cost. Additionally, the original ½-inch subflooring will be replaced with thicker boards to meet construction codes.

## UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

“Lewis Grizzard: In His Own Words” opens at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 24. Actor Bill Oberst, Jr., has stepped into the late Lewis Grizzard’s shoes to portray the Southern writer and humorist in a one-man show authorized by Grizzard’s family. Please visit <https://marigoldauditorium.com/upcoming-events> for more information or to purchase tickets.

## ART SHOW

The WCC will host the fall art show coordinated by the Winterville Arts Council. Highlighting the works of current and former participants in WCC classes in Beginning Drawing, Dot Painting, and Oil Painting, the show will be up through the end of December. Join us for complimentary snacks and drinks at the opening reception on Friday, October 1, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

# LIBRARY NEWS

## DID YOU GET CARDED?

September was Library Card Sign-Up month. This year's campaign was "Get Library Carded." Local businesses were invited to participate by offering gifts and discounts to all patrons that presented their library card. We had great participation from Athens-Clarke County businesses, including Winterville's own Front Porch Book Store, Winterville Animal Clinic, Sunrise Nursery, Off-the-Vine Produce, and Yorktown Curation and Consulting. Many patrons reported their delight in receiving discounts!



A small patron examines the new growth chart designed by favorite author and illustrator, Christian Robinson.

## STORY TIME

Outside Story Time has resumed! Every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m., Miss Hannah leads stories and games, weather permitting. Saturday Story Time at Pittard Park continues every other Saturday under the pavilion at 11:00 a.m.

## VISIT A FARM

Winterville Library has partnered with The Georgia Farm Bureau to provide a "Farm Passport" to Certified Farm Markets. Patrons can pick up a brochure that lists farms across the state that invite you to visit them. Activities vary at each farm: at some you can pick fruit, at others you can pet the animals, and some invite you to enjoy an ice cream while you admire the view from a rocking chair. Visiting these farms is a fantastic way to get out and about and tour the state. Do come by and pick up a free brochure.

## NEW TOOL FOR FINANCIAL ADVICE

Staff at Winterville Library recently participated in the Weiss Database Training. Weiss is a great financial information database offered free to our patrons. Not only does it offer financial ratings, stock ratings, and tips for how to protect your finances, it also provides how-to's for just about any financial topic, including financial planning, choosing a college, saving money, buying a home, sharing living expenses, and auto insurance. One of the most helpful sections is how to select from among 10 Medigap plans for seniors. There are 849 articles! All you need is a current library card. The link to the database is <https://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=weif-ath1&inst=ath1>.

## NEW BOOKS GIFTED

Winterville Library received a gift of over 40 new picture books and graphic novels. The books were donated by Evan Bush, a beloved children's librarian at the Athens branch who has served on several committees that select award-winning children's books, including the Randolph Caldecott Award for illustration and the Pura Belpre Awards for Latinx writers and illustrators. The Winterville Library and community extend a sincere thank you to Mr. Evan!

# DOCTORS MUSEUM

It's been a busy summer at the Doctors Museum as we work toward a full reimagining and reopening. In the past three months, we've:

- Moved our extensive archival collection back to the museum for processing, with the ultimate goal of creating a publicly accessible research library
- Applied for and gained membership with the Georgia Association of Museums, American Association for State and Local History, and the American Alliance of Museums
- Upgraded the museum's infrastructure to include our own computing system and wireless network
- Begun construction of a new website
- Expanded our collecting scope to include material related to the history of Winterville

That last point is an important new development. The Doctors Museum is a collecting institution, so it makes sense that we would also begin soliciting and acquiring materials related to our town's history outside of its medical connections. Recently, we acquired a fascinating ledger from the Pittard General Store dating from 1893, as well as a few objects used by former Mayor Whitehead's cleaning business. We've also received historic newspapers and other archival material from our town's past.

Some of these items were purchased, but most were generously donated by you, our citizens. And so, I'd like to put a call out for other material that pertains to our city's history. In the coming years, we hope to expand and create a Winterville museum room inside one of our many historic buildings, but to do that we need a collection that can tell Winterville's story. If you have material that can fill that need, the museum is ready to accept it! All accepted donations are tax-deductible in the value of the donation and are publicly credited to the donor. This is an exciting expansion to the museum's collecting vision, and we would love for you to help us tell Winterville's story for present and future generations!

To get in touch with us, please email [CountryDoctorsMuseum@gmail.com](mailto:CountryDoctorsMuseum@gmail.com) or give City Hall a ring at 706-742-8600. Also, even though we don't yet have regular hours, we are very much open by appointment, so reach out via phone or email to let us know when you'd like to come by.

See you at the museum!



# THE BUZZ FROM WINTERVILLE ELEMENTARY

## NEW FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST

Please welcome Dominic Baker, our Family Engagement Specialist. From Youngstown, Ohio, and raised in Jonesboro, Georgia, Mr. Baker comes to us from a customer service background. In his new role, he is connecting with teachers, parents, students, and community members in order to improve students' academic success. He is driven by a desire to motivate, inspire, and support our community. As he says, "It's all about removing barriers and accessing opportunities." We are excited to have him on our team.

## TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Mr. Richard Carlson, the WES Teacher of the Year! Nominated by his peers, Mr. Carlson is our STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) teacher. He loves hands-on, student-centered learning and creates a classroom environment of discovery and collaboration.

## PARAPROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

The faculty and staff selected Ms. Tiffany Cato as the Paraprofessional of the Year. We fondly describe her as a child-whisperer. As our Behavior Interventionist, Ms. Cato works with students and teachers to create learning experiences that promote student success and empower students to persist even when it's tough. Ms. Cato also serves as a co-coordinator of our after-school program.

## OCTOBER–DECEMBER EVENTS

- October 5: Walk to School Day. Students will walk from the Winterville First Baptist Church to WES to promote the health benefits of walking and biking to school.
- October 5: Winterville Elementary's skate night at Fun Galaxy
- October 6: Asynchronous Learning Day
- October 6–8: Parent Teacher Conferences
- October 7–8: Student Holiday
- October 29: Student/Staff Holiday
- November 16: Local School Governance Team meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- November 22–26: Thanksgiving Break
- December 20–January 4, 2022: Winter Break



## BUSY TIMES FOR FIREFLY TRAIL



Although the pandemic has posed new challenges to the Firefly Trail and its continued development, there's been no drop-off in progress. Likewise, use of completed trail segments in Winterville, Athens, Maxeys, and Union Point has been even heavier than anticipated. And, the much anticipated segment from Old Winterville Road to Hancock Road will open on October 1. Check it out soon!

This summer Firefly Trail, Inc., prepared and submitted a TSPLOST 2023 project proposal to Athens-Clarke County requesting funds for the completion of design and construction of the segment from Hancock Road to the Winterville city limits. Also included in that proposal is funding for trailheads at two locations: near the intersection of Winterville Road and Spring Valley Road and along Ranick Road. As proposed, each trailhead would include parking and restroom facilities as well as a small street-style skateboard skills area to increase the appeal for a new group of users. The ACC Mayor & Commission will approve a list of projects on February 1, 2022. The final selection step will be made by the voters of Athens-Clarke County.

Mark Ralston, president of Firefly Trail, Inc., is excited and optimistic about the proposal. "I can't say enough about all the support the community has given Firefly Trail over the years," he said. "The incredible response to the trail in Winterville is a great demonstration of the positive impact the Firefly Trail can have on our neighborhoods and communities. Now, with TSPLOST 2023, we have an opportunity to complete the trail in Athens-Clarke County and move closer to completing the entire 39 miles to Union Point, so that our whole region can enjoy the trail's full benefits for health, safety, and economic prosperity."

## TICKET TO RIDE

The 10th annual Ticket to Ride will take place Saturday, October 9. The cycling event, designed in part to draw regional attention to the Firefly Trail project and the promise it holds for Northeast Georgia, is a popular, non-competitive ride open to cyclists of all levels. This year the ride highlights completed and nearly completed trail segments in Union Point, Maxeys, Winterville, and Athens. Out-and-back cycling options range from a few miles up to 83 miles, with start/finish points at Jittery Joe's Roaster in Athens and Union Point Theatre in Union Point. Riders will enjoy paved roads, beautiful countryside, hills that go down as well as up, friendly towns, and on-road vehicle support, with restrooms, beverages, and snacks approximately every 10 miles. Winterville resident and FTI board member Bruce Johnson will head up the Winterville SAG (support and gear) stop, as he's generously done several years previously. For more information or to register for the ride, go to [www.fireflytrail.com](http://www.fireflytrail.com).



Looking south from the Winterville trailhead



Along Spring Valley near Hancock Road

# MARIGOLD MARKET



If you have been to Pittard Park any Saturday since the beginning of May, you have probably seen the Marigold Market in action. The market hours are 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. every Saturday through December 18, except for the Saturday after Thanksgiving. We have fresh produce, bread, honey, jelly, coffee, and more from local farms and home-based businesses. We even have local artisans with crafts, art, jewelry, and pottery. Did you know Marigold Market is just one part of the newly formed nonprofit, The Marigold Collective, Inc.?

The Marigold Collective also includes the Marigold Food Hub and a commercial kitchen. Together, these three components work to reduce food insecurity by connecting the Winterville and East Athens communities with fresh, affordable food and information on nutrition while supporting for local food producers. “Food insecurity” simply means that an individual or family is unable to afford enough food, particularly enough healthy food that provides critical nutrition.

Over-abundance from the Market is distributed in local neighborhoods as fresh produce and prepared meals. This is made possible by the cold storage installed in the old BBQ pit at Pittard Park, which houses the Food Hub. The refrigeration reduces food waste until unsold produce can be made available to those in need. The Hub is still in its infancy, but there are plans to renovate the BBQ pit into a multipurpose building that will include a postharvest station for farmers, storage for market supplies, and a honey house. The honey house will be a partnership with the Eastern Piedmont Beekeepers Association and will provide small producers with the equipment they need to bottle their honey for sale. The beekeepers and the Market’s board are planning a Honey Bee Jamboree for October 23.

The final component, the Marigold Commercial Kitchen, creates prepared meals from the stored produce, provides a legally compliant space for aspiring food producers to experiment with recipes and packaging, and hosts educational workshops to support healthier families and businesses. Marigold Collective hopes to have this facility complete and running at full capacity within two years. The long-term goal is to boost Winterville’s economy by supporting local farmers and helping producers and makers grow their business.

There is a lot more going on at the Market than great food and crafts. On the first Saturday of each month (Oct 2, Nov 6, Dec 4), Ms. Deidre holds Story Time at 11:00 a.m. in the gazebo to entertain your kids while you shop. Little Decisions host Victoria Cooper conducts a live podcast from her tent each week. And you can enjoy music by a variety of local musicians, including Rose and Joe, the father-daughter team who run The Lightnin’ Bug Bed and Breakfast (featured in the Business Spotlight of the previous issue), on October 30 and Mayor Dodd Ferrelle and Adam Poulin on November 20. Christian Montcriol and Making Strange are also slated for performances.

Special upcoming events include a “Taste the Season” cooking competition in partnership with UGarden, Concrete Jungle, and Winterville Prosperity Zone on November 13 and a Christmas Market on December 18 with a raffle for gift baskets created in collaboration with vendors and other local businesses.

December 18 will wrap up our 2021 season. We look forward to seeing you at Pittard Park! Are you interested in getting involved? Email [marigoldmarketwinterville@gmail.com](mailto:marigoldmarketwinterville@gmail.com) for details on volunteering, being a vendor, sponsorships, and donations.

# MEET YOUR MAKER

The *Gazette* is excited to launch a new recurring feature that will introduce readers to the farmers and makers who share their food, flowers, and other works of art at the Marigold Market. Kevin Kardon of Kevin’s Monster Shack was the subject of the previous issue’s Artist Spotlight. Each issue will focus on a different vendor.

## COZYBEAR MARKET GARDEN

### Deijhon Yearby: An Agronomist and Community Advocate with a “Fresh” Point of View



Born and raised in Athens, Deijhon got interested in growing food through the Young Urban Farmers program at Clarke Central High School. He went on to earn a degree in Agricultural Science from Athens Technical College and later served as assistant farm manager at the West Broad Farmers Market. “A lot of us don’t have that much access to fresh, naturally grown food,” he says. “I wanted to change that.” He decided to manage his own garden in Nicholson, and Cozybear Market Garden was born. Deijhon explains that the name comes from his personality. “Most people will say that I’m a comfortable person to talk to, though sometimes I can be a little aggressive, like a bear. But I do give out a cozy vibe and thought Cozybear would be a great name to represent me and the way that I farm.”

Yearby says that his farming methods differ from most local farmers and especially from large commercial agriculture. He is focused on both looks and taste. “I’m not someone that just puts the seed in the ground and waits for the crop to grow and expects to sell it. I make sure to have great-looking produce that is backed up by how delicious it is.” Rather than using pesticides and herbicides, he relies on high quality, nutrient-dense soil to develop strong plants that will yield the most flavorful vegetables. “I’ve had high-profile farmers tell me that I am growing food more naturally than probably anyone else.”



Clearly Deijhon’s philosophy is successful: on just a quarter-acre plot, he’s been able to raise enough vegetables to open a booth at the Marigold Market. He is also, at twenty-five years old, the Market’s youngest board member.



Deijhon says that his mission is to help people understand the health benefits of fresh food as well as make it easily available. His efforts to do so extend beyond the Marigold Market. He has also started an online farm stand, where residents of the Athens metro area can buy produce through the Cozybear Farms website and have it delivered to their door on Thursdays.

He is passionate about sharing his knowledge and helping others grow and even sell their produce. “It isn’t the farm that makes the farmer,” Yearby says. “It’s the love, hard work, and dedication to the practice that keeps one running and profitable.” To encourage aspiring farmers and gardeners, Deijhon has created the Cozybear Farms Podcast. Every Tuesday, he shares tips and tricks for planting, harvesting, and taking produce to market, and hosts conversations with educators, regional farmers, health professionals, market managers, chefs, and shoppers—all of whom, he points out, “are important to getting fresh foods back on the table again!”

You can find Cozybear produce every Saturday at the Marigold Market in Pittard Park, and the online farm stand and the podcasts are both available at [www.cozybearmarketgarden.com](http://www.cozybearmarketgarden.com).

# WINTERVILLE TREE COMMISSION

## TREE ID ON THE GREENWAY

Spend a fall morning with experts (including our own Holly Campbell) who will teach you about native tree species. Small, socially distanced groups will be guided either on an ADA-accessible route or a more challenging one. You'll even have a chance to win a sapling offspring from "The Tree That Owns Itself" or other door prizes. Sturdy shoes and face-masks are recommended.

When registering, please indicate your mobility preference. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsored by Athens Community Tree Council in partnership with the Winterville Tree Commission and Sandy Creek Nature Center, the program is free, but you can make a much-appreciated donation at [athenstrecouncil.com](http://athenstrecouncil.com).

The walks will take place Saturday, October 30, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., rain or shine. Register online at [accgovga.myrec.com](http://accgovga.myrec.com). Preregistration is limited to 70 and ends October 22. Questions? Contact Edith Jackson at 706-877-5818.

## UPCOMING SEMINARS AND EVENTS

- October 12: Pesticide Safety, 6:30–7:30 p.m., online
- November 11–14: Tree Climbing Competition, Kingston, GA (free for spectators)
- December 3: Tree Pruning Workshop, 7:45 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Flinchum's Phoenix in Whitehall Forest, Athens. Find details at <https://georgiaarborist.org/All-Events>.

## Save the Date

Winterville will have its first MLK Day of Service on January 17, 2022, in Pittard Park. More details can be found in the next *Gazette* and on the Tree Commission's webpage.

## LYNDON HOUSE WILLOW OAK EXHIBIT

A huge willow oak graced the lawn of the historic Ware-Lyndon House for over a century, a sentinel and beacon to all who visited the Lyndon House Arts Center since its establishment in 1976. The tree reached the end of its life after an estimated 150 years and had to be removed from the property in 2016. Fourteen artists received reclaimed wood from the tree to incorporate into a work of art that express their thoughts and feelings about the iconic tree, the Lyndon House Arts Center, and the Athens community. The works created with and inspired by the tree will be on display at the Lyndon House through November 18.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Soil compaction is hard on trees! Driving across ground covering the root system of a tree causes soil compaction that will improve only 15 percent over the next 85 years. Ninety percent of a tree's roots are in the top 10 inches of soil. Compacting that soil reduces the amount of oxygen and water the roots can absorb and causes more runoff into storm drains.

## WINTERVILLE HAS TWO STATE CHAMPION TREES!

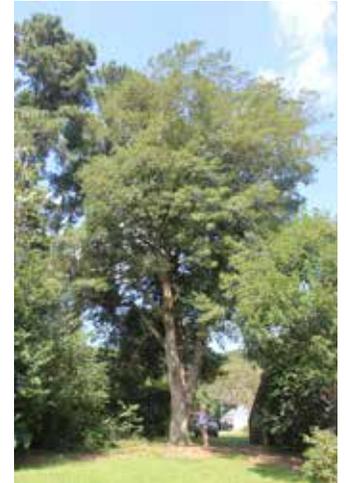


A champion tree is defined as the largest known tree of a particular species and must be native or naturalized to the U.S. This co-champion sawtooth oak (*Quercus acutissima*) is 77 feet tall and has a crown spread of 109 feet. It measures 12.5 feet around. Thank you to Mateo Fennell for nominating this beauty last December.

We are also home to a state champion English holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) that is 55 feet tall, has a 24-foot crown spread, and is an impressive 10 feet around. This tree was featured as the Spotlight “citizen” in the Oct-Dec 2017 issue

of the *Gazette*. You can read that article in the archives on the city website.

And, for a brief time in 1999, the large and very old white oak that overhangs the Chandler house at Main and Suddeth was designated the Clarke County Champion (thanks to Patsy Chandler for providing a copy of the certificate). Unfortunately, its status was usurped within a few months by a tree on Jefferson Road. Nevertheless, the Chandler tree is still here, a magnificent, silent witness to the history of Winterville. If anyone has old photographs or stories about this tree or any other trees in Winterville, please send them to [wintervilletreecomm@gmail.com](mailto:wintervilletreecomm@gmail.com), and we will share them in future editions of the *Gazette*.



## OTHER COOL STUFF

Victoria Cooper of the Little Decisions podcast interviewed Commission Chair Lea Clark about trees, kindness, and the Tree Commission. To listen, go to <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1806900/9051764> or <https://youtu.be/0VUth6-xZNE>.

Want to hear what a tree sounds like as it grows? Check out [HiddenLifeRadio.com](https://www.hiddenliferadio.com).

For live stream sounds of different forests around the world, go to <https://www.tree.fm/forest/27>. The relaxing sounds are nice to have on in the background.

# TIPS FROM ACC STORMWATER MANAGEMENT



## BE A SEPTICSMART HOMEOWNER

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) may have just finished celebrating their annual SepticSmart Week in September, but it's never too late to care for and maintain your septic systems! When not properly maintained, septic systems pose a serious threat to water quality, and leaking systems are considered illegal discharges to the public stormwater system. The Athens-Clarke County Stormwater Management Program would like to remind all homeowners on septic to care for their systems by following these tips:

- **Think at the sink.** What goes down your drain has a big impact on your septic system. Avoid pouring harsh chemicals or grease down your drain and use cleaners/detergents in moderation.
- **Don't strain your drain.** Use water efficiently and stagger the use of water-based appliances such as washing machines, dishwashers, or showers to avoid back-up of your septic system.
- **Keep it clean.** Failing septic systems can leak and contaminate groundwater, which in turn can affect our drinking water supply. If you are on a well system, make sure to test your water regularly.
- **Shield your field.** Drain fields are an important component of septic systems that remove contaminants from the liquid that emerges from the tank. Never park cars or plant trees on top of drain fields, and make sure roof drains and/or other drainage systems are directed away from it.
- **Protect it and inspect it.** Regular septic system maintenance can save you thousands of dollars and protect public health. The average household septic system should be inspected and/or pumped every three to five years by a professional.
- **Don't overload the commode.** Your toilet is not a trashcan. Disposable diapers and wipes, feminine hygiene products, cigarette butts, cat litter, and much more can damage your system. Do not flush them down the toilet.

Following these recommendations will prolong the life of your system and ultimately save you money and headaches. For more tips, check out ACCGov's Septic Tank Maintenance video or visit the ACCGov Septic Education Program website.



# CITY SPOTLIGHT

This column features local businesses, artists, and notable citizens. If you have ideas for Spotlight features, please contact the *Gazette* editor.

## CITIZEN SPOTLIGHT

### Freddie Scott

Three-year-old Freddie Scott is already a fine public servant: he's in charge of updating the city's marquee (with a little help from his dad, Jonathan Scott). Freddie *loves* letters. Gifted with an intense fascination with the alphabet, he reads fluently at a level far above his age, and letters are his favorite toys. Foam letters, wooden letters, magnetic letters, paper letters, sticker letters...all are a source of endless delight.

So, when Jonathan updated the city marquee for the Historic Preservation Commission hearing earlier this year, "it seemed an obvious activity that Freddie would enjoy," he says. City Clerk Wendy Bond was more than happy to have a dedicated marquee assistant, "and now Freddie and I are out there weekly or more," Jonathan says. In response to a question asking how he feels about changing the City Hall sign, Freddie answered, "Good!"



Freddie likes dinosaurs and Hot Wheels, too, of course. He's also on pretty good terms with numbers "and gets way too excited when he gets to do addition or subtraction," says his dad.

When asked whether Freddie has expanded into other alphabets yet, Jonathan replied, "It's funny you say that. He discovered the umlaut this week, and we now hear about it every 30 minutes or so."

Freddie is a kid after this editor's own heart, and I can't wait to meet him. He is extremely shy, but once he warms up to you, "he's the kindest, gentlest, sweetest little human you'll ever meet," Jonathan says. Dad might be a little biased, but I think he's probably right.



# BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

## Sunrise Nursery



In April of this year, just in time for the spring planting, Willow Samsel and Allison Workman opened Sunrise Nursery in the former Thyme after Thyme location at 550 Athens Road.



“We could not be more thrilled to be part of the Winterville community and appreciate the warm welcome we have received,” Samsel says. As with many people in the Athens area, reopening this “magical, mature garden planted 25 years ago” to the public has been “a long-held dream” for the two women, and they encourage you to come and enjoy the space. The frog pond, filled with blooming lily pads in the shade of a magnificent Trifoliate Orange tree, is a destination in and of itself. “We have a sweet spot set up where kids can paint a pot or a rock and plant a marigold,” Workman adds. And Tux, the garden pup, will be happy to greet you.

If you missed the spring season, you may have met Willow and Allison at the Marigold Market. During the hottest weeks of the summer, Sunrise was open only by appointment but had a vendor table where they sold plants and made stained glass stepping stones to sell at the nursery. Other garden-related crafts currently available are painted flower pots and whirly gigs by local artists, and Sunrise is interested in adding more such collaborations with local artists, such as potters and metal workers. “We really want to support local artists by being a place they can show their wares,” Willow says.



With regard to flora, Sunrise specializes in woody ornamentals and aims to supply plants of the highest quality while keeping them competitively priced. The nursery is currently well-stocked for fall planting. In addition to seasonally available annuals, you can select from a wide range of plants that will feed you, including blueberry, blackberry, elderberry, and fig bushes, as well as plum, persimmon, and three types of apple trees. If you are looking for something bigger or for spectacular fall color, there are oaks, maples, black gums, and Japanese maples. Need still more color? They have snowballs, pink pussy willows, beauty berry, winterberry, and “camellias galore.”



“Our mission is to inspire and enrich each customer’s well-being through designing gardens as individual living spaces,” Workman says. “We believe in environmental stewardship and hope to spark new and renewed interest in horticulture and plants.” In their view, the role of Sunrise Nursery is not just to provide beauty but also to support the community. For example, throughout September, which was National Library Card Sign-Up month, customers with a library card received 10 percent off their purchase. If you missed out on that opportunity, don’t despair: Thursdays are Senior Appreciation Day (65+ get 10% off a plant of your choice), and every Friday is Parent Appreciation Day (bring your kids to explore, paint, plant, and play with Tux and get 10% off a plant of your choice).

In the future, Willow and Allison hope to work with local school systems to develop and expand horticulture therapy programs, as well as to help create community gardens and support sustainable food production. As Samsel explains, their overarching goal is “to cultivate an appreciation for spending time in gardens, either alone or with others, experiencing healing and spreading joy.”

The nursery is open Thursday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Sundays from noon to 5:00 p.m. You can keep up with the latest news by following Sunrise Nursery on Instagram and Facebook.



# ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

## Sam Fogarino



Photo by Atiba Jefferson

Sam Fogarino is best known for his work with the band Interpol, which emerged in the late 1990s and was influential in the New York indie rock and post-punk scene in the early 2000s. Their debut album, *Turn on the Bright Lights*, has been described as an instant classic, gaining the band serious attention and launching an international tour. It became a Gold Record in both the US and UK.

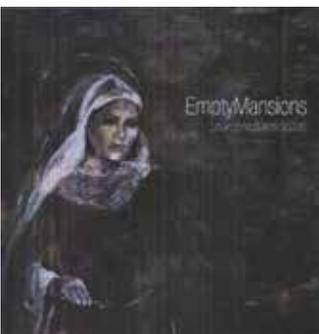
Sam started playing drums when he was 13 and eventually joined the Holy Terrors, which “was punk rock in a Pixies or Sonic Youth way” and developed in the same south-Florida milieu that gave rise to acts like The Mavericks and Marilyn Manson, who was already gaining a cult following. Manson asked him to join his

band at one point, but Fogarino turned him down. The Holy Terrors “were going nowhere” in terms of making it big, “but there was a CD release and we were about to hit the road.” Accepting Manson’s offer would have created “a big mess,” Fogarino says. “It wasn’t me.” It took another ten years for a big opportunity to arrive. In 2000, Interpol’s original drummer left the band, and Fogarino stepped in.

“I joined the band in 2000, and in 2002 we had an album on Matador records and were touring the world. That first six months of touring I was nicknamed Hurricane Sam,” living the clichéd reality of sex, drugs, and rock’n’roll. This wasn’t much in keeping with Interpol’s reputation for being “stoic, brooding individuals,” Sam says. “As dark and mysterious as this band can be, we are more than that. We’re a bunch of goofballs.”



Still, Interpol is known for being nearly as secretive as its namesake, keeping a tight lid on news of forthcoming albums and sometimes playing shows under other names. Interpol’s debut album was followed by five more: *Antics* in 2004, *Our Love to Admire* in 2007, *Interpol* in 2010, *El Pintor* (an anagram of Interpol) in 2014, and *Marauder* in 2018. Critics have noted the band’s remarkable consistency throughout changes in band members and music fashions and its adoption of a confident veteran status. After a 2017 tour commemorating the 15th anniversary of *Turn on the Bright Lights*, the band members agreed to shift their musical direction back toward that of their early work. For *Marauder*, Fogarino says, “We grabbed the reins this time around and were more deliberate. To date, this is our most realized record.”



Between and around his commitments with Interpol, Sam has pursued several side projects. He joined Swervedriver’s guitarist and singer-songwriter Adam Franklin in 2006 to form Setting Suns (later called Magnetic Morning), and in 2013 he and guitarist Duane Denison of The Jesus Lizard formed Empty Mansions, which released *snakes/vulture/sulfate* in 2013.

After the release of *Our Love to Admire* and coming off another worldwide tour, Fogarino “was looking to feel a bit more settled.” After ten years in New York City, “the lack of open space was starting to get to me, and so was the cost of living!”

Athens felt like it might be the right place to live after the band played “an incredible show” at the 40-Watt in 2003. He made a few more visits, then moved to Athens in the spring of 2008. “I thought the cross section of those who lived in Athens was highly interesting—I didn’t think I’d have any problems fitting in.” His intuition proved correct. Through his then-partner, he got involved in Canopy Studio and composed an accompanying soundtrack

to their 2010 “Fractured Fairy Tales” performance. “I don’t recall how the idea to score an aerial dance show came about, but I do recall spending many hours in the recording studio working on ten pieces or so, and taking in a lot of feedback from the dancers to get each track just as they requested. It proved to be a huge challenge for a solo endeavor, but so worth it.” If you got to see the show, lucky you, because the music written for the show wasn’t made commercially available. Fogarino decided that it should be kept as an exclusive component of the performance.

In 2018, Sam bought a home in Winterville’s historic district. “I have felt a pull towards Winterville from the moment I drove past the train station on my way to a party on the property that later became Sweet Olive Farm, during my first year. There’s a certain atmosphere to our small town—it reminds me of a Norman Rockwell image but in a far more real, open, and forward-moving way,” he says.

Fogalo still spends a lot of time in New York, but now he can come home to “privacy and personal space, without being too isolated. It’s comforting to see life happen just out in front of my house, and to have great neighbors on all sides.”



Sam Fogarino (right) with the other members of Interpol, Daniel Kessler (lead guitar and vocals, on left) and Paul Banks (lead vocals and bass guitar) at a 2018 press conference in Mexico City to announce the release of *Marauder*. Image credit: AFP/Alfredo Estrella



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**THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF WINTERVILLE**



### About the *Gazette*

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Have an idea for a story? Contact the editor at [WintervilleGazette@gmail.com](mailto:WintervilleGazette@gmail.com).

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