



# WINTERVILLE GAZETTE

VOLUME XXV, ISSUE 4

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

EMERGENCY 911

ANIMAL CONTROL  
706-613-3540

CITY HALL  
706-742-8600

CITY HALL FAX  
706-742-5476

DOCTORS MUSEUM  
706-389-5151

LEAF & LIMB  
PICKUP  
706-613-3501 x 318

LIBRARY  
706-742-7735

POLICE  
706-742-5295

POST OFFICE  
706-742-8875

PUBLIC UTILITIES  
706-613-3440

STREET OR  
DRAINAGE REPAIR  
706-613-3465

## Mayor's Corner

Dear Wintervillians,

I hope this message finds you all well and enjoying the cooler temperatures. I know you are because I see a whole lot more of you on the Firefly Trail. I write, as always, with gratitude for each of you and this incredible city we all call home. I am wrapping up the final year (Number eight!) of my second term, and after much thought and discussion with my wife and family, I have decided to run for one final term as your mayor.

It has been the honor of a lifetime to serve this community, and I feel up to the challenge for four more years that I hope will be as productive as the last eight have been. I want to thank my family for their public service as well. I am not sure that everyone knows, but families of public servants are pretty much elected to serve along with the public servant and my family has done an incredible job serving this community throughout the



last eight years. My wife and first lady, Cameron, has been an integral part of the growth of the Arts in Winterville. Her early work with the elementary school on the beloved murals around the town square are still two of

my favorite projects. Empowering our young ones and their families through the arts was a powerful statement from this community, and it's one that continues to attract folks to our town to experience the positive community building endeavors that have only multiplied through the years.

Our children have also been right there working beside us the whole way. They have grown up serving this community and I am so very thankful for Bliss, Lucas, Dodd Jr., and Cameron. And our dogs, cats and hamster! And you!!! Thank you for putting your trust in me through all of these magical years. We all look forward to four more working on your behalf. Until then, have a great Fall and I'll see you on the streets!

Sincerely,  
Dodd I. Ferrelle, Mayor

*We are a small city with a big heart, and we are glad that you are here. Wintervillians take pride in our community traditions, festivals, parks and trails, and our people. Whether you are a long-term resident, a new neighbor, or a visitor, there is room for you here. We welcome and value the beauty of diversity and strive for equality and inclusivity in all we do.*

## Election Candidate Forum on Monday, October 2

November 7th, 2023 is election day in the City of Winterville. We have several folks running for council seats and 1 person running for Mayor. Also on the ballot will be the Athens-Clarke County Clerk of Courts position. The Winterville Civitan Club will host a Candidate forum Monday, October 2nd at 6:30 p.m. in the Marigold Auditorium and Arts Center so that citizens can meet candidates and ask questions of all those running for public office. It is always so very important that you educate yourselves on those running to serve you. And then VOTE!!!! Please see this Gazette for more information regarding candidates and schedules.

## 2024 Budget

City Council has approved a draft 2024 budget that is available for viewing on the city's website. City Council has scheduled public hearings on Tuesday, October 3rd and Tuesday, October 10th at 6 p.m. to hear any public comments regarding the proposed budget.

## Main Street Drainage Project

We continue to move along on schedule with the very large project to alleviate flooding along Main Street. You will begin to see survey crews on site in the fall with construction crews soon to follow. There will be some difficult traffic days in early 2024, so please be patient while we work to greatly improve that corridor.

## Parkview Crosswalk

City Council voted to approve funding the Parkview Crosswalk project at Pittard Park. The Pittard Park crosswalk was removed a couple of years ago due to safety concerns surrounding placement and access. A new crosswalk has been designed and now approved that will connect the main area of Pittard Park to the Community Garden/Frisbee disc golf/additional

parking side of the park. A flashing RFIB will also be installed. All of this will hopefully help calm traffic coming in from outside of the City Limits while making it much safer to walk from Park to Park. Look for construction to begin before the end of the year.

## Cultural Center

The Art Gallery and Heritage Museum are coming soon and will inhabit the newly renovated upstairs section of the Cultural Center. We have preserved the original character of the upstairs and hope to have a regional destination for art and history lovers for many years to come. The project is still underway with the elevator being the last piece needed to reach completion. We hope to have that in by late October and the renovation completed by mid December. Look for a 2024 Grand Opening.

## Blackshop Shop Renovation

Our incredible partners at the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission continue to steer us toward a positive outcome with regard to a Department of Community Affairs Grant that the city will use to save and renovate the beloved Blacksmith Shop. Stay tuned for what we hope will be very good news soon!!

## Pittard Park Playground Upgrades

This will be welcome news to many! City Council has voted to fund several upgrades within our park and playscape areas. Much need repairs and replacements will be made in the coming months to make the playscape safer and more enjoyable for all the little ones who love our park.



## Candidate Forum

Winterville Civitan will host a forum for the candidates running for office in Winterville this election day. It will be held in the Marigold Auditorium, Monday, October 2nd, at 6:30 p.m. All Mayor and Council candidates will be present, and Civitan will administer the Q and A. Candidate bios for the open City Council seats are presented below:

Dianne Greene was born and raised in Greene County, Georgia, the eighth of nine children. Currently, she is employed with Advantage Behavioral Health as a Behavioral Intervention Specialist. She also works with People Living In Recovery. She is currently studying to get licensed as an Addiction Counselor, PLR. She is also the Outreach Coordinator/Life Recovery Coach and Owner Operator of Ruby's Helping Hands. Dianne loves Winterville!

Melissa Metzger has served as a city councilperson since 2021 and as a board member for the Downtown Development Authority since 2020. She and her family have lived in Winterville for several years and enjoy volunteering for community initiatives and attending all the events that make our little city so special. Melissa has worked in education for over 20 years and currently manages an international training team for a software company. She also loves connecting with the people she serves, so if you see Melissa and her husband, Chris, walking their dogs along the Firefly Trail, say hello!

Tina Mills is the Assistant Director of the Winterville Cultural Center and Chairperson of the Winterville Tree Council. She holds a BS in Marine Biology and a California Teaching credential. Tina has worked in a multitude of retail and corporate settings. She studies permaculture, guitar, and non-violent communication. Tina lives with the love of her life, husband Matthew Posnick, mom Mary Mills, and 11 fur babies.

Jonathan Mosley lived in Winterville from 2010-2014 while he earned his Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry at UGA. After moving briefly



*Dianne Greene*



*Melissa Metzger*



*Tina Mills*



*Jonathan Mosley*

to various places in Athens, he moved (back) to Winterville with his wife Nicole and 5 children in July 2022 and has been an active part of the community ever since. He is an avid musician and has played several times at the Marigold Market and more broadly around Athens. He also serves on the Winterville Arts Council. When he's not contributing to the musical arts or spending time with his family and friends in Winterville, he is conducting research at the US EPA in Athens.

Kenneth Tweedell is also a candidate.

## Snowflake 10K Race

The Civitan Winterville Snowflake 10K race will be held January 13 at 7:30 a.m. It will follow its usual route through the city. More information about the race can be found at <https://www.classicraceservices.com/>.

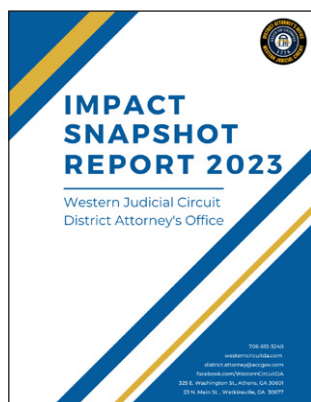
# CIVIC CALENDAR

## Meetings are held at City Hall unless otherwise stated.

*Times, Dates, and Meeting Places are subject to change without notice.*

Monday, October 2	Planning & Zoning, 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, October 3	Council Workshop, 6:00 p.m.
Monday, October 9	Municipal Court, 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 10	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 11	Friends of the Winterville Firefly Trail, 7:00 p.m. (Zoom)
Thursday, October 12	Winterville Tree Commission, 6:00 p.m. (Pittard Park)
Monday, October 16	Community Garden Committee, 6:00 p.m. (Pavilion)
Tuesday, October 17	Historic Preservation Committee, 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 24	Winterville Arts Council, 6:00 p.m. (Community Center)
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Monday, November 6	Planning & Zoning, 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, November 7	Council Workshop, 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 7	Election Day, 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m. (Depot)
Wednesday, November 8	Friends of the Winterville Firefly Trail, 7:00 p.m. (Zoom)
Monday, November 13	Municipal Court, 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 14	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
Monday, November 20	Community Garden Committee, 6:00 p.m. (Pavilion)
Tuesday, November 21	Historic Preservation Committee, 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 23	Thanksgiving Day, City Hall Closed
Friday, November 24	Black Friday, City Hall Closed
Tuesday, November 28	Winterville Arts Council, 6:00 p.m. (Community Center)
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Friday, December 1	Holiday in the Park, 6:00 p.m. (Pittard Park)
Tuesday, December 5	Council Workshop, 6:00 p.m.
Monday, December 11	Municipal Court, 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 12	City Council, 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 13	Friends of the Winterville Firefly Trail, 7:00 p.m. (Zoom)
Monday, December 18	Community Garden Committee, 6:00 p.m. (Location TBD)
Tuesday, December 19	Historic Preservation Committee, 6:00 p.m.
Friday, December 22	Christmas Eve (Observed), City Hall Closed
Monday, December 25	Christmas Day, City Hall Closed
Tuesday, December 26 – Friday, December 29	City Hall Closed for Holidays

## Western Judicial Circuit DA's Office Releases First-Ever Impact Report



In August, our office released our first-ever Impact Report. When I took office, I pledged to keep the people of Clarke and Oconee Counties safe. I vowed to be transparent, keep you informed of the work in our office, and partner with community

enforcement agencies to address challenges facing our community.

The Mid-Term Impact Report highlights our office's work since the beginning of our term. The report is a snapshot of the outcomes and accomplishments we achieved through the combined efforts of our law enforcement and community partners as we continue to work toward making Athens Clarke and Oconee Counties safer and more just places to live, work, and raise a family.

Over the first half of our term, our investigators served over 20,000 subpoenas, and our victim-witness advocates provided over 100,000 services to victims. Upon taking office, we completed case reviews of over 2400 cases and resolved over 5500 felony cases. Our prosecutors and other team members worked with judges, defense attorneys, the clerk's office, and others in the judicial system to reduce the backlog of cases during the pandemic. Despite the backlog, we tried 23 felony cases during the first eight months of 2021—more than was tried by the previous administration in all of 2019. We delivered our promise of providing an alternative to the traditional justice system for juvenile offenders by implementing a Juvenile Restorative Justice Diversion Program in partnership with the Georgia Conflict Center.

Outside the courtroom, we strengthened our community connections by establishing an

External Relations Department encompassing our Community Outreach, Data and Outcomes, and Open Records Request Divisions. Through our External Relations Department, we report on significant case outcomes and educate residents about the criminal justice process. We publish a monthly newsletter, monthly news outlet columns, and community presentations and maintain a social media presence. We are committed to sponsoring service projects and building trust in the courtroom and relationships in the communities we serve.

Although we are not where we want to be, we have come a long way in working with law enforcement and others to help reduce crime, deliver on the promise of implementing diversion programs, prioritize victim and witness services, and engage the community by sharing resources, sponsoring programs, and collaborating with community partners.

We hope you find the Mid-Term Impact Report to be encouraging, informative, and a reflection of what we can accomplish when we work together to better our community—dedicated to prioritizing safety, accountability, and justice.

Access the Mid-Term Impact Report by visiting [bit.ly/wjcd-impact](https://bit.ly/wjcd-impact).

– District Attorney Deborah Gonzalez



# WINTERVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

## A Letter from the Fire Chief

As we marked the 22nd anniversary of the events of 9/11, we were reminded of the tragedy of that day, truly a dark day for all of America. But amid the losses, our country rose up from the ashes and came together like never before. Strangers held hands and cried together as they watched the events unfold. Neighbors checked on one another, even the ones that hardly spoke to each other daily. Political leaders put their differences aside and joined together to combat this senseless act of terrorism.

Acts that took only a few hours to destroy buildings, landmarks, and lives, brought our citizens together with love and compassion. The fire department in New York alone lost 343 firefighters that day, as well as countless police officers, medical personnel, security workers, and civilians.

It was truly a day that our department will never forget. Before our training meeting, which happened to fall on 9/11, we had a prayer service with our department chaplain, John

Turlington, as well as a moment of silence in front of the station, with the flag at half-staff.

I'm proud of our city's 14 Winterville Fire Department volunteers. They respond to scenes, not knowing what they may face from one call to the next. These guys leave their homes at a moment's notice, sometimes interrupting meals, birthday celebrations, or holidays, often awoken in the middle of the night from a deep sleep. And they do this critical work, protecting our city's residents, for no pay at all. I have said it countless times, but you cannot say enough about the heart of a volunteer.

Anyone wishing to learn more about our organization, please feel free to attend one of our weekly meetings every Monday night at 7:00 p.m.

- Fire Chief Michael Gabriel



# MARIGOLD FESTIVAL

*Mark your Calendars!*

**Join us**

*Saturday May 11, 2024*

*Winterville Marigold Festival*

**You can join the fun now!**

**Volunteer applications are open**

 **2024** 

**Marigold Festival**

**Call for Art**

*Your art* 

**Submission due January 1, 2024**

For more information visit  
[wintervilleartscouncil.org](http://wintervilleartscouncil.org) or [marigoldfestival.com](http://marigoldfestival.com)

## Holiday Safety Tips

Hello Winterville Residents!!!!

I have had the privilege to meet several of you this past spring and summer as I patrolled your neighborhoods. For those of you I have not met, I am Officer Bill Charles, one of the new part-time Winterville police officers. I retired from Atlanta Police Department after over 30 years of service.

As the holidays approach, I want to share some tips with you through the *Winterville Gazette* to keep your home safe over the holiday season. I realize some of these tips may sound like basic common sense, but sometimes it is easy to forget basic things as you are preparing for the busy holiday season.

**If you are planning to have any packages delivered while you are gone, ask a trusted neighbor to pick up your packages for you.** Over the past few years, we have seen a surge in the number of porch pirates roaming neighborhoods. A porch pirate is a criminal who steals packages from your porch. (Yes, "porch piracy" is the actual name for this crime). These criminals drive through neighborhoods looking for packages on front porches. This type of crime rapidly increases every year as the holidays approach.

**If you travel during the holidays, ask the Winterville post office to hold your mail while you are gone.** When mail accumulates in your mailbox, this is not only an indication to burglars that no one is home, it also increases your chances of becoming a victim of identity theft. Bills and other personal information in your mailbox contain information criminals can use to steal your identity.

**If you go out of town, leave some lights on inside of your house.** Preferably use timers, so the same lights are not always on while you are gone. When different lights are on inside of your house, at different times during the day and night, it will appear that someone is home.

**Ask the Winterville Police Department to keep an extra eye on your house while you are gone.** Performing a "vacation check" on your house while you are gone is something we will gladly do for all Winterville residents, anytime of the year, not just over the Christmas holidays. Provide the Winterville Police

Department with an emergency contact number for a local relative, or a trusted neighbor, while you are gone.

**Do NOT advertise your upcoming out-of-town trip on Facebook or any other social media site.** It is common for burglars to use social media sites to pick their next target. If you advertise on social media that you and your family are going to spend Christmas on the beach in South Florida, you have just unintentionally told every burglar the best time to burglarize your unoccupied house. Wait until AFTER you return home to tell your Facebook friends about your exciting vacation.

**If you are going to attend a funeral or a wedding, and your address is published on social media, please request for the Winterville Police Department, as well as a trusted neighbor, to keep an eye on your house while you are attending the function.** Burglars do a good job monitoring social media sites involving funerals and weddings. When they see that you are attending a loved one's funeral, or a relative's wedding, they now know the perfect time to burglarize your house, and how long they can stay inside of your house before you return home.

On a final note, when I was with the Atlanta Police Department, one of the questions about home safety that I would get asked more than any other question was, "What is the best burglar alarm for my house?" Well, there are numerous types of burglar alarms on the market, and any type of burglar alarm is better than no burglar alarm at all. **However, to answer the question as to which type of burglar alarm is the BEST, my answer was, "get a dog".** In all seriousness, during my career, I have investigated numerous home burglaries where the homeowner had a burglar alarm, but their house was still burglarized. However, I rarely investigated a burglary when the homeowner had a dog inside of their home. And, if the dog was large (or even medium size) there was seldom a burglary. Burglars fear dogs. If there is a dog inside of your house, you have greatly reduced your chances of becoming a target for a burglar.

I hope everyone has a safe holiday season. I look forward to meeting everyone in person as I patrol your neighborhoods.

– Officer Bill Charles

# WINTERVILLE TREE COMMISSION

## WTC Updates

Your Winterville Tree Commission has been busy this summer. We worked with the Georgia Forestry Commission to create tree canopy maps of Winterville. They can be viewed on our brand-new Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/winterville.tree.co/>.

We made a commitment to keep Winterville Tree Canopy at a healthy 50%. One of our biggest takeaways from the workshop was that to compensate for trees aging out, storm damage and removal, we need to keep planting trees—over 100 per year! Some of the ways we plan to do this are through tree giveaways and tree sales. We will be making announcements on the Winterville City website and the Winterville GA Citizens Facebook page.

## Cut Cleanup

We are working with several partners to clean up the Cut near Winterville First Baptist Church:

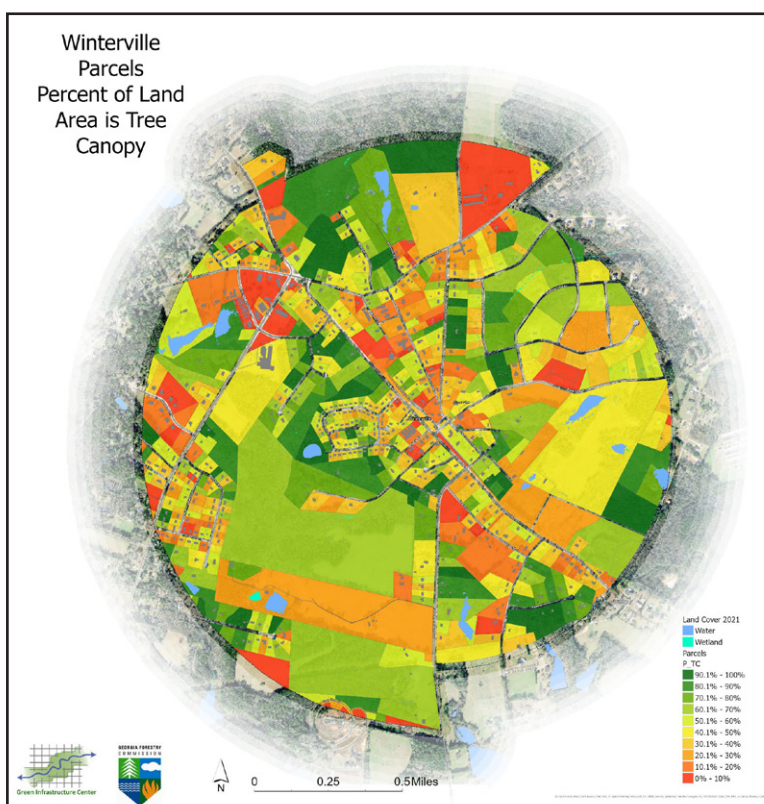
ACC Trails and Open Spaces, Friends of the Winterville Firefly Trail, UGA Extension Office, and the Athens–East Piedmont chapter of the Georgia Native Plant Society.

## Commemorative Tree Celebration/Tree Product Potluck

On Sunday, October 22, at 1:00 p.m. in the Pittard Park Pavilion, everyone is welcome to participate in a celebration honoring those who have given and received commemorative trees. Bring stories about your particular tree or honoree and/or a dish based on a tree product (think apples, pecans, olives, etc.), or just come and join us to celebrate trees in Winterville.

## Fall Tip

The best time to plant a tree is NOW! Care for your overwintering trees by applying a layer of mulch to protect the roots from drying out. Make sure the mulch doesn't contact the tree trunk. Leave 2–3 inches around the trunk.





## Firefly Trail Update

As another hot Georgia summer draws to a close, progress continues on the Firefly Trail. Construction of a major section of the trail is nearing completion in Greene County as autumn begins, and work is underway on two grant applications that will soon be submitted to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Here in Winterville, a native plant garden is being created along the city's already beautiful Firefly Trail segment.

A little more than two years ago, a Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program (GOSP) grant of \$2.1 million was awarded to Greene County to build 5.8 miles of trail, as well as a new bridge over North Rhodes Street in Union Point. Project partners for the undertaking have included Union Point and Woodville in Greene County, Maxeys in Oglethorpe County, Firefly Trail, Inc. (FTI), and the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association, Athens Chapter.

Greene County retained the services of the highly experienced PATH Foundation to handle detailed design and engineering work and help coordinate with the contractor, Lewallen Construction based in Marietta. Inflated pricing of most construction materials, caused primarily by the COVID pandemic, significantly delayed the project. Eventually, donations totaling \$595,000 were contributed by FTI (\$225K), PATH (\$320K) and the Riverview Foundation (\$50K) to supplement local match contributions and enable completion of the challenging 2.6-mile Woodville section.

Work in Greene County is winding down as this issue of the *Gazette* goes to press, and by late October the Firefly Trail's total completed mileage will jump from 6.2 to 12.0! (That's 4.4 miles in Athens-Clarke, 1.1 miles in Oglethorpe, and 6.5 miles in Greene.) Wintervillians are encouraged to check out the newly completed and beautiful path through Greene County, as well as Union Point's attractive new bridge and trailhead park space!

The FTI and the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission (NEGRC) are currently coordinating work on two grant applications. The City of Crawford recently approved a conceptual

trail alignment study prepared by NEGRC last spring. The document identifies a preferred trail placement through the town, and the City Council has voted to pursue a GOSP award that would be combined with local TSPLOST funds to construct a 0.75-mile trail segment from US78/Athens Road to the northwestern city limits near Smokey Road. NEGRC is taking the lead on preparing the GOSP Pre-application, due to the Georgia DNR by October 13, with assistance from FTI.

In addition, the City of Maxeys is in consultation with Oglethorpe County and FTI about a possible grant application to DNR's Recreational Trails Program (RTP). Details of the proposed project should be finalized by early October, with the RTP Pre-application due November 1.

Elsewhere in this issue of the *Gazette* is information about Winterville's native plant garden. Initiated by the Winterville Friends of the Firefly Trail, this undertaking promises to further beautify the trail, as well as bring educational benefits. Volunteers are needed, and the work should be fun and rewarding!

- John Kissane

FTI Trail Development Coordinator



Photos courtesy of Lisa Baynes, FTI Board member

## Pollinator Garden

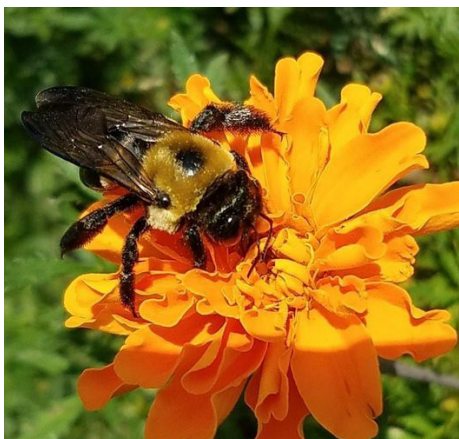
This was the second year that Winterville Library participated in the Southeast Pollinator Census. With financial support from the Friends of the Winterville Library and marigold donations from the City of Winterville, we continue to develop our pollinator garden (which is also an official stop on the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail). Returning perennials



were Ageratum, Asclepias tuberosa, buddleia, echinacea, French Lavender, blue Lobelia, Rudbeckia and spotted Bee Balm. We planted annuals to fill in: several varieties of zinnias, red salvia, and of course, the

marigolds which are the official flower of The City of Winterville.

During the two-day official count, we spotted butterflies including tiger swallowtails, common buckeyes, Viceroy, red spotted blue, spicebush swallowtail, grey hairstreak and the lovely American Lady. The American Lady also visited the water dish we set out on the porch for our dog friends! We were disappointed not to



attract many honeybees, though we did spot carpenter bees, bumble bees, metallic blue scoliid wasps, and all sizes of flies—they are all important pollinators.

We must acknowledge Becky Hunt Griffeth of the UGA extension office who organizes the count and manages the wonderful Southeast Pollinator Census Facebook page, a fabulous source of scientific information.

## The Arts Continue at Winterville Library

Sarah Hubbard, a quilt artist, hung her fabulous quilt “paintings” in our front room gallery. Sarah, who works at Hub Bicycles in Athens’ 5 Points, gathered up ten or so friends at the shop, and then rode bikes along the Firefly Trail all the way to Winterville Library! After a quick change of clothes, Sarah then hosted 60 friends and acquaintances for an engaging “Meet the Artist” presentation.

Our current art display features richly colored acrylic paintings by artist Laura Floyd. Floyd is a mostly self-taught artist with a background in graphic design and set painting for theater. Working mainly in acrylics, her colorful representational style has developed over decades of experimentation. Her work has frequently been seen around the Athens area at Lyndon House, OCAF, TinyAth Gallery, and over a decade of theater productions by Arts Oglethorpe. Her mixed media painting Black Angus on Morton Road is currently on loan at the State Capitol as part of the statewide Art of Georgia Exhibition.



*Painting by Laura Floyd*

## LIBRARY NEWS

Winterville Library pulled heavily from vendors at the weekly Marigold Market and local artists. Artist works include Jennifer Borg and Vicky Tavernier, Sarah Hubbard, Emma Torrence, Jason Hubbard and our own artist on staff, Sam Watson!

### September is Library Card Sign-Up Month

This year's theme is *Score Big with your Library Card!* All system libraries created amazing gift baskets to encourage new card sign ups. Winterville Library created a *Junior Varsity Basket* and the more sports-oriented basket, the *Taste of Victory Box!* Patrons that sign up for a new card or renew a library card may enter

a drawing to win one of two themed baskets. Each library approached local businesses to request contributions for the baskets.

### Upcoming Events

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| September 30 | Big Truck Day at the Winterville Library   |
| October 12   | Book Reading by Tracy Adkins   |
| October 14   | Viewing of the Partial Annular Eclipse with Tony Tolbert and the Athens Astronomy Club |

Events have not yet been scheduled for November and December.

## FRONT PORCH BOOKSTORE

### Front Porch Bookstore and Concert Series

Have you visited the Front Porch Bookstore? If not, what are you waiting for? Located in downtown Winterville across the street from the library, the Front Porch Bookstore is not like other used bookstores; it is a 501c3 charity and is run by the Friends of the Winterville Library. All staff members are volunteers. All books are donated, and there are thousands to choose from. If you need to clear off those bookshelves, think of donating to us! All proceeds go to support our Winterville Library.

We also offer free magazines and public restrooms close to the Firefly Trail. We sell bottled water (\$1) and both Marigold Festival and Firefly merchandise, T-shirts, jerseys, and books by local authors.

Every Saturday, fill a bag with books for only \$10! We accept cash and checks.

On Saturdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Spring and Fall, come and enjoy Free Concerts on our outdoor stage. Bring your lawn chairs, family and friends, and dogs, and sing along to fabulous local bands!

### Fall Concert Series

- |              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| September 30 | Artie Ball Swing Band |
| October 7    | TBD                   |
| October 14   | Repent at Leisure     |
| October 21   | Klezmer Local 42      |



## New Art Gallery Director to “Keep the Walls Covered”

While there may be debate around who thought up the idea first, there is no question that Judy Hammond is the right person for the new Winterville Community Center Art Gallery Director position, according to Winterville Community Center director Jack Eisenman. “I’m thrilled and honored to have Judy as director,” said Eisenman. According to Eisenman, “it’s rare to find someone with artistic abilities, as well as strong administrative skills.” Eisenman said he was sure Hammond was right for the job. Hammond, who has been part of the Winterville Arts Council (WAC) for the past five years, said she was looking to utilize her position to “streamline activities.” “Right now, I am working on cosmetics for the gallery. Once we complete these projects, I will oversee shows and artists so we can ‘keep our walls covered,’” said Hammond. Not only is Hammond expected to lead shows and exhibits, but she is part of a bigger art education community at the center where she also teaches classes in painting. The Winterville Community Center is known to be the original Winterville High School.



According to Eisenman, this historical space saw its last graduating class in 1956. Eisenman said, “it is important for us to keep the space close to its original architecture.” Artists and visitors to the gallery can expect to see beautiful wooden floors and windows with an abundance of natural light coming through. Once this space opens, “the sky is the limit,” according to Eisenman. Eisenman suggested that there will be more buzz around the town of things to come to Winterville as “it is becoming a growing art community,” said Eisenman. Eisenman, who retired from the director position eventually, came back three years later to help with new development as he assumed his role as Community Center Director for a second time. This was likely a necessary move as the Winterville Art Gallery is busy with

ongoing art classes, regular exhibits, shows, as well as the recurring and popular “Vino and Van Gogh” events.

With the anticipated opening being sometime late January of 2024, Hammond insisted that she would utilize the space within the gallery to hang as much art as possible. “There will essentially be two galleries and the hallway,” according to Hammond. The hallway is well known for where current artwork in the center is hanging now for community members to see anytime the center is open. This expansion will help Hammond reach her future goal of having two to three shows always going. “It takes a lot of planning, marketing, and promoting,” Hammond pointed out. With Hammond in this important new role, artists and art lovers in the community can anticipate seeing more upcoming shows and exhibits.

## Marigold Market Days Booth

Marigold Market Days continue to be a Winterville Arts Council (WAC) hit with families who attend the market every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month while the market remains open to the public. The WAC encourages children and family members to create artwork that involves a new theme and new materials each month. According to Kim Barnes, who is a WAC member and instrumental in the WAC market days, the WAC plans on being at monthly markets if the market is open. “We’re just happy to be there each month and will return when the market opens in the spring,” said Barnes. So far, families have enjoyed



# WINTERVILLE ARTS COUNCIL

flag making, potato stamps, rock painting, and stained glass making just to name a few activities. The market days last through December, and the WAC intends to be there each month until the year's end. September's planned WAC booth event will present leaf printing and rubbing for a fall flare. Barnes said that the remaining market days will include a special holiday theme. According to Barnes, each market day is nothing short of being special. "During the market, it is easy to see what a vibrant community we have, and it is a pleasure to spend time with the kind and creative children," said Barnes.

**What:** Marigold Market Days WAC Booth

**When:** Every third Saturday of each month during market days

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Where:** Pittard Park

Market days last from spring until the end of each year!



## The Anticipation Art Show

The *Anticipation* Show, put on by the Winterville Arts Council (WAC), will be the grand finale of 2023 art shows at the Winterville Community Center (WCC). "We had four shows this year and would like to increase that when the new gallery opens," explained WAC council member

Dortha Jacobson who is also a regular painting instructor at the community center. When asked about the theme of *Anticipation*, Jacobson said "The theme of *Anticipation* is a bit open to interpretation." Jacobson also pointed to a new twist of winning awards for best piece judged by the WAC totaling \$200 in prize money as well as a people's choice award with a winnings of \$50. According to Jacobson, anyone can participate in the show. "The announcement went to all artists in the community," said Jacobson. Jacobson pointed to the 'community' being anywhere that the announcement went out, including outside of the Winterville city limits.

Jacobson is at the hub of communication between artists and the center, which should not come as a surprise being one of the council members and instructors who have been teaching art at the center for the past six years now. "I help them with their drawings and painting, but I also give feedback and critique because I feel it helps them to improve as artists," explained Jacobson. According to Jacobson, oil paintings are especially forgiving as "they can be changed and painted over," as Jacobson suggested. Classes at the center typically hold around seven students, but the classes are more on a revolving basis. "Students just need to let the center know they're coming and also should bring their own supplies," said Jacobson. Jacobson's art students are known to join in the different shows. Jacobson said, "current works coming in so far are good representations of the *Anticipation* theme." She also added "we all work a little better with a goal in mind."

The *Anticipation* Show will run until November 20, 2023, and is open to the public.



## Vino and Van Gogh Will Not Be A Passing Thing...

Vino and Van Gogh will not be a passing thing, according to Winterville Arts Council (WAC) chairperson Sherre Watwood. Watwood already championed one of the newest permanent fixtures in downtown Winterville with the placement of the Winterville FLAG (free little art gallery). The idea behind the FLAG is to engage community members of all ages and abilities to do creative works to contribute to their community as well as enjoying the artwork of others. Led by new gallery director Judy Hammond Thursday evening, Vino and Van Gogh brought community members together to celebrate a joint creative effort at the Winterville Community Center. Hammond led the group with Hoppy Fields in acrylic, by Van Gogh. Hammond is no stranger to painting nor teaching as she leads other classes periodically as well as recently becoming the gallery director. The only instructions that Watwood reinforced were to remember that “there’s no right way to do it,” explained Watwood. “You are just expected to have fun and enjoy lots of laughs.” And for those who like to enjoy a nice glass of wine, there was a variety of vino to delight everyone’s palate.

Watwood pointed out that no one in the class is expected to be an artist when they come to a Vino and Van Gogh event. “We try to pick out something for people to paint that they

can take home and be proud of and even hang on their walls,” said Watwood. According to Watwood, the plan is to have at least two to three Vino and Van Gogh events per year. “We already had 16 people sign up for this event alone,” explained Watwood. While volunteer council members served to replace water cups for brush cleaning as well as pouring wine, Hammond helped with step-by-step instructions to walk participants through the process of painting a real life Van Gogh. This third Vino and Van Gogh event was nothing short of a hit for WAC. “We all have so much fun, and it’s a fundraiser for the Winterville Arts Council,” said Watwood. After a couple of hours, a couple glasses of wine, and delicious homemade cookies, these masterpieces were ready for artists to proudly hang on their walls.

This event is recurring. Visit the Winterville Community Center website calendar of events: <https://www.wintervillecenter.com/calendar>.



## Join the Arts Council

If you are an artist or just love the arts, consider becoming a member of WAC! We meet the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Winterville Cultural Center. We’d love to have you!

# WINTERVILLE ARTS COUNCIL

## Calendar of Events

### September

September 28      Opening Reception for the art show *Anticipation*  
6:00-7:30 p.m. at the Winterville Cultural Center.  
The show will be open through November 22.

### October

October 3            Five auditions for the Winterville Players production of  
*The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*  
Rehearsals will begin October 12.

October 21          Marigold Market Children's Art Activity  
Free Craft at the Marigold Market at Pittard Park

October 23 -  
November 10      Art Show featuring textile artist Sara Parker at the Winterville  
Library

### November

November 11 -  
January 1          Art Show featuring folk artist Sherre Watwood and painter  
Judy Hammond at the Winterville Library.  
We are seeking artists for 2024.  
Email [WACLlibraryArt@gmail.com](mailto:WACLlibraryArt@gmail.com)

November 18        Marigold Market Children's Art Activity  
Free Craft at the Marigold Market at Pittard Park

November 30        The Plein Air Group Art Show Opening Reception  
6:00-7:30 p.m. at the Winterville Cultural Center.  
The show will be open through January 26.

### December

December 8  
and December 9    The Winterville Players Performance of  
*The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*  
7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Marigold Auditorium for Arts and Culture

December 16        Marigold Market Children's Art Activity  
Free Craft at the Marigold Market at Pittard Park

# CHARTER DAY 2023

Despite the heat and an early shutdown for bad weather, Charter Day 2023 was a great success!





## HOLIDAY IN THE PARK

# *Holiday in the Park*



**December 1st, 2023**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Enjoy Free Hot Cocoa, Cookies, and Lemonade.**

**The Marigold Express Train will be giving rides to children  
(with adult supervision).**

**Santa & Mrs. Claus will arrive at 6:00 p.m.  
and will be under the small pavilion in the park for pictures.**

The annual Holiday in the Park celebration will be Friday, December 1, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Winterville Pittard Park. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be here with food, drink, and fun for everyone. Make your plans to attend this wonderful evening. Want to help? Call Wendy at 706-742-8600.

The City of Winterville will be a collection area for the Toys for Tots program again this Christmas. Several thousand toys were distributed last year to area children. **Please bring your contribution of new toys to the annual Christmas celebration on December 6th or to City Hall. Tax deductible contributions may be made to TOYS FOR TOTS.**

*Sponsored by:*



## WINTERVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### Shoe Drive Fundraiser

Winterville UMC is collecting gently used shoes from now until October 31. The drive will benefit those who need to find affordable shoes for adults and children. The funds will be used to help cover the costs for the church to install an elevator for church members with mobility challenges.

### Pumpkin Patch

Beginning October 8, Winterville UMC will once more offer pumpkins for sale! According to Pastor John Turlington, last year's sale was such a success, the church decided to bring back the sale this year. Like last year, the church will have pumpkins for sale on the church lawn beside the Firefly Trail. Pumpkins will cost \$15.00-\$18.00, and the sale will end when all pumpkins are sold!

### Trunk or Treat

On Halloween evening, beginning at 5:00 p.m., Winterville UMC will hold its annual Trunk or Treat. Besides the decorated car trunks for kids

to trick or treat, we will also offer popcorn, a fire truck from Winterville Fire Department, and a hayride!

### Christmas in the Park

Friday, December 1, Winterville UMC will participate in Christmas in the Park by presenting a live nativity scene, complete with live animals, on the lawn in front of the church.

### Longest Night Worship Service

On December 21, Winterville UMC will offer a worship service for those who struggle with depression or loss during the holiday season. Sometimes called a "blue Christmas" service, this is a service of consolation and solace.

### Christmas Eve Service

Candlelight and Communion Worship service to celebrate the birth of Christ.

### Lessons and Carols

Welcome the new year with a service that blends scripture lessons and Christmas carols.

## MARIGOLD MARKET / MARIGOLD COLLECTIVE

It is hard to believe that the market season is almost at a close. We have had a stellar year with the Marigold Market this season and that would not have been possible without each and every member of the Winterville Community. THANK YOU!

Our Monday Market is open in the Old Bank Building every Monday from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. We do plan to keep the Monday Market operating during our off-season and will have more information to you as soon as everything is finalized.

Through the Marigold Collective's Food Hub, we have been able to donate fresh produce to more than 200 families this year! We have also been able to start contributing fresh produce to 1,000 meal giveaways quarterly and we are so thankful to have our Farmer Subsidy in which to pay the farmers for their produce, but be able to donate it to the food insecure.

While it might be close to the end of the season, we have some great events lined up for the rest of the year:

- Oct. 21 Trick or Treat at the Marigold Market
- Oct. 28 Costume Contest (Adult and Kid!)
- Nov. 18 Veterans Day Tribute (Athens Recovery Warriors Field Day)
- Nov. 25 Shop Small Saturday
- Dec. 16 Holiday Hoorah

As always, we could not do what we do without the support of the Winterville Community or our Farmers/Vendors. Applications are open for Farmer/Vendors for the 2024 season.

To fill out an application, make a donation or learn more about us, please visit [www.marigoldmarketwinterville.com](http://www.marigoldmarketwinterville.com).

Have a Happy Harvest!



## Upcoming Classes and Trips – Fall 2023

### Qigong for Vitality

Qigong cultivates the body's vital energy, or qi, through gentle and flowing movements that can improve balance, coordination, flexibility and the mind-body connection. Led by yoga and meditation instructor Anna DiBella, PhD, this class incorporates standing and seated movements accessible for all levels.

When: Mondays from 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Free for members; \$5 for non-members

### Your Best Face Forward: Makeup for Mature Skin with JennySue Makeup

Makeup artist Jennifer Duvall leads an informative class and live demonstration to teach the do's and don'ts of makeup for mature skin. Look and feel your best with helpful tricks and tips on application, color selection, and more!

When: Wednesday, October 25th from 10:30–11:30 a.m.  
Cost: \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members

### How the Grinch Stole My PIN and other Holiday Scams

The holiday season should be a time of merriment, but scammers are notorious for bringing their "Bah, Humbug" this time of year. What are the latest scams to be aware of and how can you protect yourself? A representative from Synovus Bank will be here.

When: Wednesday, November 15th at 10:30 a.m.  
Cost: Free for members; \$5 for non-members

### CAL Trip to the Delta Flight Museum

Located at Delta's Atlanta headquarters, the Delta Flight Museum offers a one-of-a-kind experience. The tour includes a guided tour of exhibits inside the museum hangar and a chance to step inside the historic Boeing 767, The Spirit of Delta. En route, the group will stop for lunch at the Chick-fil-A Dwarf House, modeled after founder Truett Cathy's first restaurant.

When: Tuesday, December 12th (Depart CAL at 9:00 a.m., return approx. 5:00 p.m.)  
Cost: \$35 for members and \$45 for non-members (Cost includes admission and transportation; lunch not included.)

Contact: Autumn Barefoot, 706-549-4850, [abarefoot@accaging.org](mailto:abarefoot@accaging.org)  
Location: ACCA's Center for Active Living, 135 Hoyt Street, Athens, GA 30601

## WES Celebrates 2024 Teacher of the Year and Support Staff of the Year

Winterville Elementary School celebrates its 2024 Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Dawn Phillips, Gifted teacher, and 2024 Support Staff of the Year, Mrs. Valerie Moment, School Receptionist. Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Moment were nominated and voted on by staff members of the school.



Left:  
Dr. Carletha Pearson,  
Principal  
Middle:  
Mrs. Dawn Phillips,  
Gifted Teacher  
Right:  
Dr. Kala Jordan,  
Assistant Principal



Left:  
Dr. Carletha Pearson,  
Principal  
Middle:  
Mrs. Valerie Moment,  
Receptionist  
Right:  
Dr. Kala Jordan,  
Assistant Principal

## WES Third Graders to Perform Holiday Musical at Winterville Auditorium

Winterville Elementary School third graders will perform their annual holiday musical at the Winterville Auditorium on December 19th at 6:30 p.m. The holiday musical is produced by Winterville Elementary School Music Teacher, Mr. Madison Graham. The performance is open to the community. Entrance is free, but donations will be gratefully accepted to enhance the WES music program.

## WES Students Experience Unique Medical Classroom Transformation

Winterville Elementary School (WES) is hosting its Second Annual Medical Classroom Transformation.

Dr. Carletha Pearson, WES principal, and Mrs. Dawn Philips, a teacher at the school, worked together to create this unique room transformation experience.

The classroom transformation provides an immersive experience for all students. Without having to leave the school, the students have the opportunity to explore and engage in hands-on stations that will ignite their excitement for learning. Imagine stepping into a space where you have the opportunity to learn by becoming an x-ray technician, medical researcher, veterinarian, surgeon, and primary care doctor.



Winterville Elementary School also hosts UGA FOCUS students with a strong science background to be speakers who support teaching science standards. In addition to UGA students, this year Winterville Elementary School will host guest speakers from Guide Dog Foundation for

the Blind, Inc. to speak to the students about service dogs and Northeast Health District Oral Health Program to speak about the medical field of dentistry. The Winterville Elementary School medical classroom transformation is a memorable and engaging experience that will benefit all students.

## SCHOOL NEWS – WINTERVILLE ELEMENTARY



## SCHOOL NEWS – COILE MIDDLE

### Students Explore Learning Through Virtual Reality Technology

Students at WR Coile Middle School are using VR headsets to explore a variety of science topics this year. From 6th graders studying plate tectonics, 7th graders touring a virtual pollinator garden, to 8th graders participating in a particle lab, VR technology is being used to provide 3D experiences to students through a collaboration between the library media center and the school's science teachers.



# WINTERVILLE CULTURAL CENTER

## Fall Schedule

### Ongoing Events

Mondays	9:10-10:10 a.m.	Chair Yoga, yoga for everybody
	10:30-11:30 a.m.	Botanical Sketchbook, no experience necessary
	2:00-4:00 p.m.	4th Monday, Project Linus, make a blanket for a child in need
	6:00 p.m.	4th Monday, "Poets of Winterville"
Tuesdays	9:00-11:00 a.m.	Coffee with Veterans
	1:00-4:00 p.m.	Mahjong, everyone is welcome
	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Upcycle Workshop, bring new life to old clothes
	12:00-1:00 p.m.	3rd Tuesday, Potluck
Wednesdays	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Oil Painting, beginners welcome
Thursdays	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Karate for Adults
Fridays	1:00-4:00 p.m.	Mahjong, everyone is welcome
	6:00-10:00 p.m.	Chess

### Upcoming Special Events

September 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, October 1    Play: *Little Women*

Call 706-742-0823 to register or for more information.

## Winterville Players Holds Auditions for December Production of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*

Winterville has a new community theater group, and they are already busy! Approximately 15 community members are forming the new group, and they will present their first production, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, on December 8 and 9 at Marigold Auditorium.

The play tells the story of a Christmas pageant that goes hilariously wrong when all the main parts are taken over by the Herdman kids, the worst kids in town. However, to everyone's surprise, the pageant ends up being the best ever.

Auditions for the show will be held October 3 and 5 at 7:00 p.m, in Marigold Auditorium. The cast list is below.



### Adult Parts

Mrs. Bradley (mother)  
Narrator (adult Beth Bradley)  
Bob Bradley (father)  
Mrs. Armstrong  
Mrs. McCarthy  
Mrs. Slocum  
Mrs. Clark  
Mrs. Clausing  
Rev. Hopkins  
Firemen (2)

### Child Parts

Beth (12)  
Charlie (10)  
Imogene Herdmen (12)  
Ralph Herdmen (11-12)  
Leroy Herdmen (13)  
Claude Herdmen (9)  
Ollie Herdmen (8-9)  
Gladys Herdman (8-9)  
Alice Wendlekin (13-14)  
Elmer Hopkins (13-14)  
Maxine, Shirley, Juanita, Hobie, David, Beverly (various ages)



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## *Holiday in the Park*



**December 1st, 2023**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**Pittard Park**

Sponsored by:



*See page 17 for details*

## About the Gazette

The *Winterville Gazette* is the official newsletter of the Winterville Municipal Government. It is a function of the Winterville Arts Council. To opt out of receiving the print edition, or if you have an idea for a story, contact the editor at [Wingazette@gmail.com](mailto:Wingazette@gmail.com).

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