

Talk to the Town

City of Rincon Newsletter to our Citizens and Visitors



December 2009

Mayor Ken Lee, Council Members Ann Daniel, Ken Baxley, Reese Browher, Scott Morgan, Levi Scott, Paul Wendelken



Welcome to the City of Rincon's Newsletter

This is our third month of producing the newsletter. We hope you are finding items of interest. We will place the Newsletters in the City Hall lobby, on the City's website, and also share it with interested persons and businesses via e-mail. Please contact us if you want to be added to the E-mail address list, or if you have some information to share that our readers might be interested in.

December's Featured Business

Featured businesses will be chosen for some unique happening in the immediate future or recent past, or at random from the community if there are no special events planned that we are aware of. If you wish to have your business acknowledged, please provide us with some information about the business and perhaps a photo (staff, business front, etc.)

We did not get any information on a business for December. If you know of a business to feature for January, ask them to send us some information.

City Going's On

This section is about your City government and things that should be of particular interest to you.

The City of Rincon has purchased the Rincon Lion's Club Building on Lexington Avenue to provide some much needed office space and areas for special indoor recreational programs. Parts of it will also be available to the public for rental, like the Hinely Community Center, for such occasions as Community Club programs, reunions, rehearsals, and catered meals. There are kitchen facilities available. Several upgrades are needed in the facility, and have already been started, so that it will be ready to use as soon as possible. Please call the Recreation Department at 826-0238 for scheduling use of the building or for a look-see.

The City is preparing to attach the Council Meeting Minutes to the City's website for easy access and review by the citizens of Rincon. We will add older Meeting minutes as we can make them available. This may take a while as we re-organize the Minutes to meet the requirements for posting on the website, so bear with us just a little bit longer. A number of improvements have already been made to the website, and other changes and improvements are in process.

P.S. Does anyone have a photo (or a couple of photos) of the Old Rincon Railroad (Train) Depot, that they are willing to share? Do you have any written history on the Old Train Depot which was torn down, or on the Old Post Office?

Friendly Reminder: If you have a problem with your City of Rincon Water or Sewer service, Call the City First. City staff can check it out, and it may save you the cost of an unnecessary plumber's bill, if it happens to be caused by a problem on the City's side of the water meter.

PRESS RELEASE - November 24, 2009

Over the past years, the City of Rincon has conducted a study to determine the most feasible manner to handle its tertiary treated water (Re-use Water). During this period, the City of Rincon began and completed an upgrade of its wastewater treatment facility to be able to treat its wastewater to a cleaner level, which meets or exceeds environmental mandates by both the State and Federal governments. The tertiary treated water, more commonly known as Re-use Water, can be safely used by agricultural, residential, commercial, and industrial customers for irrigation, and certain other purposes. Both the State and Federal Environmental Protection agencies have mandated that there be a reduction in the amount of treated wastewater discharged into the Savannah River and its tributaries in order to protect the environment. In addition to discharge reductions, the utilization of Re-use Water for irrigation and other purposes will reduce the use of ground water from the region's aquifers.

The study also determined that the installation of Re-use Water line infrastructure to end users would be necessary, and that a sprayfield discharge of the Re-use Water would present an immediate benefit to the environment. To that end, the City of Rincon began a search for property that would be economically feasible for the City to undertake this project. Rincon is not alone in this effort, as all governmental entities have undertaken similar studies and actions to comply with the Federal and State mandates. Several governmental entities have already purchased property for use as a sprayfield. However, these undertakings are expensive in nature because of the cost of property and the cost to extend the infrastructure to the sprayfield. For instance, one entity was able to purchase approximately 100 acres for 2 million dollars to be used as a sprayfield. Hence, Rincon recognizes that this type of undertaking will be costly, but at the same time will be advantageous for the environment and future generations.

As part of the study, Rincon has identified a piece of property that it believes will be perfect for this type of project and be both economically advantageous and environmentally beneficial. Rincon began negotiations with the property owner and is very hopeful that a purchase of the property will be consummated within the next several weeks. Further information will be released as the negotiations are completed.

Community Groups and What You Should Know

Now is the time to clean out your closets to make room for incoming Christmas gifts. You could help the community by donating unneeded items to Manna House, Act III, or any other community group. Help everyone have a great Christmas.

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Also, be mindful when shopping during the holiday season to leave your purse and gifts in the trunk, not in the back seat. If you see anyone acting suspicious while walking around the store parking lots, looking into vehicles, etc., call your local law enforcement agency (9-1-1), just as a precaution. If the person has lost his car or something, he will have no problem being checked out by the Police or Store Security, and they can help him find his car.

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The City of Rincon will be doing its part to make the holiday season special for residents of the State's health and retardation hospitals. In the State of Georgia, there are several thousand citizens living in Georgia's seven regional mental health and retardation hospitals. Many of these patients have lived in these hospitals most of their lives and have little, if any, contact with or support from friends or family. Fifty years ago, in 1958, the Georgia Municipal Association, and then Governor Ernest Vandiver, created the Mayor's Christmas Motorcade to help those hospital patients celebrate Christmas by providing each with a present. The staffs at the regional hospitals tell us that without the Mayor's

Christmas Motorcade, many patients would go without any type of gift or recognition during the holidays.

Our City has started its gift collection campaign, and we are asking for your help. The hospital clients are part of our community, drawn from our region, and we would like to encourage all of you to remember them this holiday season. If your school, church, business, or civic group would like to participate in an outstanding holiday community project, please call City Clerk Wanda Hendrix at (912) 826-5745 for further information on how to get involved. You can bring your donations to City Hall up to December 7, 2009, at 5:00pm. Let's not forget those less fortunate during the holiday season.

2009 Lion's Club Christmas Parade
Just a couple of photos



The Rincon Volunteer Fire Department was awarded \$10,000 from the Georgia Pacific Bucket Brigade to purchase Air Lifting Bags and a Strut kit so that they will be equipped to handle emergency incidents involving retrievals. The City of Rincon is the commercial hub of Effingham County, which was named the 6th fastest growing mid-size county in the U.S. by the Census Bureau. Rincon is the largest city in the county by population, with a permanent 2008 count of 7,800 people. This number does not include the people that shop, visit, or pass through this city at a rate of 20,000 vehicles per day (Georgia Department of Transportation).

At this time, this Rincon Fire Department does not have any equipment of this nature. When the Rincon Fire Department receives an emergency call for retrieval, or worse, responds to a site where retrieval is required, they have to call another local volunteer department for assistance. In these types of emergencies, every second counts and Rincon is not able to provide the level of services needed for this community.

The Air Lifting Bag package includes the regulator for the air system, the hoses, and the lift bags at a cost of \$4,295. The Strut kit, with a 6600 pound work load, includes 2 long struts, 2 short struts, the jacks, hooks, and all other related equipment at a cost of \$4,260. Four sets of extrication gear cost \$400 each, for a total cost of \$1,600. The total project cost is \$10,155, with city providing the \$155.

This grant award would enable the Rincon Fire Department to purchase this much-needed equipment. We have responded to numerous emergencies, including one at the Georgia Pacific warehouse and one at the Georgia Pacific plant, only to realize that it was a retrieval emergency and we did not have the required equipment.



Russ McCollister, Mill Manager for Georgia-Pacific Savannah River Mill, makes presentation of \$10,000 check to Rincon Fire Chief Corey Rahn.



Don't Forget. School is in session.

Watch for buses and children.

Children may be slow in getting on and off buses.

Do not pass stopped school buses.

Do not allow yourself to get impatient. Think about what you were like when you were 8 or 13.



Old South Charm

Halloween only comes once a year
So, enjoy it while you're young

Rincon City Hall staff
Halloween 2009
Memory Book Photos

“The Stars Visit Rincon”

MaMa’s Family – Susan Wise



Ozzy Osbourne

Wanda Hendrix

Cyndi Lauper

Jennifer Stahl



Madonna

Michelle McInnis

Michael Jackson

Kia Westmoreland



Do you have a story to tell about Rincon? Perhaps some history that others might not know. Tell us about it.

Did You Know?

Wesley deVegter of Congressman John Barrows Office has an open-door use of the City Hall Conference Room on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 12:00noon to 1:30pm to receive local citizen's information and requests for assistance. This is a good way to get the Congressman's attention if you have a need or problem.

Business Licenses expire on December 31, 2009. Start the process to obtain a new Business License.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Saturday thru Friday, December 5 – 11, Chamber Shopping Tour will end in Rincon on the 11th

Monday, December 14 – 7:00pm – City Council Meeting

Thursday & Friday, December 24 & 25, Christmas Holidays, City Hall Closed

Monday, December 28 – 7:00pm – City Council Meeting

Friday, January 1, 2010 – New Years Day Holiday, City Hall Closed

New Comers to Rincon

Please check out our website www.cityofrincon.com which will probably have answers for many of your questions. We encourage you to e-mail at (RinconCityMgr@cityofrincon.com) with ideas for improving the newsletter, information, questions, comments, and upcoming events, etc. The City Manager will answer and include items wherever appropriate and newsworthy to the community. Please share this Newsletter with your friends and neighbors. Photos for the Newsletter are welcome, and may be used as needed and as appropriate. If you wish to sign-on to our e-mail list to receive the Talk to the Town Newsletter, just send us an e-mail.

This Month's Friendship Theme:

“Life is short. If you don't look around once in a while, you might miss it.”

City Hall: (912) 826-5437
Website: www.cityofrincon.com