

Talk to the Town

City of Rincon Newsletter to our Citizens and Visitors



January 2010

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



Welcome to the City of Rincon's Newsletter

We are now in our fourth 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.

January's Featured Business

Springs at Effingham (Springs Apartments)

One of the City's newest businesses, the Springs at Effingham apartment community brought 352 local homes to the City of Rincon. Owned and operated by Continental Properties Company Inc., the business consists of six employees, five that live here locally. Springs at Effingham opened their doors to its newest neighbors in November of 2008 and finished the construction process in June of 2009. Through endless efforts, Springs at Effingham persists in helping local businesses and charities. The business has raised a total of \$200.00 during a Pics for Pets event helping our local Effingham County Animal Shelter, \$75.00 for the Susan G. Komen Foundation from a local yard sale, co-participated in a Personal Care Drive to help F.O.R.C.E - the Food Outreach Co-op of Effingham County and collected items for an Effingham County family in need this Holiday Season via the United Way. The business has also allowed for our local firefighters to practice and train by rescuing Rescue Randy from the rooftop of an apartment building. Springs at Effingham also hosted a Halloween Pet Costume Contest for all to participate in. Every other Tuesday the Effingham Chamber of Commerce meets at the clubhouse to help local business reach out to one another. Springs at Effingham is proud to call Rincon home and help its neighbors grow and prosper. We thank each one of our neighbors for their support and thank the community for its hospitality.

Tara McGilvrey
Assistant Property Manager and Neighbor
Springs at Effingham
617 Towne Park West Drive
Rincon, Georgia 31326
Let's Talk! 912-826-1999
Fax your information! 912-826-1993
www.springsapartments.com



Guaranteed response when you email
Tmcgilvrey@springsapartments.com

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.)



Springs at Effingham Staff



Clubhouse at Springs of Effingham

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 is looking at the potential to annex the Westwood Heights Community, if their petition is completed with enough signatures, and if it is in the best interests of the City of Rincon. Currently, the community receives water and sewer service through a private vendor, and that is not expected to change. Improvements that would benefit the community include faster and better police protection and more frequent police patrols; fire protection would remain under the Rincon Volunteer Fire Department, but there is and would continue to be consideration for Station 3 to be located somewhere on the south side of Rincon for the convenience of the City as a whole; Recreation fees are higher for residents outside the City limits, so the community could benefit from some lower costs for their families to participate; drainage improvements are badly needed in the community; Public Works would maintain roads and mowing in the community and on GA 21 which the Georgia DOT has limited funding to manage. The City of Rincon has no property tax, so there would be no additional costs there, and representation by members of the Rincon City Council would promote better listening and, likely, better results. Is there a benefit to the City of Rincon? Most certainly. SPLOST and LOST Sales Tax Funds are allocated to the cities in Effingham County based on their population base. The increase in those funds is how the City would pay for most of those drainage and other services. The City also charges user fees; if you use it, then you pay for it. The increase in the City population would likely take the total population figure for the City of Rincon over 9,000; which is a significant number in being identified as an "affected city" in the Service Delivery Strategy efforts. Effingham County has recently drawn a line around the City of Rincon to limit the City's ability to provide services to new areas which are likely to be annexed into the City over a period of time. This negatively, and seriously, affects the City of Rincon's ability to grow and prosper; so obtaining the "affected city" status may well be significant in the near future.

Friendly Reminder from Rincon Police Department: School is In-Session - Slow Down.

The City of Rincon’s Holiday Closing schedule will be as follows, pending any change by City Council:

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| New Years Day, Friday, January 1 | MLK Birthday, Monday, January 18 |
| President’s Day, Monday, February 15 | Good Friday, Friday, April 2 |
| Memorial Day, Monday, May 31 | Independence Day, Monday, July 5 |
| Labor Day, Monday, September 6 | Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 25 |
| Day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 26 | Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 23 |
| Christmas Day, Friday, December 24 | |

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The City of Rincon is purchasing the Lost Plantation Golf Course, with the primary purpose and immediate advantage of providing a resource to deliver “re-use water” for irrigation on the golf course, and for the secondary benefit of being able to deliver re-use water potential to other communities and developments in the surrounding area. By doing this, the City can reduce the withdrawal of water from the current on-site well (in the Upper Floridan Aquifer) for current irrigation purposes and avoid having to put the City’s WWTP after-treatment water into the streams and tributaries of the Savannah River, which pleases the planning and regulatory groups at Georgia EPD. The City of Rincon also believes that that it will be able to reduce some of the operating costs of the golf course itself, and be able to make it more efficient, better known and played, and more profitable in the long run.

Have you eaten lunch at the Lost Plantation Clubhouse Lounge – you should try it for a change. It is open to the public. There will be some thought given to expanding the Clubhouse Lounge area for reunions, wedding suppers and reception rentals as it has a beautiful view of the golf course.

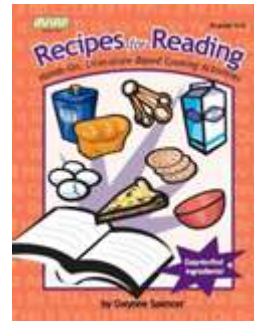
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Good Food & Recipes for Reading

Nannie Sue’s Candied Sweet Potatoes

Ingredients:

- 2-2½ cups sugar
- 2 teaspoons of nutmeg
- 1 cup of milk
- 4-5 sweet potatoes
- 1 tablespoon of butter



Peel and slice sweet potatoes, about ¼ - ½ inch slices. Add remaining ingredients and cook on medium-low in a sauce pan until tender. They don’t get no easier than this; and they don’t get no better.

Do you have a simple recipe to share ? Send it to us.

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Community Groups and What You Should Know

Social Service Agencies

- Effingham Victim Witness, Springfield, 754-7460
- Start Smart Learning Center, 250 Chimney Road, Rincon, 826-0062
- Volunteers of America, 102 Deer Road, Springfield, 754-4118
- Volunteers of America, 105 Lisa Street, Rincon, 826-4140

A Theme for 2010 – “Rincon - A Surprise Around Every Corner”

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Old South Charm

Early morning, eastbound on GA 204 into Savannah. Traffic backed up from stop light to stop light. Then they hear it. They know it is coming up from behind. Then they see the lights. A path opens. Two lanes of impatient travelers shift outward to the median shoulder on the left and the highway shoulder on the right. Here it comes, right up the middle, red lights flashing, siren wailing. We know it is important because the lights are on. For a second you think, it's the law. Then, you realize, it is more than that. It is somebody's mother or father, or somebody's child. It gets hard to breathe for just a second; and your vision gets a little blurry with too many sudden tears. Georgia, we know what it means to care about others, and we are proud.

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The Family Tree

History is important. The history of the City of Rincon and Effingham County is important. And your personal family history is important to you, and probably to many others. Do you have a Family Tree? Do you know anyone in your family who does have one? Who has Grandpa's old Family Bible? Wasn't there a Family Tree drawing in the front of it? Wasn't there a list of births and deaths on one of the pages? How many of the old-timers are still left that you can get information from? Which child or grandchild has those old documents that lead back to grandpa and great-grandma? Do you remember what Cousin Butch's real name is? Does he still live somewhere that you can locate him and send him a letter? Be mindful that information on Uncle Edward may lead back to new information on Grandma Gussie or Great-Grandma Hildy.

There are many resources available to you: local cemeteries, church cemeteries with someone responsible for the cemetery plot data, free use of the computers at the Library, local history books in the Library, the Historic Effingham Society, genealogical groups, State government and private research sites, Internet on-line search capability, obituary and newspaper archive sites, free and for-pay genealogy software programs, school records, military info sites, vital records, death and marriage records, probate records, etc.

P.S. It's a lot of fun to go trooping through the cemetery near where grandpa used to live, and find information on another relative.

Why is all of this important to you in Rincon? It ties you to history. It ties you to family. It opens doors that you didn't even know were closed. It puts you in Massachusetts or Virginia or Tennessee. And think of what a gift it will be for your children. The Salzburgers are important to Rincon and Effingham history; and you may be more important in history than you realize.

You may send an e-mail to RinconCityMgr@cityofrincon.com and we will send back a Family Tree diagram and a Family Tree Data Sheet for developing and tracking family members. Paper copies will also be available in City Hall. By Thanksgiving or Christmas of this year, you will have enough information to impress your family and friends, and perhaps learn something new about your family that you can share with your children and other relatives. One note of caution: In today's world everyone is conscious of Identity Theft, so avoid sharing items of information on "living" relatives, such as full name, address, date-of-birth, social security #, etc.

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Do you have a story to tell about Rincon? Perhaps some history that others might not know. Tell us about it. We are still looking for pictures of the Old Rincon Train Depot and any of the Old Post Office for a possible tourism brochure.

Did You Know?

The original streets of Rincon were laid out in a line and grid system similar to the City of Savannah. The basis for the system is the 1890 Southbound Railroad Company line (currently the CSX Railroad) which runs north and south through Rincon, with Carolina Avenue on the east and Georgia Avenue on the west. The original map of Rincon involved ten east-west streets numbered First through Tenth, and nine north-south avenues. Naming of some of the older streets uses the railroad tracks as the "Savannah River", with various South Carolina cities to the east (Carolina, Columbia, Richland, Lexington, Barnwell, Smith [Berkeley County, SC ?]) and various Georgia cities to the west (Georgia, Savannah, Chatham). North-South routes were called "Avenues". East-West routes were called "Streets". Streets that track east-west of the railroad tracks are later numbered streets (First through Seventeenth) from north to south.

The Railroad Depot was completed in 1895 and located between Fifth and Sixth Streets. West Fourth Street (at the Water Tower) was the location of the original City Hall, which is now the location of a concrete block building which serves as the City Public Works Building.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

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

Monday, January 11 – 7:00pm – City Council Meeting

Monday, January 18 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday, City Hall Closed

Monday, January 25 – 7:00pm – City Council Meeting scheduled

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 the Rincon City Manager (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:

"Good Friends are like stars – You don't always see them, but you know they are always there."

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