



# THE MAIN STREET READER



## Fairburn Police Department emerges as elite force against crime

Every day the men and women of Fairburn’s police are in the community, helping citizens. Whether responding to emergency calls or merely acting as a mentor to youth, Fairburn’s police force relies on the science and art of policing to promote community engagement and reduce crime. A model implemented by the City of Fairburn Police Chief Stoney Mathis, who promised a 10% percent reduction when he initially interviewed for the job, is resulting in tremendous results and aligns with the state of Georgia’s certification process to meet 129 policing standards. *(continued on page 5)*



## American Express backs small businesses

The Saturday following Thanksgiving marks the start of an essential holiday tradition created by American Express in 2010 in support of small businesses. What began as a ready response to mitigate the impact of the 2009 recession, brings hope to main streets across America, providing in this year alone more than \$200 million to local businesses. These are monies that American Express has helped generate by incentivizing its members through cross-promotional efforts, to shop small with local merchants. *(continued on page 3)*





## Fairburn Pastor offers ‘food for thought’

Walking into First Baptist Church of Fairburn, one is greeted by several smiling faces from various nationalities and walks of life. It is a Thursday morning, already volunteers and staff have an assembly line of people, filling a room of boxes with food. Pastor Evan Hill, the lead pastor, is there, gesturing to meet the team that makes sure that the food for their community provisions, never runs out. A regular mainstay, the feeding pantry at the church serves individuals and families twice a week, from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Jennie, one of the program directors and the pastor’s assistant, explains that the need has more than doubled since the global pandemic, demonstrating the ongoing impacts of COVID-19. However, the main story is not the food pantry, but the focus of the ministry on diversity and sharing the gospel in a meaningful way that relies on “intentional relationship building,” with all people regardless of race, religion, or creed.

The Fairburn community reflects families of a changing demographic, such as the growing Hispanic community, where the church provides English as a Second Language class every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Pastor Deris Coto was appointed over Hispanic Ministries by Pastor Hill, offering services in Spanish every Sunday at 11:00 am. Pastor Hill believes there is value in being in the downtown Historic Commercial District because the area is thriving, with opportunities around the city to promote spiritual growth, respond to social issues as they arise, while also offering programs that support family building. Pastor Hill emphasizes with his staff and members that establishing partnerships with Fairburn’s schools, taking socioeconomic disparities head-on, and ongoing community engagement are vital to ensuring that the church reflects the community in which it serves.

Pastor Hill is a native of Georgia who grew up in Tifton, graduated from Mercer University in Macon, and later received additional degrees from Wake Forest at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is married to Christi; a graduate of Clemson University and they have three children. Pastor Hill believes that the “Gospel can change people,” shares his commitment to missions and feeding those in needs, and is building a family of believers through sharing the ‘beauty of Christ despite the brokenness of this world.’”

# COMMUNITY VOICES



## Record-breaking membership increases, among 2020 Rotarian of the Year’s contributions

One of Fairburn’s own was named 2020 Rotarian of the Year for service and for recruiting the most members in one year than the Peachtree City club has had. Anthony R. Stewart, Sr. joined the Peachtree City Club back in 2017 when he learned that there was not a branch in the city of Fairburn. His goal was to be a part of the 110-year-old organization because of their track record promoting peace, fighting disease, supporting education, and growing local economies worldwide, among other civic activities. By sharing his passion for Rotary’s programs and initiatives, Stewart hopes to increase membership in Fairburn as well.

Stewart, a resident of Fairburn for more than a decade likes solving real-world problems and dedicating his time in service to others. Professionally, an insurance broker who is also the father of three adult children – an attorney, insurance broker, and schoolteacher- his passion is the work he does with Rotary International. He also sits on the City of Fairburn’s Planning and Zoning Commission, charged with the responsibility of proposing plans, policies and programs addressing the physical development and planning of the city. We extend congratulations to Fairburn’s own Anthony R. Stewart, Sr. For more information about Rotary International visit: [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).



## Business Spotlight: “Entrepreneurial Spirit” positioning Sliders Burger Joint for expansion



Ashley and Paris Hill may resemble many business owners who are passionate about seeing their dreams become a reality. However, they differ in that they leave nothing to chance in ensuring that whatever the couple strives toward they achieve. Sliders, founded in 2014, had its first location was in Forest Park, where the Atlanta-Journal Constitution recognized them as one of the best places for burgers.

Sliders Burger Joint is a labor of love for the married couple, who from a chance meeting more than 11 years. Passionate foodies, they both started in the restaurant business and represented a long line of relatives who are entrepreneurs. While down-to-earth, they make everyone who comes to their shop feel like a celebrity. Yet, their insights into making sure customers have memorable experiences sought after by others in the profession.

Retail food chains such as the Cheesecake Factory have sought them out for their consulting services. Even for their establishment, the Hills planned expansion incorporates several stores throughout the metro Atlanta area that may soon find a ticker symbol as a Georgia public-traded company.



The sky is the limit for this local power couple whose delicious burgers at affordable prices, make you "feel like you've spent a million bucks." True to form the Hills are owner-operators, who offer new entrepreneurs' important advice when starting their business, namely:

1. Just Do It – if you have a dream, do not merely talk about it but get it done.
2. Plan it out by taking at least 1 hour a day to map out strategies.
3. Believe in yourself and stay away from negative people.
4. Keep your mouth closed about what you plan to do before you get it done.
5. Enjoy the ride because you will be successful if you stick to your plan.

In addition to owning a restaurant, the Hills are CEO of Organic Resource, a non-profit organization that will help build the most extensive indoor community garden in South Georgia. The program will ultimately offer resources to area schools, senior facilities, and feeding programs to provide marginalized groups with organic vegetables and fruits that they otherwise may not be able to access. Mr. Hill is also a member of Fairburn's Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and Main Street Board of Directors and provides essential help to the community regarding growth and development initiatives.

It merely comes down to great food and an enjoyable experience, which is what Sliders Burger Joint provides. Whether a ground beef or turkey patty or one of the other variety of foods on the menu, everything is made fresh to order with generous portions and fixings. You must enjoy the experience for yourself, having tasted the 'Bacon Cheddar Big Joint Burger,' I can say it is the juiciest and best I have tasted. Stop by and enjoy Sliders Burger Joint for yourself, you must taste the experience. Visit [www.slidersburgerjoint.com](http://www.slidersburgerjoint.com) for more information. In-person, online, and pick-up options are available.





# HOLIDAY FAVORITE

## Red Velvet

*Cookies in time for Christmas!*

- Ingredients for Red Velvet Cookies:**
- 12-oz package Sugar Cookie Mix
  - 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, softened
  - 1 egg
  - 1/3 cup cocoa powder
  - 4 oz cream cheese, softened
  - 3 tsp red coloring

- Ingredients for the cream cheese frosting:**
- 4 oz cream cheese, softened
  - 2 tsp butter, softened
  - 1 cup powdered sugar
  - 2-3 tablespoon milk
  - 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

**How to make Red Velvet Cookies with Cream Cheese Frosting**  
 By Butter with a Side of Bread  
[www.butterwithasideofbread.com](http://www.butterwithasideofbread.com)

Preheat your oven to 375 degrees and in a medium-sized bowl, stir together the cookie mix, butter, egg, cream cheese, and the red food coloring until they are well blended. On a parchment-lined baking sheet, place rounded tablespoons of cookie dough at least 2 inches apart.

Spray the bottom of a glass with nonstick cooking spray and gently press down on the cookies to flatten them into 2.5-inch diameter circles. Bake for 9-10 minutes and let the cookies cool completely. To make the cream cheese frosting, beat together the cream cheese and butter with an electric mixer until they are smooth. Add in the powdered sugar, milk, and vanilla. Continue mixing until smooth.

# Christmas Tree Safety



As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.



### PICKING THE TREE

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.



### PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



### LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

### After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.

Check with your local community to find a recycling program.

Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

### FACTS

- More than **one of every four** home Christmas tree fires is caused by electrical problems.
- Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- A heat source too close to the tree causes **one in every four** of the fires.

**Remember to shop local and save using Fairburn's Christmas Coupons. Must redeem coupon using the city of Fairburn's Mobile App.**

Support Fairburn's local businesses

Holiday digital Coupon Event

November 20th thru December 31st

COUPON DIRECTORY

## Elite Police Force against crime *(continued from page 1)*



Community policing is a proven policing strategy that offers full-service interaction, which became popular in the United States in the late 1960s as cities were seeking to repair the division caused by segregation and discriminatory policies. Chief Mathis relies heavily on building relationships with members of the neighborhoods, “providing outstanding police service to the community and promote a peaceful living environment for residents.”

Formerly, the Chief of Police for Chattahoochee Hills, Chief Mathis’ move to Fairburn was that he believes he can make a difference by promoting effective policing methods throughout the department. With an emphasis on community engagement, crime reduction occurs as citizens become active in their communities and responsive to police. While sceptics may have scoffed at his promise of a 10% percent reduction, crime statistics show that the Fairburn Police achieved have exceeded their original goals in the first year. Subsequently, with this year’s crime reduction rate of 34% percent, they are tracking toward a 50% percent overall reduction rate.



*Community Chat with Deputy Chief Anthony Bazydlo, (l. to r.) Lt. Tiffany Hudson, Lt. Kayla Ghant, and Fairburn resident and Arts Advisory Council member Mrs. Antavia Benson*

Chief Mathis credits the department’s success to support from the Mayor and City Council, moreover the expertise of his command staff, such as his Deputy Chief Anthony Bazydlo, and the hard work of his police department. Strategies like adding more officers, reducing the size of the zones, and promoting better relationships with the community are among the steps taken after Chief Mathis completed a comprehensive evaluation of the department. The raw data supports Chief Mathis’ model of community policing. During this holiday season, the City of Fairburn Police Department is giving the gift that keeps on giving that of a safe place to live work and play. The Fairburn Police Department is proof that an elite police force can be engaging as well as effective through programs like Shop with a Cop, National Night Out, the Citizens Academy, Holiday Gift Card program and other efforts in service to the community.

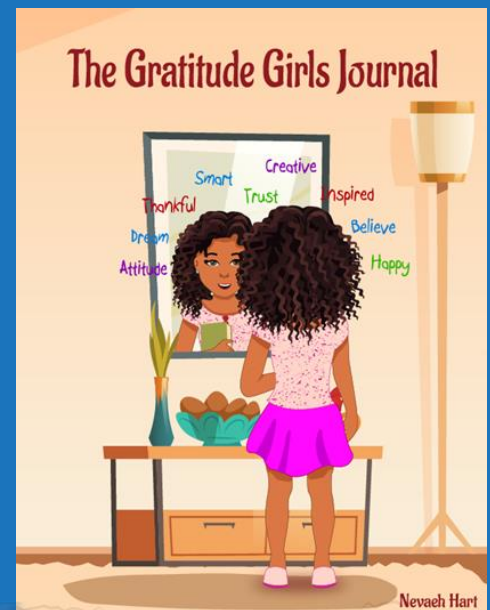
For more information about Community Chat contact Deputy Chief Bazydlo at [ABazydlo@Fairburn.com](mailto:ABazydlo@Fairburn.com)

## Small business Saturdays’ making combat *(continued from page 1)*

The program is Small Business Saturdays, which gained national momentum in 2011 with a unanimous resolution by the Senate supporting the day in all 50 states. Small Business Saturdays while a part of a one-day event are a part of a greater coalition of businesses, nonprofits, governmental entities, and other local stakeholders who recognize that small businesses bring vibrancy to communities, and without which deprive local placemaking efforts. A harsh reality of the coronavirus pandemic is that 62% percent of small businesses in the United States will not survive 2020, unless a significant amount of consumer spending return to pre-COVID spending. As neighbors, helping one another during times of need is as much a part of American traditions as celebrating the holidays. Well this is a time when shopping local is not only a suggestion, but a necessity. Locally, Fairburn is participating by launching a digital coupon campaign that includes special prices for Fairburn’s residents who will buy local (see Ad on p.4). The local charm of the local jeweler or finding those rare treasures at the downtown consignment shop or antique store will continue to help Fairburn thrive. So, when you enter the Fairburn Downtown Historic Commercial District enjoy one of the variety of restaurants in the area, park and walk the town square a meet our local merchants who will make your shopping experience friendly and memorable.



# Fairburn student wins over bullying, sharing 'Overcoming' affirmations for girls



Going to school is a rite of passage that many children enjoy. It is a place where we learn and begin developing our social skills. As a young second grader, typically, students are learning grammar, math, science, arts, and the windows of learning are not only opening but filled with anticipation. What we do not expect to encounter but is becoming a growing reality for students is to be bullied. Such was the case for Nevaeh Hart, a beautiful young student who recalls experiencing bullying at the early age of seven years old. The bullying became so extreme that she wanted to take her own life.

The emotional impact of being ridiculed and teased led Nevaeh down a path where she was ultimately hospitalized and received continual therapy. According to parent and teacher resources site, Teach.com, up to 90% percent of student's report bullying before they reach the eighth grade. Experts say that parents, school staff, and other adults in the community are vital in helping the community prevent bullying and to help build safe school environments. Help for students begins with them sharing that they're experiencing with bullying with their parents. Schools can help through training and helping all students and staff understand the public health approach to bullying and prevention. Our communities help by ensuring that we support a zero-tolerance policy on bullying and laws to protect children and encourage greater tolerance.

Raina Knox did just that when it came to help for her daughter Nevaeh, in overcoming the bullying she encountered. Knox, led by example, is a potent force for her daughter. As a published author, she shared with Nevaeh that she could share her feelings through writing, which is what Nevaeh did. It started with a journal that she later developed into a story about a young girl named Emma, who finds her voice by overcoming bullying. It is a remarkable story about determination from a 10-year old student who has fought her way back, positively, to a place of peace and happiness.

An excellent gift idea for young readers, Nevaeh's book is available both in eBook and paperback format on Amazon. For purchasing information visit: <https://www.amazon.com/Overcoming-Bully-Nevaeh-Hart/dp/B08DSN3G>

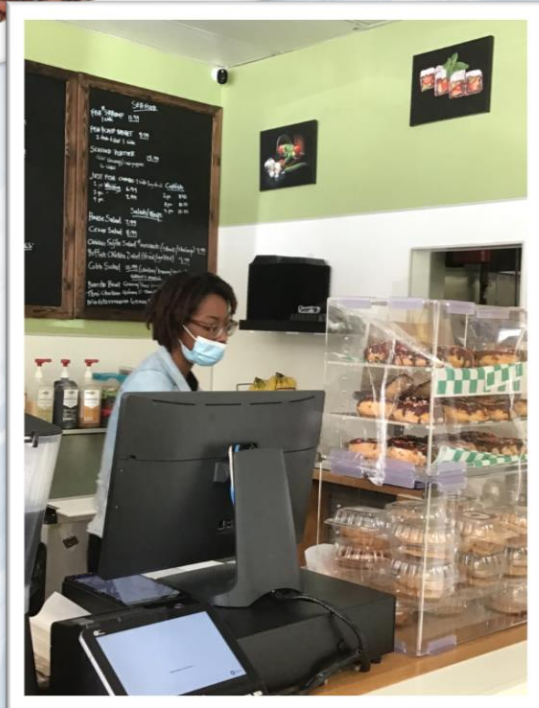


# AROUND FAIRBURN



Hikaru Botanical Café is the latest addition to the City of Fairburn’s local business landscape. Owned by the husband and wife team of Tayon and Alisha Louis, the restaurant is in the George Green Plaza at Suite 216-B NW Broad Street.

According to Mrs. Louis, Hikaru means “the light” and is one of the motivations and themes behind their unique blend of American cuisines. She mentioned that they are both Fairburn residents who were previously in the automobile sales business but wanted a change. Since she has a love of food and cooking that runs deep in her family, they decided on a restaurant. So, after searching for a location for about four months in various cities in the Atlanta region, Mrs. Louis decided to Google “commercial buildings in Fairburn.” For her, this made sense, she said, because they wanted to be close to home since they just had a new grandchild.



She then reached out to John Davis, commercial realtor for Green Oil Company in Fairburn, regarding the location. Mrs. Louis mentioned that John Davis was very receptive to their needs and requirements, especially with the current concerns of COVID-19. She also noted that the City of Fairburn’s Permitting Department was very courteous and helpful in her journey.

Hikaru Botanical Café will offer a cuisine that is a blend of “American fusion with healthy choices for both breakfast and lunch such as omelettes, sandwiches, smoothies, baked goods, etc., along with catering services too,” according to Mrs. Louis. They recently opened in November and are looking forward to being part of the Fairburn community that offers the “small-town feel that they’re used to.”



# Winter Holiday Safety

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

## HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

## HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



## Before Heading Out on to Bed

**Blow out** lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

## FACTS

- ! More than **one-third** of home decoration fires are started by candles.
- ! More than **two of every five** decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU!



Join us as we make Fairburn shine!



## KEEP FAIRBURN BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR'S PROGRAM SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

We gratefully accept volunteers from all backgrounds!

**GET INVOLVED TODAY!**

Sign up as a volunteer!



Visit our official website at [www.Fairburn.com/KeepFairburnBeautiful](http://www.Fairburn.com/KeepFairburnBeautiful) to learn more. For inquiries or concerns, please contact [kyjohnson@fairburn.com](mailto:kyjohnson@fairburn.com) or [sabernathy@fairburn.com](mailto:sabernathy@fairburn.com).



Send inquiries to

[sabernathy@fairburn.com](mailto:sabernathy@fairburn.com) or

call 770-964-2244 ext. 127

# HOLIDAY

# C O U P O N S

OZ Pizza  
5 West Broad St  
Fairburn, GA 30213  
770-306-0603

FREE Bread Sticks,  
with order of LG Specialty Pizza



Offer expires 12/31/2020

Access link:

[ozpizza.revelup.com/weborder/?establishment=2#index](http://ozpizza.revelup.com/weborder/?establishment=2#index)

South Fulton Studios  
29 SW Broad Street,  
Fairburn, GA 30213  
770-892-7157

\$20 OFF Class Registration



Some restrictions apply.  
Offer expires 12/31/2020

King's Donuts  
8420 Senoia Rd  
Fairburn, GA 30213  
770-742-0152

One FREE Donut w/drink purchase or  
Purchase 1 dozen or more and receive  
20% OFF.



Some restrictions apply.  
Offer expires 12/31/2020

HairLooms  
27 West Campbellton  
Fairburn, GA 30213  
770-376-7993

10% off Full Highlights  
Color Service



Some restrictions apply.  
Offer expires 12/31/2020



# HOLIDAY

## C O U P O N S

**The Hampton Inn – Fairburn**  
7790 Ella Lane  
Fairburn, GA 30213  
678-782-4600

Discount Holiday Rates for Fairburn Residents  
\$89 per night



Some restrictions apply.  
Offer expires 12/31/2020

**Hikari Café**  
216 NW Broad St Suite B  
Fairburn, GA 30213  
10% OFF any menu item



Some restrictions apply.  
Offer expires 12/31/2020

Download Our New App!

"CITY OF FAIRBURN"

- Pay Utility Bills
- Latest Events
- Service Request
- Facility Reservations
- Employment Opportunities & Much More

DOWNLOAD



Our FREE Mobile APP



**IE Coin Laundry**  
274 Senoia Rd, #6A,  
Fairburn, GA 30213  
678-603-7980

\$5 Custom Laundry Bag



Some restrictions apply.  
Offer expires 12/31/2020

**Prettie Coif-fure Salon**  
8420 Senoia Rd, Suite 203  
Fairburn, GA 30213  
610-800-3532

10% off any style, and \$45 silk press out



Some restrictions apply.  
Offer expires 12/31/2020

## Community Events Calendar

- **Margie's House Mobile Pantry,**  
Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
304 Fairburn Industrial Blvd, Fairburn, GA 30213
- **City Council Meeting,**  
December 14<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM
- **Main Street Board of Directors Meeting,**  
December 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM
- **Walk-Up COVID 19 FREE Testing**  
December 18<sup>th</sup>
  - COVID-19 testing 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
  - Flu Shots from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

In collaboration with St. John's AME Church and the Fulton County Board of Health

Location:  
Fairburn Educational Campus Parking Lot,  
320 NW Broad Street, Fairburn, GA 30213

For more information regarding community events visit  
[www.Fairburn.com](http://www.Fairburn.com) or the city's Mobile App

**LOVE, PEACE, DANCE**  
4 THE HOLIDAYS  
WINTER DANCE SHOWCASE

SHOWING: DECEMBER 25TH, 2020  
MUST PURCHASE LINK IN ADVANCE  
[WWW.SOUTHFULSTONSTUDIOS.COM](http://WWW.SOUTHFULSTONSTUDIOS.COM)

TICKET LINK IS NOW AVAILABLE

South Fulton Studios  
DANCE

**We want to hear from you regarding your community events and businesses. For story information, advertisements, and promotions contact the Main Street Program Office: [Sabernathy@fairburn.com](mailto:Sabernathy@fairburn.com) or by phone at 770-964-2244 ext. 127**