

PROGRESS

Chronicling Smart Growth and Development in Fairburn

August 2008, Volume 1, Issue 2

Development Authority Efforts Continue

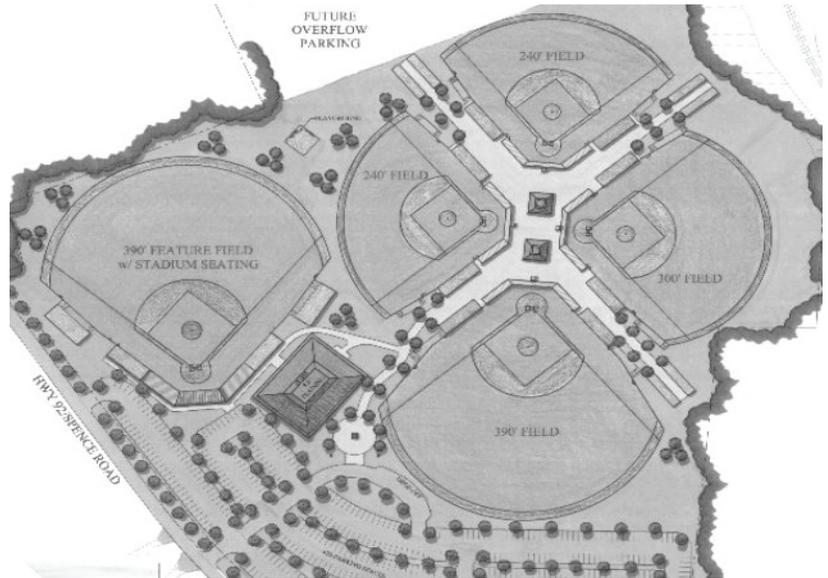
Championship Fields Scheduled to Open in 2009

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The City of Fairburn will soon be home to Championship Fields, a sports complex providing a venue for national, regional and local competitive tournament baseball and softball events for players of all ages. Championship Fields will be located on Spence Road, one mile from I-85 and GA Hwy 74. The complex, covering approximately 50 acres, will accommodate parking for 450 - 500 vehicles.

The project will encompass two phases. Phase One, according to Ron Marcotte of Championship Fields LLC of Fairburn, is scheduled to break ground in the Fall of 2008 and will contain an 18,000 square foot training



facility and five fields, one of which will be a Signature Field replicating an old time ballpark.

During Phase Two five additional fields will be constructed enabling Championship Fields to host tournaments of up to 80 teams in competitive play. Georgia Academy and Fletcher Baseball will be the primary tenants.

Ron Marcotte of Championship Fields says, "We are excited to work with the city to bring a first class sports venue to Fairburn. Our team of developers and baseball professionals are working to make Championship Fields of Fairburn the premiere location for amateur baseball and softball in the Southeastern United States."

Ray Hannah, Chairman of the Fairburn Development Authority noted "We expect Championship Fields total economic impact to be as much as three million dollars a year and more. The money spent by tournament participants, their families and spectators at our local businesses for rooms, meals, entertainment and other activities will prove to be enormously beneficial for years to come."

This quarterly newsletter is designed to inform Fairburn residents, property owners, business owners and others about events, challenges, changes and facts relating to Development in our City. This publication will keep you up-to-date on all development issues including news, highlights, events, business tips and tourism efforts.

Fairburn Welcomes New Director of Economic Development

Tonia Reed Williams is Fairburn's new Director of Economic Development. A certified economic developer (CEcD) possessing seventeen years of community and economic development experience Tonia is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma's Economic Development Institute. She also holds a Master's Degree in Community Planning from the University of Cincinnati and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from Wilberforce University. Tonia is a member of the Georgia Economic Developers Association (GEDA) and the International Economic Development Council (IEDC).



Prior to her appointment in Fairburn Tonia was employed by the United States Economic Development Administration. In this capacity, she served as an economic development representative for the states of Georgia and Tennessee speaking authoritatively about the EDA and its programs to potential applicants and stakeholders such as units of government, business and industry representatives and economic development organizations. Tonia can be reached at 770.964.2244 ext.132.

Member Spotlight



Ray Hannah is the Development Authority Chairman. A graduate of Mississippi College, Hannah holds advanced degrees from Clark University (MBA) and the University of North Carolina Management Program. Ray, no stranger to the Authority, previously served as Industrial and Downtown Development Authority Chairman from 1984-1990.



Ray's professional career includes stints at ITT Corporation, Foster Grant and Porex Corporation where he served in variety of positions including Vice President, President and CEO, Co-Chairman and Co-Chairman and CEO.

A former chairman of the South Fulton Chamber of Commerce, a Board Member of the Atlanta Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America and former President and Director of the Cochran Mill Nature Center & Arboretum, Ray is well known in South Fulton for his community spirit. He has been a Fulton County Parks and Recreation Department Advisory Board Member and served as a Trustee for the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority (Grady Hospital). An active member of the Fairburn United Methodist Church, Ray has served as Chairman and Board member of numerous committees. Ray is married to Fairburn's long serving Mayor Betty Hannah

In each issue of PROGRESS we'll provide information about members of the Authority who serve our city and our citizens.



Jean Barkley Russell, the Authority Vice-Chair, is the owner of the Barkley Russell Agency offering public relations and marketing services primarily in the area of Economic Development. Current clients include the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre and Hardin Construction Company, LLC. She is also a partner in Argonne Parades, a full service parade production company specializing in televised parades with clients including the 100 Black Men of Atlanta and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. Both businesses are based in Fairburn. Additionally she taught dancing for many years in Fairburn with her mother Doris Russell.

Her volunteer activities include: President of the Historic Courthouse Neighborhood Watch, Vice-Chair of the Fulton County Arts Council, a member of the Atlanta Press Club and the International Festival and Events Association.

Russell, a long time resident of Fairburn attended Campbell High School and is a graduate of Wesleyan College in Macon, GA with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Technical Theatre.

Historic Preservation Commission Created

At City Council Meeting on June 9, 2008, Council approved creation of the Fairburn Historic Preservation Commission. The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is the local agency that functions as the steward of historic resources in the City of Fairburn. The Commission is involved in the planning and development functions of the city. HPC members must all be residents of the State of Georgia who have demonstrated special interest, experience or education in history, architecture, or the preservation of historic resources. Membership will be comprised of Fairburn citizens and other professionals with backgrounds in required disciplines and related occupations.

The duties of the HPC include making recommendations for the designation of local historic districts, promoting heritage preservation, educating the public on preservation related issues, and reviewing plans for exterior changes to properties in designated districts to ensure that the proposed changes meet the adopted design guidelines.



Economic Development Department seeks input from local business owners and operators.

If you're having difficulty finding qualified individuals for specific occupations or feel certain skills are lacking in current employees or job applicants we'd like to hear from you. We're asking new and established businesses to communicate with the Development Department in order to determine programs and activities which can be developed to address your company's needs.

Phone 770. 969. 6315 or email econdev@fairburn.com.

Additions to Downtown



Reynolds, Inc. new headquarters underway

Reynolds, Inc., new Southeastern Regional Headquarters is currently under construction on East Broad Street. This thirteen thousand square foot facility, pictured at left, is expected to open in November and will house company administrative and operations personnel.

According to Richard Holt, Senior Project Engineer for Reynolds, "Fairburn has always been a positive location for us. Our new location here enables us to provide support and service for our projects in Georgia, Florida, North and South Carolina, Alabama and Mississippi."

Fairburn Art Gallery, 11A SW Broad Street. Owned by husband-and-wife team Tam and Tezzo Tamukti, the gallery features works by local artists as well handmade authentic work from Kenya, the Congo and Nigeria.

McGrath Chiropractic now open at 110 W. Broad Street. Owner John McGrath has over 30 years experience in Chiropractic Treatment, Acupressure, Nutritional Counseling and Alternative Medicine.

The Development Authority/Downtown Development Authority meets at 4:00 pm on the third Monday of every month at City Hall. The public is encouraged to attend. We're on the web at www.fairburn.com. The Authority is composed of seven (7) members appointed by the City Council and recognized by the State of Georgia as a public corporation with a specified set of powers and a specific purpose and mission to:

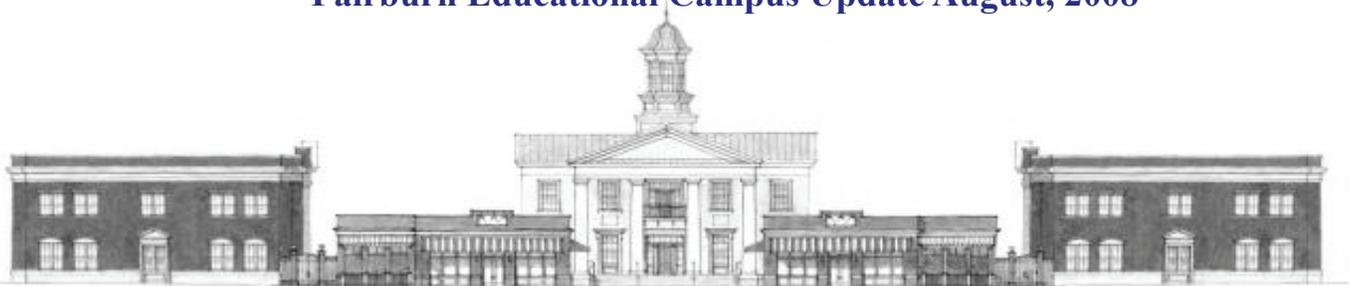
- Revitalize and redevelop the central business district
- Develop and promote for the public good and general welfare, trade, commerce, industry, and employment opportunities
- Finance projects within the central business district that will develop and promote the public good and general welfare
- Issue bonds to finance projects

Authority Members : Ray Hannah, - Chair, Jean Barkley Russell,-Vice-Chair, Hal Shields,- Secretary/Treasurer, John Carr, Sr., Jeff Couch, Steve Thomas, Jim Williams

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Fairburn Educational Campus Update August, 2008



Following the official groundbreaking ceremony in February, a flurry of activity commenced insuring the Fairburn Educational Campus site is ready for occupancy by principal tenant Georgia Military College in October. The latest photos show concrete has been poured and the steel is up and rising for the Phase One build out consisting of the Administration Building, two (2) 18,400 square-foot classroom buildings and two (2) 2,000 square-foot retail buildings.

