

Conyers Connections



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From the Mayor's desk...

Cooler temperatures, the abundance of pumpkin in all kinds of foods, drinks and scents is overwhelming, so fall must be upon us! We encourage you to participate in upcoming activities for fall and the Christmas season, which is quickly approaching. Take a look at our event calendar at conyersga.com for a list of upcoming events, including the Olde Town Fall Festival on Saturday, October 24 and also note that certain street closures will be in effect in Olde Town due to public safety reasons on the evening of October 31 for those trick-or-treating in the area.

The fall season will soon turn our thoughts to the upcoming holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas. Read more in this newsletter about our Hometown Holiday events scheduled in December. You'll also find helpful information about sanitation and recycling pick-up during the holidays, new ways Conyers Police are policing with body-worn cameras and more.

Take the time to get involved in your city. I wish you the best this fall and into the holiday season.

Sincerely,

Randy Mills
Mayor



Filming in Conyers

Did you know that Bonanza Productions, producers of "The Originals" TV show that airs on The CW network, compensate Olde Town businesses a total average of \$40,000 each time they shoot an episode in the historic business district? This is significant income that might not otherwise be realized by some of the businesses located in Olde Town Conyers and supports our local economy in other more far reaching ways.

Thank you, residents, for your patience when encountering traffic delays, temporary road closures and limited parking on days when there is filming in Olde Town. Conyers officials continue to work with production companies through the city's film policy and our local camera-ready liaison to make filming a positive experience for all involved.



35th Annual Olde Town Fall Festival: Saturday, October 24

It's a Conyers festival tradition 35 years in the making—the annual **Olde Town Fall Festival** on **Saturday, October 24 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.** Shop arts and crafts vendors, sample delicious foods, bring the kids to take part in children's activities and tap your toes to a variety of entertainment on two stages. Dress your child or four-legged fur child in a costume for a chance to win in the costume contests on the Depot stage at noon.

The Rockdale County Historical Society (RCHS) organized the Olde Town Fall Festival 35 years ago as a way to bring the community together and appreciate its history. Visit their booth at the festival to learn more about how you can volunteer or get involved to further their mission of preserving history in Conyers and Rockdale County.

The Race Against Violence (RAV) 5K also occurs on festival day, starting from Conyers First United Methodist Church at 8:15 a.m. (www.rockdaleaware.com). Run a fast race along the Peachtree Road Race-certified course and then stroll over to Olde Town for the sights, sounds and smells of festival day.

Admission and parking for the festival are free! Join us on Saturday, October 24 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. for the Olde Town Fall Festival. For more information, call 770-602-2606 or visit www.conyersga.com.



(Above) Pratt officials and Mayor Mills, second from right, cuts the ribbon at the opening of Pratt Industries' new Material Recovery Facility at their Conyers eco-campus. Pratt's Conyers, Georgia paper mill recently celebrated its 20 year anniversary. Since its inception, it has manufactured approximately 6,740,000 tons of 100% recycled paper, saving more than 113 million trees.

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A Christmas Party, Parade, Ice Skating and More!

The Hometown Holiday fun begins with the opening of the **ice skating rink** in the Olde Town Pavilion on Saturday, November 14. Ice Days returns to operate the rink from November 14-February 9, 2016. Hours and days of operation vary, so visit icedaysconyers.com for an operating schedule. The cost to skate is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children under age 8.

The **Olde Town Christmas Party** will be held on Friday, December 4 from 5-8 p.m. and features visits with Santa, free carriage rides, shopping and dining

throughout the historic district. Also that evening, the Rockdale County Historical Society will open a Secret Santa Shop for children ages 5-10 in the warehouse of the Conyers Depot/Welcome Center. Gifts range from \$.50 - \$5.00 and includes free gift wrapping.

Come back the day after the Olde Town Christmas Party for the **Hometown Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting** presented by the City of Conyers and Rockdale County Government on Saturday,

December 5 at 4:00 p.m. The parade, with a theme of "Candyland Christmas," begins at Rockdale County High School and ends at the Rockdale County Courthouse on Milstead Avenue. Stay after the parade for the lighting of Rockdale County's Christmas tree and enjoy music and performances at the Rockdale Auditorium at 903 Main Street.



Conyers Police Equipped with Body-Worn Cameras



Conyers Police officers have been issued and are utilizing body-worn cameras during their daily duties. The audio and video recording equipment will be activated for all dispatched and self-initiated calls and incidents as well as when contact is made or is expected to be made with the public.

"Most importantly, it promotes safety and professionalism as well as assisting in the judicial process."

Body-worn cameras are the latest in law enforcement technology that can act as evidence when there are questions to the events of an incident between a police officer and a citizen.

company that installed and maintains the mobile video recorders in the department's marked patrol cars.

The \$53,000 project, which includes 82 cameras, additional server space, software and hardware, is financed by asset forfeiture funds. Two cameras were also issued to the city's Planning and Inspections Department.

"There are a multitude of uses that will benefit both the department and citizens," explained Chief Gene Wilson.

The BodyVision cameras were ordered in April of this year from L3 Mobile Vision, the same

Sanitation and Recycling Tips for City Residents

Dear Residents,

We have had several issues with residents putting yard debris (leaves, limbs, pine straw, etc.) in their blue recycling and green solid waste containers.

Please do not put yard debris (leaves, limbs, pine straw, etc.) in your blue or green carts. A separate route runs to pick up these kinds of materials. If any yard debris materials are found in your container it will not be picked up until it is removed.

We are approaching the time of year when the holidays are upon us. The following is the holiday pick-up schedule for the remainder of the year:

Thanksgiving: Recycling routes for Thursday, November 26-Friday, November 27 will run on Wednesday, November 25.

Christmas: Recycling routes for Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25 will run on Wednesday, December 23.

New Year's Day: The recycling route for Friday, January 1, 2016 will run on Thursday, December 31.

Thank you. We appreciate the opportunity to serve you.

- City of Conyers and Pratt Industries Sanitation Department

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