

MAYOR'S MEMO

FIRST QUARTER 2021



Love thy neighbor....

I pray for my family, our city, our state, and our country. We are experiencing troubling times. The events occurring at the Capitol in Washington D.C. on Jan. 6th continue to weigh heavily on my heart. Emotions over elections are off the charts. Our country is divided. Some are celebrating. Some feel that an election was stolen. Others are somewhere in between. People are constantly at one another's throats if they align with the opposing political party.

I beg everyone to take a step back and think about your neighbor. Think about that other person, not through a lens of political views, but through the lens of shared humanity. Be kind and respectful. Remember that we can disagree and still get along.

We still live in a great nation but it is incumbent on each of us to keep it that way and hopefully make it better for the next generation. I applaud someone who is adamant in his or her beliefs. But you can be adamant while also being kind and respectful.

All I'm saying is "love thy neighbor."

God bless you all!

Sincerely,

Troy Brumbalow
Mayor

About the Mayor's Memo: A publication by the City of Cumming used to help inform our residents, businesses, newcomers, and visitors of all the great things going on in the City of Cumming! Presented in addition to the City's monthly e-newsletter; mailed and shared electronically at cityofcumming.net and at **City of Cumming-City Hall on Facebook**.

To stay up-to-date on the City of Cumming, **please sign up** for our **monthly e-newsletter** by emailing clcdford@cityofcumming.net (Subject Line: E-News Signup) and liking us on **Facebook** ([facebook.com/cummingcityhall](https://www.facebook.com/cummingcityhall)) and **Instagram** ([@cityofcumming](https://www.instagram.com/cityofcumming))!

(Over)

Fourth Quarter 2020 Highlights



**2020 City of Cumming
Christmas Parade**

Despite the pandemic, we were still able to hold our **3rd Annual City of Cumming Christmas Parade** on Dec. 5. Since the event was completely outdoors and spectators had plenty of room to spread out (and were encouraged to wear masks), we proceeded with the event in order to bring our community some much-needed holiday cheer. While we didn't have quite as many parade entries as in 2019, the parade was still a big success and everyone seemed to have a great time! **Congratulations to our 2020 Christmas Parade award winners:** *Best Float* – Forsyth Central High School Flash of Crimson Spinning Drummer; *Most Spirited Band* – Flash of Crimson; *Best Scout Troop* – Cub Scout Pack

211; *Best Jeep* – Angie Kellett, Jacque Stewart, Jon Wolfe & Linda Stewart; *Jeep Honorable Mention* – Taylor, Dodd & Jordan Vickers; *Best Modern Vehicle Non-Jeep* – Coal Mtn Stake of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints; *Best Classic/Antique Vehicle* – Eric Johnson & Brian Hassel; *Best Animal Entry* – Chalcedon Presbyterian Church; *Best On-Foot Group* – Stayin' Alive Crew; *Most Creative* – FOCO Sheriff's Office; *Most Holiday Spirit* – St. Brendan's Catholic Church; *Holiday Spirit Honorable Mention* – Good Shepherd Catholic Church Preschool.

In December, the **City of Cumming Youth Council**, comprised of students from Forsyth Central High School and Alliance Academy for Innovation, gathered together again to elect officers for the 2020-21 term, which began on Jan. 5. Due to the pandemic, the 2019-20 term was cut short so all of last year's members (with the exception of three who graduated) were invited to return. They all agreed, and in December we welcomed three new members. The nine students selected for **2020-2021 Youth Council** are (left to right): Top Row – Jake Dutton, Mayor (FCHS); Caleb McWhorter, Mayor Protem (Alliance); Emma Humphries, City Administrator (FCHS); Middle Row – Riley Brumalow, Clerk (FCHS); Zach Furbush (FCHS); Mary Beth Lowe (FCHS); Bottom Row – Yugeshwar Muralidhar (FCHS); Alana Murray (Alliance); and Allison Oldani (FCHS). Youth Council meets every first Tuesday of the month at 5 p.m. at City Hall.



Progress continues to be made at the site of the **Cumming City Center**. City Council recently approved a number of bids for various aspects of construction of the Center's buildings, including concrete work, steel fabrication & erection, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, and fire suppression systems. **Vertical construction** began at the site in mid-December, with the City Center slated to open in late fall of 2021.

In November, City Council awarded a bid for construction of an **extension of Buford Dam Road from Veterans Memorial Blvd to Castleberry Road**. Construction of this important road extension, which will serve as a bypass of downtown Cumming during peak traffic hours and large-scale events at the Cumming Fairgrounds, has begun and, barring any weather delays, is slated to be completed by late summer of 2021.