



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The City of Seneca Offices will be closed the following dates:

November 10th - Veteran’s Day

November 23rd-24th - Thanksgiving Holiday

City officials praise community, employees for support during storm

As the remnants of Hurricane Irma made their way across the Upstate in early September, tens of thousands of people lost power as high winds wreaked havoc, dropping trees and snapping power poles at an alarming rate.

Seneca certainly wasn’t spared from the severe weather, as utilities director Bob Faires said around 2,000 customers in the city lost service during the peak of the storm on Sept. 11. But, he added, thanks to the collaboration of crews from the city’s light and water, street, police, fire and sewer departments, service was restored nearly in full by the next day.

“The last couple of days have been somewhat trying for our folks,” Faires told city council on Sept 12. “Our guys have been working in difficult conditions, especially last night. We had some great support from all the departments, and nothing brings people together like a common cause, and everybody chipped in so well.”

Faires also spoke highly of members of the community, who he said didn’t complain about losing power and offered support to crews who were out braving the storm to restore power and clear debris.

He added the city received assistance from multiple crews from both Gaffney and Easley — two cities Seneca has lent its resources to in the past.

“We've always been there for people,” Faires said. “It was so heartwarming to see everybody else helping us, and everyone who called was so open asking what we needed.

“Their help has been invaluable, and we just appreciate the support we've gotten from the community, too.”



ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIP:

With Thanksgiving and Christmas upon us, all of our holiday decorations are going up. Avoid overloading outlets and make sure the outlet covers are secure.



Police Department a safe spot for transactions

Thanks to a partnership with online company OfferUp, the Seneca Police Department's main station on North Depot Street is now serving as a secure meeting location for parties who do business online.

Buyers and sellers who use sites such as Craigslist and Facebook to do business can now meet up at the station, where a 12-inch-by-18-inch aluminum sign has been hung signifying the area as a safe space for transactions.

The sign notes live video recording is taking place, while officers are just a stone's throw away.

"With internet-based person-to-person transactions becoming more a part of our daily lives, the Seneca Police Department wanted to provide a safer and secure environment for all of the public to utilize, if desired, to facilitate these type of transactions," Police Chief John Covington said. "While we cannot guarantee that fraud or other issues will not arise at our location during transactions, we feel it will certainly provide a safer environment and deter many problems from occurring while conducting them at a law enforcement agency with security video recording in place."

Covington said the location can also be used for child custody and visitation transfers.

City announces new finance director

Half a year removed from the departure of the city's finance director, city council recently gave its approval to appoint a successor in city hall.

On Sept. 12, council unanimously voted to elect Joshua J. Riches as the city's new finance officer. He replaces Joel Seavey, who resigned March 2. On Oct. 2, exactly six months later, Riches will begin his work with the city as not only its finance director, but also its municipal clerk and treasurer.

Riches comes to Seneca from Santee Cooper in Moncks Corner, where he most recently served as its wholesale market originator.

"We've had an opportunity to work with him, because Santee Cooper is our electric provider for the city," Seneca Mayor Dan Alexander said. "Over the last several years, we've had an opportunity to work with him on an individual basis with the city, and when he put his name in, we were very excited. A lot of us knew what he's done and his expertise, so we're very excited to have him."

Riches — who holds degrees from both the University of South Carolina and the University of Utah — has worked at Santee Cooper since 2008. He previously worked at Raymond James Financial in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Jazz on the Alley set for strong finish

Now that summer has turned to fall, it won't be long before Thursday nights become significantly quieter on Ram Cat Alley.

However, before "Jazz on the Alley" goes into hibernation until April, the celebrated concert series will be closing out with a bang in October with a full slate of artists from numerous genres set to take over Ram Cat Alley for nights full of music, food, dancing and camaraderie.

"The weather should be great for the final month, and we are doing a theme night so we can have a little music from all types of musicians from jazz to dance to rock," Seneca events coordinator Riley Johnson said. "The crowds have increased this year, and people are turning out and bringing all their guests that are visiting."

Helping close out the eighth season of Jazz on the Alley — which has been recognized by the South Carolina Festival and Events Association in the past — will be Funk Factory, which will be the featured act on Oct. 5, followed by Stone Echo on Oct. 12. The Wobblers will come to Ram Cat Alley on Oct. 19, and Nathan A'ngelo will close out the season on Oct. 26.

"It's always a great kick-start to the weekend," Johnson said. "There's only four more weeks to go, so don't miss it."



Inaugural JeepFest set for October 28th

Seneca officials feel Pickens' loss will be the city's gain as it gets set to host the inaugural Seneca JeepFest, which is scheduled to run from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m. on Oct. 28.

The event will see hundreds of Jeep owners — all models from 1941 through the present day are welcome — descend upon the city for a day that will feature a variety of rides in the morning, followed by live music, food and a Jeep show in the evening at Norton-Thompson Park.

“In the past, they were going to Pickens for years and years, but it came available,” city events coordinator Riley Johnson said. “They were looking for somewhere to go.”

Longtime city employee Donnie “Big-un” White, who oversees Cruzin’ on Main, has been instrumental in bringing the event to Seneca, as he said Jeep enthusiasts were eager to keep the event in the area following Pickens’ decision to no longer host it.

“I used to go to (the event in Pickens), and everybody has come to me wanting to bring it to the city,” he said. “We have a perfect setup for it.”

“In Pickens, they kind of turned it into an adventure day, so a lot of people started contacting me wanting to have just a JeepFest. We're hoping to fill up Main Street and both parking lots full of Jeeps.”

In the morning, there will be a total of six scenic rides for participants to choose from, with everyone set to return to downtown Seneca by 4 p.m. Adam Carter and his band will then provide the entertainment for the evening.

Raffle tickets for a Jeep replica go-cart — with a suggested retail value of \$2,500 — will also be sold and are currently available at Seneca Family Restaurant and Clemson 4 Wheel Center. Tickets — available for \$5 each or five for \$20 — can also be purchased by contacting event leaders through their Facebook page at facebook.com/senecajeepfest.

All proceeds from the raffle will go to benefit autism research.

In addition to the Facebook page — where a full list of the morning rides is available — follow the event on Instagram by using the hashtag #SenecaJeepFest.

DAV Public Service Announcement

A message from the Disabled American Veterans Lewis G. Watkins Chapter 41 Oconee County.

Our DAV Chapter Service Officers are ready to help with any VA Claims. They are available at the Knights of Columbus facility, located at 112 East North 2nd Street, Seneca, every Wednesday afternoon from 1-5:30 PM. Call for more information.

Terry L Neale (303) 501-4273
Steve Ramey (864) 248-0612
Steve Davis (864) 650-4683
Dottie Ellis (864) 247-0129
Roger Spurr (864) 638-8658
Mike O'Shields (864) 247-1577
Mike Brown (864) 858-6052



City of Seneca Events

Oconee Community Theatre
presents



The Dog Park

By Beth Batson

Public Performances:
October 20-22 & 27-29, 2017
Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00 PM
Sunday matinees at 2:30 PM

Private performance to benefit ARF at FoxNest:
October 19, 2017 at 8:00 PM

OCT 882.1910/ARF 882.4488
www.oconeetheatre.org




Mark your calendars!! The Seneca Christmas Parade will be Monday, November 27th at 6:00 PM. The Mayor and City Council will kick off the parade with the lighting of Norton-Thompson Park beginning at 5:45 PM.

2017

City of Seneca upcoming events



Howl-o-ween on the green • Downtown Seneca
October 31st
Free candy from Mayor Dan Alexander and his city council members at Norton Thompson Park in downtown Seneca





SWC and YouthLink Spooky Tales
Oct. 29th 2-4pm (FREE)
212 E. South 3rd St.
Seneca, 29678



CHRISTMAS AT THE LUNNEY
DECEMBER 10th
2PM - 5PM



Seneca Woman's Club Christmas Open House Tea Social
December 2 • 2:00 - 4:00 pm (FREE)
RSVP to Debbie 864-324-8417



jazz ON THE ALLEY
Every Thursday April - October.
Starts at 6:30 on Ram Cat Alley.



Cruzin' ON MAIN
1st Saturday April - October.
Downtown on Main Street.



COMING IN 2018
7th Annual Half Marathon and 5k
Saturday, March 17th

Follow us on Facebook  Seneca SC Events
More info at www.seneca.sc.us

CITY OF SENECA PRESENTS



Halloween ON THE GREEN

TUESDAY OCT. 31
5 - 8 PM
DOWNTOWN SENECA

Costume contest!
FREE Hot Dogs and Candy!
Bring the family!

Pumpkin Painting For Kids!



Follow us on Facebook:  Seneca SC Events
More info at: www.seneca.sc.us