

MAYOR'S MEMO

SECOND QUARTER 2018



At almost six months in office, I feel I am now hitting my stride as the City of Cumming's mayor. In partnership with City Council, our City Administrator and staff, I feel we have taken many positive steps over the last two quarters to move the City of Cumming forward.

We have worked hard to create several new community events over the past couple of months to provide opportunities for fun and neighborhood camaraderie right here at home! These events - which include Fridays at the Fairgrounds, Food Truck Fridays on School Street, and a summer music series at the Fairgrounds – have been a big hit, with thousands of people turning out to enjoy good food, music, kids' activities, and family-focused fun! Check out the listing on back for more highlights from the second quarter.

And there's plenty more to come in our great City as we continue to work for you - our residents, businesses and visitors - to make the City of Cumming the best it can possibly be!

Sincerely,

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 each quarter of 2018, in addition to the City's monthly e-newsletter.
- Mailed at the close of each quarter in 2018 and shared electronically at cityofcumming.net and at City of Cumming-City Hall on Facebook.
- After 2018, the Mayor's Memo will only be provided digitally to save costs.
- To stay up-to-date on the City of Cumming, please sign up for our **monthly e-newsletter** by emailing cldeford@cityofcumming.net (Subject Line: E-newsletter Signup) and like us on **Facebook** (facebook.com/cummingcityhall).

(Over)

Second Quarter 2018 Highlights



Created several new **community events**:

- **Fridays at the Fairgrounds** – Every third Friday, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.
- **Food Truck Fridays on School Street** – Every first Friday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- **Summer Music Series at the Fairgrounds:**
 - 37 Main Music Fest - July 21, 12 p.m. to 11 p.m.
 - 37 Main Music Fest - Aug. 18, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
- **July 4th Festivities at the Fairgrounds** – First all-day July 4th festival

Awarded a lease agreement to the **Sawnee Association of the Arts** for exclusive use of the **Brannon-Heard House** to create a **downtown arts center**, which will offer art displays and shows, classes and demonstrations, and a gift shop selling items handcrafted by SAA members. The agreement assures greater community use of the house, while providing stable rental fees which will in turn be used to better maintain the historic facility.



Awarded an expanded lease agreement to Brian and Kelly Tam, which will allow the **Tams to operate the Cumming Playhouse** as well as their Tam's Back Stage restaurant. The agreement begins in January of 2019 and will save the City more than \$150,000 per year in operations and maintenance costs, while still allowing various community groups to present a wide range of high-quality plays, musicals, and concerts throughout the year for public enjoyment.

Adopted an ordinance which requires any establishment selling **nicotine vapor products** to obtain a permit from the City's Planning & Zoning Department, and allows law enforcement to monitor these establishments to ensure such products are not being sold to minors.

Enacted a temporary **billboard moratorium** and began a study to improve the City's current sign ordinance.

Eliminated associated fees to make the **annexation process easier** for property owners wishing to annex into the City of Cumming.

On the Horizon

Continued work toward **creation of a City Center**, a community gathering space featuring walkable retail and restaurant spaces, small-scale event venues, and green spaces.

Ongoing **cost-saving measures** and fostering of **community partnerships**.