

VERGE

**EAST
POINT**
GEORGIA

MAYOR

Deana Holiday Ingraham

WARD A

Sharon Shropshire, At-Large
Alexander Gothard

WARD B

Karen Rene, At-Large
Thomas Calloway

WARD C

Nanette Saucier, At-Large
Myron Cook

WARD D

Joshua Butler, At-Large
Stephanie Gordon

2018 Inauguration Ceremony



On December 30, 2017 the City of East Point held their 2018 Inauguration Ceremony at Tri-Cities High School. The Honorable Deana Holiday Ingraham was sworn in as the new Mayor of the City of East Point. Councilmembers Sharon Shropshire, Karen Rene, Nanette Saucier, and Joshua Butler, IV, also took the Oath of Office to serve on the East Point City Council. Radio Personality Derrick Boazman served as the Master of Ceremony for the event. Musical Performances were given by Cedric McMiller and Carolyn Kinsey.



Meet Mayor Deana Holiday Ingraham



Deana Holiday Ingraham was elected as the 34th Mayor of the City of East Point on December 5, 2017. Deana Holiday Ingraham is a wife, mother and advocate who is dedicated personally and professionally to public service. As the daughter of a father who was an entrepreneur and owned his own construction company and a mother who served over 35 years as a teacher and guidance counselor in the public school system, Deana was reared to think outside the box, lead change to improve the lives of others and serve others, for to whom much is given, much is required.

The importance and value of education instilled in Deana guided her as she matriculated through the public school system in Starke, Florida and graduated as valedictorian of Bradford High School in 1992. After graduating, Deana's thirst for knowledge led her to Florida A&M University (FAMU) where she graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting and Business Administration with a double minor in Criminal Justice and Psychology. With a firm commitment to continued growth and passion to excel, Deana Holiday Ingraham attended Howard University School of Law (HUSL) and received a Juris Doctorate degree and later received a Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice with a Specialty in Child Protection and Juvenile Justice from Nova Southeastern University. Holiday Ingraham completed courses to earn a Local Finance Officer Level I Certification through the Carl Vinson Institute of Government, and she completed a course of study in the Georgia Academy for Economic Development.

Deana Holiday Ingraham is an active East Point resident. She is a 2012 graduate of the East Point Citizens Leadership Academy, and began her service to the community by serving as an East Point Building Authority board member; a member of the East Point Airport Noise Task Force; and a board member of the East Point Main Street Association. Upon becoming a member of Council, her colleagues selected her to serve as the 2014 Provisional Mayor Pro Tem, and she has served on the Budget Committee and Human Resources Committee since taking office.

Holiday Ingraham has not only navigated the politics and policy of serving as an elected official, her professional experience reflects almost two decades of public service. Professionally, she is an attorney who has represented senior citizens, and advocated for the most vulnerable – children who have been abused, abandoned and/or neglected. She has also served as an instructor in post-secondary education, owned and managed her own law firm, served as an administrator in K-12 Education as a Director of Student Discipline and currently serves as a Director in the juvenile justice system.

Holiday Ingraham is an esteemed member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She and her husband, Willie Ingraham, Jr., are the proud parents of their daughter, Nia Ingraham. They attend Greater Travelers Rest Baptist Church and her mother resides with them in the Lakeside Preserve neighborhood.



Meet Councilman Joshua Butler, Ward D At-Large



Honor, integrity, ambition, balance, and uplift are the principles that guide lifelong East Point native Joshua B. Butler, IV, each day in his professional and philanthropic endeavors. This Morehouse College graduate turned down a scholarship to the number one engineering school in the world, M.I.T, so that he could learn the altruistic lessons of Benjamin Mays and Martin L. King, Jr.

Combining his keen analytical abilities, intrinsic leadership skills, trailblazing spirit, and compassionate nature, Councilman Butler has emerged as a renaissance entrepreneur whose professional career started as Bank of America's number one SBA Business Banker for the State of Georgia.

Councilman Butler has bought and sold companies in several industries including the transportation and logistics, and the entertainment industries. His experiences also include real estate development and political consulting.

With the belief that each of his projects should "uplift mankind," Councilman Butler consistently works with several projects that benefit both the immediate local Atlanta area and other communities across the country. In 2005, Councilman Butler initiated the first Atlanta Dream Ride and Concourse for Kids, an annual fundraiser that provides essential financial support to children with terminal cases of cancer and gives the kids and their families a much-needed afternoon of fun cruising the streets of Atlanta in exotic and luxury sports vehicles. Joshua B. Butler, IV, has also raised money for battered women through the charity Jaden's Ladder and is an active member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Congratulations to East Point's Re-elected Councilmembers



Councilwoman Sharon Shropshire, Ward A At-Large



Councilwoman Karen Rene, Ward B At-Large



Councilwoman Nanette Saucier, Ward C At-Large

SafeHome.org Ranks East Point as One of the Safest Cities in Georgia



The City of East Point ranks #25 on SafeHome.org's 2017 list of the Safest Cities in Georgia.

To develop the list, SafeHome.org used a variety of data sources and a combination of the FBI's latest report which details how many and what types of crimes occurred in a city. They also looked at crime trends in a city, their demographics, population density, unemployment rate, income, and education level. You can see their full list at <https://www.safehome.org/safest-cities/GA/>

East Point Police Officer Saves Man from Burning Car



Sgt. Henry Smith

Sergeant (Sgt.) Henry Smith of the East Point Police Department is being hailed a hero after saving a man from his burning car on Tuesday, December 5, 2017. Just after 1:00 a.m., a passerby called 9-1-1 advising that there was a vehicle on fire and that a man was trapped inside at 3651 Washington Road near Arlington Road. When Sgt. Smith arrived on the scene, he discovered that there was an unconscious black male behind the wheel in a Red Chevrolet Aveo. The hood of the vehicle was

completely engulfed in flames. Sgt. Smith pulled the driver out of his vehicle through the driver side window. The driver was pulled to a safe distance upon arrival of the East Point Fire Department who extinguished the fire. Thank you Sgt. Smith for your heroic actions!

East Point Designated as WaterFirst Community



The City of East Point has been designated as a WaterFirst Community by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. The WaterFirst Community Program is a voluntary partnership that recognizes communities with a strong commitment to water resource stewardship. East Point will be eligible for financial assistance and other benefits from the state.

City Hall Construction Underway



Construction for East Point's new City Hall is underway. Demolition of the old Fire Station #1 began on December 11, 2017. The new 32,130 square foot City Hall will be located in the heart of downtown East Point at the corner of East Point Street and West Cleveland Avenue. It will include city offices, a multi-purpose City Council Chamber, and an additional 2,424 square feet of shell space for future growth expansion. East Point's newly constructed City Hall will serve as a catalyst for economic growth in the downtown area. Construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2018.



PATH Model Mile Groundbreaking Ceremony



The City held a Groundbreaking Ceremony for the East Point PATH Model Mile on December 29, 2017 at Sumner Park. This project meets the goals to connect city parks, downtown, and local schools. The East Point PATH will consist of bicycle and pedestrian trails that could eventually span 25 miles and link into the Atlanta BeltLine's southern crescent. The goal is to have 10 miles of the multi-use trails completed within the next five years. This project is funded by the Fulton County T-SPLOST.



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Important Dates

- **Administrative Offices Closed:** Monday, January 15, 2018
- **City Council Meetings:** Tuesday, January 16 @ City Annex, 6:30 p.m.
- **KEPB's MLK Day of Service:** Monday, January 15, 2018 @ Sumner Park, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. (50 volunteers needed)

Georgia State University Students Improve East Point's Network Security Posture



Pictured (L to R): Whitney Henley, Amira Farah, Farhad Islam, Josue Legentus, Julie Antonio, and Taylor Lee

The City of East Point's network security posture is much safer now thanks to undergraduate students at Georgia State University (GSU). East Point's Information Technology Director, Farhad Islam, worked with a group of students in GSU's J. Mack Robinson College of Business for four months to rewrite the City of East Point's IT policy.

These graduating seniors worked on a System Development Project as part of their capstone course in Robinson's Department of Computer Information Systems (CIS). This undergraduate program partnered with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP) for their students to gain experience in Information Technology through real-world experience. These students are Julie Antonio, Amira Farah, Whitney Henley, Taylor Lee, and Josue Legentus.

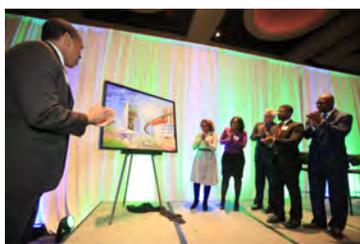
East Point Farmers Market Receives Local Food Grant



The East Point Farmers Market is a 2018 Local Food Grant recipient from the Food Well Alliance.

The Food Well Alliance is investing \$300,000 in 13 organizations that are creating a vibrant and more resilient city through locally grown food. The investment is part of Food Well Alliance's annual Local Food Grant, and supports a group of farmers, nonprofit leaders, entrepreneurs and educators who have demonstrated through collaborative projects why locally grown food is the most sustainable and equitable choice for ensuring healthy food access in Metro Atlanta.

East Point Economic Development Director Unveils Painting at State of the Aerotropolis Breakfast



*Maceo Rogers with Aerotropolis Staff at State of the Aerotropolis Breakfast
Photo Courtesy of Cara Pastore*

East Point's Economic Development Director, Maceo Rogers, showcased his artistic ability at the Annual State of The Aerotropolis Breakfast held at the Georgia International Convention Center. He unveiled his painting titled "Good Morning Aerotropolis," which took him nearly a month and a half to create. The painting is a reflection of the imaginary future of Aerotropolis development by way of transportation, workforce, education, quality of life, clean air, green space, paths, and a sense of community.

The painting surface is layered with canvas strips cut in the form of airplane tails to suggest movement taking off and landing but also to create natural highlights and shadows. In addition, it gives the painting a mild 3-D effect. The use of bright colors, contrast, positive and negative spaces are meant to be visually stimulating to the eye.

City Manager Hosts Last Community Open House Meetings of 2017



There was great turnout from residents at the City Manager's Community Open House Meetings on November 30th and December 7th. East Point City Manager Frederick Gardiner informed residents of how their taxpayer dollars are being spent in the City.

East Point Firefighters Glove Up for Charitable Event



Firefighter Sammie Cole declared the winner

East Point Firefighters were among dozens of first responders who stepped into the ring for the annual "Guns N Hoses," amateur boxing tournament.

Hosted by the Atlanta Police Athletic League (PAL), the fundraiser pits firefighters against police officers in three round boxing matches, each lasting one minute. Representing East Point were Firefighters Sammie Cole, Alberto Gomez, and Victor Taylor who squared

off against Atlanta Police Officers. Firefighters Cole and Gomez both won their respective bouts, with Cole retaining his championship belt from his 2016 Victory in the same event. The "Guns N Hoses" charitable event took place on December 14, 2017 at the Tabernacle in downtown Atlanta.

City Councilmembers Appointed to National League of Cities' Committee



Councilwoman Stephanie Gordon, Ward D Councilwoman Sharon Shropshire, Ward A At-Large

Councilwoman Stephanie Gordon and Councilwoman Sharon Shropshire have been appointed to serve on the National League of Cities' (NLC) 2018 Public Safety and Crime Prevention Committee. Shropshire and Gordon will play a key role in shaping NLC's policies and advocate on behalf of America's cities and towns before Congress, with the administration and at home. Gordon will serve as one of the Vice Chairs on the committee.

12U East Point Bulldogs named State Champions



Congratulations to East Point's 12U Bulldogs! They are the 2017 Inaugural State Champions for the Georgia Recreation and Park Association's (GRPA) Unrestricted 12U Football Class. They beat Elberton City, 35-6, in the GRPA State Championship game on December 10, 2017.

The team had a very successful season playing in multiple tournaments throughout November and December. They beat Ben Hill, 40-0, in the Metro Atlanta Youth Football League (MAYFL) Championship game on November 11, 2017. They were also one of eight teams, covering 12 counties, to be invited to the Frank Ski Bowl.

Jonathon Farris was selected to the "Born to Compete" All-Star team.



East Point Unveils New Holiday Tree at Annual Tree Lighting Event

The City of East Point unveiled its new holiday tree at its annual tree lighting event known as "East Point Celebrates the Holidays." The event took place in the East Point Commons on December 1st. This year's tree stood at 26 feet tall. The event included a visit from Santa as well as dance and musical performances by Tri-Cities High School's Chorus, Unity Line Dancers, and the HJC Bowden Line Dancers.



East Point Church and Neighborhood Association Hosts Holiday Ham and Toys Giveaway

On Saturday, December 16, 2017, New Grant Chapel AME Church and the East Washington Neighborhood Association presented "Make It A Jolly Holiday with Ham & Toys" at New Grant Chapel AME Church. The event was sponsored by Newell Recycling who donated \$2,000 to purchase hams for the event. 600 holiday hams from the Atlanta Community Food Bank were given to hundreds of East Point residents. Newell Recycling also donated \$2,000 to the East Washington Neighborhood Association for Toys for Tots. Toy recipients were pre-selected by New Grant Chapel AME Church. Four families were each given \$250 by New Grant Chapel AME Church to purchase toys for the holiday season.



Employee Appreciation Holiday Parties

Police Department



Water & Sewer Department



Employee Appreciation & Holiday Luncheon



A special thanks to all of the City of East Point employees. We thank you for your service!