



Decatur FOCUS

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Decatur Celebrates Hometown Heroes for 2004

Mayor Pro Tem Jim Baskett handed out 14 Hometown Hero awards at the Decatur Business Association annual holiday meeting in December. Hometown Heroes are those folks who work behind the scenes to make our Decatur community a better place to live and work. See page 4 and get to know these wonderful neighbors.

Decatur's Hometown Heroes for 2004: (front row) Becky Smith, Joy Rogers Jackson, Dr. Mance C. Jackson, and Cassandra Breedlove; (back row) Robert Soens, Andrea Berry, Paul Jones, Julie Rhame, Ruby Bock, Chris Billingsley, Phyllis Gilbert, Doug Aholt, Heather Flury, and Dottie Aiken.



Stormwater Utility Efforts Pay Off

The City of Decatur was recently recognized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for improvements in stormwater management.

The city's participation in FEMA's Community Rating System enables residents and businesses to purchase flood insurance at reduced rates. Decatur's improvement to category 8 in the ratings provides a 10 percent discount on flood insurance.

The city improved its rating by documenting the Stormwater Utility's efforts to minimize the frequency and severity of flooding in the city. Since the Stormwater Utility was created the city has improved the maintenance of the stormwater system and developed more accurate mapping that identifies properties likely to flood during a severe storm. The Stormwater Master Plan will further assist in identifying activities that will help qualify the city for category 7 status, which will further lower the cost of flood insurance.



Left to right: Janice Mitchell, FEMA Atlanta Regional Office, John Madajewski and Miguel Valentin of the City of Decatur's Engineering Department, Collis Brown, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, and Mayor Bill Floyd.