



**LAGRANGE**  
GEORGIA

*Media Release*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 20, 2018

## **City of LaGrange Honors Speer Burdette for Exceptional Achievement, Awarded “The Flame of Excellence”**

***LaGrange, Ga. December 20, 2018*** – The City of LaGrange is honoring Callaway Foundation President and General Manager Speer Burdette for his exceptional achievement with a frabel, or a glass sculpture, entitled “The Flame of Excellence.”



*Mayor Jim Thornton presents “The Flame of Excellence” to Speer Burdette*

The Flame of Excellence serves to honor those who bravely light the way for others.

Burdette is retiring from his position at the Callaway Foundation December 31, 2018. He’s been with the Foundation since 2003.

Previous recipients of this award include Cliff Rainey (2003), Charles Foster (2003), Bobby Carmichael (2006), Stuart Gulley (2009) and Charles Hudson, Sr. (2012)

“We are pleased to show our gratitude and appreciation by adding another name to this list of exceptional leaders in our community,” said

LaGrange City Manager Meg Kelsey. “Through his service and diligent work, LaGrange and its residents have been forever impacted by his vision and steadfast dedication to our community.”

Burdette was born and raised in LaGrange. After graduating from LaGrange High, he attended Vanderbilt University where he received a Bachelor’s of Art in Mathematics. He continued on to the University of Alabama where he earned a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting. He returned to LaGrange in 1979 and began work at J.K. Boatwright until being hired in 2003 as the General Manager of the Foundation.



*Speer Burdette with Mayor, City Council, and City Manager*

He has selflessly donated countless hours and generously provided his expertise to numerous civic and charitable organizations including the Downtown LaGrange Development Authority, Troup County Parks and Recreation Commission, Industrial Development Authority, LaGrange

Personal Aid, Medical Park Foundation, WellStar West Georgia Medical Center and the Well Star Corporate Board.

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