

Paulding.com's Pat Hughes capitalizes on hyper-growth Atlanta suburbs

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Pat Hughes is using a lifetime of corporate and entrepreneurial [Pauldingpathughes](#) experience in mainstream media to build a community-news and information website for one of the fastest-growing U.S. suburban areas northwest of Atlanta. [Paulding.com](#) is a quirky but high-traffic website for communities west of Atlanta. As the population of Paulding County, Ga. began to boom, Hughes saw the opportunity for a hyperlocal news site and obtained the Paulding.com domain in 1997 as editor of a local weekly newspaper. In August, 2007, Hughes said Paulding.com had 12,500 registered users (in a 43,000-household target market area 35 miles northwest of Atlanta), and some news posts on breaking stories would garner 714 comments and 24,000 pageviews. On Oct. 18 2007, Media Giraff Project Editor Bill Densmore taped a one-hour interview with Hughes while both attended the Online News Association annual convention in Toronto. **Click on the carat on the bar below the black screen to start streaming video of the interview.** Also: [View the Media Giraffe Project profile of Hughes.](#) (Joining in the Hughes interview with comments and observations is [Rob "Roblimo" Miller](#), an editor at SlashDot.com)

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