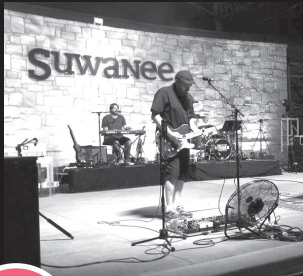


Suwanee connects

inside
this issue...



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4 Suwanee Gets More EVENTful in 2017



5 Beer Fest Returns!

suwanee.com | february 2017

COOL



RUNNING

County's First Marathon to Be Run in Suwanee in February

Be a part of Gwinnett County history on February 26 by running the county's first-ever full marathon! The City of Suwanee is teaming up with Georgia Fitness to host the inaugural Suwanee Marathon, in tandem with the 3rd annual Suwanee Half Marathon.

Both races will begin at 7:00 a.m. at Town Center Park. From there, the Peachtree Road Race-certified, 13.1-mile course will meander through Old Town, along Eva Kennedy to Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, to Tench Road and eventually George Pierce Park and the Suwanee Creek Greenway to McGinnis Ferry Road, up and back along Northolt, and back along the Greenway to the finish at City Hall. Marathon runners will complete the half marathon route twice.

"It takes some creative logistics to plan a 26.2-mile route in a nine-square-mile city," said Suwanee Events & Outreach Manager Amy Doherty. "We think it's a route so nice, you'll want to do it twice!"

This course has a great mix of flat and hills which will be fun for every type of runner. Finishers from each race will receive a medal and long-sleeved technical shirt, and a cash prize will be split between the top three male and female finishers from each race.

For more information, including route and registration details, visit georgiafitness.com/marathon. Race volunteers are needed as well; contact Amy Doherty at 770-904-3387 or adoherty@suwanee.com.



Suwanee Police Earn Re-Accreditation with Excellence

The Suwanee Police Department recently attained re-accreditation with excellence from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). Police Chief Mike Jones and other department representatives were awarded the agency's re-accreditation at the CALEA conference in Charleston, SC on November 5, 2016.

"I am extremely proud for the department to be re-accredited with excellence by the Commission," said Chief Jones. "CALEA accreditation represents a significant professional achievement and is confirmation that the Suwanee Police Department practices are consistent with progressive professional standards. This accreditation validates the high standards we hold our personnel to and is aligned with national guidelines."

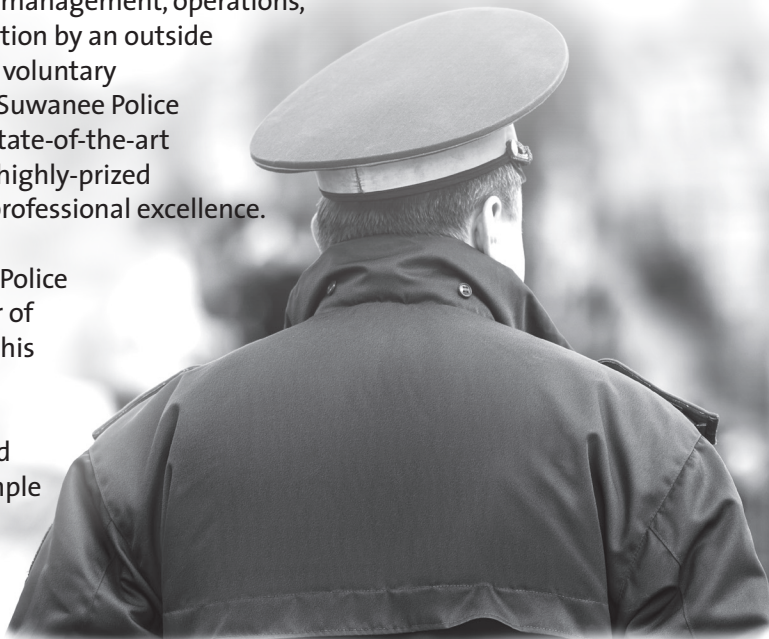
An accreditation cycle is three years, during which the agency must submit annual reports attesting continued compliance with those standards under which it was initially accredited. CALEA awarded the reaccreditation with excellence status by complying with all applicable mandatory standards and at least 90 percent of the non-mandatory standards.

"The Suwanee Police Department has to comply with over 400 applicable standards in order to gain accredited status," said Jones. "CALEA accreditation is the benchmark for the professional standards a law enforcement agency needs to meet today."

"The Suwanee Police Department is an extremely professional organization and they should serve as an example for other law enforcement agencies across the country."
– Assistant Chief Stacy Kelly, Newport News Police Department

CALEA assessors spent several days evaluating the department in June, examining all aspects of Suwanee Police policy and procedures, management, operations, and support services. Verification by an outside assessment team is part of a voluntary process, confirming that the Suwanee Police Department meets CALEA's state-of-the-art standards. Accreditation is a highly-prized recognition of public safety professional excellence.

Newport News, VA Assistant Police Chief Stacy Kelly, team leader of the assessment team said in his report, "The Suwanee Police Department is an extremely professional organization and they should serve as an example for other law enforcement agencies across the country."



Get Lit in Suwanee!

Glow in the Park community lantern parade debuts April 15

On Saturday, April 15 at 5:30 pm, the City of Suwanee invites everyone to get lit in Town Center at the community lantern parade! Inspired by the Atlanta BeltLine Lantern Parade, Suwanee's Glow in the Park will feature a strolling jazz band leading an illuminated pageant of light, music, and color through Old Town and down the Brushy Creek Trail, ending at a concert starring 80s cover band Electric Avenue at Town Center Park.

So, who gets to be in the parade? You do! This event is a community celebration of creativity; everyone is strongly encouraged to create illuminated costumes and carry their pre-made lanterns to parade together! This electrical spectacle is family and pet friendly, so everyone can join in.

The first thing you'll need to be a part of the lantern parade? A lantern of course! The Internet is full of how-tos and ideas, and the North Gwinnett Arts Association is planning to host a lantern building workshop leading up to the event. Visit ngaa4arts.com for more information on classes, and we'll see (because you'll be all lit up) you on April 15 at Glow in the Park!



Suwanee Offers EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SERVICE

With tornado season approaching, now might be the time to try out the CodeRed emergency notification service offered to citizens by the City of Suwanee.

The City has contracted with Emergency Communications Network to provide its CodeRed emergency and general notification services via phone calls, email, and/or text. Suwanee residents may sign up for the service via the CodeRed link located in the bottom right box of the www.suwanee.com homepage.

"This is a service that our citizens requested," says City Manager Marty Allen. "We're pleased to be able to provide it in a manner that we believe is effective and cost efficient. Our Council felt that this was a more elegant, versatile, and effective answer than tornado sirens to residents' requests in particular for severe weather notification. And, in addition to providing weather-related notifications, the system we've adopted can be used for other important emergency and non-emergency communication purposes."

Notifications that may be made through the system fall into three categories:

- Emergency weather
- Emergency situations (such as a gas leak or terrorism threat)
- General notification about events and other non-emergency City information

Users must opt in for general and weather notifications and opt out of emergency notifications. Preferences for means of contact, as well as types of information you wish to receive, can be managed online. Weather notifications are generated through the National Weather Service for alerts or warnings only – not watch situations – and are geocoded so that only subscribers in impacted areas are notified.

Suwanee is more

EVENTFUL in 2017

43

Events in
2017

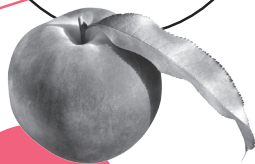
28

days of
Farmers Markets

39

days of events
in Suwanee

not counting
the Farmers
Market



11

Number of brand new Suwanee events

FEB 26: Suwanee Marathon

APR 15: Glow in the Park

APR 22: Suwanee Beat Cancer Fest

APR 29: HappyFeat.org

Happy Carnival

MAY 6-7: Woofstock
(2 days instead of 1!)

MAY 20: Great Strides Atlanta

MAY 20: SculpTour Sip & See

JUL 22: Broadway in the Park 5K

AUG 26: Love Rolls Walk/Festival

OCT 14: Suwanee Jazz Fest

NOV 11: All American 5K



**YOU'RE
HOW OLD?
SOME BELOVED EVENTS
ARE CELEBRATING BIG
BIRTHDAYS!**

YEARS

10 Community Sunrise Service – Apr 16

77 Woofstock (in dog years) – May 6-7

12 Red, White, Bluegrass & Bach
Memorial Day Concert – May 26

11 Broadway in the Park – July 28 & 29

12 August Concert & Wing Fest
– Aug 12

14 Suwanee Fest Run – Sep 9

34 Suwanee Fest (formerly Suwanee Day)
– Sept 16 & 17

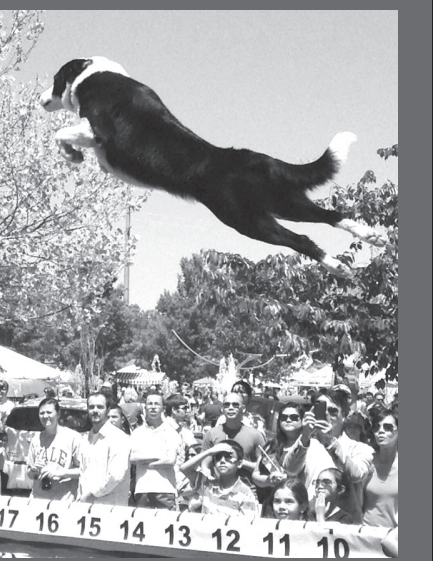
11 Taste of Suwanee – Oct 9

13 Trek or Treat – Oct 28 (moving to
Sims Lake Park)

17 Jolly Holly Day (formerly the Caboose
Lighting) – Dec 1



2017 SUWANEE EVENTS SCHEDULE



JAN 14
NGHS Soccer Sprint

JAN 14
Soccer Sprint
9-11 am

FEB 11
Suwanee's Sweetheart Sprint
10-11:30 am

FEB 26
Suwanee Marathon
& Half Marathon
7 am-1pm

MAR 10
NGBSA Spring Fling
6-10pm

MAR 18
Suwanee Kiwanis
Shamrock Run
7:30-11 am

MAR 18
Suwanee American
Craft Beer Fest
12-5 pm

MAR 25
Georgia SPCA Run for the
Rescues 5K & Festival
8am-3 pm

APR 7
Food Truck Friday
5:30-9:30 pm

APR 15
Glow in the Park
5-10 pm

APR 16
Community Sunrise Service
6:30-7:30 am

APR 22
Suwanee Beat Cancer Fest
8 am-12 pm

APR 29
Gwinnett March for Babies
9 am – 12 pm

APR 29
HappyFeat.org
Happy Carnival
4-8 pm

MAY 1
Art on a Limb (Suwanee parks)
Entire month of May

MAY 5
Food Truck Friday
5:30-9:30 pm

MAY 6-7
Star 94's Woofstock
11 am – 7 pm Sat
11 am – 6 pm Sun

MAY 13
Arts in the Park
10 am – 5 pm

MAY 20
Great Strides Atlanta
9 am-1 pm

MAY 20
SculpTour Sip & See
5:30-10 pm

MAY 26
Red, White, Bluegrass & Bach
7-9:30 pm

JUN 2
Food Truck Friday
5:30-9:30 pm

JUN 3
Movies Under the Stars
7-11 pm

JUL 22
Broadway in the Park
5K & Fun Run
7-11 am

JUL 22
Movies Under the Stars
7-11 pm

JUL 28-29
Broadway in the Park
7-10 pm

AUG 4
Food Truck Friday
5:30-9:30 pm

AUG 12
August Concert & Wing Fest
5-10 pm

AUG 19
Movies Under the Stars
7-11 pm

AUG 26
Hoofin' for Habitat 5K
7:30-10 am

AUG 26
Love Rolls Walk/Festival
4-10 pm

SEP 1
Food Truck Friday
5:30-9:30 pm

SEP 9
Suwanee Fest Run
8-11 am

SEP 16-17
Suwanee Fest
9 am-7 pm Sat
12-6 pm Sun

SEP 30
Peach State Chili Cookoff
1-6 pm

OCT 7
Taste of Suwanee
Event & 5K
12-5 pm

OCT 14
Thin Mint Sprint
7:30 am-12 pm

OCT 14
Suwanee Jazz Fest
6-10 pm

OCT 21
Alive! Festival & FUN Club 5K
9 am-6 pm

OCT 28
Jonny & Xena "Spread the
Words" 5K Walk/Run/Fun Run
9 am-6 pm

OCT 28
Trek or Treat (Sims Lake Park)
1-3 pm

NOV 4
The Extra Mile Walk/Run 5K
8-11:30 am

NOV 4
Suwanee Wine Fest
12-4:30 pm

NOV 5
Suwanee Classic Car Show
10 am-5 pm

NOV 11
Kiwanis All American 5K
8-10:30 am

DEC 1
Jolly Holly Day
6:30-9:30 pm

***All events are rain or shine and at Town Center Park unless otherwise noted. Changes happen – check Suwanee.com for up-to-the-minute information.*

HOPHEADS REJOICE!

The Suwanee American Craft Beer Fest is back for its 7th Year

Beer nerds and novices alike are invited to descend upon Town Center Park for an afternoon of brews, tunes, and fun for the 7th Annual Suwanee American Craft Beer Fest on March 18! Sessions, Belgians, IPAs, and pilsners live in harmony at this massive St. Patty's Day celebration, which features a whopping 350 craft beers from around the nation – making this award-winning festival one of the largest beer events in the South.

“We want to continue to provide an experience that is new, exciting, and surprising year after year, while maintaining the integrity of a true American craft beer festival,” explained Michelle Fasig, Suwanee Beer Festival Event Manager.

“We want to continue to provide an experience that is new, exciting, and surprising year after year...”

Many breweries use the event as an opportunity to debut new or seasonal beers as well as brews specifically for the annual Brew Battle Competition, powered by DraftServ Technologies. This “Best of” Georgia brewery contest tracks the amount of each beer being poured in a live, interactive beer trailer. Beer Fest is also home to the largest home brew competition in the area.

Designed around the motto, “something for everyone,” this festival includes activities such as giant Jenga, live entertainment, corn hole, and even a wine corner for people who want a little break from beer tasting. This St. Patrick's celebration is complete with kilts, Irish dancers, bagpipes, and more.

Beer Fest annually donates a portion of proceeds to a local charity; this year's benefiting organization is Cooper's Crew, a Suwanee-based organization that raises college scholarship funds for North Gwinnett High School students who have overcome unique hardships, as well as funds for clear cell sarcoma and childhood cancer research. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit suwaneebeerfest.com.



The Golden Age Meets the Computer Age

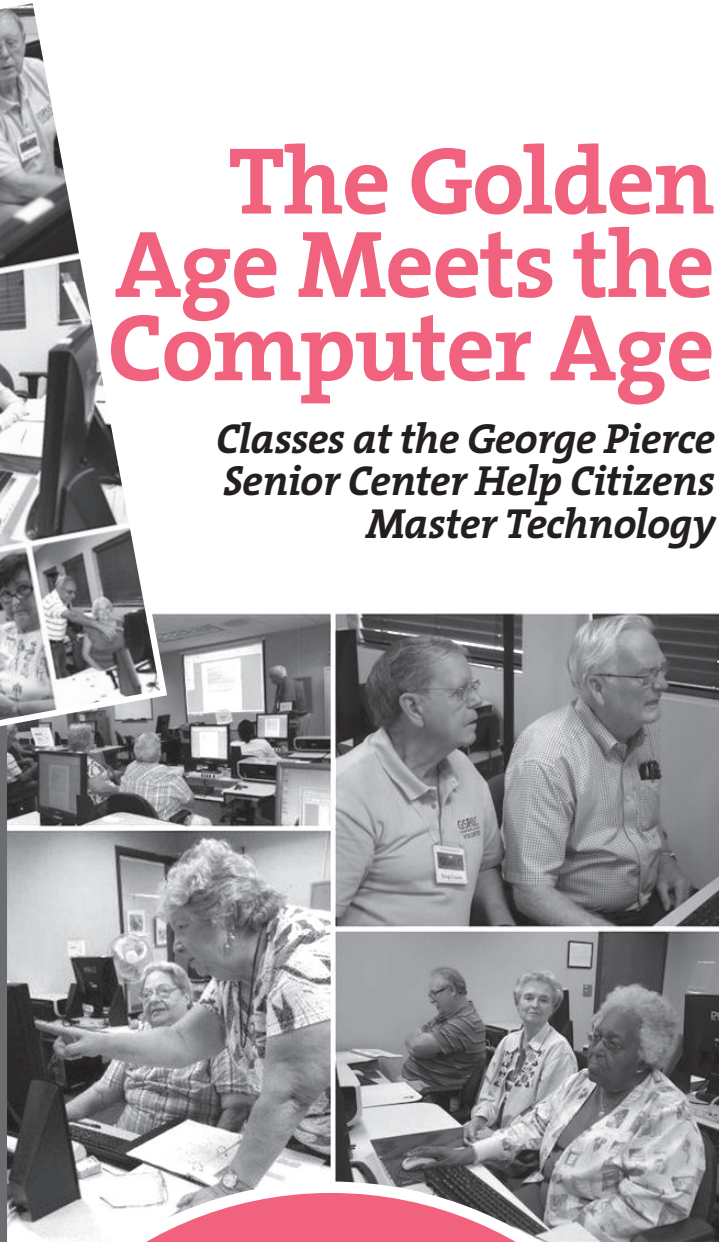
Classes at the George Pierce Senior Center Help Citizens Master Technology

Don't you just love when you're struggling to do something on your smart phone and your child takes the device and fixes the issue (thumbs flying) within a matter of seconds (complete with a complimentary eyeroll)? We may joke about needing our kids in order to turn on the TV, but for some senior citizens, this can be a source of frustration and embarrassment.

Luckily, the Suwanee community has a resource dedicated to teaching seniors the skills they need to not just survive, but thrive in an increasingly technological world. The Gwinnett Senior Learning Center (GSRLC) – located at the George Pierce Senior Center at 55 Buford Highway – is a not-for-profit organization of experienced instructors and coaches who help senior citizens get the training they desire to help lower frustration and increase their own self esteem.

The GSRLC offers hands-on, reasonably-priced classes three times per year in areas of basic email, smartphone and iPad usage, organizing computer files, and Facebook basics, to more advanced courses such as Windows 10, Genealogy, digital cameras, and Microsoft Excel.

For more information or to register for classes, please visit www.gsrlc.org.



“I love to help people learn and get comfortable in the information age.”

– GSRLC Instructor

Do you like to teach, coach, or help others? The GSRLC is always looking for volunteers. Visit www.gsrlc.org or call 770-564-4699 for more information on how you can get involved!





*“Is the spring coming?” he said.
“What is it like?”*

“It is the sun shining on the rain and the rain falling on the sunshine...”

– Frances Hodgson Burnett,
The Secret Garden

SUWANEES HIDDEN GEM SHINES EVEN BRIGHTER

Nestled in the trees, viewable from Buford Highway, is Suwanee’s very own secret garden. Many locals know about this community gem, but others wonder what it was that they glanced as they pass by on the way to and from Town Center.

Located a few twists and turns through the Old Town historic district, White Street Park features a butterfly garden, 2,500-gallon cistern, a red barn which serves as an educational/community center (and is available for reserving and rental), a natural amphitheater, loop trail, and fire pit, as well as the Harvest Farm community garden.

Georgia’s largest organic community garden, Harvest Farm was constructed in the spring of 2010 using volunteer muscles and know-how. The 76-plot garden has been managed by a hard-working, green-thumbed board ever since.

As wonderful as its current status sounds, White Street Park is experiencing a renaissance. Phase II of the White Street Park project is anticipated to be complete in mid- to late-March. This space will consist of an orchard, a children’s play area, nature trails, and a pavilion. The Harvest

Farm Managing Board will be planning community small planting days in spring and fall. The White Street Park amphitheater is also getting a facelift thanks to a local Eagle Scout, who is building and installing new benches.

“One of my favorite things about White Street Park is the sense of ownership the community feels for this unique and special park,” said Jessica Roth, Business Services Director for the City. “From the families who tend dirt and grow produce in the community garden to the kids celebrating birthdays in the barn to the scouts who have left their marks through projects they have completed.”

“Suwanee resident Roger Grant – a landscape architect by profession – approached the City with an offer to donate the design services for phase II of White Street Park. The orchard further builds on this sense of community ownership and care, as volunteers will help tend the plants and will be able to harvest the fruits they produce. Kids are going to love the unique and naturalistic play area which will include an elevated slide built into the hillside.”

Looking for more information about the community garden?

The Harvest Farm website includes the latest garden news, a calendar of events and educational classes (which are open to the community), plot information, educational resources, and ways to volunteer in the garden.

Visit www.HarvestFarmSuwanee.com.

Suwanee in Search of Farmers, Food Trucks, & Warm Spring Breezes

Warm days, fresh produce, and eating al fresco will return before you know it – and with it come our popular Farmers Market and Food Truck Friday events.

The regular Suwanee Farmers Market will be open from 8 a.m.-noon Saturdays, May 13 through September 30, at Town Center Park. Food Truck Fridays will return to Suwanee in April, May, June, August, and September, with each month bringing great food and music from 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm (music begins at 7:00). Winter Farmers Market begins October 14 and is the second Saturday of the month from 9:00-11:00 am.

The City of Suwanee is in search of farmers, herb and flower growers, butchers, bakers, jams and soap makers, and others to participate in the 12th season of the Farmers Market, as well as food truck vendors for our very popular Food Truck Fridays. Visit Suwanee.com for more information and an application.



The City of Suwanee is looking for designers, artists, and creative people in general to submit logo designs for Suwanee Fest 2017. The designer of the winning logo will see his or her design on official festival t-shirts and marketing posters, as well as receive a \$500 prize.

The theme for the 2017 festival, to be celebrated September 16 and 17, is... well...we're not entirely sure. We know we want it to center around construction: community at work, building the future, paving the way – you get the idea. But our creative team has hit a roadblock (get it?). So this year, the tagline is open to interpretation as well.

The competition is open to professional and amateur designers of all ages. Designs may be hand-drawn or computer-generated. Entries should be submitted in printed and electronic format. The deadline for submissions is April 1 (no fooling). See suwaneefest.com for additional guidelines and an entry form.

Suwanee Fest is the City of Suwanee's annual two-day fall celebration on September 16 and 17. The award-winning festival includes arts and crafts exhibitors, children's rides and activities, and on-stage entertainment. Last year, approximately 55,000 people attended the festival at Town Center Park. Applications for vendors and entertainment are now being accepted! For more information, visit suwaneefest.com. Vendor application deadline is March 31 (so hurry).

SUWANEE
FEST:

UNDER
CONSTRUCTION

Team Suwanee: World Police



The Korean National Police, thru the Korean Consul in Atlanta, recently invited Corporal Simon Byun of the Suwanee Police Department to attend the 11th International Korean Law Enforcement Officers Program in Seoul, Korea from October 16-22, 2016. Corporal Byun was one of 11 officers from the U.S., Australia, and New Zealand invited to attend this international conference of police officers who are of Korean descent.

The purpose of this five-day conference was to exchange ideas on matters common to departments around the world. Each attendee gave a presentation on a topic of importance to their department. Corporal Byun spoke about community policing, specifically Suwanee's PACT program, Citizens Police Academy, and Explorers program.

“It was an honor to have been invited, and to be able to represent the Suwanee Police Department.”

– Corporal Simon Byun

A Place to *love*

The mutual love affair between people and place is a powerful influence. Cities that are engaged in relationships with their citizens, and citizens who are emotionally engaged with their cities, create new possibilities within a community. When we love a city, we are committed to it, we care for it, we give our best to it.

What makes people fall in love with their cities? Is it the people? Parks? Festivals? Perhaps, it is the simple ability to be active players in shaping the future of their home. Community development guru Peter Kageyama calls these people co-creators: citizens who breathe life into their communities by creating non-traditional partnerships and building something mutually beneficial.

“The outputs of these engaged citizens will make their places authentic and distinct from every other place. And the prolific co-creators will be seen as prized community assets the way that major employers and major institutions are currently viewed. They are and will be an increasingly key part of the mix of successful communities.”

– Peter Kageyama

It is a symbiotic process: creative, innovative, and engaged citizens are essential to producing a vibrant, lovable community. By strengthening the emotional bonds to the community, the city will be rewarded with happier and more productive citizens. In other words, people want much more than a place to live; they want a place to love.

TEAM S_WANEE

The only thing missing is yoU!

The City of Suwanee loves to engage with our citizens in a variety of ways. Using diverse talents and interest makes Suwanee a great community to live, work, and play. Want to join us? Contact Suwanee Events & Outreach Manager Amy Doherty at adoherty@suwanee.com or 770-9041-3387 for more information.

Welcome to City Hall

Open

for business

The following companies received new business licenses from the City of Suwanee in November and December:

Cory Lechadores was hired as the City of Suwanee's deputy court clerk on October 31, 2016. Previously a paralegal and case assistant at multiple Los Angeles law firms, Cory enjoys swimming and spending time with her family, hanging out in the park, watching movies, and traveling and discovering new places.

Cinnamon Malone joined the City of Suwanee as an administrative assistant on November 28, 2016. She previously worked in the Hall County elections department for nine years. A resident of Braselton, Cinnamon is mom to a five-year-old son and enjoys traveling, reading, crafts, and anything that enhances her cultural diversity or exposes her to new things, new foods, and new experiences!

William Droze was hired as an equipment operator in the city public works department on November 28, 2016. A former service technician and warehouse manager, William calls Suwanee home and loves hunting and fishing.

Andrew Busino was sworn in as the newest officer of the Suwanee police department on December 5, 2016. Andrew joined the police department in August of 2015 as a dispatcher, and accepted a police officer position in September of 2016 after having graduated from the police academy.

Congratulations!

City of Suwanee Building Official **Joe Alexander** recently earned his Master Code Professional (MCP) certificate, which is the highest level of certification the Code Council offers. The Code Council has certified thousands of individuals, but only a select number have attained this high level of achievement. To obtain this level of certification requires and demonstrates commitment to the profession, diverse knowledge of codes, and a high level of self-initiative.



Congratulations to Suwanee Police officers **Brandon Mathews**, who recently promoted from Corporal to Sergeant, and **Robert Stevens**, who was promoted to Corporal from Officer.

- **Axiom Athletics**
145 Satellite Boulevard
- **Benchmark Physical Therapy**
1000 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
- **Cultured Traditions, LLC**
1300 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
- **Custom Express**
3755 Industrial Court
- **East Pet**
960 Scales Road
- **Hanna Sushi**
315 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
- **Joe's Garage**
2855 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road
- **Mac Studio Hair Salon**
1500 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
- **Nomad**
145 Satellite Boulevard
- **North Georgia Building Supply, LLC**
200 Buford Highway
- **Park Seungchol Hair Studio**
2870 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road
- **Pet Supermarket**
1000 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
- **Real Indoor Cycling**
3550 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road
- **Sarah Sarah Massage**
1145 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
- **Stephen Law Firm**
4411 Suwanee Dam Road
- **Suwanee Ear, Nose, & Throat**
4320 Suwanee Dam Road
- **Suwanee Gateway Automotive**
3034 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road
- **Valiant Fit LLC**
3620 Swiftwater Park Road
- **Wild Wing Café**
3265 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road

upcoming events

official newsletter of the city of suwanee, georgia

F February

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 7 Planning Commission | 6:30p.m. |
| 9 City Council Workshop | 5:30p.m. |
| 11 Winter Farmers Market | 9:00a.m. |
| 11 Suwanee's Sweetheart Sprint | 10:00a.m. |
| 13 Suwanee Fest Planning Committee | 6:30p.m. |
| 14 Harvest Farm Meeting | 5:00p.m. |
| 21 Downtown Development Authority | 7:30a.m. |
| 26 Suwanee Marathon & Half Marathon | 7:00a.m. |
| 28 City Council Meeting | 6:30p.m. |

M March

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 Public Arts Commission | 6:00p.m. |
| 7 Planning Commission | 6:30p.m. |
| 10 NGBSA Spring Fling | 6:00p.m. |
| 11 Winter Farmers Market | 9:00a.m. |
| 13 Suwanee Fest Planning Committee | 6:30p.m. |
| 14 Harvest Farm Meeting | 5:00p.m. |
| 16 City Council Workshop | 5:30p.m. |
| 18 Suwanee Kiwanis Shamrock Run | 7:30a.m. |
| 18 Suwanee American Craft Beer Festival | 12:00p.m. |
| 21 Downtown Development Authority | 7:30a.m. |
| 21 Zoning Board of Appeals | 6:30p.m. |
| 25 Georgia SPCA Run for the Rescues 5K | 8:00a.m. |
| 28 City Council Meeting | 6:30p.m. |

**City of
Suwanee
Georgia**

MAYOR	Jimmy Burnette	770/945-3492
COUNCIL	Dan Foster	678/404-9641
	Dick Goodman	678/446-7520
	Beth Hilscher	678/546-3388
	Doug Ireland	770/265-0880
	Linnea Miller	678/592-4150

CITY MANAGER	Marty Allen	770/945-8996
POLICE CHIEF	Mike Jones	770/945-8995
EDITOR	Abby Wilkerson	770/945-3386

Unless otherwise noted, City of Suwanee public meetings are at City Hall, 330 Town Center Avenue.
Dates subject to change; check suwanee.com for updates.