

# Suwanee connects

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suwanee.com | august 2016



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## Super Suwanee, Super Rate

### City of Suwanee Saves \$3M Through Bond Refinance

The Suwanee City Council adopted a bond resolution and bond purchase agreement at their May 24, 2016 City Council meeting and voted to approve the refinancing of the city's outstanding open space bonds, resulting in savings of about \$3 million over the life of the bond for Suwanee tax payers.

Based on current market conditions and Suwanee's AAA bond rating, the city was able to forward refund the approximately \$12.3 million bond and lock-in at a 1.96 percent rate (formerly 4.3 percent) with JPMorgan Chase. This option provides a fiscal year comparison savings of about \$3 million, as well as shortening the outstanding debt from 16 to ten years.

"The City's credit and reputation again brought strong interest from the banking sector, and we received some great bids," said Amie Sakmar, City of Suwanee financial services director. "Suwanee is thrilled to be partnering once again with JPMorgan Chase in these efforts to be good stewards of the taxpayers' money."

Last fall, the City of Suwanee refinanced 2006 revenue bonds – also with JPMorgan Chase – that were used to help fund construction of Suwanee City Hall, saving the city approximately \$180,000.

"This allows us the opportunity to save the taxpayers millions of dollars by getting out-of-debt sooner," said Suwanee Mayor Jimmy Burnette. "Like the previous refunding, it's a win-win situation."

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*- Suwanee Mayor  
Jimmy Burnette*



# Super Festival has New Super Logo

Robbie Cox is a bit of a Renaissance Man. An artist of multiple mediums, Cox is a musician, dancer, actor, photographer...and the designer of the 2016 Suwanee Fest logo.

In mid-February, the City of Suwanee issued an open call for designers, artists, and creative people of all ages, amateur to professional, to submit logo designs for Suwanee Fest. After receiving over 50 design submissions illustrating the theme, "Super City, Super People," Cox's simple "Super S" was chosen.

"When I read the theme for the festival, I immediately envisioned everyone in the town walking around with a Superman logo on their chest. However, I wanted to make it unique to Suwanee, so I used the city logo as inspiration for color and design," said Cox.

Cox's design will be featured in Suwanee Fest marketing materials and on t-shirts worn by volunteers throughout the September 17 and 18 festival. The logoed shirts also will be available for purchase at Suwanee Fest.

Born and raised just outside Memphis, TN in the rural town of Hickory Withe, Cox's passion for all things artistic began as soon as he was old enough to hold a crayon. Not only does Robbie enjoy drawing and graphic design, but he also an accomplished ballroom dancer and successful actor, and most recently opened a business specializing in headshot photography for fellow artists.

Cox met the love of his life, Allyssa, in Los Angeles in 2009. They are raising two amazing boys, Nick (11) and Noah (9 months); one is immersed in travel

baseball, the other enjoys anything that fits easily into his mouth. Robbie and Allyssa moved to Suwanee in 2013 and love the close-knit community, Food Truck Fridays, Movies Under the Stars, and art festivals at Town Center.

"There's something idyllic about Suwanee Fest," said Cox. "It's like walking onto a movie set where the scene heading reads: A picture-perfect town gathering brimming with food, local music, and, above all, joy."

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*– Robbie Cox,  
2016 Suwanee Fest  
Logo Contest Winner*

# Run like a Superhero at the Suwanee Fest Superhero 5K/10K

Whether you're as fast as The Flash or as slow and steady as a Ninja Turtle, you can participate in the 16th annual Suwanee Fest Superhero 5K & 10K Classic on Saturday, September 10. Presented by Georgia Fitness, this event benefits childhood obesity initiatives to help kids in Gwinnett County become active in sports, after school programs, and live a healthy lifestyle. The annual Suwanee Fest races, including a children's 1K fun run, begin and finish at Town Center Park. Superhero costumes are strongly encouraged!

Registration is now available at [active.com](http://active.com). Course maps for the 5K, which meanders through historic (and hilly) Old Town, and the 10K, which is an out-and-back route primarily on the Suwanee Creek Greenway, are available at [runsuwanee.com](http://runsuwanee.com). All participants who register before September 1 will receive a finisher's medal, race shirt, and goodie bag.

Last year, more than 900 runners participated in these races. Those interested may sign up to run both the 5K and the 10K. Race start times are:

• 7:30 a.m. – 5K | • 8:30 a.m. – 10K | • 8:35 am – Fun Run

Prizes will be awarded for overall winners as well as best costumes.

Early packet pick-up will be available from noon-6 p.m. September 8 and 9 at Classic City Running at 3480 Financial Center Way near the Mall of Georgia and from 4:30-7 p.m. September 9 at Suwanee City Hall, 330 Town Center Avenue. Race-day registration and packet pick-up will begin at 6:30 a.m. at Town Center Park.

Calling all bands, orchestras, school groups, and community organizations!

## City Now Accepting Applications for Suwanee Fest Parade



Sign up online by September 7 to participate in this year's Suwanee Fest parade, the traditional kick-off to Suwanee's annual two-day celebration of community. Applications are available at [suwaneefest.com](http://suwaneefest.com). Please be aware that registration may close earlier than September 7 should the parade become full.

This year's parade begins at 9 a.m. on Saturday, September 17. Parade entrants are encouraged to adhere to this year's theme, "Super City, Super People." Cash prizes are awarded each year to floats and participants in a variety of categories, including best overall entry, best reflection of theme, most creative, and most entertaining. The approximately one-mile parade route starts out heading north along Main Street, then travels along Suwanee Dam to Buford Highway, ending at Town Center Park.

Please note that a mandatory meeting will be held for all parade participants at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, September 8, at City Hall. Additional information and parade guidelines are available at [suwaneefest.com](http://suwaneefest.com).





# A Course So Nice, It's Worth Doing Twice

## First marathon in Gwinnett County to take place in Suwanee

The City of Suwanee is excited to announce that a full, 26.2-mile marathon is set to join the existing Suwanee Half Marathon on Sunday, February 26, 2017. The first full marathon in Gwinnett County, the inaugural Suwanee Marathon will be a double loop of the original half marathon (which will also be offered).

"It takes some creative logistics to plan a 26.2-mile route in a nine-square-mile city," said Suwanee Events Manager Amy Doherty.

It's generally recommended that those training for marathons have a base of three to six months' worth of running four times per week. Which means if you want to run the very first Suwanee Marathon in January, you need to start training...now.

"It's all about mind set and finding ways to stay motivated," said Jason Vance, the race director at Georgia Fitness (sponsor of the Suwanee Marathon and Half Marathon). "Up training for an extended period of time, especially for an event that you have never done before, can be mentally and emotionally taxing. Training is hard and monotonous, and the race can be grueling at times. But for most people, this is a once-in-a-lifetime achievement – so enjoy it."

Georgia Fitness Race Director Jason Vance offers a few tips for those ready to tackle 26.2:

### **YES, YOU'RE GOING TO NEED A LOT OF TRAINING**

Train at least 3-4 days per week, with one of those being a longer run. Progressively increase your distances weekly or biweekly, while increasing your long run in half- to full-mile increments.

### **TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF**

Consider this permission to hit the snooze button: Getting plenty of rest is imperative for a marathon runner. Full nights of sleep and days off after long runs, not to mention lots of stretching to prevent injury, fueling up on healthy foods, and staying hydrated at ALL times...whether you're running that day or not.

### **ENLIST CHEERLEADERS**

Tell as many friends and family as possible that you're training. They'll help you stay motivated and keep a positive attitude. And a little peer pressure never hurt anyone – you don't want to have to explain why you quit training.

### **JUST KEEP SWIMMING ...ER, GOING.**

Nobody is going to remember your finishing time, only that you finished. Walk if you need to; who cares? Just keep going.

# You think 26.2 miles sounds hard?

# This guy ran 100!

Was anyone hanging out in Town Center Park May 27-28 and notice a man running by...and running by...and running by...?

Avid runner and Suwanee resident Rob Lykins wanted to do something big before his move back to his home state of Michigan – something that would “go down in history” in the Suwanee running community. But most importantly, Rob wanted to get one last epic run in with as many of his friends as he could. So he came to the conclusion that any sane person would: he decided to run 100 miles in Town Center Park.

Making 275 laps around the park to equal 100 miles, Rob started running at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 27. Joined by over 50 friends who served as support and running companions, he completed his 100-mile goal on Saturday, May 28 at 7:45 p.m.

“This was my third 100-mile run and it was the hardest of all three,” said Lykins. “With 17 miles left I sat down and told [his wife] Catherine I was done and wanted to go home. The heat had shut me down and I was 100 percent ready to be done. No one would let me leave; I was given nothing but support and encouragement. I was only alone for eight out of 175 laps.”

After his good friend and fellow 100-mile finisher Bill took Rob for a walk and “talked some sense into me,” Lykins continued on toward his goal and crossed the finish line 27 hours, 15 minutes, and 15 seconds after he started.

“Words cannot express how loved I feel from so many people near and far,” said Lykins. “Thank you to all the Suwanee Big Peach Runners, friends, Suwanee Town Center, and thank you to my two biggest supporters, my loves, my motivation, and my reason to keep moving: my wife Catherine and son Asher.”

“This run was hard but just what I hoped it would be – time with friends.”

## A Few Lingerin Questions with Rob Lykins

### • How do you eat?

With ultra running, eating is very important. My go-to foods are: pizza, peanut M&Ms, cookies, pretzels, and anything else that looks good at the time.

### • What happens when nature calls?

This is a good thing, it means your body is still working and you are taking in a good amount of fuel. With the Suwanee 100, I would pop in the bathroom, and try to get back to running as fast as I could.

### • How often did you change...

#### ◆ Shoes and socks

Once, with 17 miles to go

#### ◆ Shirts

Once

#### ◆ Directions

Every 5-6 laps



## Run, Suwanee, Run!

Start your marathon training now with these upcoming runs, all in Town Center Park!

BLIMPIE Skylar's Run for Breast Cancer  
August 13 | 8:00 a.m.  
[www.averagejoesracing.com](http://www.averagejoesracing.com)

4th Annual Thin Mint Sprint  
August 20 | 7:30 a.m.  
[thinmintsprintlani.wix.com/thin-mint-sprint](http://thinmintsprintlani.wix.com/thin-mint-sprint)

Suwanee Fest Superhero Run  
September 10 | 8:00 a.m.  
[www.SuwaneeFest.com](http://www.SuwaneeFest.com)

Johnny & Xena "Spread the Words" 5K  
October 29 | 9:00 a.m.  
[www.XenatheWarriorPuppy.com](http://www.XenatheWarriorPuppy.com)

Hoofin for Habitat  
August 27 | 7:30 a.m.

The Extra Mile 5K Walk/Run  
September 24 | 8:00 a.m.  
[www.ExtraMileClub.com](http://www.ExtraMileClub.com)

Suwanee Kiwanis All American 5K  
November 12 | 8:00 a.m.

# I Want My Suwanee to Be...

A thriving community, great schools, and fantastic park system keep Suwanabees constantly in the real estate market, but it's the endless possibilities that make Suwanee one of the country's most popular cities. Six local high schoolers and Suwanee Youth Leaders tell us what they love most about their home city:

## I want my Suwanee to be **Kid-Friendly**

By Jordyn Blake  
Senior | Collins Hill

### TRY: Sims Lake Park

If your kids love to be active, visit the beautiful Sims Lake Park! Sims Lake Park features many of nature's finest foliage and water sights. With an awesome playground and many open fields, your children are guaranteed to be active and make good use of their energy.

### ALTERNATE IDEA: Masterpiece Mixers

If your child feels like being indoors, try Masterpiece Mixers Paint & Party Studio. Here children are given the opportunity to unleash their creative side with arts and crafts!

## I want my Suwanee to be **A Family of Families**

By Jenny Pham  
Senior | Collins Hill

### TRY: Town Center Park

Named as one of the nation's best towns for families by *Family Circle* magazine in 2013, Suwanee is a cultural melting pot of thousands of distinctively diverse families, but despite the heterogeneity in its growing population, the city resembles a colorfully united mosaic in which each family represents an individual piece of Suwanee's tight-knit community. At the heart of everything is Town Center Park, an integral component of the local community and a place where families of all ages and backgrounds can spend leisure time and interact together to enjoy the fun quirks of social events ranging from the mouth-watering hybrid cuisines of Food Truck Fridays to the talented local art vendors of Arts in the Park to the unforgettable parade of Suwanee Fest.

### ALTERNATE IDEA: Playtown Suwanee

Rated as one of the top sights of Suwanee, Playtown is an excellent place for families of all ages to bond while admiring the breathtaking scenery and refreshing environment.

## I want my Suwanee to be **Chilled Out**

By Jun Chen  
Senior | Peachtree Ridge

### TRY: Suwanee Creek Park

Located at southern limit of Suwanee, Suwanee Creek Park is a haven for relaxation. With an 18-hole disc golf course, expansive green space, wandering trails, and two pavilions, Suwanee Creek Park is filled with endless possibilities for fun or tranquility. Take a peaceful walk, enjoy a delightful picnic, or enter the core of nature at the Suwanee Creek trailhead.

### ALTERNATE IDEA: Chattahoochee River

"The Hooch" meanders through many Suwanee neighborhoods. Explore the Hooch, go canoeing, or fish for the famed trout along the scenic banks.





## I want my Suwanee to be **Accessible**

By Ibaad Khan  
Senior | Collins Hill

### TRY: Interstate 85

With direct access from Atlanta, a trip along this major highway will take you straight into the heart of Suwanee. Bring out your historical side by touring the Old Town area via Segway, or get a little adventurous and traverse the paths of Suwanee Creek Park and George Pierce Park. For families and youngsters alike, booming shopping centers such as Sugarloaf Mills and the Mall of Georgia are situated just minutes away from local exits. And for those looking to experience the essence of the city, centrally located Town Center is a great place to experience events and activities for all ages.

### ALTERNATE IDEA: State Route 317

There is no shortage of kid-friendly entertainment, with spots like Kids Up Suwanee, Catch Air, and Sky Zone situated close to this major road.

## I want my Suwanee to be **A Home of Service**

By Sarah Jeon  
Senior | Peachtree Ridge

### TRY: Annandale Village

Annandale Village provides both residential and nonresidential programs that allow developmentally-disabled adults to have self-confidence, freedom, encouragement, and a family in order to improve their quality-of-life for the better. This center has been awarded the highest level of accreditation. Volunteers are welcome throughout the year, as they serve as one of the key and unique parts of Annandale. Gift donations, volunteers, and monetary donations help run this center.

### ALTERNATE IDEA: Suwanee SPCA

A quick walk from Town Center, the Suwanee SPCA has been providing services for the rescue, care, and health of animals for many years. The SPCA relies on volunteers to keep their pets in constant care and love.



## I want my Suwanee to be **Outdoorsy**

By Raj Jayasankr  
Senior | North Gwinnett

### TRY: George Pierce Park

From its vast network of trails to the quiet picnic spots at the lake, George Pierce Park has amazing opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors. Surrounded by woods, you can hike, run, and bike on the trails or play games of basketball and soccer and then later enjoy a serene picnic on the water. You can do this all while surrounded by a network of wildlife ranging from several species of birds to various frogs and turtles as well as mammals like deer, squirrels, and rabbits.

### ALTERNATE IDEA: Suwanee Greenway

The Suwanee Greenway is a runner's paradise – a huge network of trails, both dirt and gravel, winding through a variety of environments ranging from forests to wetlands. You don't have to be a runner to enjoy the greenway – bikers and walkers will love it too.



# Suwanee Youth Leader's CARE Closet Wins Multiple Awards

\$25,000 ought to stock a food pantry to the breaking point. Suwanee Youth Leader Lauren Seroyer certainly hopes so.

The Peachtree Ridge High School junior recently won the United Way Spark Prize and \$25,000 grant for creating the CARE Closet at her school: a confidential food

bank and resource center designed to help her fellow classmates in need.

Sparked by a conversation with a classmate who wasn't getting enough to eat at home, Lauren and her twin brother, Steven, worked with school counselors and her classmates to establish the CARE (Community Assistance and Resource Effort) Closet after delivering a presentation to school officials to get the go-ahead. Her classmates responded to the cry for support in spades – in less than two months, 20 families were helped with food donations.

"It took much less effort than I thought it would have to get my classmates involved," Lauren said. "As soon as they heard about my solution to this problem, I literally had people come to me asking about ways that they could contribute to the cause. In addition, I have gotten almost every single school club involved, and they have all conducted food drives, providing



the CARE Closet with great amounts of non-perishable goods."

Lauren was encouraged to submit her project for the Spark Prize, and was named one of six finalists (most of the other applicants being adults). The CARE Closet was named one of two winners, and the grant money will be used to expand the program to other local high schools. In

fact, the amount is enough to add a CARE Closet to every Gwinnett County high school. Lauren was also recently named a 2016 McDonald's 365Black Community Choice Award winner, given to exceptional African-American youth who are making a difference within their communities.

All of this led to a busy summer for Lauren: she was also chosen as an ANNPower Fellow which included a four-day leadership program in New York City; a trip to New Orleans in July to accept the 365Black Community Choice Award at the Essence Festival, and attending the Atlanta Community Food Bank Youth Summit with her brother to learn more about hunger issues and how they can help.

"We just want to do what we can to help whoever we can. It feels good to help. No kid should wake up wondering when they're going to eat again," said Steven.



## SUWANEES AUGUST CONCERT & WING FEST AUGUST 13

Headlined by  
**Toad the Wet Sprocket**  
+

**Wings from a variety of  
your favorite Suwanee  
restaurants**

- 5:00 p.m. LJ3**
- 6:15 p.m. Luke Wade**
- 7:00 p.m. Wing-Eating Contest**
- 7:15 p.m. New Mantra**
- 8:30 p.m. Toad the Wet Sprocket**

*\*All times are approximate*

*Beer + wine available from onsite vendors and Town Center merchants. Alcohol must be purchased on site – bringing your own alcohol is prohibited.*



# Every Place Has a Story

## City Launches Historic District Self-Guided Tour

Although currently known for its community vibe, world-class Town Center Park development, and high quality-of-life, the City of Suwanee originated from humble beginnings. Some sources say “Suwanee” began as a Shawnee Indian village about three miles southwest of the current downtown area. The federal government officially recognized Suwanee as a place when the Suwanee Post Office was established in 1838. As is the case with many communities in our area, Suwanee’s growth is tied to the evolution of transportation. A small agricultural town with strong ties to the railroad eventually grew to become the community we know and love today.

The City of Suwanee has numerous historical landmarks, specifically in the Old Town Suwanee area. This approximately 56-acre historic district contains both commercial and residential areas dating from around 1871 to the early 1960s, which are primarily oriented in a linear fashion along Main

Street and run parallel to the Norfolk Southern railroad corridor.

Stop by Suwanee City Hall and pick up one of our new historic landmark brochures, complete with a self-guided tour through the historic district, including the 1910 Suwanee First Methodist Church, Pierce’s Corner, and the former hotel that now houses Huthmaker Violins.



# Dewey the Library? Yes We Do!

All 15 branches of the Gwinnett County Public Library (GCPL) system – including the Suwanee branch – were recently updated with new technology and simplified hours.

“Our new Bibliotheca self-checkout kiosks will be capable of much more than checking out a book,” Michael Casey, GCPL’s director of information technology, said in a news release.

“Customers will be able to pay for their copies, print jobs and late fees, and purchase items like tote bags and flash drives directly on the machines. With updates to the software later

this year, the kiosks will make recommendations based on the user’s browsing history.”

Other technology upgrades include workroom check-in stations, entrance security gates, and iPads and portable computing stations that will allow the library staff to be more mobile.

### Suwanee Library Hours

Monday – Thursday  
10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Friday & Saturday  
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday  
Noon – 5 p.m.





# In Remembrance of 9/11

The City of Suwanee will remember those lost in the tragic 9/11 terrorist attack at a Remembrance Day ceremony on the 15th anniversary of the event on Sunday, September 11, 2016. The event will take place at the *Remembrance* public art piece, located on the east side of Town Center Park near Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road. A special music presentation will open the ceremony with a medley of patriotic songs, followed by the presentation of colors by the Gwinnett Fire Department.

“This event will provide a moment to pause and reflect on who we are as a nation,” said Suwanee Events & Outreach Manager Amy Doherty. “We want to honor our heroes and reflect on the significance of what this day means to our community.”

Suwanee’s *Remembrance* exhibit offers an example of art as history. Unveiled September 11, 2013, the display at Town Center Park features a damaged, twisted relic from one of the World Trade Center towers, which was given to Suwanee by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Created by Statesboro artist Marc Moulton, the display also includes a 9/11 historical timeline with stainless steel letters and numbers embedded into a cement pad as well as an inverted conical sculpture, with the lower Manhattan cityscape cut into it. At night, a light-shadow impression, which offers an aerial view of the cityscape, is projected onto the pad.



## GET FRESH

**AT THE SUWANEE FARMERS MARKET!**

Saturdays: 8 am-noon • Town Center Park



# Final Food Truck Fridays of the Year Will Take You to the Sand & Sun

The final two Food Truck Fridays of the year will be planned and hosted by the Suwanee Youth Leaders. The class has been split into two teams and challenged to plan and execute the events, with the title of "Best Food Truck Friday" on the line!

## AUGUST 5 THEME: OPENING CEREMONY FOOD TRUCKS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR:

- BOLLYWOOD ZING
- HAIL CAESAR
- PRESSED FOR TIME
- FRY GUY
- KING OF POPS
- LINKZ EXPRESS
- LOADED BURGER
- MUENSTER TRUCK
- NANA G'S CHICKEN AND WAFFLES
- SIMPLY DONE
- WHEELY GRILLY

## SEPTEMBER 2 THEME: BEACH PARTY FOOD TRUCKS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR:

- CHAY J'S NEW ORLEANS CANDIES
- COUSINS MAINE LOBSTER
- DEEP SOUTH BISCUIT CO.
- FRENCH TRUCK
- HAPPY BELLY
- ISLAND CHEF
- KING OF POPS
- MUENSTER TRUCK
- PICKLE FOOD TRUCK
- SMOKIN' MO'S BBQ
- TEX'S TACOS
- YUMBII

\*FOOD TRUCK LINE-UP IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

## More Upcoming Events

### August Concert + Wing Fest August 13

- 5:00 pm Ll3
- 6:15 pm Luke Wade
- 7:00 pm Wing-Eating Contest
- 7:15 pm New Mantra
- 8:30 pm Toad the Wet Sprocket

\*All times are approximate

### Movies Under the Stars August 27

- 7:00 pm – Zootopia
- 8:45 pm – Star Wars:  
Return of the Jedi

The movies are free and open to the public. Bring chairs, blankets, and snacks. No alcohol may be brought into the park, but food and beverages, including beer and wine, may be purchased from Town Center merchants.





# UNDER CONSTRUCTION

The City of Suwanee currently has multiple projects underway this summer. Here's a quick look at a few of the ones we get the most questions about:

## SIMS LAKE DOCK

Yes, the rumors are true: Sims Lake is getting a dock. A 60' bridge will be constructed on the southeastern portion of the lake, ending at a 32' x 16' covered dock with benches. Amaysing Services Incorporated is currently slated to begin construction in October. Please note that fishing and watercrafts will still not be allowed in Sims Lake.

## NEW SIDEWALKS

Students will be able to walk to North Gwinnett High School a little easier this fall, thanks to new sidewalks on Suwanee Dam Road from Brinsworth Drive to Moore/Level Creek Road. Smithtown Road will also receive new sidewalks, connecting Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road to Satellite Boulevard.

## WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

Citizens and visitors alike will begin noticing new wayfinding signage throughout city, alerting travelers to city and county parks, Suwanee's historic downtown, and other notable locations.

"While the only real job of wayfinding signage is to tell people where they are, where their destination is, and how to connect those two points, it can do so much more," said Assistant City Manager Denise Brinson. "In addition to basic navigation, our wayfinding signage introduces the 'personality' of Suwanee and connects to our brand."

## TOWN CENTER WEST Future Planning

The approximate 20-acre site (locally known as the DeLay Property) located behind the Suwanee library and PlayTown Suwanee on Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road, is set to be the City of Suwanee's next great park. Purchased in 2002 as a future park site, the property was an early acquisition in the Open Space Initiative.

City officials spent the summer collecting input from citizens on what they would like to see this park become, via live surveying at events and man-on-the-street style interviews, an online survey, and stakeholder interviews.

"The type and character of this park is still to be determined. The proximity to Town Center provides an opportunity to enhance both locations," said Allen. "We're hoping that the community can help us with creative ideas that have not been done in our region. By engaging the public, we hope to make this space another one of Suwanee's great places."



We're not saying Parker has been named the cover model of the Sports Illustrated swimsuit edition...but we're not saying he hasn't, either.

**BEACH TOWELS, T-SHIRTS, TUMBLERS, AND MORE ARE FOR SALE AT THE SUWANEE WELCOME CENTER!**

3930 Charleston Market Street | Town Center

# We Heart Art!

## Locals wax poetic about their Art on a Limb finds

"Feeling a little bit guilty as we only moved to Suwanee last August, but we found one of the Art on a Limb pieces today [at Harvest Farm]! We love walking through all the parks Suwanee has to offer and the great events like this. Thanks Judy Isaak for a beautiful wind chime - it's up on our porch already."

- David How

"So excited for Isabelle; after four years of searching, she finally found an Art on a Limb in White Street Park tonight. What a beautiful piece of artwork by local artist Judy Isaak. We love hiking and bike riding, but especially while on the hunt during the entire month of May!!!"

- Kim Cowart

"Look what I found this afternoon along the Suwanee Creek Greenway!!! It looks great in my backyard. This is only the second time I've actually found a piece of art, but I look forward to Art on a Limb every year. Thanks, Suwanee!!!!"

- Carol Sanders

"Tonight while on a walk with my husband and kids at Sims Lake I found my first Art on a Limb!! I have been searching for one ever since the program started! I love it! Thank you offering such a cool program!!!"

- Aimee Fayne

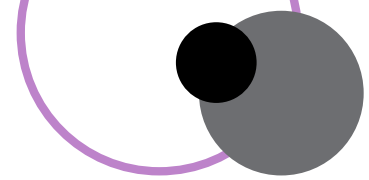
"I was to meet a friend this morning at Sims Lake Park. To my surprise there was a beautiful wind chime waiting for me on the park bench! I was thrilled. My father-in-law, Fred Fedke, who is an artist in Buford, was recently telling me about this "Free Art Friday" they do in Atlanta where artists leave their works around town for others to find. "What a great idea," I thought! Then, lo and behold it happened to me this morning! I was so excited I called my father-in-law right away and told him. It made my day! I appreciate great art, and the piece I got was just that."

- Tracy Fedke



ART  
on a  
limb

# New Appointees



**Kristen Nielsen** has recently been appointed to the Harvest Farm Managing Board to serve in the role of secretary. Kristen has been a gardener at Harvest Farm for the past few years. In commenting on why she was interested in serving on the Board, Kristen noted, "My grandmother and my mother taught me everything I know about gardening. My grandparents have five acres of land in Gainesville and my grandmother was the county extension agent for many years. I believe I can serve by passing on the knowledge she bestowed upon me."

Another new appointee to the Harvest Farm Managing Board, **Joe Vergona**, has been involved with the garden since day one, when it was still a farm pasture. In addition to serving as finance chair for the board, Joe is also one of the resident "fix it guys" in the garden, and has put many volunteer hours into projects. Both Joe and Kristin are Suwanee residents.

Though new to the Public Arts Commission, resident **Keith Nabb** is no stranger to the Suwanee art world. The principal and founder of Affordable Medicare Solutions, Keith and his family are very involved in all things Suwanee, including the Public Art Initiative. He is a sponsor of Guess Who's Coming to Cocktails, Arts in the Park, and high school theatre productions.

Members of the Harvest Farm Managing Board help guide maintenance and construction projects and activities such as social events and educational programming. The Suwanee City Council-appointed Public Arts Commission was established to create programs that promote public art in Suwanee and work with and encourage developers to use one percent of construction costs to include public art or support public art as a component of new projects.

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## Suwanee Police Department Named Georgia Agency of the Year

The Georgia Chapter of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy Associates (FBINAA) presented the Suwanee Police Department with the Phyllis Goodwin Agency of the Year Award at the organization's annual summer conference last week.

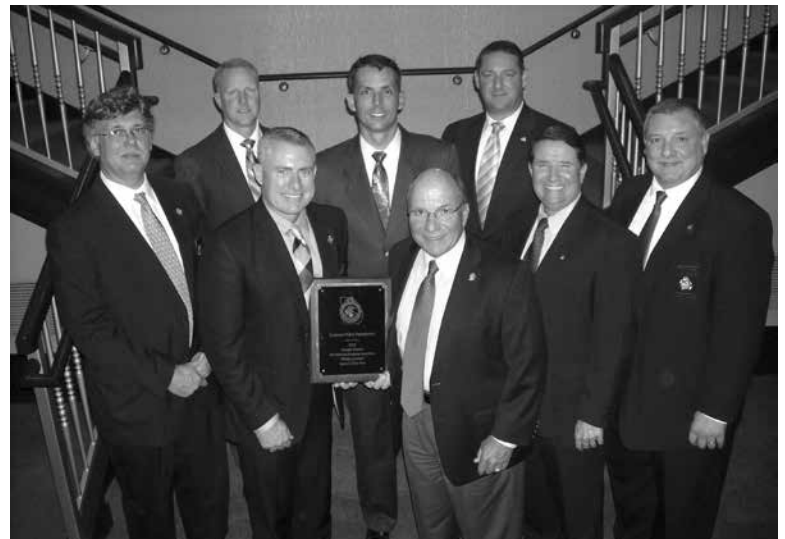
The annual award recognizes agencies that excel in support of the FBINAA Georgia Chapter. Criteria for the award is measured in the categories of how the agency's efforts present themselves in a manner that lend strength, dignity, and credit to the law enforcement profession, the impact the agency's efforts have had on the Georgia chapter of the FBINAA, and the positive impacts involving agency programs and services made in the community.

"The chapter could not be successful without the support of departments like the Suwanee Police Department," said Sandy Springs Police Department Deputy Chief Keith Zgonc, who serves as the 2nd Vice President of the FBINAA Georgia Chapter. "Their support and dedication is a great example to all of our members."

The award is named for Phyllis Goodwin, who worked with the FBI for almost 38 years. During most of those years she served as the police training tech and she assisted officers who wanted to attend the national academy.

"The Suwanee Police Department personnel who have graduated from the FBI National Academy serve as active members of the FBINAA's Georgia Chapter, serving in leadership and support positions throughout the years," said Suwanee Chief of Police Mike Jones.

"I have been a strong supporter of the FBI National Academy since graduating from the 155th session in 1986. The organization does so much to enhance the law enforcement profession as a whole. I am humbled at the recognition that the Suwanee Police Department has received from the FBINAA."





Open

## for business

The following companies received new business licenses from the City of Suwanee in May and June:

- **Anova IT, LCC**  
130 Satellite Boulevard
- **Best Imports & Wholesale**  
140 Satellite Boulevard
- **Blue Nature USA, Inc.**  
1049 Industrial Court
- **Burger King**  
3141 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road
- **C Brittos First Taste LLC**  
302 Satellite Boulevard
- **Chase Professionals**  
2885 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road
- **Compass Driving, LLC**  
302 Satellite Boulevard
- **Fit Club International**  
1300 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
- **FM Appliance Inc.**  
3580 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road
- **Hutchco, Inc.**  
3461 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road
- **Innovative Appliance Repair, LLC**  
3695 Burnette Park Drive
- **Innovative Installs, LLC**  
3695 Burnette Park Drive
- **Inspectorate America Corporation**  
3385 Martin Farm Road
- **JP Morgan Chase Bank**  
1052 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
- **Kelly Services, Inc.**  
80 Horizon Drive
- **KNL Services LLC**  
3565 Smithtown Lane
- **Legacy System & Graphics, Inc.**  
50 Satellite Boulevard
- **May Massage LLC**  
3255 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road
- **Omely Nail**  
80 Horizon Drive
- **On Demand Hardware**  
300 Brogdon Road
- **Peyton's Pie Company**  
1039 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
- **Sign11 Inc.**  
3655 Burnette Park Drive
- **Sovi Salon**  
525 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
- **Rapid Response R & R, LLC**  
970 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
- **Rock Solid Supplements**  
525 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
- **US Hospitality Group, Inc.**  
3479 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road
- **Valiant Fit LLC**  
3620 Swiftwater Park Drive
- **Vicky Sign Inc.**  
3645 Burnette Park Drive
- **Vitality Med Spa & Beauty Bar**  
310 Town Center Avenue
- **Vivid Nails**  
3463 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road, Suite 115

## connections

Another new member of the Suwanee Police department, Officer **Chris Tiller** joined the force in early June. Officer Tiller comes to us from the City of Atlanta Police Department, where he served as an officer since 2011.

The Suwanee PD just keeps growing and growing! **Synthia Martinez** joins the Suwanee Police Department as the new Communications Officer. Formerly a processor with the Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office, Martinez resides in Buford.

**Joseph Alexander** joins the city as Suwanee's new building official. Joseph brings several years of experience to the city, and is a certified building official, fire inspector, and licensed master electrician. A resident of Alpharetta, Joseph previously served as the Chief Building Official for the City of Holly Springs.

**Benjamin Leimkuehler** and **Peter Mraz** – both 2016 honor graduates from North Gwinnett High School – have joined the City of Suwanee public works staff as equipment operators for the summer. Both intend to pursue mechanical engineering in the fall as they head off to Kennesaw State University (Benjamin) and Georgia Southern University (Peter).

### What's in a Name?

Three City Hall employees recently changed job titles:

**Amy Doherty** has been promoted to the title of Events & Outreach Manager. A former Suwanee Fest committee volunteer, for the past ten years Amy has served as the city's special events manager. Amy will continue to work in events in her new role, as well as grow and maintain the city's volunteer base.

**Kim Towne** has been hired as the City of Suwanee's Event Coordinator. Also a former Suwanee Fest committee volunteer, Kim has been with the city for the past year, serving as a contract event planner.

**Stacy Capps** has assumed the position of Business Services Specialist. Stacey joined the City of Suwanee team in March as an administrative assistant supporting the Administrative, Business Services, Municipal Court, and the Planning Department.

## Welcome to City Hall

Officer **Brian Bartlett** joined the Suwanee Police Department in May. Officer Bartlett obtained his Bachelor of Arts in public administration from Barry University. He has over 15 years of law enforcement experience, including working for the City of Hollywood, Florida and the Gwinnett County Sheriff's Department.

## upcoming events

official newsletter of the city of suwanee, georgia

### A August

2 Planning Commission	6:30p.m.
3 Public Arts Commission	6:00p.m.
5 Food Truck Friday	5:30p.m.
6 Farmers Market	8:00a.m.
8 Suwanee Fest Planning Committee	6:30p.m.
9 Harvest Farm Board Meeting	5:00p.m.
11 City Council Workshop	5:30p.m.
11 Millage Rate Public Hearing	5:30p.m.
13 Farmers Market	8:00a.m.
13 BLIMPIE Skylar's Run for Breast Cancer 5K	8:00a.m.
13 August Concert & Wing Fest	5:00p.m.
16 Downtown Development Authority	7:30a.m.
20 Thin Mint Sprint	7:30a.m.
20 Farmers Market	8:00a.m.
23 Millage Rate Public Hearing	12:00p.m.
23 City Council Meeting	6:30p.m.
23 Millage Rate Public Hearing	6:30p.m.
27 Hoofin for Habitat	7:30a.m.
27 Farmers Market	8:00a.m.
27 Movies Under the Stars	7:00p.m.
29 Suwanee Fest Planning Committee	6:30p.m.

### S September

2 Food Truck Friday	5:30p.m.
3 Farmers Market	8:00a.m.
6 Planning Commission	6:30p.m.
7 Public Arts Commission	6:00p.m.
8 City Council Workshop	5:30p.m.
10 Farmers Market	8:00a.m.
10 Suwanee Fest Run	8:00a.m.
11 Remembrance Day Event	3:00p.m.
12 Suwanee Fest Planning Committee	6:30p.m.
13 Harvest Farm Board Meeting	5:00p.m.
15 City Council Workshop	5:30p.m.
17 Suwanee Fest	9:00a.m.
18 Suwanee Fest	12:00p.m.
20 Downtown Development Authority	7:30a.m.
20 Zoning Board of Appeals	6:30p.m.
24 The Extra Mile 5K Walk/Run	8:00a.m.
24 Farmers Market	8:00a.m.
27 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](http://suwanee.com) for updates.