

Suwanee connects

inside
this issue...

suwanee.com | september 2016



GUIDE TO **SUWANEE FEST**



2 POW!



3 THRILLER



6 ZAP!



SATURDAY
SEPT 17
9 AM - 7 PM

SUNDAY
SEPT 18
12 PM - 5 PM

SUWANEE FEST CHILDREN'S AREA FEATURES SUPER HERO TRAINING COURSE



Suwanee Fest has always been a family event, but this year it's an event fit for a family of super heroes – especially the children's area.

Elementary school age heroes-in-training will have the opportunity to become official, full-fledged super heroes by completing the Suwanee Fest Super Hero Training Course: four grueling stations designed to test strength, agility, bravery, and willingness to help others.

Hosted by Rising Church, the newly-revamped children's area will feature a maze of laser beams, a weight lifting challenge, brick walls to break through and save the day, and the opportunity to pack bundles of food to feed children around the world who do not have enough to eat.

This fourth and final super hero challenge allows our heroes to participate in the Feed My Starving Children MobilePack: a meal-packing event that provides nutritious meals to children all around the world. These meals are specifically designed to reverse and prevent malnutrition and are used in schools, orphanages, clinics, and feeding programs to break the cycle of poverty.

Those brave enough to take on the super hero challenge will receive a card to be stamped at the completion of each station on the course. Once the card is fully stamped, newly-minted super heroes will receive their own official Suwanee Fest super hero capes!

The free family fun zone will also feature:

- Caricatures by ToonHeadz
- The Cliff and Skeeter Show
- Sir Crazy Pants
- DR Magical Balloons
- Blast-A-Trooper
- A community art piece by Timber Wolf chainsaw carvings
- Rainbow Pilates
- The opportunity to write a letter to thank a super hero serving in the armed forces with Bert's Big Thank You
- Super hero photo booth
- Super hero dance lesson
- Super Great Circus Show

"The Suwanee Fest Family Fun Zone gives families a chance to come to the festival and not have to worry about spending a dime to entertain their children. Our activities in this area are all free and will keep kids entertained!" said Amy Doherty, Events & Outreach Manager for the City of Suwanee. "We will still be offering rides and games which do require tickets to participate, but we wanted to provide our younger festival goers a super-fun time that's also easy on the wallet."



SUWANEE FEST MOBILE INTERACTIVE MAP

Easily find your favorite
Suwanee Fest vendors!

- Navigate over 200 booths
- Sort by booth type
- View descriptions of each vendor

Available at SuwaneeFest.com!



Michael Jackson Tribute Band Headlines Suwanee Fest

Whether you idolized the Jackson 5, fell in love to *Human Nature*, or learned to moonwalk to *Billie Jean*, there will be something for Michael Jackson fans of all ages when Who's Bad takes the stage at Suwanee Fest.

The ultimate music-and-dance driven Michael Jackson homage, Who's Bad is an unrivaled celebration of pop music's true king. The longest-running Michael Jackson tribute band – and the only one to predate his untimely passing – this power-packed performance of Jackson's expansive catalog has ignited crowds on every continent and can only be described as a jaw-dropping, musical must-see.



Who's Bad has earned its name by paying studious attention to Michael Jackson's every original groove and gravity-defying dance move, boasting a combined 100+ years of professional experience and a team of dancers with resumes that include Broadway. Velvety vocals and pinpoint choreography combined with the six-piece band's synchronized dance routines, blaring horns and deep rhythms result in a performance delivered with soul and precision superseded by no one but Jackson himself.

Who's Bad sold out their first tour of China and consistently pack renowned domestic venues such as The House of Blues, DC's 930 Club, Colorado's Bluebird Theatre and LA's Gibson Amphitheatre. They've shared the stage with Aretha Franklin, The Backstreet Boys, The Four Tops, Boys II Men, and Pitbull.

This band of professionals relentlessly elevate the legacy of the King of Pop, always pushing themselves to be more precise and to raise the level of excitement and awe, all while embodying Michael Jackson's mission to bring people together of all races, genders, and cultures through music. Join us in Town Center Park on Saturday, September 17 at 5:30 pm for what will surely be an enormous Michael Jackson sing-along by a tribute band befitting a king!

MAIN STAGE PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 17th

- 10:30 - 10:45am Academy of Ballet- Jazz & Tap Ensemble
- 11:00 - 11:10am Ishika and Tanvi NNKB Group
- 11:30 - 11:50am Daniela Melgar
- 12:00 - 12:20pm An Ka Fo Drum & Dance
- 12:45 - 1:15pm David Chavez Trio
- 1:45 - 2:25pm Billy Gaines Band
- 2:45 - 3:25pm Macy Todd
- 3:45 - 4:40pm R&B Inc.
- 5:30 - 7:00pm Who's Bad – The Ultimate Michael Jackson Tribute

Sunday, September 18th

- 12:00 - 5:00pm Free on-stage entertainment
- 12:00 - 12:20pm North Georgia Academy of Elite Dancers
- 12:45 - 1:00pm Alex the Violinist
- 1:15 - 1:30pm Fifteen Minutes of Fame: NGHS Drum Line
- 1:45 - 2:10pm Dream Friends Entertainment
- 2:30 - 3:30pm Crash Walker & the Mystic Rooster
- 4:00 - 5:00pm Banks & Shane





An Ka Fo Drum & Dance

An Ka Fo Drum & Dance is a premiere West African drum and dance ensemble offering traditional performances, drum and dance workshops, lectures, and demonstrations. Their performance repertoire features live West African drumming, folklore and storytelling. The group will perform on the main stage at Suwanee Fest at 12 pm on Saturday followed by a one-hour cultural workshop in the Family Fun Zone.

Billy Gaines Band Billy Gaines has a long history in contemporary Christian music, formerly as part of the R&B gospel duet Billy & Sarah Gaines. This recording artist and songwriter is the recipient of multiple Dove Awards and boasts six number one radio singles. Billy became a solo artist in 2001 and released his "Ten Thousand Angels" CD in 2006.



Academy of Ballet - Jazz & Tap Ensemble

Located in Peachtree Corners, the Jazz & Tap Ensemble consists of dancers ages 8+ who will perform a fully-costumed routine to popular music, bringing their joy of dance to everyone as they open for Suwanee Fest 2016.



Daniela Melgar Fourteen-year-old NGHS freshman Daniela Melgar is a triple threat, and this singer/dancer/actress has her sights set on Broadway. She made her debut at Town Center Park when she performed as the "15 Minutes of Fame" winner in 2015 and stole the hearts of everyone in the audience.



Macy Todd Macy Todd is an 18-year-old up-and-coming singer/songwriter from Lawrenceville who creates folktinged pop music that transcends both genre and time. Inspired by her musician father and taught guitar by her church worship pastor, Macy tapped into her creative side and began composing songs when she was 15.



David Chavez Trio

The David Chavez Trio is an American blues/rock cover band inspired by the soft blues of B.B. King and Eric Clapton, the classic 60's rock of guitar players like Jimi Hendrix and Buddy Guy, and the more modern blues of Stevie Ray Vaughan and John Mayer. David recently opened for Travis Tritt at a local concert last November and his band is sure to have Suwanee on its feet and singing along.



Ishika and Tanvi NNKB Group

Ishika Mehta and Tanvi Gujral are classical Kathak and Bollywood dancers who train at NNKB Dance Academy, Atlanta's premiere Indian dance and music school. They will perform a self-choreographed, semi-classical Bollywood dance with hand-fans to "Sun Saathiya."



R&B, Inc. R&B, Inc. is a nine-piece R&B and soul band of seasoned professionals who have been entertaining audiences for over five decades. The band has appeared in concert with such artists as The Atlanta Rhythm Section, The Family Stone, The Association, The Zombies, and Mother's Finest.

Alex the Violinist Alex Ducar is an aspiring young rock/classical violinist. Alex enjoys writing and arranging music that incorporates classical violin excerpts within favorite rock songs. Alex has been a member of the Gwinnett County Youth Orchestra and Advanced Philharmonic Orchestra at North Gwinnett High School. With the exception of school performances and playing his violin at local daycares and Boy Scout camp, Alex will be making his public debut at Suwanee Fest 2016.



Banks & Shane Atlanta's Entertainment Tradition entertains with their exceptional talent, consummate showmanship, and 30+ years of experience in the music industry. Whether you are a loyal follower or have never experienced a Banks & Shane show, this high-energy, hard-kicking, blow-the-roof off band is sure to have you dancing in the aisles to party favorites and reminiscing with memorable ballads.

Dream Friends Entertainment Unicycles? Jugglers? How about jugglers ON unicycles? Yep, we have it all at Suwanee Fest. The highly entertaining and talented performers from Dream Friends Entertainment will bring their circus act to the Suwanee Fest stage.

Fifteen Minutes of Fame

Each year the North Gwinnett Schools Foundation auctions a "Fifteen Minutes of Fame" performance slot for Suwanee Fest as part of their annual fundraiser. Suwanee City Council member Doug Ireland was the highest bidder for this coveted item and he invited the drumline of the award-winning North Gwinnett High School Band to perform in his place.

North Georgia Academy of Dance The North Georgia Academy of Dance Elite Dancers will grace the stage of Suwanee Fest at 12 pm on Sunday, September 18th. NGAD believes that dance is for everyone and provides classes for 18 months to 18 years, striving to make the art of dance accessible to all. NGAD offers classes in ballet, tap, jazz, acrobatics, lyrical/modern, pointe and musical theater.



Crash Walker & the Mystic Rooster

Crash Walker & the Mystic Rooster is a four-piece band with a serious love for classic rock and the blues. They are heavily influenced by Georgia artists such as The Allman Brothers, Otis Redding, Georgia Satellites, and Travis Tritt, to name a few. The group inspires audiences of all ages to dance and sing along as they perform. Go ahead, admit it...you're curious about a band with the name "Crash Walker & the Mystic Rooster."

Saturday, September 17th

- 8:30am - 8pm Free shuttle parking from/ to offsite parking
- 9am Parade
- 10am - 7pm Arts & crafts exhibitors, inflatable rides, Family Fun Zone, food vendors
- 10:30am - 7pm Free on-stage entertainment
- 5:30pm Who's Bad – The Ultimate Michael Jackson Tribute

Sunday, September 18th

- 11:30am - 7pm Free shuttle parking from/ to offsite parking
- noon - 5pm Arts & crafts exhibitors, inflatable rides, Family Fun Zone, food vendors

These folks make it happen!

These folks deserve a pat on the back, a hug, a big "thank you" for volunteering and planning this spectacular community festival. Thank you, Suwanee Fest planning committee members, for your time, enthusiasm, energy, dedication, creativity, and hard work.

Sponsorship: Paul Beavin

Entertainment:
Michelle Budd • Donna Copeletti
Jennifer Daniel

Parade:
Sandra Quady • Scott Quady

Vendors:
Janis Beavin • David Sullivan
Robin Sullivan

Transportation:
Mauro Marcillo • Eric Wolman

Volunteers:
Dawn Hudson • Andrea Swemley

At-Large Committee Members
David Ouimet • Rachel Rawlings



The Most Unique Military Event Across America

For the first time ever, Suwanee Fest will be a host site for the annual Stand at Attention Competition, benefitting programs that support military families and garner national attention and resources for veteran suicide awareness.

The Stand at Attention Competition is a fundraiser at which members of the armed services stand at attention, at length, in a public place for donations. Now in its sixth year, The Stand at Attention Competition is operated by Active Heroes, a 501(c)3 charity that has begun the first phase of building a Military Family Retreat to support veterans struggling with PTSD.

The Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard are represented at Stand at Attention Competitions by veterans or cadets who stand for approximately 10 hours. If more than one branch is still standing at the end of the competition, the donations are counted and the winner is determined by the branch that raised the most money.

Suwanee Fest attendees will be able to witness this unique fundraiser on Saturday, September 17. Members of the military and volunteers will be standing at attention in various locations across the country throughout the day.

“With our theme being “Super City, Super People,” we are thrilled that these real life heroes could join us at Suwanee Fest,” said Suwanee Events & Outreach Manager Amy Doherty. “We think it is so cool to show our attendees that not all heroes wear capes – some wear fatigues and tirelessly work defending our country.”

A few tips for bringing Fido to Suwanee Fest:

- **Don't forget sunscreen!** Yes, for your dog. Dogs need sunscreen on light colored or bare areas like top of snout, ears, and tummy. Choose a natural sunscreen safe for dogs or babies.
- **Check the pavement.** If the pavement is too hot to hold your hand to comfortably for several seconds, it is too hot for your dog's feet!
- **Dumpster diving is not socially acceptable.** Festival food might be the greatest thing in the world, but not so great on your pup's stomach. Keep an eye on your dog so he doesn't consume something you don't want him to have or that is isn't safe.
- **Friendly and well-socialized poodles only, please.** He might be a perfect gentledog around the house, but how is he around other pets, crowds, and overly-friendly kids who yank tails?
- **No fur on the bus.** Pets are not allowed on the Suwanee Fest shuttles.



Photo Credit: Duely Chronicle

Fido is Welcome at Suwanee Fest

You never really know what the weather will be like in Georgia in September, but odds are it's still going to be pretty hot. Many parents struggle with keeping their kids out of the sun at festivals, employing hats, water bottles, practical clothing, and sunscreen galore. But does anyone think about what to pack for man's best friend? Thanks to Tiger Tails Animal Hospital, that is no longer a concern for the four-legged attendees of Suwanee Fest.

Men have the Man Cave tent, kids have the Family Fun Zone, and now, pets have Parker's Fur-riendly Shady Spot! The staff will be providing shade and water for "over-festivalized" pets, and Dr. Zack will be on-hand for any first aid issues.

“We came up with this idea after several years of HOT festivals,” said Tiger Tails Marketing Manager Amber Boling. “We saw a need for a cool-off area for all the over-heated pets, and wanted to provide this service for all of our four-legged friends in Suwanee.”

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 Ceremony	3:00p.m.
12 Suwanee Fest Planning Committee	6:30p.m.
13 Harvest Farm Board Meeting	5:00p.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.

O October

1 Farmer's Market	8:00a.m.
1 Peach State Chill Cook-Off	11:00a.m.
4 Planning Commission	6:30p.m.
5 Public Arts Commission	6:00p.m.
8 Taste of Suwanee	12:00p.m.
11 Harvest Farm Board	5:00p.m.
13 City Council Workshop	5:30p.m.
18 Downtown Development Authority	7:30a.m.
18 Zoning Board of Appeals	6:30p.m.
22 Alive! Festival	10:00a.m.
25 City Council Meeting	6:30p.m.
29 Jonny & Xena "Spread the Words" 5K	9:00a.m.
29 Trek or Treat (Suwanee Creek Park)	11:00a.m.

N November

1 Planning Commission	6:30p.m.
2 Public Arts Commission	6:00p.m.
5 Suwanee Wine Fest	12:00p.m.
6 Suwanee Classic Car Show	10:00a.m.
8 Harvest Farm Board	5:00p.m.
10 City Council Workshop	5:30p.m.
12 Kiwanis All-American 5K	8:00a.m.
15 Downtown Development Authority	7:30a.m.
15 Zoning Board of Appeals	6:30p.m.
15 City Council Meeting	6:30p.m.



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

Give a Little, Get a Lot

Suwanee Fall Events Benefit Numerous Charitable Causes

Not that you really *need* an excuse to come out to one of the many events this fall at Town Center Park, but if you want to feel extra good about yourself, check out the amazing nonprofits receiving the benefits! Complete event schedule is available at Suwanee.com.

→ The Extra Mile 5K Walk/Run

September 24 | 8 am



Benefitting Annandale Village, this event features hundreds of walkers and runners in the spirit of caring and giving to make a powerful difference in the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and traumatic brain injuries.

→ Peach State Chili Cook-Off

October 1 | Noon

In its first year, this tasty event raised over \$5,000 for the Gift of Adoption Fund. With the average grant awarded by Gift of Adoption being \$3,500, the Peach State Chili Cook-Off directly impacted one child and his/her new family!

→ Taste of Suwanee

October 8 | Noon

Attended by over 9,000 festival-goers, families, and food connoisseurs, this annual tradition helps



provide scholarship dollars for North Gwinnett High School basketball players. Admission is free, but tickets are needed to sample food and enjoy activities in the Kids Zone.

→ Alive! Festival

October 22 | 10 am

Benefitting Project Green, the goal of the Alive! Festival is to help attendees learn how to integrate health and wellness plus natural, organic and green products into environmentally responsible eco living and to create a positive impact on the world as a whole.

→ Jonny & Xena “Spread the Words” 5K

October 29 | 9 am

The mission of Jonny and Xena’s “Spread the Words” Foundation is to improve the lives of individuals living with autism and other developmental disabilities. The nonprofit “spread the words” of kindness, acceptance, hope, and understanding through educational programs.

→ Suwanee Wine Festival

November 5 | Noon

Another event benefitting community gem Annandale Village, local wine experts will hand-select over 100 premium wines from around the world. The festival



also features a Georgia craft beer tent with unlimited samples of your favorite local brews and a big TV screen showing the “game of the day.”

→ Suwanee Classic Car Show

November 6 | 10 am

This award-winning event features approximately 150 classic cars, race cars, a silent auction, and a paint-a-wreck, all



benefitting the North Gwinnett Arts Association, which will use monies raised to promote and support art initiatives set forth by the organization.

→ Suwanee Kiwanis All American 5K

November 12 | 8 am

Proceeds from this red, white, and blue, patriotic run go toward the Suwanee Kiwanis Club’s Don Lee Memorial Scholarship Fund, which benefits high school students from Peachtree Ridge or Collins Hill.

Calling All Boys and Ghouls!

Summer may be coming to a close, but the City of Suwanee's event calendar certainly is not. Fall offers some of the community's favorite events along with some of the best weather for events.

Perhaps the favorite event of the year with a certain segment of our population is Trek or Treat. All the little princesses, monsters, sports heroes, and witches will have the opportunity to do a costume-test run at the annual favorite on Saturday, October 29 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Suwanee Creek Park.

The event, designed for children ten and younger, includes fall festival-style games, music, contests, inflatables, and a free hot dog lunch while supplies last. Costumes aren't required, but strongly encouraged. Parker the Dog will, of course, be there in costume.



Open for business

The following companies received new business licenses from the City of Suwanee in July:

- **Buckhead Bail Bonding**
3154 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road
- **Conder Flags**
50 Satellite Boulevard
- **Eriks Southwest**
305 Shawnee North Drive
- **Experimac Suwanee**
425 Buford Highway
- **Premier Auto Exchange**
553 Highway 23 NW
- **Premium Printer Service, Inc.**
3550 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road
- **Pinpoint Dental Studio, LLC**
302 Satellite Boulevard
- **Star Capital Automotive Group**
4411 Suwanee Dam Road

LAST CALL

**SUWANEE
FARMERS MARKET
OPEN THRU OCT. 1**

Saturdays: 8 am-noon
Town Center Park

City of Suwanee Once Again Awarded for Superior Management

For the eighth consecutive year, the City of Suwanee has been recognized by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) for superior performance management. Suwanee was one of nine jurisdictions within its category throughout the country this year to receive a Certificate of Distinction from ICMA's Center for Performance Measurement.

"The certificate program recognizes communities that have demonstrated leadership in continuous improvement and community engagement using performance analysis," said ICMA Executive Director Robert J. O'Neill, Jr. "Performance analysis is an integral component of professional local government management, and jurisdictions meeting the certificate qualifications serve as examples for other governments to follow."

In order to earn a Certificate of Distinction, jurisdictions must:

- Report performance data to the public through budgets, newsletters, etc.
- Undertake data verification efforts to ensure reliability
- Provide staff training
- Use performance data in strategic planning and operational decision-making
- Share performance measurement knowledge with other local governments.



According to ICMA, the certificate program assesses a local government's performance management program and encourages analysis of results by comparing to peers and gauging performance over time. Performance management aids in cost reduction, program prioritization, and quality improvement while encouraging accountability and transparency.

SUWANEE'S PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE TO REMAIN AT 4.93

The City of Suwanee has proposed a millage rate of 4.93 mills, the same proposed rate used in the adopted FY 2017 budget and the same rate used by the City over the past four years.

That rate, however, is higher than the calculated rollback rate of 4.687 mills – this is the rate that would be expected to generate the same total revenue as the previous year.

The proposed 4.93 millage rate will result in a property tax increase of 5.18 percent. This proposed increase for a home with a fair market value of \$260,000 is approximately \$25.27 and an increase of \$53.46 for a nonresidential property with a fair market value of \$550,000.

City Council is expected to adopt a fiscal year 2017 millage rate at its August 23 meeting [prior to the printing of this publication]. Because the proposed rate is anticipated to generate a 5.18 percent increase in property tax revenues, due to rising property values, the City of Suwanee held three public hearings on this increase.

All Aboard!

Local building gets new look thanks to talented teenager

Calling all local business owners who are tired of plain, boring concrete block buildings: Drew Garland and Alexandra Sorto have a solution for you.

Located at the intersection of Buford Highway and Lawrenceville Suwanee Road, the nearly 40-year-old Garland Brothers building received a major overhaul this summer from recent North Gwinnett High School graduate Sorto. The seventeen-year-old rising freshman at the University of North Georgia spent her summer painting a giant mural depicting Suwanee's past and future on the side of Garland's building.

While the original 'Soul Train' inspiration can still be seen in the #Suwanee at the top, the mural morphed into a stronger representation of the city, including a train from the early 1800s (when the town was established) and another from 2016. The painting also features "Easter eggs" highlighting recent events, including the shooting in Orlando, violence against the police, homosexual rights, and racial tensions.

"Doing this was like a dream come true," said Sorto. "I hope people appreciate how far the city has come and see that people can do good things here."

While the city does have a public art initiative that encourages developers to include public art as part of new projects, this is the first time that an existing business has been inspired to do something like this on their own.

"The Garlands are setting a standard for all Suwanee businesses," said Assistant City Manager Denise Brinson.



Most nonprofit groups focus on the obvious items to collect for those in need: canned food, warm coats and blankets, toothbrushes. Former Suwanee Youth Leader and Greater Atlanta Christian School junior Kendall Robinson decided to focus on a less obvious, but absolutely necessary item: toilet paper.

Toilet paper wasn't something Kendall gave much thought to until meeting a homeless man who told her that he had to make one roll last an entire month. When she was challenged to make an impact on her community at the Atlanta Community Food Bank Teen Summit, the fifteen-year-old Suwanee resident founded the nonprofit Love Rolls to collect and provide toilet paper to other nonprofits for the people they serve at their facilities.

"His story really stuck with me," Kendall said. "I'm grateful to be surrounded by such a good community. Not a lot of people would dedicate their Saturday to help hand out toilet paper."

With the help of family, friends, and the community, Kendall collected close to 5,000 rolls in just two weeks. Love Rolls has received donations from major sponsors including Atlanta-area Marriott hotels, Costco, and the Scott toilet paper brand, which donated 75,000 rolls.

"One man said, 'Wow, finally somebody really took into consideration that we need toilet paper,' said Kendall. "They really are grateful and appreciative of what we're doing."

Donations are still needed in order to reach Kendall's goal of one million rolls. For more information, visit www.loverolls.org.





Suwanee connects

suwanee.com | september 2016

SPLOST to be voted on November 8

Along with our next president, Suwanee voters will also determine whether to extend the existing one-penny sales tax program on November 8.

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners has proposed a six-year 2016 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) program through which the county would split about \$950 million with its 16 cities.

Cumulatively, cities would receive about \$200 million; about 57 percent (or \$114 million) would be used for transportation projects. The remainder would be used for recreational facilities, parking facilities, public safety, and water and sewer capital improvements.

Suwanee, specifically, is slated to receive about \$17.1 million, which includes nearly \$12 million for transportation-related

projects and nearly \$2.6 million for administrative facilities and \$2.6 million recreation facilities and equipment.

The city is expected to receive about \$7.5 million from the 2013 voter-approved SPLOST. Through the years, SPLOST funds have been used to resurface 8.44 miles of roadway, build the police substation and training facility, sidewalk projects, public safety communication equipment upgrades, and improvements to almost every park in Suwanee, including building the pedestrian bridge and renovating the Suwanee Creek Greenway.

“SPLOST funding has allowed Suwanee to enhance our parks program and provide necessary resources to improve our infrastructure without placing an additional pressure on operating budgets or tax rates,” said Amie Sakmar, Director of Financial Services for the City of Suwanee.