



# The Rooks Report

many people...one community

May 27, 2013

Volume 1, Issue 3

## Let's talk about it!

**"First Saturday Talk," June 1, 2013 at the South Clayton Recreation Center, 10am—12pm.**

The United States of America is the greatest country in which to live. We have and enjoy many more freedoms than any other country allows. But we know

"Freedom" isn't Free. It comes at a cost to those who fight for us through our military. It comes at a cost to those families who lend their loved ones to us for service in securing these freedoms. Let us not forget that someone's son or daughter; father or mother; uncle or aunt died fighting for freedoms and securities that we often take for granted. Let's remember those lost heroes and heroines. Memorial Day is the day of remembering those men and women who died while fighting in the United States Armed Forces.

I am grateful to my father who served in the United States Air Force and two of my brothers who served in the United States Army and countless other relatives and friends who have served this great nation. Thanks to our Veterans and thank you to



Shana M. Rooks,  
Clayton County Commissioner—District 3

those who gave their lives for me. We shall never forget!

~Happy Memorial Day District 3  
In Service,  
Shana M. Rooks, Commissioner

### What's On Your Mind?

- Please share with us any stories or items that you would like to have put into this newsletter.
- We want your comments about what we are doing for you here in the district. Please provide us your positive feedback and we will post them in this newsletter (see our comments section on page 11).

### In this issue:

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## News & Information

- On May 19, 2013, our Clayton County Chairman Jeffrey Turner greeted President Obama along with Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed and Fulton County Chairman John Henry Eaves.
- May 24—August 10, 2013—Clayton County Library System's [Summer Reading Program](#).





Sector 3 Precinct Commander Captain Roberts and Community Affairs Sgt. Jakes and Officer Coloma in attendance.



A constituent picking up literature.



A constituent discussing his concern regarding his community with the panel.

## “First Saturday Talk” on May 4, 2013 at South Clayton Recreation Center



Planning and Zoning Administrator Kc Krzic addressing the constituents.



Code Enforcement Officer Mosley discussing a constituent's concern.

### Board Meetings

Please join us each first, second or third Tuesday evening of the month at 7pm for our Board Meetings.



112 Smith Street  
Jonesboro, GA  
30236  
770) 477-3208

This event is being conducted as part of the world



record attempt to take place simultaneously at 11am EST.

We will host a segment of the “WLSL” at the Steve Lundquist Aquatic Center (Jim Huie Recreation Center) in District 3. For more information, please [click here](#).

## Clayton County Fire Chief Jeff Hood to Retire July 19th



Georgia Emergency Medical Services  
Director of the Year

The Hood family has been residents of Clayton County since the late 1800's. Chief Hood is a lifelong resident of Rex, Georgia where he currently lives with his wife of 31 years, Suzanne.

Chief Hood began his fire service career in September of 1978 at the age of 19 as a fire-fighter. Chief Hood immediately immersed himself in additional training and attained his paramedic certification in 1981. Chief Hood continued his professional development within the department serving as a Paramedic Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, Deputy Chief of Emergency Operations and Assistant Chief of Emergency Operations.

Just in time, for the first time, Clayton County Fire and Emergency Services has been recognized on the state level for outstanding services. Chief Jeff Hood has been named the Georgia Emergency Medical Services Director of the Year.

Thank you Chief Hood for your commitment and service to Clayton County.

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### CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC NOTICE BUDGET HEARING



The Clayton County Board of Commissioners will hold a Budget Hearing on Tuesday, June 4, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. for all interested citizens of Clayton County. The meeting will be held in the Commissioners' Board Room, 112 Smith Street, Jonesboro, Georgia. A proposed budget will be presented.

The proposed budget may be examined weekdays beginning May 28, 2013 at the Jonesboro Library, 124 Smith Street, Jonesboro, Georgia, at the Headquarters Library, 856 Battlecreek Road, Jonesboro, Georgia, at the Lovejoy Library, 1721 McDonough Road, Hampton, Georgia, at the Morrow Library, 6225 Maddox Rd, Morrow, Georgia and at the Riverdale Library, 420 Valley Hill Road SW, Jonesboro, Georgia during regular library hours. All interested citizens will have the opportunity to give written and oral comments. Citizens are encouraged to attend and comment.

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#### Featured HOA of the month



*Pinetrace at Pebble Creek*

Congratulations!



#### Hot Off The Press

#### From The Clayton Neighbor

[Three Clayton high schools named among the best nationwide](#)



## Commissioner Rooks' Favorite Things Around Clayton

- 1) **The Turkey Chop** - (624 Southside Commercial Parkway, Jonesboro, GA 30236; 770-473-5054): None of their food is cooked with pork. I love everything on their menu.
- 2) **Gina's Bistro** - (253 North Main Street, Suite D, Jonesboro, GA 30236; 678-827-8080): good country food in the heart of Jonesboro.
- 3) **What'z Pop'n Gourmet Popcorn & Treats** - (10459 Tara Blvd., Suite 103, Jonesboro, GA 30236; 770-256-4397): I love gourmet popcorn. My favorite is white chocolate.

### Around Your District

**Leadership and Spiritual Empowerment Day Camp** (during the summer months)

#### Community Resource Center

949 Pointe South Pkwy

Jonesboro, GA 30238

404.749.8058

[marthaharley212@yahoo.com](mailto:marthaharley212@yahoo.com)

"Weekly outings: library, swimming, skating, bowling, movies, leadership skills training, crime awareness sessions, spiritual education and reading"

Please contact Ms. Martha Harley if you are interested.

\*\*\*\*\*Disclaimer: This is not a county sponsored event.\*\*\*\*\*



**FULFILLING OUR PROMISES**  
TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

Get answers about your rights and benefits earned through your service to your country and free professional assistance with claims.

A \$2 million commitment from the Harley-Davidson Foundation, the DAV Mobile Service Office (MSO) is able to bring free services to veterans in the communities where they live. The Harley Heroes program brings DAV mobile services to Harley-Davidson dealerships across the United States and the next local Harley's Heroes event is:

**Friday, June 14, 2013**

**10am to 5pm**

**Harley-Davidson of Clayton County**

**1384 Southlake Parkway**

**Morrow, GA 30260**

*\*The help offered through DAV MSO program is completely free. DAV membership is not required.*

For more information about free DAV services, please contact Donald Warren, DAV NSO, at (404) 929-5956.



## Senior Services Department keeps seniors active to live longer

Did you know that Clayton County has a department specifically designed to take care of the needs of its senior population? The Clayton County Senior Services Department, headed by Director Mary Byrd, offers five facilities that encourage healthy habits and activities for members. There are two senior recreation centers, the Frank Bailey Senior and Fitness Center and the J Charley Griswell Senior Center, that provides land fitness, aqua fitness, entertainment, and day and overnight trips for seniors 55 and older. The Shelnett Inter-generational Center hosts the Kinship Care Resource Program for grandparents and other relatives raising grandchildren in parent-absent homes that provides tutoring, counseling, as well as fitness and trips to its members. The Clayton Senior Adult Center offers a variety of classes to the older population of seniors. And finally, the Aging Program provides information and assistance for seniors of the county 60 and older including case management, Meals-On-Wheels, transportation and other services.

In May, the department hosted their annual Mayfest event at Clayton County International Park in Jonesboro. May is nationally recognized as “Older Americans Month”. Mayfest is a health and fitness event that connects Clayton County’s senior adults with health vendors as well as live entertainment, give-a-ways, a competitive fitness walk, demonstrations of fitness classes and “dancercising”, that gets bigger and better each year. DJ Youngblood from KISS 104.1 was the official DJ of the event, playing the oldies we love as well as the line dancing songs of today. The Guest host for the event was Karen Graham from Fox 5’s Good Day Atlanta morning program.



Check out our upcoming classes, trips, and special events in the latest issue of our quarterly senior magazine, Clayton Forever Young, available at all Senior Services locations as well as Parks and Recreation centers and your local library.

### City of Lovejoy News and Announcements

#### Senior Breakfast, Every 2nd Saturday each month from 9am to 11:30am.

Lovejoy’s senior breakfast is for persons over 55 years old only.

11622 Hastings Bridge Road, Lovejoy, GA 30250. (678) 479-8655

#### Lovejoy Saturday Summer Block Party Series at The Mayor’s Park from 1pm—3pm

Bring your family for fun, food, games and a lot more on May 11, June 8, July 13 & August 10.



Bobby Cartwright, Mayor

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**CLAYTON COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**  
**HUD PROGRAMS DIVISION**  
**PROPOSED ACTION PLAN AMENDMENTS - ACTION PLAN 2008 AND 2010**  
**REVISED AMENDMENT: NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM [NSP1 AND NSP3]**  
**PUBLICATION DATE: May 15, 2013**  
**PUBLISHED IN: CLAYTON NEWS DAILY**

Public comments are invited on proposed amendments to Clayton County Action Plan 2008 and 2010, revisions to the substantial amendments for Neighborhood Stabilization Program for NSP1 and NSP3.

A Public Hearing on these amendments will be held at 6:00 p.m., **Thursday, May 30, 2013** at the HUD Programs Division offices, 1671 Adamson Parkway, Morrow GA 30260.

The Clayton County Board of Commissioners will consider the proposed amendments on June 4, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. in the Clayton County Administration Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Auditorium, 112 Smith Street, Jonesboro, GA 30236.

Written comments on the proposed amendments should be mailed to: Clayton County Community Development Program, HUD Programs Division, 1671 Adamson Parkway, Morrow GA 30260, sent by FAX [770-210-5215] or sent by email to [info@claytonNSP.com](mailto:info@claytonNSP.com). The Clayton County HUD Programs Division **MUST RECEIVE all written comments by 5:00 P.M. local time, June 4, 2013**. The public comment period for the NSP Period is 15 days, as specified in the rules governing the NSP.

The entire proposed amendment is available for review at the Clayton County Website: [www.co.clayton.ga.us](http://www.co.clayton.ga.us) and at [www.claytonNSP.com](http://www.claytonNSP.com). After completion, the final amendments will also be posted at [www.claytonNSP.com](http://www.claytonNSP.com). The activities proposed in both amendments are acquisition/rehab/resell of residential properties, demolition of blighted properties, and redevelopment of vacant or demolished properties.

Contact the Clayton County HUD Programs Division with questions or comments: Telephone: 770-477-4512, FAX 770-210-5215; email: [info@claytonNSP.com](mailto:info@claytonNSP.com).

Clayton County received funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program [NSP1] totaling \$9,732,126. The funding for NSP1 is provided through the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 [HERA]. The intent of NSP1 is to assist localities, which are suffering from residential foreclosures, and the negative impact the foreclosures have on their neighborhoods.

Clayton County has also been allocated \$3,796,167.00 in NSP3 funds, authorized under Section 1497 of the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank Act) of 2010 (Pub. L. 111-203, approved July 21, 2010) for emergency assistance for redevelopment of abandoned and foreclosed homes and residential properties within the County's jurisdiction.

HUD requires that localities receiving NSP funds direct the funds to the "areas of greatest need," which includes areas with the greatest percentages of home foreclosures, with the highest percentage of homes financed with subprime loans, and which are likely to face a significant rise in the rate of home foreclosures. The use of NSP funds for any type of foreclosure prevention activity is expressly prohibited.

Public comments received will be included in the application package submitted to HUD.

**Meeting site is ADA accessible. For hearing impaired needing communication assistance please notify this office at 770-210-5208 at least 3 days in advance of the meeting if special accommodations are necessary.**



## Clayton County Police Department's Explorers Program

The *Explorers* are a dedicated group of non-sworn volunteers between the ages of fourteen (if completed 8th Grade) to twenty (14-20) years of age that are interested in the challenging career of Law Enforcement. The Explorer Program, a division of Boy Scouts of America, is a program designed to provide young people with an opportunity to learn and train in a law enforcement environment. Clayton County Police Department Post 927 serves members within Clayton County with the goal of teaching leadership skills and an appreciation of their community, thereby developing adults that will continue to enrich and give back to the community as responsible adults in the future. The *Explorers* shall provide assistance to, and part-time staffing of, the community events and crime prevention programs. They will be utilized in the planning, organization, and presentation of programs within their expertise, abilities, and training.

All *Explorers* must maintain a 2.0 grade point average and must provide their grades quarterly. *Explorers* must also provide three (3) letters of recommendation; one (1) from a school administrator or counselor and two (2) from another non-family adults in order to be considered for the program.

**The program is currently limited to 12 Explorers, currently there are 8 Explorers, leaving 4 current openings for new Explorers.**

The Explorers Program runs year around, during the summer there are usually more "outings" with the *Explorers* to do team building activities. Interested students (or parents) may contact Officer Coloma at (770) 472-8030 or Officer Rosa (770) 472-0824.

*Upon approval of the application process, there is a \$20.00 application fee that goes to Boy Scouts of America.*

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## Police Athletic League (PAL) Program

The Clayton County Police Department has partnered with Clayton County Parks and Recreation as a form of community outreach with the objective of interacting with kids enrolled in the summer camp program at the county recreation centers. Chief Gregory Porter is a strong proponent of athletics and envisions children receiving positive direction from law enforcement officers in an informal setting.

The P.A.L. program allows Police Officers to go out to the recreation center sites daily throughout the summer and provide instruction and training in various athletic disciplines. The officers will also stress the importance of teamwork, sportsmanship, while presenting the police department in a more favorable light.

This June, we will be entering into our third year of this joint initiative with Parks and Recreation and will be introducing the following sports; (Volleyball Track and Field, Flag Football, Cheer-nastics, and Basketball). Our overall goal is to instill valuable life lessons in the minds of our most precious resource and simultaneously have fun.

*\*Registration for PAL is handled through Parks and Recreation.*



# Clayton County Code Enforcement

“We Care About Where You Live”

According to the Clayton County Police Department’s Code Enforcement Unit, the most frequently violated Clayton County Quality of Life Ordinances are:

The form is titled "VIOLATION \$100 FINE". It includes a date field with "315-4214-01" entered, and a time field with "11:00 AM" and "11:00 AM" entered. There are checkboxes for "MAY" and "YEAR". Below this is a section for "Check this box if the car is a piece of crap" with a checkbox. The form also has fields for "NAME", "PL", "Color of Vehicle", and "Notes". At the bottom, there is a table titled "OFFENSE" with a list of 15 items, each with a checkbox and a description.

OFFENSE
1. Abandoned Vehicle
2. Parking in Front of Property
3. Blocking a Driveway
4. Blocking a Parking Space
5. Blocking a Fire Hydrant
6. Blocking a Fire Escape
7. Blocking a Fire Exit
8. Blocking a Fire Alarm
9. Blocking a Fire Alarm
10. Blocking a Fire Alarm
11. Blocking a Fire Alarm
12. Blocking a Fire Alarm
13. Blocking a Fire Alarm
14. Blocking a Fire Alarm
15. Blocking a Fire Alarm

## Section 94-60. Prohibited parking of a vehicle within the front yard.

Example: The parking of a vehicle on grass within the front yard.

## Section 62-202. Maintaining property and Vacant Structures, Nuisance and abatement thereof.

Example: Allowing grass, weeds and similar plants to grow on property to a height in excess of ten inches.

## Section 62-203. Abandoned or vacant buildings to be secured.

Example: Securing and boarding up structures (windows, doors and other openings) to prevent entry by animals, vermin or trespassers.

## Section 62-204. Parking or storage of commercial vehicles, buses, trailers, trucks or equipment.

Example: Commercial vehicles in all residential zoning districts are prohibited such as limousines, flat bed trucks, dump trucks, tow trucks, transport wreckers, tandem axle trucks, cab-on-chassis trucks, tractor trailers, truck tractors without a trailer, wheeled attachments or trailers, buses, earth-moving machinery, semi-trailers, and any vehicle over 20 feet in length, or seven feet in height, or seven feet in width.

## Section 62-205. Off-road parking or storage of unlicensed or inoperable vehicles, trailers or equipment.

Example: Vehicles or trailers of any kind parked within a residential zoned district without current license plates and any inoperable vehicle, trailer or other motorized equipment for more than 30 days (must be parked within a fully enclosed garage or carport attached to the residence).

## Section 62-206. Property of dispossessed tenant or disposed mortgagor to be removed within 48 hours of the date and time of execution of the writ of possession.

Definitions: *Dispossessed*—evicted, as from a dwelling, land, etc.

A *writ of possession* is a document issued by the court after the landlord wins an unlawful detainer (eviction) lawsuit. The writ of possession is served on the tenant by the sheriff. The writ informs the tenant that the tenant must leave the rental unit by a certain time period, or the sheriff will forcibly remove the tenant. Writs of possession are governed by state and local laws, which vary by jurisdiction.

## Section 62-207. Basketball goals and courts.

Example: Goals attached to the principal residential structure or erected adjacent to and abutting the drive way of the principal residential structure shall be allowed in the front yard, but not within the right-of-way of a public street or sidewalk. No goal, including portable goals, shall be placed in the public street or right-of-way, nor will a goal, including a portable goal, be placed so that the public street or sidewalk is the court or playing surface for the basketball goal.

\*For specific details on these *Quality of Life Ordinances*, [click here](#).



## Congratulations

Mundy's Mill High School, Lovejoy High School and Riverdale High School Seniors!

## Scholarship Opportunity

Do you have a child attending college in the fall and you need a little help with paying the tuition? Commissioner Rooks wants to help with \$2,000 in scholarship assistance. You have one of two opportunities to be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship.

### Commissioner Rooks' Community Service Scholarship

- Applicant must be attending college in the fall (proof of enrollment is mandatory).
- Applicant must have completed at least 40 hours of community service throughout the 2012-2013 academic year (documentation required).
- Applicant must have been involved in an extra-curricular activity while in school.
- Applicant must have a final GPA of 3.0.



### Commissioner Rooks' Academic Scholarship

- Applicant must be attending college in the fall (proof of enrollment is mandatory).
- Applicant must have been involved in an extra-curricular activity while in school.
- Applicant must have a final GPA of 3.5.



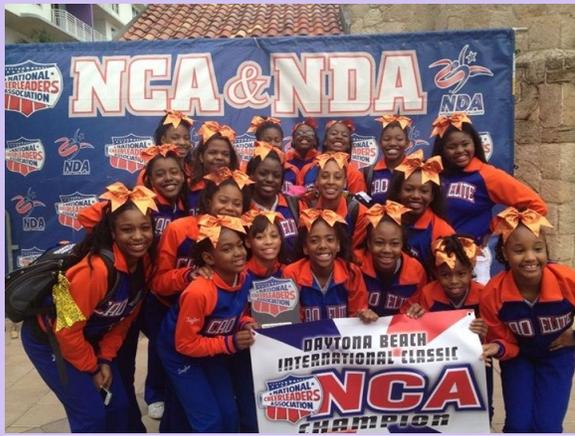
## How To Apply For The Scholarship?

Interested applicants must fill out an application to be considered for the scholarship. Commissioner Rooks will decide on the winners of the scholarship in both the Community Service and the Academic categories. To receive an application, please email Constituent Aide Steven VanDyke at [steven.vandyke@claytoncountyga.gov](mailto:steven.vandyke@claytoncountyga.gov), and request the application of choice. The application deadline is July 15, 2013.



**\*Note: Applicant and parent(s) must be a resident of Clayton County District 3 and have graduated from a District 3 High School.**





## Congratulations CAO Elite On Your Success

The majority of CAO Elite's participants over-exceeded in areas of the CRCT and **all** graduating seniors have been accepted to college!

### Most Recent Accomplishments

When: April 20, 2013, Daytona Beach, FL

Levels (Tiny, Mini, Youth, Junior and Senior):

- Tiny Level 1: First Place
- Mini Level 1: Fourth Place
- Mini Level 2: First Place
- Youth Level 1: Second Place
- Youth Level 4: First Place
- Senior Level 2: First Place
- Grand Champion for entire Level 2
- Overall Senior Level 4 Coed: First Place



The CAO Elite Youth Foundation was created to help provide the opportunity and the means by which any child ages 4 through 18 can actively participate in an organized sport that values personal integrity, team and leadership skills, in a fun and healthy learning environment. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization CAO Elite Youth Foundation provides the following: Scholarships for graduating seniors, Scholarships for our competitive program and Funding opportunities for our TumbleZone Kids Fitness Program.

*Home of the National Champion Stars*

**9 Seasons in Clayton County  
Over 100 National Titles**

**3 Letters**

**1 Family**

*Season 10 Here We Come*

**Offering**

**All Star Cheer**

**Tumbling**

**Summer Camp**

**After School Enrichment Program**

**Choreography, Stunts, & Clinics**

**Busy Bee After School Tumbling Classes**



# Stay informed with Clayton County's Sheriff's Department

*What can the application be used for?*

*\*Text charges may apply, check with your cell phone provider\**

- Emergency Mitigation
- Emergency Preparation
- Emergency Recovery
- Hazardous Situations
- Crowd Control
- Traffic Management
- Event Management
- Community Outreach
- Missing and Wanted
- Press Releases

**How can you sign up?**

**Text "ccsoga"  
to 888777.**



## Clayton County Government Contact Numbers

(Here are some of our most requested numbers or services)

Animal Control	770-477-3509	Refuse Control (handles certain debris and trash on streets, removes dead animals from County roads)	770-477-3548
Better Business Bureau	404-766-0875	Senior Services	770-603-4050
Board of Commissioners	770-477-3208	Sheriff (Non-Emergency)	770-471-1122
Code Enforcement	678-610-4755	So. Regional Medical Center	770-991-8000
DFACS	770-473-2300	Tag Office	770-477-3331
Economic Development	770-477-4450	Tax Assessor (Prop .Values)	770-477-3285
Emergency	911	Tax Commissioner (Tax Bills)	770-477-3311
Health Department	678-610-7199	Transportation & Development (Public Works, Road Department/Pot Holes/Traffic Engineering)	770-477-3674
Parks and Recreation	770-477-3766	Water Authority	770-961-2130
Planning and Zoning	770-477-3577		
Police/South Precinct	770-347-0260		

## Connect with us on



[Click Here To Follow Commissioner Rooks](#)



[Click Here To Follow Commissioner Rooks](#)  
@commish\_rooks

### WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

AS A RESIDENT OF CLAYTON COUNTY DISTRICT 3, YOU MAY BE FACED WITH CONCERNS OR ISSUES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ADDRESSED.

WE WORK WITH OUR CITIZENS TO RESOLVE CONCERNS INVOLVING COUNTY GOVERNMENT, EXPLAIN COUNTY PROGRAMS, EXPEDITE GOVERNMENT ACTION AND SERVE AS LIAISON BETWEEN OUR DEPARTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC.

HOURS OF OPERATION  
8AM-5PM (M-F)



### Questions/Concerns/Comments

Please contact :

Steven VanDyke - Constituent Aide

Phone: 770-473-5465

Email:

[steven.vandyke@claytoncountygga.gov](mailto:steven.vandyke@claytoncountygga.gov)

Please contact us to be added or removed from our email list.



## South Clayton Recreation Center

Splash Pool Party (Pool Games, Popcorn, Cotton Candy)

June 1 (1pm—4pm) Ages 5 and up. Admission Free

## South Clayton and Jim Huie Recreation Centers Summer Camp Program

June 3—July 26, Monday—Friday 7am—6pm

There is a \$5 Registration Fee, \$55 per child/per week (County resident), \$80 per child/per week (Non-County resident).

### Did You Know?

Clayton County joined a group of 16 counties that were among the first group of communities to receive “Camera Ready” status. That status means a county, or a city, has designated someone to serve as a liaison between the local community and film and television production companies, according to a news release from the Georgia Department of Economic Development, which oversees the state’s film office.

The County has recently launched a [Facebook](#) page for its Film Office that includes several photos of potential sites that Film Scouts may be interested in using for film scenes.

### Clayton County has seven incorporated cities within its boundaries:

- College Park
- Forest Park
- Jonesboro
- Lake City
- Lovejoy
- Morrow
- Riverdale



### Comments

“I appreciate the speedy response, the matters have been addressed and I appreciate it.” Marlon via voicemail on 5/2.

“Please pass on to Commissioner Rooks that I like her Rooks Report and keep up the good work. I knew I was right for voting for her. Don't let me down.” Gary

“Logs removed. Thanks to you & Commissioner Rooks. Great job! Well done! Congress should look to you & Commissioner Rooks for some pointers on getting the job done. Thank you for representing Clayton County.” Judy

“Ms. Rooks, thank you for all of the information concerning the county.” Calvin