



The Rooks Report

many people, one community...putting Clayton First

February 2015

Volume III, Issue II

Let's talk about it!

**"First Saturday Talk," March 7, 2015 at
South Clayton Recreation Center 10am—12pm.**

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 17).



Shana M. Rooks
Clayton County Commissioner—District 3

December 25, 2014, the day we celebrate Christ's birthday and embrace oneness with our families, I lost a very dear friend to me. She and I celebrated one another's accomplishments, encouraged one another through our chosen professions and held each other in high regard. Shenita was 44 when she died from a heart attack.

As I celebrate another birthday on March 2, I am ever more committed to living a healthier lifestyle. That's why I am excited about our "Get Fit Clayton" initiative in partnership with the Clayton County Board of Health; I challenge you

all to get fit.

Join me Saturday, March 7th at my Saturday Talk to hear from our own Dr. Alpha Bryan, District Health Director of the Clayton County Board of Health as she talks to US about startling statistics and why we all need to think more healthily about our lives.

Hope to see you there!

In Service,

Commissioner Shana M. Rooks

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Welcome to Clayton County MARTA



Phase One: Coming March 21, 2015

MARTA Hours of Operation

- Buses run from 5a.m. to 1a.m. Monday through Friday and from 5a.m. to 12:30a.m. weekends and holidays. Times vary on individual routes.
- MARTA trains operate from approximately 4:45a.m. to 1a.m. Monday through Friday and 6a.m. to 1am on weekends and holidays.
- MARTA provides Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant paratransit (Mobility) service to eligible persons with disabilities who have been certified, because of their disability. Service is provided with special lift-equipped vans on a curb-to-curb, shared ride basis. Certified individuals with a MARTA ADA Photo Identification Card may call MARTA Mobility's Reservation Office at 404-848-5000, Monday through Friday from 7a.m. to 7p.m. and on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from 8a.m. to 5p.m.

For more information on MARTA and Clayton County [click here](#).



**CLAYTON COUNTY RECOGNIZES
THE ART CLUB AT
HAWTHORNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

WHEREAS: Hawthorne Elementary School and the Fine Arts Department were chosen to paint a lasting and memorable mural on a signature wall located at the Lovejoy Soccer Complex; and

WHEREAS: The Art Club at Hawthorne Elementary is led by Kristie Housley and includes art students Melanie Espinso, Angel Soto, Leslie Bocanegra, Erin Williams, Lilly Bustamante, Edwin Vivaldo, Morgan Williamson, Cristina Yanez, Anthony Griffin, Zarah Gates, Jahmaal Walker, Najah Ashbourne, Braylen Thomas, Jorge Ventura, Micaela McClara, Jakayla Wells, and Darieayna James; and

WHEREAS: The students worked extremely hard to complete the mural, which can best be described as youthful soccer players enjoying the game and sportsmanship of uniting as one team together; and

WHEREAS: Hawthorne Elementary School is located close to the Lovejoy Soccer Complex and allows the Art Students to view their work continuously and as often as they like; and

WHEREAS: The project was completed in just two afternoons and one full day on a Saturday. The initial vision of a soccer theme with children exhibiting several different soccer moves was the main focal point for the art students. They remained on track and enjoyed every minute of their experience; and

WHEREAS: The soccer mural is a beautiful display of the raw talent and partnership of the Art Students at Hawthorne Elementary School. Their commitment to their artwork and giving back to their local soccer complex is recognized and praised all members in the community; and

WHEREAS: The Clayton County Board of Commissioners recognizes the hard work and talent displayed by the Art Club Students at Hawthorne Elementary School; now

THEREFORE: I, SHANA M. ROOKS, Commissioner, on behalf of the Clayton County Board of Commissioners, do hereby recognize the remarkable and talented work of the Art Club Students at Hawthorne Elementary School and encourage all citizens to join me in congratulating these artists for their exceptional work and painting of the Mural at the Lovejoy Soccer Complex.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Clayton County, Georgia to be affixed this 3rd day of February in the year two thousand fifteen.

Shana M. Rooks, Commissioner

Hawthorne Elementary Mural



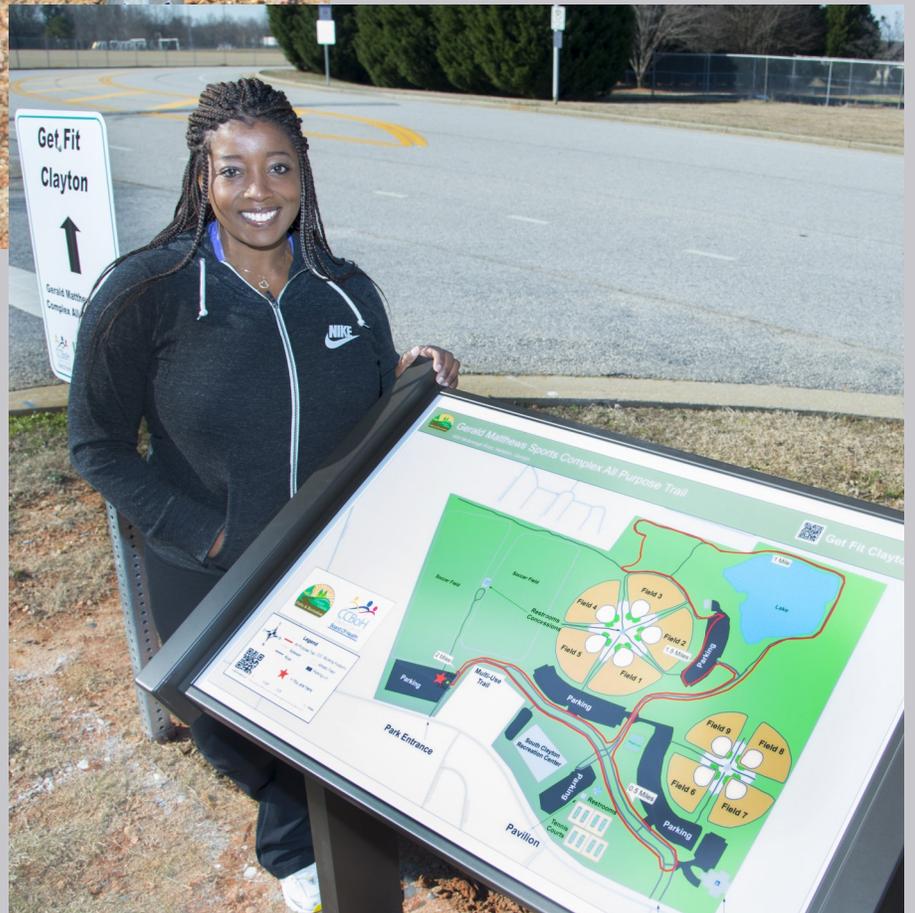
CCBOH, Clayton County Parks and Rec Launch “Get Fit Clayton” with Refurbished Fitness Trails

In an effort to encourage Clayton County residents to improve their physical fitness while also enjoying the county’s many natural amenities, the **Clayton County Board of Health (CCBOH)** and the **Clayton County Department of Parks and Recreation (CCPR)** are collaborating on a new initiative – **Get Fit Clayton**.

The cornerstone of the program is the **unveiling of enhanced and refurbished fitness trails at all four Clayton County parks:** Clayton County International Park (The Beach), Gerald Matthews Park, Independence Park and Rex Park. **The improvements include better lighting and landscaping on the trails as well as new mile markers and signs every one-half mile to better inform walkers and runners how far they have traveled.**

On Friday, February 13, 2015 a brief ribbon cutting ceremony was held at the fitness trail at the **Gerald Matthews Complex (1935 McDonough Road, Lovejoy)**. The event marked the launch of the “Get Fit Clayton” initiative and brought awareness to February’s **American Heart Month**.







Clayton County Board of Health Press Announcement

February 10, 2015

CCBOH Awarded Car Seat Mini-Grant

Up to 8 Families a Month Will Be Able to Buckle Up Right, Every Trip, Every Time

JONESBORO, Ga. – The Georgia Department of Public Health's (DPH), Injury Prevention Program is pleased to announce that the Clayton County Board of Health (CCBOH) has been named a 2015 recipient of the Child Passenger Safety Mini-Grant.

CCBOH is one of 137 Georgia counties selected to participate in the Mini-Grant program, funded by a \$161,000 grant to DPH from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS). The Mini-Grant will provide the CCBOH with up to eight (8) car seats per month through the end of the year to distribute to families in Clayton County.

The Child Passenger Safety Mini-Grant program helps county health departments and their community partners reduce the number of injuries and deaths among children in Georgia. Since 2007, at least 283 children in Georgia who were involved in crashes were saved from serious injury or death by car seats, booster seats, and education provided through the Mini-Grant.

"Motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of death for children and it's up to all of us to do everything we can to protect our children on the road," said Dr. Alpha Fowler Bryan, CCBOH District Health Director. "Buckling up our children is the best way to save lives and reduce injuries."

Throughout Georgia, DPH and county health departments work with community partners to educate parents and caregivers on how to properly install and use car seats, offer car seat inspections and provide car seats and booster seats to financially eligible families. Through the Car Seat Mini-Grant, agencies supporting more than 135 counties are working to keep Georgia's children safe. These programs help families get their children buckled up right, every trip, every time.

DPH and CCBOH take great pride in providing opportunities to enhance community outreach programs in Georgia. Through our collective efforts, we can make considerable strides in achieving our goals.

For more information on the Child Occupant Safety Project, please email injury.prevention@dph.ga.gov or call the office at 404-679-0500. Additional information regarding Clayton County can be obtained by contacting Charisse LaVell, program coordinator of the CCBOH Making Our Mothers Successful (MOMS)/Parents As Teachers (PAT) program at 678-610-7362 (office), 678-727-8128 (cell) or Charisse.Lavell@dph.ga.gov. Also, visit www.gacarseats.com and scroll through the main page attachments.

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About the Georgia Department of Public Health

The Georgia Department of Public Health is the lead agency in preventing disease, injury and disability; promoting health and well-being; and preparing for and responding to disasters from a health perspective. In 2011, the General Assembly restored DPH to its own state agency after more than 30 years of consolidation with other departments. At the state level, DPH functions through numerous divisions, sections, programs and offices. Locally, DPH funds and collaborates with Georgia's 159 county health departments and 18 public health districts. Through the changes, the mission has remained constant – to protect the lives of all Georgians. Today, DPH's main functions include: Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Maternal and Child Health, Infectious Disease and Immunization, Environmental Health, Epidemiology, Emergency Preparedness and Response, Emergency Medical Services, Pharmacy, Nursing, Volunteer Health Care, the Office of Health Equity, Vital Records, and the State Public Health Laboratory. For more information about DPH, visit www.dph.ga.gov.

– Clayton County Board of Health –

On Line: www.claytoncountypublichealth.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CCBOH>

Twitter: @CCBOH



Nip That Drip

Did you know the average American household wastes more than 10,000 gallons of water each year from easy-to-fix household leaks? This Fix a Leak Week, nip that drip in the bud. Visit www.epa.gov/watersense.

For more tips on finding and fixing leaks,
visit the Clayton County Water Authority at www.ccwa.us



March 16–22, 2015

Fix a Leak Week

EPA WaterSense

Community Development

Clayton County Zoning Meeting Rules of Procedure

The Clayton County Board of Commissioners welcomes you to the monthly Zoning Meetings. The Board has prepared this information to answer some commonly asked questions.

Clayton County property owners have the right, by law, to use their land at its highest and best use for the area. Keeping this in mind, the Clayton County Board of Commissioners has to also consider the county's Land Use Plan and what is in the best interest of the area when considering a rezoning application.

Anytime a property owner applies for a rezoning application, Clayton County Community Development posts a sign (for at least two weeks) at the property to notify the public. As outlined in the Official Code of Clayton County, two public hearings are held for all zoning issues. The first zoning hearing is heard by the Zoning Advisory Group, a citizens' review panel. The Zoning Advisory Group's decision is not binding. It is recorded and sent to the Board of Commissioners as a recommendation.

The Board of Commissioners has the deciding vote. The Board of Commissioners then holds its Zoning Meeting. Both of these meetings are held in the Commissioners' Board Room at 112 Smith Street in Jonesboro. Both are open to the public and allow for public comment.

Commonly Asked Questions

What are the Rules of Procedure for a Zoning Meeting?

1. The Chairman calls the meeting to order and the Board approves the agenda.
2. For each Land Use Plan Amendment or Rezoning Petition on the agenda:
 - The Chairman calls the petitioner/representative to the podium for a presentation.
 - The Chairman will then ask those in favor of the zoning matter to speak. Proponents have a total of 10 minutes to present their interest. It is best to appoint a spokesperson in order to avoid duplication of issues of concerns.
 - The Chairman will then ask those opposed to the zoning matter to speak. Opponents have a total of 10 minutes to present their interest. It is best to appoint a spokesperson in order to avoid duplication of issues of concerns.
 - The petitioner/representative then has the option of final rebuttal.
 - Immediately following the presentations, the Chairman announces the public hearing portion of the request is closed. At this point, input from the public is over. The Board will then review the public testimony, discuss the application and render a decision. The Board then moves on to the next agenda item.
3. The County Clerk maintains a public record of the minutes of each Zoning Meeting. Clayton County Community Development Department also maintains a complete record of the case for public review. These records include all modifications of the application and any stipulations that the Board has imposed.

If the Board votes to deny a rezoning petition, can the petitioner request the same rezoning the next month?

If the Board votes to deny a petition, the property cannot be considered for any rezoning for six (6) months.

Can a rezoning petition be withdrawn?

Any application for rezoning may be withdrawn without prejudice by the applicant, upon written request to the Board of Commissioners, prior to the initiation of the public hearing for the case by the Chairman. Any request to withdraw initiated prior to the public hearing by the Zoning Advisory Group shall be received by Community Development. The Zoning Administrator shall remove the application from the preliminary agenda. There shall be no refund of application fees after an application has been legally advertised. If an application is withdrawn, the petitioner may bring the rezoning request back for consideration at any time. If this happens, a new sign will be placed at the property.

What is a Reversion Zoning?

A Reversion Zoning occurs when there has been no action - such as an application for a grading permit, building permit or business license submitted to the county - within 12 months following the date the Board of Commissioners approved a new zoning classification. If no such action(s) has taken place, the new zoning classification may be withdrawn by the Board of Commissioners and the prior zoning classification reinstated. Reversion applies to all rezoning of property to NB, CB, GB, LI, HI, LC, RM, or RMTH.

March 2015 Events

March 7, 2015

TEEN SUMMIT - The Teen Summit will educate, empower, and encourage teens. Guest speakers, educational vendors, vocational vendors, and light refreshments will be provided. FREE event from 11:00am to 2:00pm.



March 28, 2015

SPRING EGGSTRAVAGANZA - Join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt and more at Flat Shoals Park! FREE Event.

Seasonal positions available, go to the Clayton County website or [click here](#) for job listings.

What's Going On In

Clayton County

Senior Services

Department



2015 Mardi Gras

Fri March 6th | 2 pm - 4 pm

J Charley Griswell Senior Center
2300 Highway 138 SE | Jonesboro
770-477-3499



The Secret Garden

Wed March 18th | 10 am - 11:30 am

Frank Bailey Senior Center
6213 Riverdale Road | Riverdale
678-479-5505

Medieval Times

Dinner & Tournament

Fri March 13th | 8 am - 5 pm

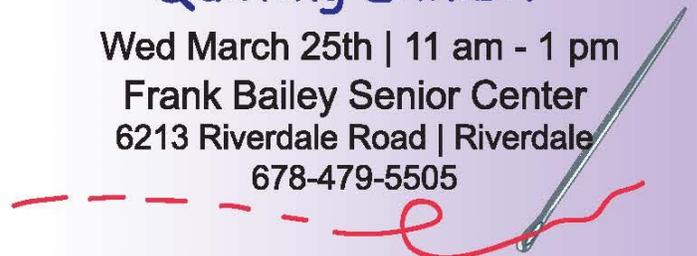
J Charley Griswell Senior Center
2300 Highway 138 SE | Jonesboro
770-477-3499



Quilting Exhibit

Wed March 25th | 11 am - 1 pm

Frank Bailey Senior Center
6213 Riverdale Road | Riverdale
678-479-5505



Food Documentary

Thurs March 5th | 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Kinship Care Resource Center
849 Battle Creek Road | Jonesboro
770-473-5788

Federal Reserve Bank Museum

Thurs March 5th | 10 am - 3 pm

Frank Bailey Senior Center
6213 Riverdale Road | Riverdale
678-479-5505



Clayton County
Senior Services
Department

changing the face of aging

877 Battle Creek Road | 770-603-4050
www.claytonseniors.com
www.facebook.com/claytonseniors



9th Annual
Spring into
Healthy Living

SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH, 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

Jonesboro First Baptist Church: Recreation Outreach Center (ROC)

Save time and Register Online!

Open to the Public, Walk in or Online Registration Available

This year's event will be held at **Jonesboro First Baptist Church** in Jonesboro, GA, in the Recreation Outreach Center (ROC) located at **147 Church Street, Jonesboro, GA 30236**. This **FREE** event is open to the public and offers health screenings for participants such as EKG's (pediatric and adult), cholesterol, vascular and glucose screenings, and more!

[Register Online](#)

[Visit our Website for more information](#)

EMORY AT RIVERDALE
Heart & Vascular

EMORY AT STOCKBRIDGE
Heart & Vascular

 Deacrtree Vascular Specialists, D.C.

SOUTHERN RESCENT
HOSPITAL FOR SPECIALTY CARE



firstbaptist
jonesboro

90.7  91.7
NEW LIFE .FM

 Chick-fil-A

**SOUTHERN
REGIONAL**

EMORY HEALTHCARE
Network Member



For immediate release

Media contact: Gina Espinosa

(404) 229-4540

gina@g-prglobal.com

Fixing Clayton County One Animal at a Time

Fix Georgia Pets aims to spay/neuter up to 1,000 animals on first Spay Day of 2015

In celebration of Spay/Neuter Awareness Month, Fix Georgia Pets, a non-profit that funds low-cost spay and neuter programs for animals statewide, will focus on Clayton County for its first low-cost/free spay and neuter program of the year. The event will begin on February 24.

FGP will be working closely with the Clayton County Police Department Animal Control Unit, which is responsible for the enforcement of laws pertaining to animals.

Although Clayton County is the third smallest county in Georgia, an alarming 6,100 animals went into that facility in 2013. Its euthanasia rate exceeds 30 percent.

"Clayton is the perfect example of the pet overpopulation crisis that Georgia faces. The number of surrendered and stray dogs is so high that there's no place to put them," said Ginny Millner, FGP founder.

"We need to address this as a challenge to the community, not pass it on to animal control. No one wants to euthanize these animals," she added.

Fix Georgia Pets will be working with several veterinarians and clinics in the Clayton County area to make resources available and offer the service at a low-cost or free to local residents.

FGP hopes to spay and neuter 800-1000 animals, which would reduce future animal overpopulation by up to 18,000. Each un-fixed dog or cat produces an average of 18 offspring.

Spay and neuter programs also reduce the spread of disease and animal aggression, which reduces the number of bite incidents.

Those interested in the service can register by calling the Spay/Neuter Hotline at [404-432-3618](tel:404-432-3618) or in Spanish [404-647-1550](tel:404-647-1550) for more information, and to schedule an appointment.

###

3rd ANNUAL



Hailey Bankhead
FOUNDATION, INC.

5K

RUN • WALK

together WE are fighting against
childhood cancer

DATE: Saturday, March 28, 2015

PLACE: Clayton County International Beach
2300 Highway 138 South East, Jonesboro, GA 30236

Registration: 7:30AM - 8:30AM

Race Starts at: 9:00AM

Tickets: \$30 Adults includes Shirt & \$15 kids includes shirt

March 7th is the last day to register for shirts

**Rain or shine / Free Health Screening
Bring your lawn chairs / Clayton County Police & Fire
Music, bounce houses, food, fun and more**

Contact Information: Heather Bankhead 678-643-1146

Website: haileybankheadfoundation.org

Register Online: www.runnersfit.com/fightchildcancer



Join the Stockbridge-Jonesboro
Alumni Chapter(SJAC) of
Kappa Alpha Psi Inc.

For a Community Blood
Drive

Saturday, March 21, 2015
Charles Drew High School

6237 Garden Walk Blvd
Riverdale, GA. 30274

11am to 5pm

Do Something Amazing

Give the Gift of Life

Donate Blood

Drinks & snacks provided



Click here to donate and register your appointment time

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0848a5ad2ea0f49-sjac>

Hosted by SJAC Community Service & Health & Wellness Committees.



Clayton County Government Contact Numbers

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

Animal Control	770-477-3509	Police/South Precinct	770-347-0260
Better Business Bureau	404-766-0875	Refuse Control (handles certain debris and trash on streets, removes dead animals from County roads)	770-477-3548
Board of Commissioners	770-477-3208	Senior Services	770-603-4050
Code Enforcement	678-610-4755	Sheriff (Non-Emergency)	770-471-1122
Community Development	770-477-3569	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	770-960-5200
Planning and Zoning	770-477-3577		

Connect with us on



[Click Here To Follow Commissioner Rooks](#)



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@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@claytoncountyga.gov

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

Board Meetings

Board meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday evening of the month at 7pm .

112 Smith Street

Jonesboro, GA 30236

770) 477-3208

The Next First Saturday Talk

March 7, 2015

South Clayton Recreation Center

1837 McDonough Rd. , Hampton GA 30228

10:00 am—12:00 pm

Clayton County Government's Top Five Communication Resources

Website

www.ClaytonCountyGa.gov

CCTV-23

Clayton County Access Television
Comcast Channel 23

Mobile Community

Text the word "CLAYTON" to 22828
to receive monthly emails

Facebook

[Facebook.com/ClaytonCountyGeorgia](https://www.facebook.com/ClaytonCountyGeorgia)
#claytoncountyga

Twitter

[Twitter.com/ClaytonCountyGa](https://twitter.com/ClaytonCountyGa)
#claytoncountyga



CONNECT
with Clayton County Government (770) 477-3208