



The Rooks Report

many people...one community

April 29, 2013

Volume 1, Issue 2

Let's talk about it!

"First Saturday Talk," May 4, 2013 at the 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 11).



Shana M. Rooks,
Clayton County Commissioner—District 3

Mother's Day is a special time of year. Although I lost my mother nine years ago, I am always mindful of the values she instilled in me-- values that allow me to serve the constituents of District 3 with integrity and with pride. I am proud of what I have been able to accomplish in the four short months I've been in office always keeping you and your family in mind. One major accomplishment was resolving the lingering dispute between the county and all seven cities because of the lawsuit filed against the county by the cities in an attempt to have an equitable division of the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST). We were able to resolve the dispute without any proposed tax increases to the county.

In the past four months, I've also visited with several homeowners' associations and neighborhood watch committees. This Saturday will mark my first "First Saturdays with Commissioner Rooks" at the South Clayton Recreation Center from 10:00AM to 12:00PM. We will have some specially invited guests with us Saturday. I look forward to seeing you Saturday and meeting with you all in the very near future.

In this issue:

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News & Information

- May 1, 2013—South Clayton Recreation Center Usage fees will begin.
- May 2, 2013-National Day of Prayer in our Nation
- May 3-4, 2013—Relay for Life of Clayton County: Charles Drew High School Stadium 6:00PM





Now Open
South Clayton Recreation Center

1837 McDonough Road Hampton, Georgia 30228
 (770) 347-0200

Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday -8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
 Saturday - 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 Closed Sundays and Holidays

The South Clayton Recreation Center offers variety of inclusive programs for the community.

Passes available for purchase are daily (\$3), monthly (\$20) and non-resident (\$25/mo.)

Amenities:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Two Basketball Gyms ● Outdoor Swimming Pool ● Kiddie Pool | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meeting Room ● Multi-Purpose Room ● Community Room with Kitchenette ● Fitness Center ● Indoor Track | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Computer Lab ● Game Room ● Dance Room ● Aerobic Room |
|---|---|---|



Clayton County Police Department Linking Together Against Crime

Meet Your Sector 3 Police Captain—Kevin Roberts



Captain Kevin Roberts has been the Sector 3 Precinct Captain for 3 years. As the Sector 3 Precinct Captain, he is the liaison for the Clayton County Police Department and District 3 citizens of Clayton County. As the Commander of Police Department resources in the area, he is responsible for the allocation of manpower within the communities of District 3. Those manpower allocations are based on statistical information provided by the Police Department's TITAN UNIT. Captain Roberts reviews those crime statistics weekly and allocates manpower based on statistical trends and forecasting. In addition to supervising the daily police operations within District 3, he also strives to foster and strengthen relationships and partnerships within the community by initiating and attending neighborhood watch meetings in coordination with the Police Department's Community Affairs Unit. Communities that do not have active neighborhood watches can initiate the programs by contacting Captain Roberts at the South Precinct at 770-347-0260 by phone, Kevin.Roberts@co.clayton.ga.us by email or contacting Sergeant Jakes of the Community Affairs Unit by calling 770-477-3632. As the Sector Captain, Captain Roberts also attends community events such as block parties, and school career days to support the police department's partnership with the community.

Captain Kevin Roberts has been with the Clayton County Police Department for 15 years.

Community Affairs Unit

The Clayton County Community Affairs Division performs under the direct supervision of the Chief's Staff Administrative Services Division Commander. The division coordinates crime prevention activities for the Police Department with an emphasis on Neighborhood Watch Programs and the Citizens Police Academy. They provide public presentations and information and facilitate community crime prevention efforts to maintain a positive working relationship between the public and the department. They serve the community in areas such as volunteerism, advocacy, public relations and community outreach. Community Affairs Personnel also represent the county as Public Information Officers for media relations.

Do You Have A Code Enforcement Issue Or Question?

Clayton County's Code Enforcement Unit accepts complaints via telephone or email. Code Enforcement Officers also self initiate cases based on their personal observations of code violations. There are currently five Code Enforcement Officers assigned to District Three.

Your calls are received by a Code Enforcement Receptionist, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm at 678-610-4755. The Code Enforcement Unit also accepts complaints via e-mail at code.enforcement@co.clayton.ga.us.

In addition to Code Enforcement Officers patrolling neighborhoods on a daily basis, the Code Enforcement Unit has established an initiative known as "**Quality of Life Sweeps**". These are planned operations where every officer assigned to the Code Enforcement Unit, saturates a neighborhood, business district, etc... in what has been termed as a "**Blitz**". During the Blitz, Code Enforcement Officers identifies conditions that contribute to the erosion of Clayton County's *Quality of Life Standards* (Code Violations) which usually result in the issuance of Official Notices of Violations and/or Citations.

You can learn about the *Quality of Life Ordinances* at the Clayton County Police Department's website, www.claytonpolice.com; click on the Contact tab, select Link and it will drop down to Clayton County Ordinances, then choose Article II, Chapter 62 entitled, "*Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions.*" In addition, to the county's "*Quality of Life Ordinances,*" the Clayton County Board of Commissioners through a Resolution, also adopted the "*International Property Maintenance Codes*" as it's model for code enforcement regulations. These regulations contain clear and specific requirements for property maintenance and improvements for the county.

The Tara Tarpons Swim Association was formed in Clayton County in 1958. The team acquired a home pool, which during 1958 was owned and operated by the Forest Park Jaycees and later donated to the City of Forest Park. The team became the Forest Park Swim Team in 1959 and was sponsored by the city. In 1978, the team decided on a new name, choosing Tara to associate the team with its geographical location and to Gone With The Wind.

The team has become a tradition in the community. Several of the club's swimmers have distinguished themselves in National and World Competition (Steve Lundquist won Olympic gold in 1984 and Ashley Owens won Olympic gold in 2008).

Tara Tarpons Swimming has a proven record of creating champions:

- 2 Olympic Gold medalists
- 1 Coach of the Year
- 3 US National Champions
- 5 Olympic Trial Finalists
- 17 National Age Group Records
- 37 Georgia State Records
- 19 Individual State Champions
- 11 Senior National Qualifiers
- 26 Junior National Qualifiers
- 451 Individual State Qualifiers
- 3 Military Academy Appointees
- 98% of the high school seniors go on to attend college

World Record Set At Swim Meet at the Jim Huie Center

Name: Curtis Lovejoy
Sport: Para Swimming
Height: 6'1"
Weight: 185
Current Residence: Atlanta, Ga
College: Morris Brown College



On 3/23/13, Mr. Curtis Lovejoy broke his own world record in the 200m breaststroke.
Time: 6:44.15.



Mayfest 2013

Friday, May 10, 2013

10am – 2pm

St. Martin's Pavilion inside Clayton County International Park

"Unleash the Power of Age" is the national theme for Older Americans Month selected by the Administration on Aging. All seniors age 55 and older are invited to join the Senior Services Department on May 10, 2013 for a day of fun, fitness and fellowship.

This year's event will feature a competitive walk with prizes in both the men and women category. There will also be demonstrations of current and new fitness classes. Back by popular demand, KISS 104 DJ Young Blood will be playing all of the "Oldies but Goodies" music and there will be the famous "Soul Train Line." Over 20 vendors will be participating providing information on Health & Wellness in addition to door prizes.

*A boxed lunch will be supplied to all participants during the event.

Interested seniors may call 770-347-0120 for more information or can contact one of the senior centers directly.

**This is a free event for seniors 55 and older; no children are allowed to attend the event. Mayfest souvenir shirts are also available for purchase to wear to the event.

Featured HOA of the month



Northbridge Estates of
Hampton, GA
Congratulations!



Hot Off The Press

From The Clayton Neighbor

[Turner outlines first 90 days as chairman](#)
[Clayton County becoming film entertainment haven](#)



Quilts of Gee's Bend

The Arts Clayton Gallery is hosting the nationally-renowned "Quilts of Gee's Bend" exhibit from April 5 through May 31. The exhibit features quilts created by a group of women who live in the predominately black hamlet of Gee's Bend, Ala. The Gee's Bend quilters use salvaged fabrics to create quilts in strong colors, dynamic patterns, and unusual geometric shapes.

Arts Clayton Gallery

136 South Main Street, Jonesboro, GA 30236. Phone: 770-473-5410.

www.artsclayton.org/gallery

Gallery Hours: Tuesday—Friday 9am to 5pm, Saturday 10am to 4pm.

Closed Sunday, Monday and Holidays.

Clayton County 2013 Sunny Award Recipient



The Annual Sunshine Review Award program through the National Association of Counties has awarded Clayton County, Georgia with an A+ for its transparent website. The Sunny Awards recognize governments that make transparency a priority. Clayton County was one of 38 counties across the country that received this honor. Only 5 counties in Georgia received this award.



Clayton County High School Graduation Schedule: Location—GA Dome

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Drew High School—2pm

Mundy's Mill High School—4:15pm

Friday, May 24, 2013

Morrow High School—1pm

Riverdale High School—3:15pm

North Clayton High School—5:15pm

Lovejoy High School—7:15pm

Saturday, May 25, 2013

Forest Park High School—8am

Mt. Zion High School—10:15pm

Jonesboro High School—12:15am



Commissioner Rooks has a plot in the garden. Do you have any recommendations as to what vegetable(s) she should grow?

Thank you to everyone who is participating in the Lovejoy Community Garden this year.

Carol is the "Keeper of the Garden." She will serve as the contact person for all garden related items.

A Healthier Clayton in One Generation



Clayton County Board of Health Comprehensive Health Facility

[1117 Battlecreek Road, Jonesboro, GA 30236](#)
(678) 610- 7199

Hours of Operation: Monday -Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (except holidays)

Clayton County Board of Health Annex

(Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response, Office of Environmental Health Services)

[685 Forest Parkway, Forest Park, GA 30297](#)

(678) 610-7471

Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (except holidays)

CCBOH offers both clinical and specialty services for children, teens, and adults. Our comprehensive offering of health services, health education, and outreach programs address a wide variety of community health issues, including infant mortality, child and youth development, obesity, sexually-transmitted infections (STIs), food safety, unintentional injuries, infectious diseases, and emergency preparedness.

Are you interested in seeing the most recent health inspection scores of your favorite restaurant? [Click here](#)

City of Lovejoy News and Announcements

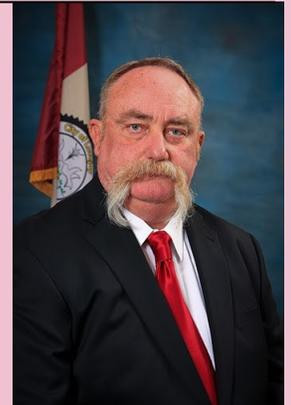
Senior Breakfast, Every 2nd Saturday each month from 9am to 11:30am.

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

A Special Thank You To Renee Strong for performing at the South Clayton Recreation Center's Grand Opening on March 30, 2013.



Renee Strong is a Clayton County resident who is getting rave reviews in the gospel music world for her angelic voice and sacred lyrics. Strong is not only a singer but a songwriter and co-founder of Take Note Entertainment. In addition, Strong has contributed to several projects for other well-known music artists. She has also extended her writing ability to movies and plays. She had a hand in "Step Aside," a song co-written by Strong for Tyler Perry's "Daddy's Little Girls" and the stage play "What's Done in the Dark," sung by both Tamela Mann and Yolanda Adams.

Her first solo recording, releasing this year is called "Reborn."

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SONNA SINGLETON
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COMMISSIONER

Clayton County Board of Commissioners



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 9, 2013

Clayton County Access Television Channel 23 Receives a Facelift

Jonesboro, Georgia--- Clayton County Access Television, now known as CCTV-23, has received the ultimate make-over. Channel 23 (Comcast) is a service provided by the Clayton County Board of Commissioners to inform citizens about services that are available in Clayton County by spotlighting agencies and departments that govern the county. The access channel focuses on events and activities going on in and around the county that are of interest to our citizens as well as improving emergency communications in the event of a disaster or widespread service disruption.

CCTV-23 is now branded with a custom designed logo and has gone from rotating image slides that provide information to the public about different departments to now, incorporating various video clips in the rotating loop. These videos range from 30 second promotional and public service announcements to special event coverage that lasts over 10 minutes and up to an hour.

The channel has made significant improvements as it relates to the website and now has developed its very own domain at www.ClaytonTV23.com, (linked from the County's website) and highlights everything currently running on the channel. This feature is not only one of the best enhancements to the channel, but it now serves as a primary source for citizens to obtain information about the County. Since the channel is only available to Comcast subscribers, the website allows anyone to see what is currently playing on the channel and therefore, expanding the overall viewership.

“Upgrading and enhancing our channel allows us to expand our reach and appeal to a wider audience while educating our citizens on the resources that are available to them. Television and video helps save money, increases efficiency and improves communication to our citizens. We’re excited about the changes and look forward to what’s to come.” – Chairman Jeff Turner



CCHS YARD SALE



The Clayton County Humane Society
presents its
**Spring Treasures for
PAWS Mega Yard Sale**
Saturday, May 4th, 2013

Jonesboro High School

8:00 am – 4:00 pm

(Rain Date – Saturday, May 11th, 2013)

We gladly accept clean, gently used items in good working order.

Items we can not accept:

- Clothing & shoes (other than infant)
- Mattresses, box springs or water beds
- sleeper sofas
- infant cribs or car seats
- Tires
- Metal file cabinets
- Large appliances (example refrigerators (other than dorm size)
- Older style computer monitors & TVs
- Metal desks

Tax receipts available for Donations

Due to gas prices and limited manpower pick-ups will be limited to large items and large quantities of items. To arrange a date and time to meet a volunteer at our storage facility please contact: Yvette at 770-363-4132; Michele at mbryant@claytoncountyhumane.org; Gwen @ lyle.gs@gmail.com

Storage unit provided by SecureCare, 1515 Mt. Zion Rd, Morrow, GA 30260

Last day for drop offs is Sat April 27, 2013

(We have to allow enough time to separate, price and get all items ready for sale)

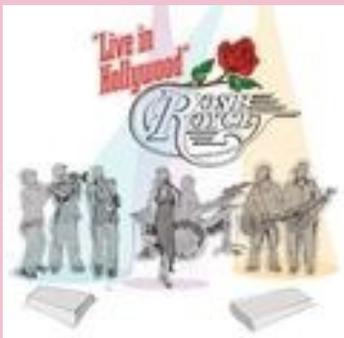
Please come and shop with US and Thank you for your continued Support!

All proceeds benefit the animals of the Clayton County Humane Society, a non-profit, no-kill shelter

FUNK FEST
2013
 PRESENTED BY VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT
 STARRING
R KELLY BELL BIV DEVOE
RAKIM LISA LISA & CULT JAM
 "MORE ARTIST TBA"
INTERNATIONAL PARK
 2300 HWY 138 SE, JONESBORO GA
SATURDAY, MAY 18
 GATES 3PM SHOWTIME 5PM
 TICKETS AVAILABLE
 ONLINE @ WWW.FUNKFEST2013.COM
 AND ALL LOCATIONS
 CHARGE BY PHONE @ 1-877-993-8499
 FOR MORE INFO CALL 347-921-FUNK
 SPONSORED BY
 Smithfield 1380 News & Talk WAOK V103 The People's Station WXP
 1-877-993-8499
EZ-TIXX
 WWW.EZ-TIXX.COM

Riverdale R&B and Soul Event

The City of Riverdale and The Department of Cultural Affairs & Leisure Services celebrates the Rhythm of Summer at the South City Concert Series Saturday, May 11th at 8pm. Performing live, **Kevon Edmonds, Rose Royce** and **Sheila E.** Enjoy great live entertainment in an intimate setting at the Amphitheater at Riverdale Town Center located at 7200 Church Street, Riverdale, GA 30274.



Tickets start at \$25

For more information please call (770) 909-5300 or [click here](#) to purchase tickets.



Clayton County Sheriff's Office Introduces Unique Notification Method

What can the application be used for?

- 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		

South Clayton Recreation Center Summer Camp Registration



Registration begins April 8, 2013. The hours of registration are:

Monday—Friday 9am to 7pm and Saturday 10am to 5pm.

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

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.

Did you know?

Clayton County's New CFO Ramona Thurman is a resident of District 3.

Clayton County Parks and Recreation Director Detrick Stanford is the State President for the Georgia Recreation & Park Association.

Clayton County is one of Georgia's smallest counties in land size with an area of 146 square miles. Yet, with more than 251,800 (according to ARC's latest figures), it is one of the most densely populated. A suburban community just minutes south of downtown Atlanta, Clayton County has a relaxed and neighborly feel like a small town, but with all the amenities of a major metropolitan area. An attractive lifestyle, business opportunities, a fine public educational system plus a university, and numerous excellent healthcare facilities make Clayton County a highly attractive place to live, work and play.

- Established in 1858
- Named after Judge Augustin S. Clayton
- Most of Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport is in Clayton County
- Margaret Mitchell based most of the action in "Gone With The Wind" on historical records found in the old Clayton County Courthouse
- Clayton State University in Morrow is a part of the University System of Georgia
- The Georgia State Archives is located in Morrow

Comments

Steven,

Please share with Commissioner Rooks. We would like to thank you for the invitation and most importantly for 'hitting the ground running' in your new position. Clayton County greatly needs your dedication and new avenues to further strengthen the community.

Kris