

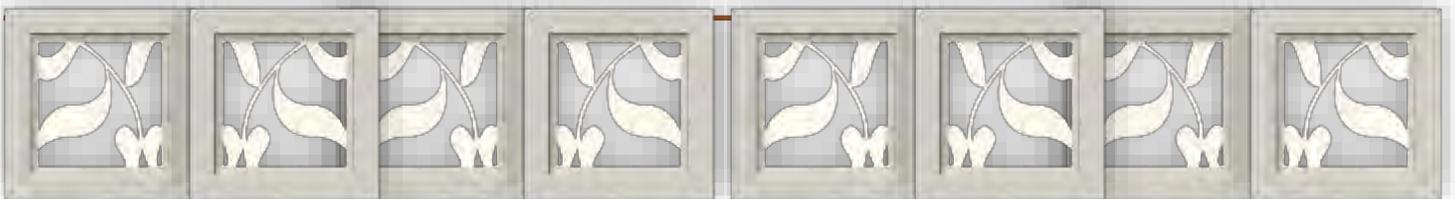
# IN THE NEWS

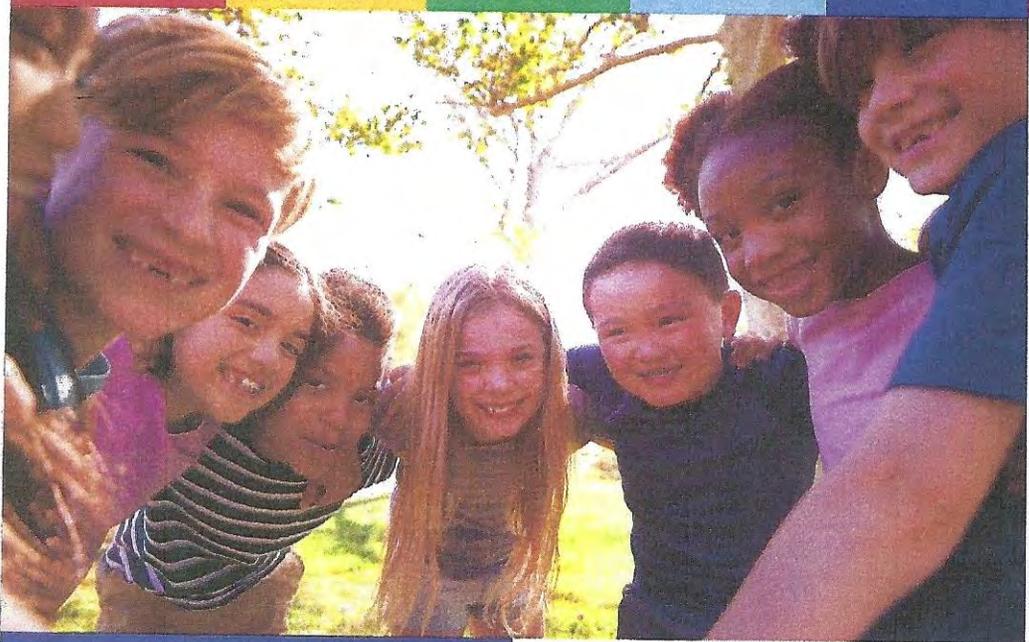
*February 2020*

Parks & Recreation Programs  
Frances Meadows Aquatic and Community Center  
Gainesville Civic Center  
Lake Lanier Olympic Center  
City / County Issues  
Miscellaneous



Gainesville Parks and Recreation Agency  
830 Green Street  
Gainesville, GA 30501





# ALL ABOUT KIDS 2020

Inside, you will find information on various camps, including football, baseball, gymnastics, volleyball and swimming. Other programs include nature, music and theater, science, cooking and more.

## Inside

Gainesville Parks and Recreation.....	6
Frances Meadows Aquatic Center.....	9
Parks and Playgrounds.....	12
Elachee Nature Science Center.....	14

THIS MAGAZINE IS A PRODUCT OF THE

**The Times**  
gainesvilletimes.com  
Honestly local.

**\*Only  
\$225**



**May 26 -  
July 10**

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF LANIER**

# Summer Camp

**Great Summers Start Here!**



Registration begins March 9th



Most affordable Summer Camp

**Only \$225**

\*Plus the cost of field trips  
Scholarships available for  
current GCSS Students

## PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

- Tutoring
- Sports & Games
- Breakfast & Lunch provided
- Field Trips
- Enrichments
- FUN!

**Ages**  
6-18

**Hours**  
8:00 AM - 5:30 PM

## Club Locations

- Positive Place Club (Downey)
- Joseph F. Walters Club
- Teen Center
- Fair Street International Academy
- New Holland Knowledge Academy
- Cumming Elementary
- Tadmore Elementary (May 26-July 2)

## Contact Us

boysgirlsclubs.com  
(770) 532-8102

# Gainesville Parks & Recreation

## SUMMER PROGRAMS

For decades, Gainesville Parks and Recreation's summer programs have been at the heart of all that is Summer fun in Gainesville. Whether going to camp, swimming at the Frances Meadows Aquatic Center or playing at one of Gainesville's 21 parks, Gainesville Park and Recreation as it all.

Our Summer Camps are designed for every interest with fun camps planned for every week of the Summer. Options include weekly day camps, specialty interest camps and sports camps.

Discovery Day Camp provides an all-day affordable alternative for many local families. Summer Day camp keeps kids safe, active and having fun. Making memories and friends has always been synonymous with Day Camp.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF DISCOVERY DAY CAMP

Ages 6 - 12

7:30am - 5:30pm

- Sibling and Early Bird Registration Discounts
- Exciting Field Trips
- Qualified and Experienced Counselors

*Included with Registration Fee:*

- Swim Lessons at the Frances Meadows Aquatic Center
- Breakfast and Lunch
- Field Trips

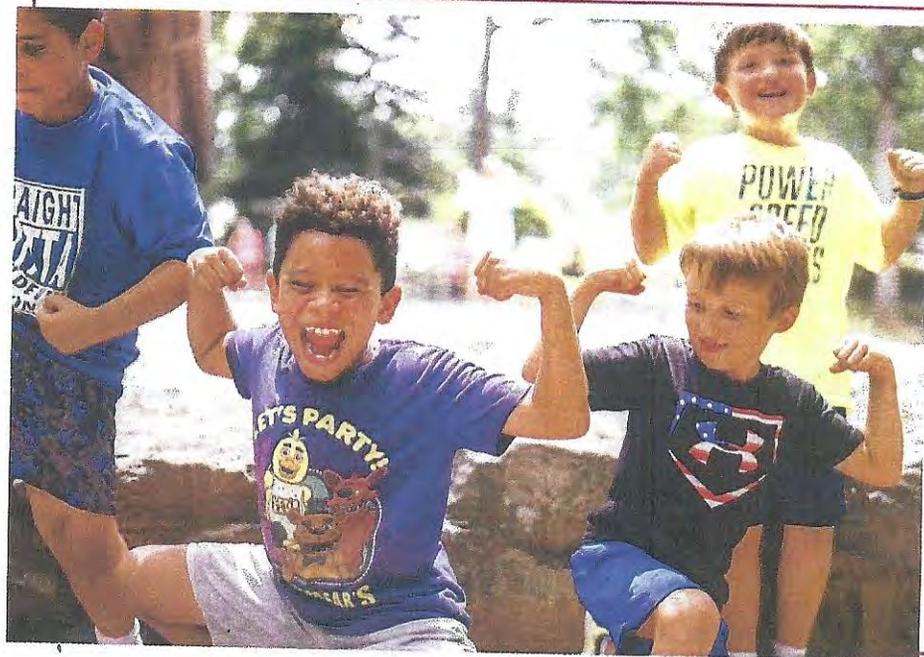
### SPORTS CAMPS

Developmental Baseball Camp  
Advanced Baseball Camp  
Cheer Camp  
Extreme Sports Camp  
Football Camp  
Lacrosse Camp  
Soccer Camp  
Softball Camp  
Speed and Agility  
Tennis Camp  
Volleyball Camp

### SPECIALTY INTEREST CAMPS

Air and Space Camp  
Chef Camp  
Creative Movement and Dance  
Kids on the Go Travel Camp  
Summer's End Travel Camp  
Vet Camp

For a full listing of camps, dates and fees, please visit [gainesville.org/camps](http://gainesville.org/camps)






# FRANCES MEADOWS

## AQUATIC AND COMMUNITY CENTER

GAINESVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION

**Frances Meadows Aquatic Center is Gainesville's hot spot to cool off in the summer.**



**Splash Zone**  
 Opens the Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend  
 Features: 2 Body Slides, Current Channel, Swirl Pool, Drop Buckets, Interactive Water Playground and Zero Depth Entry

**2 Indoor Pools Open Year-Round**

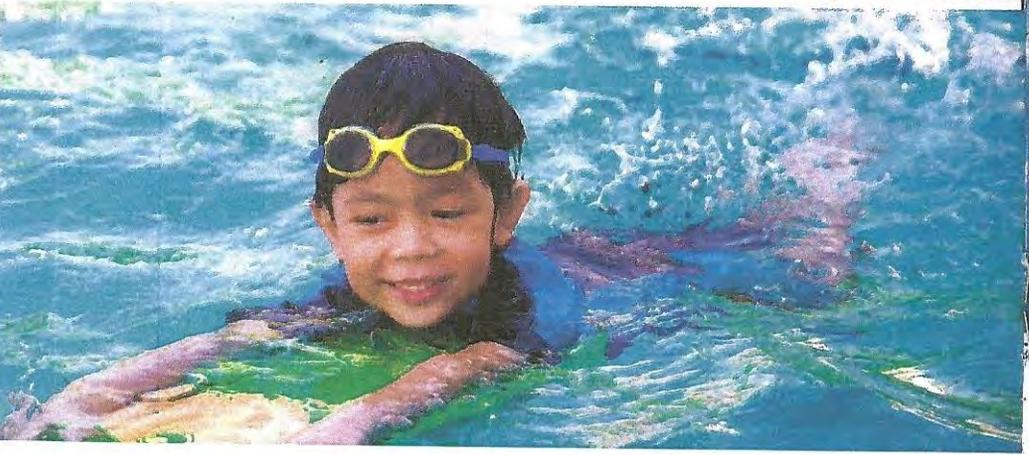
**Daily Admission, 90 Day or Annual Passes Available**

**Splash Parties**

**Pool Rentals**

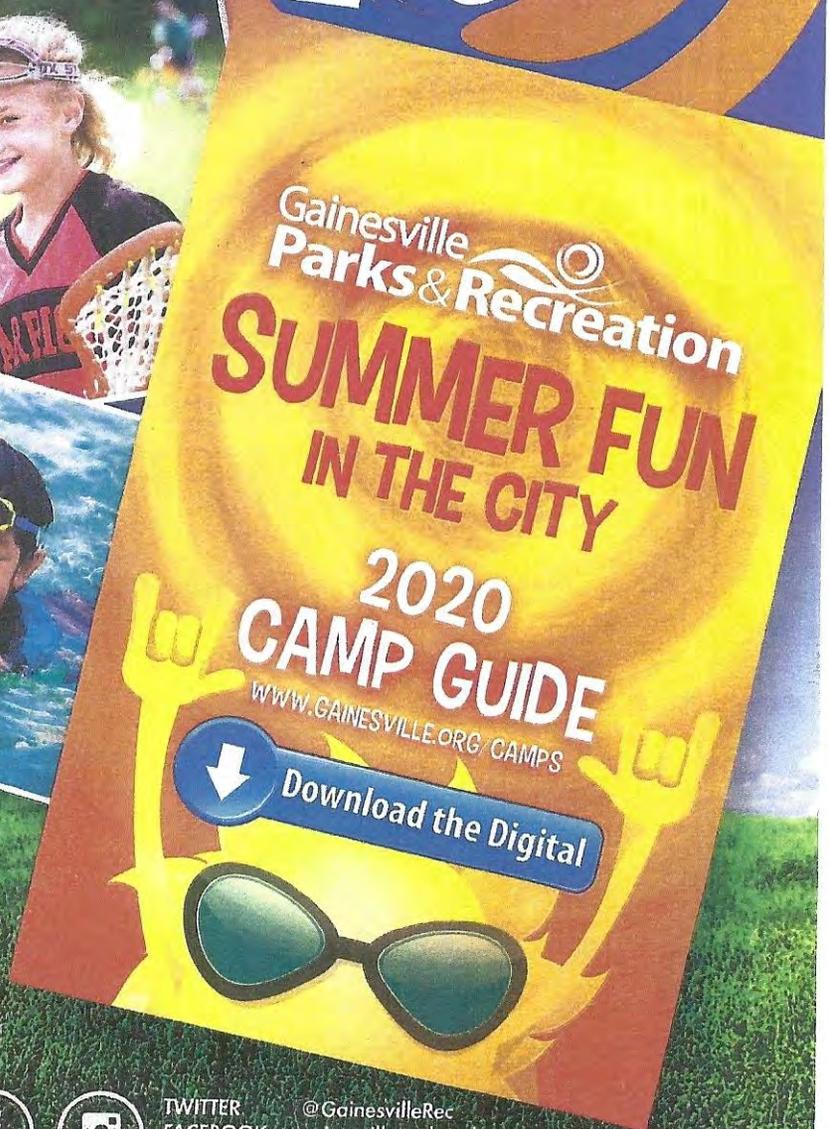
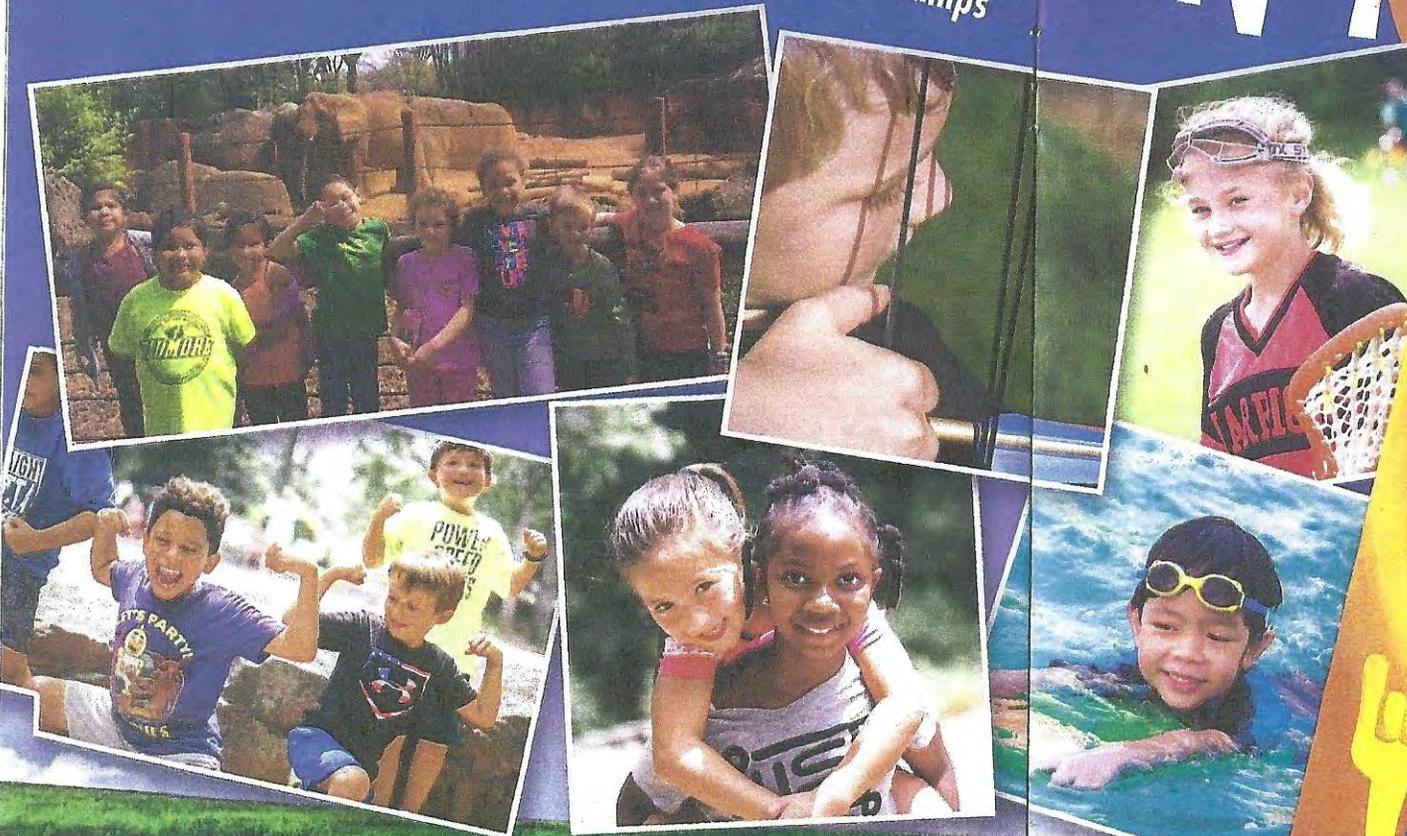
**Year-Round Swim Lessons**  
 Gainesville Parks and Recreation has taught generations to swim and Frances Meadows Aquatic Center provides the community with an opportunity for year-round lessons. Group, Small Group and Private Lessons offer a variety of options for all skill levels and budgets. Ages 6 months and older

**Lanier Aquatics Year-Round Swim Team** renowned swim team that caters to all ages and swim abilities.



# SUMMER FUN IN THE CITY

Day Camps, Sports Camps, Specialty and Travel Camps



Gainesville Parks & Recreation

SUMMER FUN IN THE CITY

2020 CAMP GUIDE

WWW.GAINESVILLE.ORG/CAMPS

Download the Digital

Gainesville Parks & Recreation

770.531.2680

Full Listings, Dates, Rates, and Registration Information can be found at [gainesville.org/camps](http://gainesville.org/camps)



# PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS

A great way to spend the day with your children is to visit one of our 21 parks, 12 playgrounds, 15 public tennis courts, 3 basketball courts, 11 miles of walking trails or 14 miles of blueways.

The **Rock Creek Greenway** is a series of four parks (Longwood, Wilshire, Ivey Terrace and Rock Creek Veterans Park) which connects Lake Lanier to Downtown Gainesville. Longwood Park provides great access to Lake Lanier. Wilshire Trails Park is home to a bilingual storybook trail and the most visited playground in Gainesville. Hop on the Solar System Walking Tour which begins on the Downtown Square and ends at Longwood Park.

**Gainesville's First Skate Park is Set to Open Spring of 2020**  
*Corner of High and Pine Streets along the Midtown Greenway*

[gainesville.org/parks](http://gainesville.org/parks)

[gainesville.org/attractions](http://gainesville.org/attractions)



**MARCH 19, 2020 | 4-6 PM**  
**PEACE, LOVE AND CUPCAKES**  
**AUDITIONS**

**AGES 6-12**

Pam Ware Children's Musical  
 Workshop Production  
*Gainesville Civic Center*

**MARCH 19, 2020 | 7-9 PM**  
**MATILDA AUDITIONS**  
**AGES 10 AND OLDER AND ADULTS**  
 Pam Ware Summer Community  
 Theatre Production  
*Gainesville Civic Center*

**JUNE 10-11, 2020 | 10 AM & 7 PM**  
**PEACE, LOVE AND CUPCAKES**  
**PERFORMANCES**

Pam Ware Children's Musical  
 Workshop Production  
*Pam Ware Performing Arts Center,  
 Gainesville High School Campus*

**JUNE 18-20 | 7:30 PM**  
**MATILDA PERFORMANCES**  
 Pam Ware Summer Community  
 Theatre Production  
*Pam Ware Performing Arts Center,  
 Gainesville High School Campus*

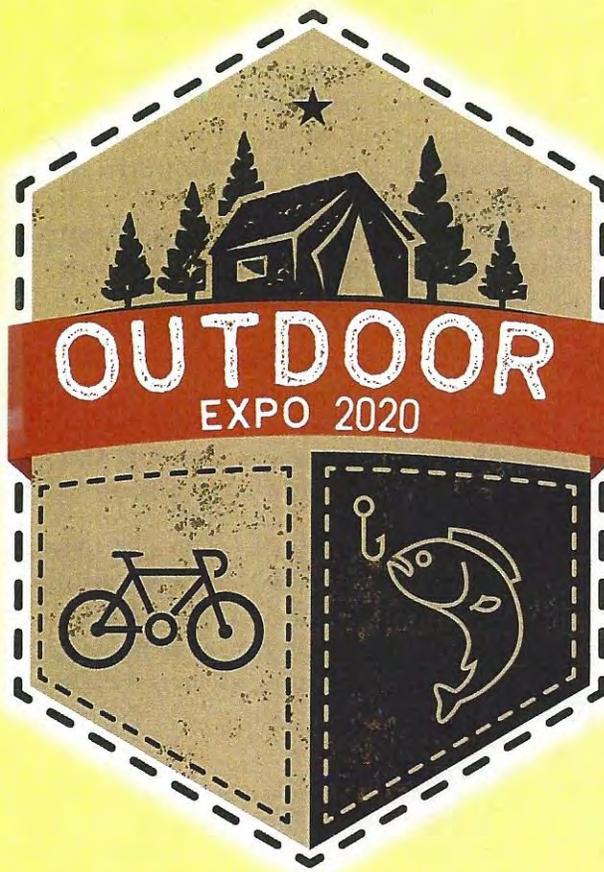
**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON**  
**GAINESVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION**

770.531.2680 | 830 Green Street Gainesville, GA 30501

[www.gainesville.org/recreation](http://www.gainesville.org/recreation)

Facebook: [gainesvilleparkandrec](https://www.facebook.com/gainesvilleparkandrec) and [francesmeadowsaquaticcenter](https://www.facebook.com/francesmeadowsaquaticcenter)

Instagram: [gainesvilleparksandrec](https://www.instagram.com/gainesvilleparksandrec)



**HUNTING-FISHING  
CAMPING-HIKING-BIKING**

**Saturday, March 14th  
10am - 5pm**

**Gainesville Civic Center**  
830 Green St NE,  
Gainesville, GA 30501

**FREE TO  
ATTEND!**

For more information, please  
contact Leah Nelson at  
[lnelson@gainesvilletimes.com](mailto:lnelson@gainesvilletimes.com)  
770-535-6330

**PRESENTED BY**

**The Times**  
[gainesvilletimes.com](http://gainesvilletimes.com)



2-2-20

# AROUND TOWN

## NEW YEAR NEW YOU EXPO



Visitors to the New Year New You expo gather inside the Gainesville Civic Center for those interested in help setting and maintaining lifestyle goals.

## JUNIOR LEAGUE CHARITY



Junior League Charity Ball Belle candidates raised more than \$122,000 for the community which helps to provide support and financial assistance to programs impacting the lives of women and children.

# FEBRUARY

### Stars Over Elachee

2/1 6:00pm, 2/29 6:15pm  
Elachee Nature Science Center  
2125 Elachee Drive  
Gainesville

### Pregnancy and infant loss support

2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23: 6pm  
Rock Goodbye Angel  
615 Oak St., Suite G  
Gainesville

### Sunday School

2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23: 9am  
Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
4000 Thurmon Tanner Road  
Flowery Branch

### Worship

2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23: 10am  
Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
4000 Thurmon Tanner Road  
Flowery Branch

### Exhibition: House and Universe: Margaret Evangeline

2/3 - 2/7, 2/10 - 2/14,  
2/17 - 2/21, 2/24 - 2/28: 10pm  
Simmons Visual Arts Center,  
Sellers Gallery  
200 Boulevard, Gainesville

### Rise and Shine! Family Storytime

2/3, 2/10, 2/17: 10:30am  
North Hall Tech Center  
4175 Nopone Rd. Suite B  
Gainesville

### Covered Bridge

2/4, 2/11, 2/18: 9am  
Quinlan Visual Arts Center  
514 Green Street NE  
Gainesville

### Drawing Basics

2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25: 1pm  
Quinlan Visual Arts Center  
514 Green St NE  
Gainesville

### Dynamic Landscape Painting 10-Week Session

2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25: 10:30am  
Quinlan Visual Arts Center  
514 Green St NE  
Gainesville

### Exploration of Color

2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25: 3pm  
Quinlan Visual Arts Center  
514 Green St NE  
Gainesville

### More Mixed Media

2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25: 10am  
Quinlan Visual Arts Center  
514 Green St NE  
Gainesville

### Toddler Time

2/4, 2/11, 2/18: 10:30am  
Gainesville Branch Library  
127 Main Street NW  
Gainesville

### Bible Study

2/5, 2/12, 2/19: 7pm  
Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
4000 Thurmon Tanner Road  
Flowery Branch

### Nar Anon Family Support Group

2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26: 6pm  
Family Life Center, First Baptist Church  
751 Green St. NW  
Gainesville

### Portrait Painting in Oils Workshop with Abner Cope

2/5 - 2/7 9:30am  
Quinlan Visual Arts Center  
514 Green St NE  
Gainesville

### Exhibit: Idiosyncratic Perspectives: Works by Brenau Faculty

2/6-2/7, 2/10 - 2/14, 2/17 -  
2/21, 2/24 - 2/28: 10:30am  
Simmons Visual Arts Center,  
Presidents Gallery  
200 Boulevard, Gainesville

### Three Day Woodburning Workshop: Session 1

2/7 - 2/9: 10am  
Quinlan Visual Arts Center  
514 Green St NE  
Gainesville

### Beginning Drawing: Wildlife, Animals, Nature's Elements

2/8, 2/15: 10:15am  
Quinlan Visual Arts Center  
514 Green St NE, Gainesville

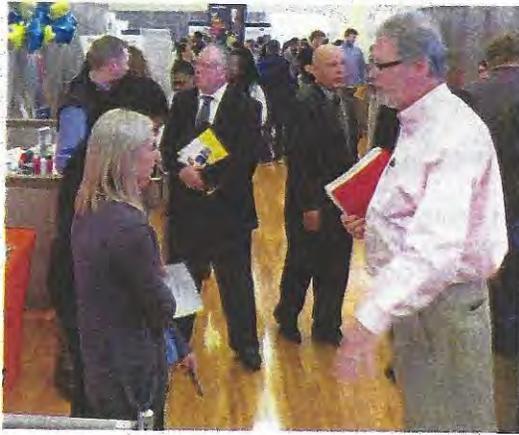
### Men2Men Prayer Breakfast

2/8 9am  
4000 Thurmon Tanner Road  
Flowery Branch

### Ga. Mtn. Handspinners Guild Monthly Meeting

2/8 12pm  
Quinlan Visual Arts Center  
886 Dixon Drive, Gainesville

# Job Fair & Career Expo on March 18



The Greater Hall Chamber's **Spring Job Fair & Career Expo** is **Wednesday, March 18 (10am-2pm)** at the **Gainesville Civic Center**.

The event is the perfect forum for companies hiring to recruit new employees. Hiring managers meet hundreds of job candidates face-to-face in a convenient location in a short span of time. Sponsored by **Express Employment Professionals** (title sponsor) **Fox Factory** (platinum), **King's**

**Hawaiian** (gold), **Spherion** and **McDonald's** (silver). Job fairs are free and open to the public and are a partnership of the Greater Hall Chamber, the Gainesville Area Employers Committee, Lanier Technical College and the Georgia Department of Labor. For exhibit info: Amanda Lewis, 770-532-6206 x111 or email: [alewis@ghcc.com](mailto:alewis@ghcc.com)

10 February 2020 | [GreaterHallChamber.com](http://GreaterHallChamber.com)

2-6-20

## Job Fair & Career Expo Wednesday, March 18, 2020

10:00 am - 2:00 pm | Gainesville Civic Center

The Chamber's Job Fair is the perfect forum for companies hiring to recruit new employees. Meet hundreds of job candidates face-to-face in a short span of time. The event is free and open to the public, and a partnership of the **Greater Hall Chamber**, the **Gainesville Area Employer Committee**, **Lanier Technical College** and the **Georgia Department of Labor**.

### For Employers

- Recruit Quality Employees
- Open to the Public
- Meet Job Seekers Face to Face
- 800+ to Attend
- Convenient Event Location
- Free Shuttle Onsite

Presented by

**Express**  
EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONALS

**FOX FACTORY**

**McDonald's**  
I'm lovin' it™

**KING'S HAWAIIAN**

**spherion**  
THE HUMAN ADVANTAGE

### Exhibit Info

Booth: Chamber Member: \$300 / \$345 with 110v Outlet

Booth: NON-Member: \$400 / \$445 with 110v Outlet

Register for exhibit space online: [GHCC.com/EVENTS](http://GHCC.com/EVENTS)

Goods & Services Sponsors

**Highland Mountain Beverage**

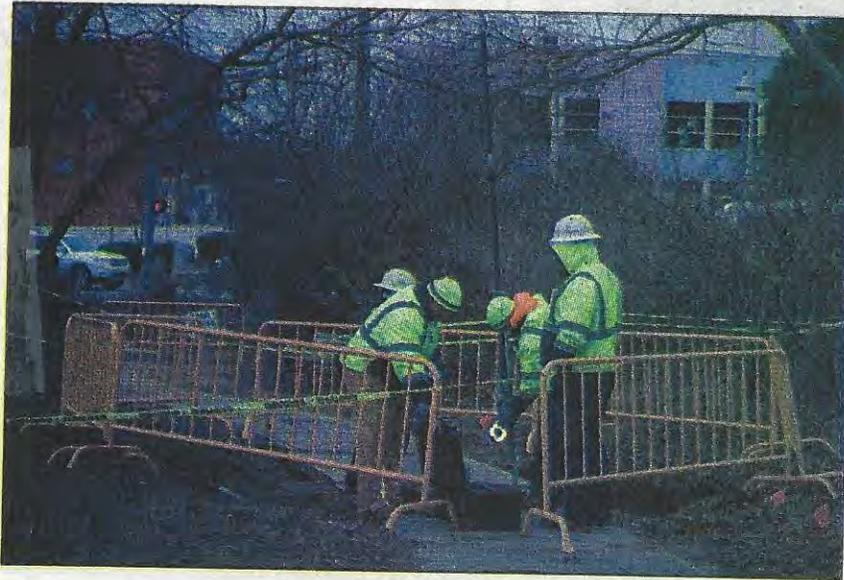
**Panera Bread**

**Signs By Tomorrow**

For Job Fair & Career Expo info, email: [alewis@ghcc.com](mailto:alewis@ghcc.com)

2-6-20

# Sinkhole forces trail closure at Gainesville park



NICK BOWMAN | The Times

Work crews inspect a sinkhole on Friday, Feb. 7, that opened underneath a walkway in the Rock Creek Veterans Park.

A sinkhole has forced Gainesville to close part of a trail in Gainesville's Rock Creek Veterans Park at 223 Northside Drive.

"City crews have been working to address the sinkhole, which is secured by barricades and blocked off from the public," a city press release on Friday, Feb. 7, states.

The sinkhole was first spotted Monday, Feb. 3, beneath a sidewalk and was described at the time as about 2 feet wide and 2 feet deep.

Steady rain throughout the week worsened the hole, which has grown to about 8 feet wide and 8 feet deep, the city said.

The park, which is off West Academy Street, is considered the gateway to the Rock Creek Greenway, linking parks from downtown Gainesville to Lake Lanier, according to the city website.

2-8-20 Jeff Gill

## Major 2020 Chamber Events

Thursday, February 20  
**Small Business Luncheon**  
 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
 Lanier Technical College  
*Reservations Required*

Thursday, February 20  
**Business EXPO**  
 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
**A Taste of Gainesville**  
 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
 Lanier Technical College

Tuesday, February 25  
**Healthy Hall Awards Lunch**  
*The Honorable Nathan Deal*  
 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
 Brenau Downtown Center  
*Reservations Required*

Wednesday, March 18  
**Job Fair & Career Expo**  
 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
 Gainesville Civic Center  
*Free & Open to the Public*

Thursday, March 26  
**Chamber Chase 5K**  
 6:00 p.m.  
 Riverside Military Academy

Friday, April 24  
**Hackers Holiday Golf**  
 10:00 a.m. at Lanier Islands



**Thursday, February 27**  
**Chamber Board of Directors**  
 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. | Gainesville Civic Center

## March

**Wednesday, March 4**  
**Healthcare Committee**  
 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. | Chamber

**Wednesday, March 18**  
**Job Fair & Career Expo**  
 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
 Gainesville Civic Center

2-26-20

**Outdoor Expo**  
**What:** A trade show featuring sources for hunting, fishing, camping and hiking needs  
**When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 14  
**Where:** Gainesville Civic Center, 830 Green St. NW  
**More Info:** [Inelson@gainesvilletimes.com](mailto:Inelson@gainesvilletimes.com)  
**How much:** Free admission

2-6-20

# Water over the bridge



Photos by **SCOTT ROGERS** | The Times

Water levels on Lake Lanier at Longwood Park in Gainesville are covering portions of the park's walking trails.

## Flooding from heavy rain keeps some roads, boat ramps closed

**BY JEFF GILL**

[jgill@gainesvilletimes.com](mailto:jgill@gainesvilletimes.com)

At least one road has reopened after being closed following heavy rain, while several boat ramps on Lake Lanier are closed as water levels remain high.

Calvary Church Road reopened Wednesday, Feb. 12, after being closed to traffic following the flash flood conditions. The road closed Thursday for repairs between Poplar Springs Road and Poplar Church Road.

Roads that remain closed include Claude Parks Road from Old Dahlonega Highway to Jake Kemp Road and Lawson Road.

The Army Corps of Engineers continues to monitor the condition on Lanier and downstream.



The boat ramp at Holly Park is underwater Wednesday, Feb. 12, as is the road leading to it.

■ Please see **LAKE, 5A**

2-13-20

# LAKE

## ■ Continued from 1A

Several boat ramps on Lake Lanier also are closed due to high water:

- Belton Bridge
- Bolding Mill Day Use
- Keiths Bridge
- Little Hall, 1 lane closed, 2 open
- Little Ridge
- Little River
- Long Hollow
- Mountain View
- Nix Bridge
- Old Federal Day Use
- Robinson
- Sardis Creek
- Simpson
- Thompson Bridge
- Thompson Creek
- Toto Creek
- Two Mile
- Van Pugh North

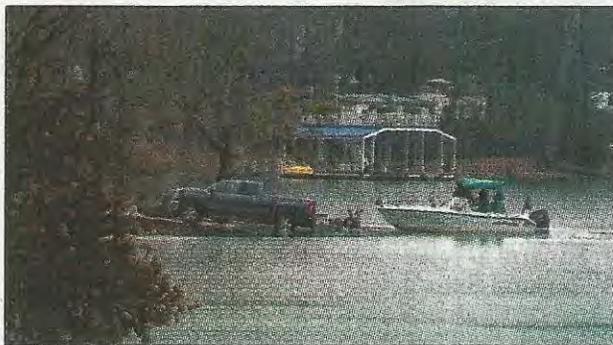
"We will monitor the downstream conditions

as a result of the rainfall ... and as soon as the Norcross, Roswell and Vinings areas allow, we will begin to evacuate the water from the Buford Dam flood pool as safely as possible," Corps spokesman Chuck Walker said in an email Monday, Feb. 10.

Walker said that because of a rainy forecast, the Corps was suspending generation at Buford Dam.

Runoff from heavy rains typically takes 1-2 days to travel through creeks and tributaries before reaching the lake. Nearly 2 inches of rain fell between Monday and early Tuesday, according to the National Weather Service.

The lake pool stood at 1,075.4 feet above sea level Wednesday. Full pool in the winter is 1,070 feet but 1,071 feet in the summer.



Photos by SCOTT ROGERS | The Times

**Top:** The Carlyle Cox Lake Walk at Longwood Park is completely under water Wednesday, Feb. 12, as water levels on Lake Lanier flood low lying portions of area parks and boat ramps. **Above:** A boat is launched Monday, Feb. 10, at Sardis Creek Park as rising water levels close many boat ramps.

# Editor's picks

## One-year anniversary hog roast

**What:** A celebration of The Inked Pig's first year in Gainesville

**When:** 1:30-9 p.m. Feb. 15

**Where:** The Inked Pig, 893 Main St. SW, Gainesville

**More info:** [www.theinkedpig.com](http://www.theinkedpig.com)

**How much:** Free admission



Times file photo

## Outdoor Expo

**What:** A trade show featuring sources for hunting, fishing, camping and hiking needs

**When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 14

**Where:** Gainesville Civic Center, 830 Green St. NW

**More info:** [Inelson@gainesvilletimes.com](mailto:Inelson@gainesvilletimes.com)

**How much:** Free admission

## 'The Bra & Panty Club'

**What:** Script by Gay Hammond. PG. Presented by the Gainesville Theatre Alliance.

**When:** 7:30 p.m. Feb. 14, 16, 18-21 and 22 and 2:30 p.m. Feb. 15 and 22

**Where:** University of North Georgia's Ed Cabell Theatre, 3820 Mundy Mill Road, Oakwood.

**How much:** Tickets \$18-20 for adults, \$16-18 for seniors and \$12-14 for students. [GainesvilleTheatreAlliance.org](http://GainesvilleTheatreAlliance.org)

**More info:** 678-717-3624

## Elachee Birding Hike: Great Backyard Bird Count

**When:** 8-11 a.m. Feb. 15

**Where:** Elachee Chicopee Woods Aquatic Studies Center at Chicopee Lake, 2100 Calvary Church Road, Gainesville

**More info:** 770-535-1976, [peter@elachee.org](mailto:peter@elachee.org)

**How much:** Free admission

## 'Basic Pruning' Garden Class

**When:** 10 a.m. to noon  
Feb. 15

**Where:** Atlanta Botanical Garden  
Gainesville, 1911 Sweetbay Drive,  
Gainesville

**More info:** 404-888-4763, [wcannon@atlantabg.org](mailto:wcannon@atlantabg.org)

**How much:** \$24-\$29



Image courtesy Pigsels

Judy Williams

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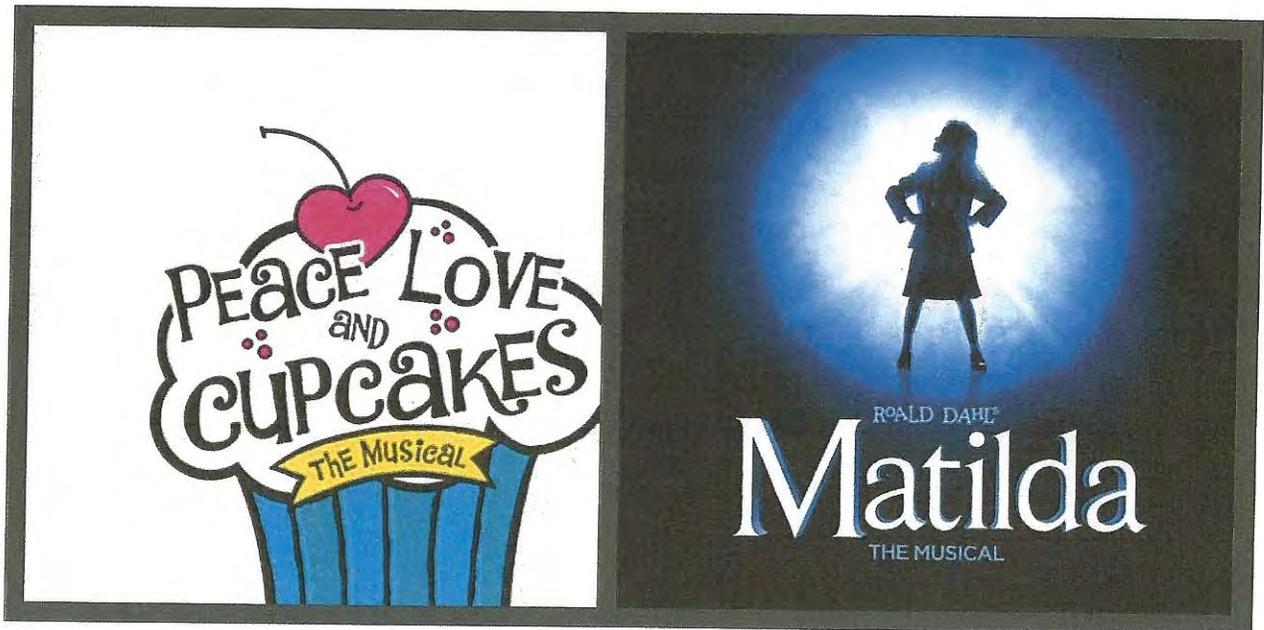
**From:** Gainesville Parks and Recreation <parkandrec@gainesville.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2020 2:36 PM  
**To:** Judy Williams  
**Subject:** AUDITIONS FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS

**CAUTION:**\*\*\*This email originated from outside the City of Gainesville networks. Be aware of phishing, and remember: CoG DoIT will never ask for your password or other personal information in email. Use caution with attachments or click links if you are not sure about it.\*\*\*



The logo for Gainesville Parks & Recreation features the word "Gainesville" in green, "Parks & Recreation" in blue, and a stylized orange and green circular graphic above the text.

# AUDITIONS!



**AUDITIONS - KIDS AGES 6-12**  
**PEACE, LOVE AND CUPCAKES**

**Pam Ware Children's Musical Theatre Workshop**  
**March 19, 2020 | 4-6PM**

Gainesville Civic Center | 830 Green Street

Cast is expected to attend workshop June 1-4 and June 8-9 from 9am to 12pm. Performances will be June 10-11 at 10am and 7pm at the Pam Ware Performing Arts Center on the Gainesville High Campus. Free to audition. Workshop Fee: \$85

**AUDITIONS - ADULTS/ AGES 10 & UP**  
**MATILDA, THE MUSICAL**

**Pam Ware Summer Community Theatre**  
**March 19, 2020 | 7-9PM**

Gainesville Civic Center | 830 Green Street

Must be available for performances...June 18-20, 2020

Free to audition. No fee to participate in production.

Auditions consist of three parts: reading, choreography and vocals. Please prepare a 16 bar audition song with either sheet music or accompaniment music.

QUESTIONS:

GAINESVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION | 770.531.2680

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Gainesville Parks and Recreation  
830 Green Street NE  
Gainesville, Georgia 30501  
770.531.2680

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Gainesville, GA | 30501 US

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Times file photo

# 2020 Outdoor Expo offers ways to enjoy North Georgia

## 14 Outdoor Expo 2020

10AM - 5PM • GAINESVILLE CIVIC CENTER

830 Green St NE, Gainesville, GA

Attention Outdoor Enthusiasts: Your source for all your hunting, fishing, camping, and hiking needs!

[www.gainesvilletimes.com/outdoorexpo2020](http://www.gainesvilletimes.com/outdoorexpo2020)

2-23-20

## Outdoor Expo

**What:** A trade show featuring sources for hunting, fishing, camping and hiking needs

**When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 14

**Where:** Gainesville Civic Center, 830 Green St. NW

**More info:** [Inelson@gainesvilletimes.com](mailto:Inelson@gainesvilletimes.com)

**How much:** Free admission

2-27-20

## The Times

The forests, streams and summits of North Georgia are calling.

The whizz of the line racing down the fishing rod after a cast, the thwack of a bowstring being released, the slap of a paddle on Lake Lanier — as the region shakes off the worst of winter, remind yourself of your favorite bits of the outdoors at the second-annual Outdoor Expo.

Set for March 14 at the Gainesville Civic Center, the expo will include a slew of demonstrations, booths and vendors. Attendees to the free event can catch up on the latest in bass fishing tech, kayaking, wilderness survival and even wildlife photography.

Local anglers will have practiced hands leading seminars on SONAR and electronic charts. Fishing writer and local guide Ken Sturdivant is set to give a demonstration on stripers and SONAR, while John McCalpin will talk about how to get the most out of your modern fish finder and other mapping technology.

"These devices tend to not be cheap, and unfortunately most people who buy them never get the maximum value out of them," McCalpin said on Wednesday, Feb. 12.

Following his advice, McCalpin said anglers can save a third of their current fuel burn simply by knowing how to use the fish finders and other tech they likely already own.

"For me, it's been huge. I didn't really start fishing until about 10 years ago," he said. "One thing I found out really quickly is the guys who have been out there 30 or 40 years ago just seemed to know where they're going."

To compete with the veterans, he dug into his charts and now spends less time trying to guess where fish might be at any given time of year and more time catching them.

"The end result for me is I

## Outdoor Expo

**When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 14

**Where:** Gainesville Civic Center, 830 Green St. NE, Gainesville

**More info:** [Inelson@gainesvilletimes.com](mailto:Inelson@gainesvilletimes.com), [gainesvilletimes.com/outdoorexpo](http://gainesvilletimes.com/outdoorexpo)

**How much:** Free

probably spend less than half the amount of time going from place to place than I used to," he said.

The inaugural expo was held in Cumming near Forsyth County News, a sister paper of The Times and Dawson County News.

"The interest in this event last year was incredible," Editor in Chief Shannon Casas said. "Our region has so many opportunities for enjoying the outdoors, whether you like fishing on Lake Lanier, camping in the mountains or just going on an occasional hike or paddle. We hope to provide a lot of expertise on those topics all in one place."

This year's event will feature speakers on topics including fishing, kayaking and wilderness survival. The Outdoor Expo is set for 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Gainesville Civic Center, 830 Green St. NE, Gainesville.

Here's the schedule:

Room A

■ 11 a.m.: Bass fishing lures with pro angler and Lake Lanier guide Phil Johnson

■ Noon: SONAR with Lowrance Pro Staff Ken Sturdivant and Capt. John McCalpin

■ 2 p.m.: Kayaks with Vibe Kayaks pro Erica DeLana

■ 3 p.m.: Stripers with Lowrance Pro Staff Ken Sturdivant

Room B

■ 11:30 a.m.: Survival tips of the trail with Mark Warren

■ 1 p.m.: Crappie fishing with Capt. John McCalpin

■ 3:30 p.m.: The secret art of stalking for photographers, wildlife observers and hunters with Mark Warren

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