IN THE NEWS

June 2020

Parks & Recreation Programs
Frances Meadows Aquatic and Community Center
Parks & Facility Services
City / County Issues
Miscellaneous

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

### June

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday, June 9</th>
<th>Wednesday, June 17</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small Business Webinar</td>
<td>Issues Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ambassadors Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>via Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, June 10</strong></td>
<td><strong>Thursday, June 18</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Resource Council</td>
<td>Chamber Executive Committee</td>
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<td>11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, June 11</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday, June 19</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership Hall Graduation</td>
<td>Hackers Holiday Golf Tournament</td>
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<td>11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. Shotgun Start</td>
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<td>Chattahoochee Country Club</td>
<td>Legacy on Lanier Golf Club</td>
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<td>Lanier Islands</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, June 12</strong></td>
<td><strong>Thursday, June 25</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Development Council</td>
<td>Chamber Board of Directors</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>12:00 - 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, June 16</strong></td>
<td><strong>Get all the details and register for events online at GreaterHallChamber.com</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>South Hall Business Coalition</td>
<td>June 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flowery Branch &amp; Oakwood Update</td>
<td>Vision 2030 Board Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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**Happy. Active. Hall.**

A Vision 2030 initiative, Highlands To Islands is a multi-use trail system connecting the many great cities in Hall County together with a paved path winding past businesses, scenic areas, college campuses and retail shops. The trail's purpose is to unite all existing greenways together under one-name/one trail for the maximum benefit to the community and its citizens. “One of our goals is 'Thirty by Thirty,’” said Elizabeth Higgins, executive director of Vision 2030, “that's for us to have 30 miles of connected trail in Hall County by (year) 2030.” With some 10 miles already completed, runners, cyclists and families are out and about enjoying the trail. For more information on Highlands to Islands, email info@highlandstoislands.org
GAINESVILLE PARKS
AND RECREATION

Gainesville Parks and Recreation will
offer outdoor play, visits to local parks,
sports and other activities through August.
To limit the spread of COVID-19, campers
and their parents or guardians are asked to
follow certain protocols.
Screening, which includes temperature
checks, will take place when children
arrive. Parents are asked to stay in their
vehicles when dropping their kids off, and
the campers are asked to sit on the right
passenger side of the vehicle. Masks
and gloves are available for campers if
requested.
Registration is now open.
Cash and checks will not be accepted.
People can register by visiting gainesville.
org/online-registration, visiting the
Gainesville Civic Center, or via fax at 770-
531-2680. For more information, call 770-
531-2680.

Discovery Day Camps

What: Discovery Day Camp will give
children 6 to 12 years old the opportunity
to tap into their adventurous spirits with
swimming lessons, hiking and weekly field
trips.
How much: $30 per week for Gainesville
residents and $120 for non-residents.
When: 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. June 29-July
31, with a discounted rate the week of July
3, as no camps will be held that day.
Requirements: Bring a daily water bottle,
lunch and snack. Athletic clothes are
encouraged.
Splash Discovery Day Camp at Frances
Meadows Aquatic Center offers pool
activities. Register by June 26
Outdoor Discovery Day Camp at Lanier
Point Park offers hiking and baseball.
Register by July 2.
Nature Discovery Day Camp at Linwood
Nature Preserve offers hiking. Register by
July 10.
Play Discovery Day Camp at Martha
Hope Cabin in City Park includes baseball
and tennis. Register by July 17.
Quest Discovery Day Camp at Fair Street
Neighborhood Center includes themed
activities and visits to parks. Register by
July 24.

Football Camp
What: Instruction from former Atlanta
Falcons running back Jerious Norwood for
ages 6-17
When: 5-7 p.m. July 27-29
Where: Cabbell Field
How much: $70 for residents and $95 for
non-residents
Registration: By July 24
Requirements: Cleats, athletic shoes and
comfortable clothing

Speed and Agility Camp
What: Instruction from former Atlanta
Falcons running back Jerious Norwood for
ages 6-17
When: 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Aug. 1
Where: Cabbell Field
How much: Registration: By July 31
Requirements: Cleats, athletic shoes and
comfortable clothing required

Sports camps

Volleyball Camp
What: Instruction from Lanier Volleyball
Club for ages 9-14
When: 10 a.m. to noon July 6-8
Where: Westminster gym
How much: $65 for residents and $90 for
non-residents
Registration: By July 2

Lacrosse Camp
What: Instruction from Robert Jones for
ages 6-15
When: 10 a.m. to noon July 7-9
Where: Cabbell Field
How much: $65 for residents and $90 for
non-residents
Requirements: Water bottle

Developmental
Baseball Camp
What: Instruction from Lakeview Academy's
Deuce Roark for first to eighth graders
When: 9 a.m. to noon July 13-16
Where: City Park
How much: $85 for residents and $115 for
non-residents
Registration: By July 10
Requirements: Glove, bat, water bottle and
small snack required

Cheer Camp
What: Instruction from Lakeview Academy's
Amy Park for ages 5-11
When: 9 a.m. to noon July 13-15
Where: City Park
How much: $65 for residents and $90 for
non-residents
Registration: By July 10
Requirements: Water bottle

Soccer Camp
What: Instruction for ages 6-12
When: 10 a.m. to noon July 20-24
Where: Cabbell Field
How much: $65 for residents and $90 for
non-residents
Registration: By July 17
Requirements: Shin guards, soccer ball and
water bottle
'Exactly what they wanted'

Bikers and skate boarders use the new Gainesville Skate Park Friday, June 19, at the corner of Pine and High Streets in midtown.
The 20,000-square-foot skate park design was created by Wally Hollyday, a California-based skate park designer.
The highly anticipated Gainesville Skate Park is open to the public.

Nestled in the corner of High and Pine streets in the midtown area, the space offers around 20,000 square feet of ramps, pipes, drops, rails and many other features for skateboarders.

Julie Butler Colombini, Gainesville Parks & Recreation's marketing and communications manager, said the project totaled around $1.5 million.

In December 2018, a public input meeting was held regarding the skate park. Colombini said around 50 to 60 people from the community attended, ranging from ages 11 to 75.

"That tells you how many generations this skate park crosses," she said. "Local skaters have wanted a skate park for decades, and we're happy to finally build it and give them a place to skate."

Wally Hollyday, a California-based skate park designer, created the layout, while Tri Scapes Inc. served as the contractor.

During the public input meeting in 2018, Hollyday sat down with local skaters and listened to what they wanted. He incorporated most of their desires into the final design.

Before the Gainesville Skate Park opened late Thursday, June 18, Colombini said many locals would skate in an old abandoned strip mall that had a brick wall. She said a lot of the area's younger skaters enjoy testing their skills over manholes.

"We put a little brick wall in the skate park and manhole covers," Colombini said. "We wanted to make sure that it was exactly what they wanted. It's amazing and unique."

Ethan Pribble, 13, jumps his bike at the new Gainesville Skate Park Friday, June 19, at Pine and High Streets in midtown.

Above: Russ Edelman performs tricks on his bike Friday, June 19, at the new Gainesville Skate Park in midtown. Left: Lauden Gunning takes his bike on the new skate park.
Gainesville groups begin mural project along Midtown Greenway

BY NATHAN BERG
nberg@gainesvilletimes.com

With one stroke of Karen Hawk's paint brush, history came to life Thursday morning at the Midtown Greenway in Gainesville. Hawk, a former art student at what was then called North Georgia College & State University and is now the University of North Georgia, is the designer of a mural that was painted in 1974 on the OddFellows Building on Athens/Sycamore Street as a bicentennial project of what was then the Gainesville Arts Council. The building was later demolished to make way for an expansion of E.E. Butler Parkway, but the Vision 2030 Public Art Committee, along with Hawk and others, are recreating the mural on a building at the Midtown Greenway, with painting just getting underway on Thursday, June 25.

Volunteers from the Gents Club, Hispanic Alliance GA, Beulah Rucker Museum Mentors and Mentees, the Black History Society as well as members of the Vision 2030 Public Art Committee and students from UNG are working to complete the project, which is expected to be finished by Saturday, weather permitting.

Hawk's design, which was based in part on the song "Jesus Loves the Little Children," includes the colors red, yellow, black and white, and is meant to represent the melting pot of American cultures, according to Hawk.

"I think it's really good timing for this sentiment to be brought out," she said. "It takes all of us to paint and put it up on the wall, and it takes all of us to be a country."

The mural's design began as a doodle Hawk made as a college junior in 1974 that caught the eye of one of her art professors. She and the professor worked to find a building on which to display the design, and once a location for the mural had been identified, Hawk received help painting it from an unlikely source.

The Gents Club was a group organized by Nathaniel Shelton, a former Butler High School science and math teacher. Shelton brought together 13 boys "who people didn't want to deal with" to form the club and started getting them involved in community service projects. The group did everything from raking leaves to putting on pageants, and when Shelton heard about the planned mural project, he was quick to get the Gents Club involved.

Shelton, along with a few former members of the Gents Club, came out Thursday to be a part of the new project. As he painted the very same design he and his club helped put up nearly 50 years ago, memories of Gents Club activities started to flood back to him.

"It was a learning process for the kids," Shelton said. "As well as it was an experience of what the community was like, and the people in the community getting a chance to know these kids."

The re-creation of the mural started to come together around a year ago when Frank Norton Jr., chair of Vision 2030 Public Art Committee, discovered a black-and-white photo of the mural on a Facebook page dedicated to Gainesville history.

After doing some research, Norton contacted Hawk about the project, and things started to get underway.

Fox Gradin, an artist born and raised in Gainesville who also studied art at NGCSU, recreated an outline of the mural earlier this month. Gradin said it took her about 14 total hours to get the outline of the mural drawn and ready for volunteers to paint.

In addition to Hawk, Shelton and Gents Club member Tim Mize were among the first people to start adding color to the mural. Mize said he was excited to get involved with the project, partly because he did not get to help with the original mural since it was put up during football season, when he was too busy to participate, and partly because he supports the mural's message of unity.

"It's just time for people to come together," he said. "Because I don't want my kids to grow up going through the same thing I went through, and they don't want their kids to do the same thing. It's time for black, white, brown, any race to get together and be a part of this that's going on right now."