

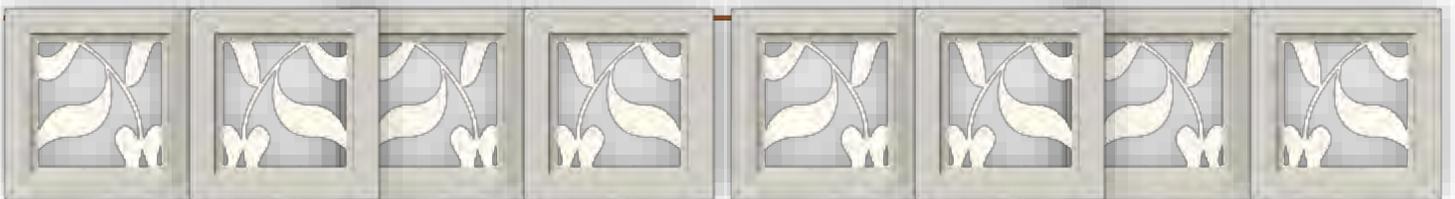
# IN THE NEWS

*September 2020*

Frances Meadows Center Division  
Parks & Facilities Division  
Recreation Division  
City / County Issues  
Miscellaneous



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



# economic development

## Job Fair & Career Expo

Tuesday, September 15

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

Open to the Public

45+ employers and hiring managers onsite as job seekers see first hand employment opportunities. Wear a MASK and bring your RESUME!

### Exhibitors

Ace Hardware  
Alpha Grill  
BOS Staffing  
BTD  
Carroll Daniel Construction  
Chattahoochee Country Club  
ChildCare Careers  
Conditioned Air Systems  
ElringKlinger USA, Inc.  
**Express Employment Professionals**  
**Fox Factory**  
Gainesville Department of Water Resources  
Georgia Department of Driver Services  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
Goodwill of North Georgia  
Hall County Government  
Heavy Equipment Colleges of America  
Hire Dynamics  
HomeGoods-Distribution  
Homestar Financial  
Hydro Extrusion North America  
**King's Hawaiian**  
Koch Foods  
Kubota Manufacturing of America  
Luttrell Staffing Group  
**Mars Wrigley**  
Massey Services Inc  
**McDonald's**  
Milliken & Company  
Northeast Georgia Health System  
Performance Foodservice  
PPG Industries  
ProCare Rx  
R.E. Whitesides  
Randstad US  
ResourceMFG  
**Spherion Staffing**  
The Davis Companies  
**The Mill at New Holland**  
The Sherwin Williams Company  
VDL Industries Gainesville LLC  
Voyant Beauty  
Wagner Staffing  
Wahoo Docks  
WorkSource Georgia Mountains  
Xpedient Logistics  
ZF Gainesville

**MARS WRIGLEY**

**KING'S  
HAWAIIAN**

THE  
**MILL**  
AT NEW HOLLAND

**Express**  
EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONALS

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STAFFING SERVICES

912-20

FALL 2020

# JOB FAIR & Career Expo

Tuesday, September 15

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Gainesville Civic Center

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

## Job Seekers

Apply On-Site for Jobs • No Admission Fee

45+ Employers • Meet Hiring Managers • Convenient Location

## Employers

Recruit Qualified Employees • Meet Job Seekers

Exhibit Info: 770-532-6206

Exhibit Space Limited - Call Now!



- Wear a MASK and bring your RESUME!
- What companies are HIRING? See Page 5 for List of Exhibitors

Presented by **Express Employment Professionals** and **Mars Wrigley** and organized by the **Greater Hall Chamber**, the **Gainesville Area Employers Committee**, **Lanier Technical College** and the **Georgia Department of Labor**.



9-2-20

Wear a MASK!  
Bring Your  
RESUME!

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830 Green Street in Gainesville

Visit 45+ Companies that are Hiring!

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Wahoo Docks

WorkSource Georgia Mountains  
Xpedient Logistics  
ZF Gainesville

**Meet Hiring Managers**  
**No Entry Fee**  
**Open to the Public**

**770-532-6206**  
**GreaterHallChamber.com**



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**GREATER HALL**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Express**  
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9-2-20

## calendar

# September

**Wednesday, September 2**  
**Healthcare Committee**

10:00 a.m. | via Zoom

**Tuesday, September 8**  
**Ambassadors Council**

3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. | Scott's Downtown

**Wednesday, September 9**  
**Small Business Seminar**

9:00 a.m. | via Zoom

**Human Resource Council**

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. | via Zoom

**Friday, September 11**  
**Economic Development Council**

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. | via Zoom

**Tuesday, September 15**  
**Job Fair & Career Expo**

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Gainesville Civic Center

**Vision 2030 Board Meeting**

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Chamber

**Wednesday, September 16**  
**Issues Committee**

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. | Chamber

**Thursday, September 17**  
**Chamber Executive Committee**

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Chamber

**Thursday, September 24**  
**Chamber Board of Directors**

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Eagle Ranch

**Tuesday, September 29**  
**South Hall Business Council**

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

The Tower at Michelin Raceway Road  
Atlanta

9-2-20

## Major Chamber Events

**Tuesday, September 15**

**Job Fair & Career Expo**

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Gainesville Civic Center

*Open to the Public*

**Thursday, October 8**  
**Celebration & Awards Meeting**

Streaming online both at  
12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

**Thursday, October 15**

**Chamber Chase 5K & 2 Mile  
Wellness Walk**

6:00 p.m.

Lanier Islands

**Wednesday, November 18**  
**Industry Appreciation**

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lanier Technical College

Ramsey Conference Center

**Thursday, December 10**

**Eggs & Issues Breakfast**

7:30 a.m.

Lanier Technical College

Ramsey Conference Center



9-2-20

## save the date

**Wednesday, September 9**

**Small Business Seminar**  
via Zoom

**Tuesday, September 15**

**Job Fair & Career Expo**  
Gainesville Civic Center

**Tuesday, September 29**

**South Hall Business Coalition**  
Michelin Raceway Road Atlanta



**Job Fair & Career Expo on September 15**

**(10am-2pm) with 45+ employers onsite.**

Wear a mask, and bring your resume!

See EXHIBITORS on page 5.

9-2-20

# Volunteers help clear 25 tons of trash from Chattahoochee in river sweep

BY NICK WATSON  
nwatson@gainesvilletimes.com

Kayakers, canoers and walkers combing the Chattahoochee River found more than 25 tons of trash — and furniture fit for a college dorm room.

The trash was collected in the 10th annual "Sweep the Hooch" event, with three Gainesville sites in the headwaters including Don Carter State Park, Longwood Park and the Lake Lanier Olympic Venue.

There were more than 1,000 volunteers throughout the entire Chattahoochee watershed, with more than 200 of those in the headwaters.

James Watson, facilities

and watersports manager at Lake Lanier Olympic Park, said there were 30 volunteers this year at the Olympic venue, roughly double the help from last year.

About a third of the volunteers were equipped with kayaks, canoes and other personal watercraft to help clear the waterway of bottles, cans and other trash. One of their more peculiar finds was a mini-fridge.

The crew at the Olympic venue filled up two-and-a-half 6-yard dumpsters, Watson said, which they were in the process of weighing Wednesday, Sept. 2. He also said this was the first year at the site that they were able to implement recycling.

"Normally, it's hard to

find a company that wants to recycle lake trash — bottles, cans, that kind of stuff," he said.

Certain sites capped the number of volunteers, and volunteers were required to maintain social distancing and bring masks.

"It might have seemed less at one site, but there were more volunteers throughout the region," said Mallory Pendleton, headwaters outreach manager for Chattahoochee Riverkeeper.

Shanda Sexton, executive director of Keep Hall Beautiful, worked at the Longwood Park effort and said she was pleased with people following the COVID health guidelines.

There were 33 volunteers

at Longwood, an increase by a handful compared to the year before, picking up 83 bags of trash weighing 832 pounds.

"We had an influx in numbers even with COVID being in place," Sexton said. "I was very surprised."

Those working at Longwood found a two-drawer dresser, Sexton said.

"One other interesting find was one of our kayakers found a floating coconut," she said. "He actually thought that was kind of interesting to find that one just out in the middle of the water."

A representative from the Don Carter State Park effort was not available for comment Wednesday, Sept. 2.

9-3-20



**William Jess Murphy,  
Jr.**

*Died September 5, 2020*  
William Jess (Billy) Murphy, Jr., age 72, of Gainesville, passed away on September 5, 2020, following a period of declining health and complications from COVID-19.

The son of the late Mary and Jess Murphy, Billy spent his early childhood years in Talmo, Georgia, before moving to Gainesville. He graduated from Gainesville High School in 1966 and attended Andrew College and Georgia Southwestern. He served and was honorably discharged from the United States Air Force in 1971.

He is survived by daughter and son-in-law, Jessica and Jeff Butler; son, Bill Murphy; and granddaughter, Mae Butler. He is also survived by Jessica and Bill's mother, Muriel Murphy, his wife of 45 years. Surviving siblings are Jean Carmichael, Barbara Reder, and Jeff Murphy. Billy spent most of his career in the real estate business. He enjoyed hunting and fishing. He coached little league baseball through Gainesville Parks and Recreation. The dogs in his life, Billy Blake, BoBo, Priskey, and Sadie, were very special to him.

For everyone's health and safety, the family will not be holding a service at this time. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Gateway Domestic Violence Center, P.O. Box 2962, Gainesville, GA 30503. Those wishing to send online condolences to the family may do so at [littledavenport.com](http://littledavenport.com) Little & Davenport Funeral Home and Crematory, 355 Dawsonville Highway, SW, Gainesville, Georgia 30501 is in charge of arrangements. 9.9.20

Wear a MASK!  
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# JOB FAIR & Career Expo

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9-9-20

Hall, Gainesville parks departments taking these precautions in fall rec leagues



A T-ball player prepares to hit the ball Tuesday, Sept. 9, 2020, during a practice at North Hall Park. - photo by Scott Rogers

Nathan Berg

*The Times*

Updated: Sep 9, 2020, 5:07 PM

Stephen Howard and his son were ready to get back to a sense of normalcy.

Howard, a volunteer baseball coach for the Hall County Parks & Leisure fall league, said he's comfortable with the plan laid out by the county – which includes coaches wearing protective face coverings at all times – and was excited to get his son signed up to play.

“I just think it's important to keep them in activities, keep them busy,” Howard said. “It's just one of those things where it was important for him to play. I asked him if he wanted to play, and he wanted to play, so that's what we went with.” He said he hasn't heard any complaints from other parents about the precautions being taken.

Participation in fall baseball is down about 20% from last year, according to Wayne Briscoe, the youth sports athletic coordinator for the north half of Hall County. The sport is the only one being offered by Hall right now, with basketball starting later this fall.

In addition to mandating masks for all coaches, Hall County has also removed the bleachers from fields to prevent spectators from getting too close to each other. The county has also removed benches from inside dugouts, placing them outside of fences instead to keep players in a more open-air environment during games. Balls will also be sanitized between every inning, according to Briscoe.

He said that while the county has fielded several calls from parents curious about what precautions would be in place, everyone involved in fall baseball seems to be on the same page now with games set to start next week.

“For the most part, everybody’s happy to get out there and trying to get back to some sort of a normal participation,” Briscoe said. “Being able to do something.”



Gainesville Parks & Recreation is also just getting its fall youth sports seasons underway, with cross country already having started and football and cheerleading beginning soon. Kate Mattison, director of the city department, said the precautionary measures taken vary widely by the sport.

She said that while she's talked to several parents curious for details on the plan this fall, most of the parent feedback she has received has been overwhelmingly positive.

Mattison added that registration numbers for all fall sports are down between 20% and 25% compared to a normal year, which was expected.

Cross country, which had its first meet on Aug. 29, is using scheduled starts rather than lining up large groups of participants at the same time like in a normal year. All athletes are required to bring their own water bottles, and there will be no communal water fill-up areas. Team huddles are being limited, and coaches are asked to have their participants spread out as much as possible when explaining drills or rules.

With cross country being a largely individual sport as it is, Mattison said it's been fairly easy to prepare. Cheerleading and football have been a bit more complicated.

On the cheer side, Mattison said participants are avoiding all stunts and staying spread apart for routines. Cheerleaders are also required to bring their own water bottles, and coaches are advised to avoid huddles whenever possible and instead opt for more distance between athletes when explaining drills and routines.

Football players will be asked to follow the same precautions, and when contact is absolutely necessary, Mattison said Gainesville Parks & Rec is looking to the Georgia High School Association for guidance.

"There is close contact, but we're trying to do short bursts of it," she said. "I think that's kind of what all the high school teams have tried to do too."

"People are so excited to have something for their kids to do so they can get some social interaction," Mattison said. "I would say generally, that's been most of the feedback that we've gotten."

Thursday September 10th, 2020 10:55AM

## Gainesville administrative offices and buildings return to pre-COVID hours

By Tara Brolley *Anchor/Reporter*

City of Gainesville administrative offices and buildings downtown are now back to a pre-COVID schedule.

Facilities opening their doors to the public from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday include the Gainesville Administrative Building, historic Gainesville City Hall and Gainesville Community & Economic Development building (all located off Henry Ward Way), plus the Gainesville Public Safety Complex (located off Queen City Parkway).

There will be some adjustments to keep everyone safe and healthy, including social distancing, regular sanitization and limiting the number of visitors. Staff have also measured and taped off spaces on floors to ensure visitors remain 6 feet apart.

“We are continuing to ask that those who visit us in city-owned spaces wear masks when possible, especially when interacting with our staff,” Brian Lackey, Gainesville City Manager, said.

Some departments are also utilizing signage, ropes and a take-a-number system to control customer flow, limit public access to certain areas and streamline services.

“The situation surrounding our regular daily operations remains fluid, but we’re working to balance both the need to serve the public, as well as keep them and city staff safe during unpredictable times,” Lackey said.

Gainesville Department of Water Resources' internal customer service office, Gainesville Parks & Rec facilities and the Gainesville-Hall County Community Service Center remain closed to the public.

The city will continue to communicate all cancellations, closures and possible service interruptions on the city's website and on the Gainesville Georgia Government Facebook page.

# Hall, Gainesville parks departments taking precautions in fall rec leagues

BY NATHAN BERG  
nberg@gainesvilletimes.com

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## Some Gainesville facilities return to normal hours

Several city of Gainesville buildings have expanded their hours, returning to the same schedules from before the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Gainesville Administrative Building, historic Gainesville City Hall and Gainesville Community & Economic Development building, all located off Henry Ward Way, will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays. The city's Public

Safety Complex on Queen City Parkway, which houses the Gainesville police and fire departments, will also be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays.

Staff have measured and taped off spaces on floors to ensure visitors remain six feet apart, and facilities will be cleaned regularly.

"We are continuing to ask that those who visit us in city-owned spaces wear masks

when possible; especially when interacting with our staff," City Manager Bryan Lackey said in a statement.

Some city departments are also using signs, ropes and a take-a-number system to control customer flow and limit access to some areas.

"The situation surrounding our regular daily operations remains fluid, but we're working to balance

both the need to serve the public, as well as keep them and city staff safe during unpredictable times," Lackey said.

The Gainesville Department of Water Resources' internal customer service office, some Gainesville Parks and Recreation facilities and the Gainesville-Hall County Community Service Center are still closed.

Megan Reed  
9-12-20

Wear a MASK!  
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RESUME!

# JOB FAIR & Career Expo

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# Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce Job Fair and Career Expo to be social-distanced

By AccessWDUN Staff



The Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a Job Fair and Career Expo from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at the Gainesville Civic Center.

The free event will be held and will allow participants to meet employers and complete job applications onsite. According to Kit Dunlap, President of the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce, there will be 50 companies there, ready to hire.

“Bring a resumé, look pretty good, and be ready to talk to some of these folks,” Dunlap said.

There will be a few alterations because of COVID-19. All participants will be required to wear face masks and undergo temperature screenings. In addition, the event will utilize extra-wide aisles and larger booth spaces to allow for social distancing.

The Job Fair and Career Expo is organized by the Greater Hall Chamber, Gainesville Area Employers Committee, Lanier Technical College and the Georgia Department of Labor.

For more information about the event, contact Amanda Lewis at [alewis@ghcc.com](mailto:alewis@ghcc.com).

## Many looking for better jobs at chamber's first in-person job fair since COVID-19



Job seekers gather Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2020, at the Gainesville Civic Center for the The Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce job fair and career expo. This is the first in-person job fair the chamber has held since the COVID-19 pandemic, but it isn't its first in-person event. - photo by Scott Rogers

Jeff Gill *The Times* Updated: Sep 15, 2020, 4:30 PM

Around 600 mask-wearing job seekers and 48 prospective employers filled the Gainesville Civic Center Tuesday, Sept. 15, for the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce's fall job fair.

Tim Evans, the chamber's vice president of economic development, said within "the first two or three minutes, we had 150 people walk through the door."

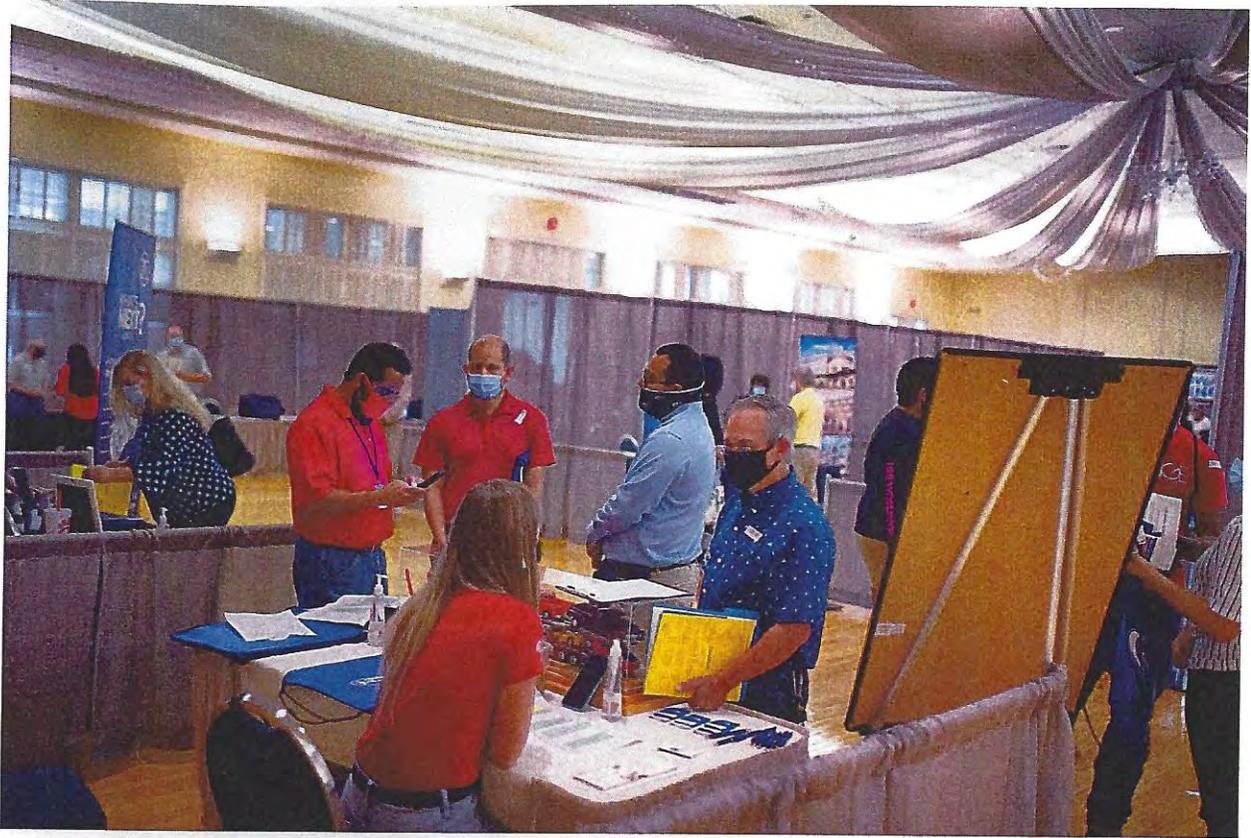
"We're excited to be able to do this," Evans said. "It's one of the most important events we do in the year."

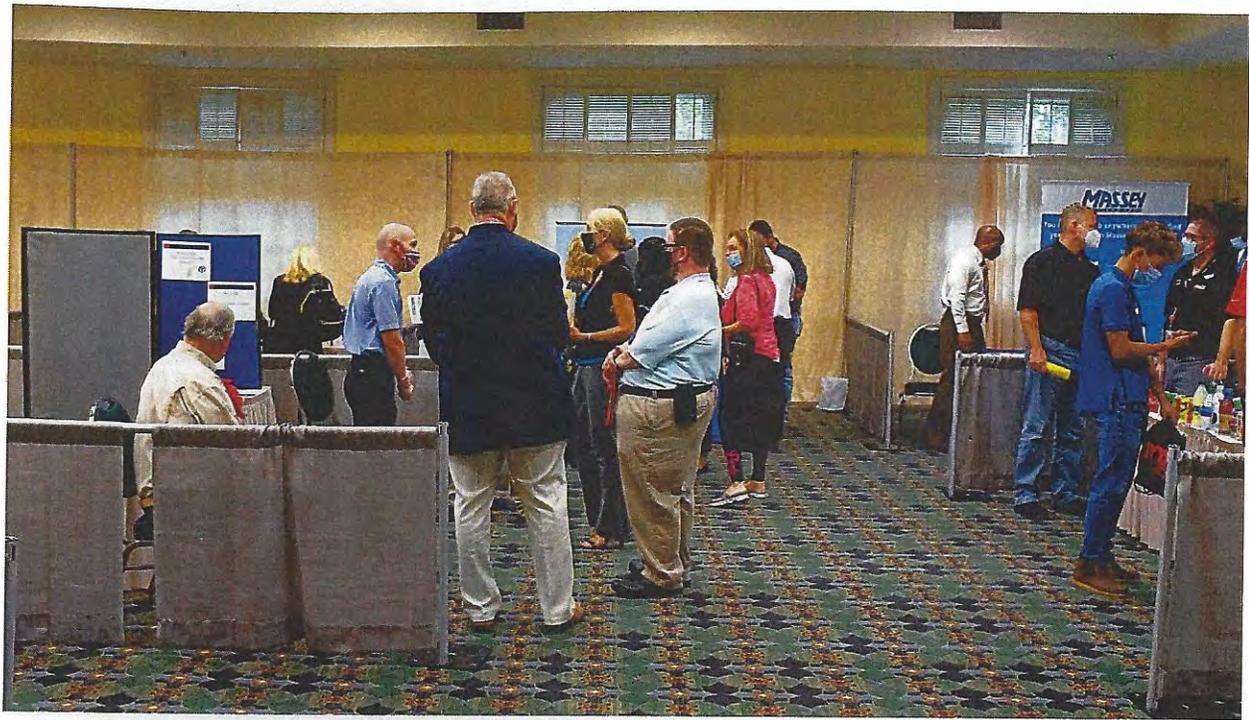
Many attendees told The Times they were lucky enough to stay employed during the pandemic and were simply looking for a new opportunity.

"We're like super busy and rarely getting days off," Cristian Ramos of Gainesville said of his company in Jefferson. "I just want something local and where I can get days off. And I don't want to be too busy that I don't spend time with my (2-year-old child)."

The event was the chamber's first in-person job fair since last year. The chamber had one scheduled in the spring, but it had to be canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Job seekers had their temperature checked at the civic center entrance and were urged to wear masks before entering the ballroom and other rooms where the event was taking place. Hand sanitizing stations were at locations throughout the job fair, and attendees could speak up close with employers at spaced-out booths.





# Job fair draws hundreds



Photos by **SCOTT ROGERS** | The Times

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## Around 600 prospective employees seek new opportunity

**BY JEFF GILL**  
jgill@gainesvilletimes.com

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