



The Rooks Report

many people...one community

November 25, 2013

Volume 1, Issue 9

Let's talk about it!

**"First Saturday Talk," December 7, 2013 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 11).



Shana M. Rooks,
Clayton County Commissioner—District 3

Tuesday, November 26, 2013, Shana M. Rooks & Associates, LLC (www.shanarookslaw.com) sponsored a Thanksgiving Reception for the constituents of District 3 and staff of Clayton County. The event was catered by Heavenly Gifted Caters (owner Vickie Price) and was a magnificent feast. At the end of the reception we were able to feed a needy family who had fallen on difficult times. Thanks to State Representative Demetrius Douglas for putting us in contact with the family.

I wanted to show my appreciation and my thankfulness for having this great opportunity to serve the citizens of District 3 and Clayton County as a whole. It is not lost on me the enormous responsibility and duty I have when I make decisions that affect your lives and your quality of life. It is a responsibility I take very

seriously. As I have said throughout the year, it will take all of us ensuring the viability of our great county. Many of you do it every day through your involvement in your Homeowner's Associations, Neighborhood Watch and other organized neighborhood groups. It's incumbent on all of us to be vigilant and intentional about our communities. Thank you for what you've done in the past, are doing now and what you will continue to do in the future.

I look forward to seeing you next Saturday, December 7th at my last Saturday meeting for the year. Happy Thanksgiving!!

In Service,

Your Commissioner Shana M. Rooks

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First Saturday Talk Change For 2014

In an effort to attend more home owners' association meetings throughout the year and other community sponsored events, I will hold quarterly Saturday Talks for 2014. I look forward to interacting with you more through the upcoming months but please don't forget we will have one last opportunity for us to hear from you and you to hear from our staff of great employees. We will see you on Saturday, December 7, 2013, at 10:00AM. The 2014 schedule of Quarterly meetings is below:



- 1st Quarter – January 4, 2014
- 2nd Quarter – May 3, 2014
- 3rd Quarter – September 6, 2014
- 4th Quarter – December 6, 2014



The vast majority of people calling Clayton County home want their neighborhoods and structures to stay in good condition as they age. For most citizens, a home is the largest investment they will ever make. One function of Code Enforcement is to protect this investment. If the individual property owner(s) or occupant(s) aren't maintaining their properties in accordance with the Community's Quality of Life Standards, Code Enforcement will enforce the County's Ordinances and/or International Property Maintenance Codes that are relevant to a given situation.

If a Code Enforcement Officer determines there is a violation, in most cases the property owner will receive a Notice of Violation (NOV). The NOV is merely a warning and will include information on how to correct the violation, the time frame in which the violation has to be corrected in order to avoid receiving a citation to appear before a Magistrate Judge where a fine could be levied, restitution awarded, and/or jail time imposed by the court. If the property owner requests additional time to cure the violation(s), a Code Enforcement Officer may review the request based on the progress made by the owner(s) or occupant(s) to cure the violation(s) and determine if the size and scope of the remaining violations can be corrected using resources at the violator's disposal. This includes but is not limited to the violator's personal or outside access to skilled or unskilled laborers, certified licensed electricians, plumbers, carpenters etc. If the Code Enforcement Officer's visual observation of corrected violations indicates improvements are being made at a reasonable pace, an extension may be granted with the approval of a supervisor as long as the violation(s) poses no imminent danger to human or wild life. If the violation is not corrected in addition to the issuance of a citation, Code Enforcement may initiate procedures to place a lien against the property and may deem the dwelling to be unfit for human occupancy. In such cases the Code Enforcement Official may seek a Condemnation Order from Magistrates Court requesting that the structure be demolished in accordance with County Ordinance.

The most common code violations include parking on the lawn, parking of commercial vehicles in residential neighborhoods, inoperable vehicles, trash debris, tall grass and improper placement and/or storage of portable basketball goals. All residential and business numerical or alpha numerical addresses must be visible from the road in a conspicuous place for easy identification by all official emergency responders.



For More Information, Contact
Grant Wainscott
Clayton County Office of Economic Development
770-477-4450
grant.wainscott@claytoncountyga.gov

Briggs Equipment to Bring 100 Jobs to Clayton County

Formal Announcement at New Facility This Friday, November 15th

ATLANTA (November 11, 2013) – The Clayton County Office of Economic Development released information today that Materials Handling Equipment giant Briggs Equipment (www.BriggsEquipment.com) is relocating its Atlanta facility from the Fulton Industrial area to Clayton County, bringing with it more than 100 jobs and millions in new investment. The formal announcement will be made at a press conference this Friday, November 15th at 8am, inside its new facility at 4695 Aviation Parkway, Atlanta.

The company will be tripling its Atlanta footprint, having acquired more than 120,000 square feet just south of the airport, on Aviation Parkway. The new facility will house sales and operations, including Equipment and Parts Sales, Service and Rentals, and plans to hire dozens of new positions within the next two years. More detailed information will be released at the press conference Friday.

An employee-owned company, Briggs Equipment is one of the oldest and most trusted Materials Handling Equipment providers in the country. They provide short and long-term rentals, sell parts, service equipment, and sell new and used premier Materials Handling Equipment. They also offer cutting edge Fleet Management strategies that can help reduce operating costs for customers.

According to Darrell Williams, Briggs' Regional Vice President, "We are committed to the Atlanta market, and our expansion plans into Clayton County will provide a strategic platform to allow us to successfully grow where our clients can easily access our team."

In a further testament to the stability of the airport market in Clayton County, Briggs purchased, rather than leased, its new location. This is the only other facility in the country that they actually own - it is second in size only to their branch in Houston, TX.

"As a global leader in materials handling, it is fitting that Briggs chose a strategic airport location in Clayton County," said Grant Wainscott, Director of Clayton County's Economic Development Office. "This further solidifies the recent move towards massive new investment that's taking place around the world's busiest airport."

About the Clayton County Office of Economic Development

The Clayton County Office of Economic Development is responsible for the retention and expansion of existing industries, the recruitment of new jobs and investment, and the global marketing of the world-class assets of Clayton County. For more information about the county's economic development efforts, visit their website at www.InvestClayton.com.

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DECEMBER 2013 PROGRAMS AT HEADQUARTERS LIBRARY

FAMILY STORYTIME

Tuesdays; December 3, 10, 31

Toddlers ages 21-36 months at 10:00 AM

Preschoolers ages 3-6 years at 11:00 AM

Enjoy interactive stories, songs, action verse and an extended activity. Advance registration is required but it is necessary to register **ONLY ONE TIME** for the entire series. You may register for a series any time, in person, by email, or by telephone. Series ends on January 21, 2014. Parents must remain in the story time with their children. *PLEASE NOTE:* This story time series is for families only and we regret that we cannot permit child care groups to attend this story time series. However, the library does schedule story times on other weekdays specifically for both in-home and center child care groups. Please ask staff for scheduling details.

PAJAMA-RAMA STORYTIME

Wednesdays; December 4, 11, 18

7:00-7:30 PM

Come have fun with us while we explore new stories and themes each week through books, music, games, and crafts. You may wear your pajamas, bring a blanket or stuffed animal.

*There will be no Pajama-Rama Storytime on December 25 & January 1 due to the Christmas and New Year holidays.

No registration - For all ages.

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS (F)(O)

Friday, December 13

4:30-5:15 PM

Get ready for the holidays with these useful and fun Christmas crafts. Use them as decorations or give them as holiday gifts.

For ages 4 & up.

Space and supplies are limited so come in, call, or email to reserve your space!

CELEBRATE KWANZAA (F)(O)

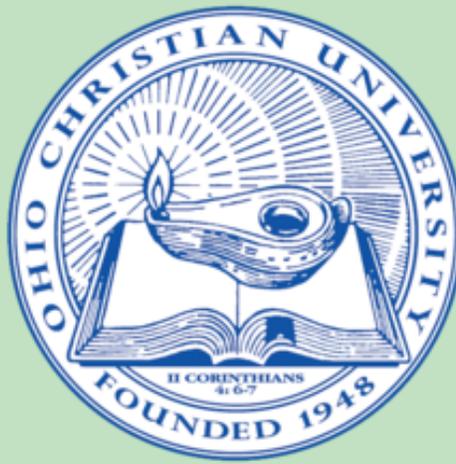
Thursday, December 26

2:00-3:00 PM

Come learn about the principles of Kwanzaa with us as we explore the traditions of this African-American holiday.

For ages 5 & up.

Come in, call or email to reserve your seat.



OHIO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Morrow Campus

Grand Opening and Dedication Ceremony

Wednesday, December 4, 2013

12:00-2:00 p.m.

Ohio Christian University Lobby

1550 Southlake Parkway,

Morrow, GA

12:00 noon: Meet and Greet with Hors D'oeuvres

12:30 p.m.: Dedication Service and Ribbon Cutting

1:00 to 2:00 p.m.: Open House and Hors D'oeuvres

RSVP TODAY!

Dr. Shawn B. Thomas

Phone: 770.500.2931

sthomas@ohiochristian.edu

PROJECT HARVEST

To help provide Holiday Food Boxes for **Meals on Wheels Seniors**

Help our county's homebound seniors
enjoy a bountiful holiday season with your donations.

Collection Dates: November 4th - December 16th

Drop-off Locations:

Frank Bailey Senior Center
6213 Riverdale Road in Riverdale

J Charley Griswell Senior Center
2300 Highway 138 SE in Jonesboro
(inside Clayton County International Park)

Clayton County Board of Commissioners Office
112 Smith Street in Jonesboro

Contact the Aging Program at 770-603-4050

Nonperishable Donations only please

Clayton County Senior Services Department



WINTER/SPRING 2014 SESSION DATES

SESSION	DATES	BREAK WEEK	REGISTRATION	LATE REGISTRATION
Session I (5 weeks)	January 6-February 8	February 10-February 15	December 23-January 4	January 6- January 10
Session II (5 weeks)	February 17-March 22	February 3-February 15	February 4-February 16	February 17-February 22
Session III (5 weeks)	March 31-May 3	March 5-March 10	March 17-March 29	March 31-April 5

To view available classes, please go to claytonparks.com.

Registration can be done at one of the recreation

Centers or online. Registration opens for winter/spring
sessions December 2013.



ONLINE REGISTRATION

The Parks & Recreation Department is offering
online registration for classes, programs and activities.

Visit the website for additional information.

ClaytonParks.com



Be an

Angel

to someone else
this Christmas Season



Call or visit the **Kinship Care Resource Center**
to adopt an Angel from the tree.

We can email or fax the information on an
Angel to you.

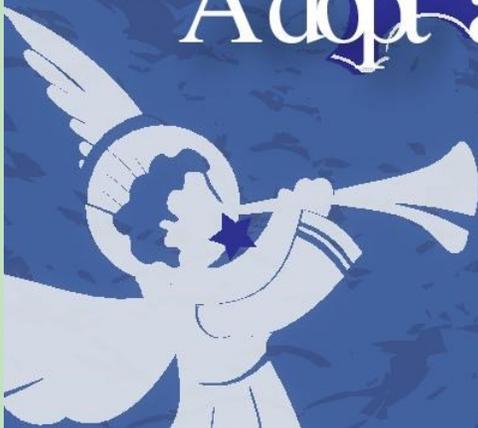
There is no set amount to spend;
any gift is appreciated.

Angels may be adopted from
now until December 15th

Adopt a child or family from

the Kinship Care Program

Call 770-477-3417
for more information.



The Clayton County Parks and Recreation Department
and Rainbow House, Inc. Presents

FESTIVAL OF *Trees and Lights*

Lights Tour

December 6-22, 2013

Tuesday - Thursday 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Cars - \$5.00 Vans - \$7.00 Buses \$15.00

Friday - Sunday 6:30pm - 9:00pm

Cars - \$7.00 Vans - \$10.00 Buses \$20.00

December 6-8, 13-15, 20-22, 2013

Live Entertainment, Pictures with Santa, Cake Walk,
Ginger Bread Making, Arts and Crafts, Game Area,

Santa Shop, Hay Rides and Concessions

Karaoke - Sunday nights starting at 7:00pm

(Activities provided by Rainbow House)

Clayton County International Park
2300 Highway 138, SE, Jonesboro
770-477-3766



www.claytonparks.com



Yule Log Celebration

Reynolds Nature Preserve
5665 Reynolds Road
Morrow, GA 30260

Friday, December 7, 2013
7:00pm

FREE EVENT with
Shuttle Service from
Babb Middle School

Bonfire, Storytelling, Music, Refreshments

770.477.3766



www.claytonparks.com

How Do I Find Out Who Owns a Home or Property in My Community?

The ownership of real property is usually public information. There are three options that you may choose: 1) You can go to claytoncountyga.gov, and select the Property Record Search under Quick Links. 2) You can call the tax assessors office with an address of the property in question or 3) you can go to the county courthouse (Superior Court Clerk) and get access to the public records.

NOTE: If the property is owned by a trust or other legal instrument, the information may be harder to find.



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	770-961-2130
Planning and Zoning	770-477-3577		

Connect with us on



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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

South Clayton Recreation Center

1837 McDonough Rd. , Hampton GA 30228

Saturday, December 7, 2013

10:00 am—12:00 pm

Join Our Clayton County Email List!

Just send your email address by text message:

Text

CLAYTON

to **22828** to get started.



Message and data rates may apply.

www.ClaytonCountyGA.gov

Comments

Commissioner Rooks,

Thanks so much for your listening and assisting regarding the grass cutting and refuge removal in our Sub Division--- Pan Handle Valley. You and your staff are to be commended for a job exceedingly well done.

From a concerned Clayton County community member.

Eddie

You are making a difference.
Keep up the great work!!!!!!