

the Sweet Life

City of Sugar Hill

www.cityofsugarhill.com

Local Food Bank Serves Those in Need with Canned Foods, Personal Hygiene Items and Lots of Love from the Community



There are co-ops. And then, there is the North Gwinnett Co-Op. More than a food pantry, the local private nonprofit serving Buford, Sugar Hill and Suwanee also pays utility bills, runs a thrift shop, offers tutoring and tends to seniors in need.

A step inside their operation will leave you awe-inspired by all they have to offer. The Co-Op recently more than doubled their space from 6,000 to 14,000 square feet. With three

separate bells for different doors – food delivery, thrift shop delivery and customer pickup – everything here is well thought out for the utmost efficiency. Donated clothes and décor are curated carefully before being placed on the sales floor of “Second Blessings.” The thrift shop is merchandised so beautifully by seven-year volunteer and newly appointed employee, Vernet Farmer, you might feel like you’re shopping at a brand name discount store. (But you’re not and the prices are even better, too.)

Always looking for ways to streamline operations, a perpendicular aisle was recently added between long rows of shelving. Thanks to

eight football players from Lanier High School who lifted and moved the tall and heavy metal structures, it’s now much easier for the food bank’s volunteers to shop in the warehouse for their client’s Ragu Pasta Sauce and Honey Nut Cheerios.

Thanks to a partnership with three local Publix Super Markets, freshly baked bread, pastries, peanut butter, and jelly are distributed daily. Macy’s dropped off 1,700 formal gowns and Easter dresses to be sold in “Second Blessings”. Proceeds from their sale at \$30 each will go to pay utility bills for people in need.

Generous corporate gifts aside, many of the donations made to the North Gwinnett Co-Op don’t come from large grocery or department store chains at all. Rather, it’s individuals and groups that host themed food drives such as “Taco’bout” and “Pajama Party” to collect taco kits and boxed cereals respectively. The food pantry has found great success in encouraging local businesses, schools, churches, and community organizations to take pride in making a difference in our communities.

With seven full-time staff members and 120 volunteers working in shifts of 20-30 people at a time, the North Gwinnett Co-Op is a well-oiled machine that serves those in need with dignity. If you’d like to donate food, clothes, or home décor, visit the Co-Op’s website, northgwinnettcoop.org/current-needs/

The North Gwinnett Cooperative is located at 4395 Commerce Drive in Buford. Donations are accepted Monday from noon - 8 p.m. and Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The Second Blessings Thrift Store is open on Monday 4 - 8 p.m. and Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

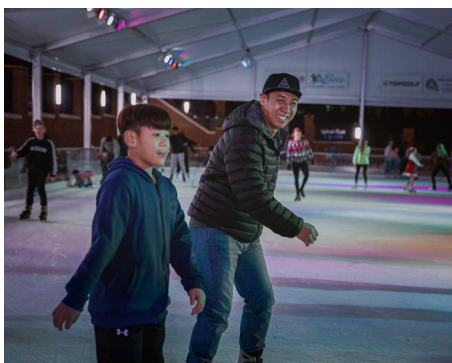
City of Sugar Hill's Department of Public Safety



In 2021, the city welcomed Diane King, our first-ever City Marshal and Department of Public Safety Director. The new department will have four additional officers and an administrative assistant. Its mission is not about writing tickets or speed enforcement. It is about community policing, coordinating city-wide emergency operations, and providing an enhanced level of public safety in our downtown, parks, greenway, and neighborhoods. The department will also coordinate the activities of the city's new private security patrol contractor, Insight Protection Services (IPS) and serve as the city's liaison with the Gwinnett Police Department and area agencies.

Shop Local in Sugar Hill

From ice cream cones, nachos, craft cocktails and brunch to clothing, handmade items, and accessories, we're proud so many wonderful eateries and shops call downtown Sugar Hill home. After all, it's their special and unique offerings that make our charming city thrive. Sugar Hill is proud of our independently owned restaurants and shops who bring special, unique, and tasty offerings to our community. Please keep these wonderful small businesses in mind during the holiday gift giving season! For a complete list of businesses in Sugar Hill, visit <https://cityofsugarhill.com/app/business-list/>.



Have An Ice Day at the Ice Rink @ Sugar Hill

Can you believe the Ice Rink @ Sugar Hill is the same size as the rink at Rockefeller Center in New York City? At 60' x 120', it is the largest portable outdoor ice-skating rink in the southeast and is right in our own City Hall's backyard! The rink opens for the holiday season on Thursday, November 11. Hours of operation are Thursdays, 5-9 p.m., Fridays 4-10 p.m., Saturdays 11 a.m. -11 p.m., Sundays 1-8 p.m. General admission with skate rental is \$13 for adults and \$11 for children. Season passes cost \$129.00. The rink is also available for private parties. For more information, call 770-554-7506 or visit www.haidrink.com

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT ANUNCIO DE SERVICIO PÚBLICO

Would you like information
about the Vaccine for
COVID-19?



Vaccines for COVID-19



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention

Centros para el Control y la
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información acerca de la
vacuna contra COVID-19?



Vacunas contra el COVID-19



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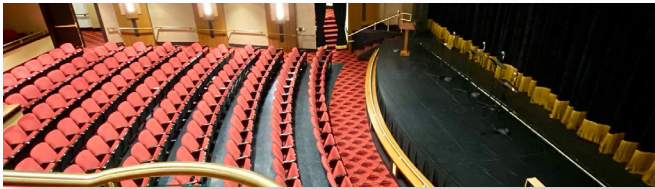
Gwinnett County Fireplace Safety



There's nothing quite like lighting your fireplace on a chilly winter day. Gather the family to bask in the warmth and glow of the fire and stay safe this winter with these building safety tips:

- Use dry and well-aged wood. Wet or green wood causes more smoke and contributes to soot buildup in the chimney. Dried wood burns with less smoke and burns more evenly.
- Even if the chimney is not due for cleaning, it is important to check for animal nests or other blockages that could prevent smoke from escaping.
- For direct-vent fireplaces, make sure the damper stays open when the fireplace is running. The open damper will allow all the carbon monoxide to escape out of the chimney, but a closed damper will force the carbon monoxide into your home which is dangerous.
- Clean out ashes from previous fires. Levels of ash at the base of the fireplace should be kept to one inch or less because a thicker layer restricts the air supply to logs, resulting in more smoke.

Broad St. Film Fest



The Broad St. Film Fest is a gathering of storytellers and audiences seeking new adventures, experiences, and perspectives. This program includes various genres of short films such as comedies and documentaries, ranging from high school, college, and professional submissions. Hear from filmmakers and speakers through panel discussions and Q&As. The BSFF Team created this festival in an effort to help the City of Sugar Hill continue transforming into a hub for art, culture, and entertainment.

Open to filmmakers across the globe, the Broad St. Film Fest screens professionals, first-time creators, students, national and international projects to celebrate the art of filmmaking. The final deadline to submit a film is January 6. Apply, www.filmfreeway.com/BroadStFilmFest.

Donate a Toy to the Susan Roebuck Santa Shop Day and Get a Special Holiday Treat!



Each year, the North Gwinnett Co-Op invites parents of sponsored children to attend their Santa Shop Day. Named after Susan Roebuck, a community champion, parents can pick out toys for their kids at no cost. New toys and gifts are needed to make the Santa Shop Day a success. Gifts for all ages, especially teen gifts are needed. Ideas for teen girls include bath and body products, hair accessories, jewelry, make-up, perfume, scarves, and gift cards. Ideas for teen boys include baseball hats, wallets, watches, socks, cologne, and gift cards. You can help brighten a family's holiday by dropping off a toy/gift inside the customer service lobby at Sugar Hill's City Hall. For every donation, you'll receive a voucher to see "The Muppets Christmas Carol" at the Eagle Theatre on December 14. You may also bring your toy/gift donation with you to the show for free admittance.

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Ready to Dig?

We'll help you do it safely! Call 811 at least a few days before you start any digging project. Whether you are planning to do it yourself or hire a professional, smart digging means calling 811 before each job.



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Election Results

Brandon Hembree (Mayor-Elect), Mason Roszel (Post #1), Jenn Thatcher (Post #3), Nic Greene (Post #4), and Taylor Anderson (Post #5) were certified as the winners of the election. Special Election Posts #1 and #3 were sworn into office on Monday, November 8 at Sugar Hill's November City Council meeting. For

more information on the 2021 Municipal Elections, please visit <https://cityofsugarhill.com/2021-election-results/>.



Enjoy some of the most memorable moments in Sugar Hill for the year 2021!



Stay up to date with what's happening in the city by subscribing to Snapshot, the city's monthly overview of what's going on in Sugar Hill broken down into three categories: Events, Programs, and News. <https://cityofsugarhill.com/newsletter/profile/>. Enjoy some of the most memorable moments in Sugar Hill for the year 2021.

1. The Bowl at Sugar Hill won the Best Public Improvement Project award! This space has created a true center of the community in Downtown Sugar Hill. The Bowl is home to sold-out rock and roll shows like Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo, as well as intimate, backyard-like concerts where performers can play acoustically. With nine Sugar Hill Live On Stage concerts in 2021, The Bowl even welcomed a taste of New Orleans with Preservation Hall Jazz Band and Tank & The Bangas with special guest Sweet Crude. The city is proud of what The Bowl represents for cities across Georgia and hopes to continue bringing in a variety of acts and performances for community-wide entertainment for its upcoming 8th concert season.

2. The Eagle Theatre with its art deco style featuring geometric shapes, rich colors, and gold accents, pays homage to the early days of Sugar Hill. Today, the theatre is home to the Players Guild, the theatre's in-house performance troupe, drawing in some of the best talent around Sugar Hill. Whether you've attended a Players Guild show, one of over 25 \$2 Tuesdays or if you're planning to attend John Berry's Silver Anniversary Tour, the Eagle Theatre will leave you staring in awe.

3. Sugar Hill is in the Hall of Fame, the Georgia Municipal Association's Hall of Fame that is! Mayor Steve Edwards was one of five city leaders inducted into the Hall of Fame at GMA's Annual Convention in Savannah. One key to Sugar Hill's success is the high value the city places on quality of life. This commitment to quality of

life is exemplified in the city's initiative to develop a 16.5-mile Sugar Greenway. The end of this year marks five completed miles of the trail! During his terms, 2014 - 2021, Edwards and other officials turned Sugar Hill into a walkable community with retail, restaurants, and entertainment. He proudly embraces the Sugar Hill motto of "Go Big or Go Home."

4. Sugar Hill is a thriving city where communities enjoy the sweet life, full of local treasures like the city's community groups, with at least 12 groups to choose from. The volunteers that make up these groups are pivotal in a successful quality of place. These groups include:

Sugar Hill Arts Commission, Black Women's Association of Sugar Hill, Broad St. Concert Band, Sugar Hill Business Alliance, Community Garden, Downtown Development Authority, Friends of the Greenway, Sugar Hill Historic Preservation Society, Players Guild, Sugar Hill Planning Commission, Sugar Hill Area Women's Club, Youth Ambassadors, Youth Council. For more information on each group and how to get involved, visit www.cityofsugarhill.com.

5. The city and its community groups hosted a record number of events like the Black Women's Association's second-annual Juneteenth event, Sugar Hill's Community Garden 10-year anniversary celebration, and Sugar Hill Historic Cemetery clean-ups with hundreds of volunteers. The Sugar Hill Art Gallery & History Museum celebrated its one-year anniversary. Throughout its first year, the Art Gallery & History Museum brought unique exhibits that focused on our future while keeping a deep-rooted appreciation for the past.

Rumor has it that the 2022's event calendar will be announced soon. Stay tuned! The city looks forward to having you in Sugar Hill.