

Bowling Spirit Night fundraiser Friday to help local woman who lives with paralysis, uses wheelchair

From staff reports

STONE MOUNTAIN — On Friday, July 17, bowl for a cause at a Bowling Spirit Night fundraiser at Stars and Strikes in Stone Mountain. Funds raised benefit the nonprofit Help Hope Live in honor of Bariyah Gilmer, who needs a wheelchair accessible vehicle to keep rolling to independence. The event is Friday, July 17 from 4 to 10 p.m. at Stars and Strikes, 1741 Mountain Industrial Blvd., Stone Mountain. An Ellenwood resident for the past year and a Georgia resident for six years, Gilmer was born with a physi-



Special photo

The July 17 fundraiser will help Bariyah Gilmer, an Ellenwood woman who needs a wheelchair accessible vehicle. cal disability that led to the need for multiple surgeries in her teen years to address clubbed feet and dislocated knees.

Around puberty, she began to experience escalating weakness in her hands and legs. She was rushed to the ER when she was 16 and received emergency surgery to stabilize her spinal cord. Now 32, she is living with ongoing challenges related to paralysis and she uses a scooter to get around. Despite these challenges, she has spent her life participating fully in her community and embracing the hope of an independent future. She participated in extensive therapies to regain as much mobility as possible. She completed high school from home during her recovery and attended Florida International University on campus. Gilmer is more than her disabilities. “I believe one of the first things people notice about me is my smile,” she said. “You will almost always catch me smiling or being silly.” She loves reading, learning new skills, Hello Kitty and Cadillacs. “I have learned to live with my new normal,” she explained. “I have tried not to let my physical limitations keep me from accomplishing my dreams.” There is now an obstacle standing in the way of a healthy and independent

future. Insurance will not cover the cost of a wheelchair accessible van, which means she is facing \$50,000 out of pocket to continue engaging with her community, attending critical medical appointments, and independently participating in everyday tasks such as grocery shopping. That’s why she turned to the medical fundraising nonprofit Help Hope Live. Her community has already rallied to raise over \$1,000 in her honor at <https://helphopelive.org/campaign/25769/>. Donations to Help Hope Live are tax deductible to the

extent allowed by law, and all funds raised will be administered by the nonprofit to cover verified medical and related expenses. Help Hope Live verifies medical and financial need for every patient. Help Hope Live is a national nonprofit that specializes in engaging communities in secure, tax-deductible fundraising campaigns for people who need a transplant or are affected by a catastrophic injury or illness. Since 1983, campaigns organized by Help Hope Live have raised over \$194 million to pay patient expenses, assisting more than 25,000 patient families.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

From staff reports

MEGA WATCHFEST

A Mega WatchFest is scheduled Wednesday, July 15 from noon to 6 p.m. at The Arena at Southlake, 1300 Southlake Circle, Morrow, for the World Cup semifinals. Admission and parking are free.

BUBBLE PARTY AT SPIVEY SPLASH

Clayton County Parks and Recreation presents an after-hours Bubble Party Wednesday, July 15 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Spivey Splash Water Park, 2300 Walt Stephens Road, Jonesboro. Cost is \$10 but free for Typhoon Season Pass holders. No outside food or drinks are permitted but concessions will open. For more information, email Kierra.cordell@claytoncountygga.gov.

SOCCER ON THE GREEN

Lovejoy Soccer on the Green is Wednesday, July 15 from 3 to 9 p.m. at Bobby Cartwright Park and Lovejoy Event Center. The free event will feature music, entertainment, a watch party, food trucks, vendors and soccer activities.

SUMMER STORYTIMES

Summer Storytimes with Clayton County District 1 Commissioner Alaina Reaves will be held July 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Morrow Library, 6225 Maddox Road, Morrow; July 27 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Headquarters Library, 865 Battle Creek Road, Jonesboro; and Aug. 6 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. at the Forest Park Library, 4812 West St., Forest Park.

BLOOD DRIVE

The Clayton County Police Department hosts an American Red Cross Blood Drive Thursday, July 16 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Police Headquarters, 7911 N. McDonough St., Jonesboro.

BACK TO SCHOOL RALLY

Bread Basket Ministries will host a free Back to School Rally on Saturday, July 18 at 10 a.m. at Southern Regional Medical Center, 11 Upper Riverdale Road, Riverdale.

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

Clayton County Parks and Recreation hosts a Back to School Bash Saturday, July 18 from a.m. to noon at the Jim Huie Recreation Center, 9045 Tara Blvd., Jonesboro. For more information, call Center Manager Jessica Gilchrist at 678-758-4092.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The Lovejoy National Night Out at Music on the Green is Wednesday, July 19 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Lovejoy Event Center, 11596 Hastings Bridge Road. For more information, visit, www.cityoflovejoy.com.

WOMEN IN BUSINESS MIXER

Clayton County Commissioner Tashé Allen is hosting the Women in Business Mixer Wednesday, July 22 from noon to 2 p.m. at B'Mari Events & Art Studio, 106 N. McDonough St., Jonesboro.

DIVE IN MOVIE

Clayton County Parks and Recreation is hosting an after-hours Dive In Movie Night featuring the movie Shark Tale” Wednesday, July 22 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Spivey Splash Water Park, 2300 Walt Stephens Road, Jonesboro. Cost is \$10 but free for Typhoon Season Pass holders. No outside food or drinks are permitted but concessions will open. For more information, email Kierra.cordell@claytoncountygga.gov.

FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY

Lovejoy Food Truck Friday will be held July 24 and Aug. 28 from sunup to sundown at the Lovejoy Food Truck Park, 11715 Hastings Bridge Road, Lovejoy.

CCPS BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

Clayton County Back to School Bash is July 25 from 10 a.m. to noon at Jonesboro High School. There will be school supplies, face painting, art corner, music, community resources, haircuts, food, cotton candy and performances by the Jonesboro and Mt. Zion bands.

MOVIE UNDER THE STARS

Clayton County Parks and Recreation will host a Movie Under the Stars featuring “Zootopia 2” Saturday, July 25 at 7:30 p.m. at Lake Spivey Recreation Center, 2300 Walt Stephens Road, Jonesboro. For more information, email brandon.mcclester@claytoncountygga.gov

COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY

Rock Church of Atlanta hosts a Community Block Party Saturday, July 25 from noon to 3 p.m. at Rock Church of Atlanta, 4815 Courtney Drive, Forest Park.

BACKPACK BASH

Clayton County Tax Commissioner Danielle Smith will host a free Backpack Bash Saturday, July 25 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The District at Southlake Mall, 1065 Olde Town Road, Morrow. For more information, call 770-473-5902 or email tax-commissioner@claytoncountygga.gov.

JAZZ SIP AND PAINT

Clayton County Board of Commissioners Chair Alieka Anderson-Henry and Clayton County Parks and Recreation Director Nicole Horne present Jazz Sip and Paint featuring live jazz singer Phillippa on Saturday, July 25 from 4 to 6 p.m. at The Meadow at Clayton County International Park, 2300 Walt Stephens Road, Jonesboro. For more information, email amiya.law@claytoncountygga.gov.

BACK TO SCHOOL COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

A Back to School Community Health Fair is Saturday, July 25 at 11 a.m. at RCCG Mt. Zion, 5405 Jonesboro Road, Lake City. There will be free backpacks and school supplies, free health screenings, free haircuts, music, children’s activities, giveaways for parents and more.

FOOD DRIVE

Clayton County Community Services Authority is holding a food drive through July 31. Donations of canned food, dry foods and non-perishable items are accepted. Donate at 1000 Main St., Forest Park. For more information, call 404-363-0575.

BACK TO SCHOOL SHOWCASE

Clayton County Board of Commissioners Chair Alieka Anderson-Henry presents the 2026 Back to School Showcase Saturday, Aug. 1 from 2 to 5 p.m. at Southlake Mall, 1000 Southlake Circle, Morrow. It’s a free event.

FLAG FOOTBALL

The Clayton County Sports & Entertainment Council, in partnership with Clayton County Parks and Recreation, presents the Girls Flag Football 7-on-7 Summer Tournament, hosted by former NFL player Evan Oglesby. The event is Saturday, Aug. 1 at 9 a.m. at the Lovejoy Soccer Complex, 1935 McDonough Road, Hampton. It’s open to girls in grades 6 to 12. Interested teams should register by Friday, July 17 at <https://www.clayton-parks.com/girls-flag-football-tournament/>.

www.news-daily.com

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Mayor and Council will review and discuss the items listed below during their Work Session on Monday, August 3, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers of the Jonesboro City Center, located at 1859 City Center Way, Jonesboro, GA 30236. A public hearing to consider these items will be held on Monday, August 10, 2026, also at 6 P.M. at the Jonesboro City Center Council Chambers, 1859 City Center Way, Jonesboro, GA 30236.

GATEWAY SOUTH OVERLAY DISTRICT MAP UPDATE

City of Jonesboro to consider the correction of clerical display errors to the Gateway South Overlay District, Article V, Sec. 86-118 of the Jonesboro Zoning Code, as displayed on Official City of Jonesboro Zoning Map.

ZONING MAP ADOPTION

City of Jonesboro to consider the re-adoption of the Official City of Jonesboro Zoning Map, as required by Section 86-74 of the Jonesboro Code of Ordinances, including all recent map amendment activity, correction of general clerical errors, and necessary clerical corrections to the Gateway South Overlay District.

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26-TA-001 – TABLE OF USES, SECTION 86-204

City of Jonesboro to consider a text amendment regarding further revisions and updates to the “Table of Uses Allowed by Zoning District”, Section 86-204, of Article VI – Conditional Uses, Chapter 86 – Zoning, of the City of Jonesboro Code of Ordinances.

26-TA-002 – ARTICLE VI – CONDITIONAL USES

City of Jonesboro to consider a text amendment regarding further revisions and updates to Article VI – Conditional Uses, Chapter 86 – Zoning, of the City of Jonesboro Code of Ordinances, corresponding to revisions and updates to the “Table of Uses Allowed by Zoning District”, Section 86-204.

26-TA-003 – ARTICLE XVII – ADDITIONAL CONDITIONAL USES

City of Jonesboro to consider a text amendment regarding further revisions and updates to Article XVII – Additional Conditional Uses, Chapter 86 – Zoning, of the City of Jonesboro Code of Ordinances, corresponding to revisions and updates to the “Table of Uses Allowed by Zoning District”, Section 86-204.

City of Jonesboro



JONESBORO, GEORGIA

PUBLIC NOTICE

SPECIAL CALLED COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2026 AT 5:00 P.M.

The Mayor and Council of the City of Jonesboro, Georgia will hold a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, July 16, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in the City’s Council Chamber located at the City of Jonesboro’s City Center, 1859 City Center Way, Jonesboro, Georgia 30236.

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
- IV. COUNCIL TO CONSIDER A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ALLIANCE GROUP, INC. TO DEVELOP, ADVERTISE, AND MANAGE THE RFP PROCESS REGARDING AN INDEPENDENT EMPLOYEE CLIMATE SURVEY
- V. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING A PERSONNEL MATTER
- VI. ADJOURNMENT

Shandrella Jewett, City Clerk
Submitted: 07/10/2026