



Dawsonville Profile

City News for the Residents of Dawsonville—MARCH 2024

Message from your Councilmember

Welcome to March! As the old saying goes “in like a lion and out like a lamb”. According to the Radar Omega satellite that is located on top of the building at City Hall, we have received 4.48 inches of rain since the beginning of March. We just experienced the time change to Daylight savings time and will soon see more hours of daylight each day.

I am so excited to be your newest elected City Council member representing Post 3 in the City of Dawsonville. I would like to take this time to introduce myself, Sandy Sawyer.

Prior to being elected to City Council, I served on the City of Dawsonville Planning Commission in an appointed position from March 2021 until December 2023.

I grew up in the Friendship Community of Forsyth County and was raised by my parents James and Sue Daniell who just celebrated 45 years of marriage. I have lived in the City of Dawsonville since 2003 with my fiancée, Michael and son, Logan Sawyer who is a sophomore at Dawson County High School.

I graduated in 1997 from Forsyth Central High School in Cumming, GA. From there I attended Gainesville State University and Lanier Technical College in 2000 where I obtained my practical nursing degree to start my medical career. I started my medical career with Anderson Family Medicine in 2010 with Dr. Larry Anderson and will celebrate 14 years of service in 2024. I am mostly known for having a big heart and willingness to help my patients with any issues they may have. Patient advocacy is very important to me and is essential for coordinating patient care and wellbeing.

Michael and I started Dawson Elite Towing and Recovery in October 2018 serving the City of Dawsonville and all surrounding counties. When I am not working, I enjoy spending time with family, outdoors activities (camping, fishing, and kayaking). The majority of my free time is spent travelling all over North Georgia to different baseball fields watching my son, Logan play Dawson County High School baseball. Go Tigers!


I look forward to serving the City of Dawsonville and I thank you all for your words of encouragement, prayers and support.

The month of March was declared Colorectal Awareness month and a proclamation was signed recently by Mayor Walden and presented at our last City Council meeting to Jason Miller, COO and Dr. Haoran Peng from GI North. The American Cancer Society recommends that people at average risk of colorectal cancer start regular screening at age 45. People at increased or high risk of colorectal cancer may need to start colorectal cancer screening before age 45 with consideration of family history of colorectal cancer and certain types of polyps. Remember to schedule your screening exam with your gastroenterologist.



Sandy Sawyer

2024 Government Meetings held at City Hall upstairs in the G.L. "Pete" Gilleland Council Chambers. The public is invited to attend.

- 5:00PM Mayor & City Council Regular Mtgs: JAN 17 FEB 5 MAR 4 MAY 6 JUN 3 AUG 5 OCT 7 NOV 4 DEC 2
- 5:00PM Mayor & Council Work Sessions: FEB 19 MAR 18 APR 15 MAY 20 JUN 17 JUL 15 AUG 19 SEP 16 OCT 21 NOV 18 DEC 16
- 5:30PM Dawsonville Planning Commission: FEB 12 MAR 11 APR 8 MAY 13 JUN 10 JUL 8 AUG 12 SEP 9 OCT 14 NOV 12 DEC 9
- 5:30PM Historic Preservation Commission: FEB 26 APR 22 JUN 24 AUG 26 OCT 28 DEC 3
- 5:30PM Dawsonville Downtown Development Authority: JAN 22 MAR 25 MAY 9 JUL 22 SEP 23 NOV 7 * Watch live on Facebook 



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A message from your City Manager...

Spring is on its way, as we welcomed daylight savings time and look forward to our Easter celebrations. I am sure that Mother Nature is not done with us and winter, but at least we are starting to get some nice spring-like days.

Your new and expanded skate park is receiving tremendous use, as are your new basketball court and four pickleball courts. We have an executed IGA with Dawson County Schools for use of a portion of their property that adjoins Main Street Park for expansion of our very popular disc golf. We will begin laying out the course in the next several weeks. We are excited about these new recreation opportunities.

Work is underway preparing for a new distillery and brewery in the City Hall complex as the buildout is nearing completion. Granddaddy Mimms from Blairsville will be the vendor and they hope to be open in May. Work is also underway on renovation of space in the same complex that will be the home of a new restaurant. The restaurant will be managed by Marla and Donnie Nix who own and operate the Station House in Cumming. Additionally, the patio area on the Food Lion side of the complex will be renovated and upgraded. The Dawsonville History Museum/GA Racing Hall of Fame has been notified of an award of a \$500,000.00 grant that will be used for a new exhibit, upgraded audio-visual improvements, and racing simulators. Keep an eye out for more information.

Spring starts our new season of special events with our first Food Truck Friday of the year on May 3rd, followed by June 7th, July 12th, August 2nd, September 6, October 4, and November 23rd, which will also be our tree lighting event. Mark your calendars for our May 11, 2024 - Gospel in the Park, a gospel music festival in Main Street Park. Acts already confirmed for the event, include Randy & Mary Perry (Randy of the original The Perrys), Raven Harris (possibly the entire Raven Welch Band), in the works Jaden's Call, Karen Peck and New River with Josh Sims of Premier Rendition providing technical assistance with audio and lights. The contract is in place with the DDA for the acts they are paying for. There will be food trucks and vendors selling gifts for Mom, since the event will be held on Mother's Day weekend.



Bob Bolz

I shared information about the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities last month and their efforts to roll out their 988 system. 988 is emerging as the 911 of behavioral health. 988 was established for Georgians for suicide prevention and behavioral health crises. Callers are connected to a trained staff member who can help address immediate needs and connect the callers to care resources, 24-hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. For more information visit <https://988ga.org>.



Basketball, pickleball and new skate park are now open!

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City Staff at your service

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emergencies, call (706) 265-3256**