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City of Sugar Hill

Lanier STEM Program Helps Preserve Sugar Hill's Past



As cemeterian for the Sugar Hill Cemetery, part of Stephanie Isaacs' job is to research forgotten names and recognize those who are laid to rest in the city's burial grounds. "It's our job to remember the person and their history," said Isaacs.

Established in 1886, some gravestones were

never marked while others, like a memorial cross made with wooden table legs, rotted away. Isaacs tried several ideas to commemorate the deceased including aluminum markers, but found the material was not durable.

So she turned to Mike Reilly, head of the Science, Engineering, Technology, Math (STEM) department at Lanier High School. "Mike grabs a problem and tries to figure it out," says Isaacs.

Reilly, the dedicated, energetic, and talented leader of the STEM program at Lanier High School began brainstorming ideas right away and remembered the 8" x 12" slabs MTI Baths donated to his department. The luxury bath manufacturer based in Sugar Hill is dedicated to recycling materials such as its mineral-based countertops. Reilly wondered if he could use the machinery in his STEM lab to engrave names onto the recycled material.

He and his team of high school STEM students experimented with different blades on the Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Router. "Computers do everything a whole lot faster than humans," said Reilly. The plan worked and now Lanier's STEM department is busy creating more than 60 gravestones for the Sugar Hill Cemetery.

Each marker takes under an hour to make. During the process, the stones are held down by a suction vacuum as the blade imprints the name and life span of the deceased.

The STEM department's home is a large workroom with the CNC Router, more cutting machines, 3D printers, robotic equipment and an adjoining computer lab where creativity and teamwork are encouraged in a project-based learning environment. Several STEM students cannot get enough as they give up sleeping in during summer to attend Reilly's class instead.

His commitment to STEM at North Gwinnett High School, where he taught until moving to Lanier High School in 2010, has paid off with grants awarded by State Farm the last seven years. In 2021, State Farm donated \$24,000 to help Reilly expand the robotics program for Gwinnett County Public School's K-12th graders. State Farm has now donated more than \$100,000 to this program.

Lanier High School is a model program which offers welding, biotechnology, and robotics. Reilly's philosophy is to provide an environment where all students are welcome and challenged to contribute and solve problems in their own way.

"We appreciate how Lanier High School is working with the city to honor our community's past," said Brandon Hembree, Sugar Hill City Council Member. "Their gravestones beautify the Sugar Hill Cemetery, an important part of our Downtown."

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Soofa Signs are in Sugar Hill

What do you love most about the City of Sugar Hill?

Weigh in at one of our three smart, social and sustainable Soofa signs around downtown!

Join The City of Sugar Hill Youth Council

Over the past year, the Sugar Hill Youth Council has worked toward social and political youth awareness within the city. The team of eight students from high schools around Sugar Hill attended events targeting cities, such as Cities United. Each member on the council remained informed about new laws and volunteer opportunities. This year, Youth Council plans to focus on downtown activities and other opportunities, leading to a well-informed youth voice in the Sugar Hill community.

Members are between ages of 14 and 18 years old, attend a local school, or are home schooled in Sugar Hill. If you'd like to learn about local government and how a city functions, please visit the City of Sugar Hill website or follow Youth Council on social media at **@YouthofSugarHill.**



Gwinnett County Public Schools Is Hiring Bus Drivers



Hourly rates for the 2021-22 school year start at \$17.98 and go up to \$25.48, drivers are guaranteed six or more hours each day. Enjoy all the benefits that come with driving for GCPS, including weeknights and weekends off, summers off with full pay, and full health benefits with employer contribution. Gwinnett County Public Schools provides you with full pay while you are trained for your CDL by certified trainers, using an award-winning curriculum. Drivers must be 21 years or older, have a high school diploma or GED, and a good driving record.

For more information on how to apply or for upcoming job fairs, please visit the Gwinnett County Public Schools website, under the careers tab or text **drive4gcps** to **81010**.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT ANUNCIO DE SERVICIO PÚBLICO

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



Vaccines for COVID-19

CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades ¿Te gustaría obtener información acerca de la vacuna contra COVID-19?



Vacunas contra el COVID-19







Outdoor Activities To Enjoy This Summer

Visit one of Sugar Hill's many outdoor spaces this summer. Whether you're looking for turf fields to play football or soft sands for volleyball, we have a park for all your activities. Choose between Gary Pirkle Park, E.E. Robinson Park North and/or South. Take a walk or run on the Sugar Hill Greenway or enjoy the views of North Georgia's foothills at the Sugar Hill Golf Club.

Gary Pirkle Park: Three synthetic turf fields, two natural grass fields, giant covered playground, 1.7 paved walking trail, picnic pavilions, and community garden

Sugar Hill Golf Club: Open to the public featuring a full-service pro shop, driving range and practice green, full-service bar and grill, banquet and conference facility, free WiFi, and an 18-hole course

Greenway Update: In May, completed paving of the segment of trail through E.E. Robinson Park North. Walk, jog, run, or bike along the trail on Level Creek Road

Splash Park at the Plaza: Parents and friends can enjoy watching the fountain from the adjacent Family Plaza while sitting at one of eight picnic tables nestled under four large shade umbrellas

E.E. Robinson North: Baseball and softball fields, pickleball courts, sand volleyball courts, community garden, and a covered playground

E.E. Robinson South: Football/multi-purpose field with track, tennis court, playground, and a splash pad

Sign Up For Summer Exercise Classes At The E Center

Sign up for an exercise class this summer at the E Center! Classes are available for all ages. Come for cardio, Martial Arts or to increase your muscular strength and flexibility. No matter your exercise goal, the E Center offers classes to encourage fun and fitness.

Can't find a class that fits you? Join a round of pickleball at open gym or the 35+ basketball league while the kids are in dance class.

All are welcome. If you are interested in signing up for a class, please visit the City of Sugar Hill website at **www.cityofsugarhill.com**.



E Center Membership and Fees \$0 /year Sugar Hill Residents & Gas Customers \$35 /year Non Residents \$2 /person Open Gym

Classes are priced individually

The City of Sugar Hill Is Hiring

The City of Sugar Hill is currently seeking to fill several open positions. The City is committed to fostering a positive and progressive workplace culture with a workforce that is representative of the population it serves. Review all available roles and apply to join the team at **cityofsugarhill.com**.



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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Sugar Hill vs. Atlanta Natural Gas Prices

Sugar Hill's Natural Gas comparison of monthly residential bills is more than 50% cheaper than other cities with providers such as Georgia Natural or Gas South. In June, the average gas bill in Sugar Hill was \$27 whereas Georgia Natural Gas averaged \$62, and the closest competitor, Xoom averaged \$39 a month.

This places Sugar Hill's yearly natural gas residential bill at less than \$600 while its competitor, Georgia Natural is more than double at \$1,600. Another great reason to call Sugar Hill home.



City of Sugar Hill Public Works Department

The Sugar Hill Public Works staff is on the job round-the-clock during the height of storms. They clear storm drains, remove trees from roadways and right-of-ways, and keep the roads safe for Sugar Hill residents.

The Stormwater Department will have a public education booth at Splash Night on **July 30, 2021**, located at Dawn P. Gober Plaza. We invite you to stop by and learn about storm water pollution.

Here are a few ways you can help stop water pollution when it comes to automotive care:

• Use a commercial car wash that disposes of wastewater properly

• If you have to wash your car at home, wash it in the grass so that water does not flow into storm drains

• Dispose of cleaning materials properly or switch to natural solutions that are better for the environment

• Be sure to contain any automotive spills or absorb them with cat litter

Natural Gas Safety Tips

Teach all members of your family the three ways to recognize a natural gas leak, so they will know what to do.

LOOK: Blowing dirt, bubbling in creeks or ponds, dry spots in moist areas, or dead plants surrounded by green live ones could indicate a leak.

LISTEN: A hissing sound near gas lines, meters, or appliances could indicate a leak.

SMELL: If you smell a rotten egg odor, there could be a leak.

LEAVE: Leave the premises immediately.

TELL: Be sure to tell authorities – notify 911 or City of Sugar Hill at (770) 271-2137.

A faint odor of gas may mean that a pilot light has gone out and should be relighted; however, a strong odor means you should leave the home at once and call your local utility or emergency personnel from a neighbor's home. Keep Sugar Hill safe and sweet by staying informed.



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