

»» NEWSLETTER ««

ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT



**GOOD NEIGHBOR DAY -
SEPTEMBER 28**

»»» **READ MORE (P.2)**

Celebrate Good Neighbor Day with our Good Neighbor Day Bingo Challenge! Find the card inside and mark off acts of kindness for a chance win a small prize.

READ MORE (P.5) «««

Kick off the evening with a DJ at 6:00 PM and stay for live music at 7:30 PM. Bring your friends and family for a night of great tunes, dancing, and community fun!

**GASTONIA CONCERT
SERIES**

**UPCOMING EVENTS &
OPPORTUNITIES**

»»» **READ MORE (P.6)**

A lot is happening in our community this September! Check out events and opportunities happening across the city.

GOOD NEIGHBOR DAY - SEPTEMBER 28

National Good Neighbor Day is recognized annually by the federal government on September 28. This special day celebrates the importance of neighbors coming together through understanding, love, and respect. When neighbors are part of a unified community, they feel connected to a larger “family” where people support and look out for one another.

The City of Gastonia will acknowledge Good Neighbor Day and present a proclamation at the September 16, 2025 City Council Meeting. Neighbors from several of the City's Recognized Communities will be co-recipients of the Good Neighbor Day Proclamation.

As the City encourages the spirit of Good Neighbor Day, We've created Bingo Cards filled with simple ideas to connect with neighbors and show kindness — from waving hello, sharing baked goods, meeting new neighbors, and more.

How to play:

1. Find your Bingo Card in the following pages.
2. Print it out or screenshot it and mark off items on your phone.
3. Complete five in a row (across, down, or diagonal) to score a “Bingo.”
4. The first five participants to complete a Bingo and contact us will receive a small prize!
5. Snap a photo of your Good Neighbor Day activity and submit it — we'll feature community highlights in the next edition of the A.C.E. newsletter.



GOOD NEIGHBOR DAY - BINGO CARD #1

Good Neighbor Day **BINGO**



Complete as many challenges as you can during September, mark them off, and invite others to join!

Introduce yourself to a neighbor	Compliment a neighbor on a feature of their home or garden	Organize a neighborhood cleanup	Say hello or wave each time you see your neighbors	Offer to walk your neighbors pet
Go for a walk and pick up trash along the sidewalk	Use sidewalk chalk to write an inspiring message on the sidewalk in front of your home	Leave a positive note in a neighbor's mailbox	Ask a neighbor what they like most about the community	Introduce yourself to two neighbors you don't know
Ask a neighbor how long they've lived in the neighborhood	Join (or start your) neighborhood Facebook group		Offer to help a neighbor with something they are working on	Check in on an elderly neighbor
Encourage someone with a heartfelt message.	Take a nature walk and wave to each neighbor you see	Host an outdoor movie and invite your neighbors	Compliment two neighbors	Share your favorite recipe with a neighbor
Make extra baked goods and bring them to a neighbor	Spend an hour cleaning up trash around your neighborhood	Invite a neighbor to walk together around the block	Invite a neighbor to co-host a block party with you.	Ask a neighbor what they like about living on the block/street

GOOD NEIGHBOR DAY - BINGO CARD #2

Good Neighbor Day

BINGO



Complete as many challenges as you can during September, mark them off, and invite others to join!

Wave or say hello to a neighbor	Compliment a neighbor's home decoration	Organize a mini neighborhood clean-up	Check in on an elderly neighbor	Leave a friendly note in a mailbox
Go for a walk and pick up trash along the sidewalk	Offer to help your neighbor carry groceries	Leave a positive note in a neighbor's mailbox	Invite a neighbor to walk together around the block	Introduce yourself to a new neighbor
Smile at a neighbor when you see them	Join (or start your) neighborhood Facebook group		Invite a neighbor for coffee or tea	Invite a neighbor to a game night or movie night
Encourage someone with a heartfelt message.	Say hello or wave each time you see your neighbors	Host an outdoor movie and invite your neighbors	Compliment two neighbors	Help a neighbor with yard work
Make extra baked goods and bring them to a neighbor	Invite a neighbor to co-host a block party with you.	Learn the name of a pet in the neighborhood	Ask a neighbor how long they've lived in the neighborhood	Offer to pet-sit or watch a neighbor's plants

GASTONIA Concert SERIES



2025

Thursday Nights
DJ Starts at 6pm • Live Music at 7:30

Rotary Pavilion • Downtown Gastonia

<i>Spring Fever</i>			MAY 1
On the Border The Ultimate Eagles Tribute			
MAY 29		<i>Summer Blast-Off</i> Gabriel Sanchez Presents	
		The Prince Experience	
<i>Southern September</i>			SEPT 18
Petty Rewind Tom Petty Tribute Band			

Caromont Health Park

OCT 30		<i>Monster Mash</i>	
		90's Kids Special Trick-or-Treat Event	



Presented by



Gastonia East
Rotary



gastoniaeastrotary.org/concerts



YOU'RE INVITED TO

Hiring Open House

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH &
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH**

- Applications
- Interviews
- Meet Officers
- Fingerprinting
- Physical Assessments
- Tour Police Department

200 E Long Ave, Gastonia NC 28052 www.GastoniaPD.Org



What to expect:

Gastonia Police Department is hosting a hiring open house. In just a few hours, you can expedite our hiring process to get you closer to your goal of being a Police Officer with Great Gastonia!

What to Bring:

- Drivers License
- Running Shoes
- Social Security Card
- Diploma

Step one:

Submit your application or get assistance with the process:
September 19th
 830am-11:30am
September 20th
 830am-11:30am

Step two:

Physical assessments:
September 19th
 1:00 pm
 3:00 pm
 5:00 pm
September 20th
 1:00 pm

Step three:

Schedule Board interview:
 September 20th
 September 23rd
 September 24th

Pre-Register Here:



*You must be 20 years old to apply



BRING YOUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER!

Movie in a Box & Block Party Trailer
FREE for Recognized Communities

Planning a neighborhood event?

Our Movie in a Box and Block Party Trailer are available at no cost to officially recognized communities!

They're perfect for block parties, outdoor movie nights, neighborhood celebrations, and any event that brings your community together.

- ✓ **Completely FREE**
- ✓ **Easy to Reserve**
- ✓ **Delivery & Pick-up included**



For More Information
<https://gastonianc.gov/ace.html>

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

WANT TO KNOW HOW YOUR CITY WORKS?

JOIN THE MUNICIPAL CITIZENS' ACADEMY!

A behind-the-scenes experience of your local government. Open to Gastonia residents ready to learn, connect, and make a difference.

What You'll Experience:

- Learn how your city runs
- Meet city staff & leaders
- Behind-the-scenes city tours
- Discover how to get involved

When:

- January - June 2026
- 2 Mondays a month
- 6:00 - 8:00 PM

APPLY TODAY!



Questions?

Contact Karely Chavez
 Karely.Chavez@gastonianc.gov
 (704)-866-6907

<https://www.gastonianc.gov/municipal-citizens-academy>



UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

CITY OF GASTONIA
PARKS & RECREATION

SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL COED LEAGUE

Six-week league plus tournament!

<p>FREE AGENT EMAIL TO REGISTER</p>	<p>TEAM ENTRY \$425 UNIFORMS INCLUDED</p>	<p>AGES ANYONE 17+</p>
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REGISTRATION AUG. 8TH - SEPT. 5TH



TUESDAYS &
THURSDAYS

6:30PM OR
LATER



GAMES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 30TH

Game Field Locations

Bradley Center - 1200 Modena St., Gastonia, NC 28054
Harold Rankin Park - 519 Park Circle, Lowell, NC 28098
Cudd Field - 307 S. Pine Street, Dallas, NC 28034



704-259-0871



BRITTANY.GRIER@GASTONIANC.GOV

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

CITY OF GASTONIA
PARKS & RECREATION

SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL MEN'S LEAGUE

AGES 17+

TEAM ENTRY
\$425

FREE AGENT
EMAIL TO
REGISTER

Six-week league plus tournament!

Uniforms included.

REGISTRATION AUG. 8TH - SEPT. 5TH

**MONDAYS &
THURSDAYS**




**6:30PM
OR LATER**


GAMES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 29TH

GAME FIELD LOCATIONS

ERWIN CENTER - 913 N. PRYOR ST., GASTONIA, NC 28052

DALLAS PARK - 1303 DALLAS CHERRYVILLE HIGHWAY, DALLAS, NC 28034

 704-259-0871

 BRITTANY.GRIER@GASTONIANC.GOV

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

CITY OF GASTONIA PARKS & REC

ULTIMATE FRISBEE ADULT PICK UP AGES 16+



7V7 / TEAMS BASED
ON ATTENDANCE

SATURDAYS
12PM - 2PM

NO
FEE

JOIN
NOW

SEPT. 13TH - NOV. 1ST

WALKER E. REID PARK
1001 S. MARIETTA ST., GASTONIA

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
BRITTANY.GRIER@GASTONIANC.GOV
704-259-0871
TEAM REACH APP CODE: GPRULTIMATE25



UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

**FREE
ENTRY**

**LUNCH
PROVIDED**

Hope

FEST '24
COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND MORE

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 7, 2024
10AM-1PM**

**190 E. FRANKLIN BLVD.,
GASTONIA NC 28052**

ARE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW FACING CHALLENGES RELATED TO HOUSING STABILITY? COME JOIN US FOR A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT AND RESOURCES FAIR

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
704.869.7387
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2024, 10 AM-1 PM**





UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE SCHIELE MUSEUM

13

UNLOCK THE MAGIC OF SCIENCE DURING A SPECIAL EVENING AT THE SCHIELE



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 6 – 8:30 PM

JOIN US IN YOUR BEST WIZARDING ROBES AS YOU DISCOVER SPELLBINDING DEMONSTRATIONS, ENCHANTING POTIONS, AND MYSTICAL CREATURES.

ADVANCE TICKETS: \$10 MUSEUM MEMBERS / \$12 GENERAL PUBLIC, DAY OF EVENT: \$18 PER PERSON



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 10 AM – 4 PM

GATHER YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY FOR A DAY OF FALL FESTIVITIES.

VISIT A PUMPKIN PATCH, THEN ENJOY HAYRIDES ON THE NATURE TRAIL, SEASONAL CRAFTS, GEMSTONE MINING, A PLANETARIUM SHOW, AND FUN FOR ALL AGES!

ADVANCE TICKETS: \$6 MUSEUM MEMBERS / \$18 GENERAL PUBLIC, DAY OF EVENT: \$8 MUSEUM MEMBERS / \$20 GENERAL PUBLIC

GET DETAILS AT [HTTPS://WWW.SCHIELEMUSEUM.ORG/SCHIELE-NEWS/AUTUMN-FESTIVAL/](https://www.schielemuseum.org/schiele-news/autumn-festival/)

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE – JOIN US FOR THIS INFORMATIONAL MEETING AND TAKE THE FIRST STEP TOWARD AN UNFORGETTABLE JOURNEY!



GASTONIA SISTER CITIES STUDENT EXCHANGE INFORMATION NIGHT

Date: Monday, September 8, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Gaston County Library – Main Branch

Discover the World – Starting in Gastonia!

Are you a high school student dreaming of international travel, new friendships, and an unforgettable cultural experience? The Gastonia Sister Cities Student Exchange Program invites you to explore exciting opportunities for Summer 2026!

Travel Destinations:

Gotha, Germany and Santiago de Surco, Peru

Who Should Attend?

Families of current freshmen, sophomores, and juniors interested in traveling in 2026
Middle school families who want to learn about future opportunities
Anyone curious about Gastonia Sister Cities cultural exchange programs

What You'll Learn and why travel with Gastonia Sister Cities:

How the student exchange program works
Travel dates, costs, and application process
Living with a host family
Opportunities to host visiting students
Build global friendships
Experience new cultures firsthand
Live with a host family
Gain confidence, independence, and global awareness



UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE GASTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

15

Cricut Creations

3D Layered Tree!

Come learn the basics of
Cricut Design Space and
create your own 3D Layered Fall Tree!
All materials will be provided.

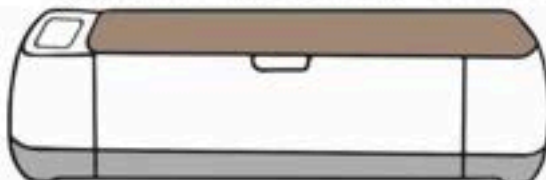


Ages 13 and up

(Registration Required)

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER

OR CALL 704-868-2164 - OPTION 1



Tue, Sep 9, 2025

from 4pm-6pm

&

Thurs, Sep 11, 2025

from 4pm-6pm

Location:

Main Branch -

Conference Room

Gaston County Public Library

1555 E. Garrison Blvd.

Gastonia, NC 28054

<https://gastonlibrary.org/>





UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE GASTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

16

SEED SAVING

Join us as we learn how to save seeds from our home gardens.
All ages welcome.



Saturday
September 13, 2025
11 AM
Gaston County Public Library
1555 E Garrison Blvd
Carol K Reinhardt Auditorium
<https://gastonlibrary.org>

NC STATE EXTENSION

Master Gardener | Gaston County

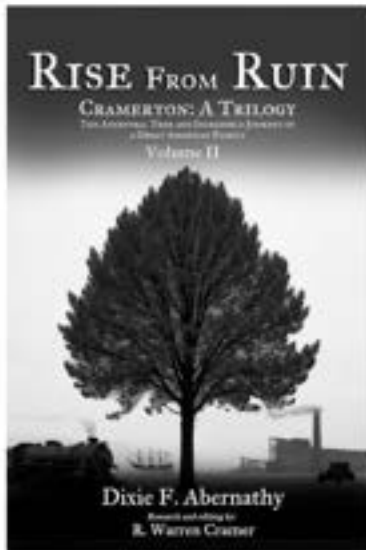


GASTON COUNTY
Public Library | Connect · Discover



UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE GASTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

MEET THE AUTHOR



DIXIE ABERNATHY

Saturday

September 6, 2025

11:00 a.m.

The second part of her bestselling Cramerton Trilogy

RISE FROM RUIN

Gaston County Public Library
Main Library - Carol K. Reinhardt
Auditorium

1555 E. Garrison Blvd.
Gastonia, NC 28054
704-868-2164, dial 1
www.gastonlibrary.org



Fall 2025

Let's Play **BINGO!**

Join us for free BINGO and play for the chance to win books, movies, and more!

- September 29th, 2025
- October 27th, 2025
- November 17th, 2025
- December 29th, 2025

6:00pm-7:00pm

Carol K. Reinhardt Auditorium
Gaston County Main Library
1555 E. Garrison Blvd
Gastonia, NC 28054
(704) 868-2164
gastonlibrary.org



UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



SANTIAGO DE SURCO, PERU

- Explore museums, cathedrals, tour Cusco, ride a train to Machu Picchu, learn about the history of Peru, taste traditional foods and barter in markets
- Enjoy a homestay with a Peruvian family, attend school with your host student and experience the sites and sounds of our sister city.

\$2,400-2,700 *HIGHER COST DUE TO MULTIPLE FLIGHTS



GOTHA, GERMANY

- Travel by trains and trams to small villages, museums, castles and a concentration camp. Experience medieval history and modern marvels.
- Partnering with our sister school, you will stay with a host family and enjoy traditional meals and customs on weekends and after day trips.

\$1,900-2,100

INFORMATION

- Travel 10-12 days in early June, housing and most meals included, full itinerary is provided by hosting country
- Freshman, Sophomores and Juniors can apply
- Q+A Session Sept 8,
Public Library Auditorium, 6 pm
- **Applications due by October 1st 2025**
- Enjoy sharing our culture with exchange students from Germany or Peru in Fall 2026



LEARN MORE & APPLY



UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

GASTONIA FALL FESTIVAL

Come out to downtown Gastonia on Saturday, October 18 from 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM! There will be food trucks, a beer garden, live music, vendors, entertainment, a free KidsZone with mechanical rides, inflatables, and carnival games with prizes. *Please bring your own lawn chair and/or blanket to sit and enjoy the music**



Gastonia FALL Festival | STREET CLOSURES

10:00 AM

MAIN AVE. BETWEEN N. YORK ST. AND DR. MLK JR. WAY

TOP PORTION OF S. SOUTH ST.

