

FEATURE

Memorial Day Ceremony honors Gwinnett's military heroes

The public is invited to Gwinnett County's Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 28, 2012, at 1:00pm at the Gwinnett Fallen Heroes Memorial at 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville. This event is held each year to honor the county's past and present military heroes and public service personnel. Members of the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners and honor guard units from the Gwinnett County Corrections, Fire and Emergency Services, Police and Sheriff's Departments, and the Lawrenceville Police Department will take part in this event.

The Fallen Heroes Memorial, located on the grounds of the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, honors all Gwinnett residents who died in the line of duty in military or public service. For more information about the Fallen Heroes Memorial, visit www.gwinnettfallenheroes.com.

PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Toilet rebate program saves water and money

Gwinnett County water customers have been taking advantage of the toilet rebate program, which provides up to \$100 to replace an older, less-efficient toilet with an approved WaterSense certified toilet that uses 1.28 gallons per flush (gpf) or less. If you own or rent a single-family home built in 1993 or earlier you may qualify. As of April 2012, more than 10,350 toilets have been replaced in Gwinnett County, yielding an estimated daily water savings of 196,188 gallons.

Starting this past January, Water Resources extended the program to multifamily residences. Now apartment, condominium, and townhome communities that are Gwinnett County water customers may qualify for a \$100 rebate for every old toilet replaced, up to 300 toilets per service address. Communities must agree to a pre-inspection to verify the age of the original toilets and a post-inspection to confirm installation of the new toilets. The old toilets also must be recycled. Individual townhome and condominium owners must work through their homeowners' association and recruit at least 10 percent of the units in the complex to participate.

Residents can also recycle their old toilets for free. Drop them off at any time to Water Resources' Central Facility, 684 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville. The porcelain is recycled as road base or for pipe beds. Gwinnett County collects an average of four tons of porcelain every month.



PUBLIC SAFETY

3 ways to prevent hyperthermia

Did you know that a child's body heats up three to five times faster than an adult's? It only takes a few short minutes before a child can become dangerously overheated. Since 1998, more than 538 children in the U.S. died from heat stroke. Georgia ranks fifth in child hyperthermia deaths. Here are three ways to prevent these tragedies:

1. Never leave a child alone in a car, not even for a minute! On an 80 degree day, a car can reach a fatal temperature of 109 degrees in just 20 minutes
2. Call 911 if you see a child alone in a car; 50 percent of heat stroke fatalities have occurred when a distracted caregiver forgot his or her child was in the car or truck
3. Look before you leave a vehicle: Put reminders or a purse in the back on the floor in front of baby to remind you that the child is in the back seat

Department of Water Resources Homeowner H2O: Water Conservation Workshop

June 12, 2012 • 6:00pm – 7:30pm
Norcross Human Services Center
5030 Georgia Belle Court, Norcross

This free workshop will provide the knowledge and tools you need to increase water efficiency in your home. Attendees will receive a low-flow retrofit kit, outdoor water efficiency kit, do-it-yourself home water audit guide, and information on how to apply for Gwinnett County's toilet rebate program.

Please pre-register by sending an e-mail with your name, address, and phone number to dwrconserve@gwinnettcounty.com or by calling 678.376.6722.

CHECK IT OUT

Check out these titles to help your student prepare for graduation and college! These and others are available at the Gwinnett County Public Library, www.gwinnettpl.org.

Fiske Countdown to College: 41 To-do Lists and a Plan for Every Year of High School, by Edward B. Fiske

Getting In! The Zinch Guide to College Admissions and Financial Aid in the Digital Age, by Steve Cohen

Crazy U: One Dad's Crash Course in Getting His Kid into College, by Andrew Ferguson

SPLOST

SPLOST funds fire vehicles

Sales tax pennies are providing two replacement squad-support vehicles for Gwinnett's Fire and Emergency Services department. Firefighters will use the customized vehicles, built on a standard truck chassis, to bring additional crew and equipment to fire scenes.

Commissioners in April approved a contract with the highest scoring bidder, Southeastern Specialty Vehicles, Inc., for \$445,343. Fire Chief Bill Myers said the price reflects \$1,339 in negotiated savings. Funding comes from the voter-approved special purpose local option sales tax known as SPLOST.



"It makes more sense to use squad support trucks to fill an immediate need rather than take ladder or pumper trucks away from a fire to go get additional resources. These vehicles help us operate more efficiently," added Myers.

Funds for the bridge repairs are provided by the 2009 sales tax program.

AROUND GWINNETT

Make a difference for foster children

Did you know that there are about 8,000 children in foster care in Georgia and about 300 of them are from Gwinnett County? May is National Foster Care Month, and the Gwinnett County Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS) urges Gwinnett families to make a difference in children's lives by becoming foster parents. Get involved by attending an upcoming orientation sponsored by the Gwinnett County DFCS.

Orientations are held the second Monday of each month from 6:00pm – 8:00pm at the Clayton Commerce Center, 33 South Clayton Street in Lawrenceville. For more information, call 1.877.210.5437 or e-mail dfcsrd@gmail.com.

Avoid foodborne illnesses this summer

As the weather warms up, families are enjoying outdoor cookouts and picnics. Don't let mysterious guests like bacteria and viruses spoil your outdoor dining experience. Follow a few guidelines as you plan, prepare, serve, and store food to dramatically reduce your risk of getting a foodborne illness.

At home, clean and sanitize the kitchen counters frequently to prevent the spread of bacteria. Wash and sanitize cutting boards, dishes, and kitchen surfaces. You can prepare a sanitizer solution by mixing one teaspoon of bleach with one quart of water. When cooking, thaw frozen foods in the refrigerator— never at room temperature.

For other tips, contact the Gwinnett County Cooperative Extension Office at 678.377.4010 or stop by the Lawrenceville office located at 750 South Perry Street, Suite 400.

TAX COMMISSIONER

North Gwinnett Tag Office closed: June 16

The North Gwinnett Tag Office at 2735 Mall of Georgia Boulevard in Buford will be closed Saturday, June 16 while the Georgia Department of Revenue conducts computer system maintenance. The maintenance period will take place from 7:00pm on Friday, June 15 until 6:00am on Monday, June 18. During this period, Internet and telephone tag renewals will not be available. For more information, visit www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com.

County offices closed: Memorial Day

All Gwinnett County government offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of the citizens of the county, will be closed May 28 for the Memorial Day holiday. All offices will resume regular working hours on May 29. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center. Memorial Day is not a trash holiday.

EVENTS

Sign up for these and other great activities through the Community Services Department at www.gwinnettcountry.com.

Parks & Recreation – 770.822.8840

An Engaging Affair Bridal Show

June 10 • 1:00pm to 4:00pm
Gwinnett Historic Courthouse
185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

Rock 'n' Rollin' to the 80's Party • Free!

June 15 • 6:30pm to 8:30pm
Pinckneyville Park Roller Hockey Rink
4758 South Old Peachtree Road, Norcross

Movie Under the Stars • Free!

June 16 • 5:00pm to 10:00pm
Tribble Mill Park
2125 Tribble Mill Parkway, Lawrenceville

Health & Human Services – 770.822.8842

Outback at Work Charity Lunch

June 6
Order your lunch today!

Youth Summer Camps

Norcross Human Services Center and
Centerville Community Center

Cooperative Extension Service – 678.377.4010

Rock Eagle 4-H Camp for fourth and fifth graders

June 25 – 29
State 4-H Center, Eatonton

Environmental & Heritage Center –
770.904.3500

Off the Hook Rug Exhibit

April 9 – June 30
Environmental and Heritage Center
2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford

gwinnettcountry connection

send questions or comments to shaunieka.taste@gwinnettcountry.com

Gwinnett County Communications Division
75 Langley Drive • Lawrenceville, GA 30046 • 770.822.7180

linkup

get county government
information from the source

gwinnettcountry.com

