

gwinnettcounty CONNECTION

a monthly publication of **gwinnett**county government

May 2016

GWINNETT COUNTY
POLICE



Gwinnett Police graduates 94th academy

The Gwinnett Police Department's 94th Academy members graduated from the intensive law enforcement training on April 21. Family and friends of the new police officers, elected officials, and law enforcement personnel attended the ceremony held at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville.

Police Chief Butch Ayers presented certificates and badges to all 26 graduates: Ryan Anthony, John Bergantino, Cameron Blakey, Christopher Boucher, James Evans, Joshua Fernandez, Mark Ferrell, James Glassman, Max Gluck, Kyle Jordan, Joshua Keeling, Juwan Lee, Matthew Long, Nelson Mickle, John Oxford, Matthew Palminteri, Johnny Pollack, Wade Powers, Andrew Rardin, David Reed, Kevin Scrivanich, Cory Singleton, Martele Smith, Antwan Toney, Ryan Weathers, and Scott York.

If you have what it takes to serve on the police force, check out the police department's recruitment webpage at www.gwinnettpolicejobs.com.

Sign up for email newsletters
from your smartphone!



AROUND GWINNETT



Sheriff's Office hosts Jail Break Challenge

The Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office will host its fourth annual Jail Break Challenge on Saturday, June 4 at 8:00am at the Gwinnett County Jail's obstacle course, located at 750 Hi-Hope Road in Lawrenceville. This 5K run is designed to challenge runners of all levels. The course leads runners around the jail campus where they will encounter all levels of terrain and extreme obstacles. The event will feature three categories: Open Competitive, Team Competitive, and Non-Competitive. Proceeds support the Sheriff's Office's teen mentoring programs.

Space is limited, so register soon at www.active.com. For more information, please visit www.jailbreakchallenge.org.

Tax Assessors Office issues real estate property annual assessment notices

Most residential and commercial annual notice of assessments were mailed April 8. An annual notice of assessment is not a tax bill. The notice informs you of the value assessed on your residential or commercial real estate as of January 1, 2016. If you do not agree with the notice value, you may appeal during the 45-day appeal period, which begins from the date on your notice and ends 45 days later (May 23 for those dated April 8). Visit www.gwinnett-assessor.com to appeal your 2016 value electronically or submit a completed PT311A state appeal form to the Tax Assessors Office before the end of the 45-day appeal period.

FOCUS ON: Human Services Centers

FOCUS ON tells the story of how your county government employees provide high-quality services to you each and every day. This month features the County's Human Services Centers, which are one-stop integrated health and human service centers that meet the diverse needs of our community. Read more at www.gwinnettcounty.com.

Pay your water bill with your smartphone

Visit www.gwinnett2o.com using your smartphone to easily pay your water bill on the go. Just have your username or water account number and password ready. You can use this convenient service for nonrecurring, one-time only payments.

Gwinnett County Government hosts many events, classes, and workshops for its residents. See these and more at

www.gwinnettcountyevents.com.

Summertime R&B Line Dance Workshop

June 4 • 11:00am to 1:00pm
Centerville Community Center
3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville
678.680.3033

An Engaging Affair Summer Bridal Show

June 5 • 1:00pm to 4:00pm
Gwinnett Historic Courthouse
185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville
770.822.5450

Book Talks with Beth • FREE!

June 13 • 10:00am to 11:00am
Prime Timers Pointe at George Pierce Park
55 Buford Highway, Suwanee
678.277.0179

Popcorn and Cornhole with Dad • FREE!

June 18 • 11:00am to 1:00pm
Bogan Park
2723 North Bogan Road, Buford
678.277.0850

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

Gwinnett County Communications Division
75 Langley Drive • Lawrenceville, GA 30046
770.822.7180 • www.gwinnettcounty.com

Questions about your water bill? Call 678.376.6800.



Commissioners approve construction for new Centerville senior center

A new Centerville Senior Center will soon be under construction adjacent to the Centerville Community Center and the Centerville Branch Library on Bethany Church Road near Snellville. County commissioners awarded the \$2.24 million contract to low bidder Hogan Construction Group LLC in April. Funding comes from the 2014 SPLOST program.

The 8,500-square-foot single-story facility will include a dining room, warming kitchen with serving line, multi-purpose room, billiards area, staff offices, and support space. It will serve as a nutrition site offering healthy meals that meet one-third of the daily recommended intake. Programming will promote healthy lifestyles and celebrate the diversity of Gwinnett residents 60 and older with activities that promote socialization and health and wellness.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Be prepared for severe weather this spring
Severe storms have the potential to destroy property and cause fatalities, making it important for Gwinnett County residents to be prepared. Check out these tips for staying safe during a severe storm:

- Check if your insurance covers flood damage. If not, get flood insurance. Keep those insurance documents along with valuable items in a safe deposit box.
- If you encounter flooded roads, turn around. Don't drown!
- Assemble a disaster supplies kit and ensure it includes prescription medications, food, and water.
- Be sure to monitor local media outlets for weather-related information and learn about the terms used to describe severe storms.
- Make a keep-in-touch arrangement with relatives and friends.

Learn more at www.gwinnettsafety411.com.



PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES

Save water outdoors this summer

During peak summer months, many homeowners use more water for lawns, gardens, and landscapes. By watering wisely and using simple conservation tips, consumers can see better results all while saving money and water.

Water the grass, not the street: Check to make sure that sprinklers are only watering where they need to water. Often, systems will water driveways and sidewalks instead of yards. Redirect and position your sprinklers to ensure water is being applied to the lawn only. Also remember to have your system checked annually for any leaks or broken sprinkler heads.

Timing is important: Set your irrigation system or hose timer to water at the right time. The ideal time for maximum irrigation benefit is between the hours of 4:00pm and 10:00am. By watering during this time, you can reduce the amount of water that is lost to evaporation or wind and you will be in compliance with the *Georgia Water Stewardship Act*.

Seal the hose: Adding a shut-off nozzle to your garden hose not only saves 5 to 7 gallons per minute while the hose is in use, it can prolong the life of plants by watering with the proper flow setting.

Use rain: Established lawns need only one inch of water per week to stay healthy. When there is enough rain to soak the soil, turn off your irrigation system and skip a watering cycle to avoid overwatering.

For more information and tips about outdoor water usage, visit www.DWRconserve.com.

TAX COMMISSIONER

Paperless billing now available
The state of Georgia recently passed a law that gives property owners the option to receive an electronic property tax bill. To sign up for paperless billing, please visit GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com.

CHECK IT OUT

Check out these listings to gear up for summer reading. You can find them at your nearest Gwinnett County Public Library branch, www.gwinnettpl.org.

Lulu and the Cat in the Bag, by Hilary McKay

The Tale of Despereaux, by Kate DiCamillo

The Mouse and the Motorcycle, by Beverly Cleary

The Familiars, by Adam Jay Epstein



The Gwinnett County Voter Registrations and Elections Division needs dedicated citizens to serve as paid poll officials for the 2016 elections. Poll officials **earn \$75 to \$300 per day**, depending on the position.

- To be a poll official, you must:
- Be a U.S. citizen, a resident of Gwinnett, and at least 16 years old
 - Be able to read, write, and speak English
 - Not have been convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude or judicially determined to be mentally incompetent

Help make every vote count and **apply today** at www.gwinnettcountryjobs.com

