

# County Line

a monthly publication of gwinnett county, georgia

september 2003 v11, n9



## Commissioners approve design contract for Environmental and Heritage Center

The Gwinnett County Environmental and Heritage Center took another step towards becoming an exciting reality with the Board of Commissioners' approval to award a \$1.3 million contract with Atlanta-based Lord, Aeck & Sargent, Inc. to design the building and exhibits.

The center is a collaboration of the Board of Commissioners, the Gwinnett County Board of Education, and The University of Georgia. The vision for the center calls for it to focus on the general topic of water, be a model of ecological design as expressed in the building and associated site improvements, and serve as an educational and cultural asset.

*"With 21 architectural firms submitting qualifications in response to the County's request, we had a great group from which to select the most qualified team for our project,"* said Gwinnett County Administrator **Charlotte Nash**.

Lord, Aeck & Sargent, Inc. has demonstrated experience designing nature centers, science centers, museums, and other fine art facilities throughout the Southeast. Environmental education projects the firm has completed or is working on include the Conservation Action Resource Center at Zoo Atlanta and the Big Haynes Creek Nature Center. Cultural learning center projects include the Fox Theatre and the Georgia State Capitol Museum.

The Gwinnett County Environmental and Heritage Center's design will use ecological materials and methods

to allow the project to serve as a model of sustainable design, while innovative techniques will minimize disturbance to the surrounding site and enhance energy efficiency. The goal is to achieve LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification. The U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Green Building Rating System™ is a voluntary, consensus-based national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings.

The center will be housed on the grounds of the F. Wayne Hill Water Resources Center. Plans for this project also include use of the site's natural areas for passive recreation opportunities. Pedestrian and bike-way trails will connect the center's building to overlooks, outdoor class-

rooms, interpretive points, and an outdoor amphitheater. More than 200 acres have been preserved for the center and surrounding area.

*"My vision for this center is that it will be a local and regional resource. This will be a place where visitors can learn about the essential role water plays in our lives, where they can learn a little bit about our community's history, and where people can just enjoy nature,"* said Gwinnett County Commission Chairman **F. Wayne Hill**.

The first phase of the development of the Gwinnett County Environmental and Heritage Center is scheduled to begin in late 2004. A total of \$10 million in initial funding comes from the 2001 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax.

## contents

Crew's work appreciated



Heritage Camp hands-on history



Library/museum book club



Clean air tips



Pet Corner



Check it out!



Around Gwinnett



Parks public meetings



## C.O.P.S. offers family fun

by **Kinsey Hansel**,  
*Communications Intern*

Get ready for the Gwinnett County Police Department's sixth annual C.O.P.S. Festival. The special event is a celebration of the partnership between the Gwinnett County Police Department and the Gwinnett County community as a whole, especially the neighborhoods that participate in the Community Oriented Police Services program.

**Rose Love** is a staff assistant with the Crime Prevention Unit and has been involved with the C.O.P.S. pro-

gram since it began in 1992. *"It is a very worthwhile program,"* she said. *"The people who get involved see a decrease in crime and it gets the neighbors together and establishes a network in the subdivisions."* Five **Neighborhoods of the Year** will be selected and recognized at the C.O.P.S. festival that attracted more than 2,000 citizens last year.

The SWAT, K-9, motor, aviation, training, and D.U.I. teams are some of the units that will demonstrate exactly what it takes to be success-

...continued on County Line page 2



## Crew's work appreciated

by Kinsey Hansel, Communications Intern

Sometimes hard work goes unnoticed, but not at Collins Hill Park in Gwinnett County. In July, a Lawrenceville citizen wrote to *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* to thank a County employee for his hard work. The writer had noticed **Todd Moulder** working early one weekend to prepare fields for T-ball playoff games.

The letter thanked the employee for his efforts, efforts that make a difference in the lives of the children who play on the ball fields at Collins Hill Park. Moulder, who has worked for Gwinnett County for 13 years, has been a park foreman at Collins Hill for two years.

"I enjoy working outside and doing things for the kids," said Moulder. Although no one was named in the letter, it made mention of the Collins Hill employees and Moulder would like to recognize his co-workers **Liz Gifford**, **Stanley Jennings**, and **Bill Yeager** for their work at the park. "Without them things wouldn't come together. It takes teamwork and we work well together," he said.



**Stanley Jennings, Liz Gifford, Bill Yeager, and Todd Moulder's hard work helps keep Collins Hill Park in great shape.**

## C.O.P.S. fun

...continued from County Line page 1

ful in law enforcement. Other Gwinnett County government representatives and various outside vendors will be present to provide helpful information about government and safety.

The Atlanta Falcons and Georgia Force cheerleaders will entertain and there will be a play area for children, which will include face painting, a magician, moonwalk, and other fun activities. The festivities start at 6:30pm on Tuesday, October 7 at the Gwinnett County Civic and Cultural Center on Sugarloaf Parkway in Duluth.

For more information on the C.O.P.S. festival or how to get your neighborhood involved in the C.O.P.S. program, contact Rose Love at 770.623.2610.



## Heritage camp lets kids get their hands on history

by Kinsey Hansel, Communications Intern

Panning for gold, weaving, making candles from hot wax and homemade ink from berries... not your typical summertime activities. Unless you are at Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation's Heritage Camp.



**Camper Sun Ho tries his hand at weaving during Gwinnett Parks and Recreation's Heritage Camp 2003.**

Heritage Camp is an educational experience that can do wonders for summertime boredom. The first session took kids on an adventure beginning in the days of the cavemen. "We had a guy come out and do a demonstration of pre-historic tools. He talked about the bow and arrow and how it has changed over the years," said **David Cashman**, one of the teachers.

The camp travels through time wrapping up in the days of the early pioneers.

"I like everything, especially my teachers," said nine-year-old Julianna, working diligently on her weaving project and wearing a necklace made of beans, corn, and string she made earlier in the week. Julianna said that she attended Parks and Recreation's art camp the previous summer.

"They take tours of the museum and the courthouse and make crafts," said **Erin Gallegos**, a student at Brenau University majoring in special education. This summer was her fifth with the camp program.

A history education major from Brigham Young University, Cashman has been with the program two years. He is teaching history at Central Gwinnett High School this fall. "I just love seeing the kids so excited about history," he said, "I had awesome history teachers in high school, and I want to return the favor." The second camp session covered the Victorian period up to the 1960s.

### Attention Gwinnett County taxpayers!

The 2003 property tax bills are due **September 15** and **November 15, 2003**, if you are paying in installments.

For more information, you may call our customer service line at 770.822.8800 or visit [www.gwinnett-tax.com](http://www.gwinnett-tax.com).



## Public library and history museum host book club

As one Sunday newspaper noted, reading groups are growing in popularity as places to “meet, think, and be merry.” What better way to stimulate interest in a history book club than partner the Gwinnett County Public Library and the Gwinnett History Museum?

The Gwinnett History Museum wants to stimulate Gwinnett minds about history and the

Gwinnett County Public Library wants to encourage citizens to read. The groups have teamed up to focus a new quarterly history book club on Georgia and Southern history. The first book chosen for the club is a paperback about Georgia history entitled, *The Georgia Gold Rush: Twenty-Niners, Cherokees, and Gold Fever* by David Williams. The book discusses a forgotten era of Georgia history pre-

dating the California Gold Rush and gives an accurate description of the Cherokee removal. You can join the first discussion on October 20 from 7:00–9:00pm at the Gwinnett History Museum in Lawrenceville. Bring family, friends and anyone else interested in learning more about Georgia’s history. The book is available at the Gwinnett County Public Library or at local bookstores.

## Simple steps to improving air quality

The 2003 smog season ends on September 30. You can still do your part to help improve our air quality between now and then. In fact, these are great tips to use year-round. Why not give these ideas a try?

**1. Trip chain more often.** Chances are, you’re already doing it – combining your errands into one trip. It helps reduce traffic congestion and air pollution. Starting a car after it has been sitting for more than an hour, causes up to five times more pollution than when the engine’s warm.

**2. Take mass transit, share a ride, car pool.** Even if you do it just once or twice a week, you’ll reduce traffic congestion and pollution, and save money. The average driver spends about 44 cents per mile including ownership and maintenance.

**3. Care for your car.** Regular maintenance and tune-ups, changing the oil, and checking tire inflation can improve gas mileage, extend your car’s life, and increase its resale value.

**4. Get fuel when it’s cool.** Refueling during cooler periods of the day or in the evening can prevent gas fumes from heating up and creating ozone. And that can help reduce smog alert days.

**5. Don’t top off the tank.** It releases gas fumes into the air and cancels the benefits of the pump’s anti-pollution devices.

**6. Spread the word.** If everyone took just a few of these simple, easy steps, it could make a big difference because – **It all adds up to cleaner air!**

Source: <http://www.italladdsup.gov>

### Check it out!

**Still Playing!** Summer is almost over, and if you’re like most people you didn’t see all the movies you’d hoped. Well, don’t be too disappointed because you can still catch these great stories at the library! Here are just a few of the recent movie tie-ins available at your local library.

*The Hulk*, by Peter David

*The life of David Gale*, by Dewey Gram

*The Pianist: The Extraordinary true story of one man’s survival in Warsaw, 1939–1945*, by Wladyslaw Szpilman

*Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines*, by David Hagberg

*Dreamcatcher*, by Stephen King

*The Gangs of New York: An Informal History of the Underworld*, by Herbert Asbury

*Seabiscuit: An American Legend*, by Laura Hillenbrand

*Holes*, by Louis Sachar

*Gods and Generals*, by Jeffrey M. Shaara

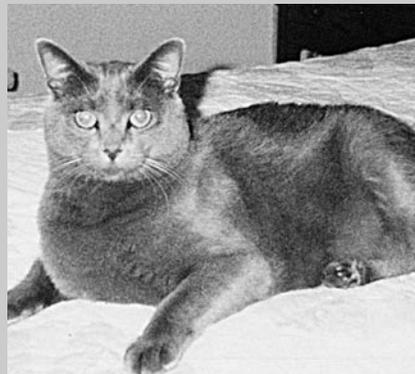
*The Quiet American*, by Graham Greene

List provided by Gwinnett County Public Library. Call or visit our branches for additional selection assistance, or check out [www.gwinnettpl.org](http://www.gwinnettpl.org).

## Pet Corner

Barbara Sloan, who works for the Gwinnett County Police Department in financial services, adopted this beautiful kitty, Smoke.

There are other wonderful pets just like Smoke who need a loving home. If you would like to see photos of cats and dogs currently up for adoption, visit [www.gwinnettcounty.com](http://www.gwinnettcounty.com). You can also stop by the shelter at Hi-Hope Road and Ga. 316 in Lawrenceville or call 770.339.3200.





**Homework Helpers** is an after-school program offered at the Centerville Community Center to assist students with schoolwork in a small group environment. Help is available in any subject for grades K-3 on Mondays and Thursdays, 4:30 – 5:30pm. State-certified elementary teachers familiar with the Gwinnett curriculum will assist students. Payments (\$80/month) must be submitted in advance to hold your child's spot. Call 770.985.4713.

The fourth annual **Gwinnett Corporate Challenge** is September 7 – 18. Organizations will compete in 15 sports and recreation activities to raise funds for youth recreation scholarships. Contact Mariann Brown at 770.822.8862.

Registration for the fall quarter of **SeniorNet** will begin at 9:30am on September 9. SeniorNet membership (\$40/year) is required and can be purchased at registration. Call 770.564.4699.

The Gwinnett County Extension Service coordinates livestock and exhibit activities for the **Gwinnett County Fair**. The 2003 county fair is September 11 – 21. For more information on livestock activities, contact Sharon Cassidy at 678.377.4010.

Show your clan's artistic side at the **Back-to-School Family Sidewalk Chalk Art Competition** at the Centerville Community Center on September 13 from 11:00am – 2:00pm. Families will compete for the best sidewalk chalk art and there will be music, free hot dogs, soda, and balloons! Call 770.985.4713.

The **Child ID Program of Georgia** will be visiting the Centerville Community Center on September 13 from 1:00 – 5:00pm and October 18 from 10:00am – 2:00pm. Representatives will teach parents about child safety and make child ID cards. Call 770.985.4713.

Gwinnett County Emergency Management Agency and the National Weather Service are sponsoring a **Skywarn Storm Spotter training class** on September 16 at 7:00pm in GJAC Conference Room C. Participants to become familiar with and identify the changing conditions to allow for necessary safety precautions. To sign up, call Sue Meeks at 770.513.5595.

**Family Night** at Rhodes Jordan Park Community Center is September 19 from 6:00pm – 9:00pm. Come enjoy a night of games, puzzles, bingo, and refreshments. Pre-registration is

required and the cost is \$5/family of four and \$1/additional person. Call 770.822.5414.

Become a **Red Cross-certified babysitter!** This program will provide youth aged 11–15 with information and skills necessary to provide safe and responsible care for children. The course is \$20 and will be held at the Centerville Community Center on September 20, 8:00am – 4:00pm. Call 770.985.4713.

Team registration for **Adult 35 and Over Basketball, Adult Winter Volleyball, and Adult Winter Roller Hockey** is September 24 at 7:00pm at Rhodes Jordan Park Community Center. **Basketball details:** \$445/team; Men's Open and Women's Open divisions; season begins November 5; games played at Rhodes Jordan Community Center. Call 770.822.5485. **Volleyball details:** \$210/team; Coed Intermediate and Coed Advanced divisions; season begins November 2; games played at Best Friend Park and Rhodes Jordan Community Center gyms. Call 770.822.5149. **Roller Hockey details:** \$550/team; Men's Open and Coed Open divisions; season begins November 2; games played at Pinckneyville Park. Call 770.822.5485.

Join retired law enforcement officers for **Women's Safety and Street Smarts**, a free seminar at the Centerville Community Center on September 25 from 7:00 – 8:00pm. Learn how to reduce the risk of becoming a victim, personal safety techniques, the pros and cons of certain safety devices, and travel safety. Call 770.985.4713.

Enjoy free music under the stars on the lawn of the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse in Lawrenceville. The 2003 **Music and Moonlight Concert Series** winds down on September 26 with a concert featuring classic oldies, dance, and R&B by Class Act. Performance begins at 8:00pm. Reserved seating for tables for six may be purchased in advance for \$40. Call 770.822.5450.

The **Gwinnett County Surplus Auction** of 2003 will be held October 11 at the Fleet Maintenance Facility at 620 Swanson Drive, Lawrenceville. Vehicles, mowers, office furniture, and miscellaneous items will be on sale. Viewing opens at 8:00am, and the auction will begin at 10:00am. A professional auction company will conduct all sales. Items must be paid for at the auction and picked up within one week.

## Public invited to express ideas about parks

Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation will be hosting public meetings in September to inform the public about parks and gather ideas for new parks and parks due to undergo renovation or expansion. There will be five meetings: one for each county commission district and one countywide. Please call **Rex Schuder** at 770.822.8864 for more information.

### District Three

Wednesday, September 10 at 7:00pm  
Grayson High School  
50 Hope Hollow Road, Grayson

### District Two

Thursday, September 11 at 7:00pm  
Norcross High School Theater  
5300 Spalding Drive, Norcross

### Countywide

Tuesday, September 16 at 10:00am  
Gwinnett Senior Center at Bethesda Park  
225 Bethesda Church Road, Lilburn

### District One

Tuesday, September 16 at 7:00pm  
Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Education Building  
6500 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth

### District Four

Wednesday, September 17 at 7:00pm  
Bogan Park Community Center  
2723 North Bogan Road, Buford

## countyline

### Editor

Heather R. Welch

### Art Direction

Shannon E. Coffey

### Layout and Design

Laura Heck  
Rock, Paper, Scissors llc.

Gwinnett County  
75 Langley Drive  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045  
770.822.7035  
www.gwinnettcountry.com

Call editor **Heather Welch** at **770.822.7035** with your newsletter articles and suggestions or e-mail **welchhe@co.gwinnett.ga.us**. Please remember that information may not be printed in its entirety due to space constraints. The County Line can be read online at [www.gwinnettcountry.com](http://www.gwinnettcountry.com)