



News for Neighborhoods

A newsletter for gwinnettcounty homeowners

March 16, 2012

Other newsletters:

- [GC Connection](#)
- [Gwinnett LIFE](#)
- [OneStop](#)
- [Tax & Tag News](#)
- [Waterwords](#)

Dear Homeowner:

As a resident of Gwinnett County, you know there is always a lot going on in the community. [Gwinnett County Government](#) would appreciate your help keeping your neighbors informed by sharing the following information through your homeowner association newsletter, website, and e-mails and by talking to your friends and family. Click on *forward this e-mail to a friend* below to share this newsletter!

Sunday alcohol sales to take effect in June

Voters approved the referendum to permit Sunday retail package alcohol sales in unincorporated Gwinnett County during the March 6 election. Sales are set to begin in unincorporated Gwinnett County on June 3.

Before businesses can begin selling alcohol on Sundays, they must submit an application to the County's Licensing and Revenue Office to amend their current alcoholic beverage license to include Sunday sales. The [Licensing and Revenue Office](#) will begin accepting Sunday sale applications on April 16. For more information, please call 678.377.4100.

Peachtree Corners Election Runoff | April 3

The runoff for the Peachtree Corners election will take place on Tuesday, April 3 for voters residing in the Peachtree Corners city limits from 7:00am to 7:00pm.

[Advance voting](#) for the runoff election will be available beginning Monday, March 26 at the Elections office in Lawrenceville. Voters may also request an absentee ballot for the election runoff. A completed application must first be received before an absentee ballot is issued. Please call the Voter Registration and Elections division at 678.226.7210 to request an application or [complete the form online](#).



Presidential Preference Primary and Nonpartisan election results

The Presidential Preference Primary and Nonpartisan elections and the runoff for the Georgia House of Representatives District 107 special election were held Tuesday, March 6. To view the results of these elections, [click here](#).

Homestead exemptions deadline is April 1

The deadline for all homestead exemptions for tax year 2012 is April 1. Tax Commissioner Richard Steele says [several exemptions](#) are available to qualifying homeowners:

- Regular Homestead Exemption that reduces the assessed value of your primary residence property. There's no age or income limit, but you must have owned

- the home on January 1 of the tax year
- Senior School Exemption that avoids county school taxes on your home and an acre of land if you meet income limits and were 65 on January 1



Once you have an exemption, you do not need to reapply each year. For more information, visit www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com or call 770.822.8800.

Gwinnett maintains ISO rating

Gwinnett County scored well on fire preparedness from the independent Insurance Services Office (ISO), a leading independent source of information about property/casualty insurance. Despite a 41 percent increase in population since the last ISO visit in 1996, Gwinnett County retained a Class 4 rating for its fire suppression capabilities.

The ISO conducts a scheduled inspection and assigns a rating on a scale of 1 to 10 that indicates how well a community is prepared to fight fires. Class 1 generally represents superior property fire protection, while Class 10 indicates an area's fire suppression program does not meet the ISO's minimum standards. It considers factors like water supply, fire personnel, stations, and equipment.

A community's ISO class rating is one factor that insurance companies consider when setting residential and commercial property insurance premiums. If the rating had slipped to Class 5, it could have cost the owner of a \$200,000 house an extra \$60 to \$80 a year for insurance, according to [Gwinnett Fire](#) Chief Bill Myers.

Adopt-a-Pet Day | March 17

The [Gwinnett County Animal Welfare Center](#) invites you to Adopt-a-Pet Day on Saturday, March 17 from 10:00am until 4:00pm at the Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center, located at 884 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville.

On this day, all animals can be adopted for just \$30 cash. The medical fee covers sterilization (spayed/neutered), vaccinations, and microchip. For more information, please call 770.339.3200.



Celebrate Earth Day | April 14

Come celebrate America Recycles Day with the Gwinnett County Solid Waste Division on Saturday, April 14 from noon to 2:00pm at Coolray Field, home of the Gwinnett Braves. This free event will feature paper shredding, household battery and paint collection (limit 5 one-gallon cans per vehicle; dried-up paint is acceptable), kids' activities, and more!

Calling all volunteers! Looking for some volunteer service hours? Volunteer with us during the Earth Day event. Volunteers will be assigned to serve from 11:00am to 3:00pm. Visit www.volunteergwinnett.net to sign up as a volunteer for this event.



Friends hosts 10th annual Silent Auction

[Friends of Gwinnett County Senior Services](#) is hosting its 10th annual Silent Auction on April 26 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm at Delmar Gardens of Gwinnett, located at 3100 Club Drive in Lawrenceville. This Olympic-themed event will be a world class celebration featuring great food, live entertainment, and some fantastic auction items you won't want to miss.

Support Gwinnett's seniors and purchase your tickets in advance for \$25 or for \$30 at the door. To donate an item for auction, participate as an event sponsor, or purchase tickets, call Friends board member Jennifer Thilo at 770.923.3100 or Charlene Barr at 678.377.6715.

Commissioners approve safety improvements

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners recently awarded two construction contracts for pedestrian safety improvements and road widening on Old Norcross Tucker Road in the Norcross area and pedestrian safety improvements on Johnson Road in Sugar Hill.

The project on Old Norcross Tucker Road includes widening for the addition of a center turn lane and sidewalks from South Norcross Tucker Road to Guilford Drive/Payton Way. While the widening will end at Guilford Drive/Payton Way, the sidewalks will continue to Britt Road.

The north side of Johnson Road will get sidewalks from Riverside Elementary School to Settles Bridge Park and from Settles Bridge Park to Suwanee Dam Road. The project also includes curb and gutter and improvements to the roadside shoulders.

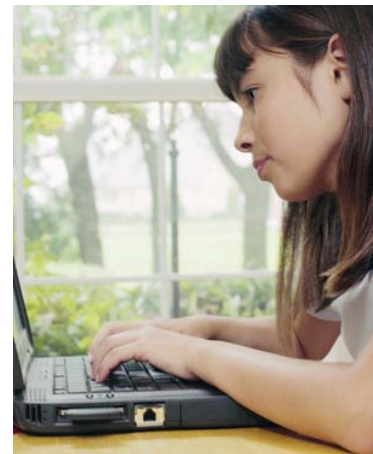
Funding for these projects comes from the 2009 Sales Tax Program. The Old Norcross Tucker Road work is expected to be completed by early 2013, while the work on Johnson Road should be complete by this fall.



5 ways to keep kids safe on the Web

The [Gwinnett County Police Department](#) urges parents to be aware of their children's activities on the Web:

1. Set rules for when your children are allowed to surf the Internet and for how long
2. Keep the computer in a high-traffic area such as the living room or kitchen and closely supervise your kids' usage
3. If you child has a Facebook or Twitter account, make sure you have access to those accounts
4. Research the technology you buy for your children so you'll have an understanding of what they're using
5. Don't rely on monitoring software alone to protect your children; technology can't replace your time and attention as a parent



Another important tip: Please call 911 if you ever need a police officer to arrive at your house, an accident, or even a non-emergency incident. This is the quickest way that an officer can be dispatched to assist you during any time of the day.

gwinnettcounty
Communications Division
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