



county Line

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Gwinnett County Police Department maintains accreditation

In March, the Gwinnett County Police Department (GCPD) was awarded its fourth reaccreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). CALEA was established as an independent accrediting authority in 1979 by four major law enforcement membership associations: International Association of Chiefs of Police, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, National Sheriffs' Association, and Police Executive Research Forum.

The law enforcement accreditation program is a voluntary program requiring participating agencies to conform to standards of professional excellence. These standards address all facets of law enforcement services, including organization, management and administration, personnel structure, operations, traffic operations, and auxiliary and technical services. Compliance with these standards helps to ensure the delivery of professional law enforcement services to citizens and reduces liability.

The GCPD first received accreditation in 1993. A team of assessors from CALEA returned to the department in August 2004 to conduct an extensive examination of the agency and its compliance with the commission's standards over the past three years. Based on the examination, CALEA voted to award the GCPD reaccreditation.

To learn more about CALEA and the accreditation process, visit www.calea.org.

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Around Gwinnett



Meet Kevin Kenerly, District 4 Commissioner



Kevin Kenerly has been on the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners since 1995. He represents northern and central Gwinnett, including Buford, Sugar Hill, and Lawrenceville.

"I love working with people," he said. "One of my greatest strengths is talking with people and bringing two sides of an issue together to look at the various ways it can be resolved."

Kenerly loves to collect sports memorabilia and displays most of it in his

office at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center. This, combined with the fact that he uses a conference table instead of a desk helps to create a more comfortable atmosphere for meeting with constituents. *"The décor provides a natural icebreaker – you can always find common ground when talking about a favorite college football team or professional athlete,"* he said.

"I really enjoy helping Gwinnett residents get local government services," said Kenerly. *"Over the next few years, we can improve the quality of life for all Gwinnett residents by implementing capital improvement plans focused on the provision of clean water, protective services, transportation/transit, libraries, and recreation."*

The Kenerly family has lived in this area since the 1700s, long before Gwinnett County was formed in 1818. A lifelong Gwinnett resident and Berkmar High School graduate, Kenerly founded a real estate company, Old Town Investment LLC, and has coached youth sports for years here in Gwinnett.

He is a graduate of the UGA Commissioner Training Program, Leadership Gwinnett, and the Regional Leadership Institute.

In his spare time, Kenerly loves to play golf, watch movies, and travel. He is married with four children.

CERT classes train average citizens to help in emergency situations

During the State of the Union Address in 2002, President George W. Bush addressed the overwhelming volunteer spirit that U.S. citizens displayed in the days and months that followed 9/11. To better coordinate and manage volunteer efforts in a future emergency situation, the President announced the creation of the *USA Freedom Corps*, the *Citizen Corps Council*, and, among other programs, the *Community Emergency Response Team*, or CERT.

The CERT program is designed to teach average citizens how to act more effectively during a disaster situation and even serve as back up for local emergency services personnel. Gwinnett County graduated 15 citizens from its first CERT training class in March of this year. Graduates completed eight weeks of instruction and a half-day written exam and disaster exercise.



Participants learn through hands-on training and practice.

In a large-scale event, citizens could be on their own and without normal emergency services (police, fire, and EMS) for hours. During this time, especially the first few hours, action is critical and could be life-saving. Without preparation and instruction, average citizens can compound the problems and possibly injure themselves. In the free 20-hour CERT program, individuals receive standardized training in disaster preparedness, basic emergency medical operations, light duty search and rescue, fire suppression, traffic and crowd control, communications, and other critical areas.

Two certified CERT instructors coordinate the class, and participants also receive instruction from topic-specific experts: representatives from the American Red Cross, a disaster psychology expert, and Fire and Emergency Services personnel. The County's new Urban Search and Rescue Team provides instruction on techniques for removing victims from debris piles and collapsed structures.

"The level of commitment of these folks has been tremendous," said CERT instructor and Gwinnett County Emergency Management Coordinator **Frank Daniell**. "Their willingness to set aside more than

Advice from the Tax Commissioner: Registering a new vehicle

If you buy a new vehicle from a dealer, usually the dealer will apply for the vehicle title for you (in the name of the purchaser), but it is often left up to the purchaser to register (or "tag") the vehicle. In these situations, dealers will issue a temporary operator's permit (dealer tag) for your vehicle. The temporary permit is valid for 30 days from the date of purchase. Once the title is applied for, you should register the vehicle at one of the Tax Commissioner's branch tag offices.

In Georgia, vehicle owners must register a new vehicle in the county of legal primary residence within 30 days from the date of purchase. If you do not receive the title application receipt from the dealer by the 25th day after purchase, stop by a branch tag office, turn in the temporary operator's permit, and request a replacement that will allow a 30-day extension.

For more information about vehicle registration requirements, call 770.822.8818 during regular business hours, or visit the Tax Commissioner's motor vehicle Web site at www.gwinnett-tag.com.

CPR Saturday

Take advantage of free CPR classes offered by the Gwinnett County Department of Fire and Emergency Services. Two upcoming class dates are listed below:

May 21 and June 18

8:30am – 4:30pm

Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center

To register for a free class, call the Programs and Services Section at 678.518.4850.

20 hours of their time to learn the skills and information that could one day mean the difference between life and death is admirable."

Graduates receive an official ID card that should be carried with them at all times as well as a "CERT bag" with basic provisions free of charge. Standard issues include a CERT identification vest, hardhat, flashlight, work gloves, rubber gloves, facemask, yellow chalk, and extra batteries. The addition of other handy items (rope, duct tape, a small fire extinguisher, etc.) is encouraged.

Gwinnett will be hosting eight CERT classes over the next 18 months with funds from a FEMA grant. For more information or to register, contact **Karla Long** with the Gwinnett County Emergency Management Agency at 678.518.4805 or karla.long@gwinnettcounty.com.



Gwinnett County Public Library offers eAudio books

The Gwinnett County Public Library joins more than 500 libraries nationwide in offering downloadable audio books. From the convenience of home or the office, GCPL customers can take advantage of eAudio books. Books can be downloaded to a PC, burned to a CD, or transferred to a portable audio device.

Customers can currently choose from more than 500 titles, and the list is growing every day. Available titles include both non-fiction and fiction by authors such as Nora Rob-

erts, Michael Connelly, Robin Cook, Stephen Coontz, Anne McCafferty, Dave Barry, Zig Ziglar, and more!

eAudio books are available on the library's home page, and may be "checked out" from a home or office PC using a GCPL library card. At the end of three weeks, the book is automatically "returned" to the library electronically. Customers may choose to copy the books to a personal MP3 player or burn the files to a CD. Customers should not be concerned with copyright laws.

Overdrive, the vendor for eAudio books, has negotiated the rights for hundreds of titles.

For more information about the eAudio books, visit www.gwinnettpl.org.

Check it out!

If you love southern history, then you should consider joining the Gwinnett County Public Library's history book club. You will have the opportunity to discuss fascinating true stories like the ones in the following selections:

Our Father's Fields, by James Everett Kibler

Cumberland Island: Strong Women, Wild Horses, by Charles Seabrook

Fire in a Canebrake: The Last Mass Lynching in America, by Laura Wexler

Where Peachtree Street Meets Sweet Auburn: The Saga of Two Families and the Making of Atlanta, by Gary Pomerantz

Confederates in the Attic: Dispatches from the Unfinished Civil War, by Tony Horwitz

And the Dead Shall Rise: The Murder of Mary Phagan and the Lynching of Leo Frank, by Steve Oney

A Year in the South: Four Lives in 1865, by Stephen V. Ash

The Georgia Gold Rush: Twenty-Niners, Cherokees, and Gold Fever, by David Williams

John Adams, by David McCullough

This list was provided by the Gwinnett County Public Library. Call or visit your local branch for additional selection assistance, or check out the GCPL Web site at www.gwinnettpl.org.

Bestselling author to visit Collins Hill branch

New York Times bestselling mystery author **Michael Connelly** will be appearing at the Collins Hill branch library on Monday, May 23, 2005, at 7:00pm as a part of his national book tour. *The Closers*, the 11th Harry Bosch novel, will be released on May 16. Connelly will give a presentation and question and answer session, followed by a book signing.

What do you think?

What are your thoughts on L.I.F.E. ... Gwinnett L.I.F.E.? Take a moment to visit www.gwinnettparks.com and complete a survey concerning the distribution methods of the Gwinnett L.I.F.E. (Leisure Is For Everyone) brochure. Thanks in advance for taking the time to do this!

Pet Corner



Pet Corner

You can find lots of adorable cats, dogs, puppies, and kittens at the Gwinnett County Animal Shelter at Highway 316 and Hi-Hope Road in Lawrenceville. Adoption counselors are available to help you find the perfect pet to fit your lifestyle.

If you would like to see photos of cats and dogs currently up for adoption, check out www.gwinnettanimalcontrol.com. You can also visit the shelter at Highway 316 and Hi-Hope Road in Lawrenceville, or for more information, call 770.339.3200.





WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND GWINNETT

Move your feet to some of today's most popular music and enjoy a variety of desserts at the **Mother/Son Dancing and Dessert event** at Bogan Park on May 6 from 7:00pm – 9:00pm. "Couples" will receive a complimentary photograph. Pre-registration is required, and the cost is \$15. For more information, call 770.614.2060.

Bob Hay & The Jolly Beggars will perform at the Gwinnett History Museum as part of the Coffeehouse Nights series, **Grounds 'n' Sounds** on May 13. Doors open at 8:00pm, and the music and fun begin at 8:30pm. Admission is \$5. The museum is located inside the Lawrenceville Female Seminary at 455 Perry Street in downtown Lawrenceville. Call 770.822.5178 for more information, or to receive *Java Jottings*, the monthly newsletter devoted to the museum's Coffeehouse Nights.

Leave the driving to us and come on a **VAN GO Art Excursion**. We will head to the Castleberry Hills Art District to tour the galleries and artists' studios. Pre-registration is required due to limited space, and the cost is \$10 per person. Bring money for lunch! The van will leave Pinckneyville Community Center at 10:00am on May 13. For more information, call 770.417.2200.

Lace up your running shoes and get ready for the first **Hoof-It 5K Race and Family Festival** at McDaniel Farm Park in Duluth on May 14. Enjoy a day of fun on the farm, beginning with the road race at 7:30am, and the festival beginning at 10:00am, which will include music, blacksmithing and quilting demonstrations, and animal exhibits from the Lanier Museum of Natural History. Race check-in begins at 7:00am. Pre-registration for the race is \$15, and \$20 on the day of the race. Admission for festival is only \$2 per person – or free with your race entry! Call 770.814.4920 for more information.

Bring your blankets and low-back lawn chairs to Tribble Mill Park in Grayson for a **Movie Under the Stars** on May 21. The feature presentation will be *Shrek 2*. Food, music, and inflatable slides will be available beginning at 5:30pm, and the movie will start at sundown (approximately 7:30pm). Call 770.822.8840 for more information.

Battle of the Bands is back at Pinckneyville Community Center in Norcross! Compete against other bands in a series of concerts for the title of Gwinnett's best band, or just come listen to and enjoy some great music. Call 770.417.2200 for more information, or to sign up. Band registration is based on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets are \$5 at the door. The first competition will take place on May 20 at 7:00pm.

I AM B.E.A.U.T.I.F.U.L.™ is hosting Good Enough, Smart Enough!™ The conference will be held at Centerville Community Center in Snellville on May 21 from 10:00am – 2:00pm; it is designed for girls and women of all ages. Learn how to open the door to a high-achieving lifestyle by focusing on the essentials of increasing self-worth, self-respect, and self-confidence. Send an e-mail to info@iambeautiful.org or call 404.545.9051.

Bring your favorite teddy bear, a sack lunch, and a blanket for an outdoor **Teddy Bear Picnic** full of fun, games, stories, and prizes at Rhodes Jordan Park in Lawrenceville on May 21 from noon – 2:00pm. Dessert will be provided. Parent participation and reservations are required; the cost is \$5 per person. For more information, call 770.822.5414.

Clean out your closets, and bring your "treasures" for a day of bargaining and fun at **Bogan's Backyard Sale** on May 22 from 8:00am – noon. Call 770.614.2060.

The whole family will enjoy **Family Game Night** at Pinckneyville Community Center on May 27 from 7:00pm – 9:00pm. Bring one of your own favorite games or try some of ours. The cost is \$5 for a family of four and \$2 for each additional person. For more information, call 770.417.2200.

Enjoy free music on the lawn of the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse in Lawrenceville on May 27 at 8:00pm as part of the **Moonlight and Music Concert Series**. Bring a picnic or dine at one of the restaurants on the Square. Reserved tables for six may be purchased in advance for \$40. This year, local businesses will be offering prizes for outstanding table decorations. No alcohol is allowed on the grounds of the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse. Call 770.822.5450 for information.

Don't miss **registration for Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation summer classes**. Choose from hundreds of recreation classes for adults and children. A complete listing of classes and registration form can be found in the current issue of *Gwinnett L.I.F.E.* (Leisure Is For Everyone). You can pick up a copy of *Gwinnett L.I.F.E.* at Gwinnett County parks, libraries, and high schools. For more information, call 770.822.8840 or visit www.gwinnettparks.com.

Pinckneyville Community Center will host free **art exhibits** sponsored by Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation. In Honor of Mother's Day, **Paintings by Ann and Janet Tuck** will be displayed at Pinckneyville Community Center through July 27. **Drawings and paintings by Russ Carnes** will be displayed through May 25 and **Paintings by Sarah B. Arnold and Nedra C. Bailey** from May 31 – August 24 at the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse. The Bethesda Painter's Group will present **Colormania** at the Centerville Community Center in Snellville through July 6. Call 770.417.2200.

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