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May 24, 2013

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Dear Emily,

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 emails and by talking to your friends and family.



Help feed our furry friends in Oklahoma

In response to the recent tornado, the Gwinnett County Police Animal and Welfare Enforcement Unit is hosting a pet food and supply drive for the city of Moore Animal Shelter in Oklahoma. The doors of the Moore Animal Shelter have been flooded with displaced animals since the storm. While staff is working to find the owners, they need assistance with feeding the increase of animals at the shelter. During this time of rebuilding, many pet owners have lost everything and are finding themselves in a situation where they cannot feed their pets.



Please consider making a food or supply donation to help our friends in Moore, Oklahoma. **Drop off your pet food and supply donations Friday, May 24 to Tuesday, May 28 from 8:00am to 4:00pm at the Gwinnett County Animal Shelter located at 884 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville.** This is a holiday weekend; however, Gwinnett County Animal Welfare employees will be available to accept donations. If you have questions, please call the shelter at 770.339.3200.

Memorial Day Ceremony: May 27



The public is invited to Gwinnett County's **Memorial Day Ceremony** on **Monday, May 27 at 1:00pm** at the Fallen Heroes Memorial in Lawrenceville. This event is held each year to celebrate and honor our county's military heroes and public service personnel.

This ceremony will mark the 10th anniversary of the dedication of the Fallen Heroes Memorial in Gwinnett County, and members of the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners and honor guard units from the Gwinnett County Fire and Emergency Services, Police Department, Sheriff's Office, and the Lawrenceville Police Department will take part in this event.

The Fallen Heroes Memorial is located on the grounds of the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville. For more information about the Gwinnett Fallen Heroes Memorial, visit www.gwinnettfallenheroes.com.

The Memorial Day Ceremony will be televised that night at 7:30pm on TVgwinnett, Gwinnett County's government access cable channel, and will be available on demand at www.gwinnettcountry.com.

Swim safely this summer

Summer is just around the corner, and there's no better way to make a splash than visiting a pool or the lake! [Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation pools](#) will open for the summer on **Saturday, May 25**. Let's keep Gwinnett healthy and safe this summer; follow these easy tips from Gwinnett County Fire and Emergency Services to make sure you're swimming safely all summer long:



- Lock gates and doors to limit pool access, and use a pool cover when not in use.
- Always supervise children around water, and if a child goes missing, check the water first.
- Teach children to swim, and remind them of the dangers of unsupervised swimming.
- Make sure adults and experienced swimmers still swim with a buddy and swim in public areas.
- Wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket if you're going to be around water or on a boat.
- Be careful around lakes and rivers, even if you don't plan on going for a swim.
- Keep emergency telephone numbers and rescue equipment within reach.
- Learn CPR and how to use the rescue equipment at your pool.
- Cover pool drains and vents to prevent entanglement of hair or body.
- Mark water depths clearly, and use a float line to separate the deep and shallow ends.
- Always follow all pool rules and instructions from lifeguards.
- Don't mix alcohol and water - it can impair your judgment, balance, and swimming skills.
- Check in advance for inclement weather, and take shelter accordingly.

County hosts workshop for potential vendors



The Gwinnett County Purchasing Division will host the seventh annual Supplier Symposium on June 6, 2013, from 8:30am to 11:30am at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, located at 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville.

Attendees will meet buyers and contracting officers from the Purchasing Division and other metro Atlanta agencies to take advantage of networking opportunities designed to create relationships and obtain information on current and upcoming projects.

To register for this free event, please visit the [Purchasing Symposium registration page](#).

To view current projects open for bidding and explanations of bidding procedures, visit the

[Purchasing Division's webpage.](#)

Look both ways: How you can keep our roads safe

Walking and running outside are both fun and healthy ways to stay fit while enjoying the warmth of summer! Pedestrians are the most vulnerable users of the road, but with help from drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians combined, we can keep our streets safe for everyone. Below are some ways you can share the road and keep yourself and others free from harm:

For drivers and cyclists:

- Always yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk - it's the law!
- Don't pass other vehicles stopped at a crosswalk; a pedestrian may be crossing.
- Watch for pedestrians when turning right on red, and proceed with caution.
- Be careful and go slow when large groups of people are around.
- Follow all rules of the road and always stay alert.

For pedestrians:

- It's always safest to walk on the sidewalks. If there aren't any, walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic.
- When crossing the street, look both ways, especially for turning traffic, and only cross at intersections or crosswalks.
- Obey all traffic signals, and cross the street only on green or when the pedestrian signals say it's safe to walk.
- Wear light colors and reflective clothing when walking or running, especially at night.
- Hold the hands of children when walking, and don't let them play in the streets.
- Pay attention to your surroundings and make eye contact with drivers whenever possible.

Weekend construction will close Pleasant Hill Road Bridge June 7-10



The Gwinnett County Department of Transportation will close the I-85 at Pleasant Hill Road bridge for the Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) crossover. The project involves shifting traffic to the opposite side of the bridge, which will make left turns onto the interstate easier and improve the flow of traffic across the bridge. The closure will begin at **9:00pm on Friday, June 7**, weather and conditions permitting. The bridge will open to traffic by **5:00am on Monday, June 10** with the new DDI configuration.

The bridge will be closed to all through-traffic during the weekend, although construction will not impact right turn access to or from I-85. Drivers and pedestrians should take the planned detour: Pleasant Hill Road to Satellite Boulevard to Steve Reynolds Boulevard to Shackelford Road to Pleasant Hill Road and the reverse. Pedestrian traffic should continue to use the detour route for at least one month following crossover during the construction of pedestrian walkways.

After crossover, construction will continue on the center median and pedestrian facilities, while crews will finalize the signals, interchange lighting and pavement markings. The project is expected to be substantially complete in September, with landscaping to begin in the fall. Once the project is complete, the bridge at Pleasant Hill Road and I-85 will be Gwinnett County's first DDI and the second in Georgia.

To view a map of the detour route or for more information on how to drive the diamond including a video rendering of the completed project, visit www.gwinnettDDI.com.

Community emergency volunteer courses available to residents

The Gwinnett County Office of Emergency Management is offering free Community Emergency Response Team, or CERT training to Gwinnett County residents beginning June 11, 2013. These

courses educate residents about disaster preparedness for emergencies that may impact their community. Residents are trained in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

Courses are open to all Gwinnett County residents 18 years and older who pass a background check provided by the Gwinnett County Police Department. The training consists of eight sessions that take place from 6:30pm to 9:30pm on Tuesdays. A course review and disaster simulation will take place on Saturday, July 27 from 8:00am to noon. For more information or to sign up for the course, please email ema@gwinnettcountry.com. Please sign up soon; class size is limited to 25 participants.

gwinnettcounty
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