



# county Line

a monthly publication of gwinnett county, georgia

december 2006 v14, n12



## New fire station and tag office open in Snellville

On November 21, County officials celebrated the official ribbon cutting for two new replacement facilities, Fire Station 12 and the Snellville Tag Office, and a new fueling station in Snellville.

The new three-bay Fire Station 12 sits adjacent to the new tag office and houses an engine, ladder truck, and rescue unit. The relocation provided some much-needed space for the crew at Fire Station 12 who ran three pieces of equipment out of a building designed for only two.

Commission Chairman **Charles Banister** noted that improvements like these "would not be possible without

the voter support of the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax." Station 12 was funded by the 2001 SPLOST.

The new Snellville Tag Office opened its doors on October 16 as Gwinnett's first stand-alone facility that offers drive-through services for tag renewals. The new facility replaces the former location on Oak Road, originally opened in 1988. Since then, title sales alone have risen each year at the Snellville location from 48,000 in 1988 to over 162,000 in 2005.

"I'm very happy that we can now provide our customers with a larger and more modern tag facility," said Tax Commissioner **Katherine Sherring-**

**ton.** "We simply outgrew our former Snellville location on Oak Road. Also, the drive-through renewal service we offer at both our Snellville and Lawrenceville tag offices helps those who may have children with them, as well as the elderly and people who might have difficulty walking."

Along with using one of the tag office locations throughout the county, customers can renew their tags online at [www.gwinnett-tag.com](http://www.gwinnett-tag.com) or by phone, 770.822.8818.

"We are excited and proud to be able to improve upon these vital services

... continued on page 3

## contents

Advice from Tax Commissioner



Tag office holiday hours



Leave a Legacy



Volunteer Recognition



Pet Corner



Check it out!



Around Gwinnett



## Fetch some fun at two new dog parks

Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation and the Norcross community celebrated the opening of the new Graves Park and improvements to Pinckneyville Park on October 21.

Graves Park, located at 1540 Graves Road in Norcross, features two tennis courts, a sand volleyball court, playground, open play area, pond, and a one-mile paved multi-purpose trail with an additional half-mile loop trail that surrounds a lake. The park also boasts a two-acre dog park area where dogs can play freely off their leashes in a fenced-in area.



*New dog parks at Graves and Pinckneyville parks include fenced-in areas where dogs can play off-leash.*

Sitting at just under three acres, the fenced-in dog park at Pinckneyville Park is a welcome addition to the park's current features, which include a seven-field baseball/softball complex, concession buildings, restrooms, a 1.1-mile paved multi-purpose trail, pavilion, four playgrounds, roller hockey rink, a free-skate area, and the 5,000-square-foot Medlock Pavilion. Pinckneyville Park is located at 4758 South Old Peachtree Road in Norcross.

Visit [www.gwinnettparks.com](http://www.gwinnettparks.com) or call 770.822.8840 for more information.



## Advice from the Tax Commissioner: Vehicle emissions requirements for 2007

All 1983 to 2004 model year gasoline-powered cars or light trucks up to 8,500 pounds must have a valid Georgia emissions inspection completed before registering or renewing tags. Some important tips to keep in mind:

**Where to go** – Newer vehicles (1996 to 2004) can be inspected at any emissions inspection station. Look for an inspection station sign that reads *1996 or Newer Vehicles Welcome* or *All Vehicles Welcome*. Vehicle models 1983 to 1995 can only be inspected at stations marked *All Vehicles Welcome*.

**Inspect early** – It is best to get your vehicle inspected four to six weeks before the registration renewal date (the first vehicle owner's birthday) to allow enough time in the event repairs need to be made. An emissions inspection is valid for 12 months or for one registration renewal by the same owner.

**Senior citizen exemptions** – If you are age 65 or older, are a registered owner of a vehicle 10 model years old or older, and if you drive less than 5,000 miles per year, you may be eligible for a senior citizen exemption. Apply by completing a Senior Exemption Application, which is available at your local tag office, a Georgia Clean Air Force Waiver Center, or online at [www.cleanairforce.com](http://www.cleanairforce.com).

Locations of Georgia Clean Air Force Waiver Centers, as well as information for new Georgia residents, repair waivers, alternative fuel vehicles or what to do when you sell your vehicle, are available at the Georgia Clean Air Force website [www.cleanairforce.com](http://www.cleanairforce.com).

For more information or if you have questions on how to obtain a Senior Exemption Application form, contact the Motor Vehicles Department at [tag@gwinnettcountry.com](mailto:tag@gwinnettcountry.com) or 770.822.8818.



## Motor vehicle tag office holiday operating hours

The North Gwinnett tag office will be **closed Saturday, December 9** for maintenance of the state vehicle registration system. Tag renewals will **not** be available over the Internet or telephone on this date.

Tag offices will be **closed Friday, December 22**; the North Gwinnett tag office will be open 8:30am – 5:00pm.

All tag offices will be **closed Saturday, December 23** with the exception of the North Gwinnett tag office, which will be open from 9:00am – noon.

All tag offices will be **closed Monday, December 25**.

Tag offices will be **open Tuesday, December 26** from 8:30am – 5:00pm; the North Gwinnett tag office will be closed.

All tag offices will be **closed Monday, January 1**.

Tag offices will be **open Tuesday, January 2** from 8:30am – 5:00pm; the North Gwinnett tag office will be closed.

Gwinnett County motor vehicle tag offices are located in Lawrenceville, Norcross, Peachtree Corners, and Snellville. Operating hours are 8:30am – 5:00pm on weekdays, excluding holidays. The North Gwinnett tag office is open Tuesday – Friday, 8:30am – 5:00 pm, and Saturdays 9:00am – 4:00pm. Visit [www.gwinnett-tag.com](http://www.gwinnett-tag.com) or call 770.822.8818 for information.



## Snellville tag office: now open



### Now Open

2845 Lenora Church Road  
Snellville, GA 30078  
(across from Briscoe Park)

Open 8:30am – 5:00pm  
Monday – Friday, with the exception of holidays  
Drive Through Available



## Leave a legacy for the environment

The new Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center is the Southeast's premier science and cultural center that offers a unique blend of cultural explorations, environmental education, and passive recreation, all contained on 233 acres near the Mall of Georgia. Features of the center include a world-class array of exciting hands-on science exhibits, the Blue Planet Theater, nature trails, and LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) building techniques.

Now you have an opportunity to both contribute to Gwinnett's environmental heritage and at the same time leave a legacy. Honor a loved one, show your company's support, or memorialize an individual by having a name engraved on the granite wall located at the entrance of the center. Donor levels start at \$50.

For more information, call 770.904.3500 or visit [www.gwinnettEHC.com](http://www.gwinnettEHC.com).



## Volunteers win recognition

The Gwinnett County Senior Services volunteer program was recently honored as one of 13 in the nation to receive a 2006 Award of Achievement from The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging and the MetLife Foundation and cited for exemplary practices in recruiting and engaging older volunteers. The program owes its success to volunteers who serve individually as well as in groups in a variety of ways ranging from nonprofit board leadership to in-home services including Meals on Wheels, yard work, home repair, and occasional duty case management support.



"Miss Edith" Harvey (second from left) received the MetLife Foundation Older Americans Enrich America award. Also pictured: Gwinnett County Senior Services' Gary Galloway, Senator Saxby Chambliss, and Pat Milhous, also of Senior Services.

... continued on page 4

### Check it out!

Take a moment from hectic holiday shopping and check out one of these inspirational fictional books from your local library branch that highlight the wonderful holiday season.

#### New Inspirational Fiction for the Holiday Season

*The Good Nearby*, by Nancy Moser

*Abide with Me*, by Delia Parr

*Let Sleeping Dogs Lie*, by Patricia Haley-Brown

*Winter Birds*, by Jamie Turner

*In Every Flower*, by Patti Ann Hill

*Lost in NashVegas*, by Rachel Hauck

*The Brushstroke Legacy*, by Lauraine Snelling

*Fire Dancer*, by Colleen Coble

*Straight Up*, by Lisa Sampson

*The Only Best Place*, by Carolyne Aarson

This list is provided by the Gwinnett County Public Library. Call or visit your local branch for additional selection assistance, or check out the GCPL website at [www.gwinnettpl.org](http://www.gwinnettpl.org).

## 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.

To see pictures of cats and dogs currently up for adoption, visit [www.gwinnettanimalcontrol.com](http://www.gwinnettanimalcontrol.com). For more information, stop by the shelter or call 770.339.3200.

## Fire station and tag office

... continued from page 1

in the southern portion of Gwinnett County," said District 3 Commissioner **Mike Beaudreau**.

The Snellville Tag Office is located at 2845 Lenora Church Road and Fire Station 12 at 2815 Lenora Church Road in Snellville.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND GWINNETT

Santa's elves will be busy helping kids make holiday gifts at the **Elf Workshop** on December 1 from 6:30pm-8:30pm at Dacula Park. Refreshments served. The cost is \$7 per person and pre-registration is required. Children ages 4 – 6 must be accompanied by an adult. Call 770.822.5414 for more information.

Find a special holiday gift at the **Hometown Christmas Craft Fair and Santa's Gift Shoppe** on December 2 from 10:00am – 4:00pm at Pinckneyville Community Center in Norcross. Children 12 and under can also buy family gifts for \$5 or less from 10:00am – 2:00pm. Free admission. Call 770.417.2200 for more information.

Have fun with crafts, stories, and a parade at **Waddle with the Penguins** on December 2 at 10:00am at Bogan Park in Buford. The cost is \$7 per person. Call 770.614.2060 for more information.

See Jolly Saint Nick at **Breakfast with Santa** on December 7 from 9:00am – 11:00am at Centerville Community Center in Snellville. The cost is \$3 person and includes breakfast and a photo with Santa. All proceeds benefit the Partnership Against Domestic Violence. For more information, call 770.985.4713.

Pack a bathing suit and towel and gear up for fun and games at **Kids Night Out at Bogan** on December 8 from 5:30pm – 9:00pm at Bogan Park in Buford. Dinner will be served

after swimming. The cost is \$10 per person and pre-registration is required. For more information call 770.614.2060.

Bring the grandkids out for a pancake breakfast at **Pancakes with Santa** on December 9 from 9:00am – 11:00am at the Gwinnett Senior Center at Bethesda Park in Lawrenceville. The cost is \$3 per person and pre-registration is required. Call 770.564.4680 for more information.

Shop for holiday gifts while you drop your kids off for a day of crafts, games, and pizza at Pinckneyville Community Center's **Shop 'Til You Drop** December 9 from 10:00am – 2:00pm. The cost is \$12 per person. For more information call 770.417.2200.

Share a special evening with your little girl at the **Father and Daughter Winter Wonderland Dance** on December 9 from 6:00pm – 9:00pm at Rhodes Jordan Park in Lawrenceville. Hors d'oeuvres and desserts served. The cost is \$20 for one parent and one child and \$10 for each additional child. For more information, call 770.822.5414.

Dress in your pajamas, hear the story of the Nutcracker, and make a keepsake ornament at **Dancing with the Sugar Plum Fairy** on December 14 from 10:00am – 11:15am and December 15 from 6:00pm – 7:15pm at Bogan Park in Buford. Cost is \$15 per person. Call 770.614.2060 for more information.

Take a break from holiday shopping and enjoy a movie, arts and crafts, and refreshments with your kids at the **Holiday Extravaganza** on December 16 from 11:00am – 1:00pm at the Singleton Road Activity Building in Norcross. The cost is \$5 per person. Call 770.417.2212 for more information.

Ring in the new year with dancing, games, and movies at the **New Year's Lock-in** on December 31 from 9:00pm – 7:00am at Rhodes Jordan Park in Lawrenceville. A supervised event. The cost is \$45 per person and pre-registration is required. For more information call 770.822.5414.

The Pinckneyville Community Center sponsors **art exhibits** at the following locations.

**Art by Laurette Reeves** will be on display at Pinckneyville Community Center in Norcross through January 25.

**Anita Lentz Group Show** will be on display at the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse in Lawrenceville from December 6 – March 1. A reception to meet the artist will be held on December 14 from 7:00pm – 9:00pm.

Exhibits and receptions are free and open to the public. Call 770.417.2200 for more information.

## Volunteer recognition

... continued from page 3

Many of the volunteers recognized for their dedication include **Gloria Berry**, a 2006 United Way of Gwinnett Women's Legacy Award winner; **Rob Langley**, a 2006 President's Volunteer Service Award winner; and **Edith Harvey**, who has compiled approximately 18,000 volunteer hours of service helping to prepare more than one million meals for other seniors. Miss Edith is one of 26 national MetLife Foundation Older Americans Enrich America Award winners, a WXIA Community Service Award winner, a 2006 President's Volunteer Service Award

winner, and a National Coalition of Black Women Unsung Heroine Award recipient.

Gwinnett County Senior Services provided 26, 565 volunteer service hours last year, but Senior Services Manager **Linda Bailey** quickly notes, "we would be unable to provide our present variety of services if we did not have such dedication from experienced staff members and volunteers."

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer contact **Gary Galloway**, Volunteer Services Coordinator, at 770.822.8837.

## countyline

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

The County Line is published monthly by the Gwinnett County Communications Division to inform residents about County services and items of interest. For more information or to submit newsletter suggestions, call 770.822.7135 or e-mail [tammy.gibson@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:tammy.gibson@gwinnettcounty.com). The County Line is also available on the County's website, [www.gwinnettcounty.com](http://www.gwinnettcounty.com).