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June 11, 2014

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Dear Homeowner,

As a resident of Gwinnett County, you know there is always a lot going on in the community.

<u>Gwinnett County Government</u> 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.

⊠> Forward to a Friend

What's new on TVgwinnett?



Gwinnett County brings you the latest news and happenings about your community through Eye on Gwinnett, our bi-weekly news program.

What you'll see in this episode:

- Pools open
- Parks and Rec named a Gold Medal finalist
- Animal shelter kicks off national contest
- Runoff election is July 22
- New bridge at Highway 20 and 316 now open
- How to do business with the County

Joint training for active shooter response takes place during summer 2014

Gwinnett County Police, along with Gwinnett County Fire and Emergency Services, will conduct joint training on active shooter response during the summer. The term "active shooter" is commonly used to describe an individual actively trying to kill others in a confined and populated area. Active shooters intend to kill as many people as possible before they are confronted by law enforcement. They rarely intend to escape and almost always commit suicide upon police arrival or are killed by responding officers.

Police tactics during active shooter events have evolved in response to this information. Previously, police officers have trained to approach active shooters in small teams. Now, they will begin training to confront active shooters upon



arrival and will no longer wait for several officers to be present. Each officer who arrives will immediately enter the facility, containing and confronting the shooter as quickly as possible.

Medical first responders are not armed and typically do not enter a scene with active gunfire. Fire department personnel will begin training to enter an active shooter scene before it is secured under police escort. This may present a greater risk to medical first responders than tactics used in the past but will ensure that potential victims get faster medical attention.

Both the Police Department and Fire and Emergency Services are seeking volunteers to participate as role players during this exercise. Volunteers must be age 15 or older, a Gwinnett County resident, and must have a signed parental waiver if they are between the ages of 15 and 17. The training is taking place throughout the summer, Monday through Friday from 12:30pm to 4:30pm at Mill Creek High School, 4400 Braselton Highway in Hoschton.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Corporal G. Behlmann at 404.975.8132 or gregory.behlmann@gwinnettcounty.com.

Police Department warns residents of new phone scam



Don't be scammed! The Gwinnett County Police Department and many other law enforcement agencies have seen a rise in a particular type of scam where suspects contact victims by phone and claim they have an outstanding debt of some variety, threatening there will be consequences if the debt is not paid.

In recent weeks, there has been an increase in callers claiming to be members of the Gwinnett County Police Department. This scam has a large number of variations, with more coming to light each day. The common thread is that suspects ask for payment on a Green Dot card or

similar prepaid debit card, which is appealing to criminals because the money loaded on the cards is easily accessible and the transactions are difficult and often impossible to track.

Scammers are using a computer program to make the victim's caller ID show the Police Department or other legitimate agency's phone number. Remember that caller ID can be made to show any number the scammer wants, which makes the scam more believable. Remember, the Gwinnett County Police Department will never ask for payment of any sort over the phone.

For more information about this phone scam, please visit our website at www.gwinnettcounty.com.

Gwinnett trails included in national trails system

The United States Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and Director of the National Park Service Jonathan B. Jarvis recently announced four trails in the Gwinnett County park system as national recreation trails. These four trails are located in Harbins Park in the Dacula area, Little Mulberry Park in the Dacula area, McDaniel Farm Park in the Duluth area, and Settles Bridge Park in the Suwanee area. In total, these four trails make up approximately 50 miles of the 452 newest miles in the trail system.



The national recreation trail designation recognizes existing trails and trail systems that link communities to recreational opportunities on public lands and in local parks across the nation. Each of the new national recreation trails will receive a certificate of designation, a letter of contratulations from Secretary Jewell, and a set of trail markers.

The national recreation trails program is jointly administered by the National Park Service and the Forest Service in conjunction with a number of other federal and nonprofit partners, notably American Trails, which hosts the <u>national recreation trails website</u>.

Defend yourself against mosquitoes this summer

Mosquitoes are some of the most troublesome insects that plague homeowners during the summer months. The best way to reduce their



numbers is to remove any manmade sources of standing water such as old tires and outdoor containers. Also, clean your gutters periodically. When you are outdoors, apply insect repellents containing a chemical called DEET and wear light-colored protective clothing, long pants, shoes, and socks to deter mosquitoes.

For more tips to keep your home and yard safe during the summer season, visit the Gwinnett County Cooperative Extension Service's <u>website</u>.

Gwinnett Human Relations Commission hosts third Human Trafficking Forum

The Gwinnett Human Relations Commission is presenting a series of forums to raise awareness of human trafficking and how the community can help. Participants will learn what human trafficking is, how to identify it, the underlying causes, how to report it, and what our local and federal law enforcement, state legislators, and nonprofit support agencies are doing to combat this issue. The forums provide important information for parents, caregivers, educators, community leaders, and business owners.



Four forums are being held throughout the year, one in each commission district. The next forum will be held **Thursday**, **June 19** from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at the **First United Methodist Church of Lawrenceville**, located at 395 West Crogan Street. For more information about this event or to register, please send an email to hrc@gwinnettcounty.com.

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