



county Line

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SPLOST: Architect selected for new Hamilton Mill Library



The much-anticipated new library branch for the Hamilton Mill area moved a step closer when the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners awarded a nearly \$400,000 design and construction administration contract to Precision Planning, Inc., last month.

"The 20,000 square-foot library is the second to be funded by the current SPLOST program," said Community Services Director **Phil Hoskins**, *"plus a state grant of two million dollars to Gwinnett Public Libraries will pay a significant part of the \$5 million cost for the site, building, furnishings, and equipment."*

The facility will house up to 75,000 books, audiovisual materials, and other items for circulation. It will include reading and quiet study areas; adult, teen, and children's collections; information and circulation desks; and employee offices and work areas.

"This is an exciting project because we are expanding the library system to an area of the county that has experienced healthy residential growth in recent years – and it will be debt-free because of SPLOST," said District 3 Commissioner **Mike Beaudreau**. *"I know my friends and neighbors in Hamilton Mill will be excited about the new library."*

Gwinnett's 15th full-service branch library will be built at the intersection of Braselton Highway (State Route 124) and Pine Road, sharing an entrance with the new Duncan Creek Park that is slated to open next spring. Library construction should begin late next year with expected completion about a year later.

The design is expected to meet LEED energy-efficiency standards and will include an Art-In-Architecture feature where an artist's input on an element of the building will incorporate an artistic vision implemented in construction.

contents

Advice from Tax Commissioner



Jury Duty Stamp Unveiled



Historic Courthouse Holiday Events



Veterans' Day Events



Gwinnett Reads



Pet Corner



Check it out!



Around Gwinnett



Gwinnett County encourages residents to conserve water



Gwinnett County is a good steward of our precious water resource through extensive water planning, treatment, and production. For the last four years, water usage in Gwinnett County has been between 111 and 118 gallons per person per day—50 to 60 gallons per person per day lower than the regional average.

In an effort to further reduce consumption, we encourage residents to consider implementing these simple tips to help conserve water around your home or business in addition to observing the state-mandated outdoor watering ban.

- Turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth and shaving; fill the bottom of the sink with a few inches of water to rinse.
- Catch running water while waiting for it to change temperature; use the captured water for watering plants.
- Take showers instead of baths and shorten the shower time to no more than five minutes. Take a "Navy" shower – get wet, turn the water off and lather, then turn the water on for a quick rinse.
- When washing dishes, use as little water as possible. Put the dishes in a rack to rinse them

- all together. Use appropriate energy efficient settings and wash only full loads in the dishwasher.
- Keep a container of cold drinking water in the refrigerator.
- Do not defrost frozen food with running water; use the microwave or refrigerator.
- In the laundry room, be sure to match the water level with your load size. If your washing machine doesn't allow manual water level adjustment, wait until you have a full load before running the machine.



Advice from the Tax Commissioner

Motor vehicle tag offices announce holiday hours

All tag offices will be closed on the following dates:

- Monday, November 12, 2007
- Thursday, November 22, 2007
- Friday, November 23, 2007
- Saturday, November 24, 2007
- Saturday, December 8, 2007
- Monday, December 24, 2007
- Tuesday, December 25, 2007
- Tuesday, January 1, 2008

The North Gwinnett Branch, normally open on Saturdays, will be closed on December 8 due to system maintenance performed by the State of Georgia.

All tag offices will be open normal business hours except North Gwinnett, which will be closed on Tuesday, November 13, 2007, and Wednesday, December 26, 2007.

All tag offices are open on Monday, November 26, 2007. The North Gwinnett Branch, normally closed on Mondays, will open this Monday due to the office closure on November 24, 2007.

The North Gwinnett Branch, normally closed on Mondays, will be open Monday, November 26, due to the closure on November 24.

The Lawrenceville, Norcross, Peachtree Corners, and Snellville tag offices are open 8:30am – 5:00pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. The North Gwinnett tag office is open 8:30am – 5:00pm, Tuesday through Friday, and 9:00am – 4:00pm Saturdays, excluding holidays.

Final scheduled vehicle registration computer shutdown for 2007

The North Gwinnett Tag Office, 2735 Mall of Georgia Boulevard, Buford, will be closed Saturday, December 8, while the Georgia Department of Revenue conducts computer system maintenance.

The maintenance period will take place from 7:00pm Friday, December 7 until 6:00am Monday, December 10. During this period, Internet and telephone tag renewals will not be available. Additionally, the office will be unable to process property tax payments on this day.

Visit gwinnetntaxcommissioner.com or call 770.822.8818 for more information

What's your style? Choices abound for Georgia license plates

Georgia offers more than 200 different license plate styles in addition to the standard Georgia Peach plate. Most styles have additional costs, and some styles have certain restrictions.

The most common special plate style is the *prestige* plate. These plates offer the vehicle owner a unique opportunity to select a personalized combination of alpha and numeric characters. Passenger car owners can select up to seven letters, numbers, and spaces, while

motorcycle owners can select up to six. It is easy to determine if your favorite word or phrase is available: visit or contact a tag office. If you would like to order a prestige plate, visit any tag office and complete an application.

Certain special license plate styles have specific requirements that must be met before they may be ordered. For example, only persons with proper documentation can order Certified Firefighter, Radio Amateur, Active Reserve Military, and Retired Military Plates. There are currently 25 different military campaign plates that can be ordered, such as Desert Storm or the Korean War.

Each year, additional styles are authorized to Georgia vehicle owners. Visit the Georgia Department of Revenue's website to view different license plates available at motor.etax.dor.ga.gov/motor/plates.

Property Tax Payments: 2nd installment due November 15

Visit GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com or call 770.822.8800 to find out how and where to make payments.

Officials unveil stamp honoring jurors

On September 28, U.S. Postal Service representatives along with Gwinnett County judges and judicial officials unveiled the new *Jury Duty: Serve With Pride* commemorative stamp to honor those who serve on jury panels. State Court Judge **Randy Rich** reminded those who attended the brief ceremony that our nation's founders believed the right to a trial by jury to be of such importance that they included it in the *Bill of Rights*.



Pictured are (l to r): Lawrenceville Postmaster Veronica Johnson, Superior Court Judge Tom Davis, Court Administrator Phil Boudewyns, Lawrenceville Mayor Rex Millsaps, Jury Manager Dorothy Ash, and Superior Court Judge Timothy Hamil

Gwinnett traditions: Historic Courthouse offers holiday events

Let Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation put you in a festive mood with special holiday events at the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse. The holiday season kicks off with the 20th Annual Lighting of the Tree on Thanksgiving Day, November 22, from 5:00pm – 8:30pm. The tree lighting ceremony begins at 6:00pm and will be emceed by FOX 5's Randy Travis. The evening will also include carriage rides, food concessions, musical entertainment, free tours of the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse, and Santa's arrival.

Santa's sleigh will make additional stops at the Historic Courthouse from 4:30pm – 8:00pm on November 24 and 30 and December 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, and 23. Framed Santa photos will cost \$5. Free children's crafts and free tours also will be available during these hours.

Carriage rides will be available on Saturdays (December 1, 8, and 15) from 5:00pm – 8:30pm and are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 12 and under.

Santa's Workshop located on the first floor of the Historic Courthouse will be open for free children's crafts on Wednesdays (December 5, 12, and 19) from 2:00pm – 4:00pm.

The Gwinnett Historic Courthouse is located at 185 Crogan Street in downtown Lawrenceville. Call 770.822.5450 for additional information.

Veterans Day Events

Saturday, November 10

Location: Gwinnett Historic Courthouse, 185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

Time: 10:45am

Hosted by the Gwinnett County Veterans Memorial Museum

Sunday, November 11

Location: Gwinnett Fallen Heroes Memorial at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, 75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville

Time: 1:30pm

Hosted by Gwinnett County and the Gwinnett Fallen Heroes Memorial Advisory Committee

Location: Lilburn City Park, 76 Main Street, Lilburn

Time: 3:00pm

Hosted by the City of Lilburn



Check It Out!

This fall, put down the remote and pick up a book! This month's selections are full of great stories for the armchair athlete.

Then Vince Said to Herschel: The Best Georgia Football Stories Ever Told, by Patrick Garbin

The Last Great Fight: The Extraordinary Tale of Two Men and How One Fight Changed Their Lives Forever, by Joe Layden

I Live for This! Baseball's Last True Believer, by Bill Plaschke with Tommy Lasorda

Twelve Mighty Orphans: The Inspiring True Story of the Mighty Mites Who Ruled Texas Football, by Jim Dent

Bunion Derby: The 1928 Footrace Across America, by Charles Kastner

A Lion's Tale: Around the World in Spandex, by Chris Jericho and Peter Thomas Fornatale

Numbelievable! Stories and Drama Behind the Memorable Numbers From the World of Sports, by Michael Ferraro and John Veneziano

The Agony of Victory: When Winning Isn't Enough, by Steve Friedman

Inside the Helmet: Life as a Sunday Afternoon Warrior, by Michael Strahan

A Passion to Lead: Seven Leadership Secrets for Success in Business, Sports, and Life, by Jim Calhoun with Richard Ernsberger, Jr.

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 gwinnettpl.org.

Pet Corner



If you are looking for a companionable addition to your household, you will find lots of adorable cats, dogs, puppies, and kittens at the brand new Gwinnett County Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center. In an attempt to prevent pet overpopulation, all cats and dogs are now spayed or neutered before adoption.

To see photos of all the critters currently up for adoption, visit gwinnettanimalcontrol.com. For more information, drop by the shelter located at 884 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville or call 770.339.3200. Kennel hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00am until 4:00pm.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND GWINNETT

The **Sallie Reinsel and Erin McIntosh Art Exhibit** will be on display at Pinckneyville Park Community Center, 4650 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross, from November 2 – January 23. 770.417.2200.

Find out how to become an **Adopt-a-Stream Volunteer** at a free workshop on November 10 from 9:00am – 1:00pm at the Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center, 3030 Clean Water Drive, Buford. If you care about your streams, you'll want to attend this workshop on basic stream ecology and chemical monitoring. Bring lunch and boots if you have them. Register at 770.904.3505.

Brownies can earn an **Eco-Explorer Badge** and explore nature at the Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center from 1:00pm – 4:00pm on November 10. Have fun with a scavenger hunt, making a food chain, and learning how you can help endangered species. Badge is included in \$9 fee. Center admission is additional. Contact Sabrina Jones at PSMetro2@girlscoutsnwga.org or call 678.420.6870.

Boy Scouts, work on your Environmental **Science Merit Badge** at the Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center from 1:00pm – 4:00pm on November 10. Investigate the exciting experiments for requirement 3, get the background you need to complete requirement 3e on your own, and get started on this challenging merit badge required for Eagle Scout. Register at 770.904.3500. \$10 per scout.

On November 12 it's time to **VAN GO!** with Pinckneyville Park Community Center to the new *World of Coca-Cola*. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Remember to bring lunch money. Trip will start at 10:00am. The cost for the trip is \$10; museum admission is \$14 plus tax. Pre-registration required. Pinckneyville Park Community Center is located at 4650 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross. 770.417.2200.

Spend a night out with your girlfriends at **Ladies Bunko Bash** on November 13 from 6:30pm – 8:30pm! Join us for Bunko, prizes and desserts. Sign up in groups of four, \$12 per person. Pre-registration required by

November 6. Call 770.822.5414. Rhodes Jordan Park Community Center is located at 100 E. Crogan Street in Lawrenceville.

Kids, join us for **Making Fossils** at the Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center, 3030 Clean Water Drive, Buford, on November 17 from 2:00pm – 3:00pm. \$2 per child; center admission is additional.

George Pierce Park Community Center (55 Buford Highway, Suwanee) offers regular **movie showings**. The entry fee for all shows includes popcorn and a beverage. To register for any of the following, call 770.831.4173.

- **Saturday Morning Movies** happens November 17 and December 1 at 10:30am. All ages, but children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$2.
- **Saturday Movie Social** takes place November 17 and December 1 at 1:00pm. Ages 13 and up. Cost is \$2.
- **Thursday Movie Classics** will start at 6:30pm on December 6. Open to all ages, but children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$3.

Join Gwinnett County Parks & Recreation and Dancing4fun for these two events on November 17 at the Pinckneyville Community Center, 4650 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross: **Swing & Latin Dance Workshop** from 11:00am – 3:30pm. The workshop will cover beginner and intermediate steps and Latin styling techniques that will have you moving with style and confidence. Show off your new dance moves at the **Latin, Rhythm, and Swing Dinner Dance and Social** from 8:00pm – 11:30pm. This will be a catered event where the multicultural food dishes will be as colorful as the music. The four-hour workshop is \$32 per person and includes admission to the evening social. Social-only admission is \$12 per person. Beginner and experienced dancers of all ages are welcome. Call Pinckneyville Community Center at 770.417.2200 for more information

Come share a special evening with your little girl during the **Father/Daughter Winter Wonderland Dance**. The dance will take place on November 30 at 6:00pm at the Rhodes Jordan Park Community Center,

100 E. Crogan Street, Lawrenceville. Dancing, games, and a keepsake photo are all part of this special event. Hors d'oeuvres and desserts served. Register by November 26. The cost is \$10 per person, ages 3 and up. Call 770.822.5414.

Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation sponsors 10 different senior recreation clubs at various parks located throughout the county. Call 770.564.4680 to find out how you can become active in one of the clubs.

Sponsor a Grandfamily

Sponsor a grandfamily (seniors raising grandchildren) for the holiday season. If you would like to participate, contact Gary Galloway with Gwinnett County Senior Services at 770.822.8837 or e-mail gary.galloway@gwinnettcountry.com.

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gwinnettcountry's information resources

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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 770.822.7035 or e-mail heathersawyer@gwinnettcountry.com. The County Line is also available on the County's website, gwinnettcountry.com.