

# County Line

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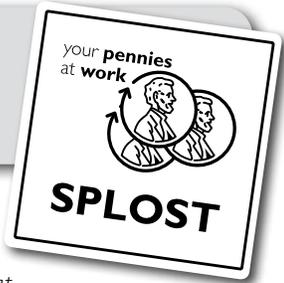
## SPLOST: Gwinnett's second disc golf course opens

The grand opening celebration for Alexander Park, Gwinnett County's second 18-hole disc golf course, was held on June 13. Alexander Park is located at 800 Old Snellville Highway in Lawrenceville. The celebration included disc golf demonstrations by the Gwinnett Disc Golf Organization, a 2-Mile Fun Run/Walk sponsored by the J.M. Tull – Gwinnett Family YMCA, a ribbon cutting ceremony, free kids' activities, and kite-flying demonstrations by Suburban Atlanta Kite Enthusiasts.

The 91-acre park features approximately 1.4 miles of paved multi-purpose trails, one mile crushed stone trail, a playground, a horseshoe pit area, three pavilions, lake view piers, an outdoor classroom, and restrooms.

*"The surrounding Lawrenceville and Snellville community really took an active role in the planning of Alexander Park,*

*from the master planning of the park to the grand opening celebration. It is great to see that level of involvement,"* said District 4 Commissioner **Kevin Kenerly**.  
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Around Gwinnett



## SPLOST: Bay Creek Park gets new amenities

Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation recently completed construction on new amenities at Bay Creek Park, including a 20,000-square-foot skate complex, four lighted tennis courts, two lighted basketball courts, a sand volleyball court, a third playground, and a pavilion.

The 153-acre park, which opened in 2004, is home to Gwinnett's first special-needs ball field and playground, **Unity Place**, and also features seven baseball/softball fields, a football field with lighted track and concession building, and a mile of paved multi-purpose trails.

**Unity Place** was funded through a partnership between Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation, the Grayson Athletic Association, and 10 Gwinnett-area rotary clubs. The playground features a special rubberized surface with wheelchair-friendly slides and swings. The hand-capped-accessible ball field, complete with wheelchair and walker accessible dugouts, is also constructed with a similar surface. The **Special Populations Program** offers programs for special needs children and young

adults so that they can join in with other children in sports such as baseball, softball, cheerleading, and basketball.

Funding for the Bay Creek Park expansion was made possible through SPLOST and totaled \$3.6 million in design and construction costs. The park expansion was designed by Jordan Jones and Goulding, Inc., construction was managed by Moreland Altobelli, Inc., and the contractor for the project was Reliant Construction Company.

Bay Creek Park is located at 175 Ozora Road in Loganville, just east of Grayson Highway. For more information, call 770.822.8840 or visit [www.gwinnettparks.com](http://www.gwinnettparks.com).

### The County Line is going digital!

In an effort to reduce printing costs, the *County Line* newsletter will only be delivered electronically from now on. Sign up to receive future issues at [www.gwinnettcounty.com](http://www.gwinnettcounty.com) under *mygwinnett*.

department of water resources

## Protecting Our Resources

### Dry Weather Screening



Gwinnett County Stormwater Management implements a variety of programs to comply with state and federal stormwater regulations. One of these programs is the **Dry Weather Screening Program**, which is intended to help detect illicit discharges or illegal connections into the storm sewer system.

Dry weather screening entails checking stormwater outfalls throughout the county after 72 hours of dry weather to ensure that nothing is flowing out of the pipe and into our rivers and streams. An outfall is the last structure (usually a pipe outlet) in a storm sewer system owned by the County that discharges into state waters (including most streams and rivers). The idea is to detect illicit flow during dry weather, since no rainwater should be flowing through the system. When flow is detected, the investigator collects chlorine, pH, temperature, and conductivity levels in the water. Each parameter can give a clue as to what the origin of the flow could be. Samples are then taken to the lab to detect copper, detergents, and phenols.

After data is collected, the investigator traces the flow upstream to detect the origin of the flow. If an illicit discharge is found and the responsible party is identified, the County will then enforce the *Illicit Discharge and Illegal Connection Ordinance* to stop the discharge.



**Staff member conducts a dry weather screening**

To report illicit discharges to the storm drain system, call Gwinnett County's 24-hour call center at 678.376.7000. For more information, please contact the Gwinnett County Stormwater Management Division at 678.376.6826 or visit [www.gwinnettstormwater.com](http://www.gwinnettstormwater.com).

## Advice from the Tax Commissioner

### Tax commissioner appointed to chair international tax council

President Josephine Lim of the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) has appointed Gwinnett Tax Commissioner Katherine Meyer chair of the newly created Tax Collection Council of IAAO, the internationally recognized leader and preeminent source for innovation, education, and research in property appraisal, assessment administration, and property tax policy.

Meyer has recruited members from various states to serve on a steering committee for the new council, which is designed to provide information and education for professionals in the field of tax collection. *"The Council plans to send out a survey to state tax collection associations to help us further develop the council. We need to learn more about the educational needs of those who collect revenues for*

*government entities and how to share this information on an international level,"* Meyer said.

### New Tax Commissioner website

The Gwinnett County Tax Commissioner's Office launched a new website on June 1, 2009. The new website enables users to more easily search and pay property taxes and includes new navigation and access to information. Motor vehicle information has been rearranged into a more accessible format so that viewers do not have to go through numerous layers to find important information.

In addition, the website includes a new internal content management system that allows the Tax Commissioner's Office staff to perform real-time updates to information pages. Although it has been completely redesigned, the site is still accessible through the same URL: [www.gwinnetttaxcommissioner.com](http://www.gwinnetttaxcommissioner.com).

**Katherine Meyer, Tax Commissioner**  
75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville GA 30045

Property Tax Customer Service  
770.822.8800 • [tax@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:tax@gwinnettcounty.com)

Motor Vehicles Customer Service  
770.822.8818 • [tag@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:tag@gwinnettcounty.com)

[www.gwinnetttaxcommissioner.com](http://www.gwinnetttaxcommissioner.com)

## Don't forget to fix your leaks

After extensive efforts to find and fix leaks in its own water pipes, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) is now calling on customers to do the same on their side of the meter. The credits given in the past for water wasted due to leaks is no longer an option.

DWR's Acting Director **Lynn Smarr** said, "More than a trillion gallons of precious water are wasted nationally every year by small leaks such as a toilet that doesn't shut off properly or a faucet that drips constantly. An average home could waste 11,000 gallons a year, which is enough to fill a residential swimming pool. We all need to get serious about conserving water."

DWR offers a free leak-detection kit with dye tablets, instructions on how to fix minor leaks, and a drip guide that shows how much water is lost through various sized holes. The free kits are available at the billing counter of DWR's Central Facility at 684 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville.

Although some water restrictions have been lifted due to increased water levels at Lake Lanier, residents are still encouraged to conserve. Should customers have questions about the water credits, please call 678.376.6800 to speak to a DWR customer service representative.

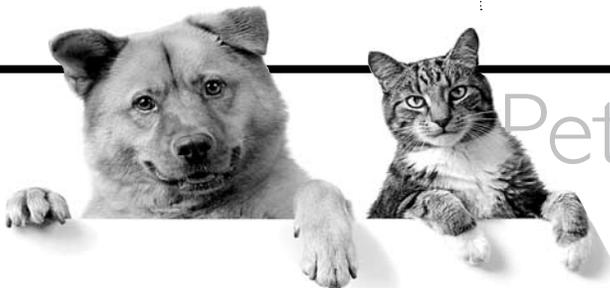
## Be a part of Project ACCES

Help Gwinnett Senior Services and the Gwinnett County Department of Fire and Emergency Services make sure Gwinnett seniors stay cool during the summer months by participating in Project ACCES (Added Cooling Comfort for Elderly Seniors).

According to Gwinnett Senior Services Manager **Linda Bailey**, "Seniors are unable to recognize that they are in dangerous situations as their internal body thermometer usually tells them differently. In light of this extreme hot weather and the economy, we are glad to be able to provide seniors with fans to stay cool."

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation of a brand new fan or window air conditioning unit for one of our local seniors. You can drop off your donation at any local Gwinnett County fire station from July 1 until August 31, 2009. Gwinnett Senior Services will collect the items from the stations and distribute them to seniors in need.

For more information on Project ACCES, e-mail [melanie.miller@gwinnettcountry.com](mailto:melanie.miller@gwinnettcountry.com) or call **Melanie Miller** at 770.822.8842.



If you are looking for a companionable addition to your household, you will find lots of adorable cats, dogs, puppies, and kittens at the Gwinnett County Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center.

Visit [www.gwinnettanimalcontrol.com](http://www.gwinnettanimalcontrol.com) to see photos of all the critters currently up for adoption or drop by the shelter located at 884 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville or call **770.339.3200**. In an attempt to prevent pet overpopulation, all cats and dogs are spayed or neutered before adoption.



## Check It Out!

Enjoy IMAX movies from the comfort of your own home!

Check out these exciting experiences, which are perfect for armchair travelers and the entire family:

*Adrenaline Rush:* A thrilling look at sky-diving and parachuting

*Amazon:* Explore this magical rain forest region

*Coral Reef:* A journey across the South Pacific

*Journey into Amazing Caves:* Liam Neeson narrates this suspenseful expedition

*Speed:* See how humans meet the need to go faster and faster

*Storm Chasers:* Ride inside extreme weather conditions across the globe

*To the Limit:* View endoscopic (inner body) photography to explore the marvels of the human body

*Mystery of the Nile:* Explorers navigate the Blue Nile from source to sea

To access the videos from the library website, select: *Books, DVDs, & More* > *Download Media*

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).

**"He loves his country best who strives to make it best."**

— Robert G. Ingersoll

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND GWINNETT

Pack up a blanket, lunch, and the kids and enjoy the free **Brown Bag Concert Series**, an afternoon of music, crafts, and face painting on the lawn at the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse, July 10 from 11:00am – 1:00pm. Kids can make their own instruments and take a trip around the world with music from *Havana Son*. No registration required. For details on sponsor booths, call 770.822.5450. The Gwinnett Historic Courthouse is located at 185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

Hit the bowls, hang with friends, and rock out with local bands at the free **Sounds of the Skate Park**, July 10 and July 24 from 7:00pm to 8:15pm. Bands, call 770.614.2060 if you would like to perform! Event will be held at Duncan Creek Park, 3700 Braselton Highway, Dacula.

Who's the king of the court? Find out at the **Three-on-Three Basketball Tournament**, July 11 at 10:00am. First and second place teams get T-shirts and more. Competition divided by age group; team registration only (max of four on a roster). Ages 10 and up; \$25/team; pre-registration required by July 9, call 770.723.9516 to register. Tournament will be held at Lucky Shoals Park Community Recreation Center, 4651 Britt Road, Norcross.

Tour the beautiful gardens at **Vines Gardens** as well as the wonderful small-scale railroad for free, July 12 from 11:00am – 1:00pm. All ages, pre-register by July 9; 770.822.5414 to register. Vines Gardens, 3500 Oak Grove Road, Loganville.

Play BINGO at the **Senior Bingo Blow-Out/ Ice Cream Social**, July 17 at 10:30am. We'll provide all the delicious sundae toppings, you bring a lunch! \$5/person; call 770.831.4173 for more information. Ages 50 and up. Event will be held at the George Pierce Park Community Recreation Center, 55 Buford Highway, Suwanee.

Team up with your buddies for a **Three-on-Three Tournament** of skill, talent, and strategy to win this tough competition, July 18 at 10:00am. Ages 12 – 18; \$40/team; team registration only; pre-register by July 2, parents call 770.831.4173. Tournament will be held at George Pierce Park Community Recreation Center, 55 Buford Highway, Suwanee.

Take part in **Be a Ballerina Day**, July 18 from 2:00pm – 3:30pm and learn ballet steps, make a ballerina craft, have a snack, and put on a show for the parents the last 10 minutes. Ages 3 – 6; \$10/person. Pre-registration required, call 770.822.5414. Event will be held at Rhodes Jordan Park Community Recreation Center, 100 East Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

Enjoy a cold, refreshing scoop of ice cream on a hot summer day at the **Senior Ice Cream Social**, July 24 at 1:00pm. \$2/person. Pre-registration required, call 770.564.4680. Ages 50 and up. Social will be held at the Gwinnett Senior Center at Bethesda Park, 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville.

**Girlz Night** will be a fun night of crafts and activities for your inner princess, July 24 from 6:30pm – 9:00pm! Ages 6 – 12; \$5/person. Pre-register by July 22; call 770.723.9516 to register. Event will be held at Lucky Shoals Park Community Recreation Center, 4651 Britt Road, Norcross.

Relax and enjoy the song stylings of Shawn Mullins at the free **Moonlight and Music Concert**, July 24, 8:00pm – 10:00pm. This alcohol-free event is in partnership with Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation and the Lawrenceville Tourism and Trade Association. Advanced reservations \$60/table of six; lawn seating is free; call 770.822.5450 for table reservations. Concert will be held at the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse, 185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

Sharpen your math skills to get ahead of your peers before school starts at the **Mathematics Workshop**, July 27 – 31. Grades 3 – 4 from 9:00am – 11:00am; grades 5 – 6 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm; grades 7 – 8 from 3:30pm to 5:30pm. Requirement: all students must know the multiplication table up to 12. Small groups will not exceed 10 students. Cost: \$50 includes supplies. Program provided by One 2 One Educational Support; pre-registration required at the Norcross Human Services Center, 770.638.5661.

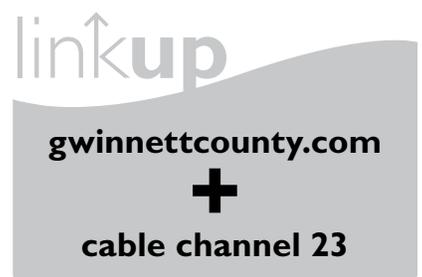
Take a step back into the Roaring '20s at the **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Silent Auction**, July 20 from 6:00pm – 8:30pm at Delmar Gardens, 3100 Club Drive, Lawrenceville. The auction will

feature big-ticket items such as a stay at the Ritz-Carlton Lodge on Lake Oconee, a two-night stay at the King and Prince Golf and Tennis Resort on St. Simons Island, and a pair of tickets to the US Open. All proceeds will benefit the Gwinnett County seniors. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. For more information or to purchase advance tickets, contact Celia Moore at [celia.moore@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:celia.moore@gwinnettcounty.com) or by calling 770.822.8775.

**Beat the Heat Kids' Concert** will feature music, crafts, face painting, and ice cream sundaes, July 31, 11:00am – 1:00pm. Small fee for sundaes. All ages. Pre-registration encouraged; call 770.417.2200 to pre-register. Concert will be held at the Pinckneyville Park Community Recreation Center, 4650 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross.

## Alexander Park...from page 1

Funding for Alexander Park was made possible by the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) and totaled \$3.8 million in construction costs. The park was designed by McFarland Dyer and Associates and the golf course was designed by Doug Porter. Park construction was managed by Moreland Altobelli Associates and the contractor for the project was CMES, Inc.



## countyline

Gwinnett County  
75 Langley Drive  
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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 770.822.7135 or e-mail [shaunieka.taste@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:shaunieka.taste@gwinnettcounty.com). The County Line is also available on the County's website, [www.gwinnettcounty.com](http://www.gwinnettcounty.com).