

# County Line

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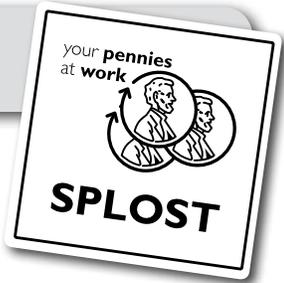
## SPLOST: Rock Springs Park opens

Rock Springs Park in Lawrenceville officially opened to the public on May 16. The grand opening celebration included a 2-Mile Fun Run/Walk sponsored by the Collins Hill Education Foundation, a ribbon-cutting ceremony, lacrosse demonstrations, free kids' activities and crafts, tennis clinics, and a visit from the Gwinnett Braves' mascot, Chopper.

The 114-acre Rock Springs Park, features a large playground, tennis center with six lighted courts, a football field with lighted walking track, a two-mile paved multi-purpose trail, soft surface trails, a suspension bridge, playground, pavilion, and restrooms.

Funding for Rock Springs Park was made possible through the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) and totaled \$6 million in design and construction costs. The park was designed by Lose & Associates, construction was managed by Jordan, Jones & Goulding, and the contractor for the project was Ace Grading Company.

Rock Springs Park is located at 550 Rock Springs Road in Lawrenceville. 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 be sent electronically. Sign up to receive future issues at [www.gwinnettcountry.com](http://www.gwinnettcountry.com) under *mygwinnett*.

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Around Gwinnett 

## Panel impacts teen driving

Car crashes are the number one cause of teen deaths and the majority of these fatal crashes are due to inexperience, speed, inattention, or distraction. In June 2006, the Gwinnett Solicitor's Office in partnership with ***It Won't Happen to Me***, a nonprofit organization with a specific goal to reduce teen driving fatalities, began a Teen Victim Impact Panel (TVIP) to prevent teen traffic fatalities and serious injuries in Gwinnett. TVIP is specifically designed for young drivers ages 17 to 21 who have committed moving violations such as speeding, following too close, failure to yield, racing, or reckless driving, although the public is also welcome to attend.

The program includes a panel of parents who have either lost a teen, teen drivers who have caused the death of another, and teens that survived a tragic crash.

These real-life stories can have a strong impact on young traffic violators and their future driving behavior. The average attendance is approximately 120 – 150 each month. *"This program has proven to be an important and effective resource in Gwinnett. Since 2006, we have seen a dramatic reduction in teen traffic fatalities in Gwinnett from 14 to two last year,"* said Gwinnett County Solicitor **Rosanna Szabo**.

The TVIP meets at the GJAC auditorium on the third Monday of each month except November. It runs for an hour and a half beginning at 7:00pm with registration starting at 6:30pm. Certificates of attendance are given at the end for verification. For more information about TVIP, visit [www.itwonthappentome.org](http://www.itwonthappentome.org) or contact the Solicitor's Office at 770.822.8300.

department of water resources

## Protecting Our Resources

### Have a beautiful garden and a healthy environment

Plentiful sunlight, warm temperatures, and moisture make it possible to grow a wide variety of plants in Georgia. These same factors also create a hospitable environment for plant pests. Managing these pests without using large amounts of pesticides can seem like a real challenge, but Integrated Pest Management (IPM) provides an effective system to address it. Learn about it at the **Lawn Care with IPM Workshop**, sponsored by Gwinnett County Stormwater Management and the Gwinnett Cooperative Extension Service on June 17, 2009, at 7:00pm in the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center auditorium.

IPM is the coordinated use of pest and environmental information with available pest control methods to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means and with the least possible hazard to people, their property, and the environment. Less pesticide use also means fewer pesticides in stormwater runoff and in our rivers and streams. *"Integrated Pest Management is the common-sense way to establish a healthy lawn using less maintenance, fewer pesticides, less water, and less money. Finally, those of us who can best*

*be described as cheap and lazy gardeners can have a nice lawn too,"* said presenter **Robert Brannen**, director of the Gwinnett Cooperative Extension Service.

Learn which pests to look out for, how to keep your lawn healthy by improving its resistance to pests, and how to use other pest-management strategies that minimize the use of chemicals.

The workshop will be held in the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center Auditorium, 75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville, on Wednesday, June 17, 2009. The presentation will begin at 7:00pm; please arrive by 6:45pm to sign in. For more information or to register, please send an e-mail to the Stormwater Management Division at [dwrswreg@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:dwrswreg@gwinnettcounty.com) with your name, address, and telephone number, or call 678.376.7126.

## Advice from the Tax Commissioner

### Reminder: Tag office closed for computer system maintenance

The North Gwinnett Tag Office, 2735 Mall of Georgia Boulevard, Buford, will be closed Saturday, June 13, while the Georgia Department of Revenue conducts computer system maintenance.

The maintenance period will take place from 7:00pm on Friday, June 12, to 6:00am on Monday, June 15. During this period, Internet and telephone tag renewals will not be available. Contact the Tax Commissioner's office for more information.



Peachtree Corners Tag Office ribbon cutting April 21, 2009

### July holiday closings

Please note the changes below and plan ahead. To view the complete tag office 2009 holiday schedule, please visit the Tax Commissioner's website. The opening day following a holiday is typically very busy so please plan your visit accordingly.

#### Lawrenceville and Norcross Tag Offices

Closed: Thursday, July 2, 2009, and Friday, July 3, 2009

#### Peachtree Corners and Snellville Tag Offices

Closed: Friday, July 3, 2009

#### North Gwinnett Tag Office

Closed: Monday, June 29, 2009, through Tuesday, June 30, 2009, and Saturday, July 4, 2009

*Skip a trip and save gas: renew your vehicle online.*

#### 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)

## DWR discontinues leak credit

Encouraging the County's water customers to fix leaks in their homes and businesses is the reason behind a new Water Resources department policy to stop giving credits on sewer bills for water wasted due to leaks.

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."

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 will no longer be an option starting July 1, 2009.

DWR offers a leak-detection kit with dye tablets and 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.

Lake Lanier, the County's raw water source, has risen almost 12 feet this year but is still about four feet below normal entering the hot summer months. As a result, outdoor watering restrictions are still in effect. visit

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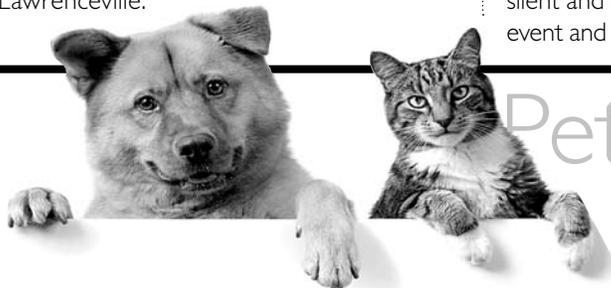
## Roaring '20s fundraiser benefiting Gwinnett seniors

Come and enjoy a night at the speak-easy, where you will enjoy jazz and ragtime music, swanky hors d'oeuvres, giggle water refreshments, and auction items for finicky flappers.

This spectacular event is the seventh annual Silent Auction hosted by The Friends of Gwinnett County Senior Services (Friends), at Delmar Gardens of Gwinnett on Thursday, July 30, from 6:00pm to 8:30pm. Delmar Gardens is located at 3100 Club Drive in Lawrenceville.

The theme for this year's auction is the **Roaring '20s**, and will feature items and services donated by local businesses and individuals along with big-ticket items such as roundtrip airline tickets, weekend getaways, Braves Baseball tickets, and apparel.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Ticket price includes admittance to the event, entertainment, food and beverages, a door prize ticket, and participation in the silent and live auction. Call **Celia Moore** for event and ticket information at 770.822.8775.



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!

June is National Audio Book Month. Check out these new audio titles:

*American Grit: What It Will Take to Survive and Win in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, by Tony Blankley

*Multiple Blessings: Surviving to Thriving with Twins and Sextuplets*, by Jon and Kate Gosselin

*The Big Rich: The Rise and Fall of the Greatest Texas Oil Fortunes*, by Bryan Burrough

*The Challenge for Africa*, by Wangari Maathai

*Defiance*, by Nechama Tec

*My Abandonment*, by Peter Rock

*Vision in White*, by Nora Roberts

*Hollywood Buzz*, by Margit Liesche

*The Art of Social War*, by Jodi Wing

*I Was Told There'd be Cake*, by Sloane Crosley

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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).

## Fireworks tradition ends after 21 years

In the face of declining revenues and the difficulty in raising sponsorship funds, Gwinnett County will no longer organize the annual **Gwinnett Glows** 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. Visit the Gwinnett Convention and Visitors Bureau's website at [www.gcvb.org](http://www.gcvb.org) to find Independence Day celebrations taking place this year.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND GWINNETT

**Trail Mix** it up at the park—free biking, running, fishing, and fun, June 6 from 8:00am – 2:00pm. Enjoy the Trail Mix Two-Mile Fun Run/Walk (canines welcome) sponsored by the Gwinnett Parks Foundation; \$10/person or \$25/family of five; entry fee includes t-shirt. Fun, family activities at the park, including hayrides, nature hike, face painting, and more. Call 770.822.8873 for more information. Tribble Mill Park, 2125 Tribble Mill Parkway, Lawrenceville.

Bring a rod and reel and introduce your kids to the sport of fishing on **Kids' Fishing Day**, June 6 from 9:00am – 1:00pm. Prizes, free hotdogs, and drinks for kids while supplies last. Bait and assistance provided; fishing license not necessary. Ages 15 and under; call 770.814.4914 for more info. Jones Bridge Park, 4901 East Jones Bridge Road, Norcross.

Enjoy great food, along with a great old fashioned free **Yard Sale**, June 6 from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Reservation required for sellers; \$15/indoor space with table (limit two per person); \$10/outdoor space—no table, call 770.822.5414 and use code RJCC14201 when registering. Rhodes Jordan Park Community Recreation Center, 100 East Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

Come out to **Sounds of the Skate Park** on June 12 from 7:00pm – 8:15pm and rock out while hitting the bowls or be the band providing the tunes. Bands interested in performing should call 770.614.2060. Free admission. Duncan Creek Park, 3700 Braselton Highway, Dacula.

Have **Dancin' in the Summer** fun as you learn some ballet, jazz, tap, and hip-hop dancing, June 13 from 2:00pm – 3:30pm. Snack, crafts, and other dance-related activities, plus a show for the parents the last 10 minutes. Dance or comfortable clothes recommended. Ages 4 – 10; \$10/child; pre-registration required, call 770.822.5414 and use code RJCC14202 when registering. Dacula Activity Building, 2735 Old Auburn Avenue, Dacula.

Celebrate the **grand opening of Alexander Park** on June 13 from 10:00am – 4:00pm. Event will kick off with a ribbon cutting ceremony followed by free kids' activities and crafts, disc golf, and expert kite-flying demos.

Prior to the celebration, the YMCA-Gwinnett will hold a Two-Mile Fun Run at 9:00am (register at 8:00am). Alexander Park, 800 Old Snellville Highway in Lawrenceville. Call 770.822.8840 for more information.

Bring your teddy bear, lunch, and blanket for a special **Teddy Bear Picnic**, June 20 from 1:00pm – 3:00pm. Great for tots and teddy bear lovers. George Pierce Park Community Recreation Center, 55 Buford Highway, Suwanee. Free admission. Ages 3 – 6. Pre-registration required; call 770.831.4173 and use code GPCC14220 when registering.

Join us for a good old **Watermelon Cutting** with good friends, June 26 at 1:00pm. \$2/person; pre-registration is required. To register, call 770.564.4680 and use code GCSC14265. Ages 50 and up. Gwinnett Senior Center at Bethesda Park, 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville.

Join us for a **Dive-In Movie** and a swim, June 26 from 7:00pm – 10:00pm. Ages 10 and up; \$10/person. Pre-registration required; call 770.614.2063 and use code BPAC14200. All pool rules apply. Bogan Park Aquatic Center, 2723 North Bogan Road, Buford.

Friends and live music of Abbey Road Live, a tribute to the Beatles at the **Moonlight and Music Concert series**, June 26 from 8:00pm to 10:00pm. Advanced reservations \$60/table of 6; lawn seating is free. To reserve a table, call 770.822.5450 and use code GHCHI4201. The Gwinnett Historic Courthouse, 185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

Join us for nothing but line dancing at the **Line Dance-a-thon**, June 27, from 6:00pm to midnight. Bring a snack to share; drinks will be provided. Ages 13 and up; \$5/person early registration; \$8/person the week prior to the event. To pre-register, call 770.814.4914 and use code SHABI4200. Shorty Howell Park Activity Building, 2750 Pleasant Hill Road, Duluth.

Bring the entire to **Family Movie Night**, a night of movies, popcorn, and sodas, June 27 from 7:00pm – 9:00pm. \$5/person; pre-registration required. Call 770.417.2200 and use code PCC04212 when registering. Pinckneyville Park Community Recreation Cen-

ter, 4650 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross.

*Calling all brides!* Let us make your event "historic" at the **Bridal and Fashion Show**, June 28 from 1:30pm – 5:30pm. Hundreds of ideas from caterers, photographers, florists, and event planners. Fashion show will begin at 4:00pm with ongoing door prizes and a grand prize drawing. Advanced reservations \$3 or \$5 at the door. To pre-register, call 770.822.5450 and use code GHCHI4210. The Gwinnett Historic Courthouse, 185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

## Discontinuing Leak Credits ...cont'd from page 3

www.gwinnettcountry.com For more information.

The North Georgia Water Planning District recently approved Gwinnett's updated Water Conservation and Water Supply Plan aimed at making more efficient use of the scarce supply of water in the Chattahoochee River basin. Customers should call 678.376.6800 to speak with a customer service representative if they have questions.

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## countyline

Gwinnett County  
75 Langley Drive  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045  
770.822.7135  
www.gwinnettcountry.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 shaunieka.taste@gwinnettcountry.com. The *County Line* is also available on the County's website, [www.gwinnettcountry.com](http://www.gwinnettcountry.com).