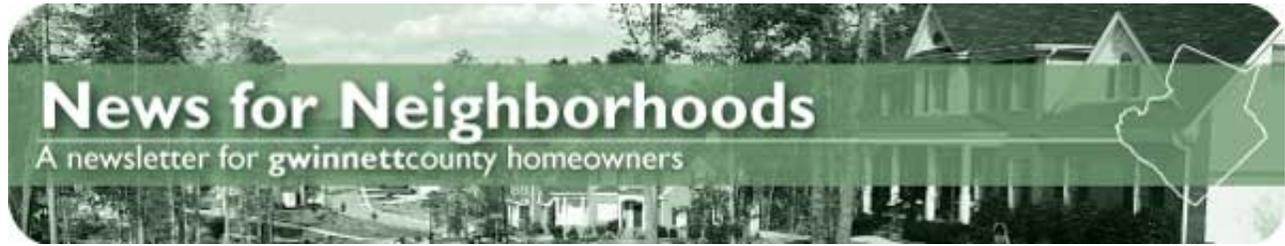


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November 26, 2014

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Dear Homeowner,

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

Gwinnett County Government 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.



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:

- America Recycles Day successful again
- Parks and Recreation #1 in Georgia
- I-85 toll lane work
- 16 new paramedics graduate
- 2015 budget available to public

Gwinnett launches discount prescription savings program

In September, the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners approved an agreement with Coast2Coast Rx to offer prescription drug discount cards to residents. All County residents, regardless of income, age, or health status, can participate in the program and save on the cost of their medications. The card may be used at participating pharmacy chains and independent pharmacies in Gwinnett County and includes more than 60,000 prescription drugs in its formulary. The card is distributed free of charge and is now available at most participating pharmacies, local government offices, senior centers, and libraries.

There are no eligibility requirements to obtain the prescription drug discount card, which officials expect will benefit residents who are uninsured or underinsured or face high insurance deductibles. If

a particular drug isn't covered under a person's health plan, he or she can use the card to save on those prescriptions. The card is free of charge and is now available at most participating pharmacies, local government offices, senior centers, and libraries. For more information about the Coast2Coast Rx prescription drug card and how you can take advantage of the program, [click here](#).

Proposed 2015 budget available for comment



Gwinnett Commission Chairman Charlotte Nash formally presented a proposed \$1.42 billion budget for fiscal year 2015 to the Board of Commissioners during a [briefing](#) on November 18, 2014. Four county residents and business people served on Nash's budget review committee. After hearing presentations from elected officials and department directors in September, the group studied departmental business plans, budget needs, and revenue projections to make recommendations for the 2015 budget. [Read more about the 2015 budget proposal here.](#)

Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 8, 2014, at 7:00pm in the auditorium at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville. They invite either oral or written comments about the budget during the public hearing or through an online [comment form](#) through Wednesday, December 31, 2014. The Board expects to adopt the 2015 budget on Tuesday, January 6, 2015.

Practice Thanksgiving cooking safety

Thanksgiving is typically a time when family and friends gather to share meals and laughter. As preparations for the busy holiday are underway, firefighters want to encourage safe cooking practices.

Cooking is the leading cause of residential fires during the Thanksgiving holiday and throughout the year. The Gwinnett County Department of Fire and Emergency Services and the National Fire Protection Association are calling on all cooks to include fire safety in their recipes.

Prevent a fire or burn injury by following tips such as never leaving food unattended in the kitchen while it's cooking and keeping children and pets a safe distance away from the oven or stove while it is in use. If you are planning on deep-frying your holiday bird, remember to follow proper fire safety precautions and follow all manufacturer's instructions when using the fryer.



[Click here](#) for many more tips to help keep you safe as you entertain family and friends.

Holiday Task Force gets started



The Gwinnett County Police Department will begin the Holiday Task Force during the evening hours of Thanksgiving Day. This annual operation puts additional officers in shopping districts throughout the community with the purpose of reducing crime against holiday shoppers. This year, the task force will operate on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays through New Year's Eve.

While the Holiday Task Force is intended to reduce crime against holiday shoppers, police typically see an increase in certain types of crime during this season such as entering autos, robberies, financial fraud, and DUIs. [Click here](#) for some helpful hints to stay safe this holiday season.

The Annual Tree Lighting returns to downtown Lawrenceville

The tradition continues on **Thursday, November 27** from 5:30pm to 8:00pm, as Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation rings in the holiday season with the lighting of the Great Tree on the Courthouse lawn. Enjoy live music in the gazebo, kids' activities, dance team performances, and local vendors selling festive holiday foods. Call 770.822.5450 for more information. The Gwinnett Historic Courthouse is located on 185 West Crogan Street in Lawrenceville.



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