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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:

- Bicentennial countdown begins
- State Patrol post, HERO station coming to Suwanee rest area on I-85
- Tax Assessors Office conducting onsite visits
- Don't put fats, oil, grease down your drain

Gwinnett 2040 Unified Plan public hearing set for December 19

Gwinnett County is working on an all-encompassing plan to help guide our community's future through 2040, and we need your input.

On **December 19**, the Board of Commissioners is conducting a public hearing on the latest update to the County's comprehensive plan, which Gwinnett calls a Unified Plan, or Gwinnett UP. This will be the public's first opportunity to hear about the content of the Unified Plan, find out times and locations of future meetings, learn about additional ways to provide input, and voice any concerns or issues regarding the plan.



The Unified Plan essentially provides a roadmap for how the County will grow and develop over the next 20 years. In addition to land use, the plan will address the County's needs, opportunities, goals

and vision; community work program; transportation, housing and economic development; natural and cultural resources; and community facilities and capital improvements.

The public hearing is scheduled for 7:00pm at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville. For more information, contact Interim Planning Director Nancy Lovingood at Nancy.Lovingood@gwinnettcountry.com.

Gwinnett students sing Christmas carols at GJAC through December 15



Gwinnett County schools are spreading holiday cheer at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center this month as student choirs sing popular Christmas carols for visitors and County employees.

Performances will take place through **Friday, December 15** at GJAC, located at 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville, on the second floor across from the Jury Assembly Room. View the schedule or watch video recordings of the performances on TVgwinnett, the County's

government access cable television, or on demand at www.gwinnettcountry.com.

There's still time to comment on the County's proposed 2018 budget

Gwinnett Commission Chairman Charlotte Nash presented a proposed \$1.67 billion budget for fiscal year 2018 to the Board of Commissioners during a briefing on November 28.

The proposed 2018 budget, which focuses on safety and quality of life issues, consists of a \$1.28 billion operating budget and \$390 million for capital improvements, including SPLOST-funded projects.

A team of seven citizen volunteers served on Nash's budget review committee, hearing presentations from elected officials and department directors in late August. The group studied departmental business plans, budget needs, and revenue projections to make recommendations for the 2018 budget.



Commissioners held a public hearing on the proposed budget on Monday, December 4. Written comments are still welcome through an online comment form through **December 31**. The Board expects to adopt the 2018 budget on **January 2**.

Read more about the 2018 budget proposal [here](#) or watch a video on the proposed budget [here](#).

Elections Office seeking bilingual poll officials for upcoming election season

The County's Voter Registrations and Elections Division is looking for bilingual poll officials to staff elections in 2018. As a poll official, you get a front row seat to the democratic process, earn valuable work experience, and best of all, you get paid! Residents who can read and write English and Spanish are encouraged to complete a poll official application at the Elections Division website at www.gwinnettcountryjobs.com.

La Oficina de Elecciones busca trabajadores oficiales bilingües para las próximas elecciones

La División de Inscripción de Electores y Elecciones del Condado está buscando trabajadores electorales bilingües para proveer personal en las elecciones en 2018. Como trabajador electoral, usted participa directamente en el proceso democrático, obtiene una valiosa experiencia laboral, y lo mejor de todo es que te pagan! Se les anima a los residentes que pueden leer y escribir en inglés y español a completar una aplicación de oficial electoral en www.gwinnettcountryjobs.com.

Give a shelter pet the greatest gift of a Home for the Holidays this December

As part of *Home of the Holidays* December, the Gwinnett animal shelter is offering a Greatest Gift adoption special through the month of December.



Any of the dogs and cats dreaming of a family for Christmas can be adopted at a discount, with cats available for \$12, or two cats for \$20, and dogs for \$25. Normally, adoption fees cost \$90. The fee covers spaying/neutering, inoculations, and microchipping.

And best of all, the shelter is offering "Free Fridays" in December when animals can be adopted at no cost. The adoption program helps relieve crowding at the shelter,

located at 884 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville. So give someone the Greatest Gift of unbridled love from a shelter pet.

For more information, visit the [animal welfare webpage](#).

Take a survey and help shape development in the Sugarloaf CID

The Sugarloaf Community Improvement District, a self-taxing district, and Gwinnett County have partnered on a study to guide future growth in the Sugarloaf area and your input is needed.

The Atlanta Regional Commission's Livable Centers Initiative is a grant program that encourages local jurisdictions to re-envision their communities as vibrant, walkable places that offer more mobility options, encourage healthy lifestyles, and provide better access to jobs and services. The LCI studies try to spark economic development and quality of life choices.

Once the LCI study is approved by the ARC and Gwinnett County, various projects such as sidewalks, intersection improvements, and streetscaping will be eligible for federal transportation funds routed through the ARC. The study will also guide important planning and zoning decisions within the CID and help prioritize and expedite construction of improvements within the CID.



Your input is needed to form the Sugarloaf vision! Click [here](#) to take our community survey. The survey will close on **December 11**.

Gwinnett County Bicentennial Moment - A Step Back in Time



Gwinnett County was created on December 15, 1818, and named for Button Gwinnett, one of the three Georgia signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Formed from land ceded to the state of Georgia by the Cherokee and Creek Indians and a portion of Jackson County, Gwinnett was the 50th county to be organized in the state.

The first courthouse was located at the home of Elisha Winn, near what is now Dacula. Winn was also chosen to select the site for the first county seat and new courthouse. He paid \$200 for a 250-acre lot in the center of the county. Early courthouse business was held in a log cabin until a more permanent structure was built in 1824.

To learn more about Gwinnett's history and about upcoming bicentennial events, visit www.gwinnett200.com.


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