



July 20, 2018

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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:**

- Parks and Recreation sponsoring Historic Games at Lawrenceville Female Seminary
- 100<sup>th</sup> Gwinnett Police Academy graduates 46 new officers
- New Bay Creek Park police precinct, alternate E-911 center coming
- Norcross Senior Center to be renovated
- Gwinnett, United Way team up on homelessness

**County Commission approves transit plan**

The Board of Commissioners recently approved the final recommendations of the Connect Gwinnett Transit Plan to create a framework for the County's short-, mid-, and long-range transit future.

The plan is designed to serve myriad needs across the county by improving mobility, along with providing congestion relief and transportation choices.

Since spring 2017, the Connect Gwinnett effort has documented current conditions and conducted a needs assessment for the County's transit future. The public was involved in each phase of the process, from public forums to stakeholder meetings to community events to online and phone survey efforts.

More information on the comprehensive transit development plan, including a copy of the plan, is available online at [www.ConnectGwinnettTransit.com](http://www.ConnectGwinnettTransit.com).



## Board approves lower millage rate for 2018



The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday adopted 2018 millage rates to fund county services by rolling back the general fund rate by 2.58 percent.

The annual millage rate and individual annual property assessments determine each property owner's property tax for County operations. Property tax bills also include school taxes, which are usually the larger portion of the total. For properties within certain cities, the tax bill may also include city taxes. A mill is one dollar of tax for every \$1,000 of assessed property value; however, applying various homestead exemptions will reduce a residential property's tax bill.

The 2018 total property tax millage rate for the County will be 13.319, as compared to 13.51 for 2017. The millage rates for special service districts created in 2013 and countywide levies for voter-approved debt and recreation all remain unchanged from last year. Millage rates for service districts in Gwinnett are based on property location and County services provided, such as police, fire, and emergency medical. Details on millage rates are available online at [www.gwinnettcounty.com](http://www.gwinnettcounty.com).

Property owners can also visit the website to see the value they receive in county services plus an estimate of applicable county, schools, state, and city taxes billed by the tax commissioner. A pie chart shows how the County allocates its portion. Click on Where Your Property Taxes Go under the Your Money button at [www.gwinnettcounty.com](http://www.gwinnettcounty.com).

### General Primary runoff election takes place July 24

The runoff for the 2018 General Primary/Nonpartisan election will take place **Tuesday, July 24** at your regular voting precinct from 7:00am to 7:00pm. To find your voting precinct or view a sample ballot, visit the Georgia Secretary of State's [My Voter Page](#).

You must vote within the same party chosen for the General Primary Election. If you did not vote in the primary election or voted nonpartisan and wish to vote in the runoff, you may choose any party in the runoff. Only registered voters may cast a ballot.

Voters eligible to cast a ballot in this runoff election may vote advance in-person through **July 20** at the Voter Registrations and Elections Office located at 455 Grayson Highway in Lawrenceville from **7:00am to 7:00pm**.

Voters may also request an absentee ballot for the runoff election through July 20. A completed application must first be received before an absentee ballot is issued. Please call the Voter Registration and Elections Division at 678.226.7210 to request an application, or you can [complete the form online](#).

### La Segunda Vuelta de Elecciones Primarias Generales se llevará a cabo el 24 de Julio

El Desempate para las Elecciones Generales/No Partidistas del 2018 tendrán lugar el Martes 24 de Julio en su lugar de votación regular desde las 7:00 am hasta las 7:00 pm. Para encontrar su distrito electoral o ver una boleta de muestra, visite el sitio web [My Voter Page](#) de la Secretaría de Estado de Georgia.

Debe votar dentro del mismo partido elegido para la Elección Primaria General. Si no votó en las Elecciones Primarias o votó de manera No Partidista y desea votar en la segunda vuelta, puede elegir cualquier partido en la segunda vuelta. Solo los votantes inscritos pueden votar.

En esta elección de segunda vuelta, los votantes elegibles pueden votar a través de la votación adelantada en persona hasta el 20 de Julio en la Oficina de Inscripciones Electorales y Elecciones ubicada en 455 Grayson Highway en Lawrenceville de 7:00 am a 7:00 pm.

Los votantes también pueden solicitar una boleta de voto ausente para la elección de desempate hasta el 20 de Julio. Primero, se debe recibir una solicitud completa antes de que se emita una boleta de voto ausente. Llame a la División de Inscripción de Electores y Elecciones al 678.226.7210 para requerir una solicitud o [completar el formulario en línea](#).

## Enjoy a cup of java with a police officer at Coffee with a Cop on July 28



Share a cup of coffee or maybe a story or two with a Gwinnett police officer at Coffee with a Cop on **July 28** in Lilburn.

Gwinnett police will be on hand to field questions or talk about issues that concern the public. The program is part of an ongoing effort to build healthy relationships between police and those they're sworn to protect. We especially encourage our Hispanic residents to stop by. Bilingual officers will be present to translate and to assist.

The coffee and discussion will be flowing from 9:00am to 11:30am at Plaza Americanas, 733 Pleasant Hill Road.

### Disfrute de un café con nuestros policías en "Cafecito con un Policía"

Comparta una taza de café o tal vez un historia o dos con un policía de Gwinnett en nuestro evento "Cafecito con un Policía" el 28 de Julio en Lilburn.

Oficiales de Gwinnett estarán disponibles para responder preguntas sobre temas o preocupaciones que tenga el publico. Este programa es parte de un esfuerzo continuo para desarrollar relaciones saludables entre nuestros policías y aquellos que ellos juraron proteger. ¡Animamos especialmente a nuestros residentes Hispanos que vengan al evento! Oficiales que hablan español estarán disponible para ayudar.

El Café y la discusión van a fluir de 9:00-11:00am en Plaza Las Americas - 733 Pleasant Hill Road.

### Gwinnett animal shelter offering July specials, including Free Fridays

The Gwinnett County animal shelter is running multiple adoption specials in July to make it easier for you to take home your purrfect pet!

Specials include free adoptions every Friday, reduced adoption fees of \$20 for all animals throughout the month, and an adoption fee of just \$20 for two kittens.

Dogs typically cost \$90 to adopt, and cats typically cost \$30. Dogs and cats up for adoption at the shelter typically are examined by Animal Welfare staff veterinarians, vaccinated, and neutered or spayed, so they are ready to go home on the day of adoption.



Starting July 26, the shelter is extending its hours on Thursdays from 6:00pm to 8:00pm into the fall. Ice cream socials will be held on the last Thursday of each month through October.

### Gwinnett to offer free disposal of Household Hazardous Waste on August 11



Household hazardous waste materials can potentially contaminate water resources and pollute the air.

To help protect the environment and ease the burden on Gwinnett residents, the County's Fiscal and Solid Waste Management Division, Department of Water Resources, and Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful are partnering to host the County's first Household Hazardous Waste Recycling Event on **August 11**.

Residents can drop off five containers each of household hazardous waste for free. The event is limited to Gwinnett residents and proof of residency may be required. Materials accepted at the event include cleaners, batteries, fluorescent light bulbs and ballasts, lawn care products, oils, paints, and pesticides.

The event runs from **9:00am to noon** at the Department of Water Resources Central Facility at 684 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville. For a full list of acceptable items, visit [www.gcsolidwaste.com](http://www.gcsolidwaste.com).

### Gwinnett Police accepting applications for Citizens Police Academy

There's still time for apply for the next Citizens Police Academy, which will run **August 21 to October 11**. Classes will take place on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Residents who participate in the academy will have a behind-the-scenes look at their police department. Topics covered during the academy include crime prevention, E-911, criminal investigations, SWAT, crime scene investigations, and more. To apply, visit the Citizens Police Academy website at [www.gwinnettcpa.com](http://www.gwinnettcpa.com). Applications can also be submitted by email to [policevolunteers@gwinnettcountry.com](mailto:policevolunteers@gwinnettcountry.com), or by mail to P.O. Box 602, Lawrenceville, 30046.



### Gwinnett County Bicentennial Moment - Freeman's Mill



Freeman's Mill, also known as the Alcovy River Grist Mill or Swann's Mill, was originally constructed between 1868 and 1879 by brothers John and Levi Loveless on the southern bank of the Alcovy River just north of Alcovy Road.

The mill is a typical rural gristmill found along rivers throughout Georgia in the middle 19<sup>th</sup> century. Farmers brought their corn to the mill to be ground into meal. As payment, the miller kept a portion to sell. Water-powered grinding was slow and considered superior to steam or electric powered-grinding, which ground so fast that the meal was heated, changing the taste.

Ownership of the mill changed several times. After the Loveless brothers, W. Scott Freeman and his son Winfield Freeman ran the mill, followed by Newt Pharr, Lewis Swann, and Julian Swann. The mill was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1996. Gwinnett County acquired it in 2002.

The County is renovating the mill as a museum with interior and exterior exhibits, including a life-sized dioramas, archival video, interpretive signs, and artifact displays. A nearby shed will include interactive exhibits, such as a gear wall, block and tackle, and a reproduction grain elevator, a seed-to-table diorama, and an electric mill where guided visitors can grind their own souvenir bag of meal. The renovation will be complete in 2019.

Visit the Gwinnett Historical Society webpage at [www.gwinnetths.org](http://www.gwinnetths.org) to learn more about Gwinnett County history.

**gwinnett**county  
**Communications Division**  
770.822.7180  
[www.gwinnettcounty.com](http://www.gwinnettcounty.com)

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