



June 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:

- Section of Cruse Road widening planned
- County, state to study Interstate 85 corridor
- Youth Commission offering hands-on government instruction
- Coffee and Conversation draws businesses to share ideas, issues

Juneteenth celebration set for June 23 at historic Yellow River Post Office

Gwinnett Community Outreach and the United Ebony Society of Gwinnett County Inc. are sponsoring a Juneteenth celebration on **June 23** as part of Gwinnett County's bicentennial.

Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States. Today, it is a time to celebrate African-American freedom and achievement while encouraging continuous self-development and respect for all cultures.

The free event will feature performances, historical presentations, artwork and quilt displays, vendors, food trucks, and games. The celebration will take place at the historic Yellow River Post Office Park, which has slave cabins dating to the Civil War.



The celebration runs from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. Yellow River Post Office Park is located at 3519 Five Forks Trickum Road, Lilburn.

All dogs, cats available for free at the Gwinnett Animal Shelter from June 25 to June 30

All dogs and cats can be adopted at no cost at the Gwinnett Animal Shelter from **June 25 to June 30**.



As part of an end of June special, the Gwinnett Animal Welfare and Enforcement Division is waiving all fees. Shelter fees are typically \$90 for a dog. Cat adoptions are \$30.

Late spring and early summer are the busy time for the animal shelter, and the staff decided to offer the pets for free to ensure adequate space for any new arrivals.

Dogs and cats up for adoption at the shelter have been examined by Animal Welfare staff veterinarians, vaccinated, and neutered or spayed, so they are ready to go home on the day of adoption.

Enjoy two fireworks shows this Independence Day and be safe with personal fireworks

Celebrate the nation's independence and Gwinnett's bicentennial at two County-sponsored fireworks exhibits on **July 3** and **July 4**.

Even though fireworks are legal in Georgia, many are dangerous and Fire and Emergency Services urges the public to attend a professional show instead of using personal fireworks.



Prelude to the 4th and Gwinnett Bicentennial Celebration

July 3 from 4:00pm to 9:00pm
Lawrenceville Lawn

147 Luckie Street, Lawrenceville

The event will feature food trucks, beer and wine from McCray's Tavern, live music, and a professional fireworks display at dusk.

The Mall of Georgia's 16th Annual Star-Spangled Fourth

July 4 from 5:00pm

The Mall of Georgia

3333 Buford Drive, Buford

Fun activities for the entire family including a concert, children's rides, inflatables, live music, bicentennial activities, food and beverage concessions, and the largest fireworks display in the county. Pre-fireworks entertainment begins at 4:00pm, followed by fireworks at 9:35pm. After the fireworks show, stick around to watch a free movie "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" rated PG-13.

For those using personal fireworks, firefighters offer these tips to avoid a potentially life-changing accident:

- Read the directions carefully and inspect the device for any defects
- Keep a bucket of water, garden hose, and fire extinguisher close by Never give fireworks to a child and keep children away from any firework area
- Never attempt to fix or re-ignite a malfunctioning device. Instead, discard it safely by soaking it in a bucket of water
- Before going to bed at night, remember to inspect the area where fireworks were used
- Never handle fireworks while impaired by drugs or alcohol
- Don't bring your pet to a fireworks display

Gwinnett Police accepting applications for Citizens Police Academy

The Gwinnett County Police Department is accepting applications for the Citizens Police Academy that runs from **August 21** to **October 11** on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.

The Gwinnett County Police Department Citizens Police Academy is a program to educate residents who want to learn more about their police department.



Topics include: crime prevention, communications (911), criminal investigations, gangs, K-9, S.W.A.T, crime scene investigations, aviation, hazardous disposal, accident investigation, DUI

enforcement, active threats, emergency vehicle operations, traffic enforcement, and use of force.

Interested residents can apply online at www.gwinnettcpa.com by **August 17**. Late applications will be considered for future CPA sessions. Applications can also be submitted by email to policevolunteers@gwinnettcountry.com, or by mail to P.O. Box 602, Lawrenceville, 30046.

Burn ban in Gwinnett in effect through September 30



The state Environmental Protection Division has imposed a burn ban for metro-Atlanta that includes Gwinnett County through September 30. In the summer, outdoor burning causes ozone in the air to reach unhealthy levels.

All types of outdoor or open burning are prohibited, including burning trees, limbs, and yard waste. The use of air curtain destructors for land clearing is also prohibited. For more information about the burn ban, contact the Gwinnett County Fire and Emergency Services Community Risk Reduction Division at 678.518.4980 or you can visit www.gwinnettfiremarshal.com.

Gwinnett County Bicentennial Moment - The Promised Land

In 1820, an Irish immigrant named Thomas Maguire built a 956-acre plantation called "The Promised Land" located off Rockbridge Road just south of Centerville. Maguire, his 10 children, and 26 slaves cultivated the land and built "The Big House."



The house was comparatively modest in size and design. The Big House was also used as a court house and post office during the Civil War days. The plantation raised cotton, wheat, corn, vegetables, fruits, hogs, cattle, and sheep. They also engaged in carpentry, blacksmithing, ginning, tanning hides, milling flour, grinding cane, and making brick. In November of 1864, Union soldiers on their "March To The Sea," burned Maguire's gin house, stables, barn, and fences while Maguire hid in the woods.

Robert and Moena Livsey purchased the plantation in the 1920s. They were farmers and the parents of 18 children, 13 of whom lived. In 1969, Thomas and Dorethia Livsey returned to Georgia after ten years in Chicago and eventually opened a grocery store, restaurant, barber shop, beauty shop, and a car wash. The Promised Land community also includes New Bethel A.M.E. Church, which is now about 125 years old.

The County acquired the property in 2016 and is currently researching ways to present the area's history. Thomas Livsey was recently honored by the Department of Community Services in its inaugural Preservation Award Luncheon for his efforts to preserve the Maguire-Livsey Big House and his family's role in the community.

For more historical information about Gwinnett County, visit the Gwinnett Historical Society page at www.gwinnetths.org. Visit www.gwinnett200.com for more on the many events celebrating the county's bicentennial.

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