News for Neighborhoods
A newsletter for gwinnettcounty homeowners

March 14, 2018

In this issue:

Share thoughts, coffee at Coffee with a Cop

Enjoy a bike ride, learn about Gwinnett transit

Class allows seniors to master computers

Bring a pet home for St. Paddy's Day

Multicultural festival set for April 14

2040 Unified Plan offers online survey

Bicentennial Moment- Railroads in Gwinnett

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.

Forward to a Friend

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:
- GJAC parking deck coming soon
- County considering countywide trails master plan
- New bridge planned over Alcovy River at New Hope Road
- Community garden plots available

Talk with police, ask questions at two Coffee with a Cop events

Relax with some of Gwinnett's finest over a cup of java on **March 16** for Coffee with a Cop.

The meet-up starts at 9:00am at Beans and Butter Coffeehouse at 851 Oak Road, Suite 1 in Lawrenceville. It's a great way to meet some Gwinnett Police officers in a casual setting, share concerns, ask questions, and even swap stories.

If you miss that one, another Coffee with a Cop is set for **March 21** at 9:00am on the third floor of the Chamber of Commerce at 6500 Sugarloaf Parkway.

"Wheels in the Wind" offers fun bike ride, tips on Gwinnett County Transit

On **March 17**, join Gwinnett County Transit and Sustainable Norcross Bike/Ped on a bike ride from Thrasher Park to Best Friend Park and back. While at Best Friend Park, receive free giveaways, light refreshments, and incentives for changing your commute, learn how to load your bike on a bus bike rack, and more! The event starts at 10:00am, rain or shine.

Seniors can master the mysteries of computers through the Gwinnett SenioR Learning Center's computer classes this spring.

Online registration runs through **March 17**. Onsite registration will be on **March 20** from 10:00am to 11:00am at Bethesda Senior Center, 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville, and on **March 22** from 10:00am to 11:00am at George Pierce Senior Center, 55 Buford Highway, Suwanee.

The Gwinnett SenioR Learning Center is a nonprofit organization of experienced instructors and coaches aged 50 and older who help their peers with technology.

Gwinnett Animal Shelter offering St. Patrick's Day Special of $20 per pet, Free Fridays for March

The Gwinnett Animal Welfare shelter is offering a Clear the Shelter St. Patrick's Day adoption special of only $20 for dogs or cats, and all adoptions are FREE on Fridays for the month of March.

Many dogs and cats have been examined by Animal Welfare and Enforcement staff veterinarians, vaccinated, and neutered or spayed, so they are ready to go home on the day of adoption.

Shelter fees are typically $90 for a dog, and $30 for a cat. The shelter is open for adoptions Monday through Thursday from 11:00am to 6:00pm, and on Friday and Saturday from 11:00am to 4:00pm.

Mark April 14 to attend the Multicultural Festival and Gwinnett Government Open House

Circle Saturday, **April 14**, on your calendar for the Gwinnett Multicultural Festival and County Government Open House.

The free event will feature live performances from across the globe, kids' activities, and other fun events. County agencies will have tables, booths, and staff to answer your questions. The police and fire departments will also have some of their specialized vehicles for you to check out.

The festival runs from 10:00am to 2:00pm at Shorty Howell Park, 2750 Pleasant Hill Road, Duluth, and is hosted by the Gwinnett County Police Department.

Take a short online survey and give us your feedback on the County's 2040 Unified Plan

Take a brief, online survey and give us your feedback for the County's 2040 Unified Plan, a tool for how land use, transportation, housing, open space, county infrastructure, and economic development can work together for the betterment of all in the county.

With the online survey, you can share your perception of Gwinnett County and how you think Gwinnett should grow and develop over the next two decades. The survey will be available until **May 11**. Encourage your family and friends to take it also. Your opinion matters.

You can also help by conducting a living room chat with friends and neighbors through **May 11** to weigh in on what Gwinnett could look like by 2040.

Gwinnett County Bicentennial Moment - Railroads in Gwinnett

Gwinnett County was relatively isolated until 1870 when the Atlanta and Richmond Air Line Railway was built, tying Atlanta to the Eastern seaboard. It was later renamed Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line Railroad, then the Georgia Air Line Railroad, then the Southern Railroad, and finally Norfolk Southern Railway. From 1879 to 1931, Southern Railroad ran passenger service called the Airline Belle between Atlanta and Toccoa. The tracks were laid along the Eastern Continental Divide ridgeline because it was fairly level and didn't require as many bridges. The railroad gave life to several towns, such as Norcross, Duluth, Suwanee, and Buford.

In 1881, a second railroad connected Suwanee and Lawrenceville, making the county seat much more accessible. Then, in 1891, the Georgia, Carolina, and Northern Railway, was built through the center of the county to help move cotton and other crops from the Lilburn, Lawrenceville, and Dacula areas. It later merged with Seaboard Airline Railway, now part of CSX.

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

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