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November 25, 2015

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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.

 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:

- Proposed 2016 budget unveiled
- Little Mulberry wins award
- Champions tour dates
- Veterans Day recap

- Simpsonwood follow-up

### County offices closed for Thanksgiving holiday

All Gwinnett County government offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of residents, will be closed **Thursday, November 26** and **Friday, November 27** for the Thanksgiving holiday. County offices will resume normal business hours on Monday, November 30. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center.

Thursday, November 26 is a trash and recycling holiday for residents living in unincorporated

Gwinnett County. Collections scheduled on that day will be rescheduled to Friday, November 27 and Friday collections will be rescheduled to Saturday, November 28. Only Thursday and Friday collections will be affected. If you live within city limits, please contact your city hall for your trash and recycling schedule.

### The annual tree lighting tradition continues in downtown Lawrenceville

After your Thanksgiving feast join Parks and Recreation for the annual Lighting of the Tree on **Thursday, November 26** from **5:30pm to 8:00pm**. Enjoy live music in the gazebo, kids' activities, dance team performances, and local food vendors in anticipation of the main event and arrival of Santa Claus. The event will take place on the **Gwinnett Historic Courthouse lawn**, located at **185 West Crogan Street in Lawrenceville**.



For more information, visit [www.gwinnettparks.com](http://www.gwinnettparks.com) or call 770.822.5450.

### 2016 budget proposal invests in big picture



Gwinnett Commission Chairman Charlotte Nash presented a proposed \$1.5 billion budget for fiscal year 2016 to the Board of Commissioners during a [briefing](#) on November 17, 2015. Five county residents and business people served on Nash's budget review committee. After hearing presentations from elected officials and department directors in late August and early September, the group studied departmental business plans, budget needs, and revenue projections to make recommendations for the 2016 budget. Read more about the 2016 budget proposal [here](#).

Commissioners will hold a public hearing on **Monday, December 7, 2015**, 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, 2015. The Board expects to adopt the 2016 budget on Tuesday, January 5, 2016.

### Practice fire safety when preparing your Thanksgiving meal

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.

Never leave food unattended in the kitchen while it's cooking and always keep children and pets a safe distance away from the oven or stove when in use. If you are 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 more tips to be safe as you entertain family and friends.

### Be safe while shopping during the holidays



The Gwinnett County Police Department will activate its Holiday Task Force beginning Thanksgiving night and continuing every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday through December 31. In addition, officers from the Crime Prevention Unit will be conducting vehicle safety checks during the holidays, encouraging shoppers to do their part to prevent property theft.

As you are out shopping for gifts during the holidays, the officers want to remind you to be safe with these helpful tips:

- Observe your surroundings; report any suspicious activity or loitering to the police.
- Store packages in your trunk and park your vehicle in a well-lit area.
- Don't shop alone and when offered, let retail employees assist you with taking your merchandise to your vehicle.
- Don't carry large amounts of cash; use secure forms of payment such as a credit or debit card when shopping.
- Have merchandise delivered to a secured location when possible.

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