

Other, non-accredited sleep labs in the area have no regulated quality standards and may not employ technologists specifically trained in sleep disorders.

"Once the sleep study is performed, information may not be interpreted by a physician Board Certified in Sleep Medicine," said Danita Turner, manager of respiratory care, sleep and neurology at GMC.

GMC has operated a sleep center for more than a decade at its Lawrenceville campus.

"The new sleep center will have the same board certified sleep specialists interpreting the studies as at our

tests, and all technologists are credentialed in sleep and respiratory therapy.

For more information, call 678-312-3695, or visit gwinnettmedicalcenter.org/sleep.

Gwinnett Place hosts Santa reading and gift exchange

Gwinnett Place Mall invited children to attend a special holiday event on Dec. 20 and hosted a gift exchange to welcome the mall's newest addition, M International Market Place, which is slated to open in next Fall.

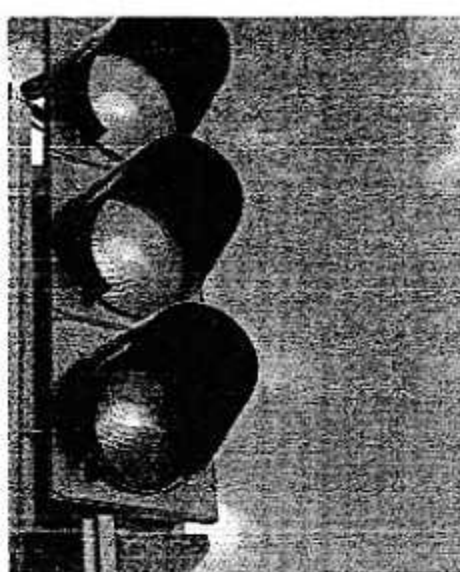
The event, hosted by Simon Kidgits Club, featured Santa Claus reading "Twas the Night Before Christmas," courtesy of Waldenbooks. Afterwards, to celebrate its first Christmas in the United States, Gwinnett Place Mall presented the staff of M International Market Place with traditional Christmas stockings full of holiday treats. In exchange, M International Market Place offered gifts from Korea, including authentic foods and treats, to children and parents in attendance.

Convention and Visitors Bureau recognizes top professionals

An estimated 120 of Gwinnett's hospitality industry professionals were in attendance at Gwinnett Center for the Gwinnett Convention and Visitors Bureau's Annual Tourism Awards and Holiday Luncheon last month.

"This has been a challenging year for everyone in the hospitality industry. Recognizing the individuals and organizations that go above and beyond is our way of saying 'thank you' to our hospitality industry," says Caryn McGarity, GCVB executive director. "Gwinnett's hospitality industry is such a part of Gwinnett's economy, and we feel that it's imperative to recognize the people who do such a tremendous job drawing meetings and visitors to our county."

The winners of the 2008 Friends of Tourism Award were: Sandi Franklin, sales manager at Hilton Atlanta Northeast; Paula Wheeler, sales manager at Hilton Garden Inn; Carlton "Rip" Robertson, cultural arts and community



CID says better signal timing improving traffic flow

Drivers are now experiencing a greatly improved commute and saving more on their fuel costs, according to the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District.

The Gwinnett Place CID contracted Wolverton & Associates to perform a traffic signal timing and optimization program throughout greater Gwinnett Place. Wolverton worked with the Gwinnett Department of Transportation to complete the improvements.

According to Jeff Legg, project coordinator with Wolverton & Associates, a before-and-after analysis in the CID shows reduced congestion and improved traffic flow in and near the District.

"During peak travel times, drivers will now save about 98,000 hours and nearly 59,000 gallons of gasoline annually because of these improvements," Legg says. "We conservatively estimate lessened trip times and lowered fuel usage for area travel will generate savings of more than \$1.3 million per year for the useful life of the new signal timing, which is estimated to be two years."

Executive Director Joe Allen says the CID will continue working with Wolverton & Associates and Gwinnett County in the future.

"This optimization effort is producing tangible results that benefit everyone traveling in our area, and we want to make sure we keep traffic moving as time progresses," Allen says.

Campaign honor vets



According to Theragenics, the company will sponsor 10 Honor Flights, allowing more than 400 veterans (plus families and guardians) to visit the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. The first flight will be in April 2009. Haney will participate in the honor flights and speak with military organizations about prostate cancer.

The company says it is sponsoring the outreach because research has found that veterans have higher rates of prostate cancer.