

James "Nick" Nicolosi Joins CID Board of Directors

Unanimous vote places Gwinnett Place manager on Board

Property owners in the Gwinnett Place CID recently elected James "Nick" Nicolosi, Mall Manager for Gwinnett Place Mall, to serve on the District's Board of Directors.

Nicolosi comes to Gwinnett Place after serving as the manager of Northlake Mall. His current leadership duties include overseeing all aspects of the daily operations of Gwinnett Place Mall on behalf of Simon Property Group.

Nicolosi is filling the vacant Board position that opened with the resignation of Scott Rolston at the end of last year. Rolston was the manager of Gwinnett Place Mall.

The new-look Board's first meeting included a detailed overview of a draft redevelopment plan prepared by StreetSmarts. Board members are expected to provide input on the plan, and a vote of approval is expected in March.

Additionally, Board members received an update on the implementation of a new wayfinding and signage program — a first-of-its-kind undertaking for greater Gwinnett Place. Next month, the new street-level directional system should be approved with visible results occurring almost immediately.



Wanted: Suwanee Day Volunteers

WANTED: Volunteers with good organizational and people skills, lots of energy, and a healthy sense of fun to help plan the 2007 Suwanee Day festival, a daylong celebration of community to be held at Suwanee's Town Center Park Saturday, September 15. This year marks the 24th celebration of Suwanee Day. Volunteer opportunities available in a variety of areas, including parade, exhibitors, marketing/promotion, sponsors, set up and clean up, volunteer organization, and transportation. High degree of community commitment preferred. Attendance at monthly planning meetings strongly encouraged. Compensation includes participation on an effective, supportive team; an opportunity to be active in the community; and a deep sense of personal satisfaction—and, of course, a free coveted Suwanee Day t-shirt. To apply, please contact Amy Doherty at adoherty@suwanee.com or 770/945-8996.

QUALITY OF LIFE POLICE GETTING A NEW HOME

Gwinnett's Quality of Life police unit will soon move into new quarters at 5555 Oakbrook Parkway in Norcross following Board of Commissioners approval of a reduced-price lease on Tuesday.

The unit is charged with enforcing ordinances related to property maintenance, junk vehicles, illegal signs, occupancy limits, outdoor storage and other conditions that detract from quality of life in the community.

Police Chief Charles Walters said, "Earlier this month, we consolidated code enforcement officers from the Planning and Development department into our police unit to coordinate operations and improve efficiency." The expanded unit will occupy 7,843 square feet of office space under the three-year agreement.

"The Quality of Life unit evolved from our extremely successful *Operation Fixing Broken Windows* campaign," according to District 1 Commissioner Lorraine Green. "We are responding to many requests from constituents to help clean up neighborhoods by enforcing existing county ordinances. These code enforcement efforts have created a new way of thinking here in Gwinnett."

An Excerpt from State Senator David Shafer's Blog (of the legislative session) Science and Technology Committee

Feb 20th 2007 David Shafer Healthcare

Senator Cecil Stator, the Chairman of the Science and Technology Committee, held a very informative hearing this afternoon on the state of stem cell research. It was a prelude to our meeting this Thursday afternoon when we will formally take up Senate Bill 148, the Saving the Cure Act.

We heard today from Dr. Rob Matheny, a medical doctor and heart surgeon associated with St. Joseph's Hospital. Dr. Matheny has helped pioneer technology that heals damaged heart tissue through the use of the body's own stem cells. He gave an absolutely fascinating presentation.

Dr. Matheny shared with us promising research suggesting that "adult stem cells" have greater "plasticity" than originally believed and can be coaxed into becoming virtually every type of tissue. He also discussed the difficulties encountered in embryonic stem cell research, specifically issues involving the rejection of donated embryonic cells and the danger of cancerous mutation. Dr. Matheny told the committee that in recent years that "there's been a real move away from embryonic stem cells," and for good reason. All of the medical advances involving stem cells have been made with nonembryonic cells.

Dr. Matheny's presentation differed considerably from the lecture given earlier this month by Dr. Steve Stice, a noted animal husbandry expert affiliated with the University of Georgia's animal and dairy science department. Stice, who has cloned both cows and pigs while at the University, is now involved in human embryonic stem cell research. In responding to questions from committee members, Stice seemed unaware of recent medical developments involving human stem cells, perhaps because human medicine is outside his immediate area of expertise.

In any event, I am looking forward to presenting Senate Bill 148 on Thursday afternoon. I do not believe that science and ethics are incompatible. I am convinced that Georgia can lead the way in both.

You can visit State Senator (District 48) Shafer's blog at <http://www.davidshafer.org>

comments

email your comments to us@insidewinnett.com

news

email your news to us@insidewinnett.com

visit us

on-line at www.insidewinnett.com

advertising

April 2007 Issue
Summer Camps
Ad & Editorial Deadline is
March 12th

May 2007 Issue
Cancer Awareness
Gardens Inside
Gwinnett Tour 2007
Ad & Editorial Deadline is
March 12th

Power of Giving Experienced at the Fowler YMCA

Partner With Youth Campaign Kickoff

Committed to building strong kids, strong families, and even stronger communities, the Robert D. Fowler Family YMCA launches its 2007 Partner With Youth campaign. The Partner With Youth annual campaign raises money for financial assistance so local children have the opportunity to participate in Y sports, summer camp and other programs regardless of their ability to pay. Last year the Fowler YMCA offered activities to more than 1,800 people in the Norcross area. This year the Fowler Y's goal is to raise \$109,000.

A charitable organization, the YMCA is an association of people who come together with the vision of building strong kids, strong families, strong communities. The YMCA is open to people of all abilities, ages, backgrounds, cultures, faiths, and incomes. Visit fpy.ymcaatlanta.org or call 770-246-9622.