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## Political notebook: Lasseter names son to CID board

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Shirley Lasseter says rebirth of the Gwinnett Place Mall area is a dream she wants to see fulfilled.

The county commissioner wants to be deeply involved in the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District, a quasi-governmental organization formed when businesses chose to tax themselves to try to revitalize the area.

But she says her day job, on top of her time on the commission, makes that impossible.

So she named one of her closest confidants to the board - her son Justin Fanning.

"The Gwinnett Place CID is so very important to me. It has to be revitalized in the next four years," she said of the area that was once Gwinnett's shopping mecca.

She said she talks to her 28-year-old son every night, so she'll be able to stay as up-to-date as possible on the CID's progress.

"This will keep me totally involved in it and up to date without having to be there," she said.

Fanning is a manager at the Loafing Leprechaun, which is located near the CID but not inside it.

As the Board of Commissioner's representative on the CID board, Fanning will replace Mark Williams, a founding member of the district who owns a print shop in the area.

County spokesman Joe Sorenson said there is no per diem or payment for the position, although expenses can be reimbursed.

A couple more recognizable names were added to county boards this week.

Chairman Charles Bannister named former Rep. John Heard to the county's Development Advisory Board. Heard, an architect, lost re-election in November to Democrat Lee Thompson.

Bannister also named Jodie Rosser to the county's Zoning Board of Appeals. Rosser ran for county commission in 2006, squaring off against Kevin Kenerly in a race where she was eventually asked to speak to the district attorney's office during an investigation into an anonymous campaign against the incumbent.

### Sound off in Snellville

Residents in Snellville and Lilburn have the opportunity to discuss city issues with their state legislators tonight.

Sen. Don Balfour has called for an hourlong town hall meeting to discuss possible changes to Snellville's charter, after tie 3-3 votes have caused "gridlock" in the government.

Possible changes include adding or subtracting a council district or giving the mayor the right to vote only in the case of a tie.

It's likely to be a fiery issue in a city where council members are often at each other's throats.

The meeting is scheduled for 7:30 at City Hall on Oak Street.

#### Lilburn annexation

In Lilburn, Rep. Clay Cox wants to know what citizens think of the city plans to annex nearby businesses.

Although city leaders have scrapped the idea of doubling the city's population with an eight-mile annexation of residential property, the possibility of taxes going up for businesses could bring out some strong feelings.

That meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. at Parkview High School, located at 998 Cole Drive, just outside of the city.