Joe Allen

From:

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Sent:

Tuesday, March 01, 2011 9:02 AM

To:

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Subject:

3/1: Gwinnett Tech's search, On taxing services

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OPERATIONAL: Snellville's new \$6.7 million police department is fully operational. Chief Roy Whitehead tells us. The 30,000 square foot building near the City Hall at Wisteria Drive and Clower Street (near the City Hall) houses the complete 53 person department. No general fund money was involved. SPLOST funds, plus assistance from the Citizens Police Academy and drug enforcement monies, paid for the facility, which is expected to serve the city for 20-25 years.

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TODAY'S FOCUS

:: Gwinnett Tech might expand

ELLIOTT BRACK'S PERSPECTIVE

:: GOP, "tax and spin," service tax

FEEDBACK

:: Likes FedEx Ground article

UPCOMING

:: Ticket amnesty, CID grants, dance

NOTABLE

:: Hiring freeze, health, scholarship

ALSO INSIDE

:: IN THE SPOTLIGHT: Meet a sponsor

:: REVIEW: "The Grace Card"

:: GEORGIA TIDBIT: Airports and military bases

:: LAGNIAPPE: Father-son inducted

:: TODAY'S QUOTE: Computer viruses

:: CALENDAR: Coming events

:: ARCHIVES: Read past commentaries

write 500 words, we'll consider it for Today's Focus.

UPCOMING

Amnesty in March for those with Recorder's Court tickets

Individuals who have outstanding traffic citations in Gwinnett County Recorders' Court, issued as far back as 1983, will now have until the end of March to settle their cases without additional penalty.

The Gwinnett County Recorder's Court, located at 115 Stone Mountain Street in Lawrenceville, announces the amnesty program that gives these individuals an opportunity to resolve their cases starting March 1 and running through the end of the month. During the amnesty period, the \$25 bench warrant fee will be waived and the bench warrant recalled for those who pay their fines during this time. They will also receive the appropriate forms to reinstate their expired driver's license if it was suspended for their failure to appear in court.

Individuals interested in participating in the program can pay their fines at the Recorder's Court from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday during March. They should bring a copy of the citation or citation numbers if possible.

For those that have outstanding cases and do not take advantage of the amnesty program, the bench warrant will remain active and they will be subject to arrest.

Two CIDs in Gwinnett get \$70,000 grant for Livable Initiative

Two Gwinnett Community Improvement Districts (CIDs) have won awards aimed at implementing existing Livable Centers Initiatives (LCIs). It is part of the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) grants to 14 local governments totaling \$678,000.



Gwinnett Place CID Executive Director Joe Allen said the ARC's \$50,000 grant will assist in updating the decade-old market assessment and action plans for the initial LCI study area that included the Gwinnett Place and Sugarloaf Parkway areas. This was the first LCI study area in Gwinnett County, and much has changed

since its inception. Allen says: "We appreciate this opportunity to work with the ARC, Gwinnett County and area stakeholders to continue the study program and extend its viability to assist in guiding long-range planning efforts."

The \$20,000 grant awarded to the Gwinnett Village CID will be used to help fund a signage and wayfinding master plan to improve circulation and community

identity. The CID has existing LCI study areas along the Jimmy Carter Boulevard and Indian Trail Road corridors. This grant will assist in connecting those two study areas while enhancing accessibility and livability efforts.

Chuck Warbington of the Gwinnett Village CID says; "Much of our work is aimed at bringing a sense of community and place back to the area that once served as Gwinnett's central commerce hub. Over the past few years we have seen a shift in demand from businesses and residents looking for locations that are closer to urban centers. This grant will assist us in our efforts to build a community that offers the quality of life and access that can appeal to those consumers."

The LCI program is funded with federal transportation dollars. Once communities have completed their plans, they are eligible for a larger pot of federal funding to build the transportation projects required to see their plans realized.

Aurora Theatre sponsors another swing dance March 11

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Improvement District

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