

## Joe Allen

From: news@gwinnettforum.com  
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2011 8:47 AM  
To: jallen@gwinnettplacecid.com  
Subject: 5/24: On for-profit colleges; new aviation report; more

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**BILLOWING BLUE.** Summertime produces beautiful flowers, such as the hydrangea. The blue billows hydrangea is native to Asia and is grown throughout the world, including the United States. This hydrangea variety has large clusters of papery, light blue flowers and long leaves with rugged edges. Hydrangea means 'water barrel' and refers to the shape of the fruit after it has sprung open, but what it essentially means is that hydrangeas need lots of water. The massed, spherical form and supple texture of hydrangea blooms makes them a preferred choice in upscale floral arrangements. *Photo by Marsha Guerard, [CharlestonCurrents.com](#).*

The world's largest swimming lesson could take place in Gwinnett County.

On Tuesday, June 14, thousands of kids and adults at aquatic facilities around the world will unite to seek a new global record for the World's Largest Swimming Lesson (WLSL). Bethesda Park Aquatic Center has been selected as an Official Host Location for this 2011 WLSL record-setting event, to take place from 11 a.m. to noon.



The inaugural WLSL event established the Guinness World Record for the largest simultaneous swimming lesson ever conducted in 2010 when almost 4,000 participants across 34 states, five countries and three continents participated to build awareness about the vital importance of teaching children to swim to

prevent drowning.

Tragically, drowning is the second leading cause of unintended, injury related death of children ages 1-14 in the United States. In fact, more than one in four fatal drowning victims are children 14 and younger. And, research shows if a child doesn't learn to swim before the third grade, they likely never will. The WLSL program works to promote drowning prevention through education by focusing the energy of thousands of participants on a clear and specific message all at the same time.

Participants in the event must be ages 6 years and older. If successful, each participant will receive a World Record Breaker Certificate. Pre-registration is required and there is a \$2.00 fee. Call (678) 924-6334 or visit [www.gwinnettparks.com](http://www.gwinnettparks.com) to register. More event information can also be found on the World's Largest Swimming Lesson website [www.wsl.org](http://www.wsl.org).

Bethesda Park Aquatic Center features an indoor leisure pool with zero-depth entry, giant waterslide that exits and then re-enters the building, river channel, hydrotherapy benches, water play structures, vortex, ceiling spray, and four-lane instructional pool and wet classroom. The Center offers private, semi-private and group swim lessons as well as classes in lifeguard training, lifeguard instructor and water safety.

The Aquatic Center in conjunction with the Bethesda Park Senior Center, offers water health and exercise classes to active adults 50-up. Additionally, Bethesda Park includes three adult softball fields, seven baseball/softball fields, football/multi-purpose field with lighted walking track, six soccer fields, playgrounds, walking trail around the lake, 1.5-mile paved multi-purpose trail, outdoor basketball courts, indoor shuffleboard court, pavilions and much more.

## Gwinnett Place announces several new businesses

Businesses continue to move to Gwinnett Place. New business openings and expansions throughout greater Gwinnett Place continue to show the area's strength as a destination for shopping, dining and entertainment. Recent announcements include:

- The Lobster House is set to open in the former Smokey Bones location on Pleasant Hill Road next to the newly-opened Quik Trip Store, the largest in the state of Georgia.
- Golden House Chinese Restaurant is coming soon to the former Blue Marlin building across Pleasant Hill Road from the Lobster House and QuikTrip.
- Further down Pleasant Hill Road, the new The Fisherman's Bucket Restaurant celebrated their



launch by giving away 500 pounds of seafood from their location in the Pleasant Hill Square shopping center near Toys R Us.

- The Bruster's ice cream store located in the Mall Corners shopping center is now under new ownership and is scheduled to re-open very soon.
- The Rajbhog Café of Duluth has opened in the Market Place shopping center to offer "A Taste of the East."
- The new Nam San Gol Korean Restaurant recently opened in the Prado Shopping Center adjacent to the Great Wall Supermarket.
- Gwinnett Place Mall recently announced that it is adding to its retail offerings with four new stores - 20 Below, Happy Land, Shoe Show and Stay Fly.

In addition, those traveling on Satellite Boulevard can see the progress made in the total renovation and expansion of Gwinnett Place Ford.

#### **NOTABLE**

### **Walton EMC moved-away customers fund scholarships**

Outstanding students from across Walton Electric Membership Corporation's (EMC) 10-county service area are the beneficiaries of the cooperative's latest round of Operation Round Up college scholarships.

Among the scholarships were Callie Rowe, Archer High School; Felicia Escobar and Caroline Walker, Brookwood High School; Hannah Barney, Ashley Lockwood, Holly Nix and Anna Wood, Grayson High School; Alex Steahr, Gwinnett School of Math, Science and Technology; Kayla Farmer, Loganville Christian Academy; Emmie Gibbs, Taylor Greenfield, Ian Gunn, Justin Hornsby, Jenna Landis, Cole Rice, and Benjamin Witcher, Loganville High School; Ben Redford, Rena Ross and Lauren Salter, Parkview High School; Nyia Gore, South Gwinnett High School; and Emma Jensen, Tucker High School; The money for these scholarships comes from a unique source -- unclaimed refunds.



Every year, hundreds of customer-owners move away and discontinue their Walton EMC electric service without leaving a good forwarding address. The company tries to find these people through ads and lists. When the search comes up empty, the money goes into an endowment fund with the interest being used for the scholarships.

Georgia law provides that community development projects, like these scholarships, are an appropriate use of these unclaimed funds. No regular monthly Round Up contributions are used for the awards. Since the scholarship program began, 141 scholarships worth \$275,000 have been given.

### **Jackson EMC Foundation awards \$58,000 in local grants**

The Jackson EMC Foundation, a charity funded by members of the electric cooperative through their contributions to the Operation Round Up program, has awarded \$58,000 in grants to organizations serving Gwinnett County residents.

- \$15,000 to Computers for Youth to help fund the "Take It Home" program at Sweetwater Middle School in Lawrenceville where about 465 sixth

