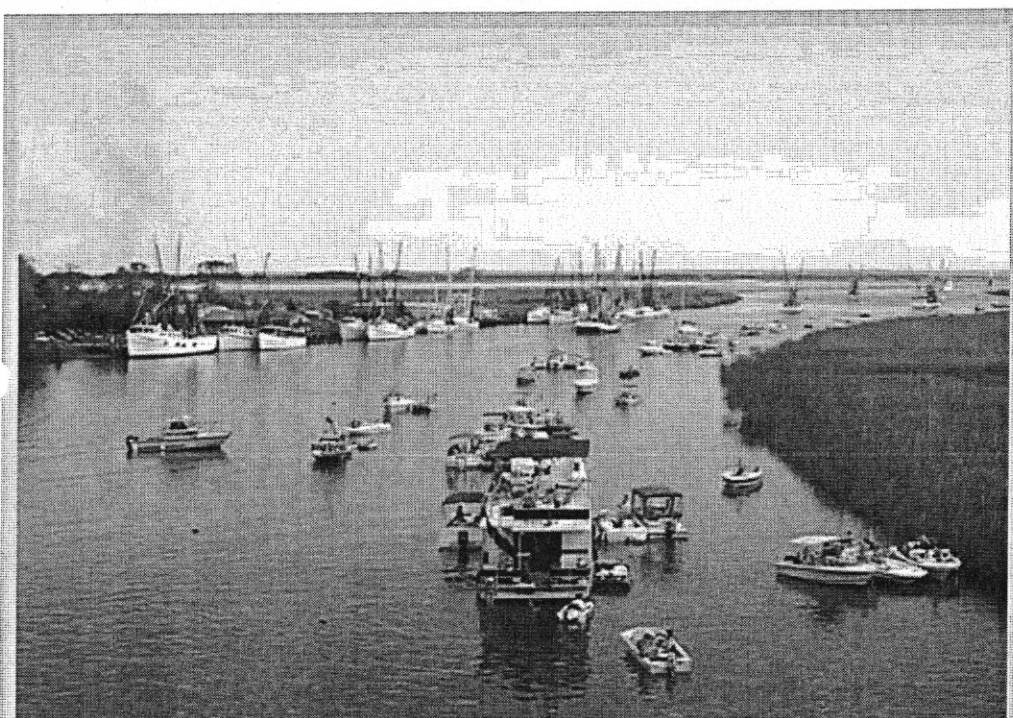


From: news@gwinnettforum.com  
Sent: Tuesday, August 09, 2011 5:19 AM  
To: jallen@gwinnettplaceid.com  
Subject: 8/9: Privatize Briscoe; Commission dawdling; more

If you have trouble viewing today's issue, please go to: <http://www.GwinnettForum.com>.



**MOUNTAINS TO SEA:** Georgia's topographic diversity is varied from the mountains (see *Georgia Encyclopedia* below today) to the sea. This view is from Darien, on the coast north of Brunswick, as shrimp boats get ready to parade by in the annual Blessing of the Fleet. Note the flatness of the terrain, with tall trees in the distance interrupting the horizon. It's far different from the peaks and valleys of North Georgia.

Issue 11.38 | Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2011

**TODAY'S FOCUS**

:: [Foundation: Privatize Briscoe Field](#)

**ELLIOTT BRACK'S PERSPECTIVE**

:: [Commission should stop dawdling](#)

**FEEDBACK**

:: [Send us your letters](#)

**UPCOMING**

:: [Library arts program, LEAD, sidewalks](#)

**NOTABLE**

:: [Mercer student, two honors](#)

**ALSO INSIDE**

**IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

:: [Aurora Theatre](#)

**GEORGIA TIDBIT**

:: [Blue Ridge Mountains](#)

**TODAY'S QUOTE**

:: [Two most beautiful words](#)

literary, performing, and visual arts. Fall Into The Arts (FITA) is an annual celebration of the literary, performing, and visual arts.

Its mission is to foster a sense of community in Gwinnett County through jointly sponsored arts programs and to encourage a lifelong love of the arts. Thanks to the availability of free or reduced event tickets, the program will expand the availability of the county's cultural life to those citizens for whom access to the arts may be limited.

Gwinnett County  
Public Library

As a part of the 2011 FITA program, the library will host receptions for local artists at four branches. They will be held Saturday, September 17, from 1-4 p.m. at four libraries for this program. They include:

- **Buford Branch:** Watercolor artist Jim Mengason and Rosemary Williams another watercolor artist who presently teaches watercolor classes at Sugar Hill Community Center.
- **Dacula Branch:** Lois Colborn, a member of the Georgia Watercolor Society, and Jean Richardson, whose work includes landscapes, florals and still lifes.
- **Grayson Branch:** Ralph Beach, a member of Northeastern University's African American Master Artist-in-Residence Program; Liz Borkhuis, a largely self-taught artist and member of the Art Station in Stone Mountain; and Dorette Smith who is retired from a teaching career.
- **Lilburn Branch:** Latifah Shakir is from New Orleanian who has exhibited her work in both in the United States and abroad; and Judith Surowiec, who paints with a colorful energy.

These library event are free and open to the public. For more information, visit [www.gwinnettfallintothearts.org](http://www.gwinnettfallintothearts.org) or call 770-978-5154.

### New L.E.A.D. Duluth class is accepting 2011 applications

L.E.A.D. (Learn, Engage, Advance Duluth) Duluth is accepting applications for the fourth annual L.E.A.D. Academy

It's a program that allows class members to learn more about the City of Duluth operations and the City itself. L.E.A.D. teaches about city operations, services, and the overall essential functions of city government. It offers an interactive learning experience, which includes information about city services, programs and responsibilities. Additionally, citizens casually interact with elected officials and city staff. Class participants are afforded the opportunity to ask questions and gain a better understanding of Duluth government and their role in local government.

The Academy is a six week program, beginning Tuesday, September 20 and continuing each Tuesday through October 25, from 6-9 p.m. Applications are available online at [www.duluthga.net](http://www.duluthga.net) or may be picked up at City Hall. Deadline for applications is August 24. For more information contact [Alisa Williams](#) at 678-475-3506.

### More sidewalks coming to two areas near Gwinnett Place

Two projects to improve pedestrian safety in the Gwinnett Place area for sidewalks advanced when Gwinnett commissioners approved contracts.

Pleasant Hill Road from Satellite Boulevard to Interstate-85 will get new sidewalks, curb and gutter, lighting, seating, signage and landscaping. A future project will extend the streetscaping to Breckinridge Boulevard. Federal funding will provide \$350,000 toward the project. Gwinnett County and the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District will provide any additional funds for the sidewalks and pedestrian enhancements.



The second project will provide sidewalks on Club Drive connecting Pleasant Hill Road to Club Drive Park. The work, expected to begin next year, will also include curb and gutter installation, roadside shoulder and drainage improvements.

#### **NOTABLE**

### **Med student from Duluth to be preceptor in Norcross**

Jamie Aye of Duluth, a fourth-year student in the Mercer University School of Medicine doctoral program, will be spending the next four weeks in Norcross, assisting local physician Dr. Tayaba Fatema as a part of community-based medical training required by Mercer. Her parents are Michael and Audrey Aye of Duluth.

Filling the role of a Community Medicine preceptor for the Medical School, Dr. Fatema will provide office-based and community experiences that augment medical education with real-world situations. Students participate in these required preceptorships in order to learn more about community medicine, the impact of family dynamics on health, interviewing techniques and patient care, as well as disease prevention and health promotion.



This will be the third time that Aye has worked with Dr. Fatema. The visits during the first year (two weeks) and second year (four weeks) allowed Aye to complete and update assessments of two families, conduct a community needs assessment, complete a chronic disease management report, and provide clinical care to the preceptor's patients.

During this four week visit, Aye will continue the longitudinal experience begun in Year 1. The student prepares a Practice Management Report that determines the feasibility of beginning or joining a medical practice in the community or completes an Alternative Population Health Project of the student's design and choosing. During this four-week block in the Senior Year, approximately 80 percent of the rotation is allocated to clinical activities.

These community placements demonstrate the commitment of Mercer School of Medicine to its mission of providing medical care for rural and medically underserved areas in Georgia. Founded in 1982, the Mercer University School of Medicine has granted degrees to 1,154 Doctor of Medicine students, 49 percent chose primary care as a specialty and 62 percent of Mercer School of Medicine graduates currently practice in the state.

Of those who practice in the state, 83 percent are practicing in rural or medically underserved areas of Georgia. The Medical School operates two four-year campuses. Clinical experiences for Macon students are provided by the Medical Center of Central Georgia, while in Savannah, Memorial University Health Center partners with Mercer for training and educational needs.

### **International association recognizes Suwanee for third time**

The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) knows a thing or two about local government management. The organization is so impressed by practices in the City of Suwanee that it awarded Suwanee, for the third straight year, with a Certificate of Distinction for "superior performance management efforts." Suwanee is one of 47 jurisdictions throughout the country to be recognized through ICMA's certificate program and one of 11 to receive the Certificate of Distinction.

Amie Sakmar, Suwanee's director of financial services, says: "We know that people's eyes probably glaze over when we get geeky about performance data, comparisons to other jurisdictions, and operational decision-making. But for Suwanee, these measures and practices are important components in effective decision-making. They help us to know that we're headed in the right direction and provide us with red flags on those occasions that we're not."

According to ICMA, performance management encourages accountability and transparency and aids in cost reduction, program prioritization, and quality improvement.