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From: news@gwinnettforum.com  
Sent: Friday, November 21, 2014 7:20 AM  
To: jallen@gwinnettplacecid.com  
Subject: 11/21: Special Nutcracker | Remembering Gov. Carl Sanders | more

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**TODAY'S PHOTO:** Gwinnett Tech named its GOAL winner recently. (See story below). GTC President Dr. D. Glen Cannon (center) is with, left to right, Lauren Pelletier, 2015 GOAL winner; and other finalists Michael Nichol, Kereida Thomas, and Amanda McKeel.

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**FEEDBACK**

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**UPCOMING**

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**ABOUT US**

GwinnettForum.com is a twice-weekly online community commentary for exploring pragmatic and sensible social, political and economic approaches to improving life in Gwinnett County, Ga. USA.

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Thanks so much for sharing your Hudson River cruise experience. My husband and I grew up in Cornwall-on-Hudson (just a tad north of West Point) and although Georgia has been home for almost 25 years; we never tire of seeing those magnificent mountains of the Hudson Highlands. Our families still live there, so we get to visit our hometown a few times a year.

Growing up with so much history of West Point being our neighbor, as well as critical Revolution-era battles and events, it was hard to put it all in perspective and appreciate until we moved away --- which I believe is a natural occurrence when anyone grows up around something historic or important.

My cousin and her husband work with the Clearwater Sloop, a ship and foundation that was started by Pete Seeger to bring attention to the beauty and care of the mighty Hudson.

I'm glad you got to visit the Roosevelt home as well as West Point. Thank you for paying tribute to a small, but important area of our United States.

-- Mary K. Taylor, Peachtree Corners

### Rant, rave, send us a letter

**An invitation:** We encourage readers to submit feedback (or letters to the editor). Send your thoughts to the editor at [elliott@brack.net](mailto:elliott@brack.net). We will edit for length and clarity. Make sure to include your name and the city where you live. Submission of a comment grants permission for us to reprint. Please keep your comments to 300 words or less. However, we will consider longer articles (no more than 500 words) for featuring in Today's Issue as space allows.



### UPCOMING

## Gwinnett Place CID adds higher public safety presence

As a continued effort to keep shoppers, businesses and affiliates safe this holiday season, the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District (CID) is once again increasing the public safety presence throughout Greater Gwinnett Place area.



In time for the busy holiday shopping season, extra private security professionals contracted by the CID will expand upon the current seven-day patrols. The added measures will continue for a six-week period during the balance of 2014.

Uniformed professional public safety personnel from Paradigm Security Services, Inc. will monitor retail centers, high-traffic areas and other Gwinnett Place area businesses, according to CID Executive Director Joe Allen. He says: "Gwinnett Place offers a very unique experience. We have received very positive feedback from shoppers and businesses with the added security presence in the past. We are continuing these efforts to ensure that Gwinnett Place is a fun, exciting and safe destination for everyone this season."

### CONTINUING OBJECTIVES FOR GWINNETT

Gwinnett Forum publisher Elliott Brack suggests that Gwinnett County needs a long-range list of continuing objectives for improving the county. [Read more.](#)

- Development of a **two-party system** for county offices
- Moving statewide non-partisan **judicial election runoffs** to the General Election
- **Light rail** for Gwinnett from Dora MARTA station to Gwinnett Arena
- **Extension of Gwinnett Place CID area** to include Arena and Discovery Mills Mall
- **Banning of tobacco** in all Gwinnett parks
- Making Briscoe Field a **commercial airport** for jet-age travel
- More **diverse candidates** for political offices and appointment to local boards
- **Physical move** of former St. Gertrude Catholic Church in Buffalo, N.Y., to Norcross
- Creative efforts to **support the arts** in Gwinnett
- Advancement and expansion of civil Gwinnett **historical societies**
- **Stronger regulation** of late-night establishments with alcoholic licenses
- Requiring the legislature to **meet every two years**.
- Development of more **community gardens**.

### ABOUT US

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### CONTACT US TODAY

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The public safety officers operate in close cooperation with Gwinnett County Police to notify law enforcement of any potential criminal activity. Officers will use vehicles bearing CID markings.

## **County contracts for wellness center for employees, retirees**

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners have approved a contract to operate a wellness center for employees and retirees. Healthstat Inc. manages more than 300 centers across the nation and is accredited by the National Committee of Quality Assurance in wellness and health promotion. Locally, the company operates Cobb County's employee health center.

Gwinnett County Human Resources Director Scott Fuller says: "The wellness center will play an important role in assisting our employees to better manage their health and health-improvement efforts."



The facility, to be located on the second floor of the Gwinnett County Government Annex Building at 750 South Perry Street in Lawrenceville, will have a multipurpose room for training and wellness activities plus five exam rooms, a laboratory, a dispensary and office space for medical and wellness program staff.

At a meeting earlier this month, commissioners awarded a \$666,500 construction contract to low bidder Beatty Construction Inc., which includes build-out of approximately 5,000 square feet for the center. The project also includes renovation work on restrooms and other public areas of the building.

The wellness center will be a cooperative venture between Healthstat and the County's health insurance and other benefit providers. All Gwinnett County employees, retirees and their dependents age 18 and older who are enrolled in one of the county's medical plans will be eligible for services and treatment at the Center.

## **Suwanee moving holiday kickoff to Town Center Park this year**

After ringing in the holiday season and welcoming Santa in historic Old Town for about two decades, the City of Suwanee has made the bittersweet decision to move its annual holiday celebration to Town Center Park. The former Caboose Lighting is now Suwanee's Jolly Holly-day Celebration. The holiday event will still be at 6:30 p.m. Friday, December 5, but at Town Center Park instead of on Main Street.

On the Town Center stage, several elementary school choruses - from Burnette, Level Creek, Riverside, Roberts, and Suwanee - will perform favorite holiday tunes from around the globe. Sounds of Suwanee performers from the Suwanee Academy of the Arts also will perform.

Craft activities and free hot chocolate, cookies, and s'mores will be available while supplies last. And, of course, the jolly ol' elf himself will be the guest of honor and will magically light the Christmas tree at Town Center Park.