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Tuesday, August 11, 2015

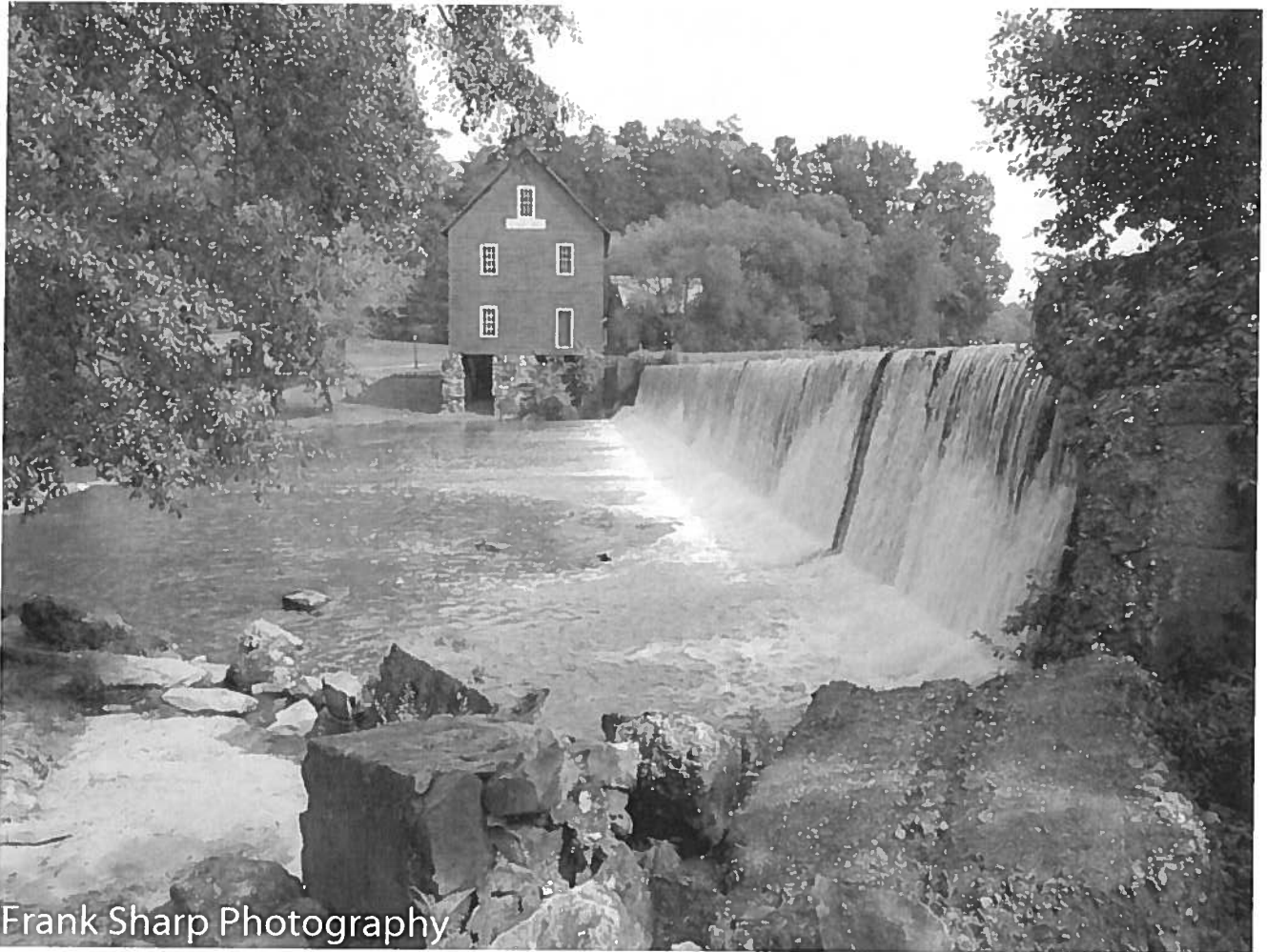
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8/7: Transportation conversations; Civil Rights museum

August 7, 2015 6:49 am

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Frank Sharp Photography

A MILL GOOD TIME. Let's feature today's Mystery Photo on top this morning. It may prove a little easier than last issue's mystery (shown again today at the bottom). Many ought to be able to identify this photograph, as it presents another mill and waterfalls. All you have to tell us is where it is located, and what's it called. Take your guess by sending to elliott@brack.net and be sure to include your hometown.

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TODAY'S FOCUS

Group seeks to have 50,000 conversations about transportation

By Joel Wascher

LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga., Aug. 7, 2015 — The week of August 24-28, leaders as well as hundreds of other volunteers in Gwinnett will be focusing on what role transportation plays in shaping Gwinnett's future, and what they want that future to look like. The program, called the "Gr8 Exchange on Transportation," was kicked off on August 3 with nearly 100 community leaders starting the conversation on this subject.



Chuck Warbington, executive director for the Gwinnett Village Community Improvement District, says: "This isn't an effort to prescribe what type of transportation people need to be talking about; it's a more organic approach to the public input process. We hope to reach portions of the community that have not always been represented at the table."

Diverse groups from all around Gwinnett will be mobilizing to take part in the Exchange. The goal is to have 50,000 conversations the week of August 24th.

The leadership team is currently in the process of recruiting volunteers to help take the message into the many communities of Gwinnett. They will be passing out materials at local restaurants, cafes or sporting events. Volunteers will have the opportunity to host local conversations which can be anything from a happy hour or dinner to a neighborhood meeting. They will also be asked to pledge to have more personal, one-on-one focused conversations on this subject. Every person who participates in a conversation will be asked to take a text survey with eight simple questions that get to the heart of what they want Gwinnett to be 20, 30 or 40 years from now.

Joe Allen, executive director of the Gwinnett Place CID, says: "We can't reach everyone on our own. For this effort to be a success, we need people from all over Gwinnett to take ownership of this program and use the tools we've created to reach their own networks."

Here are a three other ways people who live and/or work in Gwinnett can help support this county-wide, week-long conversation:

- **Spread the word!** Share information with your friends, colleagues and peers in Gwinnett. Just [click here](#) to share on Facebook, Twitter and more.
- **Host a conversation!** The Gr8 Exchange is looking to have 500 hosted conversations on transportation the week of August 24th. Check out the planned [conversations here](#) and [post your own here](#).
- **Volunteer!** The Exchange will need help spreading the word all across Gwinnett. They're looking for volunteers to help initiate conversations by passing out post-cards, flyers, texting cards and more. [Sign-up here](#).
- For more information, visit www.theGr8Exchange.com/rally

EEB PERSPECTIVE

National Civil Rights Museum is a solid attraction for Atlanta

By Elliott Brack, editor and publisher

AUG. 7, 2015 | If you haven't been, you need to visit the National Civil Rights Museum in downtown Atlanta. The setting is superb: the parking garage serves three museums, with a central green vista from the garage to the Civil Rights and Coca Cola Museums and to the Georgia Aquarium. Parking is a flat \$10. From Gwinnett, take the Williams Street exit off I-75/85, turn right onto Ivan Allen Boulevard, and the museums are a block away on your left.



Elliott Brack

The Civil Rights Museum has been open for about a year—and is attracting acclaim for the way the story is presented. It seeks to put the Civil Rights struggle in connection to today's global Human Rights issues.

It's a great place for parents and grandparents to take the children. We took our two granddaughters the other day, and were pleased at their reaction and understanding through the many exhibits and film, and their use of interactive media to absorb the story.

Among the highlights of the museum are items from The Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection. Visitors can view many of the personal papers and items from the collection, some presented on a rotating basis. On display through the end of August is "Man Behind the Movement," detailing the inner workings of the movement, drawing on materials showing Dr. King to be an avid reader and music fan, and a person who still worked when even on vacation.

Another element of the current exhibit is "Rolls Down Like Water," highlighting how the Civil Rights movement began in the 1950s and 1960s, showing sometimes difficult-to-view brutality as black Americans experienced injustices as they sought to achieve their own personal rights. You see dramatic film of the Freedom Riders working their way through the South, often targets of violence; of the March on Washington; and hear the inspiring words in the beautiful cadence of that day from Dr. King. It is a stirring experience to hear those words again.