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Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



Gwinnett Forum

Gwinnett County's community forum and idea exchange

Friday, September 4, 2015

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9/4: Hospitals talking merger; Food trucks becoming issue

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Heritage Center demand leads to new classroom-workroom

The Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center in Buford will convert existing storage space to build a new classroom and educator workroom. The Board of Commissioners approved a \$409,506 contract Tuesday with low bidder, Bayne Development Group LLC of Winder. The 2014 SPLOST program is funding the work.

Educational programming doubled during the last year, causing the center to reach its capacity. The EHC offers classes and special events for K-12 students, homeschoolers, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and seniors, plus it holds exhibits, symposiums and community events for the general public.

The contractor will convert existing storage and open space into new classrooms and teacher workroom space on the first and second floors. About 3,500 square feet will be renovated and improvements will include relocated HVAC, electrical and pneumatic air systems and new energy efficient lighting. Construction will begin in October and finish by the end of the year.

Executive Director Steve Cannon said, "The additional space will allow us to keep up with our continued growth and customer demands. We are looking forward to offering even more programs that focus on the environment, natural resources, and healthy lifestyle and wellness."

Snellville police, firefighters square off in softball for charities

It will be a battle of heroes as the Snellville Police Department (SPD) will square off against the Gwinnett County Fire Department (GCFD) in a charity softball game on September 12. It is the first Guns and Hoses Charity Softball game and it will be played on Briscoe Park's new softball fields with activities starting at 12 p.m. First pitch is at 2 p.m.

The Guns (SPD) will be playing for the Amanda Riley Foundation, an organization named after Snellville resident Amanda Riley who passed away after a battle with cancer when she was a teen. The Hoses (GCFD) will be playing for the Gwinnett Fire Employee Benevolent Fund.

There will be fire trucks and police vehicles including a SWAT truck and Snellville's Cop Cab. Concessions will be available from the Masonic Lodge.

There will be free admission for those who bring a canned food item, which will be given to the Give Hunger the Boot effort which benefits the Southeast Gwinnett Co-op. For more information on either event email jbouchard@snellville.org or call 770-985-3533.

NOTABLE

Gwinnett Place CID releases new master plan for the area

The Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District (GPCID) announces the release of the ACTivate Gwinnett Place master plan, which charts a path for redevelopment of Gwinnett's central business district. The plan proposes bold infrastructure investments that will meet

the experiences and expectations desired for future public space and travel within the district.

- For more information about the ACTivate Gwinnett Place master plan please visit: <https://youtu.be/2BtDsuAVZz4>.



Building upon the 2012 Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) study, ACTivate Gwinnett Place identifies catalyst projects for investment to improve transportation options, connectivity and livability through greenspaces and feasible infrastructure changes. With input from area property owners, local business interests, civic leaders, Gwinnett County officials and GPCID board members, the master plan identifies an infrastructure framework that invites mixed-used developments, creates greater connectivity between commercial centers and enhances public green space.

The plan's key elements include a "grand promenade" trail network, an iconic bike and pedestrian bridge connecting with McDaniel Farm Park, intersection and roadway improvements, and storm water management solutions that can also serve as a public amenity. The GPCID invites people to learn more about the ACTivate Gwinnett Place plan through meetings with GPCID stakeholders or by visiting www.activategwinnettplace.com.

- For more information and to schedule an overview of the plan, contact Joe Allen at [678-924-8171](tel:678-924-8171).

Thornell is new president of Peachtree Corners-Norcross Rotary



New president of the Norcross-Peachtree Corners Rotary Club is Mark Thornell, executive director of the Fowler YMCA in Peachtree Corners. He succeeds Sam