

GWINNETT BUSINESS JOURNAL GBJ

Search

Departments

- › Ask the Expert
- › City Limits
- › DAG
- › Dreamscape
- › Events
- › Finance
- › Freeze Frame
- › Government Review
- › How We Did It
- › In Your Face
- › Newswire
- › People Power
- › Rainmaking
- › Special Focus

[All Departments](#) | [Index by Issue](#)

GBJ Sponsors

- › PGA Tour Superstore
- › Jackson EMC
- › Gwinnett Medical Center

[Home](#)

[Advertisers](#)

[Events](#)

[Contact Us](#)

July 2006 | City Limits

News from around Gwinnett County

Dacula

Kiwanis golf tournament raises funds for children's charities

The Kiwanis Club of Duluth hosted its 17th Annual Golf Tournament at Hamillor Club in Dacula last month. The event raised more than \$16,000 for charity. A highlight was the live auction conducted by State Representative Brooks Coleman. Mayor Shirley Lasseter. All funds raised during this event will go directly to support charities in and around the Duluth area, including Hearts Everywhere Reaching (H.E.R.O.) for Children, an organization dedicated to improving the quality of life infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS; Operation One Voice, an organization raising funds and awareness for the financial needs of the children of fallen Special Operations Forces; and the Foster Children's Foundation, an organization that provides an emergency shelter to children.

Duluth

Live-work-play community to arrive in Gwinnett Place

by Jill Von Wedel

Move over, Midtown - Gwinnett will soon have its own Atlantic Station.

Gwinnett real estate developer Wayne Mason announced plans to bring a mixed-use development to 42 acres along the Gwinnett Place Mall area - bringing much-needed revitalization to the district. The Gwinnett Prado and Gwinnett Station retail centers will be transformed into a live-work-play area of high-rises with residential, restaurant, entertainment and retail space.



The tentative concept rendering of the \$600 million development, called Global Station, includes 10 high-rise towers and a fountain. The "mini-city" would be a live-work-play-shop community that conjures images of a more urban

"We have worked hard to implement enhancements and programs that make the Gwinnett Place area attractive for

initiatives like the one Wayne Mason has proposed," says Mark Williams, chair

Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District board of directors. "We are grateful to see Mr. Mason's level of commitment to redeveloping viable property in the district plan to do even more to energize our area for years to come."

Pending project and zoning approval, construction could start as early as next year.

Grayson

Grayson to get first multi-brand fast food restaurant

by Rick Williamson

Fast food fans in Grayson are about to get a new dining option.

Duluth-based Atlanta Mexican Foods is building a combined Taco Bell/Long John Silver's on Highway 20. Slated to open in early July, the new store will be the company's 16th store in the Atlanta area - with most of its stores in Gwinnett.

Originally a Taco Bell franchisee, Atlanta Mexican Foods has expanded to include the full line of restaurants offered by Yum Foods: Taco Bell, Long John Silver's, KFC and Pizza Hut.



According to Patrick Mulkey, president of Atlanta Mexican Foods, the demographic growth made Grayson an ideal location.

Norcross

Residential development explodes in Norcross

by Diane Hodges

Maggie Cofer sits at a desk covered with building plans. As the lone full-time employee of the Norcross Community Development department, she processes all the building applications generated by business owners, homeowners and developers, and right now, she's overwhelmed by a tsunami of paperwork.

"In 2004, we had 12 applications for residential development," Cofer says. "In 2005, we had 65 applications. So far this year, we've had 454."

A board on the wall lists all the projects that are currently under construction. They range from a 158-home site off of Beaver Run Road, to a 14-home development near downtown Norcross.

"We're also putting together our annual Land Use Plan amendment," Cofer says. "It should be finished in June. Our zoning plan is also due in June."

The wave couldn't have arrived at a worse time; at the end of January, long-time Community Development Director Johnny Lawler retired. City officials have hired Clark Patten to replace him.