

the Lilburn news

VOL 15 Issue 4

Small Town. Big Difference.

Dec / Jan 2013-14



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NOV 28-29
City offices closed

NOV 30
Tree Lighting at City Hall

DEC 7
Lilburn Christmas Parade

DEC 9
City Council Meeting

DEC 24-25
City offices closed

Learn more at www.cityoflilburn.com.

The Lilburn News is an official publication of the City of Lilburn, Georgia — produced as a collaborative effort by City staff members and other contributors for the citizens of Lilburn. Recommendations or suggestions regarding this publication may be referred to Nikki Perry at 770-921-2210 or npperry@cityoflilburn.com.

A look ahead



Artists Sonny Franks and Chris Shuster created this life-like mural on Railroad Avenue in Lilburn.

The next time you're cruising down Main Street toward Lawrenceville Highway, look to the right when you stop at the four-way Double-take. It's not a real tunnel, but a startlingly life-like mural on the side of the Cofer Electric Building.

The Lilburn City Council commissioned a local artist to paint a mural on the brick building at the corner of Railroad Avenue and Main Street in Old Town. Alan Cofer donated the side of his building, and Lilburn resident Sonny Franks and nationally-known artist Chris Shuster transformed it into a work of art over the past couple of months.

"It isn't just a mural," said Franks, who is part of a group of artists that travels the country painting murals. "This is really the beginning of something a lot bigger." Franks is one of the founders of the Lilburn Arts Alliance, an association in Lilburn that supports local artists of all media.

The cost of the mural is funded through the city's Public Art Fund; businesses constructing a building valued at more than \$750,000 contribute to the fund in lieu of placing a work of art in their commercial development.



City makes plans to improve streets, buildings, park

What is SPLOST?

On Nov. 5, Gwinnett County voters approved another term of SPLOST (Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax). This 1% sales tax on goods and services is used for long-term improvements as approved by the voters.

How is it collected?

The tax is collected on a countywide basis. People who live inside the county, as well as visitors who spend money in Gwinnett, contribute to SPLOST.

What's in it for Lilburn?

Lilburn's allocation is based on its percentage of the population as compared to all Gwinnett cities. The 3-year program will raise an estimated \$6.7 million (maximum) for the City of Lilburn.

Lilburn's 2014-2017 SPLOST Program



Roads, Streets, Bridges — 40%

- Street maintenance/resurfacing,
- Access/safety projects
- Intersection improvements
- North/South Camp Creek Greenway construction
- Sidewalk construction
- Drainage improvements
- Downtown parking
- Signage replacement
- Public Works vehicles and equipment



Public Safety — 38%

- Public Safety vehicles and equipment
- Police Department building renovation



Administrative Facilities — 20%

- Public Works relocation out of historic Old Town
- City Hall (balance of existing building project)



Recreational Facilities — 2%

- Lilburn City Park improvements

CITY COUNCIL

Natural gas discount available

The City of Lilburn has partnered with **GAS SOUTH** to offer a discount of two cents per therm on all standard rates to residents and businesses. Customers are eligible for the discount for as long as they remain with Gas South.

Gas South has similar partner programs across Georgia with six electric membership corporations (EMCs), 10 cities, and one county, helping thousands of customers save more than \$5.7 million to date.

The partner program also will benefit the City of Lilburn, which will receive funding from Gas South for each customer that receives service from the company.

Lilburn Mayor Johnny Crist said, "Lilburn residents and businesses will certainly benefit from this program, and we look forward to continuing this partnership with Gas South."

To receive the discount, residents and businesses should call Gas South at 1-866-563-8129 or visit gas-south.com/lilburn. New customers who sign up online are eligible to receive \$25 in bill credits.

IN THE NEWS

Lilburn ranked nationally in Money's "Best Places to Live"

Money magazine named the City of Lilburn as No. 5 of the nation's top 25 best affordable places to live, in a report released Aug. 24, 2013.

The magazine cited Lilburn's good schools, safe streets, affordable home prices, proximity to Atlanta, and cultural diversity. "Throw in affordable housing -- a well maintained three-bedroom ranch can cost \$125,000 -- and you have a formula for success," the article says.

"We are delighted that Money magazine chose to recognize our beautiful city. The residents of Lilburn love our small town feel, top notch schools and parks, and convenience to Atlanta. We are glad that others around the country will see what we have to offer, thanks to this spotlight by Money magazine," Mayor Johnny Crist said.

Read the article on Best Places to Live at <http://money.cnn.com>.

NEW BUSINESS LICENSES

Food

Agavera Cantina, 4140
Lawrenceville Hwy., Suite 1,
Full Service Restaurant

Services and Retailers

Amigo Insurance LLC, 440
Pleasant Hill Road, Suite 106,
Insurance Agency

Divine Creations, 5514
Lawrenceville Hwy., Suite B,
Home Office-Consulting

Elevations Salon & Boutique,
4485 Lawrenceville Hwy., Suite
210, Hair Salon

Jet Auto Sales, 3955
Lawrenceville Hwy., Suite D,
Used Car Dealer / Auto Broker

Kevin Auto, 255 Buxton Court,
Auto Repair and Body Shop

Kumon of Lilburn West, 375
Rockbridge Road, Suite 160, Tutor

Loma Linda Dental Center Inc.,
550 Pleasant Hill Road, Suite
A-208, Dental Office

Marco's Pizza, 375 Rockbridge
Road, Suite 196, Pizza Carry Out

Modern Market Master Inc.,
4300 Business Park Court, Suite 1,
Trucking Dispatch

New Gallery Furniture, 510
Pleasant Hill Road, Suite F,
Furniture Store

Northlake Family Medicine, 3685
Lawrenceville Highway,
Medical Office

An Occupational Tax Certificate is required for any business in the City of Lilburn, regardless of the size of the business or whether it is operated at a residence or commercial location. Licenses must be renewed January 31 each year.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Remove lights after holiday to prevent fire

The City Code limits the amount of time holiday lights may be displayed outdoors, because the wires degrade and become hazardous when exposed to the elements and natural light. Low voltage lights may be installed on Nov. 1 and must be removed by Jan. 31, according to the city code. The law is based on the National Electric Code, which states that outdoor holiday lighting is only good for 90 days.

The National Fire Protection Association and the U.S. Fire Administration estimate that there are 240 home fires involving Christmas trees and another 150 home fires involving decorative holiday lighting each year. Together, these fires result in 21 deaths and \$25.2 million in direct property damage. Follow these tips from the U.S. Fire Administration to protect your property and family.

Maintain Your Holiday Lights: Before putting up holiday lights each year, inspect them for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear. Use only lighting listed by an approved testing laboratory.

Do Not Overload Electrical Outlets: Do not link more than three light strands, unless the



See the lights in Lilburn!

Nominate your neighbor for the best outdoor holiday light display in Lilburn! Post a photo of the house on the City of Lilburn's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/cityoflilburn.

directions indicate it is safe. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet. Make sure to periodically check the wires – they should not be warm to the touch.

Do Not Leave Holiday Lights On Unattended!

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works to relocate out of Old Town

The City of Lilburn will move its Public Works Department to an existing facility on Lilburn Industrial Way, opening up property across from City Park for future development.

In approximately two months, city Public Works, Fleet Maintenance, and Police impound storage will relocate to two acres at 4428 Lilburn Industrial Way. The property is under contract for \$715,000, fully funded by the SPLOST (Special

Purpose Local Option Sales Tax) approved by voters in 2009. The purchase was approved by the City Council at its Nov. 11 meeting.

City Manager Bill Johnsa said, "This facility meets our current needs and future needs, and it gives us access to the greenway which is maintained by Public Works." The industrial zoning allows for outdoor storage, and the fenced property allows for more secure storage of vehicles impounded by the police.

"In the bigger picture it allows us to further develop our downtown," Johnsa said.

The existing public works building on Railroad Avenue will be disassembled. The property then will be used for additional parking in Old Town until another use is determined. There is a total of four acres available in the square formed by Main Street, Railroad Avenue, Lula Street, and First Avenue.

Bring One For The Chipper!

Dec. 26 - Jan. 31
City of Lilburn Maintenance Shop
107 Railroad Ave., Lilburn

Over 20 Years of Treecycling



PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 400
ATLANTA, GA

76 Main Street
Lilburn, Georgia 30047
Hours: 8:30am to 5:00pm
Monday through Friday

770-921-2210 City Hall
770-921-2211 Police
770-279-3710 Annex

Johnny Crist **Mayor** • Tim Dunn **Mayor Pro-Tem** • S. Scott Batterton **City Council** • Eddie Price **City Council** • Thomas Wight **City Council**

Have you been good?



See Santa and
Mrs. Claus in



Nov. 30

Tree Lighting

5-8 p.m. at City Hall
Storytelling with Mrs. Claus
Coloring contest winners announced
Kids' activities in Auditorium
Ornaments
Music

Dec. 7

Christmas Parade

10 a.m. Main St. to City Park
Bring your camera for photos with Santa & Mrs. Claus
Kids' crafts with Michael's and The Home Depot
Free train rides
Lunch in the park

