

the Lilburn news

VOL 16 Issue 1

Small Town. Big Difference.

Feb / Mar 2014



PAGE 2 Missing sign found in Alaska



PAGE 3 Main Street breaks ground



PAGE 4 How to rent City Park pavilion



FEB 22 @ 10AM
Greenway Cleanup

FEB 25 @ 3:30PM
Lions Club Park Opening

MAR 8
Lions Club Park "Park Day"

MAR 10
City Council Meeting

APR 26
Great American Cleanup
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 nperry@cityoflilburn.com.

Lilburn Police: Making a difference

Officer Andy Blimline recently received international media attention for a good deed. He and other Lilburn Police officers chipped in to purchase an \$80 cab ride for a man who walked 30 miles in single-digit temperatures to handle a traffic citation in Lilburn Municipal Court. This is one example of how police officers reach out to the community. The Lilburn Police Department's annual report details some more serious stories of how officers impact the city, from busting drug dealers selling to students, to stopping neighborhood burglaries.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Lilburn Police Department is to enhance the quality of life in the City of Lilburn by working cooperatively with the community to promote a safe and secure environment, resolve problems, preserve the peace, and uphold the law. Chief Bruce Hedley says, "We are dedicated to serving our community in an honorable and ethical manner as we pursue this mission." Here are just a few of the Lilburn Police Department's success stories for 2013.

Combatted drugs in schools and neighborhoods

In 2013, Chief Hedley assigned two officers to a Crime Suppression Unit. The CSU was formed to respond to drug activity and other areas where crime had unexpectedly spiked. In 2013, the unit made 155 physical arrests. They confiscated 13 firearms (two confirmed stolen), apprehended 36 wanted persons, seized \$2,346 in drug money, seized two vehicles used in the transport of illegal narcotics, and recovered a variety of illegal narcotics.

CSU identified a barber shop on Pleasant Hill Road that was operating as a narcotic hub for the sale of marijuana to the Berkmar High School students after school. CSU was able to identify the drug dealer, obtain an arrest warrant, and arrest the suspect, successfully ending the illegal drug sales in the area.

CSU received a complaint about two men selling



Highlights for 2013

- Marked reduction in violent crime from 2012
- Robbery down 27% from 2012
- Burglary down 33% from 2012
- Auto Theft down 21% from 2012

*Read the full annual report at cityoflilburn.com.

marijuana on a residential street. After a thorough investigation, the CSU team was able to obtain a search warrant and seized 9 ounces of marijuana, numerous drug related objects, and two firearms
Please see "Police" on Page 3



'Old Town Lilburn' sign shows up in Alaska

This "Welcome to Old Town Lilburn" sign hung on Main Street from the 1950s to the 1980s, when it suddenly disappeared. In 1991, Lilburn native Clyde Fortner and his wife, Frannie, found the missing "Old Town Lilburn" sign amidst the 26,000 signs along the Alaskan Highway!

In 1991, Clyde and Frannie (now deceased) pulled their 25-foot camper up to Alaska. They stopped at the town of Watson Lake on the Yukon border and were told by some locals to visit "Sign City." During World War II, the U.S. Army was building the Alaskan Highway, and one GI adorned a pine tree with the city limits sign of his hometown. Soon, city signs from all over the country, and eventually all over the world, started popping up on all the trees and telephone poles along the highway. The Lilburn sign still stands in Sign City, representing our small Georgia town 4,100 miles away from home.



Noise meter enforcement will help officers keep the peace

On January 13, the City Council revised the noise ordinance to make it more objective and enforceable by adding noise meter enforcement. The ordinance regulates sound levels in the entire city with certain exceptions in Old Town to allow for events and commercial activity. Here are the highlights:

- The noise ordinance provides for objective measurement of reported noise disturbances related to specific types of property (Residential, Commercial, or Industrial).
- Sound level limits are established in each type of property.
- Sound measurements are taken and calibrated by a sound level meter (dosimeter).

• Police and Code Enforcement officers are equipped to handle complaints.

• Exemptions were established to incorporate the Town Center Overlay (Old Town Lilburn), educational/school performances, and sports related activities, to name a few.

• Specific prohibited acts include unduly loud radios, televisions that create a noise disturbance, certain types of vehicles, etc.

If you have questions about this ordinance, call 770-921-2211. To read the entire ordinance, visit cityoffillburn.com and click on "City Code" under the "Your Government" tab.

Kosovo exchange students get warm welcome in Lilburn

In January, the City of Lilburn enjoyed a visit from 22 students from Suhareke, Kosovo, participating in a student exchange program.

The students stayed with host families from Grace Fellowship Church of Snellville. They were selected for participation in the exchange program by a non-profit in Kosovo called Kosovo Partners and Grace Fellowship Church. This is the second year of the program.

On weekdays, the students were enrolled in various courses at Mercer University. Every Friday in January, they attended lectures at Lilburn City

Hall, hearing from both government and local business leaders. On the weekends, they visited the World of Coke, Georgia Aquarium, Helen, and other metro Atlanta attractions.

Pictured below left, the Kosovo student exchange group poses in front of the Lilburn Tunnel Bridge Mural on Railroad Avenue. The new mural is quickly becoming a popular photo opp for Lilburn visitors! Pictured below right, Lilburn Mayor Johnny Crist talks with the group at City Hall before a presentation by Police Chief Bruce Hedley.



NEW BUSINESS LICENSES

Food

A Taste of Paradise Restaurant & Event Hall, 4805 Lawrenceville Highway, Suite 300, Restaurant
Gordo's Mexican Buffet, 4800 Lawrenceville Highway, Suite 1, Restaurant

Services and Retailers

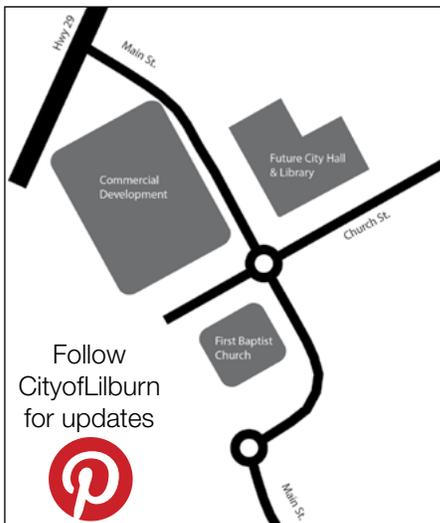
Amigo Insurance LLC, 440 Pleasant Hill Road, Suite 106, Insurance
Innovations Auto Sales Inc., 4493 Lilburn Industrial Way, Suite A, Car Sales Broker

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 by January 31 each year.

Utility relocation ongoing on Main

If you've driven down Main Street lately, you may have noticed signs of progress on the road realignment project. Currently, Georgia Power is relocating power lines underground. Road construction will begin shortly. The City celebrated an official groundbreaking on Feb. 5. Also, Gwinnett County is beginning water line installation on Main Street.

Main Street Realignment at Lawrenceville Highway



GWINNETT COUNTY WATER RESOURCES

Keep chemicals out of stormwater drains

Acronyms – letters that represent words and nobody knows what they mean. It seems that everything has an acronym these days. DVR, SUV, and OMG have become as common, or more so, than the words they actually represent. How about MS4? Believe it or not, this one is very important and has an impact on everyone – Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System.

MS4 is the public stormwater drainage system that directs rain water off the streets and into our rivers, lakes, and streams. The MS4 is municipal because it is owned and operated by the local government. In some older metropolitan areas, the sewage and stormwater are combined in a combined sewer system. An MS4 is different because it is a separate system from the sanitary sewer, which carries wastewater from sinks, showers, and toilets to a treatment plant where the water is filtered before being released into the environment.

In the City of Lilburn, all stormwater drains are separate from the sanitary sewer system. The stormwater system does not take rainwater to a treatment plant. Rainwater entering the stormwater system is directed to surface waters without treatment. That means anything that is



Stormwater drains like these flow back into the environment. Please keep your runoff clean!

dumped, discharged, or otherwise allowed to enter the stormwater system is directed through a series of pipes into the environment without treatment. For this reason, it is imperative that all of us ensure nothing other than rainwater reaches a stormwater drain.

If you have a concern about an illegal discharge to the stormwater system, or see someone dumping a substance or materials into a storm drain, please report it to Gwinnett County Stormwater Management by calling 678-376-7193 and choosing option 2.

“Police” from Page 1

from two suspects. Intelligence gathered from the scene indicated they had been selling marijuana from the residence for more than 10 years.

Stopped burglary spike

Directed patrols were added based on rising burglary offenses north of Lawrenceville Highway. Supervisors were tasked with creating an action plan to help combat these offenses.

Highly visible, directed patrols have been successful in gaining new relationships with Lilburn business owners and residents. In several instances in 2013, citizens called in suspicious activity in neighborhoods that led to several burglary arrests. Officers also have received advanced training on forensic evidence collection at crime scenes.

As a result of the combined efforts of directed patrols, evidence collection, and neighborhood cooperation, the Police Department solved a multitude of burglaries and made several key arrests. The number of burglaries in the city dropped significantly in 2013 to 66, as compared to 99 in 2012.

Prepared schools for the worst

As a result of the horrific events that transpired in Connecticut in 2012, an action plan for direct-

ed patrols was implemented for all schools, both public and private, within the City of Lilburn. Officers now make contact with school administration frequently and work with School Resource Officers to promote optimum officer presence. Also, officers interact closely with school administrators to allow them to better understand how the police department will respond to their school should a similar event ever occur.

Floor plans of each school, including private schools within the city, were added to each officer's in-car computer for faster reference. The Lilburn Police Department partnered with Providence Christian Academy to conduct two lock-down drills in 2013.

During the course of the 2013 year, no in-progress emergency took place in either a public or private school in the city.

Traffic Enforcement Detail

The traffic enforcement team continue to patrol our city streets in a concerted effort to identify drivers who are less than safe. The Traffic 2 Unit, which consists of two officers, issued 2,666 citations, made 150 physical arrests, impounded 102 vehicles, and investigated 197 vehicle accidents.



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Lilburn, Georgia 30047
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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**

Reserve City Park or Pavilion for your next event

Whether you're hosting a graduation party, 5K race, or music festival, the City of Lilburn has facilities to meet your needs. The 10-acre **Lilburn City Park** is available for special event rental, including the lawn, band shell, 2.8-mile greenway, and pavilion. The **Gartrell Nash Pavilion** — one of the largest covered pavilions in Gwinnett County — may be rented separately. The pavilion seats about 160 people, has four built-in grills, and is located conveniently near the playground. **Tennis Courts** are available for league play at no charge. Visit cityoflilburn.com and click on Rentals under the City Services tab to read all rental requirements and download an application.



Rental applications at www.cityoflilburn.com under "City Services."
Reserve at City Hall: 770-921-2210, 76 Main St.

Pavilion Rental Fees per 2 Hours

Pavilion Size	Resident	Non-resident
Half Pavilion (up to 80 people)	\$60	\$85
Whole Pavilion (up to 160 people)	\$110	\$160

Park Rental Fees per day

Number of People	Park Fee
500	\$300
501-2,000	\$500
2,001-5,000	\$800
5,001-10,000	\$1,500
more than 10,000	\$2,400

*Fees shown do not include refundable deposits or any applicable staff fees.



Great American Cleanup
Saturday April 26, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Come to City Hall for electronic recycling, paper shredding, bulk trash, and more.



PawFEST
May 10, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
In partnership with Gwinnett Humane Society.
www.pawfest.com



White Elephant Sale (Garage Sale)
June 21, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Repurpose unwanted items or find some new treasures! Sale space \$15.