

# the Lilburn news

VOL 16 Issue 2

Small Town. Big Difference.

Apr / May 2014



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**APR 10 @ 7PM**  
Alcohol Review Board

**APR 14 @ 7:30PM**  
City Council Meeting

**APR 28 @ 7:00PM**  
Mayor's Town Hall Meeting

**MAY 12 @ 7:30 PM**  
City Council Meeting

**MAY 21 @ 6:30 PM**  
Downtown Development  
Authority Meeting

Learn more at [www.cityoflilburn.com](http://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 770-638-2223 or [nnperry@cityoflilburn.com](mailto:nnperry@cityoflilburn.com).*



Construction has begun on the project to straighten out the intersection of Main Street and Lawrenceville Highway (U.S. 29). By this time next spring, daffodils like these could be seen alongside sidewalks lining the new Main Street.

The roadbed is currently being cleared (pictured at right) along its new route. The new road will rejoin Main Street just south of First Baptist Church of Lilburn.

Lane closures are not expected until later in the 9-month project. Updates will be posted regularly at [www.cityoflilburn.com](http://www.cityoflilburn.com), as well as @CityofLilburn on Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest.





CITY COUNCIL

# International representatives visit Mandir in Lilburn



Leaders of 26 countries visited the City of Lilburn on March 21 as the Georgia Consular Corps finished a three-day tour with a visit to the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir. A delegation of officials from various Lilburn organizations, including Mayor Pro Tem Tim Dunn, were on hand

to greet the group at the Hindu temple on Rockbridge Road. The Consular Corps is comprised of foreign government representatives who have operations in Atlanta to promote international trade. The Georgia Department of Economic Development conducts the tour annually.

COMMUNITY

## Mural wins international award

The Lilburn Tunnel Bridge Mural in Old Town Lilburn won first place in the Murals and Banners category of the 2014 International Sign Contest. The annual contest is conducted by "Signs of the Times" magazine, a trade publication for the signage and environmental-graphics markets.

In 2012, the Lilburn City Council commissioned local artist Sonny Franks to paint a mural on the Cofer Electric building at the corner of Railroad Avenue and Main Street. Completed in 2013, the startlingly life-like tunnel bridge scene has become a popular photo spot for visitors and residents.

Franks is part of a group of artists called "Walldogs" who travel the country painting murals. He enlisted the talents of fellow muralist Chris Shuster of Sharpsburg, KY. Franks designed the artwork in Adobe Photoshop software, and the duo painted the project with brushes, rollers, sponges, and an airbrush.

"I think it is important to develop artwork that generates interest in our city. We are so proud to have an award-winning mural in our Old Town area," Mayor Johnny Crist said.

The \$10,000 cost of the mural was funded through the city's Public Art Fund; businesses constructing a building valued at more than \$750,000 must contribute to the fund or put a work of public art on their property.

SCHOOLS

## Arcado adds pick-up lane

On April 14 when students are welcomed back from Spring Break at Arcado Elementary School, parents will begin using a new pick-up/drop-off drive for car riders.

The drive is accessed through a gate off of Arcado Road and will be open for morning/afternoon use. The drive will allow parents/guardians in 140-plus cars to queue up in dual lanes while waiting to pick up or drop off students. This will relieve the backup of vehicles onto Arcado Road and improve the flow of traffic as school opens and closes each day. The Lilburn Police Department will have an officer on site to assist with this transition.

"The Lilburn Police Department would like to say thank you to Gwinnett County Public Schools for making these traffic safety improvements," Lilburn Police Chief Bruce Hedley said.

In order to build this drive, the school system met the requirements of four utility providers who have graciously allowed the district to use their property.

Danny Jardine, Chief Operations Officer of Gwinnett County Public Schools, stated that "the district's goal is to make pick-up and drop-off of students a smooth and safe process for everyone."

"Gwinnett County Public Schools is very thankful to Chief Hedley and the City of Lilburn for all of their assistance and cooperation," he said.

**NEW BUSINESS LICENSES**

**Food**

**Marco's Pizza**, 375 Rockbridge Road, Suite 196

**Services and Retailers**

**1040 Tax Service Ga Inc.**, 4004 Lawrenceville Highway

**B & J Auto Repair**, 4455 Business Park Court

**Elevations Salon & Boutique, LLC**, 4485 Lawrenceville Hwy., Suite 210

**Granite Art and Design**, 3926 Burns Road, Suite C

**Honduras Auto Storage**, 4493 Lilburn Industrial Way

**Jet Auto Sales, LLC**, 3955 Lawrenceville Hwy., Suite D

**J.V. & M Group Inc.**, 405 Killian Hill Road

**Kevin Auto**, 255 Buxton Court  
**Madhumati Enterprise Inc.**, 510 Pleasant Hill Road

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

**RJ Automotive**, 4455 Business Park Court Suite D

**Rockbridge Psychological Associates, LLC**, 5440 Lawrenceville Highway

**Tigi Salon**, 465 Pleasant Hill Road

**White's Detailing**, 5440 Webb Parkway

*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.*

# Neighbor's complaint turns into blessing

A neighbor's complaint about a dilapidated swimming pool and fence turned into a blessing for one longtime Lilburn resident.

Since Ms. Linda became disabled 14 years ago, she has been unable to care for her yard and pool. Her son in South Georgia does the best he can to help her. Still, trees had taken over the 30-year-old swimming pool, and storm-water regularly knocks down the fence.

When Building Inspector Wayne Dubose responded to the neighborhood complaint, he saw Ms. Linda's need and reached out to help. He recruited Jeff Maddox with Bryson's Landscape Supplies to facilitate moving some donated dirt to Ms. Linda's property, and Jeremy Myers used his Bobcat to fill in the pool. Rupert Landscape spread straw to help repair the yard, and Iglesias de Gwinnett Church helped haul away the old fence.

"We've been wanting to do this for a while, because since I got disabled we can't take care



Ms. Linda was unable to care for her swimming pool, which had become a hazard and neighborhood eyesore. Lilburn Building Inspector Wayne Dubose helped her enlist the help of local businesses to fill in the pool and avoid a citation.

of the pool," Ms. Linda said.

"It's a little emotional," Ms. Linda said as the Bobcat knocked down the concrete pool walls. "You've been a blessing," she told Wayne. "I ought to hug whoever complained, too."

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

# Police win Public Safety Unit of the Year

The Lilburn Police Department's Crime Suppression Unit was named Public Safety Unit of the Year at the Gwinnett Chamber Valor Awards on March 26.

Nearly 20 individuals and groups were awarded for acts of bravery and service in our community. Awards were given to the men and women who have performed heroic and extraordinary acts to protect and serve the citizens of Gwinnett.

The City of Lilburn's Crime Suppression Unit was formed in May of 2013. Officers Cody Belcher and Almedin Ajanovic were selected for this unit under the supervision of Lt. Chris Dusik.

This special unit was designed in response to complaints of numerous open area drug activities, spikes in property crimes, and an array of other violent crimes. Since its inception, the Crime Suppression Unit has been highly successful and has made a huge positive impact in many affected areas of our city.

In 2013, the unit made 155 physical arrests. They confiscated 13 firearms (two confirmed stolen), apprehended 36 wanted persons, seized thousands of dollars in drug money, seized two vehicles used in the transport of illegal narcotics, and recovered illegal narcotics and prescription pills. Coinciding with these achievements, crime in Lilburn has dropped significantly.

Working in conjunction with the Uniform Patrol Division, the Crime Suppression Unit has worked tirelessly to maintain and enhance the quality of life and well-being of the citizens of Lilburn. With their skill, dedication, and personal sacrifice, these officers have reduced crimes such as burglaries, drug activities, fraud, and other property incidents.



Lt. Chris Dusik



Almedin Ajanovic



Cody Belcher

# Don't wash damaging environmental hazards down the drain

Jason decides that it is time to give his car a little tune up. Jason goes to the local retail auto supply store to buy his supplies. Upon returning home, Jason drains the fluids into old jugs and pours the waste into the storm drain at the street in front of his home. He washes the car with soapy water, which picks up automotive fluids and road grime before flowing down the driveway into the same storm drain.

Jason assumes that these drains lead to the water treatment plant. Actually, the stormwater system of drains and pipes leads directly to the nearest river, lake, or stream, and Jason has just contributed to nonpoint source pollution. The water that enters this system receives no treatment before it is released back into the environment.

In an effort to combat nonpoint source

pollution, the City of Lilburn prohibits the discharge of any substance other than rain water to the stormwater drainage system. Common pollutants found around the home include paints, solvents, electronics, pesticides, herbicides, automotive fluids, and cleaning products. If you are unsure of how to properly dispose of these products, contact the Gwinnett County Solid Waste Call Center at 770-822-7141.



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770-279-3710 Annex

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

# New and old events coming to Old Town this spring

As spring weather rolls into Lilburn, special events are blossoming in Old Town. Several traditional city events will be back this year, along with some new ones.

City Event Coordinator Roz Schmitt has a full schedule for the spring, including a freshly named farmers market — Lilburn City Market on Main. This year, the City will host a weekly farmers market focused on local fruits and vegetables. The City Market will be Tuesday

evenings in June, July, and August in the Greenway parking lot on Main Street, across the street from City Hall.

More information will be announced at [www.cityoflilburn.com](http://www.cityoflilburn.com). Vendors interested in selling at the City Market can contact Roz at [rschmitt@cityoflilburn.com](mailto:rschmitt@cityoflilburn.com).

“We are proud of Lilburn’s small-town community atmosphere. Through special events in Old Town and City Park, the City

creates opportunities for people to get to know their neighbors,” Mayor Johnny Crist said.

Events also give visitors and residents another reason to explore the businesses downtown. Road construction on Main Street may slow traffic at times, but the project is not expected to impede events in Old Town. When it is completed in nine months, the newly-configured road will create a smoother, safer traffic flow on Main Street.



## Easter Egg Hunt

*Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.*  
Free. Ages 0-12. Sponsored by the City and the Downtown Development Authority.



## Great American Cleanup

*Saturday, April 26, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.*  
Recycle electronics, paper, tires, bulk trash, scrap metal, paint, and more.



## PAWFest

*May 10, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., [www.pawfest.com](http://www.pawfest.com)*  
Bring your pets to this 21st annual Gwinnett Humane Society event in Lilburn City Park.



## City Market on Main

*Tuesday evenings in June, July, & August*  
Find local produce at this farmers market in the Greenway parking lot across from City Hall.



## White Elephant Sale (Garage Sale)

*Saturday, June 21, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.*  
Repurpose unwanted items or find some new treasures! Sale space \$15.



## Sparkle in the Park

*Friday, July 4, 5:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.*  
Contact Roz at 770-638-2225 to help sponsor the City’s annual fireworks display.