



THE CURRENT

Monthly Newsletter of Forsyth County, Georgia

DECEMBER 2016

Upcoming Projects on SR 369 to be Focus of Public Information Open House This Month

Join the Forsyth County Department of Engineering along with the design group American Engineers, Inc. for an open house regarding a proposed project that would widen SR 369/Browns Bridge Road from an existing two-lane roadway from just west of SR 9 to slightly east of SR 306 – a distance of approximately 2.4 miles – and replace the intersection of SR 400 and SR 369 with a grade-separated, partial cloverleaf interchange. The open house will be informal, and the public is invited to attend anytime during these hours. For more on this and other transportation projects, visit forsythco.com and click on ‘Transportation Projects’ near the bottom of the home page.

When: Tuesday, December 13, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Where: Coal Mountain Elementary School
3455 Coal Mountain Drive, Cumming

**TRANSPORTATION
BOND**



Ground Broken for Eagle’s Beak Park in Northwest Forsyth

Northwest Forsyth County will be home to a new passive park, for which ground was broken November 15. The new Eagle’s Beak Park will be located off of Old Federal Road in Ball Ground, and its construction is being funded by the Parks, Recreation and Green Space Bond approved by voters in 2008 and by the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) VI program. Phase I of the new park will feature a canoe and kayak river launch, nature trails, restroom facility and parking. Completion of Phase I is expected in spring 2017.



“Bring One for the Chipper” Annual Christmas Tree Recycling



Keep Forsyth County Beautiful encourages residents to recycle their Christmas trees. Tree recycling is available at the county’s three recycling convenience centers from December 26 through January 30. The service is free and helps keep trees out of landfills.

For a list of tree recycling locations and dates, visit keepforsythcountybeautiful.org or call (770) 205-4573.



Give **JOY** to Local Children During the 14th Annual Aerial’s House Toy Collection

Brighten the holidays for local children – newborn to 18 years old – by dropping off new, unwrapped gifts at any Forsyth County fire station, Fire Department Headquarters (3520 Settingdown Road) or any of the county’s four library branches through December 15.

Last year, the Forsyth County Fire Department collected 6,088 toys, 65 bicycles and \$2,760 in gift cards and monetary donations and served 1,800 local children. To receive information regarding the distribution of toys, call The Place of Forsyth County at (770) 887-1098. For any other questions or to make a large donation, call Firefighter Jeff Lyons at (678) 513-5899.



Commissioner's Corner

As I enter into my final month in office, I wanted to express my appreciation to all those with whom I have had the opportunity to work over the past 12 years while serving as your District 2 commissioner. The quality of life in Forsyth County is second to none, and that is thanks in large part to the combined efforts of our citizens, community groups, dedicated staff, and local and state officials. It has been an honor to work with each and every one of you.

During my time in office, I have had the opportunity to be a part of some exciting progress in the county. The 2008 passage of the Parks, Recreation and Green Space Bond has made a number of projects possible, such as the opening of new

recreation centers, the preservation of hundreds of acres of green space and the addition of new parks. The benefits of the voter approval of the 2014 Transportation Bond are already evident, with the recent opening of an additional northbound lane on GA 400.

I am humbled to have been able to serve as a Forsyth County commissioner, and I am excited for what the future holds for this great community.

Sincerely,



Brian R. Tam, District 2 Commissioner

Holiday Fire Prevention and Safety Tips

The Forsyth County Fire Department wants you and your family to be safe this holiday season. Here are some tips to help you celebrate safely.

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like a furnace, fireplace, wood stove or portable space heater.
- Follow manufacturer's recommendations regarding where and how to use any heating devices.
- Remember to turn portable space heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room.
- Do not place your tree close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent. The heat can dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks.
- Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation and broken or cracked sockets. If such deficiencies are found, dispose of them.
- Never place wrapping paper in a fireplace. Wrapping paper in the fireplace can result in a very large fire, throwing off dangerous sparks and embers that may result in a chimney fire.
- Select toys to suit the age, abilities, skills and interest level of the intended child. Toys too advanced may pose safety hazards for younger children.
- In an emergency, always dial 911.

Meals for Homebound Seniors

During this holiday season, consider giving back to Forsyth County homebound senior citizens by participating in the 2016 Home-Delivered Meals Holiday Gift Certificate Program. Meals purchased through Forsyth County Senior Services will be delivered by Meals on Wheels.

Those interested in participating may choose to provide meals for a day, week, month or year. The cost is \$3.68 for one day, \$18.40 for one week, \$80.96 for one month and \$956.80 for the entire year. Gifts may be tax-deductible. To learn more, call Forsyth County Senior Services at (770) 781-2178 or visit www.forsythco.com/seniors.

Upcoming Holiday Closures: Forsyth County government offices (including county offices, the animal shelter and three Senior Services locations) will be closed December 26 and 27 in observance of Christmas and January 2 in observance of New Year's Day. The three recreation centers will be closed on December 24 and 25 and January 1. The three recycling convenience centers will be closed December 24 and 25.

Our Commissioners

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December Events

December 1

Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting/Public Hearings

December 6

Board of Commissioners
Work Session

December 13

Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

December 15

Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting

December 20

Board of Commissioners
Work Session

December 26-27

County Government Offices Closed

Meeting and event dates
are subject to change.

To receive the most
current information,
visit forsythco.com.

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Email questions, comments or suggestions to
thecurrent@forsythco.com.

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