



THE CURRENT

Monthly Newsletter of Forsyth County, Georgia

SEPTEMBER 2016

Matt Community Park at Settingdown Creek Now Open!



A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on August 12 to officially open Phase I of the new Matt Community Park at Settingdown Creek, located in northwest Forsyth County.

Phase I of the park includes four synthetic-turf rectangular fields, a playground, pavilions, concession and restroom buildings and a parks maintenance facility. The property for the new park was acquired with funding from the Parks, Recreation and Green Space Bond approved by Forsyth County voters in 2008. Construction of Phase I of the park was funded by both the Parks, Recreation and Green Space Bond and by Impact Fees.

Matt Community Park at Settingdown Creek is located at 6555 Wallace Tatum Road in Cumming.

Comprehensive Plan Update Process Continues



Forsyth County's Comprehensive Plan update process, *Foster Forsyth*, continues to move forward in September. On August 29 and 31, *Foster Forsyth* held two open houses to debut the draft plan document, giving community members an opportunity to review highlights from the draft plan, discuss aspects with planning team members and offer feedback to refine it. The full draft of the Comprehensive Plan document is available for community review at the project website, fosterforsyth.com. Comments on the plan should be submitted to the planning team at contactus@fosterforsyth.com.

A special called meeting of the Board of Commissioners, Planning Commission and District 2 Sub-Area Planning Commission will be held September 13 at 2 p.m. in the Forsyth County Administration Building, at which county officials will be provided an overview of the draft Comprehensive Plan. The public has an opportunity to weigh in on the draft on September 27, when the Planning Commission will host the first public hearing on the draft plan. This hearing will be at 6:30 p.m. in Suite 220 of the Forsyth County Administration Building. An additional hearing will be held in December with the Board of Commissioners. The plan is targeted to be submitted for regional and state review in early December. The original planning period has been extended to allow for additional time for community review and input on the draft document.

For more information on the Comprehensive Plan update process, visit fosterforsyth.com.

County Offices Closed for Labor Day

Please note: Forsyth County government offices will be closed on Monday, September 5, in observance of Labor Day. The closure includes county offices, animal shelter, Senior Services locations, three recreation centers and three recycling convenience centers.

Play at the Park Family Fun Festival to be Held October 1

Forsyth County Parks & Recreation and the Cumming-Forsyth County Chamber of Commerce present the 14th annual Play at the Park Family Fun Festival Saturday, October 1 at Fowler Park. The event is free to attend and offers family-friendly activities and live entertainment!

Saturday, October 1

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Vendors, arts and crafts, a kids' inflatable area, food truck alley, petting zoo, animal adoption and much more

4 to 9 p.m.

Tethered hot air balloon rides, food truck alley and live music

Forsyth County's Fowler Park

4110 Carolene Way, Cumming, Georgia 30040

For more information, visit www.playatthepark.com or call (770) 781-2215. Volunteer opportunities are available.



Play at the Park
Family Fun Festival



Commissioner's Corner

Drug and alcohol addiction are not something most people want to talk about, but unfortunately they are a reality. And they are something that I believe we as a community must come together to address. I feel blessed to be a part of the Forsyth County Drug Awareness Council, a collaborative effort of Forsyth County's government, schools, judiciary, Sheriff's Office and community groups. I invite and encourage everyone to attend the council's next drug summit, to be held October 24 at 6 p.m. at the Forsyth Conference Center at Lanier Technical College. The theme of this summit is focused on breaking down stigmas associated with addiction, recovery and the need to seek out help. These imaginary walls, some in place for decades, can prevent our community from being as healthy as possible. Another upcoming event taking place here in the county is the Recovery Awareness Music Day from 4 to 8 p.m. on September 17 at Sawnee Mountain Music. This event will celebrate the survival of

those who are recovering from addiction.

I would like to say thank you and job well done to the Forsyth County first responders who have saved lives through the administration of Naloxone, a medication that can reverse the effects of overdoses of certain drugs. Our public safety personnel do so much every day to protect our community and truly are heroes.

My hope is that by joining together as a community, we can work to address and overcome addiction, continue to make strides in prevention and educate and empower parents to be effective leaders in their homes.

Sincerely,



Cindy Jones Mills, District 4 Commissioner

Forsyth County Fire Department Offers Free Child Safety Seat Inspections

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, every 33 seconds one child under the age of 13 is involved in a crash. Choosing the appropriate car seat or booster seat and making sure it is installed properly are key to helping children survive those crashes.

The Forsyth County Fire Department wants to help ensure your children are riding safely by offering free safety seat inspections by certified technicians. The technicians will show parents, grandparents and caregivers how to properly use and install the child's safety seat, plus provide hands-on training to make sure they understand the proper procedure. The technicians will also check the seat for any defects, cracks or recalls.

Don't delay – call the Fire Department at (770) 205-5699 to schedule an appointment to have your child's safety seat inspected.

Register to Vote by October 11 for the November 8 General Election & Special Elections

The voter registration deadline for the November 8 General Election and Special Elections is Tuesday, October 11. Forsyth County residents wishing to register to vote or to change their name and/or address on the voter registration list may do so in person at the Voter Registrations and Elections Office located in the Forsyth County Administration Building at 110 E. Main Street, Suite 200 in Cumming, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; by mail with a Voter Registration Application postmarked by October 11; or online by visiting the Georgia Secretary of State's Online Voter Registration System (you must have a valid driver's license or identification card issued by the Georgia Department of Driver Services). Everyone is encouraged to verify their voter registration record as soon as possible at www.mvp.sos.ga.gov.

To receive additional election information, visit the Voter Registrations and Elections Department webpage at forsythco.com or call (770) 781-2118, ext. 9.



Our Commissioners

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September Events

September 1
Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting/Public Hearings

September 5
County Government Offices
Closed for Labor Day

September 6
Board of Commissioners
Work Session

September 6
Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

September 13
Board of Commissioners,
Planning Commission and District 2
Sub-Area Planning Commission
Special Called Meeting

September 15
Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting

September 27
Board of Commissioners
Work Session

September 27
Planning Commission Meeting

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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