

The Current

Forsyth County's Monthly Newsletter

October 2006

Imagine the Possibilities for Cumming-Forsyth County

This fall, hundreds of citizens will come together in meetings around Forsyth County and spend two hours imagining what the community could be in the next 25 years. The thousands of ideas and images generated from these meetings will be used to create a community vision statement and a strategic plan for achieving the vision. That's the promise of Envision 2030, a year-long citizen-led community visioning project that was launched this summer.



Upcoming meetings include:

- October 3 - South Forsyth Middle School, 6:45 p.m.
- October 5 - Vickery Creek Middle School, 6:45 p.m.
- October 17 - Liberty Middle School, 6:45 p.m.
- October 24 - North Forsyth Middle School, 6:45 p.m.
- November 2 - Cumming First United Methodist Church, 8:15 a.m.
- November 2 - Chestatee Elementary School, 6:45 p.m.

Those interested in participating in these important community gatherings to "imagine the possibilities" for Cumming-Forsyth County can sign up for an e-mail newsletter, register for events or learn more about Envision 2030 by visiting www.envision2030.com.

Fire Safety Tips

October is Fire Prevention Month and the Forsyth County Fire Department is pleased to provide the following safety tips:

- Install smoke detectors on every level of your home and near each bedroom
- Place fire extinguishers in the area of the kitchen, laundry room, fireplace and garage
- Unplug small appliances while not in use
- Replace cracked, broken or frayed electrical cords

For more fire safety tips visit the Fire Department page at www.forsythco.com.

New Tiered Water Rates in Effect

In an effort to promote water conservation, a new tiered water rate structure has been implemented by the Forsyth County Water and Sewer Department. While the sewer rates are not impacted by this change, the water rates have been changed from a standard flat rate to a tiered rate system dependent upon water usage. To determine your water bill total under the new rates visit www.forsythco.com/ratecalculator.



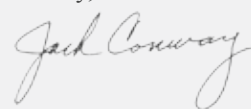
Above: Citizens gather at Otwell Middle School on September 19 for the first of the Envision 2030 meetings.

Chairman's Corner

What kind of community do you want Forsyth County to be in the future? Do you have a vision for our great county? If so, you now have the opportunity to contribute those thoughts to the overall visioning process being conducted by the Cumming-Forsyth County Chamber of Commerce. Envision 2030 is under way now and is an ideal mechanism to provide all citizens a voice in their community. We all have the ability to shape the future of our county and now is the time to take part. I hope that you will take the opportunity to attend one of the upcoming meetings in order to learn more about this exciting process and provide your valuable input.

Another way to become involved in your county and stay informed of the topics at hand is to attend government meetings. By attending the meetings of the Board of Commissioners, Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals you have the opportunity to stay current with county issues. For those unable to attend in person, these meetings are all streamed live as well as permanently archived on the county's Web site. We strive to make the county government an accessible, open entity and certainly appreciate the interest and involvement of our citizens. As always, on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,



Jack Conway

TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS UPDATE

Ronald Reagan Boulevard: Remediation work to the closed section of Ronald Reagan Boulevard between North Old Atlanta Road and Pendley Road began on August 29. This work is anticipated to allow for the roadway to be reopened in November, barring inclement weather conditions and any unforeseen circumstances.

Windermere Parkway: This roadway opened to through traffic from Melody Mizer Lane to Old Atlanta Road in late September.

Market Place Boulevard Extension: At their July 6 meeting, the Board of Commissioners awarded the construction contract to extend Market Place Boulevard north from Buford Dam Road to Bald Ridge Marina Road. Construction is scheduled to begin in October and be complete on or before December 31, 2007.

Mathis Airport Parkway: This work is projected to be complete in December. Even though the project is running a few months behind schedule, it is expected to wrap up quickly in the next few months as the final traffic shifts are made.

State Route 141 Project: The Georgia Department of Transportation opened bids for this project in August but has not awarded the project to date. The county expects the State Route 141 construction to begin in late October or early November. This project will widen 6.8 miles of State Route 141 from 0.6 miles north of the Fulton County line to State Route 9. The interchange at GA 400 will be improved with this project as well. GDOT has placed a July 31, 2009 completion date on this project.

2006 Advance Voting Satellite Sites

Central Advance Voting Satellite Site:

Cumming Public Library
585 Dahlonega Highway
Cumming, GA 30040

South Advance Voting Satellite Site:

Sharon Forks Public Library
2820 Old Atlanta Road
Cumming, GA 30041

North Advance Voting Satellite Site:

Forsyth County Public Safety Complex
3520 Settingdown Road
Cumming, GA 30040

The above locations are polling places for Advance Voting from October 30 to November 3, 2006 only. Advance Voting for Runoffs and Special Elections will be held at the Voter Registrar's Office located in the Forsyth County Administration Building.

Visit www.forsythco.com to view a sample ballot for the upcoming election.

Know Your Codes:

Construction Times

A monthly feature to help familiarize residents with county codes and ordinances

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 • This month the Forsyth County Code Enforcement Department would like to address the issue of outdoor construction times. This code is located within the Unified Development Code, section 10-1.13 and states:

• Outside construction shall be limited to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday to Friday; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday; and there will be no outside construction on Sunday.

• Code Enforcement receives numerous complaints concerning noise coming from outdoor construction being performed after regulated hours, particularly during the summer months when the days are longer.

• For more information on codes or to file a complaint, please contact the Code Enforcement Department at 678.513.5893 or visit www.forsythco.com.

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