



# THE CURRENT

Monthly Newsletter of Forsyth County, Georgia

March 2018

## PLAN YOUR SPRING SATURDAYS AT SAWNEE MOUNTAIN

Already making plans for spring? Forsyth County Parks & Recreation is offering Saturday programs to residents of all ages during the months of March, April and May.

Free family fun crafts will be offered every Saturday in the Sawnee Mountain Preserve Visitor Center.

Free guided hikes up Sawnee Mountain will be available on the fourth Saturday of each month.

'Climb and Zip' experiences will take place the first and third Saturday of each month.

Belay clinics will be hosted the first and third Saturday of each month for climbers.

'Adventurefit', a unique fitness program using outdoor adventure to provide the ultimate fitness experience, will be held every Saturday.

To learn more about all spring events and activities, and to sign up for programs requiring registration, visit:

[www.forsythco.com/parks](http://www.forsythco.com/parks)



## File by April 2 for 2018

### Homestead Exemption/ Age 65 School Tax Homestead

In Forsyth County, if you own a property, reside on that property and are a legal resident of the county, all as of January 1 of the tax year, you may qualify for homestead exemption.

You may apply for exemptions year-round, however, you must apply by April 2 to receive the exemption for 2018. For more information or questions, call the Tax Assessor's Office at (770) 781-2106.

### How to Apply

**In Person:** Forsyth County Tax Assessor's Office  
110 E. Main Street, Suite 260,  
Cumming  
Monday - Friday  
8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Online:** Regular and Floating homestead applications are available on the Board of Assessors page at [forsythco.com](http://forsythco.com) and must be notarized. A notary is available in the Tax Assessor's Office at no charge.

WHEN YOU  
**CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS**  
CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES



Are the smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in your home battery-powered? If so, it may be time to replace the batteries! A convenient reminder to do so is when daylight saving time begins Sunday, March 11. Remember - only working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms can help save lives!

## 16th annual SENIOR EXPO

Hosted by Forsyth County  
Senior Services

Saturday, April 14  
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

admission is  
**FREE**

Save the date for the Forsyth County Senior Services' 16th Annual

Senior Expo taking place Saturday, April 14 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Forsyth Conference Center at Lanier Technical College. The free event will be filled with vendors from a variety of industries including healthcare, insurance, real estate, senior living, non-profits and more. Drop by for information, refreshments, health screenings and multiple chances to win door prizes. For details, call Senior Services at (770) 781-2178.



# Commissioner's Corner



Because of today's digital online age, the world is far more connected than ever before. Individuals can communicate instantaneously across the globe, connecting people, families and cultures that might not otherwise ever meet.

But offline, is our own community as connected?

A subarea plan has been designed to create a more connected community in northern Forsyth County. The plan calls for an integrated trail system connecting neighborhoods, county facilities and the county's natural resources in a portion of northern Forsyth County with sidewalks, bicycle paths and multi-use trails. Not only would the plan provide a more connected community, but also more exercise opportunities residents have asked for.

Community input received through the recent Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan showed that 75 percent of respondents ranked walking and nature trails as the outdoor activity of most interest to them, and 69 percent of respondents had the Big Creek Greenway at the top of their list.

So how do you feel about a connectivity plan in your community? Let us know by visiting [forsythco.com](http://forsythco.com) through March 9 to take an online survey and submit comments via an interactive map that showcases the preliminary plan.

I encourage you to make your voice heard about this subarea plan before a final review during a community open house happening in April.

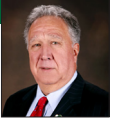
Sincerely,

*Cindy Jones Mills*  
Cindy Jones Mills,  
District 4 Commissioner

## Our Commissioners

### DISTRICT 1

**R.J. (Pete) Amos**  
Member  
[rjamos@forsythco.com](mailto:rjamos@forsythco.com)  
(678) 513-5881



### DISTRICT 2

**Dennis T. Brown**  
Secretary  
[DTBrown@forsythco.com](mailto:DTBrown@forsythco.com)  
(678) 513-5882



### DISTRICT 3

**Todd Levent**  
Chairman  
[tlevent@forsythco.com](mailto:tlevent@forsythco.com)  
(678) 513-5883



### DISTRICT 4

**Cindy Jones Mills**  
Member  
[cjmills@forsythco.com](mailto:cjmills@forsythco.com)  
(678) 513-5884



### DISTRICT 5

**Laura Semanson**  
Vice Chairman  
[losemanson@forsythco.com](mailto:losemanson@forsythco.com)  
(678) 513-5885



## March Events

### March 1

Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting/Public Hearings

### March 6

Board of Commissioners  
Work Session

### March 6

Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

### March 15

Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting

### March 19

Board of Commissioners  
Budget Work Session

### March 20

Board of Commissioners  
Work Session

### March 27

Planning Commission  
Meeting

Meeting and event dates are subject to change. To receive the most current information, visit [forsythco.com](http://forsythco.com).



## Submissions should feature one of this year's themes:



### 'Tools not Toys'

Matches and lighters are tools, not toys

### 'Report an Emergency'

Know when and how to call in an emergency

### 'Two Ways Out'

Importance of knowing two exit routes

All Forsyth County third grade students are invited to enter the Forsyth County Fire Department's eighth annual Fire Safety Poster Contest.

Instructions and contest rules are available on the Fire Department page at [forsythco.com](http://forsythco.com). For additional information, call Fire Prevention Training Officer Erin Long at (770) 205-4688. The submission deadline is March 16.



## SHADY GROVE CAMPGROUND

Opens for the Season March 19

Forsyth County's Shady Grove Campground will open for the season on Monday, March 19. Located at 7800 Allyn Lane Memorial Way, Shady Grove offers 110 family-friendly campsites along Lake Lanier. Amenities include a beach and swim area, boat ramp with courtesy dock, group campsites with picnic shelters, a playground, restrooms and shower facilities.

Site reservations can be made online at [www.forsythco.com/parks](http://www.forsythco.com/parks) up to 60 days in advance. Discounts are available for seniors, military and non-profit groups. Please visit [www.forsythco.com/parks](http://www.forsythco.com/parks) to learn more about Shady Grove Campground.

## THE CURRENT

Email questions, comments or suggestions to [thecurrent@forsythco.com](mailto:thecurrent@forsythco.com).

Forsyth County Department of Communications  
110 E. Main Street, Suite 210 | Cumming, GA 30040  
(770) 781-2101 | [forsythco.com](http://forsythco.com)  
TV Forsyth - Comcast Channel 23 and AT&T Channel 99