



# THE CURRENT

Monthly Newsletter of Forsyth County, Georgia

September 2018

16TH ANNUAL

## Play at the Park Family Fun Festival

Saturday, September 29

Play at the Park is a free community festival that features kids' activities, family entertainment, vendors and food trucks. This event is brought to you by Forsyth County Parks & Recreation and the Cumming-Forsyth County Chamber of Commerce. Visit [www.playatthepark.com](http://www.playatthepark.com) for event details.



Fowler Park • 4110 Carolene Way, Cumming

Vendors and Family Entertainment: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Food Trucks: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Hot Air Balloon Tether Rides (weather dependent): 6 to 8 p.m.

## Volunteers Are Needed for the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Shore Sweep



Make a positive impact on local waterways by joining Keep Forsyth County Beautiful, the city of Cumming and the Lake Lanier Association for the annual Shore Sweep/Rivers Alive cleanup on Saturday, September 15. Groups and individuals are encouraged to volunteer for the annual waterway cleanup event on Lake Lanier and its tributaries.

### Event: Saturday, September 15

Volunteers will meet at Bald Ridge Marina (1850 Bald Ridge Marina Road) and at Port Royale (8800 Port Royale Drive) on September 15 to gather supplies, pick up a t-shirt and receive instructions

## Renew Your Vehicle Registration at a Participating Kroger

Did you know you that you can renew your motor vehicle tag registration while getting your groceries? Self-service kiosks are now available at three Forsyth County Kroger locations for residents to renew and instantly print their annual vehicle registration & tag decal.

5550 Bethelview Rd  
Cumming, GA 30040

2655 Freedom Pkwy  
Cumming, GA 30041

5665 Atlanta Hwy  
Alpharetta, GA 30004

The self-service kiosks are available during the stores' operating hours at the Kroger locations above.

More information and a list of all available locations may be found by visiting: <https://dor.georgia.gov/mvd-self-service-tag-kiosk>.



Volunteers can register for the event by calling KFCB at (770) 205-4573 or by visiting [www.keepforsythcountybeautiful.org](http://www.keepforsythcountybeautiful.org).

# Commissioner's Corner



**Cindy Jones Mills,  
Commissioner**

It used to be that psychologists and psychiatrists thought we shouldn't talk about our feelings or if we felt depressed, despondent or alone. They definitely didn't recommend that we say the word 'suicide,' but realized that they had been wrong. That has now CHANGED. Last year we had our first Suicide Prevention Summit and people came out in large numbers to say 'thank you for saying that it is ok to talk about suicide and feeling depressed.'

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and the CDC all recognize we have a real problem. Suicide rates have skyrocketed. Some call it an epidemic. In the past 10 years, suicide rates have risen in almost every state and it is now the 10th leading cause of death. Georgia is not immune to this, as suicide rates have risen over 16% since 1999. Forsyth County had 29 suicides in 2017 and numbers are continuing this year.

"Being healthy" applies to both physical and mental health. A resilient community embraces all facets of health - the whole person. We know we have people

of all ages in our community who are experiencing mental health concerns.

During September and October, our county will host two summits that are part of the "Be the Change" events. Both summits will be held at 6 p.m. at the Forsyth Conference Center:

**SEPTEMBER 10** Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Summit

**OCTOBER 22** Forsyth County Drug Awareness Summit

The change must first begin with each of us ending the stigmas of addiction, suicide and depression. Please join us at these two summits - and invite your family, neighbors and friends.

Sincerely,

*Cindy Jones Mills*

Cindy Jones Mills,  
District Four Commissioner

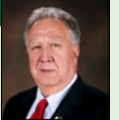
**BE THE CHANGE**  
#SuicidePrevention



## Our Commissioners

### DISTRICT 1

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



### DISTRICT 2

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



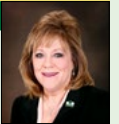
### DISTRICT 3

**Todd Levent**  
Chairman  
tlevent@forsythco.com  
(678) 513-5883



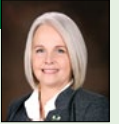
### DISTRICT 4

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



### DISTRICT 5

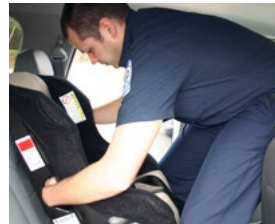
**Laura Semanson**  
Vice Chairman  
losemanson@forsythco.com  
(678) 513-5885



## Child Passenger Safety Week

September 23-29: Child Passenger Safety Week. Motor vehicle collisions are the leading cause of unintentional death among children ages 1 to 13. When installed and used correctly, child safety seats can decrease the risk of a fatal injury to young children considerably. The Forsyth County Fire Department

wants to help ensure children are riding safely. Schedule an appointment to have your child's safety seat inspected and installed by the department's trained technicians by calling (678) 455-8072 Monday through Friday.



## September is National Preparedness Month

During National Preparedness Month, the Forsyth County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) urges residents to take time to plan and prepare for emergency situations.

**Develop a Plan:** Sit down with family members before an emergency strikes and decide how you will get in contact with each other, where you will go and what you will do in a crisis situation. Keep a copy of this plan in your disaster supply kit or another safe place where you can access it when you need it.

### Assemble a Kit:

**Water** one gallon per person per day, for at least 3 days

**Food** at least a 3-day supply of non-perishable food

**Hand-operated can opener**

**Radio** battery-powered or hand crank plus a NOAA weather radio (and extra batteries)

**Flashlight** (and extra batteries)

**First aid kit/Prescription medications**

**Wrench or pliers** to turn off utilities

**Local maps**

**Cash**

**Stay up-to-date:** Stay informed during emergency and severe weather events by signing up to receive alerts from Forsyth County government. Residents can elect to receive the time-sensitive notifications via email, telephone call and/or text message. There is no cost to sign up to receive these alerts, but phone usage or text charges may apply.

Visit [forsythco.com](http://forsythco.com) to register.



Follow Forsyth County Government on Facebook!

[www.facebook.com/forsythcountygovernment](http://www.facebook.com/forsythcountygovernment)

## September Events

**September 3**  
County Government Offices Closed

**September 4**  
Zoning Board of Appeals

**September 6**  
Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting/Public Hearings

**September 11**  
Board of Commissioners Work Session

**September 18**  
Planning Commission Meeting

**September 20**  
Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

**September 25**  
Board of Commissioners Work Session

**September 29**  
16th Annual Play at the Park Family Fun Festival

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

THE CURRENT

Email questions, comments or suggestions to [thecurrent@forsythco.com](mailto:thecurrent@forsythco.com).  
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TV Forsyth - Comcast Channel 23 and AT&T Channel 99