



# THE CURRENT

Monthly Newsletter of Forsyth County, Georgia

September 2017



## Johnson to Join Forsyth County Government as New County Manager

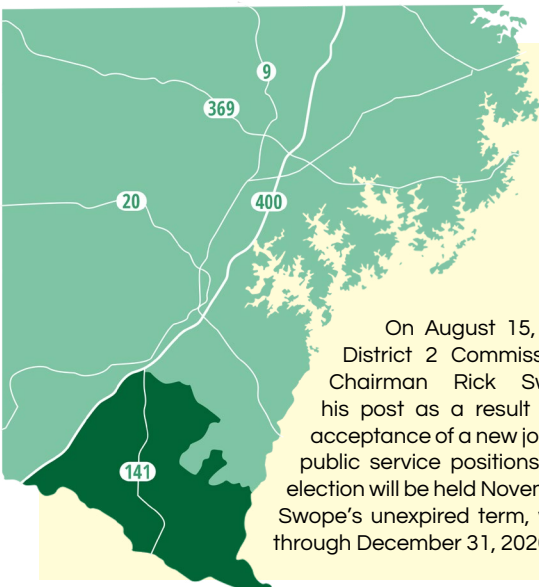
On August 3, the Board of Commissioners named Eric Johnson as the new county manager, filling the vacancy left by the retirement of Doug Derrer in April.

Mr. Johnson will bring to the position 30 years of experience in county government, serving most recently as assistant county administrator for Hillsborough County, Florida. He is slated to begin his new role with Forsyth County government on September 5.

## Eagle's Beak Park Now Open in Northwest Forsyth County



The 226-acre Eagle's Beak Park, Forsyth County's newest park, features a canoe and kayak launch on the Etowah River, nature trails, restroom facility and parking. The park's construction was funded by the Parks, Recreation and Green Space Bond approved by Forsyth County voters in 2008 and by the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) VI program.



## SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL DISTRICT 2 COMMISSION POST TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 7

On August 15, Forsyth County District 2 Commissioner and Vice Chairman Rick Swope resigned his post as a result of his recent acceptance of a new job which limits public service positions. A special election will be held November 7 to fill Swope's unexpired term, which runs through December 31, 2020.



Come visit!  
Eagle's Beak Park  
8420 Old Federal Road, Ball Ground



## Better Together

Adopt Two Cats or Kittens for One Adoption Fee Now through October 31



Forsyth County Animal Shelter  
4065 County Way, Cumming

(678) 965-7185  
www.forsythco.com/animalshelter  
Adoption Hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 10:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Adoption Fee: \$85 for two cats!  
(includes alteration, age appropriate vaccinations and microchipping)  
Adoption fee for a single cat or dog: \$85

# Commissioner's Corner



Forsyth County is recognized as the healthiest county in the state. We are proud of this achievement and of the many parks and recreational amenities that help us earn that distinction. Total wellness, however, involves so much more than what can be seen from the outside. Mental health is an essential component of overall well-being, and I'd like to invite you to two upcoming events that will address this topic. The first is our community's first ever suicide awareness and prevention event, which will be held September 20. Sadly, the Forsyth County coroner has worked 22 suicide cases so far this year. The second is the eighth Drug Summit, which will be held October 16. It saddens me to report that the coroner has worked 16 confirmed overdose cases so far this year. Among the speakers at the summit will be Alan Schwarz, an investigative journalist and author who will discuss the staggering

rise of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (A.D.H.D.) diagnoses and the nationwide issue of the abuse of Adderall. The Sheriff's Office will do a presentation about drugs in our community and what to look for in your home.

Both events will be held at the Forsyth Conference Center at Lanier Technical College and will provide resources on these topics, which are so important for our community to address. For both events, doors will open at 6 p.m. with speakers at 6:30 p.m. I hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

*Cindy Jones Mills*

District 4 Commissioner

## Our Commissioners

### DISTRICT 1

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



### DISTRICT 2

Vacant

### 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**  
Secretary  
losemanson@forsythco.com  
(678) 513-5885



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### September 17 - 23: Child Passenger Safety Week

Motor vehicle collisions are the leading cause of unintentional death among children ages 1 to 19. When installed and used correctly, child safety seats can decrease the risk of a fatal injury of 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.

### Community Yard Sale

Saturday, September 16

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Parking area of the  
Central Park Recreation Center  
2300 Keith Bridge Road, Cumming



Event organizers expect more than 20 vendors selling a variety of household goods, children's items, tools and more. For more information or to become a vendor, call Parks & Recreation at (678) 455-8540.

## TOUCH-A-TRUCK!



### Touch a Truck and Child Safety Seat Event

Saturday, September 9, 9 a.m. to Noon  
**Fowler Park (near playground)** 4110 Carolene Way, Cumming  
Brought to you by Safe Kids Forsyth and the Forsyth County Fire Department, this event provides an opportunity to have your child's safety seat inspected for proper installation while the kids check out a fire truck up close! For more information, call Parks & Recreation at (770) 886-4088 or the Fire Department at (770) 205-5699.

### 15th Annual Play at the Park Family Fun Festival

Saturday, September 30

Fowler Park | 4110 Carolene Way, Cumming

Vendors, family entertainment and food trucks: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tethered hot air balloon rides (weather permitting): 1 to 8 p.m.

Play at the Park is a free community festival 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.



### County Offices Closed for Labor Day

Forsyth County government offices will be closed on Monday, September 4, in observance of Labor Day. The closure includes county offices, animal shelter, Senior Services locations, three recreation centers and three recycling convenience centers.

## September Events

### September 4

County Government  
Offices Closed

### September 5

Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

### September 7

Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting/Public Hearings

### September 12

Board of Commissioners  
Work Session

### September 21

Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting

### September 26

Board of Commissioners  
Work Session

### September 26

Planning Commission Meeting

### September 30

Play at the Park

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).

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