

THE METRO-ATLANTA MONTHLY

The newspaper for people who only have time to read the news once a month.

Volume VI, Issue 5

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Detective Charged in Gun Theft

Joseph Mathews, a former McDonough police detective, has been charged with allegedly stealing and pawning firearms from the evidence room he was assigned to oversee. Mathews is charged with 14 counts of felony theft by taking, involving 13 guns, and four counts of making false statements. He bonded out on \$50,000 the day of his arrest. Mathews is also accused of stealing a utility trailer from the evidence room and lying about owning the trailer to get a tag from the county tag office.

-Timothy J Walker

Teen's Bride Pleads Guilty to Aiding Escape

Lisa Clark, the 37-year-old woman accused of molesting her 15-year-old husband, pleaded guilty Wednesday to helping her husband escape from state custody. She was sentenced to two years in jail and three years on probation after pleading guilty in Douglas County Superior Court to two counts of hindering the apprehension of a child.

-Allison Grubb

Zoo Atlanta Hopes for Baby Panda

Lun Lun, Zoo Atlanta's 8-year-old female panda, was artificially inseminated in March. But officials say they won't know for weeks if she's carrying a cub. Word should come in late July or early August. If Lun Lun has a successful pregnancy, her baby would be one of the few American-born pandas. A panda cub at Zoo Atlanta could produce major benefits for the nonprofit institution in several ways: mother-cub research; helping to raise the estimated \$2 million annually it takes to maintain the critically endangered animals; and generating the public-relations windfall that usually accompanies a panda birth. A newborn would boost annual attendance, from the current 700,000 to 1 million in the first year, and possibly draw sponsorships, zoo President and CEO Dennis Kelly said earlier this year.

-Patrick O'Neal

Editorial Disclaimer:

Even though most of the stories in this newsletter are based on real news stories, the facts have been altered to fit into the World of Darkness role-play environment. These stories should be taken as IC reality, OOC fiction...except for the VST's - they are real.

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SOCIETY & LIFE

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Harmony Founder's Day Festival

The town of Harmony, GA would like to welcome all who wish to attend its Founder's day festival on June 24th. Activities will include games, contests, and all the free food you can eat. Come on down and try some of the best fried chicken in Georgia.

-Patrick O'Neil

Employee Training Could Catch Sex Offenders

A Roswell city councilor says that businesses that cater to children should provide training to employees to help them identify sex offenders. Richard Marchand filed his proposed ordinance less than a week after a Level 3 sex offender was discovered at a Chuck E Cheese restaurant, allegedly taking pictures of children.

-Shannon O'Quinn

New Breast Cancer Drug Works

A new experimental drug delayed the growth of advanced breast cancer in women who had stopped responding to the drug Herceptin and were out of treatment options, doctors reported. The experimental drug, Tykerb, worked so well that an international study of it was stopped early based on results in 321 women. Those who received Tykerb plus the chemotherapy drug Xeloda had no growth of their tumors for 8.5 months. That compares to 4.5 months for those given only Xeloda. Herceptin and Tykerb are members of a new generation of cancer medicines that more precisely target tumors without killing lots of healthy cells.

-Melissa Stone

UGA Makes Financial Aid Mistake

The University of Georgia awarded more than \$270,000 in excess financial aid, according to a state audit, but students won't have to repay the money. The mistake happened between July 2004 and June 2005.

-Shannon O'Quinn

Life College Makes Cuts

Life College officials say budget cuts they hoped would last only a few months will be extend into next year because of low projected enrollment. The school cut \$615,000 in March. Now projections for the 2006-2007 school year has officials cutting another \$215,000, with enrollment expected to drop by 2.5%.

-Shannon O'Quinn

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SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & BUSINESS

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Audit Uncovers AGL Scandal

Atlanta Gas Light has agreed to repay ratepayers for its spending on a controversial environmental cleanup program instead of the \$50 the company has insisted was all the public was owed. In exchange, the state Public Service Commission will have to promise to stop investigating the \$250+ million program for the cleanup of buried coal tar, a toxic material left over from turn-of-the-century manufactured gas plants. The deal will end a 2-year audit fight. The audit focused on a small portion of the money AGL spent "cleaning up." The commission allowed AGL to pass on costs to its 8.5 million customers through a special monthly fee, now down to \$1.30, more than 14 years ago however the work began in earnest just five years ago. That program had raised eyebrows because ratepayers were billed for activities that included a \$695 quail hunt at Carrollton's Hog Liver Shooting Preserve, barbecues, gifts and community relations work billed at up to \$200 per hour.

-Allison Grubb

Avenue Planned in Forsyth

Cousins Properties has filed plans to build what could be its largest Avenue outdoor mall — and possibly an office or hotel — in Forsyth County near the Cherokee and Fulton county lines. The company would not comment on the project, but early plans filed with Forsyth County call for 850,000 square feet of retail and an additional 250,000 square feet of office suites or hotel rooms. The new project, called Avenue Forsyth in the filing, would open in 2008 near Cumming along Ga. 400.

-Brent Warner

May Chain-Store Sales Rise

Even as the price at the gas pump pushed higher and higher, consumers kept spending and spending, giving chain stores a bigger-than-expected boost in May. These retailers saw sales rise a total of 4.1% for the month, according to a report from the International Council of Shopping Centers.

-Timothy J Walker

Critics Prefer Hospices to Chemo

Doctors are reporting a disturbing rise in the number of cancer patients getting chemo and other aggressive but futile treatment in the last days of their lives. Critics of the practice say doctors should be concentrating instead on helping these patients die with dignity and in comfort, perhaps in a hospice. Nearly 12% of cancer patients who died in 1999 received chemotherapy in the last two weeks of life. That is up from nearly 10% in 1993, and the percentage probably is even higher today, researchers said. The number of cancer patients entering hospice in the last three days of life also rose, from roughly 12% to 15%.

-Melissa Stone

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BLOTTER

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Lightning Strikes Praying Woman

Clara Jean Brown was praying for the safety of her family during an isolated storm when lightning struck her inside her kitchen. Clara was thrown back by the force of the explosion but was otherwise uninjured. Investigators theorize that lightning struck the street's water main and traveled to the sink where she was standing.

-A M Ansley

Fire Believed to be Arson-Murder

Fire Commissioner John Oxendine is changing his ruling to arson concerning the recent fire that took four lives. Marcelette Stringer and her two daughters burned to death in the fire. Authorities also found a fourth body in the fire that they have not yet been able to identify. Commissioner Oxendine would not comment as to what evidence led him to change his ruling.

-Jacob Williamson

Fake Attorney Arrested

Police said a Cobb county woman traveled around the South posing as an attorney and charging Spanish-speaking drug defendants thousands of dollars to represent them. Carmen Meyer, 37, was arrested after Atlanta police discovered she was wanted in Florida on charges of money laundering and conspiring to traffic marijuana. Bond was set at \$1 million.

-Allison Grubb

Teenage Poisons for Lead in Play

A teenager accused of spiking a fellow theater student's drink with bleach, because she wanted the lead role in the high school production of *My Fair Lady*, is free after posting \$2,500 bail, Griffin authorities said. Katherine Smith, 18, was charged with tampering with a consumer product, a felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

-A M Ansley

Union City Becomes Energy-Efficient

Union City mayor Patrick Hays told city employees to take energy-saving measures. His executive order calls for lights, computers and printers to be turned off every night and during hot weather, for thermostats to be set no lower than 80 degrees when the last employee leaves the building. The city will also switch to energy-efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs. These steps should save the city about \$2 million a year, which will be used to subsidize the Union City police department.

-Tameka Washington

Alternative Fuel Station Opens in Marietta

A car dealership opened the state's first station in Marietta to sell only alternative fuels. The station sells two types of ethanol and a bio-diesel mixture that can be used by most diesel engines. At least two companies plan to start making ethanol at plants in Georgia by the end of 2007.

-Karen Hakiki

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WANTED, FOR SALE AND PERSONAL ADS

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Chauffeurs Wanted

Looking for part time experienced chauffeurs to support our automotive industry event activities. Candidates must have an understanding of chauffeuring etiquette, an interest in gaining more automotive product knowledge and the ability to hand carry special VIP clients. Position may include supporting all facets of automotive event production. Specifically shuttle/chauffeur duties, product specialist activities (new model demonstrations), and other general event support. Chauffeurs will be expected to maintain their vehicle during these activities.

Call Henry Oliver at 678-555-0507.

Is This Your Summer of Love?

Male Witch offering psychic readings and counseling. Casting and removal of spells. Contact with spirits. Call 24/7. Credit / Debit cards accepted.

Call Tom at 800-419-3346.

Sleep Disorder Study Participants Wanted

If you are an adult male or female who is at least 18 years old, Zelmur, Inc. needs your help to test our new sleep disorder products. If you are qualified and interested in participating in these studies, you will be compensated for your time and efforts.

Call Wendy Ingles at 770-555-7329.

Wanted Downtimes

Local VST's seeks downtimes to increase enjoyment of players and development of characters and plots for all Atlanta venues. Reward offered. All venue Downtimes due are Sunday, June 25th at midnight.

E-mail Requiem DT's to atl_dtr_requiem@googlegroups.com.

E-mail all other DT's to storytellers@lists.atlantacamarilla.com.

Monthly Sudoku Puzzle

				4				
	4			8		3		5
5		1	3	6		8		7
2	8	9		3	5			
3								2
			9	7		5	3	8
9		2		5	4	7		6
1		4		9			8	
				2				

This Month's Puzzle

1	7	6	9	4	3	8	2	5
5	9	4	2	1	8	7	3	6
2	3	8	6	7	5	1	9	4
9	6	1	3	2	7	5	4	8
8	5	3	1	6	4	2	7	9
7	4	2	8	5	9	3	6	1
3	1	7	4	8	6	9	5	2
4	2	5	7	9	1	6	8	3
6	8	9	5	3	2	4	1	7

Last Month's Puzzle Solution

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats.