

# At Your Service

## City of Greensboro News & Information

October/November  
2013



### City Implements Changes with Focus on Community Services

The City has put into place a series of changes designed to better align multiple departments directly with community needs. With the realignment, a new department – Neighborhood Development – has been created from the former Planning and Community Development Department (PCD). PCD has been re-formed into the Planning Department and the Neighborhood Development Department.

The two departments share administrative and financial resources and no positions have been added to either department as part of the realignment.

Also, the City's Community Relations Division has joined the Human Relations Department. Community relations consists of three staff members who serve as liaisons for community outreach and residential issues.

### Hydrant Testing Begins November 1

The Greensboro Fire Department conducts its semi-annual fire hydrant testing November 1-30 to make sure all function correctly. Opening hydrants sometimes causes temporary, harmless discoloration in nearby homes. Clear your water flow by running water for a few minutes.

### Loose Leaf Collection Program Starts November 12

Picking up leaves can be a chore, but the City's annual Loose Leaf Collection Program, which runs from November 12 through January 24,

2014, makes it easy. The City will pick up leaves during two collection periods. Leaves that are curbside by:

~ November 12 will be picked up by December 21.

~ December 23 will be picked up by January 24, 2014.

Learn more at [www.greensboro-nc.gov/Leaves](http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/Leaves).

### Be Safe Trick or Treating

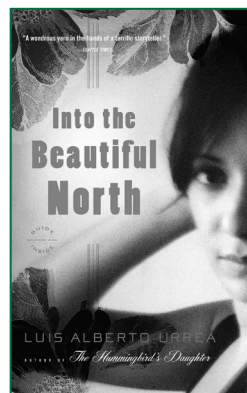
The fun of Halloween can cause children to forget to be careful while out

trick or treating. To prevent accidents, review the safety tips at [www.greensboro-nc.gov/HalloweenSafety](http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/HalloweenSafety). (*The City does not regulate the day or times residents may go trick or treating.*)



### "One City, One Book" Underway

What if everyone in Greensboro read the same book...and then set out to build a stronger community? That's the goal of the City's One City, Once Book program. This year's selection is *Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Urrea. The novel focuses on themes of immigration, discrimination and hope. Learn more at [www.greensboro-nc.gov/OneCityOneBook](http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/OneCityOneBook).



### Attend a City Council Meeting

Greensboro City Council meets at 5:30 pm on October 1 and 15, November 12 and 19, and December 3 and 17. Meetings are open to the public and aired live on Greensboro Television Network and at [www.greensboro-nc.gov](http://www.greensboro-nc.gov). Parking is available in the Greene Street Parking Deck.

### Daylight Savings Time Ends November 3

On Sunday, November 3, turn your clocks back one hour to return to standard time. Also, change your smoke alarm batteries. Don't have working smoke alarms? Contact the Greensboro Fire Department at 574-4088 for free equipment and installation.



### City Offices Closed Three Days in November

City offices and facilities close on Monday, November 11, in observance of Veterans' Day, and Thursday and Friday, November 28-29, in observance of Thanksgiving.

There are no trash and recycling collections on November 11 and 28. Instead, November 11's collections take place Tuesday, November 12, and that day's collections take place on Wednesday, November 13. And, November 28's collections instead take place on Wednesday, November 27. Collections on Friday, November 29, remain the same. Questions? Call 373-CITY (2489).

## New Programs on Tap for GYC

The Greensboro Youth Council (GYC) has launched two new programs this fall. The first is called "GYC Institute: Building Well-Rounded Leaders." The institute offers sessions for teens that build vocational, leadership and life skills, and by attending, participants receive special recognition including a medal and certificate.

The second new program is a partnership with the City's Economic Development Division called "The EDGE Experience: Youth Growing Greensboro Through Economic Development." Under this program, teens can submit ideas on ways to increase economic development in Greensboro. Submissions will be reviewed by a panel of their peers for cash prizes.

For more information, call GYC at 373-2738.

## Do Not Become a Victim of a Telephone Scam

Phone scammers want your money and they will use a number of ploys to get them. Regardless of the tactics, the Greensboro Police Department offer a few warning signs of a phone scam:

- ~ The caller pressures you into making a decision now.
- ~ You are told you have won a 'free' gift, vacation, or prize, but have to pay for 'postage and handling' or other charges.
- ~ You are discouraged from checking out the company with anyone.

These calls are probably scams and should be reported to the police department by calling 373-2222,

option 3 or by going to the Federal Trade Commission's website at <http://ftc.gov>.

Greensboro police warn residents to never give personal information over the telephone or agree to send money to anyone for any reason.

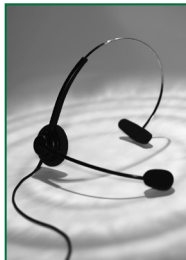
## 2013-14 OPUS Concert Series Underway



From classical to jazz to bluegrass, the City's free OPUS Concert Series offers something for everyone. Check out the talented musical ensembles at these events. Get a full schedule by calling the Music Center at 373-2549 or visiting [www.city-arts.org](http://www.city-arts.org) and clicking on "The Music Center" link.

## City Contact Center Passes 2 Million Mark

After being in business for nine years, the City's Contact Center recently received its two-millionth call. City Service Representatives (CSRs) answer more than 1,100 calls a day to 373-CITY (2489) on a variety of topics. The Contact Center was created to give residents one number to call to request City services and get fast and accurate answers to questions.



## Med Toss Drop-off is October 26

The City and Greensboro Beautiful Inc. co-sponsor safe ways to dispose of old or unused medicine to help protect families and the environment. Called Med Toss, the events are held throughout the year, with the next one being from 10 am to 2 pm Saturday, October 26, at participating local Walgreens. Learn more by visiting [www.SMARxTdisposal.net](http://www.SMARxTdisposal.net).

## NeighborWoods Tree Planting Seeks Volunteers

The Hamilton Lakes and Holt's Chapel Road communities have been selected as recipients of Greensboro Beautiful Inc.'s 2013 NeighborWoods Tree Planting Grant. This year's planting is set for 8 am Saturday, November 2, and volunteers are needed to help. Interested? Call Greensboro Beautiful at 373-2199.



## Volunteers Needed for 28th Annual Shoppers' Day

The Greensboro Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities hosts its 28th annual Shoppers' Day on December 5. The City is seeking volunteers from the community to accompany shoppers as they purchase holiday gifts at Four Season Town Center.

Each year, more than 300 shoppers with moderate to severe disabilities are assisted by volunteers for a half-day of shopping experience that includes entertainment, refreshments, and a visit with Santa. To volunteer, call 373-2723.



Visit us online at [www.greensboro-nc.gov](http://www.greensboro-nc.gov)

Call the City's Contact Center at 373-CITY (2489)

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