

## Newnan Notes 4.20.08

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'Newnan Notes' Special Georgia Cities Week Edition

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Guest writer Mayor Keith Brady April 20, 2008

Join us as the City of Newnan celebrates Georgia Cities Week. April 20 – 26, 2008 has been selected as Georgia Cities Week the theme being 'Living it Up Downtown.'

In Newnan, many activities are planned throughout the week to teach citizens about the role of local government and the importance of civic involvement. A city inspired art contest was added to this year's lineup of events held in the local high schools. Art students were encouraged to participate in submitting their best entries of art in depicting this year's theme, 'Living it Up Downtown,' for the GA Cities week. The top 8 art pieces will be displayed at the Centre for Performing and Visual Arts April 20th-26th. The winners have been announced. 1st place winner is Anna Hobbs, 2nd place; Lydia Ozier and 3rd place; Kristen Pire. Honorable mentions included Tabitha Nalley and Abby Clements. All winners are from Newnan High School. Winners will receive U.S. Savings bonds and a signed certificate from Mayor Keith Brady.

Events will include The City of Newnan and its much anticipated grand opening for its newest park, Greenville Street Park, on April 25th. The park is complete with a 25-column colonnade and plaza. It features a lot of "hardscape" and brickwork. In addition to the colonnade, there is a sunken lawn/amphitheater, a fountain, cherry blossom garden and plenty of tables and benches for lunch crowds. Hometown favorite country duo, The Wrights will be performing the evening of April 26th in celebration of the grand opening. More details to come on the grand opening.

A local competition was held in support of the statewide 'If I were Mayor, I would...' Essay Contest. Local 6th graders were encouraged to participate. This year's overall state winner for District 4 is Rachel Ahn from Newnan! She attends Arnall Middle School. Rachel has been invited to Atlanta's Turner Field Clubhouse for a luncheon with overall districts winners from around the state and Mayor Keith Brady. Ahn will receive a \$250 savings bond from the Georgia Municipal Association.

The Newnan Police Department and Newnan Fire Department will visit Newnan Crossing Elementary School on Friday, April 25th. The police officers and firefighters will visit with the 1st graders to discuss safety practices.

Our City of Newnan Animal Control Officer, Cyndi Hoffman will start offering a safety tip of the week for your four legged best friend. According to a recently published study, from the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (APCC), dogs seem to be particularly attracted to the seeds and berries of the Brunfelsia plant, also known as 'morning, noon and night' and 'yesterday, today and tomorrow.' In fact, canines are most susceptible to poisoning by this gardener's favorite, aptly named for its fragrant flowers that bloom in vivid purple and gradually change to lavender before fading to white.

Continuing with the Keep Newnan Beautiful litter campaign, tip of the week includes bagging up your yard waste. Yard waste is required by state law to be separate from regular household trash, to help reduce the amount of trash going to landfills. Yard waste left on the street in piles is a big pile of problems. It's messy, difficult to pick up and gets blown by wind and passing cars. But the biggest problem is the potential for storm water contamination. Yard waste sitting in the street can wash down storm drains and into the waterways, contaminating water with pesticides and clogging drains. Storm drains go into open waterways, not the municipal system, so anything in the drain goes as well.

The City of Newnan has issued 8 new business licenses this week. The new businesses are Ashland Construction Company, Bath & Body Works #2137, Cellular Center, LLC., Exclusively For You, Lift Services, Mega Cabinetry, Inc., Mr. Marbly Cleaning and Renae Barton Avon.

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