



# Inside Fulton

## Governor Deal Recognizes Fulton County's Health Coalition



On February 8, 2012, the Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness' Division of Health Promotion received a proclamation from Governor Nathan Deal in recognition for their efforts to promote cardiovascular health and prevention in Fulton County.

The Healthy Heart Coalition was formed to aid Fulton County citizens in combating cardiovascular disease with the help of major stakeholders, community leaders, medical experts, public policy makers and grassroots organizations. The Coalition's goal is to heighten the awareness of and encourage the early detection and treatment of cardiovascular disease among Fulton County citizens. For more information about the Fulton County Healthy Heart Coalition, log-on to [www.fultoncountygahealth.org](http://www.fultoncountygahealth.org).

*Pictured left to right: Jim Groover, American Heart Association; Carolyn Atwater-Wooten, Safe-Kids Fulton; Cee Jai Jones, Atlanta Youth Tennis Foundation; Devin Rucker, Be Proactive Foundation; Dr. Patrice Harris, Director, Fulton County Health Services; Gordon Draves, Georgians Against Smoking Pollution; Governor Nathan Deal; Dr. Matt McKenna, Medical Director, Fulton County Health and Wellness; Lee Lambert, Caregiver's Companion; Nazeera Dawood, Program Manager, Fulton County Division of Health Promotion; Robert Wright, Coordinator, Healthy Heart Coalition; Susan Butler, Co-Chair, Emory Rollins School of Public Health; Cornelia King, Co-Chair, National Youth Leadership Council; Sarah Passons; Brandon Rose, Health Promotion Fellow*

## And the Project Hope Winner is ... Information Technology!



Congratulations to the Department of Internet Technology (DoIT) for winning the top contributor per employee of the 2012 Project Hope Campaign!

Ryan Fernandes, DoIT Director, says his department's accomplishment is particularly impressive in light of the nation's

economic downturn. "This is an outstanding achievement and one that stands about and beyond our normal work efforts. What is most commendable about this recognition is the fact that it was achieved during the worst financial recession of our times. I am especially proud of this recognition because it speaks to the humility of our staff. I am proud to be a part of such a caring and generous team."

As the winning department, DoIT was awarded with an Auburn University Football signed by 2010 Heisman Trophy Winner (and Fulton County resident) Cam Newton. The football will be displayed in the trophy case located on the 9th Floor Front Office.

### Join the Wellness Committee and Go Red on Valentine's Day for Heart Health!

*Red pins will be available on Tuesday, February 14 at the Pryor Street entrance to Government Center, beginning at 7:30 a.m. for employees who want to "Go Red."*



### Green Tip:

*When buying your sweetie a Valentine, think green. Instead of cut flowers consider a potted plant. Think of reusing last year's cards as decorations. Choose candy that reduces plastic and cellophane.*

## Employee Bettie Jones Honored by Toastmasters



Fulton County Water Resources employee Bettie Jones has a powerful story to tell, and Toastmasters has helped her develop the skills and confidence to tell that story to audiences around the nation. Bettie was recently recognized for her advanced public speaking skills when she earned the Advanced Communicator Silver Award. This award signifies the second-highest achievement in Toastmasters International.

Bettie joined the Fulton County Toastmasters chapter after completing a book about domestic violence, and wanting to develop the confidence and public speaking skills to effectively market her book. Through Toastmasters, Bettie discovered that she has a gift and a love for public speaking. She has held a number of roles in the chapter, and is currently Sergeant-at-Arms.

Bettie says, "Being a Toastmaster has not only enhanced my public speaking skills, it has also enhanced my leadership skills. I was shy and reserved with low self-esteem, and very nervous about speaking in front of a group. Now I am confident, intrepid and believe (know) that I can speak before kings and queens, if necessary."

## The Library Loves Lifelong Learners!

In partnership with the Office of Aging, the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System is offering overview and enrollment sessions of its new online learning tool, eCampus, at four Fulton County Senior Multipurpose Facilities throughout the month of February.

This initiative was designed to engage and support members of our senior community and will also broaden learning opportunities available via computer labs at each multipurpose facility. eCampus is the library system's new online learning suite of educational resources, tutoring and test preparation for all ages.

Seniors will be especially interested in the continuing education and personal enrichment courses available via the Universal Class and Ed2Go tools.

The online learning tool is free and accessible with an AFPLS library card.

Upcoming sessions include:  
Dorothy C. Benson Senior Complex  
February 10 at 2:30 p.m.

Helene S. Mills Senior Facility  
February 21 at 10:00 a.m.

Harriett G. Darnell Senior Facility  
February 23 at 10:00 a.m.



**GET SOCIAL!**



## County Manager's Desk



It's hard to believe we're already in February and, thanks to our friend the groundhog seeing his shadow, spring is just around the corner. As we dive into a new year providing fiscally sound and responsible services, a few changes have been made to our structure.

First, the Board approved the 2012 budget, which included the restructuring of several departments. One restructuring is in the General Services and Public Works Departments, transferring the Transportation Division of Public Works to General Services. General Services has been renamed to Facilities and Transportation Services (FTS) Department. The Water Services Division of Public Works has become the Department of Water Resources.

The next change is the creation of the new Planning and Community Services Department, which will include two divisions. The first is the Planning and Zoning Division, which will include inspections, permits and planning. The second is Community Services, which will include parks and recreation, animal services, economic development, business licenses and special projects.

These changes will help to increase efficiency and productivity and ensure that Fulton County continues to maximize our taxpayers' resources while providing quality and timely services. Another great way that we are all contributing to making Fulton County the best place to live!

*Zach*

## Health Assessment Update

The Fulton County Wellness Committee is committed to helping Fulton County employees and retirees get healthy in 2012! As part of that resolution, the committee has been encouraging employees that are insured with Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) to complete an online Health Assessment! Several employees have reported technical difficulties with the BCBS website when attempting to complete the assessment. However, it is not too late to log in and do your assessment now (the deadline has been extended to February 22). Insured employees and retirees who complete their assessment will be automatically entered to win a free elliptical exercise machine. A special drawing will be held on February 27 at the Fulton County Government Center Atrium. Time and further details about the drawing will be sent out via FulcoNews. If you continue to have problems logging into the BCBS site or need more information, please email [fulton.wellness@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:fulton.wellness@fultoncountyga.gov).

Published bi-monthly by:  
The Office of Communications  
A Division of  
The County Manager's Office  
141 Pryor Street, SW.  
Suite 3090  
Atlanta, GA 30303



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