

DEKALB COUNTY DISTRICT 5

HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER

HOLIDAYS 2010

WWW.LEEMAYDISTRICT5.COM

LEE MAY
COMMISSIONER

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Safety Tips for a Happy Holiday

Safety Tips Provided by Ackerman Security: For more information about installing a security system in your home visit www.ackermansecurity.com or call 770-796-6878.

Home Safety Tips

Be aware of your surroundings when you arrive home from work, school, and especially a shopping trip. Take time to survey the area around you for anyone you do not recognize.

Implementing the following tips will help you have a safe holiday:

Pick-up electronics from the store instead of having them delivered to your home. Don't leave boxes outside for the trash, Store inside or in garage until you can recycle them.

Motion detector and timed lights should be installed on your home to give the impression you are home.

Keep blinds and curtains closed when you're not home, to keep intruders from looking in your home.

Verify all technicians installing items in your home with the company. Ask to see their badge upon arrival.

Test your security system with the monitoring company to ensure it is working properly.

Fire Safety Tips

Make sure you have tested your smoke/heat detectors in your home so that they are working properly. Change out any batteries as needed.

Many of us decorate for the holidays with Christmas trees, be sure to follow these tree safety tips:

Keep trees away from heat sources-fireplace or heating vents.

Choose an area in your home where the tree won't block an exit.

If using an artificial tree look for one that is flame retardant.

Turn your Christmas decorations off when you are not home and when you go to bed. Use a power strip for lighting.

Check the label to be sure whether your lights are supposed to be used inside or outside.

Pick a tree where the needles do not fall off when touched. Once the tree begins to drop its needles remove it from the home.



STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY



DECEMBER IS NATIONAL AIDS AWARENESS MONTH

WHAT IS AIDS?

AIDS is an acronym for Auto Immune Deficiency Syndrome. AIDS is a more severe stage of HIV, or Human Immunodeficiency Virus. HIV is contracted most commonly from sexual intercourse with an infected person. There is currently no cure for HIV or AIDS and contraction of the virus can be fatal as one's immune system is compromised, leaving the person hypersensitive to common illness.

The CDC estimates that approximately nearly 250,000 people in the United States are infected with HIV and don't even know it.

WHAT CAN I DO?

Get Tested! See your doctor today to know your status.

Online Resources:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/photos-and-video/video/president-obama-national-hiv-testing-day>

http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/surveillance/resources/other/pdf/poverty_poster.pdf

<http://www.dekalbhealth.net/hs/hiv aids/services>

Being a healthier you in 2010 is a great start towards Strengthening Our Community.

THE PEOPLE'S VOICE



Commissioner May truly values your questions, comments and concerns. In an effort to ensure that he is better meeting the needs of District 5 constituents, Commissioner May will address a specific question or comment. This is your forum to let your voice be heard, The People's Voice. Please e-mail any questions, comments, or concerns to jkhockett@co.dekalb.ga.us

November's Question

“I am having issues with my neighbor's grass not being cut and items being left in the yard. What should I do?”

Commissioner May's Response

Dear District 5 Residents,

Thank you for your question. There has been a lot of calls coming into my office lately about these types of issues. Typically these issues are dealt with by the Code Enforcement Officers throughout the County. To report a code violation to their office call 770-724-7940.

Now I know that some of you have already done this and haven't received all of the quick responses that you wanted. I assure you that we understand the issues that delay some code enforcement violations to be fixed quickly, and are working hard to ensure that we can make changes that will heighten our ability to stop code violators.

If you have any questions, feel free to call my office at 404-371-4745.

Thank you so much for your question, I hope my response has been helpful, and I look forward to continually working with each of you to make DeKalb County District 5, the best place to live, work and play.

Commissioner Lee May

DEKALB BUSINESS FORUM

The DeKalb Business Forum highlights local business providing the opportunity to gain exposure and possibly new customers. The forum provides the opportunity for the residents of DeKalb to DeKalb businesses, which will hopefully encourage residents to support businesses within our communities. The goal of the DeKalb Business Forum is to help keep the DeKalb's large and small business environment flourishing.

Have You Considered Catering Your Holiday Meal?

This is It BBQ (New Location)

Address	2853 Panola Road, Lithonia, GA
Phone	770-817-5400
Website	www.thisisitbbq.com
Services Offered	Catering, Restaurant, Banquet Room, Barbeque and Seafood

Let This Is It! cater your holiday event. Whether Thanksgiving Christmas, Fourth of July or Memorial Day - This Is It! catered holiday spreads will make any occasion special. All holiday packages feed up to 20 or more guests. Custom orders are welcomed. Go online for the catering menu, for details contact their corporate sales office at 678-817-7757.

Allied Visions Catering

Address	Hosea Williams Avenue, Decatur
Phone	678-508-1244
Website	www.alliedvisionscatering.com
Services Offered	Catering, Family Dinner, Lunch Delivery, Personal Chef, Custom Menus

Let Allied Visions cater your holiday event. Accomplished Head Chef, Adam Elliott, is classically trained from the Culinary Institute of America. With over 20 years of experience, Chef Adam has worked in some of the most renowned restaurants in the country. Allied Visions Catering provides delicious and quality food, courteous service at affordable prices. So relax this holiday and leave the hard work to Allied Visions Catering.

DEKALB AT A GLANCE

Youth Commissioner, Kristen Robinson, Named Miss Georgia Teen USA

Kristen Robinson is an exemplary DeKalb Youth. Recently Kristen was selected to participate as a Youth Commissioner due to her high scholastic achievement, extra-curricular involvement, hard work and dedication. With all of Kristen's accomplishments, she hasn't stopped there. She was recently crowned Miss Georgia Teen USA. Watch out for Kristen Robinson, I'm sure we'll be hearing her name again. To offer Kristen congratulations, or to contact her e-mail her at krissey.robinson5@gmail.com.

Below is Kristen's Biography:

Kristen Robinson is a senior at DeKalb School of the Arts High School in Avondale Estates, Georgia. In school she studies Broadcast Video Production and Dramatic Arts to prepare for her future career aspirations of becoming a Broadcast Journalist or News Anchor. And on November 20, 2010 Kristen was crowned Miss Georgia Teen USA 2011 making her the first African American contestant to be crowned. Kristen has worked diligently to stay competitive academically, as she currently obtains a cumulative grade point average of a 3.9. She also manages to counterbalance her academics with an extensive involvement in many extracurricular activities that include community service organizations such as the DeKalb County Youth Commission and so many others, broadcast production groups, internships, religious leadership



Youth Commissioner Kristen Robinson Named Miss Teen Georgia USA

groups, as well as a part time job. She has set goals to make an impact in her community and state during her reign by working with various DeKalb County organizations and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta just to name a few. Kristen understands what it means to be a well rounded individual and enjoys being involved. Her most noted accomplishment includes the founding of her own community service club and leadership club at school, *Club Impact*. The club serves as an outlet for all students to give back to their community, as they coin the phrase "*We will use our intelligence and social influence to impact the world.*" Apart from

her civic involvement Kristen also is extremely passionate about her career in journalism and has been granted so many opportunities to gain on camera as well as behind the scenes experience interviewing and shooting documentaries for community leaders as well as celebrities. Many will attest to Kristen's passion for service and love of the communicative arts, she is an ambitious young woman who is determined and destined for success. During her reign Kristen is dedicated to serving her community and state to the best of her ability because is so grateful for all the opportunities she has been granted.

DEKALB AT A GLANCE

Guide To Personal Safety During the Holidays

Safety Tips Courtesy of DeKalb County Police Department!

Implement Car Safety

In Your Garage

- Get in the car before raising the garage door.
- Close the door before getting out

In Your Carport

- Do not leave the vehicle running when unattended.
- Check around and inside vehicle before getting in it, then lock the doors
- Do not leave a purse on the seat while driving

At a Parking Lot

- Park in well lit areas.
- Do not leave any valuables in the car

When You're Out & About

Walking Around

- Walk with confidence
- Ladies: Carry your purse close
- Gentlemen: Avoid bulky wallets in the back pocket
- Do not allow your hands to be full

Using the ATM

- Avoid using outside machines at night
- Use caution at drive-up ATM

At Stores

- Observe the parking lot- avoid solicitors, suspicious and out of place persons
- Don't allow others to pump your gas

While Shopping Remember To

- Not carry large amounts of cash.
- Only carry the credit cards you plan to use
- Not flash cards or cash in crowded stores
- Limit the number of packages you carry
- Not leave packages visible in the car
- Move the car when continuing to shop

To Avoid Debit/Credit Card Fraud

- Always hand the cashier your card face down
- Cover the numbers with your finger/thumb
- Completely secure your cards and ID before leaving the store

LEGISLATIVE HAPPENINGS

Commissioner Lee May to Host Town Hall Meeting To Discuss Proposed Water and Sewer Increases

DeKalb County Commissioner Lee May will host a community meeting on **Monday, Dec. 13th** at the **Lou Walker Senior Center, 2538 Panola Road, Lithonia, Georgia** from **6:30 to 8 p.m.** to inform South DeKalb residents about CEO Burrell Ellis' proposal to again raise water and sewer rates in the county.



Commissioner May is always ready and willing to listen to his constituent's concerns.

In 2007, the DeKalb Commission approved a five-year plan to implement more than \$1.4 billion in upgrades to the county's aging water and sewer system. Rates increases have been approved through 2011. However, CEO Burrell Ellis is proposing even higher rate increases - 13 percent for each year in 2012, 2013 and 2014 to pay for more infrastructure improvements.

DeKalb County's staff will make a presentation on the county's water, sewer and infrastructure needs. Water-shed experts will identify capital improvements needed over the next five years to continue provide a safe water supply, ensure adequate fire protection and anticipate growth and development.

DeKalb County's staff will explain the repairs and upgrades needed in the water and sewer division, in order to preserve accessibility and maintain quality.

To find out more information about the water and sewer meeting, contact Commissioner May's office at 404-371-4745.

The meeting will provide an



SAVE THE DATE

DEC 14th

Regular BOC Meeting

Time: 9:00 AM

Where: Manuel J. Maloof Auditorium
1300 Commerce Drive
Decatur, GA 30030

DEC 18th

DeKalb County Public Library: 7

Principles of Kwanzaa Event

Time: 1:00PM-2:00PM

Where: Flat Shoals Library
4022 Flat Shoals PKWY
Decatur, GA 30034

DECEMBER

Quilting in the Heartland

Where: 5384 Manor Drive
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

This exhibition features quilt artists members of Cotton Boll Quilt Guild of Covington, Georgia. This group's purpose is to preserve the tradition, culture and history of quilting to future generations. Call 1866-633-5252, ext. 3342 for more information.

DEC 1st-JAN 2nd

Christmas at Stone Mountain

Time: 10:00AM-10:00PM

Where: Stone Mountain Park
1000 Robert E. Lee Drive
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Christmas comes to life during a Stone Mountain Christmas as Crossroads®, at the base of Stone Mountain, is decked out with more than two million lights.

Beginning DEC 11th

Snow Mountain (On Select Days)

Time: 10:00AM-10:00PM

Where: Stone Mountain Park
1000 Robert E. Lee Drive
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Take a Snow Day in Atlanta with acres of real snow, more than 20 slides and winter games at Stone Mountain Park.

DECEMBER

Winter Wonderland and Water Exhibit at Fernbank Museum of Natural History

Where: Fernbank Museum
767 Clifton Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30307

Call 1-866-633-5252, ext. 3354 for more information

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE MAY FAMILY



It is my prayer that this Holiday season is full of rest, peace and love for you and your entire family. Please, let's not forget the 'reason for the season'. From the May Family, we would like to wish you a Merry Christmas, & a Happy New Year! Thank you once again for reading our newsletter, and I look forward to working with you to help make DeKalb County District 5 the best place to live, work and play.

Lee N. May

Commissioner Lee N. May, District 5

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Visit Me At: [www.Facebook.com/commissionerleemay](https://www.facebook.com/commissionerleemay)

Or Follow Me At: [www.Twitter.com/LeeMay](https://www.twitter.com/LeeMay)