



Upcoming Events

Lake Lucerne Estates Civic Club Meeting

All area residents are encouraged to attend at the Clubhouse.

7:30 pm, Thursday, Mar 15

Easter Egg Hunt

Open to LLE Children of All Ages. To be held at a time to be determined on the grounds of the Clubhouse.

2:00 pm, Saturday Mar 31

Spring Clean-Up

Help keep your neighborhood looking sharp by joining others as we spruce up for Spring!

10:00 am, Saturday, Apr 21

Neighborhood Yard Sale

Got Stuff? Get Cash! LLECC announces the first-ever LLE Neighborhood-wide Yard Sale! Come to the March LLECC meeting to help plan and fine tune the details.

8:00 am, Saturday, Apr 28

Lake Lucerne Estates Civic Club Meeting

All area residents are encouraged to attend at the Clubhouse.

7:30 pm, Thursday, May 17

*Happy St Patrick's
Day!*

Dog-Gone-It: It's The Law!

Picture this: You're out for a leisurely stroll when suddenly, a barking dog comes rushing at you. In a few seconds you have to try to determine if the dog is just running over to say hello or if he is coming at you to defend his territory. Does he simply want to say, "Hello"? Or is he trying to take a 'bite out of crime'? Does the dog live nearby or is it a stray that has wandered into the neighborhood? Should you run? Or is it better to stand your ground?

It's a situation you should never have to encounter here in Lake Lucerne Estates. Gwinnett County regulations state that it is unlawful for any dog owner to fail to keep their dog under restraint or control. And just so we're clear, a dog is considered "not under restraint or control" when it is running at large, whether wearing a collar

and tag or not. Fines can be costly, so it's important for everyone to be clear on the rules.

First and foremost: reasonable care and precautions must be taken to prevent the dog from leaving the property limits of its owner and to ensure that:

(1) It is securely and humanely enclosed within a house, building, fence, pen or other enclosure out of which it cannot climb, dig, jump, or otherwise escape on its own volition, and that such enclosure is securely locked at any time the animal is left unattended; or

(2) It is securely and humanely restrained by an invisible containment system (i.e. an invisible fence.) If using an invisible containment system, a sign must

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Free Tax Return Preparation for Qualifying Taxpayers

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax help to people who generally make \$54,000 or less, persons with disabilities and limited English speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns. IRS-certified volunteers provide free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals.

In addition to VITA, the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) program offers free tax help for all taxpayers, particularly those who are 60 years of age and older, specializing in questions about pensions and retirement-related issues unique to seniors. The IRS-certified volunteers who provide tax counseling are often retired individuals associated with non-profit organizations that receive grants from the IRS.

Before going to a VITA or TCE site, see Publication 3676-B for

services provided and check out the What to Bring page at the IRS website (www.IRS.gov) to ensure you have all the required documents and information that the volunteers will need to help you. Also note



that available services can vary at each site due to the availability of volunteers certified with the tax law expertise required for your return.

VITA and TCE sites are generally located at community and neigh-

borhood centers, libraries, schools, shopping malls and other convenient locations across the country. To locate the nearest VITA or TCE site near you, use the VITA Locator Tool at www.IRS.gov or call 800-906-9887.

When looking for a TCE site keep in mind that a majority of the TCE sites are operated by the AARP Foundation's Tax Aide program. To locate the nearest AARP TCE Tax-Aide site between January and April use the AARP Site Locator Tool or call 888-227-7669.

At select tax sites, taxpayers also have an option to prepare their own basic federal and state tax return for free using Web-based tax preparation software with an IRS-certified volunteer to help guide you through the process. This option is only available at locations that list "Self-Prep" in the site listing.

Just Who Was St. Patrick, Anyway?

On March 17th, folks without one drop of Irish blood in their veins will suddenly be drinking green beer and wearing buttons that say, "Kiss Me! I'm Irish" in celebration of a man who died over 1500 years ago. While much of his life is shrouded in myth and mystery, we do know a little about the man better known as St. Patrick.

It is believed that he was born in Roman Britain in the fourth century, into a wealthy Romano-British family. His father was a deacon and his grandfather was a priest in

the Christian church. At the age of sixteen, he was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken as a slave to Gaelic Ireland.

He spent six years in Ireland working as a shepherd and during this time he "found God". Eventually, Patrick fled to the coast, where he found a ship that would take him home. After making his way home, Patrick went on to become a priest.

According to legend, Patrick returned to Ireland to convert the

pagan Irish to Christianity, using the three-leaved clover to explain the concept of the Holy Trinity. In pagan Ireland, three was a significant number and the Irish had many triple deities, a fact that may have aided St Patrick in his evangelisation efforts. Early writings say that he spent many years evangelising in the northern half of Ireland and converted "thousands". Tradition holds that he died on 17 March and was buried at Downpatrick. Over the following centuries, many legends grew up around Patrick and he became Ireland's foremost saint.

Dog-Gone-It: It's the Law!

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be posted on the property indicating that the system is in place; or

(3) It is on a leash and under the control of a competent person, or it is off leash and obedient to and under voice command of a competent person who is in the immediate proximity of the dog any time it is not restrained as provided for in subsection (1) or (2) above while on the owner's property.

If a dog is in the home or yard, he must not be able to dig out, and or jump over the fence. He must not be able to escape the home at any time. The property has to be secure and safe for the dog to stay inside the home or fenced area. If a dog is tethered outside, the owner has to be present and cannot leave the dog outside unsupervised on the tether. The fine for having a loose dog is up to \$1,000 depending on the number of citations that dog owner has had and/or the severity of the dog's behavior while off-leash.

But even worse that the expensive fine is the emotional cost of losing a beloved furry, four-footed family member to a fatal injury caused by a passing motorist or wounds caused by a fight with a neighbor's pet.

So, if your household includes one or more canine members, please do your part to keep them safe from harm and yourself safe from fines. At the same time, you'll be helping to ensure that Lake Lucerne Estates remains a safe and wonderful place to live and play!

For more information, visit: www.gwinnettcountry.com/portal/gwinnett/Departments/CommunityServices/AnimalWelfareEnforcement

Hold Your Next
Special Event

at the

Lake Lucerne Estates Clubhouse!

*Special Discounted Rates for
Members of the LLECC*

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Lake Lucerne Business Directory

COMPANY	CONTACT	PHONE	WEBSITE/EMAIL	SERVICES
Keller Williams Realty Metro Atl	Tony Nastri	404.333.8669	TalkToTonyAtl.com TonyNastri@KW.com	Residential and commercial real estate services
Little Lake Event, LLC	Alisa Walsh MB Strickland	770.558.2904	LittleLakeEvent.com	Graduation, birthday, wedding, and other events
Onebark Consulting Arborist	Jesse Milton	678.344.6948	OneBark.com	Tree assessment, tree risk and health, landscape inspections
Solutions	Rick McElearney	404.563.3277	yodarick@gmail.com.	Electrical, plumbing and carpentry diagnostics and repair
Trim Services, LLC	Steve Hammond	678.973.4954	Trim-Services.com Contact@Trim-Services.com	Interior and exterior home painting

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Lake Lucerne flags are now on sale.**



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Pick up yours at the next LLECC meeting!