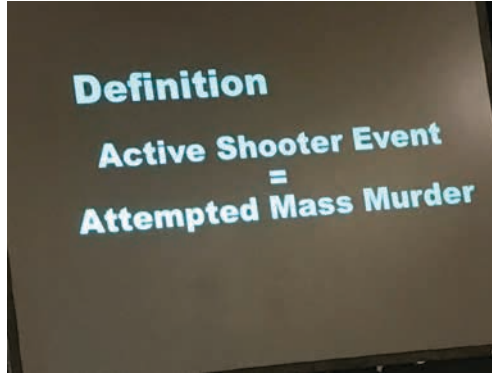




Clarkston Police's Lt. Harry Hess informs Active Shooter Awareness Class attendees about survival tactics and law enforcement preparedness.



During the Active Shooter Awareness Class a definition is given as to what is an Active Shooter Event.



Active Shooter Awareness Class attendees listen to Lt. Hess as he tells them about the Avoid/Deny/Defend tips and strategies.

Surviving an Active Shooter, Threat Event

By Lt. Harry Hess, Clarkston Police Department

Active Shooter events have increased in the past years and have become deadlier. The five most deadly Active Shooter events in the United States have occurred since 2007, and are as follows:

- *Las Vegas, NV country music festival on 10/01/2017 – 58 killed*
- *Orlando, FL Pulse Night Club on 06/12/2016 – 49 killed*
- *Blacksburg, VA Virginia Tech on 04/16/2007 – 32 killed*
- *Newtown, CT Sandy Hook Elementary on 12/14/2012 – 27 killed*
- *Sutherland Springs, TX Sutherland Springs Church on 11/05/2017 – 26 killed*

With recent, relative to the publishing of this edition of “Connections” newsletter, shootings including Parkland, FL, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School where 17 people were killed.

In looking at the above list of the deadliest Active Shooter events, note where they occurred; an outdoor music festival, a night club, a church, a college campus, and an elementary and high school. There have been Active Shooter events, not listed above, in malls, shipping distribution centers, work places and military recruitment centers to name a few. In other words, these types of shootings can occur anywhere and at any time of the day.

What can you expect and what can you do if you find yourself in one of these events?

AVOID, DENY, DEFEND

First, you must understand what your body will experience and how that may affect your chances of survival ability. In any stressful event your body will naturally increase your heart rate which will cause increased breathing. This could, if not controlled, cause hyperventilation.

Knowing how to control your breathing, and breaking tunnel vision, will increase your ability to get out of the situation.

Second, you need to avoid the area and get out of the area if possible. Knowing your escape routes and your surroundings is key to this step.

Third, if you find yourself in a situation and are unable to avoid the area, you need to find an area to deny entry to the suspect.

Finally, if you are unable to avoid the area and you have found an area where you can deny entry to the suspect, you must prepare to defend yourself. Just because you don't have a weapon does not mean it's over.

Continued on page 4



Chronology of the New American Celebration

By Terry Sanders

March 15, 2018, started early, very early for New American Celebration participants and attendees. After being picked up in Clarkston, at the Community Center, by a Coalition of Refugees Service Agencies (CRSA) van, the journey to the Catholic Shrine of the Immaculate Conception began.

Upon arrival to the Catholic Shrine, attendees were asked to check-in, and to grab a number, that was explained during the program, from a basket on the check-in table. During check-in, time was allotted for networking with participants and attendees before the Kick-off Event, program, begins.

The Kick-off Event started with a welcome and introduction to CRSA by Emily Laney, CRSA Chair. Speakers and presenters on the program included Iman SH Salahadin Wazir, State Rep. Bee Nguyen, Stephanie Jackson Ali and Mustafa Alsaeedi, a refugee, Georgia State University (GSU) student, and Operations Specialist at Friends of Refugees.

At the end of the program, attendees were asked to form groups according to the number they selected at check-in. As soon as all members joined the groups, their team leader provided instructions to execute the distribution of CRSA materials to legislative offices in the Coverdell Office Building and Georgia State Capitol. Each group was assigned specific State Representatives to drop off CRSA materials.

Tagging along with Group #12, led by Nicholas Barker, Case Manager, Lutheran Services, they left the

Catholic Shrine of the Immaculate Conception to walk to the State Capitol. Before being escorted to the State Capitol, each team member was required to go through security check points and screenings.

Having successfully passed security measures, and upon entering the Capitol, groups dispersed to take elevators to their respective assigned legislators offices to drop off the CRSA materials. Group #12 assigned legislators included Rep. Sheila Clark Nelson, Rep. Bill McGowan and Rep. Renitta Shannon. As expected, because the House was in session, none of the assigned legislators were in their office.

Next, all of the groups got back together to take a massive group shot on the staircase in the atrium of the Capitol. Every square foot of the staircase and breezeway was occupied with New American Celebration, an estimated 200 - 300, attendees and participants.

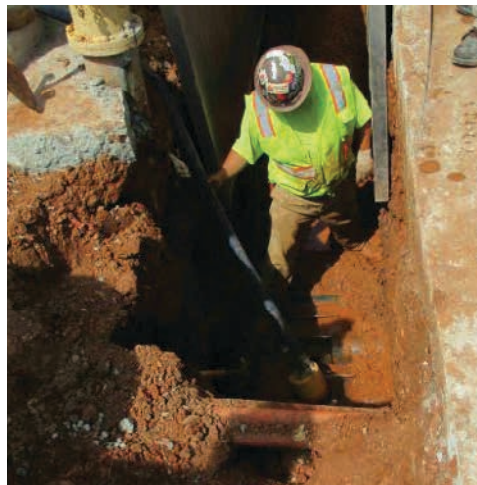
With group shots taken from as many angles as possible, groups reformed to do action filled-Legislative Outreach. Using the Page System, group leaders requested, via a form delivered by a Page, that legislators step outside of their chambers to come and speak with CRSA representatives comprised of New American Celebration participants and attendees.

Group #12 was successful in getting to speak with all three of the legislators that were requested to meet with them. During these informal and impromptu outreach discussions, CRSA representatives attempted to garner support for their advocacy on behalf of refugees and immigrants, now known as New Americans.





As water main construction continues in Clarkston, DeKalb County's Watershed Management continues to adjust traffic flows and management.



In the trenches, is where the County's workers have been since August 2017 in making Water Main relocations in the city of Clarkston.



Entering the final phase of the Clarkston Streetscape Water Main Relocation Project, traffic detours and control will continue to impact drivers in Clarkston.

Detours and Traffic Shifts Planned for DeKalb Watershed Management Water Main Installation Project

By DeKalb County Watershed Management

The DeKalb County Department of Watershed Management (DWM) urges motorists to use caution when driving on East Ponce de Leon Avenue between I-285 and Market Street as work begins on the final phase of the Clarkston Streetscape Water Main Relocation Project.

Under construction since August 2017, the Clarkston Streetscape Water Main project is designed to improve water and fire service to the City of Clarkston by replacing nearly 8,000 linear feet of existing water mains that have reached or exceeded their average useful service lives. As part of the project, new ductile iron pipe, water meters, hydrants, backflow preventer devices and service lines to the new mains are being installed along portions of East Ponce de Leon Avenue, Market Street, Rowland Street and Norman Road.

DWM reports that project contractor Layne Inliner, Inc., has installed more than 3,000 feet of water pipe and completed service tie-ins on Norman Road, Rowland Street and Market Street. Though delayed due to unforeseen permitting issues, the most impactful water main installation on East Ponce de Leon Avenue is now underway.

Expect an increase in heavy equipment traffic on East Ponce de Leon Avenue between Interstate 285 and Market Street. In addition, there will be temporary one-lane closures along the project route, which may cause traffic delays. Traffic safety and control measures are in effect to assist drivers in moving safely and orderly through the construction zone. Detours and police direction also will be implemented in April and June when work reaches the Mell Avenue and North Indian Creek Drive intersections.

Drivers are urged to observe lane restrictions and pay close attention to "caution" signs and traffic control personnel during construction hours. Clarkston residents directly impacted by lane closures or restricted driveway access associated with the work will be notified by letter, door hanger or personal visit at least 72 hours in advance.

Normal work hours are from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on weekdays, excluding major holidays. However, in some instances, there may be night, weekend or expanded weekday hours associated with this project. Originally scheduled for completion at the end of April 2018, the construction is now expected to last through August 2018, with work on the City of Clarkston's Streetscape project to continue beyond that date.

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Continued from Front Cover page

These are just a few of the tips aimed at increasing your survivability if you find yourself in any stressful incident.

For more information about increasing your survivability, everyone is urged to attend a Citizen Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE)/Active Shooter Awareness Class in your area.

Clarkston Police Department has conducted two Active Shooter Awareness classes, on December 6, 2017 and March 28, 2018.

Dates and times for more Active Shooter Awareness Classes, conducted by Clarkston Police Department, will be determined and communicated via the City of Clarkston's website, social media platforms and local media outlets.

Spring Has Sprung, and Cleaning Has Begun!



7 Spring-Cleaning Tips Check out these ways to make the yearly chore less of a chore.

- If spring is in the air, don't let a musty house spoil it. Here are seven tips for giving the season the welcome it deserves.
1. The best refrigerator cleaner is a combination of salt and soda water. The bubbling action of the soda water combines with the abrasive texture of the salt to make a great cleaner.
 2. The best way to get rid of lime buildup around the faucet is to lay paper towels over the fixture, soak it with vinegar and let it set for an hour. The deposits will soften and become easier to remove.
 3. Clean screens with a scrap of carpeting. It makes a powerful brush that removes all the dirt.
 4. Clean windows with a rag and soapy water, and then dry them with another rag. You can also go to an auto-parts store and buy a windshield squeegee, which cleans very well.
 5. If drapes are looking drab, take them out of the window, remove the hooks and run them through the air-fluff cycle in the dryer along with a wet towel (to draw off the dust) for 15 minutes. Hang them back in the windows immediately.
 6. Clean the blades of a ceiling fan by covering them with a coat of furniture polish. Wipe off the excess and lightly buff.
 7. Sometimes comforters, blankets and pillows don't need to be cleaned, but they do need to be aired out after a long winter in your closed-up home. Take them outside and hang them on a clothesline for a day.

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Dr. Heval Kelli never misses an opportunity in Clarkston to give back, to lend his medical expertise to all for the asking and for inspiring others in coming from a humble beginning, as a Syrian Kurdish refugee dish washer, to becoming a renowned Emory Cardiologist. He gave the City of Clarkston's radio show, *Clarkston Speaks, audience heart health information and advice during the "Heart Smart Healthcare" episode. Partnering with Clarkston's CDF, Dr. Heval spearheads and participates in the "Walk With A Doc" healthcare series aimed at getting Clarkston residents moving in a better health direction, one step at a time. In paying it forward, Dr. Kelli started the Young Physicians Initiative (YPI) program at Clarkston High School. This groundbreaking, pre-med program gives hands-on experience to students whose future goals are pursuing a position within the medical profession. These High School students' diagnosis real medical cases presented by practicing physicians during YPI sessions, at a medical school Resident level. And he maintains relationships with students and fellow Morehouse School of Medicine alumni.

**All episodes of Clarkston Speaks can be heard online at Sagal Radio, www.sagalradio.org and by downloading the Sagal Radio app to listen on any mobile device.*

People & Places



The City of Clarkston (CoC) takes its seat at tables with communications professionals in DeKalb County and throughout the state of Georgia. DeKalb County Communicators group formation and continuation, is due to the success of working together to pass the SPLOST (Special Local Option Sales Tax) referendum and historic collaboration between all twelve cities in DeKalb County. And in efforts to bring greater awareness of communications goals, methods, plans, deployment and actions, the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) has implemented the Georgia Government Communicators alliance.



*Conversations With Council, a radio show series co-produced and driven by Clarkston City Council members, made its production debut on February 23, 2018 with Councilman Jaime Carroll serving as Co-Executive Producer, along with the City of Clarkston, and as host for his episode entitled, “Clarkston & Housing”. Next up to the mic on March 16, 2018, was Councilwoman Andrea Cervone, as Co-Executive Producer and host of her episode of Conversations With Council, with guests lending their voice to the topic, “City Marketing & Civic Engagement”.

**All episodes of Conversations With Council can be heard online at Sagal Radio, www.sagalradio.org and by downloading the Sagal Radio app to listen on any mobile device.*

Clarkston City Manager, Keith Barker attended and presented at the Creative Placemaking Leadership Summit. This Southeastern conference focuses on creative placemaking, defined as an evolving field of practice that intentionally leverages the power of the arts, culture and creativity to serve a community's interest while driving a broader agenda for change, growth and transformation in a way that also builds character and quality of place.



Clarkston City Council and City of Clarkston (CoC) Administrative Staff attend and conducts an actions-forward, topics driven and consensus building Council Retreat. The City Council members, with input and recommendations from City staff, determined and devised course of actions related to existing and future-state policies, ordinances and legislative procedures and processes. Keith Barker, Clarkston City Manager, was the facilitator during the retreat.



Recognitions



Sandra Hines, City of Clarkston Code Official has received a Stormwater Certification; making her a certified Stormwater Inspector. In this role she will be conducting inspections to ensure compliance to Stormwater regulations, codes and to provide assistance with industrial construction.

Specific inspections done by Hines to enforce Stormwater compliance by business owners and operators include, but are not limited to, inspections of grease traps and other FOG (Fats/Oils/Grease) codes, construction sites to make sure that building debris, sediments aren't being put into drainage pipes, that there is proper run-off, if any, that in-code fencing is up around and installed on construction sites, to make sure that dirt and rocks being removed from construction sites, are not left in the streets in Clarkston.

All inspections are done to prevent harmful waste from entering water pipes and drains that go into waterways impacting the quality and quantity of drinking water.



Former Clarkston City Councilman Dean Moore was recognized by the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) and the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government in bestowing the Robert E. Knox Municipal Leadership award during the March 6, 2018 City Council meeting.

Moore successfully completed a series of government leadership courses to earn this award certification.



The City of Clarkston recognized two of its own, Eddie Sam Carlson, Public Works, Equipment Operator and Tracy Ashby, City of Clarkston Clerk, for 20 years of service. According to City Manager, Keith Barker, there was some confusion as to the number of City employees, because Carlson is called and referred to by both his first and middle names. Barker in presenting Carlson with his award clarified the reason for the name confusion and why Carlson was being honored, "...he did so much work that they gave him two names..."

"When you get to 20 years, it is no longer considered just a job, but it is a passion," said Ashby, when asked what defines her 20 years of service and dedication to the city of Clarkston. During her 20-year tenure with the City, Ashby has issued countless Business and Alcohol licenses, processed every Open Records Requests and oversees all Clarkston city elections in coordination and collaboration with DeKalb County. In addition, Tracy's duties and responsibilities include coordinating the creation and distribution of City Council meetings agendas and minutes. She also maintains official City records, contracts, ordinances, resolutions, agreements and Clarkston's Code of Ordinances.



Clarkston City Manager, Keith Barker, read the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) Resolution into the records, officially documenting the City of Clarkston's inaugural participation in GMA's Georgia Cities Week, April 22-28, 2018.

Georgia Cities Week gives cities an opportunity to share information about the valuable services cities provide to residents and how cities positively impact their quality of life. The week is also an opportunity to celebrate community achievements and recognize volunteers and city employees.

If all goes as planned, the City of Clarkston (CoC) will take its show-on-the-road with "City of Clarkston on Display" exhibition to various Community Partner locations, e.g., local schools, Clarkston Community Center and DeKalb-Clarkston Library, and ending the week at Clarkston Culture Festival, during this weeklong celebration.

City administration, staff and elected officials will be invited to make appearances at each of the confirmed locations.

The public will be asked to visit the "City of Clarkston on Display" exhibition, at a location near them, to make Georgia Cities Week (April 22-28,) 2018, "Cities in the Spotlight!" a week to remember in Clarkston!



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Premier Indoor Comfort - 770-345-9707

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Closet Organization

Closet Designs & More - 678-392-4597

Flooring

Floor Coverings International
Northeast Atlanta - 404-891-0249
Select Floors Roswell - 770-299-1008

Home Services/Handyman

Mister Ladder - 678-792-5844

Home Theater/Automation

Atlanta Audio & Automation
404-602-0559

Mountain/Lake Properties

Lake Arrowhead Realty - 770-720-2700

Outdoor Kitchen/Fireplaces/Gas Logs

The Mad Hatter - 770-740-8133

Painting

Painting Plus - 404-382-9988

Plumbing

Plumb Pros - 770-384-1886
Serv'All - 770-917-1852

Roofing/Gutters/Siding

IBG, LLC - 770-966-9846
Sentinel Exteriors - 404-631-6439

Tankless Water Heaters

Premier Indoor Comfort - 770-345-9707

Save The Dates In 2018!

Clarkston Culture Festival Planning Committee Meetings



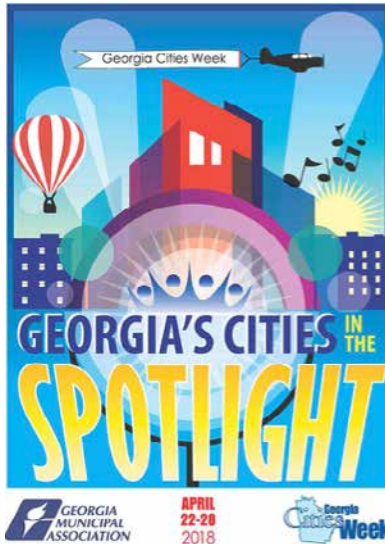
Planning Committee meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the Clarkston's Woman's Club

Remaining meeting dates:

- April 12, 2018
- May 20, 2018 (2018 Wrap up & 2019 Planning Kickoff Meeting)

Clarkston Culture Festival April 28, 2018

Georgia Municipal Association, Georgia Cities Week April 22-28, 2018



Walk with a Doctor April 29, 2018

Come & Walk with a Doctor Take a step toward better health

CDF Action, Dr. Heval Kelli (Emory Cardiology), Clarkston First Baptist Church, and Al Tamyoz invite you to join us for a **WALK** in Clarkston

- Learn about health and ask questions.
- Meet new people and **our refugee friends**.
- Everyone can join.

When?

Sunday, April 29
2:30 pm
One hour walk

Where?

Clarkston First Baptist Church Parking Lot
3999 Church St, Clarkston, GA 30021

We will walk the Trail together.
Walk is postponed in case of rain

Contact Us
roberta@cdfaction.org



Diabetes Fun Walk May 5, 2018



2nd Annual FOCUS ON THE FAMILY **DIABETES FUN WALK** SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2018 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Exchange Park Recreation Center
Intergenerational Family Center
2771 Columbia Dr., Decatur, GA 30034



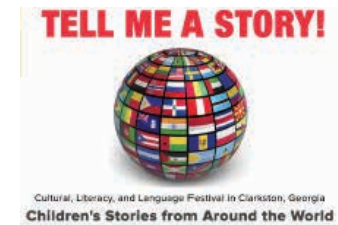
REGISTRATION starts at 8:00 A.M. | **WALK starts at 9:00 A.M.**

Free event! Fun for entire family!

To register for the walk, go to <http://bit.ly/diabeteswalk2018>.
For more information, contact John C. Riley at (678) 310-4432.



Tell Me A Story! Festival Saturday, May 12, 2018



Cultural, Literacy, and Language Festival in Clarkston, Georgia
Children's Stories from Around the World

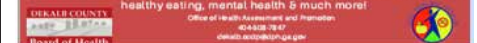
DeKalb County Board of Health Men's Health Fair Saturday, June 9, 2018



DeKalb County Board of Health **STRONG4Family** Men's Health & Wellness Fair Saturday, June 9, 2018

Noon - 4 p.m.
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
495 N. Indian Creek Dr., Clarkston, Ga 30021

Activities to include:
Kids' Zone | Fitness and Cooking Demonstrations | Health Screenings | Seminars | Door Prizes | Giveaways
Information on fatherhood, diabetes, cancer, high blood pressure, exercise, healthy eating, mental health & much more!





Clarkston's National Night Out

August 7, 2018

WHAT IS NATIONAL NIGHT OUT?

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August (Texas celebrates on the first Tuesday in October). Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and much, much more.



DeKalb County GEORGIA

DeKalb Hiring Summer Lifeguards

DeKalb County Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs is hiring lifeguards for the 2018 swimming season. Applications are open through July.

Pool lifeguard applicants must be 16 or older, have American Red Cross certification or certification from a nationally-recognized aquatics training program and successfully pass a criminal background check. To view available positions or complete an application, visit DeKalb County's job search portal by visiting www.dekalbcountyga.gov, clicking on "How Do I?" and selecting "Apply for Jobs."

For more information, contact LaShanda Davis, public relations specialist, at 404-371-3643

DeKalb Works Kicks Off Summer Youth Employment Program

DeKalb County CEO Michael Thurmond and the Board of Commissioners are partnering again with WorkSource DeKalb to launch the 2018 DeKalb Works Summer Youth Employment Pro-

gram. Applications for internship seekers and worksites open Wednesday, March 14.

The six-week program runs from June 4 through July 27. DeKalb residents ages 14 to 24 are invited to apply for the program at www.dekalbcountyga.gov/dekalbworks. Interns will be paid \$9 per hour.

For additional information about applying for an internship, contact WorkSource DeKalb Youth Services at wsdyouth@dekalbcountyga.gov or 404-687-3400. Applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

WorkSource DeKalb also is seeking worksites for interns. With DeKalb Works, WorkSource DeKalb will provide intern training prior to the start of work assignments and cover all intern payroll and workers' compensation. To begin the application, visit www.dekalbcountyga.gov/dekalbworks. Additional documentation and directions will be sent for completion.

For information about becoming a worksite, contact Bea White at bbwhite@dekalbcountyga.gov or 404-371-2627.

WorkSource DeKalb is an EEO/M/F/D/V employer/program. Auxiliary aids/services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Persons with hearing impairments may call 1-800-255-0135 or 711 (TTY) for assistance. WorkSource DeKalb is fully funded by the U.S. Department of Labor and is a proud partner of the American Job Center Network.

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helpanimals@ourpalsplace.org




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