

August 6, 2015

‘Mighty6 Conversations’ focuses on children and youth

Beginning Monday, Aug. 17, on FGTV and on the Web (YouTube), Commissioner Emma I. Darnell has an important conversation with Tony Phillips, director, Fulton County Dept. of Parks & Recreation, on the state of Fulton County’s children and youth.

“Who Cares? Who Really Cares?” Marvin Gaye’s classic question was used as the theme for a conversation which covered vital Department programs including the Summer Camp Program and the After School Program.

“It is well known that children have a high priority in this community,” Darnell stated. “It is important to disseminate and receive information about what we can do together inside and outside the government to have a greater impact upon the growth and development of the children,” she said.

Featuring the Department’s partnerships with community groups including the Atlanta Hawks and the Future Seekers nonprofit organization, Phillips also described a Parks Upgrade Program which provides new playground equipment at 12 parks and recreation centers including Welcome All Park, Creel Park and Burdette Park.

‘Mighty6 Conversations’ may be viewed on FGTV on Comcast Cable. AT&T U-Verse customers can watch it on Channel 99 (and click on Fulton County). [The program is also available on-demand. Click here to watch it now on the County’s YouTube channel.](#)



LEFT: Boys and girls enjoy a game of basketball at Burdette Gym. RIGHT: Commissioner Darnell gets a hug from a child at Sandtown Recreation Center.

Commission denies Kroger application for fuel center at Cascade Road/I-285 store

At its Wednesday, August 5, meeting, the Board of Commissioners denied a zoning modification application requested by Kroger to allow it to install a fuel center on the property at Cascade Road near I-285.

It was the third time the Board heard the matter in recent months. A final public hearing was held immediately before the Board voted on the request.

“This has to be about balancing the needs and interests of ALL citizens,” said Commissioner Emma I. Darnell, who represents the area. “It is not about where YOU live, or where YOU shop. It is about who will be the most impacted.”

“It is necessary that we balance the interest of seniors on fixed incomes who live five miles or more from the site and who can benefit from lower gasoline prices with the interests of seniors who would live next door and across the street from gas pumps.”

At the BOC’s July meeting, Darnell made the motion to deny the application. A substitute motion by Commissioner John Eaves to hold the matter was approved.

On August 5, on a motion by Eaves, seconded by Darnell, the motion to deny was approved. **Voting YES**, to deny the application: Marvin Arrington, Emma Darnell, John Eaves, Joan Garner. **Voting NO**: Elizabeth Hausmann, Lee Morris. **Abstaining**: Bob Ellis.

MIGHTY6 QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“In the analysis of traffic-stop data to be used by a law-enforcement agency for “racial-profiling” reports, the overall demographics of the jurisdiction should not be considered a reliable benchmark.”

—Office of Community-Oriented Policing (COPS)
U.S. Department of Justice

On Page 2: Mighty Moments at Devonshire HOA; District 6 residents and leaders celebrate “National Night Out” and the Mighty6 Calendar of Events.

Darnell joins District 6 residents in promoting crime prevention at annual “National Night Out”

On Tuesday evening, August 4, more than 250 residents came together for a night of learning, entertainment and healthy fun at Fulton County’s “National Night Out.” The event, sponsored by the Fulton County Police Department, is tied to similar celebrations conducted by other agencies and communities across the country in the “America’s Night Out Against Crime” campaign to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness.

Held at the 112 Mega-Plex, 5495 Old National Hwy., in College Park, the year’s program was hosted by nationally-recognized comedian and Master of Ceremony—M.C. Lightfoot. Also on hand were members of the Atlanta Dream WNBA Basketball Team, to encourage youth and to join in the partnership of building stronger and safer communities.

“Residents of District 6 have told us over and over again, that public safety, especially police protection, is a priority,” said Commissioner Emma I. Darnell.

“We are increasing our focus and attention in this area of our responsibility—both police presence and police response time,” Darnell said.

Each year police officers share information with residents about ways to reduce crime, through crime-prevention activities involving police-community coordination.

“National Night Out is a priority for our Department because it is about community and neighborhoods—making them safer places to live,” said Interim Police Chief Gary Stiles.

Other agencies who participated included the Sheriff’s Office, Marshal’s Department, Office of Behavioral Health Services, Dept. of Health and Wellness and the Fire Rescue Dept.



Corporal Jennifer Jones gives a young girl the feel of the police helicopter pilot seat at “National Night Out.”

Darnell shares Mighty Moments with members of Devonshire HOA

On Monday, August 3, residents and homeowners of the Devonshire community shared their concerns with Commissioner Emma I. Darnell. Captain Hattie Cotton-Tukes of the Fulton County Police Department was also present to respond to questions about the high crime rate in the area.

Introduced by Devonshire HOA President Cynthia Ross, Commissioner Darnell gave the residents an update on the status of projects related to police response time, trash and litter pickup, youth services, senior services and other priority areas which have been identified by District 6 residents.

“Fulton County’s revenues in Unincorporated South Fulton were hit hard by the North Fulton incorporations, followed by the Great Recession,” Darnell stated. “However, slowly, we are on our way back. The record shows that notwithstanding the difficulties, South Fulton neighborhoods will not only survive—but thrive. We were able to increase the budgets for additional patrol officers, code inspectors and building inspectors in the FY2015 Budget. We also, set aside funds to begin a ‘Parks Upgrade Project’ that will provide new playground equipment at 12 parks. We plan to go further in FY2016.”

Several residents completed the District 6 County Services/Access (Customer Satisfaction) Survey.

[Click here to take the survey.](#)



Interim Police Chief Gary Stiles, Commissioner Darnell and M.C. Lightfoot after receiving Police Department Certificates of Appreciation at “National Night Out.”

23rd Annual “Back to School Jam 2015”

Friday, August 7, 10 a.m.

Sponsored by State Rep. Sharon Beasley-Teague
Clarence Duncan Park, 6000 Rivertown Rd.
Fairburn, GA 30213

Annual Back to School Health and Resource Fair

Saturday, August 8, 11 a.m.

Sponsored by Maximum Impact Love
4115 Fulton Industrial Boulevard, Atlanta, GA 30336

Fulton County Housing Authority Back to School Extravaganza

Saturday, August 8, 12 p.m.

4273 Wendell Drive, Atlanta, GA 30333

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Mighty6

TOGETHER, GETTING IT DONE!

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