

COLUMN ■ COMMUNITY EVENTS

# Fix Georgia Pets invites all to have Cocktails for Canines

Fix Georgia Pets invites animal lovers to gather Tuesday for the Cocktails for Canines evening as pet lover **Tony Conway** hosts a cocktail benefit to recruit financial support at his event space, The Estate on Piedmont Road in Buckhead. **Eileen Gordon** is serving as the honorary chair.

The social toast to Fix Georgia Pets' success is planned to inspire and lay the groundwork to further the statewide mission of spaying and neutering animals.

The Atlanta-based nonprofit coordinates and funds low-cost spay and neuter programs in an ongoing effort to end the epidemic crisis of overpopulation of neglected dogs and cats.

Fix Georgia Pets was inspired and founded by animal advocates **Ginny Millner** and **Rubye Reid** in 2012. It utilizes dedicated volunteers, veterinarians, animal shelters and rescue organizations who have joined in the preventive mission to reduce the number of homeless Georgia animals that are abused and euthanized every year.

The state kills more than 300,000 cats and dogs annually in shelters, costing taxpayers more than \$50,000.

With the help of dedicated co-founder and **Rubye Reid** and her growing corps of volunteer ambassadors, the organization has organized spay/neuter days and negotiated low-cost sterilization clinics for feral animals while assisting people who care for their pets but cannot afford the cost. This year, partnering with Planned PETHood, LifeLine Animal Project, Rescue Ranch and dedicated veterinarians, Fix Georgia Pets has funded more than 3,000 sterilizations to help alleviate the growing crisis.

**Tickets and information:** (770) 596-7026 (information only) or [www.fixgeorgiapets.org](http://www.fixgeorgiapets.org)



Join the 24th annual Atlanta Humane Society Pet Parade, bring along your four-legged friend or just take a human walk to make a difference for homeless animals.

Set for Nov. 1 at Garrard Landing Park in Roswell, the 1.5-mile parade is organized to generate public awareness and raise funds for the society's homeless animals programs. Registration starts at 9 a.m. and opening ceremonies begin at 10:45 a.m.

This year's parade will have two celebrity guests — the Atlanta Falcons cornerback **Robert McClain** and Rosebud restaurant chef

**Ron Eyester**, who is on the current season of Bravo's "Top Chef." CBS 46 anchor **Jocelyn Connell** is the emcee.

No vehicles will be allowed in the parade. Water stations will be provided along the route for people and their pets and a veterinarian will be in attendance for emergencies.

Funds generated from registrations and team sponsorships will support the 140-year-old nonprofit society's shelter programs and the needy animals they serve. There are no time limits on adoptable animals and the society spays and neuters all of its pets. More than 70,000 of the society's homeless animals were adopted into loving homes from 2000 to 2014.

**Registration and information:** (404) 974-2819 or [www.atlantahumane.org/events/pet-parade](http://www.atlantahumane.org/events/pet-parade) or [www.atlantapetparade.org](http://www.atlantapetparade.org)



The classic children's novel "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz," penned by Frank Baum in 1900, will be interpreted as the enchanting theme and meaningful allegory for patients' journeys at Shepherd Center during the 26th annual Legendary Party Nov. 1 at the Ritz-Carlton in Buckhead.

Costumed characters from the well-known book along with a Yellow Brick Road carpet will add to the evening's magical décor. The heroine Dorothy will symbolize the center patient who finds herself far from home, the Scarecrow is the brilliant center staff, the Cowardly Lion shares the courage and the Tin Man is the heart, embodying the generosity of center supporters, said party chair **Cecilia Wright**.

**Lou Brown Jewell**, who for three decades has unflinchingly devoted her energies and philanthropy to Shepherd, will be saluted as the event's honorary chair.

Patron committee co-chairs are **Elizabeth and Carl Allen** and Dr. **Sandra and George Fryhofer**. The ladies and gentlemen's committee co-chairs are **Faye and John Donaldson** and **Tish and Willis Lanier**.

The 2014 event will benefit the center's residential housing program, enabling up to 87 families to be nearby during rehabilitation where patients learn to re-adapt to a home environment. The main residential facility encompasses 87,000 square feet, features wheelchair-accessible suites,



**Sally F. White**  
COLUMNIST

kitchenettes, living space, a family lounge and meeting areas.

The nonprofit center is the nation's largest hospital specializing in rehabilitation for people with spinal cord and brain injuries as well as multiple sclerosis and chronic pain.

**Tickets and information:** (404) 350-7778 or [www.thelegendaryparty.com](http://www.thelegendaryparty.com)



The 30th annual Steeplechase at Callaway Gardens is off and running Nov. 1 and will be held at its track on Ga. 27 in Pine Mountain.

Always falling on the first Saturday in November, the Callaway races are part of the sanctioned American steeplechase circuit. Proceeds are divided among the Historic Columbus Foundation, the Springer Opera House, the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, the Columbus Museum, RiverCenter for the Performing Arts, the Ida Cason Callaway Foundation, all in the Columbus-Pine Mountain area, and the Auburn University School of Veterinary Medicine.

Over the years fans from metro Atlanta have been eager to participate not only for the equine sport, but to support the arts and enjoy a great outdoor sporting and socializing day with friends.

The steeplechase sport traces its roots to England to about 1750, when horses ran over natural obstacles between two church steeples. The American National Steeplechase Association was founded in 1895 by **August Belmont Jr.**, the first president of The Jockey Club in New York. Today, the steeplechase racing category involves horses running a pre-determined flat track with manmade obstacles including water and brush designed to mimic the obstructions a horse might encounter during an open range hunt.

The gates at Callaway Gardens will open at 10 a.m. The two junior races start at noon, followed by five sanctioned races beginning at 1 p.m.

Activities around the racetrack will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. with excitement and fun for all ages from Jack Russell terrier races to widescreen TV for college football fans and live race footage to food and drink and a silent auction.

Steeplechase Executive Director **Kim Jinks** said she has received support from these Buckhead residents: **Stacy and Don Leebern, Lani** and

**Brian Betkowski** and **Lori Kennedy**.

**Tickets and information:** (706) 324-6252 or [steeplechaseatcallaway.org](http://steeplechaseatcallaway.org)



Tributes to volunteers with The Link Counseling Center will be the focus of the Miracle Ball benefit Nov. 1 at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History on Clifton Road in DeKalb County.

The formal evening featuring a reception and dinner will conclude with an IMAX movie and special recognition to volunteers who support the Sandy Springs-based nonprofit's mission to provide affordable counseling, psychotherapy and support groups for all ages.

The Bountiful Giver Award will go to **Marlene Schwartz** for her giving spirit and longtime volunteer involvement in the Link's programs. "For most Wednesday afternoons for the last 21 years she has been on hand at the Sandy Springs facility to help make the day a better one for participants and staff," Executive Director **Janet Mainor** said.

The Link has been serving metro Atlanta for 43 years. It is one of the oldest and most successful counseling centers in the Southeast with programs for children, youth and adults including pro bono mental health services, suicide prevention and aftercare, marriage and family therapy and the House Next Door for children in crisis and grief.

More than half of the families served live below the poverty level, yet no one is ever denied services based on inability to pay. The event is an important source of funding for local programs.

**Tickets and information:** (404) 256-9797, ext. 231 or [www.thelink.org](http://www.thelink.org)

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## BUSINESS NEWS

### Budget tips

Birmingham, Ala.-based Regions Bank recently released some tips on how to budget your holiday spending money in October. Start by establishing your spending limit and budget:

- Set a holiday spending limit of no more than 1.5 percent of your annual income.
- Avoid dipping into emergency funds or going into credit card debt for the holidays.
- Make a gift recipient list with a spending cap for each person.
- Open a separate account dedicated to your holiday needs.
- Give up your daily pumpkin spice latte or bring your lunch from home to save as much as \$300 from October to early December.
- Purchase airline tickets in advance for holiday travel.

### Dental breakthrough

Dr. Hugh Flax, a Sandy Springs accredited cosmetic/restorative dentist, recently implemented the first CO2 laser system cleared by the FDA for both hard- and soft-tissue ablation. The previous generation of lasers is used mostly for soft tissue only, such as gums. This technology is a major breakthrough because it replaces the drill for most hard-tissue procedures, such as filling cavities. This means that nearly all patients can have the laser procedures done on hard tissue without the use of anesthesia.

**Information:** [www.flaxdental.com](http://www.flaxdental.com)

### AC Hotels

Simon, an Indianapolis-based retail real estate company, and Noble Investment Group, a Buckhead-based real estate private equity firm specializing in the lodging and hospitality real estate sector, recently announced a joint venture which will bring the AC Hotels by Marriott brand to Phipps Plaza in Buckhead. Inspired by the runways and fashion houses of Milan, it

is an upper moderate tier lifestyle brand within the Marriott International Inc. global collection of 18 brands. Located at the intersection of Peachtree and Wieuca roads and adjacent to Nordstrom at Phipps Plaza, the hotel will be the brand's first hotel in Atlanta. It will have 166 rooms and is scheduled to open in January 2016.

### Hinman Dental

One year ago, Dr. Jane Puskas, a Buckhead dentist, recently completed her one-year term as the Buckhead-based Hinman Dental Society's first female president, turning the reins over to Dr. Pat Yancey. Based in Buckhead, the society is an organization of about 750 dentists mostly in metro Atlanta. Puskas' duties included helping organize the 2014 Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting, which attracted 20,772 dentists, hygienists, assistants, students and other dental professionals and industry personnel to the Georgia World Congress Center in March.

### Legal news

Taylor English Duma LLP, a southeast Cobb County-based law firm, recently announced Allan Tanenbaum has joined the firm's corporate practice as of counsel. Tanenbaum has served as the general counsel of AFC Enterprises Inc., the franchisor of Popeyes Chicken, Church's Chicken, Seattle's Best Coffee and Cinnabon, and most recently served as co-founder, managing partner and general counsel of Equicorp Partners, an Atlanta-based private equity and advisory firm specializing in the quick-service and fast-casual food industry.



**Allan Tanenbaum**

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