

Real Estate Report

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▶ PAGE 22

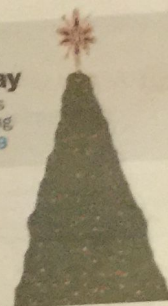
Arson suspected in vehicle fires

Alpharetta Police investigate suspicious fires on same street
▶ PAGE 2



Christmas is on its way

Johns Creek holds annual tree lighting
▶ PAGES 28 - 29



JOHNS CREEK HERALD

December 3, 2015 | johnscreekherald.com | 75,000 circulation Revue & News, Johns Creek Herald, Milton Herald & Forsyth Herald combined | 50¢ | Volume 19, No. 48



Artists and dignitaries include, from left, **Olivia Mikrut**, Chopin Society President **Dorota Lato**, **Hyn Hwa Jang**, **Marina Bengoa**, **Hyem Jung Na**, Honorary Polish Consul **Lawrence Ashe** and Master of Ceremonies **John Lemley**.

Chopin Gala celebrates music in North Fulton

Annual event honors memory, music of Chopin

By **HATCHER HURD**
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JOHNS CREEK, Ga. — The Chopin Society of Atlanta's annual gala Nov. 15 was an evening of celebrating the music of Fryderyk Chopin as well as advancing the understanding and appreciation of his legacy.

The gala was again held at the Country Club of the South, where patrons browsed silent auction items and then listened to a selection of Chopin's works performed by up-and-coming young artists.

Chopin Society Atlanta President Dorota Lato said,

while the society honors Chopin's name and his music, the main focus of the nonprofit organization is to inspire and engage the youth of metro Atlanta.

The society does that in a number of ways, including: Organizing competitions about Chopin's life

Providing prizes for the participants of the popular after-concert essay contests

Providing nearly 100 annual awards to local music festival and piano competition winners

Inviting young artists to perform at society fundraising events

Subsidizing concert tickets for music students

Funding university-level master classes by visiting artists, and finally:

Funding a university student educational trip to Poland, Chopin's birthplace, through the society's partnership with The Fryderyk Chopin Institute in Warsaw.

"Chopin's music is as much an influence today as it ever was," Lato said. "We want to ensure the next generation carries his life and his legacy forward."

Lato said she was privi-

See **CHOPIN**, Page 36

Barnwell Rd. plan back to square 1

By **HATCHER HURD**
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JOHNS CREEK, Ga. — A plan for Barnwell Road that includes five roundabouts and a makeover of the Barnwell-Holcomb Bridge Road intersection will go back to Barnwell residents for more consideration.

the Johns Creek City Council decided at the Nov. 30 council meeting.

The council had been expected to adopt the Project Framework Agreement between the city and the Georgia Department of Transportation.

See **BARNEWELL**, Page 4

New SAT to begin with March 2016 assessment

Changes needed to focus more on student curriculum

By **CANDY WAYLOCK**
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GEORGIA — Citing a need to have an assessment aligned more with what students are actually learning in the classroom, the College Board is rolling out the revised Scholastic Aptitude Test beginning in March 2016.

"Our redesigned assessments are focused on what's familiar to students and what

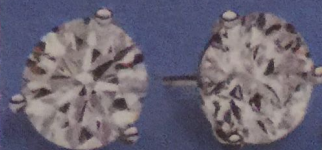
they're learning in their classrooms every day," said Maria Eugenia Alcón-Heraux, director of media relations for the College Board.

The essential changes include a return to the 1600-point scale based on two test sections, removing the penalty for guessing, including more "user friendly" vocabulary words, and of most

See **SAT**, Page 35

Comparison of old and new SAT

	Current SAT (ends Dec. 2015)	New SAT (begins March 2016)
Test Time	3 hours, 45 minutes	3 hours (+50 minutes if taking essay)
Sections	4 (critical reading, writing, math, essay)	2 (reading/writing and math)
Essay	Required	Optional
Wrong Answer	¼ point deduction	No penalty for guessing
Score scale	600-2400	400-1600; essay scored separately



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Chopin: Annual gala held at Country Club of the South

Continued from Page 1

leged to attend this year's Chopin competition.

"It was an extraordinary experience to be able to listen to Chopin's music eight or sometimes more hours a day. The 1,000-seat concert hall was always filled to the brim with people from all continents and from all age groups, including many young people," she said. "In the foyer, one could hear many different languages.

"All these people gathered to celebrate Chopin's music."

The competition process started a year ago when the jury listened to the tapes of more than 400 pianists from around the world. From that group 80 were invited to compete in Warsaw in October. After three weeks of daily concerts and four stages of eliminations, 10 finalists were chosen, representing Korea, Canada, the United States, Russia, Poland, Latvia, Japan and Croatia.

"There were 10 finalists from eight different countries," she said.

On every occasion, Lato said she stresses that the youngest generation is at the heart of the society's mission.

"We want to open the



Ensuring the success of the ninth Chopin Gala are, from left, **Anna Holub-Standish, Elzbieta Krawczynska, Halina and Alek Szlam, Dorota Lato, Joanna Krauz, Renata Cichocka and Elzabeth Pelypenko.**

beautiful world of classical music to them, as we believe that classical music in particular increases young people's

intellectual abilities, provokes creative imagination and helps our youth gain a better understanding of each other and the

world around them," Lato said.

The competition was won by Seong-Jin Cho, from Korea, who instantly became a national hero in his country and his competition recordings and CDs are top sellers, surpassing



Lori and Richard Hamrick enjoy the music, the food and the friendship at the gala.

all music categories.

The Atlanta gala came just days after the terrorist attack on Paris. Lato said the society would unite with Paris.

"In this tragic moment, I would like to quote Leonard Bernstein who in November of 1963 at the time of national grief said: 'This sorrow and rage will not inflame us to seek retribution. Rather they will inflame our art. This will be our reply to violence: To make music more intensely, more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before.'"

DEATH NOTICES

Leon Paul Aleksandrowicz, 58, of Gainesville, passed away on November 19, 2015. Arrangements by McDonald and Son Funeral Home.

Virginia Theresa Barnett, 87, of Alpharetta, passed away on November 18, 2015. Arrangements by McDonald and Son Funeral Home.

Rev. Robert "Bob" Fields, 83, of Forsyth County, passed away on November 22, 2015. Arrangements by Ingram Funeral Home & Crematory.

Imogene Gaines, 81, of Cumming, passed away on November 4, 2015. Arrangements by Roswell Funeral Home and Green Lawn Cemetery.

Vincent Francis Gallo, 79, of Cumming, passed away on November 12, 2015. Arrangements by Roswell Funeral Home and Green Lawn Cemetery.

Joseph Virgil Gibson, 64, of Cumming, passed away on November 16, 2015. Arrangements by Ingram Funeral Home & Crematory.

Gloria Gilford, 69, of Alpharetta, passed away on November 13, 2015. Arrangements by Roswell Funeral Home and Green Lawn Cemetery.

Edward Hunter, 77, of Cumming, passed away on November 7, 2015. Arrangements by Roswell Funeral Home and Green Lawn Cemetery.

William A. Jones, 80, of Cumming, passed away on November 19, 2015. Arrangements by Byars Funeral Home.

Christopher McCormick, 54, of Cumming, passed away on Friday, November 20, 2015. Arrangements by Ingram Funeral Home and Crematory.

Beatrice Mae McCrea, 83, of Johns Creek, passed away on November 2, 2015. Arrangements by Roswell Funeral Home and Green Lawn Cemetery.

Janet McKenzie, 76, of Cumming, passed away on November 19, 2015. Arrangements by McDonald and Son Funeral Home.

Marjorie Ethel Moore, 91, of Marietta, passed away on November 9, 2015. Arrangements by Roswell Funeral Home and Green Lawn Cemetery.

Nancy Ann Palmer, 90, of Roswell, passed away on November 8, 2015. Arrangements by Roswell Funeral Home and Green Lawn Cemetery.

Mary Papisidero, 87, of Alpharetta, passed away on November 15, 2015. Arrangements by Roswell Funeral Home and Green Lawn Cemetery.

Shirley Elaine Petty, 89, of Roswell, passed away on November 16, 2015. Arrangements by Roswell Funeral Home and Green Lawn Cemetery.

Bernard Ruppert, 58, of Blue Ridge, passed away on November 19, 2015. Arrangements by Byars Funeral Home.

Hilda Clair Valentine, 99, of Maysville, passed away on November 4, 2015. Arrangements by Roswell Funeral Home and Green Lawn Cemetery.

Margaret Helen Zegers, 95, of Marietta, passed away on November 9, 2015. Arrangements by Roswell Funeral Home and Green Lawn Cemetery.



Anna Betelmus, who also performed the flamenco, and **Anna Pare** share a moment.

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