



September 2016 Newsletter

I struggle with words to describe the grave events happening in America and around the world this summer. I fell to my knees to pray on several occasions. Investigations will be conducted and we will all look for answers, but there will be none which change the past. I reject the notion that a few bad people will divide our great nation. The pundits and press are sensationalizing every moment to create additional controversy and the leaders/groups who use these tragedies for personal gain are shameful. We will mourn those who lost their lives, take a deep breath and move forward. After all, we are all citizens of the greatest nation on earth and with tremendous resolve better days are still ahead. May God bless the fallen.

The Albers family had a great summer and we are looking forward to the fall. It is my favorite time of the year to be outdoors. Kari is back on the tennis courts between working, being super Mom and taking care of me! Ryan is now at Roswell High School while also working at Chick-fil-A. I am very proud of Cadet Major Will Albers at UNG working through his senior year of college already. We look forward to seeing you and your family at the many wonderful events in our community.



September 11th Ceremony

The Roswell Rotary Club and City of Roswell will be hosting the 15th anniversary September 11th ceremony to honor the fallen. Atlanta radio legend Moby in the Morning is the master of ceremonies as we honor and remember our first responders and lost souls. Please plan to attend with your family and mark your calendars.

Sunday, September 11th @ 1:30 pm
Mike Gann 9-11 Memorial at the Lake
Roswell Area Park - 10495 Woodstock Rd

September 11, 2001, 2,977 people died - of the fallen were 343 firefighters and 72 police officers. Their actions and sacrifice saved thousands of our families and friends. Please come pay your respects at this important and patriotic community event.



K-12 Education

The growth and success of our education system remains a top priority. We made progress in ensuring that teachers and students are evaluated properly this past session. Senate Bill 364 reduces the percentage that student growth accounts for in the evaluations of teachers. Also, multiple, formative student assessments will now be used in place of an end-of-grade assessment. Growth in student achievement is critical to the future of this great state. We must do all we can to ensure educators and students are evaluated with a fair system and we eliminate excessive testing.



Community Service

Special thanks to the Inverness neighborhood as they rallied to support our police officers. On August 2nd, they held an event to wash police cars, brought baked goods and simply said thank you to our Finest. Please say a prayer and support all of those who serve us in uniform.



Helping Heroes

In an effort to help those who are disabled and also served our country, House Bill 862 expands the definition of "disabled veterans" for purposes of qualifying for the homestead exemption, motor vehicle exemption or free license plate program. Additionally, House Bill 991 addresses penalties and interest for late ad valorem tax payments by military servicemembers during combat zone deployment. This bill waives penalties and interest for those who fail to pay ad valorem taxes due to deployment. Once the military service member returns home, they have 60 days to pay the balance of the outstanding taxes.



It is important that we help those who are disabled and our veterans by passing important measures like these.

Patriot Flight

The Roswell Rotary Club will start the very first Patriot flight later this month. Modeling the Honor Air Flights taking our veterans to Washington DC each year, the Patriot Flight will take our First Responders to the 9-11 Memorial & Museum in New York City.

Our Police Officers and Firefighters need our support and prayers. First Responders are the heroes of our community and put their lives on the line every day. It is my vision and dream that groups all over America will initiate their own Patriot Flights. For more information, please visit: thepatriotflight.com. You have two great opportunities to serve our first responders:



Tuesday, 9/27 @ 6:00 am - Woodstock Rd and Canton St. meet by the fire engines and prepare to cheer when the buses pass. Bring a flag if you have one. Give them a heroes departure!

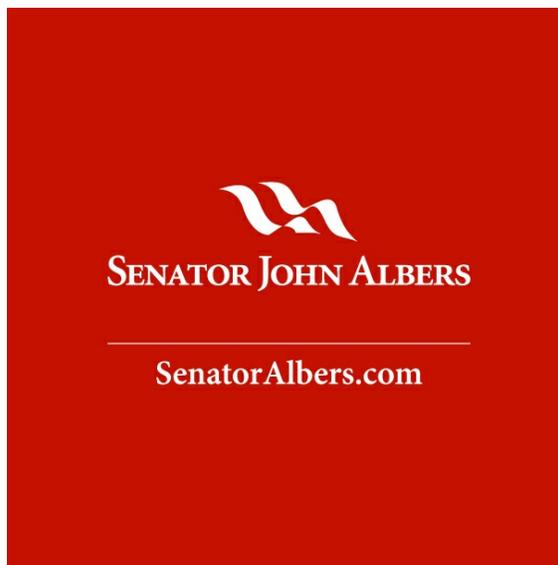
Tuesday, 9/27 @ 9:45 pm - Roswell Area Park, 10495 Woodstock Rd, Roswell. We need another large crowd to welcome home and celebrate our First Responders. Come ready to cheer and bring a flag if you have one.

2016 Campaign

Thank you for the privilege to serve you in the Georgia Senate the past six years. This November, I will be on the ballot to earn your vote for another term. I sincerely appreciate your support and will never take for granted the opportunity and honor to serve you.

My campaign philosophy is simple. If you are doing your job well, involved in your community, communicate often, introduce and vote on positive legislation the only difference between doing your job and campaigning is: yard signs. I will continue to work tirelessly for you.

If you would like a yard sign, please send us an email at: helpjohn@senatorialbers.com.



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