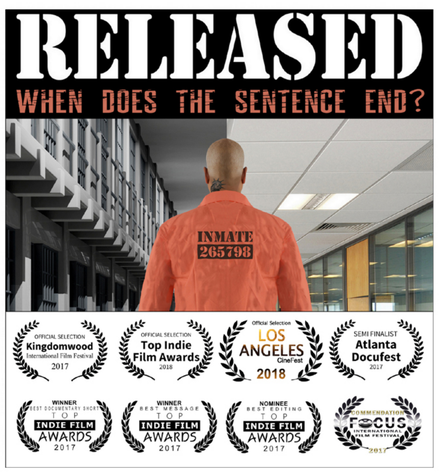
East Point to observe Georgia Community Policing Week

Noreen Cochran 23 hrs ago 0



Residents who want to fight crime without donning law enforcement uniforms can start by getting to know their local police forces better next week.

East Point will be showing a movie about reducing repeat offenses, hosting a gun buy-back event, buying cups of coffee and cheering the Georgia Spartans at a basketball game.

City Councilwoman Stephanie Gordon said opportunities to meet, like Coffee With a Cop, are great activities.

"Building strong relationships between our communities and law enforcement is essential to resolving public safety issues," she said. "As elected officials, we play a vital role in nurturing these sacred bonds."

The slate of activity falls during Georgia Community Policing Week, approved by the state House of Representatives in its 2017 session.

In a resolution sponsored by south Fulton delegates and others, the lawmakers said the week's purpose is to "foster positive relations and encourage the public to work with police and not against them."

Oct. 2 to 7 is the time period identified for special attention to working on their relationships, the representatives said.

The South Fulton Ministerial Coalition will help present a gun buy-back at the city's police station, 2727 East Point St., Oct. 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The basketball game, themed Bridging the Gap, will be at Jefferson Park Recreation Center, 1431 Norman Berry Drive, Oct. 7 from noon to 3 p.m. Admission is free.

Perhaps the most acclaimed of the events is a screening of "Released: When Does the Sentence End?," a new film by the U.S. Department of Justice U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Georgia in association with Atlanta-based One Vision Productions.

The award-winning production, directed by Forrest Tuff, includes appearances by Gov. Nathan Deal and U.S. Attorney John Horn.

According to the film's website, during its 45-minute running time it challenges viewers' perception of ex-offenders.

It is "a powerful documentary that confronts how people released from prison continue to pay for the mistakes of their past," the website states.

Gordon said its subject matter is a key part of public safety.

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East Point Community Policing Week proclamation

4 hrs ago 0

OCT 4 Coffee with a Cop
Wednesday, October 4 | 10:00 am

OCT 4 "Released: When Does the Sentence End"
Wednesday, October 4 | 6:30 pm

OCT 7 East Point gun buy-back
Saturday, October 7 | 10:00 am

OCT 7 Georgia Spartans basketball game
Saturday, October 7 | 12:00 pm

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