

NEWS & EVENTS

in District 1 with
Commissioner Carden

December 2023



Greetings!

The end of the year is right around the corner, and I'd like to wish you a safe and happy holiday season. Keep reading to learn more about some exciting events we have in December.

Happening Around Gwinnett

Chairwoman Hendrickson presents 2024 proposed budget

Gwinnett County Chairwoman Nicole Love Hendrickson presented her [proposed budget](#) to guide County government for the 2024 fiscal year. The proposed budget addresses needs like affordable housing and public safety, as well as challenges facing county government including hiring and retaining a qualified workforce.



A public hearing will be held on **December 4 at 6:30pm** at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville for residents to address the Board of Commissioners. Residents can also [share their input](#) on the County's website through December 31.



Gwinnett hosting poll official hiring events

The Voter Registrations and Elections Division is looking for residents of all backgrounds, including bilingual poll officials, who want to gain valuable work experience. Residents who wish to be involved are invited to attend one of Gwinnett's upcoming poll hiring events on **Monday, December 4 from 4:00pm to 7:00pm** at the Gwinnett Voter Registrations and Election Beauty P. Baldwin Building in Lawrenceville or on **Monday, December 18 from 4:00pm to 7:00pm** at the Dacula Park Activity Building in Dacula.

Applicants must be at least 16 years old, a U.S. citizen, able to read, write, and speak English, be a resident or employee of Gwinnett County, and have access to a computer for required online training. Attendees must complete an I-9 form and bring the required original identification documents for verification. All workers can earn up to \$390 per election. If you are unable to attend a poll official hiring event, visit [GwinnettCountyJobs.com](https://www.gwinnettcounty.com/jobs) to apply.

Warming stations open for overnight relief

Gwinnett will open warming stations for residents in need to receive temporary, overnight relief when temperatures reach **35 degrees and below**. Residents who visit the sites will be able to warm up, eat a meal, and get some rest. The warming stations are available from 6:00pm until 7:00am.

Warming stations around the county include the Buford Senior Center in Buford, the **Shorty Howell Activity Building in Duluth**, **Best Friend Park Gym in Norcross**, the Centerville Senior Center in Snellville, and the Lawrenceville Senior Center in Lawrenceville. [Click here](#) for more information or if you are interested in becoming a volunteer.



Gwinnett Police hosting annual toy drive

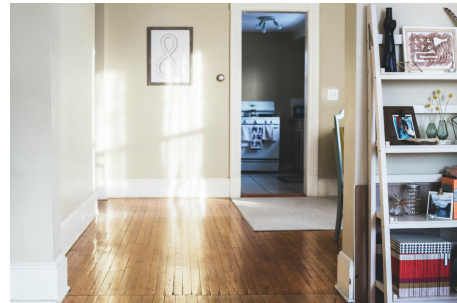
Gwinnett Police's third annual Fill the Sleigh Toy Drive is underway, and you have a chance to help make this holiday season extra special for local children! The department is accepting toy donations for children ages 3 to 15 until **Friday, December 15**. Toys should be new, unwrapped, and priced at \$10 or more. Youth basketballs, footballs, and soccer balls are great gifts for teenagers. **Toy weapons will not be accepted.** Donations can be dropped off at [Gwinnett Police Headquarters or any precinct lobby](#) near you.

For more information about the Fill the Sleigh Toy Drive and how you can help support our efforts, email PDCommunityAffairs@GwinnettCounty.com.

What's New in District 1

Federal housing assistance programs offer no-cost repairs and improvements

A few changes in your home can make it safer and allow you to complete day-to-day tasks independently. Residents who own a house in Gwinnett and are **62 years or older** are encouraged to see if they qualify for no-cost home safety modifications. An occupational therapist completes an in-home assessment to identify and prioritize changes to make tasks easier and reduce accidents, with repairs completed at no cost to the homeowner. Visit GwinnettHousing.org for more information.



Gwinnett homeowners or renter-occupied households are also encouraged to apply for no cost home hazard repair, which includes testing for lead, mold, radon, as well as home weatherization. **Applicants must meet the HUD income guidelines.** For more information, visit GwinnettHousing.org.



Mobile food distribution at Best Friend Park

Residents can pick up fresh and shelf-stable foods on **Tuesday, December 12** at Best Friend Park in Norcross from 3:00pm until supplies last. The distribution site is a contactless drive-thru and no identification is required. For more information, visit GwinnettCommunityServices.com.

Additional dates added to the 2045 Unified Plan fall events lineup

Two new dates have been added to the 2045 Unified Plan fall community event series. Both events will take place at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Suwanee on **Wednesday, December 13 from 4:00pm to 7:00pm** and on **Thursday, December 14 from 9:00am to noon** and **5:00pm to 7:00pm** as an open house.

The 2045 Unified Plan serves as a guiding roadmap for the County's development over the next decades. All events are free and open to the public. For more information, visit GwinnettCounty.com/2045UnifiedPlan.



Gwinnett 101 spring session applications open in December

Are you interested in learning more about District 1 and Gwinnett County? Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy is a 12-



week program offered to develop and inform residents, students, and business owners about our great county. Participants will get a behind-the-scenes look at how Gwinnett County Government provides high-quality services to the community. Sessions run from 6:00pm to 9:00pm on Thursday evenings.

Our fall cohort recently graduated, but applications will begin being accepted in December for the Spring 2024 session. Visit Gwinnett101.com for more information.

Discover joy on Ride Gwinnett's new Route 50

There's a new way to get from Lawrenceville to Buford with Ride Gwinnett. Route 50 is now in service, providing new connections from the Sugarloaf Mills Park and Ride in Lawrenceville through downtown Suwanee.

The route also includes connections to the Mall of Georgia, the Exchange at Gwinnett, and Coolray Field. Visit RideGwinnett.com to explore the new route and take your next trip.



Special Events and Happenings

Visit GwinnettCountyEvents.com or follow the County's social media channels to learn about more upcoming events.

S'mores & Santa Sing-Along

Friday, December 8 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm

Join us as we celebrate the holiday season with songs, games, and s'mores with Santa! This is a calm therapeutic event for members of the community with differing disabilities and their families. All ages are welcome. Resident Fee: \$6. Non-resident Fee: \$11. Shorty Howell Park Activity Building, 2750 Pleasant Hill Road, Duluth.

Family Snow Day

Sunday, December 17 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Put on your pajamas for an epic "snow" ball fight, plus games, crafts, contests and a hot chocolate/popcorn bar. All ages are welcome. Resident Fee: \$6. Non-resident Fee: \$11. [Register online](#) by December 9. Pickneyville Park Community Recreation Center, 4650 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Berkeley Lake.

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