

# NEWS & EVENTS

in District 2 with Commissioner Ben Ku

April 2019

## Greetings!



It's springtime in Gwinnett! While that means extra pollen, it also means the ramping up of a lot of fun activities and events. Get outside and explore your local parks, adopt a new best friend from the Gwinnett Animal Shelter to join you on outdoor adventures, and stop by the Multicultural Festival to celebrate the amazing cultures that make up our vibrant community!

## Happening Around Gwinnett



### Celebrate our community at the 2019 Multicultural Festival

Gwinnett Police, County officials, and friends from across the globe will gather **Saturday, April 27** from **10:00am to 2:00pm** at Shorty Howell Park for the annual Gwinnett Multicultural Festival and County Government Open House.

Enjoy cultural performances, meet representatives from your local government, and see some of the equipment used by our public safety officials. You may even get to see the police helicopter take off like last year! Kids can enjoy games and inflatables and

even get a chance to dunk a police officer. I hope to see you all there!

### Gwinnett is helping to address homelessness

Gwinnett is teaming up with United Way, the Primerica Foundation, and other partners on a new collaborative program to better coordinate assistance for people in our community who are homeless. Called the HomeFirst Gwinnett Initiative, the program is establishing an assessment center and a 20-bed shelter for women and children in the Norcross area. My fellow commissioners and I attended the Break-Through event where we used sledge hammers to smash through signs representing obstacles for the homeless to kick off the start of this great program. Learn more at [www.UnitedWayAtlanta.org](http://www.UnitedWayAtlanta.org).



### Everyone can enjoy Gwinnett's accessible playgrounds

In Gwinnett County's park system, we have three completely inclusive playgrounds: Peachtree Ridge Park, Tribble Mill Park, and Bay Creek Park. Peachtree Ridge Park and Bay Creek Park have a special needs inclusive ball field as well. All playgrounds and all pools are accessible to kids who use wheelchairs and children with disabilities. At West Gwinnett Park and Aquatic Center, we also have a large adaptable

swim program that continues to grow and expand.



### Help keep fats, oils, and grease out of our sewer collection system

Pouring a little bacon grease down the drain or tossing meat scraps in the garbage disposal may not seem like a big deal, but every little bit adds up and can create major clogs and blockages in sewer lines that are part of the County's sewer collection system. Once a line is blocked, wastewater can back up into streets, yards, homes, and even spill into Gwinnett's rivers and streams. If the clog occurs in the sewer

lateral, then cleanup becomes the property owner's responsibility. Here are some tips for avoiding nasty backups and clogs:

- Pour liquid food scraps into a container and put the container in your trash
- Pour used oil into a container with a top so it can be reused, recycled, or placed in the trash for disposal
- Pour cooled grease into a grease can or other container for disposal or absorb it with paper towels or newspaper
- Use mesh drain strainers to catch solid food scraps to throw out with your trash
- Scrape plates over the trash can or wipe them down with a paper towel
- NOTE: "Flushable" wipes should not actually be flushed! [Our Department of Water Resources explains why.](#)

### Census Bureau seeking qualified staff for 2020 Census

The U.S Census Bureau is seeking qualified office staff for local 2020 Census operations. These temporary positions feature flexible hours, so you can make some extra money even if you have other commitments. Census data is used to determine our representation in Congress, as well as how funds are spent for roads, schools, hospitals, and more. Help ensure that everyone in our community is counted in the next census. Apply online [here](#).

## What's New in District 2



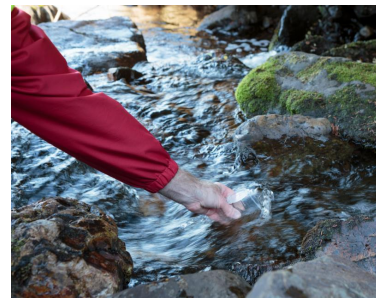
### Tag and title services interrupted May 21 to 29

Tag and title services will be interrupted while a new state motor vehicle system is installed. From May 21 to 29, tag renewals will be unavailable online and at kiosks; from May 23 to 27, tag and title services will be unavailable at tag offices and by mail. If your birthday falls within those dates, please renew by May 20. You can also renew online at

[www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Renew](http://www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Renew).

### Help protect Gwinnett's natural resources

Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful and the Department of Water Resources are partnering to host an Adopt-a-Stream Chemical Workshop on Thursday, May 9 from 5:30pm to 8:00pm at Lilburn City Park. Georgia Adopt-a-Stream enables residents to collect baseline water quality data to both observe the conditions of our local streams and become more aware of pollution and water quality issues. Unfortunately, many streams in Gwinnett do not currently meet established state water quality standards. That's why we need your help! You and your family, co-workers, or friend group can serve as official "keepers" of a portion of a creek or stream by periodically monitoring its condition with supplies, training, and certifications in chemical, bacterial, and macroinvertebrate testing provided by Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful and DWR. For more information or to register for a workshop, visit [www.GwinnettCB.org/Adopt-a-Stream/](http://www.GwinnettCB.org/Adopt-a-Stream/).



### April town halls

I've got a few town halls this month. First, join Representative Jasmine Clark and me at Lilburn City Hall on **Monday, April 15** from **5:00pm to 7:00pm**. Then, on **Tuesday, April 30**, I'll be hosting a joint town hall with Representative Beth Moore at Peachtree Corners City Hall, also from **5:00pm to 7:00pm**!

### District 2 office hours

I want to hear from you! Let's meet up at my office hours around the community to talk about your ideas for Gwinnett:

- **April 15** from 4:30pm to 5:30pm, Lilburn City Hall, 340 Main Street, Lilburn
- **April 16** from 5:00pm to 6:00pm, GJAC Cafeteria, 75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville
- **April 22** from 6:00pm to 7:00pm, Starbucks, 5485 Jimmy Carter Boulevard, Norcross

- **April 30** from 11:00am to noon, 45 South Café, 45 South Peachtree Street, Norcross
- **April 30** from 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Atlanta Bread Company, 4880 Peachtree Corners Circle, Peachtree Corners

### **Save the date for an evening with Commissioner Ben Ku: May 23**

Join me at the Peachtree Corners Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library! I'll talk about my vision for Gwinnett County and discuss how diversity plays a part in the growth of Gwinnett. 5570 Spalding Drive, Peachtree Corners.

## **Special Events and Happenings**

Gwinnett County Government hosts many events, classes, and workshops for its residents. See these great events and more at [www.GwinnettCountyEvents.com](http://www.GwinnettCountyEvents.com).

### **Atlanta Hobby Robot Club**

Educating the public about robots! The Atlanta Hobby Robot Club meets every third Saturday of the month from 10:00am to noon at Pinckneyville Park Community Recreation Center.

### **Underwater Egg Hunt and Bunny Breakfast**

Saturday, April 20, 11:00am to 2:00pm. Join in the fun at this Easter egg hunt with a twist! There will be prizes, games, breakfast vendors, pictures with the Easter Bunny, and more. Remember to bring your own water-friendly basket for the egg hunt. All ages; \$12 per person. Register [online](#). Bethesda Park Aquatic Center, 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville.

### **Oldies-but-Goodies Sock Hop**

Friday, April 26, 5:30pm to 8:00pm. Mark your calendar for this can't miss event! Bring back those great memories as we roll out your favorite oldies performed by the well-known band "The Sock Hops." Enjoy a theme-inspired meal too! Ages 50 and up permitted. [Preregister](#) by April 19; \$16/person. Call 678.277.0179 for more information. Bethesda Park Senior Center, 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville.

### **Star Wars Storytime**

Friday, May 3, 1:00pm. A long time ago, in a library not-so-far away....Celebrate International Star Wars Day with us as we host an out-of-this-world storytime! Come dressed as your favorite Jedi or Sith Lord and enjoy stories and crafts! May the Fourth be with you! Ages 3 and up. The event is free. Mountain Park Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library, 1210 Pounds Road SW, Lilburn.

### **Mother and Son Luau Party**

Saturday, May 4, noon to 2:00pm. Enjoy a date full of music, dancing, food, DIY lei making, and a keepsake photo! All ages; \$8/person, register at [www.GwinnettParks.com](http://www.GwinnettParks.com) with code LSP31600 or call 678.277.0860. Lucky Shoals Park, 4651 Britt Road, Norcross.

### **Munchable Masterpieces**

Thursday, May 16, 6:30pm to 8:00pm. Create and enjoy your own culinary masterpieces with provided ingredients, recipe ideas, and instruction to make an appetizer, main course, and dessert. All ages, 3-under are free; \$7/person or \$25/family of 4; preregister at [www.GwinnettParks.com](http://www.GwinnettParks.com) by May 13 with code PVP31405 or call 678.277.0920. Pinckneyville Park, 4758 South Old Peachtree, Norcross.

Ben Ku, District 2 Commissioner  
Gwinnett County

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[Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com)