# NEWS & EVENTS

in District 2 with Commissioner Ben Ku

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June 2019



Hello!

Happy Pride Month! It's the perfect time of year to get out and enjoy one of Gwinnett's award winning aquatic centers or parks! You can also check out Independence Day celebrations at our animal shelter and in several cities. There are plenty of outdoor activities happening here in District 2 to keep you occupied all summer long.

I've often been asked how people can communicate with me or give the county anonymous feedback. I've updated my campaign contact form to allow for

anonymous comments. You can go to <a href="https://www.KuForYou.com/contact">https://www.KuForYou.com/contact</a> to send me a message to alert me of any concerns, information you think I should be aware of, or just to be my secret admirer. Note that any county-related messages will still be subject to open records and if you do not include your contact information I will not be able to reply or identify the sender.

# **Happening Around Gwinnett**

#### Apply for Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy fall class

I enjoyed speaking with the Gwinnett Youth Commission last week. The Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy's 2019 spring cohort is wrapping up soon, so we're accepting applications for the fall, which runs August 29 to November 19. Gwinnett 101 is a 12-week program offered twice each year that aims to develop and nurture informed and engaged residents, students, and business owners. Those who take part in this program will interact with leaders in their county government, visit county facilities to get a first-hand glimpse of how the county works, and build a network with others



who live, work, and learn in Gwinnett County. As an alumnus of Gwinnett 101, I can tell you that this is a great way to learn about your county government. For more details and to apply, visit <a href="https://www.gwinnett101.com">www.gwinnett101.com</a>. The deadline to apply for the fall 2019 term is July 1.



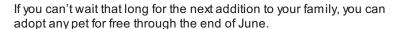
#### Splash and play safely

June is Water Safety Month in Gwinnett! Whether you're cooling off in the lake, doing laps in the pool, or relaxing on the beach, keep these tips in mind to keep everyone safe this summer:

- Assign a water watcher to watch all children swimming or playing in or near water, even if they know how to swim.
- Put your child in a properly fitted U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket when around or near water.
- Starting early as age one, consider providing your child with swimming lessons as a layer of protection against drowning.
- Learn CPR and how to get emergency help, especially if you're a parent, caregiver, or pool
  owner. Keep equipment approved by the U.S. Coast Guard, such as life preservers and life
  jackets at the poolside.
- Check the water first. If a child is missing, look for him or her in the pool or spa first. This is especially important if your child is prone to wandering.

# IndePETdence Week at the animal shelter

Celebrate our independence by adopting a new best friend! Adoption fees will be reduced to \$4 for pets adopted from the shelter between July 1 and July 6, except July 4 when the shelter is closed to the public. All pets adopted at Gwinnett Animal Welfare have been vaccinated, neutered, and microchipped and are ready to go to their new home. The standard adoption fee is \$45 for dogs and puppies and \$30 for cats and kittens. Learn more and see all the pets currently available at the shelter at <a href="https://www.GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com">www.GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com</a>.







# Water Resources' Consumer Confidence Report now available

The annual Consumer Confidence Report containing important information about the quality of your drinking water is now available. The report details results of state and federally mandated tests for various contaminants. In 2018, there were no EPA Safe Drinking Water Act violations to report. View the report and learn more about your drinking water at <a href="https://www.gwinnettwaterwords.com">www.gwinnettwaterwords.com</a>.

# New GJAC parking deck open, more improvements to come

Phase I of the new Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center parking deck is complete and construction continues on the SPLOST-funded courthouse expansion. Visitors may park in the main public lot in front of the building on Langley Drive, the new parking deck behind the building at the corner of Constitution Boulevard and Nash Street, or in the overflow lot on Nash Street when visiting GJAC. Visit our webpage to learn more about the project and watch a time-lapse video of the demolition of the old parking deck.



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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 offer 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 at https://2020census.gov/en/jobs.

#### What's New in District 2

# Celebrate Park and Recreation Month by playing at a park

National Park and Recreation Month is right around the corner in July and the County's Parks and Recreation team has several events to help get you outdoors for play, relaxation, and rejuvenation. The County's award-winning parks system has 50 recreation areas that offer a wide range of opportunities for enjoying the fresh air, including trails for walking, bicycling, and horseback riding, playgrounds for kids, dog parks for pups, ball



fields and courts for the athletically inclined, pools for swimmers and youngsters, senior centers for older people, and recreation centers for everyone. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.gwinnettparks.com">www.gwinnettparks.com</a>.

# District 2 board appointments

I'm seeking a diverse set of applicants for a few District 2 seats on boards. First, my appointment on the Gwinnett County Housing Authority for District 2 is coming up, so if you'd like to apply, please complete and submit <a href="mailto:this form">this form</a> by Wednesday, June 19. Using that same form, you can also apply for a seat on the Animal Control Hearing Board.

I encourage you to share the form with friends, family, and neighbors who may be interested. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me at Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com.



Join the Summer Reading Program at your library to help your child improve their reading skills and discourage the summer slide. Track the time you spend reading or complete summer challenges to earn rewards and win prizes including tickets to a Gwinnett Stripers game, plush robots, free books, and free kids' meals from Texas Roadhouse. There are also prize drawings for telescopes, drones, gift cards to Dave and Buster's and the movies for kids and teens, and a personal story time for our youngest readers. Sign up now through August 12.

#### **District 2 office hours**

Join me at my upcoming office hours! I want to hear your ideas about how we can work together to make Gwinnett even better.

- Tuesday, June 18 at 5:30pm in the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center cafeteria
- Thursday, June 20 at 11:00am at Starbucks on Jimmy Carter in Norcross
- Friday, July 12 at 10:00am at Black Walnut Café in Peachtree Corners
- Tuesday, July 16 at 5:30pm in the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center cafeteria





### Independence Day fun in District 2

Spend the Independence Day holiday celebrating at one of these exciting events!

- Independence Day Parade in Berkeley Lake
- Sparkle in the Park in Lilburn
- Red, White and BOOM! in Norcross

# **Special Events and Happenings**

Gwinnett County Government hosts many events, classes, and workshops for its residents. See these great events and more at <a href="www.GwinnettCountyEvents.com">www.GwinnettCountyEvents.com</a>.

#### **Herb Gardening | FREE!**

June 18 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Many types of herbs can be grown locally including basil, rosemary, sage, and fennel. UGA Extension Gwinnett Agent Timothy Daly will discuss the basics of growing herbs and the best types of herbs to grow in our area. Register <a href="here">here</a> or email <a href="here">events@gwinnettpl.org</a>. Peachtree Corners Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library, 5570 Spalding Drive, Peachtree Corners.

#### **Clear Communication**

Wednesday, June 19, 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Become a successful communicator. Participate in the interactive activity that teaches interpersonal skills, communication styles, conflict resolution, active listening, and more. Individuals or small groups welcome. For more information, call 678.902.5239. Instructed by Community Education and Creative Activity Programs. Register online at <a href="https://www.GwinnettHumanServices.com">www.GwinnettHumanServices.com</a>. OneStop Norcross, 5030 Georgia Belle Court, Norcross.

#### Pirate Day

Saturday, June 22, noon to 3:00pm. Ahoy there! Pirate day promises to be a swash-buckling good time for all ages. Light snacks, pirate games and skits are included. All ages; \$6/person, pre-register online with code MPA31100 or call 678.277.0870. Mountain Park Aquatic Center,1063 Rockbridge Road, Stone Mountain.

#### Rapid HIV Testing

Thursday, June 27, 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Complete a confidential test without an appointment and receive your results within 20 minutes. For more information, call 678.990.6430 or visit <a href="https://www.positiveimpacthealthcenters.org">www.positiveimpacthealthcenters.org</a>. Provided by Positive Impact Health Centers. OneStop Norcross, 5030 Georgia Belle Court, Norcross.

# Life Size Game Night

Saturday, June 29, 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Take the board game to new heights! Join us for some life size games, such as Battleship and Hungry Hippos. We will also open up our leisure pool for you to relax outside. Prizes awarded. All ages; \$5/person, pre-register online with WGP31900 or call 678.407.8801. West Gwinnett Park Aquatic Center, 4488 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross.

# **Aquatic Think Tank**

Saturday, July 13, 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Swimming with a unique twist! Come swim with us and get your math and reading juices flowing with games designed for educated fun in the water! Pool rules and admission fees apply. All ages; \$3/person, pre-register online with code WGP31901 or call 678.407.8801 for more information. West Gwinnett Park Aquatic Center, 4488 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross.

Ben Ku, District 2 Commissioner Gwinnett County

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