

# NEWS & EVENTS

in District 2 with Commissioner Ben Ku

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February 2020



Hello!

I hope the new year is treating everyone well! As we move through winter and gear up for a busy spring, I want to remind you of two significant events that will affect all of us. First, our next election is the March 24 Presidential Preference Primary. See below for how to vote in this election and how you can get involved as a paid poll official. Then, April 1 is Census Day! Help us make sure #GwinnettCounts by filling out the survey for your household.

Commissioner Fosque and I have been enjoying Leadership Gwinnett. We got to spend a day at our wonderful Fire Training center looking at our health and human services.

I also want to thank everyone who came to the Mountain Park community meeting. We had a great turnout and discussed lots of various traffic improvements in the area. A big thanks to staff for helping to present and answer questions.

I also want to mention that I'm taking applications for my Water and Sewerage Authority appointment. If you're interested in serving on this board, please apply at [gcga.us/d2application](http://gcga.us/d2application) by February 19.



## Happening Around Gwinnett



### Gwinnett celebrates Black History Month

Gwinnett County is hosting a monthlong Black History Month exhibit at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center. The exhibit will run through February 28 and is free and open to the public during GJAC's normal business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm.

You can also join Community Outreach and the United Ebony Society of Gwinnett County for an evening of food and fellowship Tuesday, February 25 at 7:00pm at GJAC. The celebration begins with a proclamation reading at the Board of Commissioners public hearing. Immediately following, a formal program will include performances and speakers. Refreshments will be provided. Register [here](#).

### Commissioners dedicate Gwinnett Voter Registrations and Elections Beauty P. Baldwin Building

Earlier this month, I joined my fellow commissioners in celebrating the newly renovated Voter Registrations and Elections office, which has been named after longtime Voter Registrations and Elections Board Member and Gwinnett County Trailblazer Beauty P. Baldwin. The \$1.08 million renovation project includes a registration area, a queue and poll worker area, and a voting area. A new processing room doubles as a multi-purpose room that can be closed off by glass partitions. The renovation also includes a designated area for media to stage equipment.



In addition to her contributions to the elections process in Gwinnett County, Beauty Baldwin spent many years as an educator in Gwinnett's public schools. She was one of the first black teachers at Central Gwinnett High School when she was hired in the 1970s and later served as the state's first black female school superintendent when she was named Buford City Schools superintendent in 1984. She also helped found Hopewell Christian Academy and the North Metro Academy of Performing Arts, a Gwinnett County charter school.



### Census questionnaires coming soon

In mid-March, the Census Bureau will send questionnaires to homes around the country. Completing the census is easy, important, and safe. The 2020 Census is the first time people can fill out their census online on mobile devices, or desktop computers. You can also respond by phone or by mail. It's nine questions and takes about 10 minutes to complete. Census counts shape legislative and congressional districts, determine how federal and state resources are distributed, and influence critical policy decisions. It is illegal for anyone to share your personal information disclosed in the census.

### Support our democracy! Become a poll official

Gwinnett County is hiring poll officials to staff 156 polling locations plus eight advance voting locations for the 2020 election season. The Voter Registration and Elections Division is looking for citizens of all backgrounds, including bilingual poll officials. Workers can gain valuable work experience and get paid! Currently, positions pay up to a \$120 stipend. Learn more and apply at [GwinnettCountyJobs.com](http://GwinnettCountyJobs.com).



### Household Hazardous Waste event set for February 29

Leap into spring and get rid of your pesticides, cleaners, and other toxic products by taking them to the Household Hazardous Waste disposal event February 29 from 8:00am to noon at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds. For information on quantities and items accepted, or to sign up to volunteer, visit Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful's [event page](#).

## What's New in District 2

### Share your vision for Gwinnett parks

The 2020 Comprehensive Plan is an opportunity for residents to provide the Parks and Recreation Division with your input toward the future of our parks. This plan will guide park improvements, park development, recreation programming, and cultural and natural resource management. Tell us what you think at any of the [upcoming meetings](#), or [take the short survey online](#).



### Gwinnett County and GDOT Seek Public Input for I-85's Future

The Georgia Department of Transportation and Gwinnett County have partnered to conduct a comprehensive corridor study along I-85 between I-285 and I-985. Results from the study will be used to propose recommendations to improve safety, reduce congestion, and enhance traffic operations along the corridor. Provide your feedback online at [85Study.com](http://85Study.com).

### Vote advance in person or absentee/advance by mail

This year, the Voter Registrations and Elections Office is offering more voting days or voting opportunities than ever before. Eligible voters may vote advance in person every day, including weekends, from March 2 to March 20 at the Voter Registrations and Elections Office located at 455 Grayson Highway in Lawrenceville from 7:00am to 7:00pm. In addition, satellite voting will begin Monday, March 9 and continue through Friday, March 20 from 7:00am to 7:00pm every day including weekends. Visit the [Advance Voting webpage](#) for satellite voting locations.



Voters may request an absentee/advance by mail ballot for the March 24 Presidential Preference Primary now through Friday, March 20. Voting by mail is optional for all voters. A completed application must first be received before an absentee ballot is issued. Please call the Voter Registrations and Elections Office at 678.226.7210 to request an application or [complete the form online](#).

The new equipment is a bit different from previous years, so be sure to take advantage of early voting

available at eight satellite locations around the county so you can take your time and familiarize yourself with the new machines and process. You can also get a preview of how the new equipment works [here](#).



### **Gwinnett contractor performing address verifications through March**

A contractor is performing address verifications on behalf of the County as part of a GIS database enhancements project improve address data and aid in public safety operations. GIS technicians will be conducting door-to-door address verifications through Friday, March 20. Staff are traveling via rental car, company car, and/or on foot during daylight hours to complete the address verifications. This will include photographing

locations that require further study to verify the correct address. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact IT Manager Dax Flinn at [dax.flinn@gwinnettcountry.com](mailto:dax.flinn@gwinnettcountry.com) or 770.822.8033.

### **Upcoming office hours**

Do you have something you want to discuss with me about Gwinnett County, present or future? Meet me during my upcoming open office hour to share your ideas! On **March 3 at 6:00pm**, I'll be at the **1910 Public House** located at 107 Main Street NW in Lilburn. I hope to see you there!

## **Special Events and Happenings**

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

### **Greenwood Culture Fest**

February 22 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Free! Honor the past and celebrate the future during Black History Month by supporting local businesses and entrepreneurs. The entire family is welcome to this community event as we enjoy a festive day filled with food, fun, and more. No registration necessary. Lucky Shoals Park Community Recreation Center, 4651 Britt Road, Norcross.

### **Sound Lab: Beat Making**

February 29 from 1:00pm to 2:00pm. Free! Come to the library to learn about audio production for beginners. This session covers workstations, MIDI keyboards, and virtual instruments. All ages. Five Forks Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library, 2780 Five Forks Trickum Road, Lawrenceville.

### **Quince Expo**

March 8 from 11:00am to 3:00pm. Free! Are you getting ready to celebrate your 15<sup>th</sup> birthday? Let us help you make it a time to remember. Enjoy a dress fashion show, makeup and hair demonstrations, and visiting vendors who can help you plan your special day from start to finish. No registration necessary. Lucky Shoals Park Community Recreation Center, 4651 Britt Road, Norcross.

### **Alfred Hitchcock Day**

March 12 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Travel back in time with us to celebrate the Master of Suspense during one of his most successful time periods. Dress as Grace Kelly and James Stewart and experience a murder mystery game, 1950s diner food, and more spine-tingling fun. \$8 per resident. [Register online](#). Date night discount: call us to take advantage of our special couples pricing and reserve your table for two. Norcross Senior Center, 5030 Georgia Belle Court, Norcross.

### **Paint Party at the LAB**

March 14 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Gather with your friends to spend a fun and relaxing evening in an instructor-led paint party. You will take home a complete acrylic painting on a 11" x 16" canvas, and art supplies will be provided. The theme is a woman with an umbrella. Bring your own non-alcoholic refreshments and apron. Ages 18 and up. [Register online](#) or call 678.277.0875 for more information. Lilburn Activity Building, 788 Hillcrest Road, Lilburn.

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Gwinnett County

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