

# NEWS & EVENTS

in District 2 with Commissioner Ben Ku

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May 2021



Hello!

Summer is approaching, and with vaccines widely available in our community, there's hope on the horizon. This month, let's celebrate the promise of better days ahead by keeping each other safe while the vaccine rollout continues. One of the best ways to do that is to get vaccinated yourself. By getting vaccinated, you're helping our community reach herd immunity so that we can get back to normal. We need everyone who can to be vaccinated. It's free and easy, and there are multiple convenient sites around the county.

In the meantime, there are plenty of ways to commemorate important occasions safely; for example, you can tune into our virtual Memorial Day ceremony and watch the County's celebration of AAPI Heritage Month on social media. Learn more about these occasions below.

## Happening Around Gwinnett



### Commissioners approve new vision, mission, & values

The Board of Commissioners has approved vision, mission, and values statements for the County that showcase our pride in our work and celebrate our vibrant, diverse community.

The **vision** statement says, "Gwinnett is the preferred community where everyone thrives!"

The **mission** statement reads, "Gwinnett proudly supports our vibrantly connected

community by delivering superior services."

The core **values** statement includes:

- **Integrity:** We believe in being honest, building trust, and having strong moral principles.
- **Accountability:** We believe in stewardship, transparency, and sustainability.
- **Equity:** We believe in fairness and respect for all. Inclusion: We believe in engaging, embracing, and unifying our communities.
- **Innovation:** We believe in continual adaptation of technology, process, and experience.

I'm really proud of what we came up with together. We worked together to hear every single one of the commissioners' ideas and desires for the county to create these values. I think they provide good, clear direction to staff, possibly for decades to come.

### Celebrate AAPI Heritage Month in Gwinnett

May is Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, which gives us the perfect opportunity to celebrate our vibrant and diverse AAPI community. Gwinnett is home to Georgia's largest Asian American population, and our AAPI community makes countless contributions to our culture, social, and economic well-being. Gwinnett County will celebrate AAPI Heritage month with virtual

reflections from County leaders and community representatives. Stay tuned @GwinnettGov on Facebook for the virtual celebration. Learn more about celebrations from the County and library [here](#).

In celebration of AAPI Heritage Month, I'll also be hosting a virtual town hall with some special guests on Thursday, May 27 at 5:00pm. Tune in on [Gwinnett County's Facebook page](#).



### Outdoor burn ban in effect through September 30

To protect air quality, the state Environmental Protection Division has imposed a metro-wide burn ban through September 30. Most outdoor or open burning are prohibited, including burning trees, limbs, and yard waste, as well as the use of air curtain destructors. For more information, visit [GwinnettFireMarshal.com](#) or call 678.518.4980. For additional information concerning the summer open burning ban, please visit the [Environmental Protection Division webpage](#).

### County celebrates Memorial Day with virtual ceremony

Gwinnett County will once again host a virtual version of our annual Memorial Day ceremony to honor those who have lost their lives in service to our country. Tune in Monday, May 31 at 1:00pm on TV Gwinnett, the County's government access cable channel, [TVGwinnettLive.com](#), or [Facebook @GwinnettGov](#) to watch the premiere of the ceremony.



## What's New in District 2

### COVID-19 Vaccines: Science-Tested, Mom-Approved

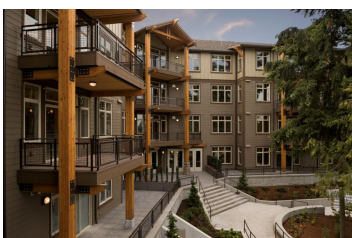
While the COVID-19 vaccine rollout continues to evolve every day, one fact remains the same: these vaccines are our best shot at safely getting back to the life we love, with the people we love. Gwinnett County Government, with the support of our Gwinnett Moms, is here to support you on your vaccine journey and make sure you're equipped with the most up-to-date information – including facts about just how safe and effective these vaccines really are. Backed by decades of science, tested extensively, and proven remarkably effective again and again, the truth is that these vaccines are safe, they're working, and it's time for everyone who is eligible to make a plan to get one today. So what are you waiting for? Learn more at [ListenToGwinnettMoms.com](#) and join the conversation on social by tagging @GwinnettGov and using #ListenToGwinnettMoms.



### Apply for a seat on the Gwinnett County Historical Restoration & Preservation Board

I'm looking for an engaged resident to serve in the District 2 seat on the Gwinnett County Historical Restoration & Preservation Board and on the Board of Tax Assessors. The [HRPB](#) advises the chairwoman and board of commissioners on the restoration and preservation of county historical matters. The role of the [Board of Tax Assessors](#) is to place taxable values on real and personal property, oversee the appeal process as provided by State law, and compile the annual tax digest for submission to the State Department of Revenue.

I'm also seeking applicants for roles on the [Family & Children Services Board](#) and [Animal Control Hearing Board](#). If you'd like to apply for any of these roles, use my [district 2 application form](#) on the County website.



### Emergency rental and utility assistance available through Project RESET 2.0

Applications are now open for Project RESET 2.0, which will use more than \$28.1 million in stimulus funds from the federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program to support struggling renters in our community. The program offers up to 15 months of total assistance, which may include rental and/or utility arrears (up to 12 months) and future rental and/or utility assistance if needed. Payments will be made directly to landlords and utility providers for past-due balances.

Visit [CGGA.us/RentalAssistance](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/CGGA.us/RentalAssistance) to learn more about the program, who qualifies for assistance, required documents for the application submission, and more.

### Find a summer lifeguard job

Gwinnett Parks and Recreation is seeking part-time and seasonal lifeguards and is waiving training fees for applicants ages 15 and older. Lifeguard training includes online and in-person components as well as a swim test and written exam. Trainees who pass all the requirements will receive an American Red Cross certification valid for two years.



The part-time/seasonal lifeguard position for ages 16 and older starts at \$9.27 per hour and includes benefits such as flexible hours and growth opportunities. Visit [GwinnettCountyJobs.com](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/GwinnettCountyJobs.com) to apply.

### County accepting applications for federal CDBG, HOME, ESG grants

Gwinnett County is accepting applications for federal Housing and Urban Development Block grants from nonprofits and local governments through Thursday, May 27. The County received approximately \$4.4 million in Community Development Block Grants, about \$1.7 million in HOME Investment Partnership Grants, and \$376,000 in Emergency Solutions Grants. Grant funds are available for local nonprofits and governments that support affordable housing and the needs of Gwinnett's homeless and low-income communities. Learn more about the grants and how to apply [here](#).

## Special Events and Happenings

**Most events and activities are suspended due to the County's COVID-19 response.**

Visit [GwinnettCounty.com](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com) or follow the County's social media channels to learn about future events.

Ben Ku, District 2 Commissioner  
Gwinnett County

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