

NEWS & EVENTS

in District 2 with Commissioner Ben Ku

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August 2021



Hello!

Whether you're ready or not, the back-to-school season is upon us, and fall is around the corner. As we return to these gatherings and the Delta variant circulates, it's more important than ever to help keep vulnerable members of our community safe by masking when appropriate and getting vaccinated if you're eligible.

And remember, if you'd like to chat with me on any topic, please reach out to my office at Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com to schedule a call or virtual meeting.

Happening Around Gwinnett

Remembering Judge Alvarado

Last year, my friend and colleague Recorder's Court Judge Ramón Alvarado passed away from complications resulting from treatment for acute myeloid leukemia, an aggressive form of cancer.

Earlier this month, I was proud to be part of a ceremony honoring his life and contributions to Gwinnett. During the ceremony, we unveiled a portrait and proclamation, which will both be displayed on the walls of the Recorder's Court annex building. I'm grateful that these items will help ensure his legacy is remembered.



Searching for a job in public safety? Learn about careers with the County on August 28

Gwinnett County Government is hiring! Learn about some of these opportunities at two upcoming events. First, the Department of Corrections is hiring for several Correctional Officer and Correctional Officer Senior positions! Complete the first step of the hiring process at a career fair on Saturday, August 28, from 8:00am to 2:00pm at the Comprehensive Correctional Complex located at 750 Hi Hope Road in Lawrenceville. Apply at

GCGA.us/CorrectionsJobs before Thursday, August 26 to allow full participation at the career fair.

Interested in serving in the Sheriff's Office instead? The Gwinnett Sheriff's Office will hold its third virtual career expo from 11:00am to 3:00pm on Saturday, August 28 with a live feed on Facebook and Instagram. Visit GwinnettSheriffJobs.com for details.

Fire and Emergency Services hosts 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

On Saturday, September 11, Gwinnett County Fire and Emergency Services will host the annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the Fallen Heroes Memorial. This year marks two decades since the September 11 attacks took the lives of almost 3,000 people in New York, Arlington, and western Pennsylvania. Join us on the grounds of the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville at 8:30am to hear public safety leaders from around Gwinnett



share their memories, recount the impact of that day, and honor the lives of the fallen.



Police Citizens Academy accepting applications

The Gwinnett Police Department is accepting applications for the next Citizen's Police Academy until Tuesday, August 24. The Citizens Police Academy will run from September 7 to October 26 on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:30pm. to 8:30pm. Examples of topics covered include: crime prevention, communications (911), criminal investigations, gangs, K-9, S.W.A.T, crime scene investigations, and more.

Residents interested in joining the Citizen's Police Academy can obtain an application [here](#). These applications will need to be received no later than Tuesday, August 24 to be considered.

What's New in District 2



Board approves Parks and Recreation master plan

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners is on board with the first step of a Parks and Recreation master plan that lays out a proposed blueprint for adding parks, greenspace, trails, and developing recreational programs over the next decade.

In developing the plan, Gwinnett Parks and Recreation examined existing and projected demographics, current parks inventory, local and national trends, and the needs of residents and stakeholders including creating recreation opportunities within a 10-minute walk. The parks capital projects have primarily been funded with

revenues from our Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax programs.

Participate in the Great Pollinator Census

Pollinators, including bees, beetles, and butterflies, play a critical role in the ecosystem. They help pollinate plants that produce fruits, vegetables, nuts, oils, fibers, and other raw materials; feed and protect wildlife; clean the air; prevent soil erosion and more. Help us understand and advance pollinator health in Georgia by participating in the Great Georgia Pollinator Census on August 20 and August 21.



Participation is simple. Count how many times in 15 minutes insect pollinators land on a pollinating plant bloom, and then upload your results online. Participate on your own or volunteer at an event where staff will provide an insect pollinator identification guide, counting handouts, and assistance. Drop by to volunteer for census counting and learn more about the locations throughout the county by visiting GGAPC.org/events. Visit GGAPC.org to upload counts.



Enjoy a free art exhibit at the Lilburn Activity Building

Did you know we have free art exhibits at Lilburn Activity Building? Come by on August 20 for the artist reception from 7:00pm to 8:00pm and experience the breathtaking art of Gloria Still. Exhibit hours are Monday to Thursday from noon to 8:00pm, Friday from 9:00am to 4:00pm, and Saturday from 10:00am to 2:00pm. For more information or to register for this free event, click [here](#).

It's not too late to help protect our community

We asked [real Gwinnett Moms](#) why they made the decision to get vaccinated, and many of them told us they did it to protect themselves, their families, and the community we all love. Some think the risks of COVID-19 seem low, but no matter your age or health, no one knows exactly how COVID-19 will affect them. If you get infected, you might have a life-threatening reaction. Even if you don't, you could still spread the virus to your family, friends...or someone else's mom, dad, auntie, or grandparent who you'll never meet. My biggest fear is that my actions (or inaction) could lead to someone else's death. COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective and masks are a simple and effective tool to prevent asymptomatic spread. Visit ListenToGwinnettMoms.com to find answers to common questions and to locate a vaccine site near you.



Events and activities are ramping back up across Gwinnett.

Visit [GwinnettCountyEvents.com](https://www.gwinnettcountryevents.com) or follow the County's social media channels to learn more about upcoming events.

The Goat in the Rug

Saturday, August 21 from 11:00am to noon

Learn about Navajo weaving, how mohair is turned into a rug, and weave your own bookmark! For grades K-5. Registration is required and space is limited. Children attending must have an adult with them to aid in this project. Five Forks Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library, 2780 Five Forks Trickum Road, Lawrenceville.

Sowing the Seeds: Starting Your Fall Garden

Tuesday, August 24 from 5:30pm to 7:00pm

Join Harvest Gwinnett and learn techniques on sowing seeds and starting your fall vegetable garden. Fall vegetable crops for Georgia include collard greens, mustard greens, cabbage, and much more. While you learn, help Harvest Gwinnett plant fall crops into the share rows which produce vegetables that will be donated to the local community. West Gwinnett Park Community Garden, 4488 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Berkeley Lake.

Welcoming Week Citizenship Workshop

Friday, September 17 from 10:00am to 3:00pm

Join Asian Americans Advancing Justice, the Gwinnett County Public Library, and Gwinnett Community Outreach for a free naturalization application preparedness workshop, in celebration of Citizenship Day and Welcoming Week. Registration is required for this workshop. Applicants who qualify and completed the naturalization application and fee waiver (if applicable) will meet in-person with a staff immigration advocate. AAAJ legal reps will review applications thoroughly and provide legal assistance. [Learn more.](#) 4817 Church Street NW, Lilburn.

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