

# NEWS & EVENTS



in District 3 with  
Commissioner Watkins

April 2021



Greetings!

Welcome to News & Events in District 3!

In this monthly newsletter, you'll find information about what's happening in Gwinnett, and more specifically, what's happening in District 3, which covers Braselton, Auburn, Dacula, Grayson, Loganville, Snellville, and parts of Lawrenceville.

I hope you'll continue to follow along! You can also let your neighbors know that they can sign up to receive my newsletter [here](#).

## Happening Around Gwinnett

### **Gwinnett Moms want you to stay safe from COVID-19**

All Georgians 16 and older are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine! COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective at protecting you from getting sick.

Based on what we know about COVID-19 vaccines, people who have been fully vaccinated can start to do some things that they had stopped doing because of the pandemic. The CDC says that [fully vaccinated people](#) can visit other vaccinated people indoors without masks, so you'll be able to safely hug Mom soon! After you've been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, continue precautions in public places, including wearing a mask, staying 6 feet from others, and avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces. For more information, visit [ListenToGwinnettMoms.com](#).



### **Gwinnett County announces expansion of Emergency Rental Assistance Program**

The Board of Commissioners announced that the County will use more than \$28.1 million in stimulus funds from the federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program to launch an expansion of its Project RESET eviction prevention program. The extension will allow applicants to seek financial support for past-due utility payment assistance as well as past-due rent. It also 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. Applications for this program will open in late April. Payments will be made directly to landlords and utility providers for past-due balances.

Visit [GCGA.us/RentalAssistance](#) to learn more about the program, who qualifies for assistance, required documents for the application submission, and more. Households in immediate need are encouraged to seek resources currently available in the community at [GCGA.us/COVID19Resources](#).

### **Last chance to apply for Gwinnett Youth Commission**

High schoolers can learn how and why Gwinnett County Government does what it does by attending the Gwinnett Youth Commission, an eight-week summer leadership program for high

school students. After the summer session, participants are sworn in as Youth Commissioners where they:

- Interact with Gwinnett County Government leaders
- Speak on behalf of Gwinnett County youth
- Help local government better understand the issues facing Gwinnett youth
- Serve as youth ambassadors for the county
- Plan community events and participate in volunteer projects



[Applications](#) will be accepted on the [Gwinnett Youth Commission](#) webpage through **April 12**. This summer's session will be in-person but limited to 15 participants to allow for social distancing.



### **Masks required in County facilities**

Gwinnett County is requiring face masks or face coverings for all visitors and employees inside County buildings and facilities. Chairwoman Hendrickson signed an executive order citing mask recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and noting the Supreme Court has ruled a community has the right to protect its citizens from epidemics. The order allows exceptions for bona fide medical or religious reasons and for people unable to don or remove masks alone. The mask should cover the mouth and nose. People who do not comply may be denied entry or asked to leave.

## **What's New in District 3**

### **Gwinnett launches early learning and literacy program**

Gwinnett County has partnered with Gwinnett County Public Schools and the Building Babies' Brains initiative to launch an early learning and literacy program called Building Brains (B<sup>2</sup>) Anywhere. B<sup>2</sup> Anywhere provides mobile early learning programs across Gwinnett, including parks, childcare facilities, community centers, apartment complexes, places of worship, and more. Programs include a focus on literacy, STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math), and nature play. They also provide helpful suggestions to prepare children to thrive in kindergarten.



B<sup>2</sup> Anywhere events are free to attend, but pre-registration is required. COVID-19 protocols are in place to protect participants and staff. For more information, visit [B2Anywhere.com](#).



### **Apply for a garden plot through Harvest Gwinnett**

If you're itching to dig in the dirt but have no place to do it, the [Harvest Gwinnett community gardens program](#) is accepting [applications](#) for its nine garden locations around the county. Three of the gardens are located in District 3 at **Dacula Park, Graves Park, and Vines Park**.

Applications for 4-foot-by-8-foot raised beds will be accepted while supply lasts. Other applicants will be added to a waiting list. Each plot costs \$35 for the year.

### **Learn more about Rowen**

In August, Gwinnett County and the state of Georgia unveiled plans for a 2,000-acre knowledge community that will include a combination of offices, research facilities, public spaces, and residences. The Rowen project will focus on three of the state's historic economic drivers and areas of expertise — agriculture, the environment, and medicine. Located in eastern Gwinnett County between Atlanta, Athens, and Gainesville, Rowen is close to more than 50 Fortune 1000 headquarters. Watch [this short introductory video](#) to learn more about the project.



Substantial infrastructure improvements are planned or underway along SR 316, which will enhance the site's connectivity to the region. Rowen will incorporate the land's natural forests and hills within its design and will preserve hundreds of acres of greenspace. Learn more about Rowen at [RowenLife.com](#).

### **Expect your Annual Notice of Assessment soon**

Most Residential and Commercial Annual Notices of Assessment for 2021 will be mailed on April 23. An Annual Notice of Assessment is



not a tax bill. The notice informs you of the value assessed on your residential or commercial real estate as of January 1, 2021. Property owners may appeal the assessed value within 45 days of the date of the notice by submitting a completed PT311A state appeal form to the Tax Assessor's Office or visiting [Gwinnett-Assessor.com](https://www.gwinnett-assessor.com).

## Special Events and Happenings

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

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

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Gwinnett County

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