

NEWS & EVENTS

in District 4 with
Commissioner Fosque

April 2019



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Greetings!



Greetings V.I.C.s (Very Important Citizens):

Since my last newsletter, I've participated in Read Across America Day at Kanoheda Elementary - what a joyful experience, spoken at Buford/North Gwinnett Rotary lunch, and spent some time "on the grounds" meeting and greeting staff in our Gwinnett County Police, Department of Water Resources, Planning and Development, and Sheriff's departments.

I also attended our Fire and Emergency Services Promotion and Graduation Ceremony, Community Healthcare Roundtable, and two poignant engagements- Partnership Gwinnett's Star (Top Students and Educators) luncheon and the 2019 Valor Awards, which honors and recognizes Gwinnett County public safety professionals who conduct heroic feats while serving their community. In addition, I got to participate in the Break-Through ceremony for HomeFirst Gwinnett's major renovation for its future homeless assessment center.



Last, but not least, I was honored to receive the Social Action award from the Rho Kappa Lambda chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity during the chapter's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Breakfast and Diversity Awards Program.

Policywise, our Board of Commissioners as a whole approved many items through our various departments, such as contracts for the installation, inspection, maintenance and repair of doors and windows for multiple departments, the repair and resurfacing of outdoor sports courts, and the mowing and trimming of landscaped roadsides along public sidewalks. We also approved the purchase of public safety equipment necessary to transport fire personnel and other emergency equipment and to update outdated systems used to maintain the safety and security of our community. We took action to move forward with extending Sugarloaf Parkway between State Route 316 and I-85, and I've made several District 4 appointments to the Airport Authority, Gwinnett Transit Advisory Board, Water and Sewerage Authority, Recreational Authority, and the Historical Preservation Board.

All of these meaningful opportunities reflect how we are all vibrantly connected throughout our very impactful county.

Always remember, ***We Are Much Better.... Working Together!***

Commissioner Marlene Fosque
District 4, covering Lawrenceville, Buford, Rest Haven, and parts of Sugar Hill and Braselton



Happening Around Gwinnett

Celebrate our community at the 2019



Multicultural Festival

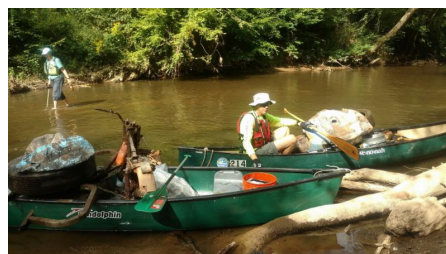
Gwinnett Police, County officials, and friends from across the globe will gather **Saturday, April 27** from **10:00am to 2:00pm** at Shorty Howell Park for the annual Gwinnett Multicultural Festival and County Government Open House. Enjoy cultural performances, meet representatives from your local government, and see some of the equipment used by our public safety officials. You may even get to see the police helicopter take off like last year! Kids can enjoy games and inflatables and get a chance to dunk a police officer. I hope to see you all there!

What to know about your Annual Notice of Assessment

The Tax Assessor's Office sends our assessment notices every year to inform property owners about the value of their taxable property. This isn't a tax bill, but it includes an estimate of taxes that could be owed based on the previous year's millage rates and exemptions. If you disagree with the assessed value of your property, you can appeal the notice value within 45 days from the date on the notice. For more information, you can visit www.gwinnett-assessor.com.

Participate in this year's Great Gwinnett Wetlands

Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful and the Department of Water Resources are hosting the fifth annual Great Gwinnett Wetlands **Saturday, April 27** from **9:00am to 1:00pm**. Learn how you can help protect Gwinnett's wetlands and water resources with plenty of opportunities for hands-on learning, including monitoring the health of the wetland and water quality, picking up litter that act as pollutants, and removing invasive plants that choke the health of the wetland. As a thank you for participation, all volunteers will receive a t-shirt to commemorate the program. Register [here](#).



Sign up for the Volunteer Gwinnett newsletter

Volunteer Gwinnett recently launched a quarterly newsletter to keep service-minded residents up to date on the latest volunteering news in the county. Stay informed about opportunities to volunteer, learn how to become a volunteer, and see the great work volunteers are doing in our community today. **Sign up [here](#)**, and check out the most recent newsletter [here](#).

What's New in District 4



Annual outdoor burn ban begins May 1

The Gwinnett County Department of Fire and Emergency Services would like to remind residents that a ban on outdoor open burning is in place annually from May 1 through September 30. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division imposes a ban on outdoor open burning to comply with Federal Clean Air Regulations. During the summer months in Georgia, the ozone in the air we breathe can reach unhealthy levels.

The following types of outdoor open burning are banned:

- The outdoor open burning ban prohibits the burning of yard and land clearing debris during the months of May through September. This includes a ban on the use of air curtain destructors for land clearing.

For more information, visit www.gwinnettfiremarshal.com or contact the Community Risk Reduction Division at 678.518.4980 (select option 3).

Tag and title services interrupted May 21 to 29

Tag and title services will be interrupted while a new state motor vehicle system is installed. From May 21 to 29, tag renewals will be unavailable online and at kiosks; from May 23 to 27, tag and title services will be unavailable at tag offices and by mail. **If your birthday falls within those dates, please renew by May 20.** You can also renew online at www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/renew.

The Great American Cleanup is now year-round

The Great American Cleanup is the nation's largest annual community improvement program, first launched in 1999 by Keep America Beautiful. Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful brought that same spirit of action closer to home by motivating countless aspiring environmental stewards to help keep our local community green, clean, and beautiful. Beginning in 2019, GCB will offer Great American Cleanup opportunities all year long, providing the needed funding to complete the cleanup, beautification,

recycling, and other projects you and your neighbors have been itching to do! Each month, at least one applicant will be selected from one of several categories to have their project funded. [Learn more from Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful.](#)

Remember to avoid distracted driving

Since the new hands-free law went into effect last year, law enforcement agencies, including Gwinnett, are seeing a decrease in accidents related to distracted driving. In District 4, there has been an overall decrease in traffic accidents from last year. April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month, which reminds drivers to put their phones away, stay off the touchscreens, and just drive. Here are a few tips to follow to stay safe while driving:

- Make a habit to program your GPS, place calls or send texts before starting the car.
- Put your phone somewhere that you can't peek at it, and silence notifications that will tempt you to check your phone while driving.
- Use an app that allows you to block messages or send an automatic message while driving.
- If a phone call or text must be answered, pull over to the side of the road to respond or allow a passenger to respond to you.
- Most importantly, be patient; no text or phone call is worth your safety



Special Events and Happenings

Gwinnett County Government hosts many events, classes, and workshops for its residents. See these great events and more at www.gwinnettcouyevents.com.

National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

Saturday, April 27, 10:00am to 2:00pm. Please bring your unused, unneeded, or expired prescription medications to the Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office is participating in the Drug Enforcement Administration's National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. The drugs collected will be destroyed by the DEA at EPA-approved incinerators. Call 800.882.9439 or visit www.DEAtakeback.com for more information. Gwinnett Sheriff's Headquarters, 2900 University Parkway, Lawrenceville.

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta!

Friday, May 3, 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with crafts at OneStop Buford between 3:30pm and 5:30pm followed by music and dancing at Bogan Park Community Recreation Center at 6:00pm. This fiesta is for the whole family! Craft only: \$6/person, register online with OSB31000. Dance only: \$12 per person, register online with code: BOP31600. Craft/dance combo: \$15 per person, register online with code: BOP31601. Call 678.277.0850 for more information. One Stop Buford, 2755 Sawnee Avenue, Buford.

Pamper Me Ladies Spa Day

Friday, May 10, 11:00am to 2:00pm. Come relish in an evening of pampering at our first-ever Ladies Spa Day! Enjoy facials, massages, skin and hair care tips, make-up tutorials, and meet the professionals! Sample healthy smoothie and infused water recipes. Ages 15 and up; \$15 per person, [preregister](#) by May 3 with code GHC31601. Gwinnett Historic Courthouse, 185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

Wheels in the Wind Bike Ride

Saturday, May 18, 9:00am to noon. Join Gwinnett County Transit and bring your bicycle to Rhodes Jordan Park. Explore the park with others on your bike, receive free giveaways, light refreshments, incentives for changing your commute, learn how to load your bike on a GCT bus's bike rack, and more! Preregister at <http://bit.ly/gctevents>. Rhodes Jordan Park, 100 East Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

Did You Know?

The Department of Transportation maintains a list of road closures available to view on Gwinnett County's website. Click [here](#) to learn where closures are, how long they're expected to last, and who you can contact if you need additional information.



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