

NEWS & EVENTS

in District 4 with
Commissioner Fosque



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June 2019



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

I had another busy, productive, and informative month this May attending the Hi-Hope Service Center's fourth Annual Sprout Film Festival; participating in a panel discussion held by Delta Sigma Theta Inc. Gwinnett chapter, the Club Drive Park Expansion Ribbon Cutting ceremony, and the Gwinnett Healthcare Roundtable discussions; and touring the Gwinnett Medical Center – Lawrenceville and Annandale Village facilities. I was humbled to attend and support the families our fallen heroes acknowledged through the annual Memorial Day program held at the Gwinnett Fallen Heroes

Memorial.

I also joined Lawrenceville Mayor Judy Jordan Johnson and City Manager Chuck Warbington, along with Representatives Sam Park and Greg Kennard in welcoming Dr. Janna L. Joseph, the new President of Georgia Gwinnett College, to Gwinnett County.



Lastly, since this is water safety month in Gwinnett, I would like to share a personal story. When I was around 7 or 8 years old, I lived near wonderful kind neighbors who owned a built-in swimming pool, which I was allowed to play in as long as an adult was around to supervise me. Well one day, I decided to have some fun on my own and ventured to the neighbors pool with no adult supervision or permission...well, you can guess what happened next. Somehow, I drifted to the deeper end of the pool and lost control. Thankfully, my neighbor saw me in the pool just in time and jumped in to save me. I was given CPR and was rushed to the hospital, where I stayed for a couple of days. It was a terrifying experience for my neighbors, my family, and me. Needless to say, that was the last time I got into a swimming pool alone.

Today, water incidents like these still occur among children. While more safety measures are in place than years ago, it is still important to follow basic safety rules around water. So take a few minutes to read the tips below provided by our Department of Fire and Emergency Services, and let's all have a safe, fun-filled summer with our family and friends.

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

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

Happening Around Gwinnett

Celebrate summer safely at Gwinnett's pools and aquatic centers

We're celebrating Water Safety Month this June to remind residents to stay safe while enjoying County and neighborhood pools and trips to the lakes and beaches. Water safety should also be practiced in backyard pools since most drownings in kids 4 and under happen at home swimming pools.



- Here are some steps that you can take to keep your family safe this summer:
- Assign a water watcher to supervise children swimming or playing in or near water, even if there are lifeguards present or if the children know how to swim.
 - Put your child in a properly fitted US Coast Guard approved life jacket when in or around water.
 - If a child goes missing, always check the pool or spa first. This is especially important if your child is prone to wandering.
 - Make sure everyone in your household knows how to swim. The

American Association of Pediatrics recommends swim lessons for children beginning as early as age one.

- In addition, parents and caregivers should know CPR and how to get emergency help.

Accountability courts get funding support

Commissioners have applied for grants to help fund accountability courts that offer help for offenders willing to change their behavior.



2019 Accountability Court Grants

Drug Court	\$372,946
DUI Court	185,467
Mental Health Court	176,159
Veterans Court	141,529
Juvenile Accountability	107,132

The grants come from Georgia's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and require a 10 percent local match. These specialty courts have been shown to significantly improve substance-abuse outcomes, substantially reduce drug abuse and crime, and do so at less expense than other justice strategies.



Water Resources' Consumer Confidence Report now available

The Department of Water Resources issues an annual consumer confidence report that contains important information about the quality of your drinking water. The report details results of state and federally mandated tests for various contaminants. In 2018, there were no EPA Safe Drinking Water Act violations to report. View the report and learn more about your drinking water at

www.gwinnettwaterwords.com.

What's New in District 4

Summer meals program offered in Gwinnett parks

Gwinnett children 18 and younger can receive free lunches and afternoon snacks at three County parks now through August 2, Monday through Friday. While supplies last, lunches will be served from 11:30am to 12:30pm and snacks will be available from 2:30pm to 3:00pm. No lunches or snacks will be offered from July 1 to July 5. Meals and snacks will be offered at Rhodes Jordan Park, 100 East Crogan Street in Lawrenceville. They'll also be provided at Best Friend Park, 6224 Jimmy Carter Boulevard in Norcross and at the Lilburn Activity Building, 788 Hillcrest Road in Lilburn.



IndePETdence Week at the animal shelter

Celebrate our independence by adopting a new best friend! Adoption fees will be reduced to \$4 for pets adopted from the shelter between July 1 and July 6. All pets adopted at Gwinnett Animal Welfare have been vaccinated, neutered, and microchipped and are ready to go to their new home. The standard adoption fee is \$45 for dogs and puppies and \$30 for cats and kittens.

If you can't wait that long for the next addition to your family, you can adopt any pet for free through the end of June. Learn more and see all the pets currently available at the shelter at www.GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com.

Celebrate Independence Day

Many exciting, family-oriented Independence Day celebrations are taking place in District 4. Here are a few to help you plan your July 4 activities!

- [Prelude to the Fourth](#) in Lawrenceville
- [Independence Day Game and Fireworks Celebration](#) at Coolray Field
- [Star Spangled Fourth](#) at the Mall of Georgia



Gwinnett Police joins neighborhood watch company to fight crime

The Police Department is partnering with the Neighbors app by Ring to provide the Gwinnett County community with real-time, local safety information and as a new tool to deter and investigate crime. Under an agreement approved by the Board of Commissioners on May 7, the department will be able to join existing crime and safety conversations with local residents at the neighborhood level already happening on the

Neighbors app. Police will not have access to cameras, live footage, or user data. Law enforcement can only view content posted by users to the Neighbors app or that users have decided to share with them directly in response to a specific request.

The department will meet with neighborhood groups that are designated COPS communities to discuss the Neighbors crime watch app. Residents of these neighborhoods will be able to download the app and be entered into a raffle to win a doorbell video camera. One device will be raffled per COPS community. The Gwinnett County Police Department will offer assistance to donated device recipients who request help installing their device at a later date.

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.

Bus Tour: Gwinnett's Glorious Gardens

June 22, 10:00am to 5:00pm. Explore the beautiful gardens located throughout Gwinnett County with us. Meet knowledgeable master gardeners and community leaders who share their passion for gardening. Tour starts at Lawrenceville Female Seminary. All ages. \$10/person, [pre-register online](#) with code LFS38400 or call 770.822.5178. 455 South Perry Street, Lawrenceville.

Unusual Fruits and Vegetables Workshop | FREE

June 27, noon to 1:00pm. Break out of your apple and tomato routine and expand your fruit and vegetable palate. Many unusual types of produce flourish in this area, including kiwifruit, goji berries, and Jerusalem artichokes. Learn how you can grow these unusual fruits and vegetables at this workshop. [Register online](#) using code ANX34503. UGA Extension Gwinnett Conference Room, 750 South Perry Street, Lawrenceville.

Learn & Skate: Water Wonders

July 18, 10:00am to 2:00pm. Participate in a fun, interactive presentation then show off your skills on the maple hardwood floor at nearby Skate Country. Lunch and transportation included. Ages: 7 to 12. Cost: \$8. OneStop Buford, 2755 Sawnee Avenue, Buford.

Household Hazardous Collection Day | FREE

July 20, 8:00am to noon. Summertime is here, so join us for the second annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day! Gwinnett County residents are allowed to bring up to five containers each of household hazardous waste for free. [Visit our website](#) for a list of acceptable items. Gwinnett County Fairgrounds, 2405 Sugarloaf Parkway, Lawrenceville.

Did You Know?

The Gwinnett County Public Library is hosting free mobile vision clinics this summer. Offered by Vision to Learn, the organization provides eye exams and glasses at no cost to children in low-income communities. The mobile clinics will take place at the following dates and locations:

- **July 15:** Lilburn Branch (4817 Church Street, Lilburn)
- **July 16:** Centerville Branch (3025 Bethany Church Road, Snellville)
- **July 18:** Lawrenceville Branch (1001 Lawrenceville Highway, Lawrenceville)



- **July 23:** Norcross Branch (6025 Buford Highway, Norcross)
- **July 24:** Buford Branch (2100 Buford Highway, Buford)
- **August 2:** Snellville Branch (2740 Lenora Church Road, Snellville)

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