

NEWS & EVENTS

in District 4 with
Commissioner Fosque



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November 2019



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

October started out as an adventurous month as I traveled to Denver, Colorado for the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce's strategic leadership trip with more than 80 other local leaders to see how the infrastructure of a community similar to Gwinnett operates. We explored their various modes of transportation and participated in a Community and Economic Development discussion.

After returning to Gwinnett, I had the opportunity to tour ViewPoint Health's local facilities, the C.E.R.M. facility in Tucker where a large number of their employees reside in Gwinnett County, and attend several events, including: Gwinnett Tech's 35th anniversary and State of the College Address, Precision Planning's 37 years in business luncheon, North Gwinnett Co-op's grand opening and ribbon cutting, the Governor's Environmental Address, the State of Gwinnett County's Children Summit, Partnership Gwinnett's Metro Atlanta Redevelopment Summit, the National Principal of the Year celebration with local Principal Karensa Winger from Collins Hill High School, and the Downtown Development Authority of Lawrenceville meeting. I also spoke at the Fort Daniel Historic Marker Dedication, where our county was founded.



I also visited Ivy Creek Elementary and Jones Middle Schools in Buford and the Principal for a Day Kickoff Breakfast, where I will spend time at Phoenix High School in November. I also took a walk through at a pre-grand opening of Altria's IQOS store in the Mall of Georgia and ended the month by attending a chili cook-off and costume contest with our Planning and Development staff. Earlier this month, I had the pleasure of participating in the County's Census kickoff event and the annual Veterans Day Ceremony, where we thanked our hometown heroes for their service and sacrifice.

Policywise, our Board of Commissioners as a whole took actions on many important initiatives, including:

- Approved restoration and site improvements for the historic Hudson Nash House and Elisha Winn House
- Ratified the employment agreement with Tom S. Doran, Chief of Police
- Accepted grant funds from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Victims of Crime Act to fund a Volunteer Coordinator for Juvenile Court's Court Appointed Special Advocate program
- Approved the submittal of the FY 2020 Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant Program, HOME Investments Partnership Program, Emergency Solutions Grant, and the FY 2020 – 2024 Consolidated Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Accepted a \$47,275 grant from the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency to purchase search and rescue equipment
- Approved the execution of a Project Framework Agreement with Georgia Department of

Transportation for preliminary engineering on the SR316/University Parkway at US 29/Winder Highway

- Approved the contract with Southeast Corrections LLC to provide probation services to the Gwinnett County State Court

As we approach the holiday season, I hope you take some time to enjoy your family and loved ones and find a way to give back to those in need. If you need ideas, I'm sure you can find them on Volunteer Gwinnett's website, www.volunteergwinnett.net.

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



2020 Proposed budget coming soon

Chairman Nash's 2020 budget proposal will be made available to the public and news media November 19 in conjunction with its formal presentation to me and my fellow commissioners.

Residents will have the opportunity to provide input on the proposed budget during a budget public hearing December 12 or via an online form that will be available through the end of the year. The Board of Commissioners will adopt the annual budget during our first meeting in January.

You can view [budget presentations](#) made by elected officials, department directors, and agency heads who presented their business plans and financial resource requests to the budget review team made up of six Gwinnett residents who were invited by Chairman Nash to help set priorities and make recommendations for the proposed budget.

Be on the lookout for more details about the budget on our website, www.gwinnettcountry.com after November 19 and in December's issue of News and Events in District 4.

County offices closed, trash and recycling collection delay for Thanksgiving

Gwinnett County Government offices, with the exception of those required for the comfort and safety of residents, will be closed **November 28 and 29** for the Thanksgiving holiday. County offices will resume normal business hours Monday, December 2. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center during the holiday.



Thursday, **November 28 is a trash and recycling holiday** for residents in unincorporated Gwinnett. Trash and recycling collections scheduled on that day will be rescheduled to Friday, November 29 and Friday's collections will be rescheduled to Saturday, November 30. Only Thursday and Friday collections will be affected. You can visit www.gcsolidwaste.com to find your hauler's contact information. If you live within city limits, contact your city's trash and recycling provider to find out if collection will be delayed due to the holiday.



Transit Review Committee meetings continue

The Gwinnett Transit Review Committee is continuing its work to provide recommendations on how to address our county's transit needs. The committee's next meeting will be held **Wednesday, November 20 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm**. These meetings are open to the public, so make plans to attend as they thoroughly assess various transit scenarios.

The committee will submit a written report and recommendations to the Board of Commissioners by the end of the year. Learn more about the Transit Review Committee at www.GCTransitPlan.com.

Support your community; become a poll official!

Gwinnett County is hiring poll officials to staff 156 polling locations plus eight advance voting locations for the 2020 election season. The Voter Registrations and Elections Division is looking for citizens of all backgrounds, including bilingual poll officials. Workers can gain valuable work experience and get paid! Currently, positions pay up to a \$120 stipend. Learn more and apply at



What's New in District 4



Annual lighting of the tree takes place Thanksgiving night

Continue the tradition this holiday season with Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation as they host the annual Lighting of the Tree on Thanksgiving Day, **November 28** beginning at **5:30pm** at the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse in downtown Lawrenceville. Families will enjoy gathering on the grounds before the flick of the switch at 6:00pm, which will illuminate 30,000 lights on a 30-foot Norway spruce. Enjoy live music, food vendors, kids' crafts, and of course the arrival of Santa Claus to light the tree. The Gwinnett Historic

Courthouse is located at **185 Crogan Street** in downtown Lawrenceville.

Be safe in the kitchen this Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment, including turkey fryers. If you plan to deep-fry the holiday bird, be sure to follow these safety tips:

- Turkey fryers should always be used outdoors at a safe distance away from the house. Don't use the fryers on the back of a deck, in the garage, or carport.
- Do not overfill the fryer with cooking oil and remember to use insulated cooking mitts or potholders when touching the pot or removing the lid cover.
- Keep the oil temperature in the turkey fryer at the recommended level (350° or below) when cooking. The oil could ignite and burn if the temperature is raised above the recommended level.
- Never place a frozen bird into hot oil. Placing a frozen turkey into a fryer could cause a violent reaction.
- Lower the turkey into the pot slowly. Allow the bubbles to settle before lowering the bird the rest of the way in.



For more tips, visit www.gwinnettsafety411.com.

Be safe while shopping this holiday season

After you've celebrated Thanksgiving with your family, please remember to be safe while shopping this holiday season. You may notice more police officers on patrol at major shopping areas throughout Gwinnett during the holidays. In addition, officers from the Crime Prevention Unit will be conducting vehicle safety checks during the holidays, encouraging shoppers to do their part to prevent property theft.

As you are out shopping for gifts and traveling during the holidays, the Police Department wants to remind you to be safe with these helpful tips:

- Shop in daylight hours when possible; if you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Stay alert to your surroundings; report any suspicious or loitering people to the authorities.
- Store packages in your trunk and park your vehicle in a well-lit area. Never leave valuables, including electronics and their chargers, in plain view.
- When offered, let retail employees assist you with taking your merchandise to your vehicle.
- Don't carry large amounts of cash; use secure forms of payment such as a credit or debit card when purchasing items.
- Be extra careful if you do carry a wallet or purse. They are the prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping areas, transportation terminals, bus stops, on buses and other rapid transit.
- Have merchandise delivered to a secured location when possible.
- Always lock your car doors while in or out of your car.



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

Melted Snow Party & Movie

Friday, December 6 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Enjoy an evening full of swimming, snacks, and watching your favorite holiday movies. All ages; \$4/person, pre-register online with code CHP45902 or call 770.237.5647. Collins Hill Park Aquatic Center, 2200 Collins Hill Road, Lawrenceville.

An Evening with Charles Dickens

Saturday, December 14 from 7:00pm to 10:00pm. Step back in time, meet Charles Dickens and other *A Christmas Carol* characters, enjoy music, interactive dances, and Victorian period games. Ages 10 and up, \$11/person; pre-register online by December 9 with code IAH41401 or call 770.822.5178. Isaac Adair House, 15 South Clayton Street, Lawrenceville.

Jingle Bingo & Potluck

Thursday, December 5 from noon to 1:30pm. Ring in the holidays and bring a dish to share for a potluck lunch! Drinks and Dessert provided. Stay after lunch for Bingo and Prizes. Ages 50 and up; \$5/person, pre-register online with code BOP41900 or call 678.277.0850. Bogan Park Community Recreation Center, 2723 North Bogan Road NE, Buford.

Holiday Cards for a Cause

Thursday, December 5, from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. Celebrate the season with a favorite holiday pastime and some tasty treats! Create festive cards to send to loved ones and also make cards to send to our service men and women who cannot be home for the holidays. \$5/person, pre-register online with code RJP41900 or call 678.277.0890. Rhodes Jordan Park Community Recreation Center, 100 East Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

Did You Know?

The Gwinnett County Police Crime Prevention Unit offers free seminars to educate residents on safety and crime issues. These specialized officers routinely talk to homeowners, parents, employees, associations, and children. They are available to attend your next function, whether at home or at work in Gwinnett County. At least 10 participants must be committed to attend for an officer to speak.

The topics include: Alarm Awareness, Business Safety, Personal Safety, Child Safety for Parents, Sexual Assault Prevention, and Workplace Violence (visit the [Crime Prevention website](#) for a full list of topics).

For more information or to schedule a free seminar, email William.Rooks@gwinnettcouy.com.

Marlene Fosque, District 4 Commissioner
Gwinnett County

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