

# NEWS & EVENTS

in District 4 with  
Commissioner Fosque



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October 2019



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

As we leave September behind and **fall** into October's colorful leaves and good old sweater weather, I reflect on the activities and events that I had the honor of participating in last month. Some left me feeling humbled and very grateful for those who sacrifice their lives on our behalf, such as the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony and Georgia State Patrol Post groundbreaking, and those who have left a lasting impression on our community, including the dedication of the Rhodes Jordan Park Football Field in honor of Nick Blakely. Others made me

hopeful for our future, such as the Leadership Gwinnett Fall Retreat, College and Career Academies at Discovery High School, Gwinnett Chamber's ON TOPIC Luncheon's State of the Schools Address, Gwinnett County Economic Development's Coffee and Conversation, and Georgia Gwinnett College's reception for incoming president Dr. Jann L. Joseph.

Our Board of Commissioners as a whole took actions on many important initiatives:

- Accepted a donation from the Gwinnett Soccer Association that includes the purchase and installation of netting for Rabbit Hill Park's soccer fields
- Accepted a grant of \$96,720 from the U.S. Department of Justice to provide equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance or information systems for criminal justice, including law enforcement programs or prevention and education programs
- Approved a contract to upsize sewer pipeline from Paper Mill Road near Saddle Shoal Trail to Ezzard Street near Pine Hill Circle in Lawrenceville
- Approved a contract to replace 2-inch PVC water main with 8-inch ductile iron pipe to provide improved water supply and fire protection to residences along Green Road in Buford
- Reappointed Tommy Hughes to the Hospital Authority



I got to participate in an annual tradition, the Gwinnett County Fair (I tried my best to stay away from the fried Oreos); took a tour of the county's renowned Aurora Theatre; learned about some new things on the horizon such as the widening of Duluth Highway and West Pike Street; and helped welcome a new business to our county, Badcock Home Furniture and More in Lawrenceville. Finally, I had the honor of providing the Council for Quality Growth's Gwinnett Advisory Committee with District 4 updates.

It's been a busy month, so I want to remind everyone that despite our hectic schedules and regardless of the season, don't forget to take some time out to conduct self-care. It's so important to have balance in your life and take time out for yourself!

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



## Commissioners create Transit Review Committee to review transit options

Gwinnett has experienced so much growth and change since Gwinnett County Transit began Express route service in November 2001. My fellow commissioners and I believe that the County's transit services must grow and evolve to meet the changing needs of the County's residents, businesses, and visitors. Based on this recognition, the Board of Commissioners formed the new [Gwinnett County Transit Review Committee](#) last month. The committee seeks to bring together members of our community to assess

potential transit options and determine a feasible approach for providing transit services that will meet the increasing and changing needs of those who live, work, learn, and play in Gwinnett.

To allow for greater input from the wider Gwinnett community, the Transit Review Committee will hold regular meetings to discuss the County's future in transit; these meetings are open to the public. The committee will then 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](http://www.GCTransitPlan.com).

## Learn and play at the Trick or Treatment Fall Festival

Learning what happens to your water after you flush doesn't have to be scary! Come out to the 2019 Yellow River Trick or Treatment Fall Festival October 26 from 11:00am to 3:00pm for a little science lesson and Halloween fun for the whole family. The Department of Water Resources' annual fall festival offers crafts, inflatables, games and activities, touch-a-truck and free fairground food. Costumes are encouraged. Festival goers will also have the opportunity to tour the award-winning Yellow River Water Reclamation Facility to learn about how water is reclaimed and cleaned. The facility is located at 858 Tom Smith Road in Lilburn.



## Outdoor burn ban is over, use caution while burning

The annual ban on outdoor burning put in place by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division has now ended, but Gwinnett residents must still take precautions and check whether burning is allowed before burning yard debris or hosting bonfires. Even though the ban is now lifted, burning may still be restricted on a given day due to weather conditions and in accordance with High Fire Danger Warnings from the National Weather Service or Red Flag Warnings from the Georgia

Forestry Commission. Recent drought conditions may also impact when and if outdoor burning is allowed. Visit [www.gwinnettfiremarshal.com](http://www.gwinnettfiremarshal.com) for more information, or call the outdoor burn line at 678.518.4979. Information on outdoor burning is updated daily by 9:00am both online and through the outdoor burn line.

## It's Fire Prevention Month in Gwinnett!

Each year, Gwinnett County Fire and Emergency Services expands National Fire Prevention Week (October 6 – 12) into a monthlong campaign to raise awareness of fire safety and help ensure that families are prepared in the event of a fire-related emergency. For Fire Prevention Month this year, Fire and Emergency Services is urging families to improve their home's safety by checking their alarms, testing the alarms regularly, and adding reliable protection when replacing expired alarms.



Keep these stats in mind this month:

- Three of every five home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no working smoke alarms
- Less than half of homeowners have an escape plan
- Carbon monoxide (CO) is the number one cause of accidental death
- 60 percent of consumers do not test their smoke and CO alarms monthly
- Only 47 percent of people report having CO alarms in their home
- Just 43 percent of homeowners have an escape plan

Fire Prevention Month is the perfect time talk with your whole family about fire safety – include testing alarms, changing the batteries or upgrading to 10-year sealed battery alarm for hassle-free protection,

## What's New in District 4



### Start your future at the 2019 Career Expo

Gwinnett County Government offers careers in fields ranging from engineering to public safety to administrative and more! Learn about opportunities with the County at the 2019 Career Expo Friday, November 1 from 9:00am to 3:00pm at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center. Meet with department representatives and get free resume critiques from Gwinnett County Human Resources. Find job listings and apply now at [www.GwinnettCountyJobs.com](http://www.GwinnettCountyJobs.com). We hope to see you there!

### Get involved with the 2020 Census

If you're looking for temporary work or just to make extra money with flexible hours, consider working with the U.S. Census Bureau to help out with the 2020 population count! Census Bureau representatives will be at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in the second floor conference center Wednesday, October 23 from 10:00am to 2:00pm sharing information and helping you apply for local census jobs.



If you're interested in finding out more about the census, stop by the Bicentennial Plaza in downtown Lawrenceville Saturday, November 2 between 11:00am and 2:00pm for fun, entertainment, kids' activities, and helpful resources to get you ready for Census Day, April 1, 2020. Learn more about the census and available jobs at [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov).

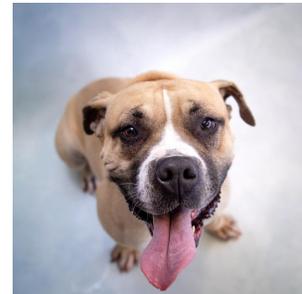


### Honor those who served this Veterans Day

Gwinnett County will host its annual Veterans Day ceremony Monday, November 11 at 11:00am. Join us to recognize the men and women who served in the armed forces. The ceremony will kick off with a Veterans March at the memorial. All veterans who served honorably are encouraged to participate and be recognized for their service and sacrifice. The featured speaker will be retired Army Brigadier General Curt Rauhut of Georgia Military College.

### It's Adopt a Dog Month, but adoptions are free for all pets!

Now is the perfect time to find your new best friend! October is Adopt a Dog Month, but adoption fees for all pets at the Gwinnett Animal Shelter have been waived this month! All pets adopted at Gwinnett Animal Welfare have been vaccinated, neutered, and microchipped and are ready to go to their new home. Dogs that have tested heartworm positive will be treated before going home to their new families. The standard adoption fee is \$45 for dogs and puppies and \$30 for cats and kittens. For more information, including available pets, adoption specials and events, follow us @GwinnettAnimalShelter on Facebook or visit [www.GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com](http://www.GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com).



## Special Events and Happenings

Gwinnett County Government hosts many events, classes, and workshops for its residents. See these great events and more at [www.gwinnettcountyevents.com](http://www.gwinnettcountyevents.com).

### An Evening with Edgar Allen Poe

October 26, 7:00pm to 10:00pm. Join Parks and Recreation for this new event! Edgar Allan Poe's character returns from beyond the grave to share some of his famous poetry and prose. Get into the spooky season as we meet one of America's most renowned writers of the macabre and hear tales that will make you second guess what lurks beneath the floorboards. This event will feature themed refreshments. Ages 16 and up. \$26 per person. Must [preregister](#) by October 20 with code LFS41402 or call 770.822.5178. Lawrenceville Female Seminary, 455 South Perry Street, Lawrenceville.

### **Party like a MonSTAR**

October 31 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Calling all ghosts, ghouls, and frightening creatures...let's celebrate all things that go bump in the night! Put on your favorite costume and BOOgie down to the live music. Parent/guardian supervision required. Spook-tacular sandwiches included. OneStop Buford, 2755 Sawnee Avenue, Buford.

### **Dia de los Muertos Party**

November 1 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Join us for an evening of music, dancing, festive snacks, crafts, face painting, and party games for all ages! Come dressed ready to celebrate and take part in the costume contest. \$10 per person, preregister by October 25 with code RJP41606. Rhodes Jordan Park Community Recreation Center, 100 East Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

### **GED Grammar Guide**

November 7 from 5:00pm to 6:00pm. Discover what your teacher forgot to tell you! This program will feature an in-depth review of grammar and writing skills, including their history, that prepares adults to take the GED test. Buford-Sugar Hill branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library, 2100 Buford Highway, Buford.

### **Cooking to Protect Water Quality**

November 14 from 1:00pm to 2:30pm. Just in time for the holidays, join the Department of Water Resources to learn how fats, oils, grease, and rags from your kitchen can clog pipes and contribute to water pollution in nearby waterways at this free workshop! Rhodes Jordan Park, 100 East Crogan Street, Lawrenceville.

## **Did You Know?**

So what exactly is a CID? Well, the initials stand for Community Improvement District. A CID is an association of property owners—usually businesses—in a defined area that voluntarily tax themselves in order to fund improvements within the district's boundaries. CIDs work to improve business development opportunities and property values by developing and promoting coordinated transportation and other improvements to benefit property owners, businesses, and residents in their specific district. There are six CIDs in Gwinnett: Gwinnett Place, Sugarloaf, Gateway 85, Lilburn, Evermore, and Braselton. They all work closely with County government to beautify and make needed improvements in their areas. Now you know!

**Marlene Fosque, District 4 Commissioner  
Gwinnett County**

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