

# NEWS & EVENTS

in District 4 with  
Commissioner Fosque



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March 2022



Greetings:

March is the exciting month we set aside to celebrate the outstanding and accomplished women whose contributions made a lasting mark on our history. It's a time to recognize women on all levels — national, state, and local — whose perseverance, strength, and courage stand the test of time. For example, we honor Katherine Johnson, a mathematician whose brilliance in calculations assisted NASA and the spaceflights; Grace Towns Hamilton, who was the first African American elected to the Georgia General Assembly; and Dr. Frances Davis, an accomplished former Gwinnett County schools' educator, principal, and administrator, who brought forth diversity throughout the County's retention

and hiring practices and continues to serve our communities. We salute and honor every woman who made a positive difference.



Meanwhile, our Board of Commissioners as a whole recently took action on many important initiatives:

- Awarded a contract to renovate a former grocery store on Grayson Highway as a Records Management Center; the renovated 87,000-square-foot facility will house County government records, emergency management equipment plus office and workspaces
- Approved the purchase of 14 paratransit and microtransit vehicles funded 80 percent by the Federal Transit Administration
- Awarded a contract to purchase furniture for the Gwinnett County Police Training Center expansion project
- Approved Police to apply for and accept if awarded grants from the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency to procure supplies and equipment for the Hazardous Device Unit and to support the health and well-being of the County's Explosive Detection K9s

**Leadership Tidbit:** *"No matter your circumstances, hard work and leadership can change your life and the world."* – Ursula M. Burns

I believe working hard and hard work strengthen our character and tenacity, and they also create opportunities for success — but not necessarily all simultaneously.

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

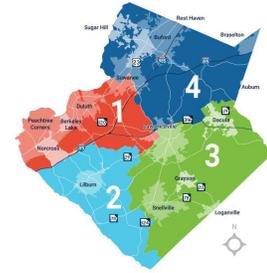
Commissioner Marlene Fosque  
District 4, covering Lawrenceville, Buford, Rest Haven, and parts of Sugar Hill and Braselton



## Governor Kemp signs new district maps into law

On February 17, Governor Kemp signed into law new district maps for the [Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners](#) and [Gwinnett County Board of Education](#). The maps will go into effect January 1, 2023.

Eligible voters should expect to receive a new precinct card with their updated districts around April before the May 24 General Primary and Nonpartisan General Election. The new districts information is also available at [MVP.SOS.GA.gov](#).



To stay up-to-date with elections in Gwinnett, follow @GwinnettGov on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) or visit [GwinnettElections.com](#).



## Watch Chairwoman Hendrickson's State of the County address

In her second [State of the County address](#), Chairwoman Hendrickson shared updates on County initiatives since she took office in January 2021. She also honored three groups for their contributions to our community with the inaugural Standard Bearer Awards.

Learn more about Chairwoman Hendrickson's vision for the county by watching the [2022 State of the County address](#).

## Gwinnett joins Welcoming Network

Gwinnett County has joined the [Welcoming Network](#), a global association of more than 300 nonprofits, private-sector and government agencies committed to making communities more welcoming.

Led by Welcoming America, a nonpartisan nonprofit organization, the Welcoming Network helps members identify ways they can make their community more equitable in areas such as language access, health care, and economic development.



## Gwinnett Youth Commission application deadline coming soon

[Applications](#) for the Gwinnett Youth Commission 2022 to 2023 cohort are open through **Friday, April 15 at 5:00pm**. The [Gwinnett Youth Commission](#) is yearlong program, including an eight-week summer program designed to educate youth about local government, engage youth in civic affairs, and provide an opportunity for youth to affect change in their community.

Students get behind-the-scenes tours of County government departments, interact with leaders, and receive community leadership training designed to foster the next generation of leaders for Gwinnett. The next session begins June 1. Accepted students will be notified in early May.

## What's New in District 4

### Attend a State of District 4 Town Hall

Join me for one of my State of District 4! You can expect to hear County highlights, ARPA updates, information about upcoming elections, news about redistricting. At the end, I'll open the floor for your questions.

I'll be hosting three sessions around Gwinnett to make it convenient to find a session in your community, but the meetings are open to everyone!

The sessions will be held from 6:30pm to 8:30pm:

- **Tuesday, March 29**, Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center Auditorium, 75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville (also streaming on Facebook Live) for residents in the Lawrenceville area
- **Tuesday, April 12**, Fire Station 24's Meeting Room, 2735 Mall of Georgia Boulevard, Buford for



residents in the Braselton/Auburn area

- **Thursday, April 14**, Bogan Park Community Room, 2723 North Bogan Road NE, Buford for residents in the Rest Haven/Buford/Sugar Hill area

I hope you'll join me!



### **Submit an application for Harvest Gwinnett Community Gardens**

Live Healthy Gwinnett is now accepting applications for the 2022 to 2023 growing season at any of our nine [Harvest Gwinnett](#) Community Gardens. Download [an application](#) and learn how to reserve a raised plot for \$35. Applicants are required to perform 12 hours of community volunteer service annually towards the general care and upkeep of the garden.

Interested in getting your hands dirty? Volunteer opportunities in the gardens are available. To learn more, email [HarvestGwinnett@GwinnettCounty.com](mailto:HarvestGwinnett@GwinnettCounty.com) or call 678.277.0287.

### **Order more free at-home COVID-19 tests**

Every home in the United States is now eligible to order *two sets* of four free at-home COVID-19 tests. If you previously ordered a set of four, you can order another at [COVIDTests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov). The free rapid antigen at-home tests can be taken anywhere and will give results within 30 minutes.

Protect yourself and your friends, family, and others by getting vaccinated and staying up to date on your COVID-19 vaccines, wearing a well-fitted mask, staying home when you are sick, and testing to prevent spreading the virus to others.



### **Celebrate Women's History Month by tuning in to Better Together**

In honor of Women's History Month, I sat down with Gwinnett trailblazer and educator, Mrs. Beauty Baldwin, and we reminisced about Mrs. Baldwin's barrier-breaking career as Georgia's first black woman superintendent when she served as Buford City Schools superintendent. We also discussed her ongoing service to the Gwinnett community.

Listen to the latest episode [here](#) or on your favorite podcast streaming platform

## **Special Events and Happenings**

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

### **Stop 'n' Play**

**Friday, March 25 from 10:00am to 11:00am**

Take a break from your routine and have fun getting out some wiggles with your little one! Explore activities, arts and crafts, games, socialization opportunities and more. Parent/guardian participation required. Fee: \$4 per person. Ages 5 and under. OneStop Buford, 2755 Sawnee Avenue, Buford.

### **Game On!**

**Friday, April 8 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm**

Don't be bored; get your board game on! Bring your friends or make new ones and enjoy some fun, friendly competition playing your favorite board games. Fee: \$6 per person. For ages 7 to 12. [Register](#) in advance. OneStop Buford, 2755 Sawnee Avenue, Buford.

### **Underwater Egg Hunt**

**Saturday, April 16 at 9:00am, 10:00am, and 11:00am**

Hunt for eggs under the water at the aquatic center, then dry off and head to the community recreation center to spend time with the Bunny, have a snack, visit with live animals, and make a craft. Bring your own water-friendly basket for egg hunting. All pool rules apply. Spots are limited. Children 6 and under must be accompanied into the water by an adult 18 or older in a swimsuit. Fee: \$15 per child; one parent or guardian is allowed per child. Please [register](#) for one of the three sessions by April 14. Bogan Park Aquatic Center, 2723 North Bogan Road, Buford.

## Did You Know?

The best way to reduce your property tax bill is to apply for a homestead exemption. If you own and occupy a home in Gwinnett as your primary residence as of January 1, you likely qualify.

Apply at [GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Apply](https://www.gwinnetntaxcommissioner.com/Apply) by April 1, and staff will help determine your eligibility and the best exemption for your situation. You must apply by April 1 for relief this year. If you already have an exemption in place, you do not need to reapply.



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

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