



Follow us on social media!

May 2023



Greetings!

April found me travelling to Washington DC for the 25th annual Gwinnett Chamber Fly-In. The purpose is to connect with our congressmen and senators to share the concerns of our residents and businesses. It goes a long way being able to put a face with a name and personally ask for their support.

We specifically asked for comprehensive immigration reform, allowing business to fill critical positions with applicants from around the world. We also spoke about raising the debt ceiling to provide stability to our residents and markets.



It was also a great opportunity for me to spend time with Suwanee Mayor Jimmy Burnette and Lawrenceville Mayor David Still as we traveled to and from our destinations. Gwinnett enjoys a unique partnership with its 16 cities because of an understanding that we all succeed together.

Coincidentally, our visit coincided with the visit of several airline CEOs. They were desperately asking for support to fill the talent gap for airplane mechanics. While I understand this is a critical element for our national and international commerce, I couldn't help but recognize this as an opportunity to advocate for bringing the conversation back to all the trades that make our country great. We as a nation need to lift up the dignity of professions requiring skilled trades men and women!

Happening Around Gwinnett

Honor the fallen this Memorial Day

The County will host its annual Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 29 at 1:00pm to pay tribute to our fallen military and public safety heroes. Join us on the grounds of the Fallen Heroes Memorial at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville. This year, we will be

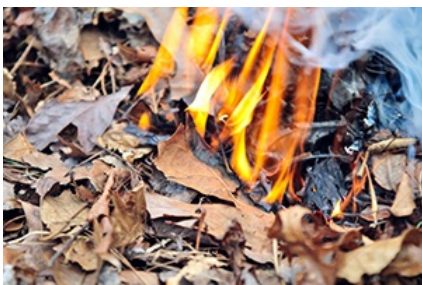


inducting Gwinnett Correctional Officer Senior Scott Riner to the Fallen Heroes Memorial. Officer Riner was tragically shot and killed while arriving to work this past December.

During the ceremony, you'll hear from County officials and our keynote speaker, Georgia Department of Veterans Service Executive Director for Field Operations and Appeals Shelly-Ann Simpson.

Celebrate AAPI Heritage Month in Gwinnett

Join Gwinnett in celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month! We're hosting a heritage night celebration Tuesday, May 16 at 6:30pm here at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center located at 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville. The celebration will include guest speakers, entertainment, cuisine, and more! Register for the event at GwinnettCounty.com/AAPICelebration. Follow the County on social media [@GwinnettGov](https://GwinnettGov) to stay up to date on other activities happening around the community throughout the month.



Outdoor burn ban in place through September 30

To protect air quality, the state Environmental Protection Division is imposing a metro-wide burn ban through September 30. All types of outdoor or open burning are prohibited, including burning trees, limbs, and yard waste, as well as the use of air curtain destructors.

For more information, call 678.518.4980 or visit GwinnettFireMarshal.com.

New Water Resources, Planning and Development directors promoted

The Board of Commissioners recently ratified employment agreements County Administrator Glenn Stephens executed with two new department directors. Rebecca Shelton was named director of the Department of Water Resources after having served as acting director since last July. She has more than 25 years of experience in civil engineering and management of local government infrastructure. Matthew Dickison was promoted to director of the Department of Planning and Development Department following Susan Canon's recent retirement. He holds exceptional knowledge and understanding of all aspects of planning, zoning and development. Both of these promotions show the County's commitment to succession planning and promoting from within.

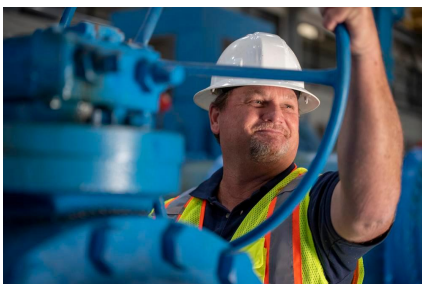
What's New in District 4

Nominate a local business for my monthly Small Business Highlight

Each month, I will highlight a local business in this newsletter. From your favorite café to a local law firm and everything in between, I want to see your nominees!

Please email suggestions for small businesses in District 4 to highlight to Matthew.Holtkamp@GwinnettCounty.com. You can check whether a business is located in District 4 by using the [Find My District Commissioner](#) tool on the County's website.

Please share some information about why your nominee is a great example of Gwinnett's vibrant business community.



Learn about Gwinnett's award-winning water at the Water Wonders Spring Festival

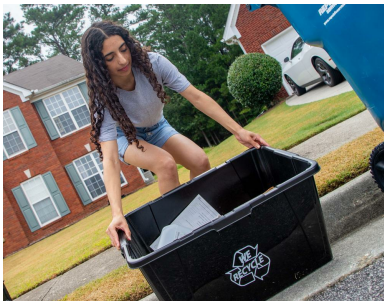
Did you know Gwinnett County was honored for having the best tasting water in Georgia in 2022? Come find out more about our award-winning water at our free [Water Wonders Spring Festival](#) on Saturday, May 20 from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

Take a tour of the Shoal Creek Filter Plant in Buford, participate in fun games and crafts, enjoy free fairground food, and learn at exciting exhibits from County departments and partners.

Police host firearm safety classes

Learn guidelines and best practices for safe gun handling from local law enforcement personnel. Gwinnett Police will offer firearm safety and security classes to the community on **May 24 and June 7 at 6:30pm** at the Gwinnett County Police Training Center located at 854 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville.

The class will highlight firearm security, terminology, and how to properly store firearms to keep children safe. Youth who plan to attend must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Residents are prohibited from bringing their own firearms to class. Visit [GwinnettCounty.com/FirearmSafety](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/FirearmSafety) to register.



Schedule recycling education for your next HOA meeting

Learn about recycling at your next HOA meeting! Help protect the environment by educating your neighborhood about curbside recycling. Schedule an onsite visit at your next homeowners' association meeting to learn more.

For additional information, please call 770.822.7141 or email GCSolidWaste@GwinnettCounty.com.

Sustainability Commission seeking advisory committee members

Join an advisory committee to help guide Gwinnett on sustainability! The Gwinnett Sustainability Commission is gathering Gwinnett County residents and stakeholders to advance sustainability progress in the county. Consider joining an advisory committee on one of the following topics:

- **Public education and outreach:** contact Marshall.Shepherd@GwinnettCounty.com and Krupesh.Patel@GwinnettCounty.com
- **Clean energy and electric transportation:** contact Robert.Blately@GwinnettCounty.com
- **Bikeability:** contact Daniel.Hilton@GwinnettCounty.com



Special Events and Happenings

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

Asian Heritage Celebration

Saturday, May 20 from 10:00am to 2:00pm

Enjoy cultural crafts, swag bags, games, music, performances, and refreshments. Register by May 6. Performers and vendors wanted. All ages welcome. Fee: \$8 per person. [Register online](#). OneStop Buford, 2755 Sawnee Avenue, Buford.

Everyday Superheroes

Thursday, June 15 from 9:30am to 11:00am

Free! Calling all superheroes! Help us save the playground. Children will complete a superhero training course to train their brains and bodies in this interactive program. For kids ages 2 to 8 and their caregivers. [Register in advance](#). Little Mulberry Park, 3800 Hog Mountain Road, Dacula.

Smart Irrigation Workshop

Thursday, June 15 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Join Gwinnett Water Resources to learn how keeping your outdoor plants healthy can save you money on your water bill. To register, visit [Gwinnetth2o.com](https://www.gwinnetth2o.com), call 678.376.7193, or email DWRworkshops@GwinnettCounty.com with your name, address, and phone number. Collins Hill Library, 455 Camp Perrin Road, Lawrenceville.

Did You Know?

The Gwinnett Entrepreneur Center opened in January 2022 to support entrepreneurs and nurture small business startups. The Gwinnett Entrepreneur Center provides member businesses with instruction, networking

connections, coworking space, and offices. It also offers services to non-member entrepreneurs across the region, including:

- Classes
- Workshops
- Business coaching
- Peer learning



I recently enjoyed a tour of the center, and it's incredible to see the amazing members grow their businesses with the help of the center's resources.

Interested in getting your small business off the ground? Check out GwinnettEntrepreneurCenter.com to see how we can help your small business thrive.

More from our Partners

Auburn Downtown Development

Subscribe for updates including Town Center Project.

Visit [City of Auburn website](#)

City of Braselton Patriotic Concert

May 28 at the Braselton Civic Center

Reserve your free admission tickets by visiting [Explore Braselton website](#).

City of Dacula 30th Annual Memorial Day Parade

10:00am on May 29 rain or shine

Visit [Dacula Memorial Day website](#) for new parade route information.

City of Lawrenceville DTL Concert Series

May 19 kicks off the Free Summer Concert Series.

Visit the [city of Lawrenceville](#) website for time and location

City of Sugar Hill Veterans Memorial

The Sugar Hill Veterans Memorial Plaza has monuments for the five service branches of the military.

Visit [Downtown Sugar Hill website](#) for information.

City of Suwanee Memorial Concert

Patriotic fun at the city's annual Red, White, Bluegrass, & Bach Memorial weekend concert.

Learn more at [Suwanee Events](#) for times and location.

Military Discounts at the Mall of Georgia

Visit the [Mall of Georgia website](#) for information.



Matthew Holtkamp, District 4 Commissioner
Gwinnett County

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