

in District 2 with Commissioner Ben Ku

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February 2022



Hello!

February is a short but busy month, filled with occasions to commemorate from Lunar New Year and Black History Month to American Heart Month and more. Though the nights are still chilly, spring is just around the corner, bringing with it more chances to celebrate our vibrant community.

Remember, if you'd like to chat with me on any topic, you can reach out to my office at Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com to schedule a call or virtual meeting. I want to know if you feel that I have been representing you well or if you think there is something I

could be doing to better represent you.

Happening Around Gwinnett

Celebrate Black History Month with Gwinnett

Black History Month is an annual observance celebrating the achievements of Black Americans and recognizing their contributions to our country. The 2022 theme for Black History Month is Black Health and Wellness and focuses on the importance of Black health and well-being. It also honors Black medical professionals and health care practitioners and health care practices, rituals, and initiatives among Black communities.



Experience Black history throughout the month by touring the self-guided exhibit, American History Through Stamps at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center. This exhibit showcases the history of notable Black Americans including Frederick Douglass, Jackie Robinson, Martin Luther King Jr., and others. You can also join us for our Black History Month Heritage Night Celebration Thursday, February 24 at 6:00pm at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center. Watch this wideo from Chairwoman Nicole Hendrickson, who shares some remarks about this year's Black History Month theme.



Get vaccinated and earn \$100!

District 3 Commissioner Jasper Watkins III is partnering with community organizations to host the Healthy, Vibrant, and Vaxxed Walk-in Vaccine Clinic **Saturday**, **February 26** from 9:00am to 7:00pm at Lenora Park in Snellville. At the event, people will have an opportunity to get their COVID-19 vaccine and earn \$100 while supplies last.

Vaccines will be available to eligible people ages 5 and up. All three authorized vaccine types — Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson

— will be available onsite. Gift cards will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, so attendees are encouraged to arrive early. No appointments will be taken. The event is intended to boost awareness of the importance of COVID-19 vaccines and help raise vaccination rates during Black History Month.

Start your career with Gwinnett County Government

Start your career with Gwinnett County Government at the Career From Here hiring event on **February 25** from 9:00am to 5:00pm in Duluth. Meet with current employees, learn about career opportunities with the County, have your resume reviewed, and

more.

The event will take place at the Gas South Convention Center, located at 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway in Duluth. Gwinnett County offers competitive benefits, paid training, educational incentives for certain positions, tuition reimbursement, career advancement, and much more. See all job openings with Gwinnett County Government at GwinnettCountyJobs.com.





Standard collection services restored for Republic Services and Waste Management customers

Republic Services and Waste Management have resumed standard collection services including solid waste, recycling, bulky items, and yard waste. The haulers previously suspended some services for residential customers in unincorporated Gwinnett due to a surge in COVID-19 infections among their workforces. Visit our website for the latest information.

Apply to serve on the Stormwater Authority

I'm looking for an engaged resident on the Stormwater Authority. The Stormwater Authority advises the Board of Commissioners and the Department of Water Resources about issues related to stormwater. Residents seeking to serve for the first time or be reappointed to the position are encouraged to fill out an application at GCGA.us/ApplyToServe.

What's New in District 2

Apply for Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy

Learn about how and why Gwinnett County Government operates the way it does by enrolling in the Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy. The 12-week program gives participants an opportunity to get a behind-the-scenes look at County operations, meet County leaders, and tour County facilities. To be considered for the spring session, apply at Gwinnett101.com by March 1. Classes start April 7 and will meet one evening per week.



The Gwinnett Youth Commission, an eight-week summer leadership program for high school students, is also accepting applications through Friday, April 15.



Order your free at-home COVID-19 tests

Every home in the United States is eligible to order four free at-home COVID-19 tests. The free rapid antigen at-home tests can be taken anywhere and will give results within 30 minutes. For more information and to order your at-home COVID-19 tests, visit COVIDTests.gov.

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.

Gwinnett Transit hosts Stuff-a-Bus donation drive

Help Gwinnett County Transit provide necessities to Gwinnett communities in need with the <u>Stuff-A-Bus donation drive</u>. Transit will be collecting canned foods and toiletries at several locations from February 21 through February 25. See a list of collection locations and acceptable items.

Donations received will be delivered to local cooperative ministries. For more information, please call Gwinnett Transit Customer Service at 770.822.5010.

Gwinnett works to reduce its environmental footprint

Gwinnett County Government performs energy audits on the facilities it owns in order to identify ways to increase efficiency. From programming thermostats to coaching cleaning staff to turn off lights in unoccupied areas, these simple changes help the County minimize energy use, which is good for our environment and saves money. The energy audits are one of many ways we work to reduce our impact, enhance efficiency, and preserve our natural environment for future generations.

Special Events and Happenings

Visit <u>GwinnettCountyEvents.com</u> or follow the County's social media channels to learn more about upcoming events.

DIY Spa Party

Saturday, February 26 from 11:00am to 1:00pm

Take yourself on a spa date. You'll glow inside and out creating these simple scrubs and masks. Supplies and light refreshments provided. \$12 per person. All ages welcome. Register in advance. Mountain Park Activity Building, 1063 Rockbridge Road, Stone Mountain.

Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball

Tuesday, March 1 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Let the good times roll! Enjoy festive entertainment and light refreshments. For ages 50 and up. Fee: \$6 per person. Register in advance. Bethesda Park Senior Center, 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville.

Alfred Hitchcock Night

Saturday, March 12 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Travel back in time to experience the Master of Suspense. Dress as your favorite Hitchcock character and experience a murder mystery game, 1950s-themed diner food, and spine-tingling fun. For ages 18 and up. Register for one person for \$15 or for two people for \$25. OneStop Norcross, 5030 Georgia Belle Court, Norcross.

Quince EXPO

Sunday, March 20 from noon to 4:00pm

Free! We're back for our ninth annual Quince Expo. There will be a fashion show, demonstrations, and vendors to help make your 15th birthday (or any large event) unforgettable. Register in advance or drop in. Vendor spaces are available. Please call 678.277.0920 for more information. Best Friend Park, 6224 Jimmy Carter Boulevard, Norcross.

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