

NEWS & EVENTS

in District 2 with Commissioner Ben Ku

Follow us on social media!



June 2024



Hello!

Hope you're enjoying the month so far! June marks the beginning of summer and is nationally recognized as LGBTQ+ Pride Month, PTSD Awareness Month, Men's Health Awareness Month, and National Safety Month.

To celebrate Pride Month, the County is hosting Pride in the Park on June 29! Bring the entire family as we recognize trailblazers in the LGBTQ+ community. You can find more information about the event below.

Last week, the Board of Commissioners took a significant step towards expanding Gwinnett's mobility options by approving a [transit referendum](#) to be placed on the November 5 General Election ballot. You can find more information about the transit referendum and learn about the many transit projects that could be funded further down in the newsletter.

And this week, I was in Washington D.C. to lobby our federal officials on the importance of suicide prevention. If you don't know, there is now a nationwide resource for mental health support. Similar to 911, you can call or text 988 from any phone, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to speak to someone. Please make sure your friends and family, and neighbors know that support is only just a simple call away.

Remember, feel free to reach out to me at Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com to schedule a call or virtual meeting if you'd like to chat. I value your feedback on how I've been representing you or if there's anything more I could do.

What's New in District 2



Join us for Pride in the Park on June 29

Gwinnett thrives with pride! Gwinnett County's [Pride in the Park](#) event takes place on Saturday, June 29 from 8:00am to 1:00pm at Bethesda Park in Lawrenceville. Join us for this family-friendly event!

Participants will enjoy a wellness walk with a twist that recognizes trailblazers in the LGBTQ+ community and receive on-site health screenings and wellness resources from View Point Health, Live Healthy Gwinnett, and other vendors.

Event registration and check-in begins at 8:00am before the wellness walk at 9:00am. All other activities will take place from 10:00am until 1:00pm. Arrive early for Yoga Flow with Kim to stretch before the walk. Afterwards, join Celebrity Dance Fitness Instructor Dwight Holt Jr. for his Dance Your Pounds Off movement class.

Registration is not required. However, the first 250 registrants will receive a Pride in the Park T-shirt and free King of Pops! RSVP at GwinnettCounty.com/PrideinthePark.

Tune in to Conversations with Ku

Check out Conversations with Ku, my monthly podcast, where I dive into County initiatives, Board decisions, upcoming events, and a variety

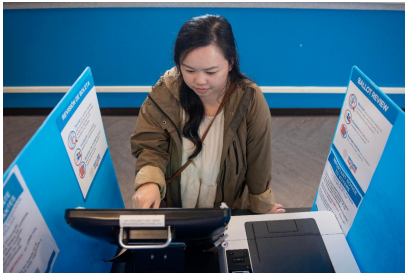
of other topics. You can find the podcast on [GwinnettCounty.com](https://www.gwinnettcounty.com) and on your favorite streaming platform.

In the latest episode, in honor of National Safety Month, I spoke with Fire Chief Fred Cephas about the safety and prevention resources available to residents. You can also check out earlier episodes that focus on Mental Health Awareness Month and introduce my new co-host, Hunter Coleman, by visiting the [podcast's webpage](#).

I would love to hear from you or answer questions about District 2 or Gwinnett County Government. Feel free to email me at Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com and your question may be read on the podcast. Also, if there is someone you'd like me to interview, or a topic you'd like me to cover, please let me know.



CONVERSATIONS
WITH KU



Vote in the General Primary and Nonpartisan General Election Runoff on June 18

The General Primary and Nonpartisan General Runoff Election Day is on **Tuesday, June 18**.

If you did not vote in the May 21 primary election, you may still vote in this runoff election if you are registered. Voters who voted by mail must return their completed absentee by mail ballot by **Tuesday, June 18 at 7:00pm**. To check the status of your voter registration, see a sample ballot, and find your polling location,

visit the [Secretary of State's My Voter Page](#).

Vota en el Desempate de las Elecciones Primarias Generales y Generales No Partidistas el 18 de Junio

El Día de las Elecciones Desempate de las Elecciones Primarias Generales y Generales No Partidistas es el **Martes 18 de Junio**.

Si no votó en las elecciones primarias del 21 de Mayo, aún puede votar en este desempate si está inscrito. Los votantes que votaron por correo deben devolver su boleta de voto ausente por correo completa hasta el **Martes 18 de Junio a las 7:00pm**. Para verificar el estado de tu inscripción de votante, ver una boleta de muestra y encontrar tu lugar de votación, visita [Mi página de votante de la Secretaría de Estado](#).

Happening Around Gwinnett

Gwinnett Commissioners approve transit referendum

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners approved a transit referendum to be placed on the November 5 General Election ballot. If approved by voters, the transit referendum would impose a one percent sales tax for 30 years to fund up to 75 transit projects in Gwinnett.

A Transit SPLOST aims to distribute financial responsibility more equitably among all residents, businesses, and visitors, alleviating the burden on Gwinnett's property owners. Currently, Gwinnett's transit system is funded by property owners through the County general fund, the federal government, discretionary grants, and Ride Gwinnett fares.

The transit plan includes an airport ride to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, enhanced and expanded county coverage by local bus, additional transit transfer facilities, and the expansion of microtransit providing 100 percent countywide coverage. The new transit referendum does not include heavy rail or MARTA.

The dedicated Transit SPLOST would be paid by all consumers who purchase goods in Gwinnett County. To learn more, visit [GwinnettCounty.com/YourRide](https://www.gwinnettcounty.com/YourRide).



Apply for Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy

The County is accepting applications for the next Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy. This 12-week program gives engaged residents, students, and business owners a behind-the-scenes look at how Gwinnett County Government provides services to one million residents.

Applicants must be 18 years or older, be a resident or business



owner in Gwinnett, or attend a Gwinnett college or university. Interested candidates must meet the [full list of requirements](#) to participate. [Apply online](#) to join.

Applications must be received no later than **Monday, July 15** to be considered. Contact Community Outreach at Outreach@GwinnettCounty.com for more information.

Office of Senator Jon Ossoff to host community resources event in Snellville

Residents who require federal services, such as accessing veterans' benefits, expediting a passport renewal, or resolving challenges with Social Security or Medicare, are invited to attend the Constituent Services in Your Community event on **Thursday, June 27, from 10:00am to 1:00pm at Snellville City Hall.**



Members of Senator Ossoff's staff will be there to assist attendees with services related to Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, passports and visas, recovering funds from the IRS, and servicemember benefits.

To learn more, visit Ossoff.Senate.Gov/MobileCasework.



Get free plumbing services through the Water Resources Assistance Program

Receive assistance with leaks, septic system repairs, and other plumbing issues through the Water Resources Assistance Program, or WRAP. The program is a partnership between Gwinnett Water Resources and local organizations.

WRAP provides eligible homeowners with plumbing services, septic system repair, and water-saving fixtures at no cost. In order to qualify, applicants must live in Gwinnett County, own

and live in the home where the work will occur, and earn an annual household income that is 60% of the Area Median Income or less.

To apply for WRAP and to learn more, visit GwinnettCounty.com/WRAP.

Special Events and Happenings

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

Juneteenth Block Party

Saturday, June 15 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm | Free

Join us for a pre-Juneteenth Summer Block Party! Come out and enjoy music, food, and fun activities for kids. Plus, learn all about the fantastic classes and programs the Lilburn Activity Building has to offer! [Register online](#). All Ages. Lilburn Activity Building, 788 Hillcrest Rd NW, Lilburn.

Juneteenth Family Reunion

Tuesday, June 18 from 12:00pm to 1:00pm | Free

Start off your Juneteenth celebration by digging into your family tree at the Gwinnett Public Library Centerville Branch! Learn more about your ancestors and heritage through library resources. Ages 19 and up. Centerville Branch, 3025 Bethany Church Rd, Snellville.

Stars & Stripes Game Day

Wednesday, July 3 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Grill, chill, and play some games! Enjoy hot dogs, yard games, and good times at this pre-Independence Day event! [Register online](#). Ages 50 and up. \$4.00 for Gwinnett resident and \$7.00 for non-Gwinnett residents. Bethesda Park Senior Center, 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville.

Popsicle Pop In

Friday July 12 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm | Free

Swing by for a popsicle and to learn about all the great classes and events offered at the Lilburn Activity Building. [Register online](#). All Ages. Lilburn Activity Building, 788 Hillcrest Rd NW, Lilburn.

Ben Ku, District 2 Commissioner
Gwinnett County

Ben.Ku@GwinnettCounty.com