



HARLEM NEWSLETTER

"Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider"
www.harlemga.org

June 2023

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 6th

Planning Commission Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

June 8th

Historic Preservation Commission Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

June 9th

Council Quarterly Work Session at 8:30 a.m. City Hall

June 14th

Urban Redevelopment Agency Board Meeting City Hall 9:00 a.m.

June 22nd

City Council Work Session at 7:00 p.m.

June 26th

City Council Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

*** Meetings are held at the Public Safety Building unless otherwise noted. All meetings are subject to change.**

Summer has officially started! I do need to share some "end of school" successes that many of you may not be aware of. By now, everyone in the state probably knows our Harlem High Baseball team are the State 3A Champions. Congratulations to the team, coaches and parents. This is the baseball team's eighth State Baseball Title and Coach Lewis' sixth championship. I had the opportunity to attend several Honor's Day programs and the number of children honored for their outstanding grades and successes was amazing. At the High School Senior Honor's Day, hundreds of thousands of dollars of academic, vocational and military scholarships were given away to deserving graduates. These scholarships not only exemplify the hard work given to their school subjects, but also the community service hours that our students contribute to our community. Thank you and congratulations to each of our students- Small town pride!

Since school is out, we will have lots of children running around our City and neighborhoods. Please be careful. I'd also like to bring to your attention the need for food donations. Some of our students will not get the nutritious meals they've been getting at school. If you are able, please take time to donate to our food bank, Fishes and Loaves, located at the City Park. We also have Blessing Boxes which are filled to offer a quick snack or meal for needy people and located throughout our City- Attic Treasures, City Park, Harlem High, North Harlem and Harlem Baptist Church. If you are in need of food, please take what you need. If you can please donate.

A few weeks ago, one of our beautiful, historical homes was lost to a fire. Many prayers go out to the Adams family as they suffered great losses not only of their home, but their fur-babies. Thank you to our Harlem Fire Department, Harlem Police Department and Columbia County Fire Department for their valiant efforts in attempting to save this home. I'd also like to thank two men who stopped what they were doing and tried to assist with this fire before the fire departments arrived. Thank you, Trey Macky, a neighbor and an off duty Richmond County Firefighter, and Travis Sims, the Assistant Principal at North Harlem Elementary.

Our Summer Movie Under the Stars continues and you, the residents of Harlem, get to choose the movies that will be shown. Check out Facebook and vote for future movies! This month's movie, the Disney feature "The Princess and the Frog", will be on Friday, June 16th. Our Library also has a fun Summer planned- the Summer Reading Program is underway; it's not too late to join. There are also some great activities planned weekly. Check our their calendar located on their Facebook page.

This month we celebrate our American Flag as June 14th is Flag Day. On this date in 1777, the thirteen stripes and stars with the colors of red, white and blue were adopted as our Nation's official flag. We also celebrate the birth of our United States Army which was commissioned on June 14th, 1775. Please enjoy our display of our flags in Downtown Harlem and always remember the men and women who have fought for the freedoms to wave these flags.

God bless you all,

Roxanne Whitaker
Harlem's Mayor



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Please remember to check the City of Harlem's website, www.harlemga.org, and the City's Facebook page, [City of Harlem, Georgia@harlemga](https://www.facebook.com/CityofHarlem), for information and updates.

FROM THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT:

PARKING:

The city is seeing an increase in parking habits that are impacting public safety and neighborhood access. We would like to remind everyone of parking habits that are against Georgia's Uniform Rules of the Road:

- Parking on the sidewalk, including the sidewalk in front of driveways.
- Parking facing the wrong way on the street.
- Parking on the street for more than 24 hours at a time.
- Two cars parked across from each other so that the road is constricted.

A local issue is parking across from a driveway which makes leaving the driveway difficult. We would like to ask everyone to be responsible drivers so that our handicapped citizens and children can safely walk on the sidewalk and so that school buses and ambulances can access our neighborhoods.

BUILDING PERMITS ARE REQUIRED IN HARLEM:

The city is required by state law to issue building permits, to conduct inspections of construction, and to certify that inspections have taken place. The city also has enacted ordinances guiding where construction can take place. The city is asking our residents to contact the city before construction projects to check where construction can take place and if a building permit is needed.

Examples are:

- Building a deck too close to the property line and then having to move the deck.
- Building a fence over a drainage easement and then having to move the fence.
- Building a shed in the back yard and having to pay penalties for no building permit.
- Installing a new roof without a permit and having to pay penalties for no building permit.

The city is always available to talk about a proposed project. Talking beforehand can prevent many work stoppages and penalties down the road. Building permits help protect the safety of property owners, fire fighters, and emergency responders. Please call 706-556-0043 with any questions.

HARDY STATION PAVING PROJECT:

Paving construction is expected to begin on June 5th in Hardy Station subdivision (Oliver Hardy Court). Letters will be mailed out to the residents of Hardy Station with information on the paving project. The project is expected to be completed in 60-days.

Please slow down and pay attention to traffic control and construction workers as you are entering and/or exiting the subdivision.

**HARLEM MUSEUM & WELCOME CENTER
JUNE EVENTS:**

June 3rd - Harlem History Jeopardy; 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

June 16th - Movie in the Plaza; "The Princess and the Frog"; bring you chairs and blankets; starts at 8:00 p.m.

June 23rd - Kids Craft: Make a Clapper Board; 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.



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