Can you believe it is already time to send our students back to school? The first day of school is August 7. Be ever mindful of the school zones, the speed limits and the flashing lights on the buses. Passing a bus with its flashing lights on will result in a very hefty fine. Plan ahead - all our streets will be congested the first day because many parents take their children to school. There will also be more children on our streets early in the morning and later in the afternoon. Drive safe so our children arrive safe.

We conclude our Friday Night Movie Series Friday, August 2, with Beauty and the Beast - one of my all-time favorites. On August 17th we will have Jazz Under the Stars at the Plaza. Hope to see you there! Thank you to all the businesses who have taken part in sponsoring this entertainment.

We have submitted two proposals to the DOT to help with pedestrian safety and traffic control. The first, we have requested four flashing signs to alert drivers when pedestrians are in the crosswalks along the downtown area. DOT approved two. We also have requested turn lanes on the north and south sides of the traffic light. Hopefully, this will relieve some congestion in our downtown area. We are anticipating the flashing signs to be up early fall and the turn lanes later this year or early next year.

During the July City Council Meeting, we voted in some new ordinances pertaining to pets and derelict properties. Your Council also voted to maintain our current millage rate for the next year. If you should have any questions about these ordinances or the millage, please do not hesitate to call City Hall.

Do not forget to visit our businesses!

Roxanne Whitaker, your Mayor
**2019 GENERAL ELECTION QUALIFYING**

The City of Harlem will hold a General Election on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 for the purpose of electing two Councilmembers for a four year term. Candidates in this election will take office on January 1, 2020.

The Qualifying dates will be Monday, August 19 through Wednesday, August 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at City Hall, located at 320 N. Louisville Street. The qualifying fee shall be $108.00.

No person shall be eligible to serve as Councilmember unless that person is at least 21 years of age and shall have been a resident within the city limits of Harlem for twelve months prior to the date of the election and shall continue to reside therein during their term and must be registered and qualified to vote in municipal elections for the city of Harlem, Georgia.

If you would like additional information, please call the Harlem City Clerk at (706) 556-3448.

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**GARBAGE CONTAINERS**

Please remember to move your garbage containers off the street and behind your property after they have been emptied.

*(City Code Section 26-26)*

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**HARLEM ARTS COUNCIL**

Harlem Arts Council is excited to share the lively and unique art of our children’s summer Arts Camps. Our local children had a ball making these art pieces. You will be amazed at their creativity. **Our August Open House will be on Saturday, August 3rd, from 10:00 - 2:00.** Please stop by for a free smile and inspiration. We thank our wonderful arts instructors for these very special summer art camps!

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**MUSEUM UPDATE**

We are so excited about the newly remodeled Columbia Theatre. Beginning in August, we will start the process of moving display items out of the current Laurel & Hardy Museum location and into the Columbia Theatre. The Laurel & Hardy Museum will remain open for the beginning stages of the move. Specific dates are not confirmed for the closing of the current museum location, however, the current location will close in the weeks heading into the opening of the new Harlem Museum and Welcome Center at the Columbia Theatre.

What a wonderful opportunity to see a historical building such as the Columbia Theatre be utilized to celebrate the city of Harlem, Oliver Hardy, and become a hub for the community and for fun in our great city!

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