

# HARLEM NEWSLETTER

March 2019

"Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider"

www.harlemga.org

DATES TO REMEMBER

<u>March 5</u> Planning Commission Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

<u>March 13</u> Urban Redevelopment Agency Meeting 9:30 a.m. at City Hall

> March 21 City Council Work Session 7:00 p.m.

March 25 City Council Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

<u>March 28</u> Historic Preservation Commission Meeting 6:30 p.m.

\* Meetings are held at the Public Safety Building unless otherwise noted

> \* All meetings are subject to change

Happy St. Paddy's month! If you haven't already heard, the Merchants Association has planned Harlem's 1st St. Patrick's Day celebration to be held Saturday, March 16th. The day starts off with a Golf Cart Parade and will be filled with lots of "Irish" traditions. I hope you will join us for some fun, music and food. Check our calendar for many more activities throughout our City. IF you think that is fun, just you wait until April and see what the Arts Council has planned!

On March 19th, a special election will be held in Columbia County for the purpose of deciding if the Educational Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) will be renewed for an additional five years. This election will be countywide and all voters registered in Columbia County, Harlem and Grovetown are eligible to vote. I encourage you to research the ESPLOST, and make an informed decision on whether to extend it or not. In Harlem, we have two new schools that have been funded through the ESPLOST and countywide many new schools have been constructed. Without the ESPLOST, the Board of Education would certainly have to increase the millage rate to fund projects in the future. Many upgrades to classrooms, athletic complexes and additions to the bus fleet have been funded with the money from the ESPLOST. Ask yourself if you prefer for these expenses to be funded via ESPLOST by a one percent tax levied on goods and services purchased anywhere in Columbia County or by the funding coming from our local school millage rate and thus being paid for by property owners countywide. I know how I will vote on March 19th! I encourage you to make an informed decision.

Do not forget to set your clocks ahead one hour on March 10.

Roxanne Whitaker, your Mayor

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Harlem Merchants Association is excited to sponsor the 1st annual **SHAMROCK 'N ROLL**! This community event will be on **Saturday, March 16th at the Glenn Phillips Park, 11:00–2:00**. This festival will feature a St. Patrick's Day themed Golf Cart Parade around the residential streets of Harlem. At the park we will have many delicious foods and special beverages. There will be Irish music, a corn hole championship, a Jumpy House and more for kids. Come 'n celebrate, shop at our local businesses and have fun with us! For details including the parade route and more, visit our SHAMROCK 'N ROLL Facebook page. Flyers will be located at local businesses, the Harlem Civic Center and the Harlem Library.

#### **Bethesda Baptist Church**

Bethesda Baptist Church will be presenting the movie "The Passion of the Christ" on Good Friday, **April 19, at 6:30** in our Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome but please note this movie is not suitable viewing for younger children. 5793 Old Augusta Highway, Harlem – 706 556-6818.

### 3K Color Run/Walk

North Harlem Elementary is having a 3K Color Run/Walk on **Saturday**, **March 30**, **2019 at 10 a.m.** to raise money for their new playground. There is a \$20 entry fee. Free shirt until March 15. Please go to https://ccboe.revtrak.net then click on North Harlem Elementary then click on all other schools and PTO.

#### HARLEM ARTS COUNCIL

Harlem Arts Council has found "Gold" at the end of the rainbow! Carl Purdy, noted musician and professor at A.U., will be our guest March artist on **Saturday, March 16th, from 3-5 p.m.** Mr. Purdy has recorded internationally on the violin, recorder, classical guitar and folk guitar. His interest in Irish and Celtic music should be a sparkling facet to his March concert. Harlem Civic Center is located at 375 N. Louisville Street. The cost is free but donations most gratefully accepted. Please follow us on our webpage, wwwharlemartscouncil.org or our Facebook page. Catch the rainbow and join us for a wonderful musical afternoon.

Columbia County Traffic Engineering is offering Traffic 101 sessions to those who are interested in learning more about traffic flow in Columbia County. The Traffic Engineering Department will host 45-60 minute sessions in the Traffic Control Center where citizens will have the opportunity to tour the Traffic Control Center, learn more about the Intelligent Transportation Software installed throughout the county, meet the staff, and ask any traffic-related questions. The Traffic 101 sessions will be held every Tuesday at 3:00 p.m. and every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. Both groups and individuals are welcome, but spots are limited. It is important that those who are interested in attending reserve their slot by contacting Andralyn Graham at 706 868-4223.

