

ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

THE CHOICE IS OURS!!!



RON CROSS
Commission Chairman

After months of planning, two commission work sessions, and four public hearings, the list of projects for the 2017 General Obligation Bond referendum is complete. The Board of Commissioners approved the final list of projects on September 26, 2016 in the final commissioner work session.

It is now up to our citizens to determine if we want to advance progress in Columbia County by many years with funding for these much needed and desired additions. Several "wants" and several "needs" are included. One project that was mentioned by our citizens that was not included is an aquatic center. As you recall, voters rejected the previous bond issue for this project several years ago and due to the initial cost and the on-going maintenance cost, it was omitted on the current list. However, we have been informed by a local fitness center that they will be adding an aquatic center in the near future.

As we have stated many times, these projects came as a result of our Vision 2035 study, which identified many things in our county that was needed or something our citizens wanted. As usual, none of these additions had any funding sources. After much internal discussion, the Board of Commissioners decided to see if our citizens would support a bond issue to accomplish what many desired. We can make that choice on November 8, 2016 by voting "yes" to the bond question on the presidential election ballot. Without this funding, none of these projects will be possible in the near future. The great thing about this type bond is that all projects will be funded immediately at the sale of the bonds. With our excellent credit and bond ratings, the bonds will sell immediately. Below is the final approved list and since all will be funded at the same time, there is no priority. They are all high priority.

2017 General Obligation Bond Project List and Description

Euchee Creek Greenway- Additional construction of master planned, multi-use greenway that will span Columbia County from Grovetown to Savannah Rapids Pavilion

Performing Arts Center- Construction of a 2000+ seat Performing Arts Center with a Museum component as well as other cultural arts opportunities



The Plaza: Traffic Improvements- Necessary traffic improvements on Evans Town Center Drive for the Plaza (Town Center) development

The Plaza: Parking Deck- Provides for additional parking in the Plaza Development to support retail, dining, and PAC patrons as well as possible future residents and overflow parking for events at Evans Town Center Park

The Plaza: Passive Park /Parking- Construction of structural parking fields, sidewalks, asphalt, and large outdoor farmer's market type open greenspace area
Tax Software-Needed software for the Tax Commissioner and Tax Assessors Offices to replace an antiquated system

Lakeside Park- Complete the existing master plan to construct additional fields, pavilions, restrooms, parking and tennis courts

Patriot's Park Expansion and Improvements- Completion of new fields, additional parking, and connectivity reconfigurations to allow for multiple entrances/exits

Construction of Regional Passive Parks- Construction of 3 regional parks that will include walking trails, dog parks, pavilions, playgrounds and adaptive playground

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Grovetown Library- Construction of a Library in the City of Grovetown. Contingent on a donation of land by the city in a mutually agreed on location

Harlem City Center Project- Improvements to grounds and potential buildings adjacent to the Columbia County Library in Harlem

Firefighting Apparatus- Purchase and equipment up fit of a new aerial truck for Fire Services

Public Safety Training Center Improvements- Construction of necessary infrastructure for expanded countywide and regional Public Safety training

Sheriff's Office Range Protection- Installation of a bullet protector/trap on the firing range to address safety concerns

Sheriff's Office Storage Facility- Construction of a large storage building for equipment protection

Gateway Blvd Ext/Wrightsboro Road- Extension of Gateway Blvd. to Wrightsboro Road

Transportation- Local matching funds for Hardy McManus, Hereford Farm, and Stevens Creek Rd.

Please accept the sincere appreciation of the commission and staff for the support and input of all those that participated in the Vision 2035 study and the public hearings for the bond issue. We also would like to encourage all of our citizens to vote on Nov. 8th and give careful consideration to supporting the continuing progress of Columbia County. The choice is ours!!



COLUMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S CORNER HALLOWEEN SAFETY

A few safety tips from the Columbia County Sheriff's Office can protect children who plan to go trick-or-treating this Halloween.

Treats: Warn children not to eat any treats before an adult has carefully examined them for evidence of tampering.

Flame Resistant Costumes: When purchasing a costume, mask, beards, and wigs, look for the label Flame Resistant. Although this label does not mean these items won't catch fire, it does indicate the items will resist burning and should extinguish quickly once removed from the ignition source. To minimize the risk of contact with candles or other sources of ignition, avoid costumes made with flimsy materials and outfits with big, baggy sleeves or billowing skirts.

Costume Designs: Purchase or make costumes that are light and bright enough to be clearly visible to motorists. For greater visibility during dusk and darkness, decorate or trim costumes with reflective tape that will glow in the beam of a car's headlights. Bags or sacks should also be light colored or decorated with reflective tape. Reflective tape is usually available in hardware, bicycle, and sporting goods stores.

To easily see and be seen, children should also carry flashlights. Costumes should be short enough to prevent children from tripping and falling. Children should wear

well-fitting, sturdy shoes. Mother's high heels are not a good idea for safe walking. Hats and scarfs should be tied securely to prevent them from slipping over children's eyes. Apply a natural mask of cosmetics rather than have a child wear a loose-fitting mask that might restrict breathing or obscure vision. If a mask is used, however, make sure it fits securely and has eyeholes large enough to allow full vision. Swords, knives, and similar costume accessories should be of soft and flexible material.

Pedestrian Safety: Young children should always be accompanied by an adult or an older, responsible child. All children should WALK, not run from house to house and use the sidewalk if available, rather than walk in the street. Children should be cautioned against running out from between parked cars, or across lawns and yards where ornaments, furniture, or clotheslines present dangers.

Choosing Safe Houses: Children should go only to homes where the residents are known and have outside lights on as a sign of welcome. Children should not enter homes or apartments unless they are accompanied by an adult. People expecting trick-or-treaters should remove anything that could be an obstacle from lawns, steps and porches. Candlelit jack-o'-lanterns should be kept away from landings and doorsteps where costumes could brush against the flame. Indoor jack-o'-lanterns should be kept away from curtains, decorations, and other furnishings that could be ignited.





COLUMBIA COUNTY SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2016

Board of Commissioners Meetings

Building A Auditorium, 630 Ronald Reagan Drive, Evans, GA
Tuesdays October 4th and 18th, 6:00pm
Tuesdays November 1st and 15th, 6:00pm

Board of Commissioners Committee Meetings

Management & Internal Services and Development &
Engineering Services
Building A Auditorium, 630 Ronald Reagan Drive, Evans, GA
Tuesday, October 11th, 8:30am

Public Works Services and Community and Emergency Services

Building A Auditorium, 630 Ronald Reagan Drive, Evans, GA
Tuesday, October 25th, 8:30am

Management & Internal Services and Development & Engineering Services

Building A Auditorium, 630 Ronald Reagan Drive, Evans, GA
Tuesday, November 8th, 8:30am

Public Works Services and Community and Emergency Services

Appling Courthouse, Appling, GA
Tuesday, November 22nd, 8:30am

Columbia County Planning Commission Meetings

Building A Auditorium, 630 Ronald Reagan Drive, Evans, GA
Thursdays October 6th and 20th, 6:00pm
Thursdays November 3rd and 17th, 6:00pm

COMING THIS OCTOBER



Augusta Amusements Presents

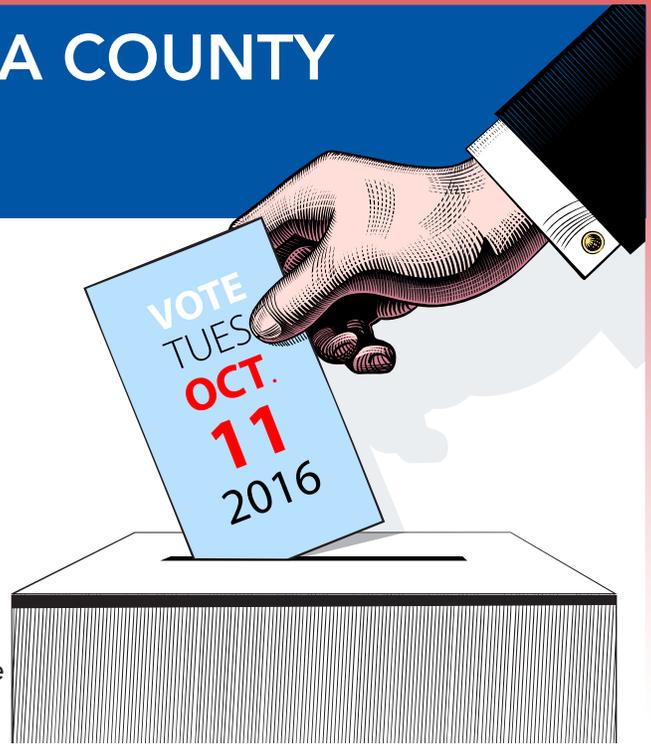
Face2Face: **Billy Joel & Elton John Tribute**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
at the JABEZ S. HARDIN PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

NOTICE FROM COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

The Voter Registration Deadline for the November 8, 2016 General Election is Tuesday, October 11, 2016.

If you need to register to vote, complete a change of address or change of name, confirm your registration, or locate your voting precinct – please visit www.mvp.sos.ga.gov or stop by the Board of Elections Office, Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm. For assistance or more information, you may call our office at 706-868-3355.



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UPDATES and **INFO** on **UPCOMING EVENTS!**



 facebook.com/columbiactyga

 twitter.com/columbiactyga

 youtube.com/columbiacounty

 www.columbiacountyga.gov

Trick or Treat So Others Can Eat
Evans Towne Center Park
Thursday, October 27, 2016
5pm-8pm

FREE EVENT
Bring one canned food item to enter!

HolidaysAtThePark.com

 Benefiting Columbia County Cares Food Pantry


GAME OF THE DAY
@LADY A
EVANS, GA HIGHCTY
 
GAME # 1
LIVE GAMEDAY COVERAGE
ALL DAY

OCTOBER 8
7:30 PM
 **vs.** 
KICKOFF CONCERT
FOR GAME #2
Big & Rich
LIVE AT LADY A
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

GAME # 2
NOVEMBER 5
GAME TIMES TBA
GAMEDAYLADYA.COM



PRESENT

Big & Rich

LIVE IN CONCERT



WITH

COWBOY TROY & DJ SINISTER

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

EVANS TOWNE CENTER PARK

TICKET INFORMATION AT WWW.GAMEDAYLADYA.COM

SPECIAL GUEST: ERIC LEE BEDDINGFIELD

NEW ALBUM "GRAVITY" AVAILABLE NOW

BIGANDRICH.COM - FOLLOW BIG & RICH ONLINE @BIGANDRICH  



OCTOBER 2016

Date	Time	Program	Age	Description	Branch
Mon.'s, Wed.'s, & Thurs.'s thru Nov 17	10:15 AM	Two-dlders Class	Children	Toddler Time is for children 2-3 years old. No registration required.	Evans
	11 AM	Preschool Time	Children	Preschool Time is for children 3-5 years old. No registration required.	Evans
Tues.'s thru Nov 15	10:15AM&1PM	Baby & Me	Children	Calling all babies! Bring your littlest ones to this class made just for them!	Evans
	10:30 AM	Baby & Me	Children	Baby & Me Class is for children under 2 years old. No registration required.	EuChee Ck
Tues.'s	10:30 AM-12:30 PM	ESL Classes	Adults	Free class & open to adults whose first language is not English. Come & practice your conversational English with us!	Evans
Tues.'s thru Nov 15	4:15 PM	Child Enrichment	Children	Join us for stories, songs, dancing & the coolest crafts around. No registration required.	EuChee Ck
Tues.'s	6-8 PM	Writing Composition Grp	Adults	If you are an adult who needs assistance on a short term basis to improve your composition skills, write personal statements or to study for a GED or TOEFL test	Evans
Wed.'s thru Nov 16	10:30 AM	Child Enrichment	Children	Join us for stories, songs, dancing & the coolest crafts around. No registration required.	EuChee Ck
Thurs.'s thru Nov 17	4:30 PM	Afternoon Adventures	Children	Afternoon adventures is for all ages of children. Stories, songs, dancing & the coolest crafts around. No registration required.	Evans
Oct 1, 15 & 29, 2016	12 PM	Saturday Chess Club	All ages	All chess players are welcome to practice their skills.	EuChee Ck
Oct 10, 2016	3 PM	Genealogy Club	Adults	Join us to learn the basics of finding your roots.	Evans
Oct 10, 2016	5:30 PM	Teen Movie Night	Teens	Call 706-556-0594 for details. Light snacks will be provided.	EuChee Ck
Oct 10, 2016	7 PM	Pub Fiction Book Club	Adults	Join us for a new kind of book club at Pizza Central in Evans. The Oct selection is <i>The Girl with No Past</i> by Kathryn Croft.	Evans
Oct 11, 2016	4 PM	Beginner's Guitar Class	Teens	Join us for drop-in guitar instructions. We have up to 6 guitars available for use if students do not have one they can bring in, but they cannot take it home with them. This program is for ages 11-18. Registration is required.	Evans
Oct 13, 2016	1 PM	CCGenealogical Society	Adults	Whether you're just staring out or you're an expert on your family tree, this is the club for you!	EuChee Ck
Oct 13, 2016	4 PM	Factionless Fun Teen Book Club	Teens	Call 706-556-9795 for details of the Oct selection.	Harlem
Oct 13, 2016	4:00-6:00 PM	Beginner Sewing Class	Teens	Sewing basics & make your own binder & folder to take home! This program is for ages 11 to 18. Registration by 5:00 PM Oct 12.	Evans
Oct 14, 2016	10:00 AM	Free Genealogy Websites	Adults	This class covers free websites for various genealogy topics. Registration is required.	Evans
Oct 14, 2016	11:30 AM	Senior Studies 101	Adults	Lunch & Learn -Join us for a different senior studies topic each month. Call 706-863-1946 ext. 4 for registration.	Evans
Oct 16 & 23, 2016	2-4 PM	Intro to Chess I & II	All ages	This two-part class will get you started on the game of kings. Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.	Evans
Oct 17, 2016	4 PM	Makerspace (ages 13-18)	Teens	Teens will work on CAD software, development software, a 3D scanner, a 3D printer, & general electronics tools.	Evans
Oct 17, 2016	5:30 PM	Starry Night Pj StoryTime	Children	Pajama time fun for all kids. Come join the fun in your pajamas.	EuChee Ck
Oct 17, 2016	6:30 PM	Mon. Night Bk Discussion	Adults	The Oct selection is <i>Girl Waits with Gun</i> by Amy Stewart.	Evans
Oct 18, 2016	4:30 PM-6 PM	Harlem's 35th Celebration	All ages	Join us to celebrate 35 years in the Harlem Library & say goodbye to the old building before the new library opens in 2017.	Harlem
Oct 19 & 26, 2016	10AM-3:30PM	Computer Boot Camp Parts I & II	Adults	Are computers a mystery? This is the class for you! Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.	Evans
Oct 20, 2016	11:30 AM	Brown Bag Book Discussion	Adults	The Oct selection is <i>The Soul of an Octopus</i> by Sy Montgomery.	Evans
Oct 20, 2016	12 PM	Adult Coloring Book Class	Adults	Let the stress slip away in this fun group.	EuChee Ck
Oct 20, 2016	4 PM	Harlem Book Club	Adults	The Oct selection is <i>Agatha Christie: An Autobiography</i> .	Harlem
Oct 20, 2016	5:30 PM	Internet Shopping	Adults	Learn to shop & compare online. It can be safe & fun! Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.	Evans
Oct 20, 2016	7 PM	Evenings with Authors	Adults	Garth Stein, the best-selling author of <i>The Art of Racing in the Rain</i> , will speak & sign autographs. Refreshments will be served.	Evans
Oct 21, 2016	10 AM	Facebook Class	Adults	Learn to use Facebook to connect & share. Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.	Evans
Oct 21, 2016	1:30-3:30 PM	Gadget Help with Alex	Adults	Let Alex help you get your gadgets up & running.	Evans
Oct 24, 2016	4:00-8:00 PM	Open Sewing Hour	Adults	We'll supply the sewing machines & the space, you bring the supplies & the creativity!	Evans
Oct 24, 2016	4:30 PM	YA Game Night	Teens	Join us for games & fun. Call 706-556-9795 for registration.	EuChee Ck
Oct 25, 2016	4 PM	Guitar Club	Teens	Meet to discuss & share guitar tips, techniques, advice, etc. Ages 11 to 18.	Evans
Oct 27, 2016	10:30 AM	On the Same Page Bk Club	Adults	The Oct selection is <i>The Ugly Stepsister</i> by Aya Ling.	EuChee Ck
Oct 27, 2016	4 PM	Makerspace (ages 13-18)	Teens	Teens will work on CAD software, development software, a 3D scanner, a 3D printer, soldering equip., & general electronics tools.	Evans
Oct 27, 2016	4:30 PM	Fall Carnival	Children	Face painting, crafts, refreshments & more!	Evans
Oct 27, 2016	7 PM	Evenings with Authors	Adults	Anne Perry, the best-selling author of the <i>Thomas Pitt & William Monk</i> series, will speak & sign autographs.	Evans
Oct 28, 2016	10 AM-2 PM	Open Sewing Hour	Adults	We'll supply the sewing machines & the space, you bring the supplies & the creativity!	Evans
Oct 29, 2016	11 AM	Eu. Ck Family Fall Festival	All ages	Join us for games, a picnic, a cake bake-off, & more. It will be fun for the whole family!	EuChee Ck