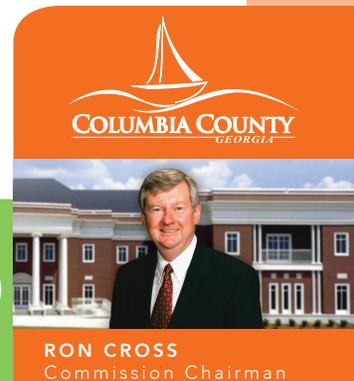


# ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

## GOING FORWARD PART TWO



**RON CROSS**  
Commission Chairman

**L**ast month we covered three things that I feel must be done going forward with our new leadership in county government. Again, these are not necessarily in order of priority, but the first three are very fundamental to continue to have a very efficient and effective government in a high growth desirable community. Those topics were as follows:

1. Continue to maintain and fund public safety.
2. Fiscal Responsibility.
3. Maintain the existing professional staff.

This month we will review three other topics that I feel are very important going forward.

### NUMBER FOUR: CONTINUE TO APPROVE SPLOST & T-SPLOST PROGRAMS

While all of us complain about taxes, especially property taxes, no tax programs have a more dramatic effect on our quality of life than sales tax. Of course, public safety personnel is funded out of our property taxes, but many of the tools they use and the buildings they occupy are funded by sales taxes. Sales tax is the consumer tax that everyone pays when they buy something regardless of whether you are a resident or not. Sales taxes have brought to the county such improvements as the Evans Library and the new branch in Harlem, the new Health Department, the new Animal Services facility, the recycling centers, the Georgia State Patrol building, Building C, several fire stations and fire trucks, and let's not forget Evans Towne Center Park and the New Evans Towne Center Plaza. Several projects from the 2017-2022 SPLOST, including three new public parks, and the new hospital continue in the planning stage. Of all major capital improvements in the county in the last twenty years, most have been financed by your willingness to approve SPLOST programs. Also the first funding for the new Performing Arts Center, currently under construction came from SPLOST funds. It is not practical to burden the homeowner with the amount of taxes it would take for these necessary additions to the community to be funded. All of us must have some assistance from the non-resident buying public. The Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax is the ideal venue.

The county staff will probably present to you a new list of capital improvements for discussion in the fall of next year to be voted on in the 2020 November General Election. You will have an opportunity, as in all revenue programs, to present your favorite projects for consideration. I hope we will all continue to support this program as we have so generously in the past.

The Transportation Investment Act of 2010 (TIA or T-SPLOST) did not happen without much heated discussion, both in design and execution. Our county association attempted for several years to convince our state government to allow counties to put on our county ballot a vote to add a one cent sales tax to fund local transportation. Their refusal, and the fact that Georgia DOT was broke, pushed us to put the widening of Washington Road on a SPLOST referendum. Thankfully it was approved, and that project is finally completed. The state, however, did ultimately agree on a regional sales tax program to fund transportation. In the 2010 election, nine of the regions in Georgia and Columbia County voted emphatically, NO! But, by the grace of the regional vote process our region and two others voted yes. It was the best thing that could have happened to Columbia County.

The local opposition to the program was based on the suspicion that the program was a ruse and all of the money would go to metro Atlanta, but in

actuality, distribution of the funds was mandated by state law and it advanced road improvements in Columbia County by twenty years. There is no other way we could have raised the \$200,000,000.00 that we will receive from this program. River Watch Parkway is completed, and Flowing Wells Road, Fury's Ferry Road, and both sections of Lewiston Road are almost ready to bid, in addition to several smaller improvements.

Your future affirmative votes for both of these programs will assure that our county will be in the best position for quality improvements and additions for many years to come.

### NUMBER FIVE: FOLLOW THE GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

No issues come before the county commission with more emotion than re-zonings requests. Most landowners feel they have the right to do with their property whatever they choose, whenever they choose, including selling the property and changing the usage. Personal property rights have long been fundamental in our society and protected by law to a certain degree. However, to protect the rights of others, governments are allowed to set standards and limits as to the type of developments and locations of property improvements. A community properly zoned for single family occupancy has legal protection against a property owner wanting to build an apartment complex in the same community. That persons' attempt would be met with opposition from the community and the governing authority. Usually that request for rezoning would be denied. But how do you determine how different classifications of development co-exist? Do you allow heavy industry to be built adjacent to a residential area? What should the buffers be between the different types of development?

To answer the above questions and to provide decision guidance, the State of Georgia, under the Department of Community Affairs, requires that local governments have a plan of how a community shapes and guides growth and development. You have probably heard this under such titles as county planning; or urban planning; or land use planning; or more officially "Growth Management Plan".

Columbia County has had such a plan since 1989. It undergoes a mandated revision process every ten years and our staff has just completed the current update entitled "Vision 2035". This plan with much public, staff, and consultant input is the guide for our future development. It indicates areas best suited for residential use with accompanying professional and commercial support, future industrial locations and areas of the county where we need greenspace and other amenities for our citizens. Our Director of Planning Services, Mr. Andrew Strickland, has done an excellent job in updating a plan that not only protects the rights and intents of land owners but gives developers and land sellers a guide into which parts of the county allows and benefits certain types of development. Andrew is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners and has a Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning from Clemson University.

Remember, The Growth Management Plan of Columbia County is not a static document but a fluid document with each zoning request given individual consideration with fairness to all sides of the issue. However, it is extremely important that we use and adhere to this document as close as possible to best protect our land and natural resources for the short and long term future.

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## NUMBER SIX: MAINTAIN STRICT BUILDING STANDARDS & DENSITY CONTROL

During the economic downturn of late 2008 through early 2010, the building industry was struggling to locate financing for any type building project except apartments. Sadly, in hard times, people are unable to buy houses and many more people seek rental opportunities. After the proposed Marshall Square mixed use plan across from Evans Towne Park failed to materialize, they approached us about building a large number of apartments on that site. The original plan called for some residential, but it was planned to be owner occupied condominiums. Since this was a change of the approved Planned Unit Development (PUD), there rezoning request was denied. This simply was not the vision that we had for what is now the Evans Towne Center Plaza. Also at that time the county had almost 2000 units already zoned for multi-family. Some of those have now been completed in the Riverwood area and along Old Evans Road.

The Developer sued the county over the rezoning request denial, and through a series of legal meetings, it was settled to the benefit of both parties. The county bought half of the property, which is now the site of the Meybohm building and the Performing Arts Center, a new park and future buildings. The county then placed a restriction on property to be rezoned for multi-family at 50 units per calendar year since we already had enough land previously zoned for multi-family. Our actions were not to limit affordable housing opportunities for new

residents, but to encourage owner occupied single family residents and to reduce the large inventory of current multi-family zonings.

There is always, and will continue to be, a slight disconnect between what developers and contractors want and what the governing authority believes is best for the total community. They want a product that will sell quickly, and we are looking for long term sustainability of the housing that is being built. You seek to have as much owner occupied housing as possible since personal ownership means better care and upkeep, but you know that rental properties are necessary in every county. We are always looking for the proper balance, and I believe we have taken the proper steps to achieve that.

Another part of this equation is the proper design of new development and the proper inspections of the construction. We have made many changes in the past to require sidewalks and street lights in new communities. We have also ensured that requirements add more space between houses. Of course, these additions increase the cost of construction, and we must provide affordable housing for all citizens. Again, balance is always the goal.

Going forward we must continue to seek proper zonings, better designs, and quality construction to ensure sustainability of all types of new structures.

Next month we will continue to discuss more items of future need. Some will be of the tangible nature, and some more complex of the philosophical nature.

# COLUMBIA COUNTY ORCHESTRA UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2018

FALL CLASSICS Concert

"Musical Smorgasbord" (Music of Grainger, Handel, Reed, and Wagner)  
7 PM at Hardin Auditorium of the Evans, GA Columbia County Library

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2018

11th Annual - "Handel's MESSIAH Sing-In"

Singers welcome to sing with the orchestra: Rehearsal at 4:30 PM.  
Concert dress for singers - All black.  
Concert 6 PM at Kiokee Baptist Church Sanctuary in Appling, GA

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018

Christmas POPS Concert

7 PM at Hardin Auditorium of the Evans, GA Columbia County Library

**FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL PERFORMANCES.**  
(DONATIONS ACCEPTED.)

**For more information on all of these events,  
please go to [www.columbiacco.org](http://www.columbiacco.org)**

**ESTD 2018 FARMERS MARKET COLUMBIA COUNTY**

**FREE FARMERS MARKET!**  
Join us Thursday evenings at Evans Towne Center Park as we round out the Fall with Columbia County's brand new Farmer's Market!

Food trucks, beverage tent, live entertainment, food stands, local artisans, kids fun zone, and more!

October 25, November 1, 8, & 15  
4PM-8PM

**EVANSTOWNECENTERPARK.COM**

**REC TEC GRILLS**

**Trick or Treat Street**

**October 31**  
Candy for a cause!  
We're happy to host the 18th year of our charitable Halloween event at Evans Towne Center Park.

General Admission gates open at 6pm. Park Pass holders are invited to attend at 5pm!

**FREE EVENT- SUGGESTED DONATION ONE CANNED GOOD**

**Art After Dark**

An evening of art, wine, and entertainment

**November 3, 2018**  
7:00-10:00 PM

JSH Performing Arts Center at the Columbia County Library  
7055 Evans Town Center Blvd, Evans GA

Free and Open to the Public  
Complimentary hors d'oeuvres  
Cash Bar  
Silent Auction  
Live Jazz

Art for Sale by Artist Guild members

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Check out what's going on in  
October at your Libraries!

All programs are drop-in except where noted as "Registration Required." For drop-in programs, space is limited to a first-come, first-served basis.

## Adult Programs

### Columbia County/Evans Library

#### English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes

Tuesdays • 10:30 am-12:00 pm

Classes are free and open to adults whose first language is not English.

#### Doodle Hour-Adult Coloring

Mon, Oct 1 • 6:30 pm & Wed, Oct 3 • 12:00 pm

Coloring books are perfect for stressed out adults. You've seen the trend, now try it!

#### Fiber Arts Craft & Chat

Thursday, October 4 • 5:30-7:30 pm

This group meets the first Thursday of each month in the café area and is open to all crafters: crochet, knit, loom, cross stitch, etc. This low-key crafting meet-up is open to people who want to learn as well as those already crafty.

#### Adult Guitar Club

Thursdays, October 4 & 18 • 6:00-7:30 pm

Experienced adult players, this is a chance to get together with other adult guitar players to swap tips and songs.

#### Acorn Media TV Demo

Sunday, October 7 • 2:30-4:30 pm

Learn about our new streaming program, then watch a show!

#### NanoWrimo Workshop

Sunday, October 7 • 2:30-4:30 pm

Are you prepared to write your novel in November? Come join us for a brainstorming and feedback session. We'll have a brief talk on resources and strategies for success, then break into groups to share ideas. Please bring your outlines, writing tools, and open minds. We'll talk about writing, answer questions, and give you some resources to start planning for your breakout book!

#### Genealogy Club

Monday, October 8 • 3:00 pm

Whether you're a genealogical expert or just learning about your roots, this is the group for you. No registration required.

#### Pub Fiction Book Club

Monday, October 8 • 7:00 pm • Pizza Central, Evans

Join us at Pizza Central in Evans for this month's book selection: *Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro.

#### Bookkeeping, Payroll & Business Financial Seminar

Wednesday, October 10 • 12:00-2:00 pm

A bookkeeping, payroll and business finance seminar is being presented by Tabitha Hollimon, MBA, EA and owner of Avail Bookkeeping and Tax Services. Call 706-863-1946, ext. 4 to register.

#### In-home Care Information Hosted by Focus on You

Wednesday, October 10 • 3:00 pm

There's a new, affordable alternative available to those who want consistent, high quality in-home care. Join us to learn all about it and get your questions answered!

Call 706-863-1946, ext. 4 to register.

#### Estate Planning & Elder Care

Friday, October 12 • 11:00 am

Hear legal strategies to protect your family and estate including: wills & trusts, estate planning, probate avoidance, powers of attorney, Medicaid and VA planning as well as the VA Aid & Attendance Benefit. Burroughs + Elijah hosts. Call 706-863-1946, ext. 4 to register.

#### Monday Night Book Discussion

Monday, October 15 • 6:30 pm

This month's book selection is *Ordinary Grace* by William Kreuger.

#### Emergency Prep

Tuesday, October 16 • 5:30-7:30 pm

Does your family have a plan? Come learn the basics of Emergency Preparedness and how to prepare for the worst, even here in Columbia County. Call 706-863-1946, ext. 4 to register.

#### Computer Boot Camp - Part I

Wednesday, October 17 • 10:00 am-3:30 pm

Windows - Learn the basics of Windows including parts of the computer, using the mouse, saving to a USB Flash drive, and basic computer maintenance. Call 706-863-1946, ext. 4 to register.

#### Brown Bag Book Discussion

Thursday, October 18 • 11:30 am-1:00 pm

This month's book selection is *The Good Lord Bird* by James McBride.

#### Greater Evans SCORE Workshop

Thursday, October 18 • 1:00-3:00 pm

Thinking of starting a business? These workshops are for you! Register at [greateraiken.score.org](http://greateraiken.score.org).

#### Gadget Help with Alex

Thursday, October 18 • 5:30-7:30 pm

Drop by the Library during these times to get individual help with your electronic gadgets. First come, first serve; no appointment necessary.

#### FirstOneStep07

Thursday, October 18 • 6:00 pm

Support group for new amputees and their family members to connect with others who have overcome similar challenges.

#### Cord Cutting

Tuesday, October 23 • 5:30-7:30 pm

Learn the basics of cord cutting. Gain information on the latest options such as Hulu, Sling TV, Roku, antennas, etc. that will allow you to ditch that monthly cable bill! Call 706-863-1946, ext. 4 to register.

#### Computer Boot Camp: Part 2

Wednesday, October 24 • 10:00 am-3:30 pm

Internet - Learn the basics of using the internet including web sites and browsers, instruction on what they are and how to use search engines and keeping yourself safe on the internet. Call 706-863-1946, ext 4 to register.

**Library Genealogy Resources**

Thursday, October 25 • 10:00-11:30 am  
Learn what resources are available at Columbia County Library for your genealogical research. Call 706-863-1946, ext. 4 to register.

**Is In-Home Care Career for You? Hosted by Focus on You**

Thursday, October 25 • 6:00-7:00 pm  
Join us to learn how you can help adults live a fuller, happier life. Call 706-863-1946, ext 4 to register.

**Sewing Basics**

Friday, October 26 • 10:30 pm  
Come learn the basics of sewing. Learn how to sew on a button and how to hem things. Call 706-863-1946, ext. 4 to register.

**Euchee Creek Library**

**Beginner Crochet**

Wednesdays, October 3 & 17 • 1:30 pm  
Fun and informal. Supplies provided. No registration required.

**Fiber Arts Craft & Chat**

Wednesdays, October 10 & 24 • 2:00-4:00 pm  
Bring your own projects-crochet, knit, loom, cross stitch, etc and socialize with others.

**Genealogical Society**

Thursday, October 11 • 1:00 pm  
Whether you're an expert or just beginning to look into your roots, this club has something to offer everyone.

**Adult Time-Out**

Thursday, October 18 • 11:00 am  
Make your own string art. Registration and supplies required.

**On the Same Page Book Club**

Thursday, October 25 • 10:30 am  
The October selection is *The Winter Sea* by Susanna Kearsley.

**Harlem Library**

**Doodle Hour**

Monday, October 1 • 2:00 pm  
Join us for an enjoyable hour of coloring and relaxing!

**Open Sewing**

Tuesdays, October 9 & 23 • 3:00 pm  
Bring your projects and use our machines to finish them! Registration required.

**Crochet Class: Swiffer Cover**

Thursday, October 11 & 25 • 10:30 am  
Join us as we learn how to crochet a hot pad! This class is in 2 sessions, and you must register for both.

**Crafternoon**

Wednesday, October 17 • 1:00 pm  
Come join us for a fun hour of crafting! Registration required.

**Genealogy Class: City Directories**

Wednesday, October 17 • 3:30 pm  
Learn the value of City Directories for family research. Registration required.

**Harlem Book Club**

Thursday, October 18 • 4:00 pm  
Join us to discuss *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr.

**Bingo for Books**

Friday, October 19 • 10:30 am  
Join us for Bingo, prizes, and refreshments! Registration required.

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**Friends of the Library Book Sale  
October 5-8 • Evans Library**

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**Teen Programs**

**Columbia County/Evans Library**

**Young Makers Program**

Monday, October 1 • 4:00-5:30 pm  
This Makerspace program is geared especially for children ages 8-12. Kids will learn about science, engineering, and design with hands-on experiences.

**Otaku-Rabu Club**

Tuesday, October 2 • 5:00-6:30 pm  
Join us for a screening of this season's most popular anime! This month's selection is *Asobi Asobase*.

**Beginner's Guitar Class**

Tuesday, October 9 • 4:00 pm  
This guitar class is for ages 11-18. If you do not have your own guitar, we have up to 6 guitars for class use. Registered students can drop in any time from 4:00-5:00 pm for instruction. Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.

**Teen Art Class**

Wednesday, October 10 • 4:00 pm  
Join us for beginner's lessons in art! Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.

**Makerspace**

Monday, October 15 & Thursday, October 25 • 4:00-5:30 pm  
Teens 13-18 will work on their own projects under staff guidance while using library equipment including CAD software, development software, a 3D scanner, a 3D printer, soldering equipment, and general electronics tools.

**Beginner Coding Class**

Tuesday, October 16 • 4:00 pm  
We will be teaching the basics of coding in Java. Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.

**Teen Guitar Club**

Tuesday, October 23 • 4:00 pm  
Meet to discuss and share guitar tips, techniques, advice, etc.

**Teen Advisory Board**

Thursday, October 25 • 4:00 pm  
Help us decide what programs to offer this year while getting volunteer credit.

**Your Money, Your Future**

Monday, October 29 • 4:30-6:30 pm  
This program is provided by Georgia 4-H through the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension to help you be successful managing your money now and in the future. The lessons are aimed at grades 7 - 12, but are helpful for anyone who needs the basics of budgeting. Call 706-863-1946, ext. 4 to register.

**Euchee Creek Library**

**Anime Club**

Monday, October 15 • 4:30 pm  
Join us for a screening of this season's most popular anime!

**Need more information?**

**Contact your local branch:**

- Evans: 706-863-1946
- Euchee Creek: 706-556-0594
- Harlem: 706-650-5009

## Children's & Family Programs

### Columbia County/Evans Library

#### Child Enrichment:

Join us each week for fun programs! Learn and practice new and engaging ways of helping your child develop early literacy skills!

**Child Enrichment marked with \*\* requires registration.**

- **Crawlers & Pre-Walkers: Tues • 10:15 am \*\***
- **Baby & Me: Tues • 11:00 am & Weds • 10:15 & 11:00 am \*\***
- **Two-dlders: Mon, Weds, Thurs • 10:15 am**
- **Preschoolers: Mon, Weds, Thurs • 11:00 am**
- **Afternoon Adventures: Thurs • 4:30 pm**

**Call 706-863-1946 ext 3 for info or to register for children's programs. Visit GCHRL.org for more October programs!**

#### Book a Bunny

Tuesdays • 4:30-5:30 pm

Book an appointment to read to Reggie the library bunny! Appointments last approximately 20 minutes. Call or visit the children's desk to schedule an appointment. Grades 1-5.

#### Blues Workshop: Part 1

Thursday, October 4 • 4:00-5:30 pm

Come and make your own instruments to keep and play. Materials will be provided. Children 12 and under. Downstairs Mtg Room.

#### Sensory Class

Friday, October 5 • 11:00 am

Join us for interactive stories, games, songs, and activities! We welcome children and caregivers of all abilities to this class. Call 706-447-7657 for more info.

#### Blues Workshop: Part 2

Saturday, October 6 • 11:00 am-12:00 pm

Bring the instruments you created in part 1 or any other instrument you play and attend a music workshop with Blues musician Tas Cru. Participants will be invited to appear on stage with the musician at his performance in the Hardin auditorium at 7:00 pm. Children 12 and under. Children's Program Room.

#### Family Movie Night

Tuesday, October 16 • 5:30 pm

Watch *Hotel Transylvania 2* on the big screen in Hardin Auditorium. All ages welcome.

#### Pumpkin Painting

Thursday, October 18 • 5:30 pm

Come in and paint a miniature pumpkin! This is a drop in event while supplies last.

#### Martial Arts for Kids

Saturdays: Oct 13 • 2:00 pm, Oct 20 • 11:30 am, Oct 27 • 2:00pm

Join us at the library for free martial arts introductions with Premier Martial Arts School! Call 706-863-1946 ext 3 or visit gchrl.org for details & registration.

### Eucler Creek Library

#### Child Enrichment:

- **Baby & Me: Tues • 10:30 am**
- **Child Enrichment: Tues • 4:15 pm**
- **Child Enrichment: Weds • 10:30 am**

**Visit GCHRL.org even more October programs!**

#### Super Novas Club

Monday, October 1 • 11:00 am -3:00 pm

Learn about science and have fun! Craft to be announced!

#### Costume Party

Mondays October 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 • 5:30 pm

Join us for a different theme, crafts, and activities each week!

- Oct 1: Spooky, not scary
- Oct 8: Fantasy - Harry Potter, princesses, and more!
- Oct 15: Anime, manga, and superheroes
- Oct 22: Sci-fi - Featuring Star Wars, Star Trek, Doctor Who, & more!
- Oct 29: Wear your Halloween Costume!

#### Family Movie Night

Monday, October 8 • 5:30 pm

Join us for a family movie and light snacks. No registration required.

### Harlem Library

#### Child Enrichment

Tuesdays, October 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30 • 10:30 am

Join us for a fun hour of stories and coloring!

## ENVIRONMENT MATTERS: FALL IS ON ITS WAY

Along with the pleasant weather comes falling leaves. When cleaning your yard of fallen leaves please do not blow leaves down the storm drain because it can cause drainage issues as well as adversely impact our natural water sources. Be sure to bag your leaves and dispose of them properly. We appreciate it, and fish and other aquatic life will appreciate it too.

The Environmental and Stormwater Department's main mission is to serve citizens with quality and protect our valuable natural water resources. Public outreach, such as the annual "Environment Matters" Lunch and Learn program, is one way we have been able to share tips on how everyone can be good stewards of our natural resources. Thanks to the great partnership with our UGA Extension County Agent and the Evans Library Staff, we were able to offer many opportunities for our citizens to participate and learn.

We would also like to thank the many County Teams (Recycling Center, Eucler Creek Greenway, Reed Creek Park, Water Utility, Traffic, IT, Roads and Bridges) and Civic Organizations (Georgia Adopt-A-Stream, Heroes On Water, Healing Waters) that also partnered and shared their expertise with citizens. One citizen wrote in about the sessions, "I had no idea the many helpful things that go on behind the scenes for our community. Hearing directly from workers specific things they do daily for our area and the environment was eye opening. It helped me be more appreciative and equipped to be a better citizen."

Stay tuned for 2019. We will continue to strive for new ideas to explore how we all can be environmental stewards in this community. You can reach us at: [environmentalservices@columbiacountyga.gov](mailto:environmentalservices@columbiacountyga.gov)



## AUGUSTA COIN CLUB 2018 FALL SHOW

GOLD ★ SILVER ★ CURRENCY ★ TOKENS ★ MEDALS  
EXONUMIA ★ JEWELRY ★ COLLECTIBLES ★ SUPPLIES

**FREE  
ADMISSION  
FREE PARKING  
PUBLIC INVITED**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> &  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>  
9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.  
YN PROGRAM SATURDAY NOON**

COLUMBIA COUNTY EXHIBITION CENTER  
212 Partnership Drive – Grovetown, Georgia  
Exit 190 on I-20, go south one block, turn left and drive straight into Exhibition Center.

**RAFFLE DRAWING**  
Saturday at 4:00 p.m.  
Purchase tickets from Club  
Members or at Registration.

Sponsored by:  
**AUGUSTA COIN CLUB**





# COLUMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S CORNER

## HALLOWEEN TIPS

**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, masks, 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 tripping and falling. Children should wear well-fitting, sturdy shoes. Mother's high heels are not a good idea for safe walking. Hats and



scarves should be tied securely to prevent them from slipping over children's eyes. Apply a natural mask of cosmetics rather than have children 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 only go to homes where the residents are known and have outside lights 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.

## VOTING INFORMATION

### ABSENTEE BY MAIL

September 21 - November 2, 2018

### EARLY VOTING

October 15 - November 2, 2018

### AT BUILDING G3

Monday-Friday 8 am to 5 pm

### SATURDAY VOTING

October 27, 2018, 9 am to 4 pm

### ADVANCE VOTING WEEK

October 29 - November 2, 2018, Monday-Friday 8 am to 5 pm

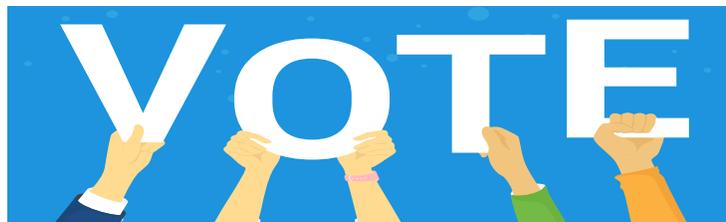
### FOR SATURDAY AND ADVANCE VOTING WEEK

In person voting at Building G3, Patriots Park and Warren Baptist Church in Grovetown

### ELECTION DAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018

All 46 voting precincts will be open from 7 am to 7 pm.

The voter registration deadline for this election is October 9, 2018. To register to vote online, confirm your registration, locate your voting precinct, view sample ballots, or obtain an absentee application, please visit: [www.mvp.sos.ga.gov](http://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov).



**TAYLOR HYUNDAI** Title Sponsors **TAYLOR**

# Party in the Park

with COUNTRY MUSIC'S RISING STARS & HIT SONGWRITERS  
Presented by Columbia County Exchange Club

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27th

LADY ANTEBELLUM PAVILION @ EVANS TOWNE CENTER PARK  
gates open at 6pm • music begins at 7:00pm with local opening acts:  
Caleb Aiken, Forest Colter, and Miranda Winter

### FREE ACOUSTIC CONCERT!

Over 20 number one songs written between the artists in the lineup featuring:

no pets or coolers please! News Channel 6