



CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

NC Board Chairman Marcello Banes



Join us at the Drive-Boo!

So much has changed this year as we look toward maintaining the well-being and health of the community.

When the COVID-19 pandemic started to spread across the country and Newton County, the way we gathered was altered, meeting places were shuttered and events cancelled. While this was all done to keep us safe and to try and limit the tragedy that struck too many, it has taken away some things we are accustomed to.

For us adults, we know it is for the right reason. For our children, it is a little tougher to understand. That is why I am so glad we have found a way to bring a little treat in this year of trick's to Newton County's children.

The Newton County Recreation Department is hosting its first-ever Drive-Boo Trick-or-Treat event this Friday, Oct. 31 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Turner Lake Park, 6185 Turner Lake Road, NW, Covington.

Everyone is invited to this free community event. Cars/vehicles only will be accepted and no trick-or-treating on foot. Children in each car will receive candy donated by community partners.

For more information, call 770-786-3474.

Your Vote Counts

The big day is coming. This Tuesday is Election Day in a critical election for local, state and federal offices.

I hope each and every registered voter has an opportunity to cast their ballot this year. I can tell you, Newton County has the staff that is ready and able to make this a successful election process.

I'm so proud of our team as they have operated a very busy early-voting period without incident.

Newton County has had one in-person early voting location for three weeks, two for two weeks and two drop-box locations for absentee ballots during the early-voting period – and man have they have been utilized.

Newton County voters lined up at the polls and broke records for absentee ballots ahead of the election.

As of Oct. 29, 18,415 people have cast in-person votes. Newton County has received 13,356 verified and accepted mail-in ballots out of 17,506 sent out. That number far, far surpasses absentee ballots received in the previous Presidential Election, when 2,034 voters sent in ballots in 2016.

We are even on track to surpass early voting from 2016, when 22,052 people cast ballots early. In total 44,357 people voted in the 2016 election. I look forward to Newton County surpassing that number this year, as we now have 78,994 active registered voters, compared to 58,302 four years ago.

Make your voices heard, demonstrate your right to choose and cast your ballot.

Congratulations Judge McCamy

This week, Newton County's newest Superior Court Judge was sworn in by Gov. Brian Kemp. The Honorable Cheveda McCamy takes the bench, filling the seat of the late Honorable Horace J. Johnson Jr.

Welcome to #OneNewton Judge McCamy and congratulations.

McCamy holds a bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Georgia and law degree from Mercer University. As an associate attorney, she worked at Hall, Booth, Smith & Slover, P.C. and Lisa R. Roberts & Associates. McCamy later transitioned to the Fulton County District Attorney's Office, where she served as a senior assistant district attorney. She served in that same role with the DeKalb County District Attorney's Office before becoming the chief assistant district attorney with the Henry County District Attorney's Office. She is a member of the NewRock Legal Society, Newton County Bar Association, Walton County Bar Association, Henry County Bar Association, Georgia Association of Women Lawyers, Georgia Trial Lawyers Association, Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys, National District Attorneys Association, and the National Black Prosecutors Association. McCamy and her family reside in Covington.

We look forward to Judge McCamy serving Newton County and know she will do a terrific job.

Marcello Banes

Chairman, Newton County Board of Commissioners