



CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

NC Board Chairman Marcello Banes



What a month it has been so far in Newton County!

As we get closer to Christmas not only are things getting busier and busier for those in your local government but also more exciting.

We kicked off December with a wonderful tribute to someone who has made a difference in this community and been a true servant leader for not only her district but all of Newton County.

As you may know, this is Nancy Schulz's last term as Commissioner of District 3. On Tuesday, Dec. 1, we had a small farewell celebration to Newton County's second-longest serving active commissioner. It was amazing to see the appreciation for Commissioner Schulz and all she has meant to her community.

Schulz began her time on the Board of Commissioners in 2009 and has left her mark on Newton County.

Schulz has worked to create Newton County's Zoning Overlays, begin several road projects to benefit her district and all of Newton County, implement a financial transparency tool, bring in new investments, such as Takeda, Facebook Ginn Chrysler and more, worked to implement a new form of Government, formed the Solid Waste Authority, implement purchasing policies and more.

She has also served her community on the Solid Waste Authority, the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club of Newton County, the Core Planning Team of Newton County's first-ever Strategic Plan and the Board of Directors for the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia just to name a few.

Thank you Commissioner Nancy Schulz for all you have done for your district, your community and your County.

Celebrations

Here at Newton County, we have been in celebration mode.

We kicked things off to recognize the County's Bicentennial Celebration last Saturday. All throughout 2021, Newton County will be celebrating the 200th anniversary since its charter was signed on Dec. 24, 1821.

We will be featuring several new events to celebrate together this monumental occasion. We will be reaching out to all communities in our County and our State Government to mark this Bicentennial Celebration.

The fun started with games and prize giveaways in front of the Historic Courthouse, where we raised our Bicentennial Celebration flag, which will fly throughout the upcoming year, for the first time.

The Board of Commissioners continued to celebrate this week as we cut ribbons on two new, wonderful, expanded facilities.

First up was the expanded Newton County Josephine Brown Senior Center. After years of trying to get a larger space for our very active and growing senior community, Newton County voters approved expanding the facility on the 2017 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) ballot.

Construction recently concluded and the facility was completed and shown off to our community for the first time Wednesday. While our seniors are still unable to attend in person due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are excited to have them utilize the new center as soon as it is safe.

Another SPLOST project that was recently completed, is our newly expanded Animal Services Shelter.

The Shelter was also a project approved by residents on the 2017 SPLOST and was open to the public just recently.

Wednesday afternoon, we cut the ribbon off that new facility as well.

The new shelter is a great improvement and features much-needed space after we have been averaging around 400 visitors a month looking to bring a new cat or dog home.

It is a great time for Newton County and the achievements will continue.

Friday we will cut yet another ribbon, this time on Fire Station 2, located at 3687 Highway 162, bringing more services to the people of Newton County.

I am so excited about where this great county is going and all that is being done for our citizens. Please utilize these wonderful services and follow us on our website and social media to see everything that is going on in our community.

Marcello Banes

Chairman, Newton County Board of Commissioners