



The Selma Insider



Vol. 1, Issue 2

A Quarterly Report From The Selma Town Council

August 2020

Did You See The Show??? It Was Amazing !!!!!

4TH
OF
JULY



Citizens from all over the region showed up to witness Selma's first drive-in fireworks show on July 2. The launching site was located behind the town cemetery which allowed great viewing from cars parked in many different locations in the Catch-Me-Eye area. Congratulations for an outstanding job to the Selma Fire Department who are licensed to perform this special service to the town!!!!



Harrison Gym – Early Voting Site

Beginning October 15 – Oct 31, voters from all over Johnston County may choose to vote early at one of seven sites, including the Harrison Gym in Selma. The gym will also be the site for West Selma regular voting on November 3 rather than the Alumni building.

Both Gordon Woodruff, Chairman of the Board of Elections, and Leigh Anne Price, Director of Elections, said they were very excited to open a site in Selma.

Congratulations!!!

Selma Elementary School has been named a *"Capturing Kid's Hearts"* National Showcase School. The national award recognizes school administrators, teachers and staff producing exemplary outcomes in bringing out the full potential of their staff and students. Great Job!!!!

NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

If you haven't updated your utility account with your latest home or cell number, please call Town Hall at 919.965.9841 and list the number immediately so you can receive all emergency notifications from the Town. This system will allow us to contact all citizens in about 3 minutes.



Selma Town Council

Local Postal Customer

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

And No, they don't wear parachutes . . .



Jorge Ramirez and James Goode, who work with Southern Corrosion, were in Selma recently, adding town logos to the water tower behind the elementary school as well as the one near the oil terminals on Oak Street. "Calm" seemed to be the word of the day when they described how they first anchored their "spider" to the top of the tank which then carried them up and down the tower until they finished. They have a template that they use to establish the outline of the logo (which takes them about 6 hours), but beyond that, their work is freehand (at least an 8 hour job). They describe this job (working straight up on the outside of a 200 ft. tank) as a piece of cake compared to being assigned to paint the INSIDE of a tank – which requires an entirely different mindset. People with claustrophobia need not apply.



Roger Diegele stands by a Japanese Maple planted as a donation to the Mary Diegele Arbor Project.

Mary E. Diegele Arbor Project

The Mary E. Diegele Arbor Project has been established in honor of Mrs. Mary Diegele who spent her life helping others. If you would like for the Town to plant a tree for you in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a birthday, anniversary, or some other special occasion, you may donate \$100 to this project.

Your contribution will include your loved one's name being listed on a plaque located in Town Hall, the planting and nurturing of the tree, a sympathy or celebration card, and a dedication certificate of your tree.

For more information, please see the official brochure on the Town's website or contact the Town's Appearance Commission which sponsors this project. Don't miss this opportunity to do something special.

Reggie Barnes Donates Basketball Court

Mr. Reggie Barnes recently appeared before the Town Council with the offer of a surprise gift – a new outdoor basketball court for Blackley Athletic Park on the Harrison Campus.

Mr. Barnes was born and raised in Selma and graduated from SSS in 1985. He was a 3-Time MVP recipient, the '85 CAP-8 Conference Player of the Year, Metro Player of the Year, 1st Team All-Conference, and 1st Team All-East. He finished his high school basketball career as the 3rd leading scorer in CAP-8 history.

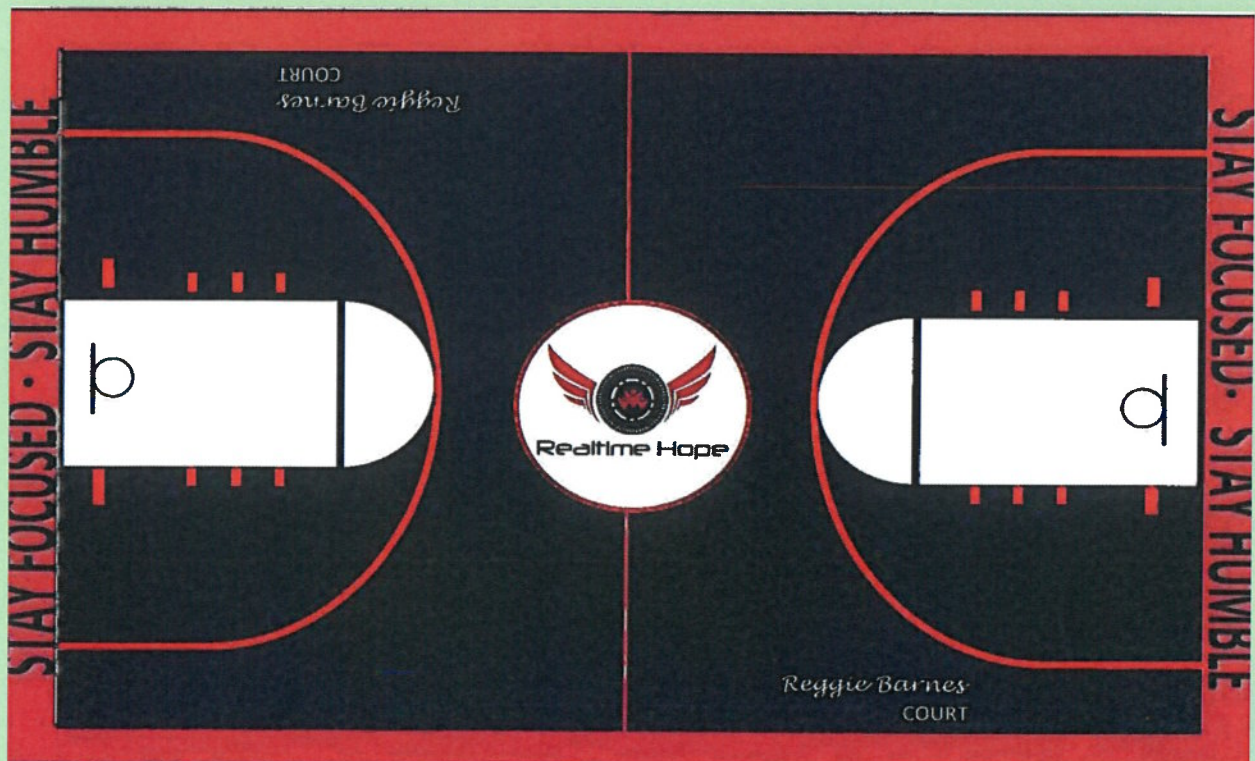
Reggie was the first SSS player to play at the NCAA Division 1 Level. He chose to play for head coach Jeff Mullins at UNC-Charlotte where as a four-year letterman, he played in over 100 games. He graduated in 3 ½ years with a degree in Human Services/Psychology and a minor in African-American Studies.

RealTime Hope, Mr. Barnes non-profit organization, has given thousands of dollars toward scholarships in Johnston County and has completed several mission projects internationally. His motto is, "if you help enough people get what they want, by default you will always get what you want."

The total cost of this project is \$59,311.00 which includes the court construction, backboards, goals, fencing, and is expected to be completed this fall.

The Town Council has officially accepted this gracious gift on behalf of all of the citizens of Selma with their deepest appreciation.

There will be a ribbon cutting to officially open The **Reggie Barnes Court** when the construction is complete.



Come Downtown and Visit Our New Shops

We're Waiting For You!

Appliance Boot Camp

*A Small Price
to Pay for a
Rewarding Career*



Old Fashioned Ice Cream Shop

*Sweet Treats...
You Deserve It!*



Selma Jewelry

*Embellishing life's moments...
Making any occasion better*

*We send your love
around the corner
or around the world.*



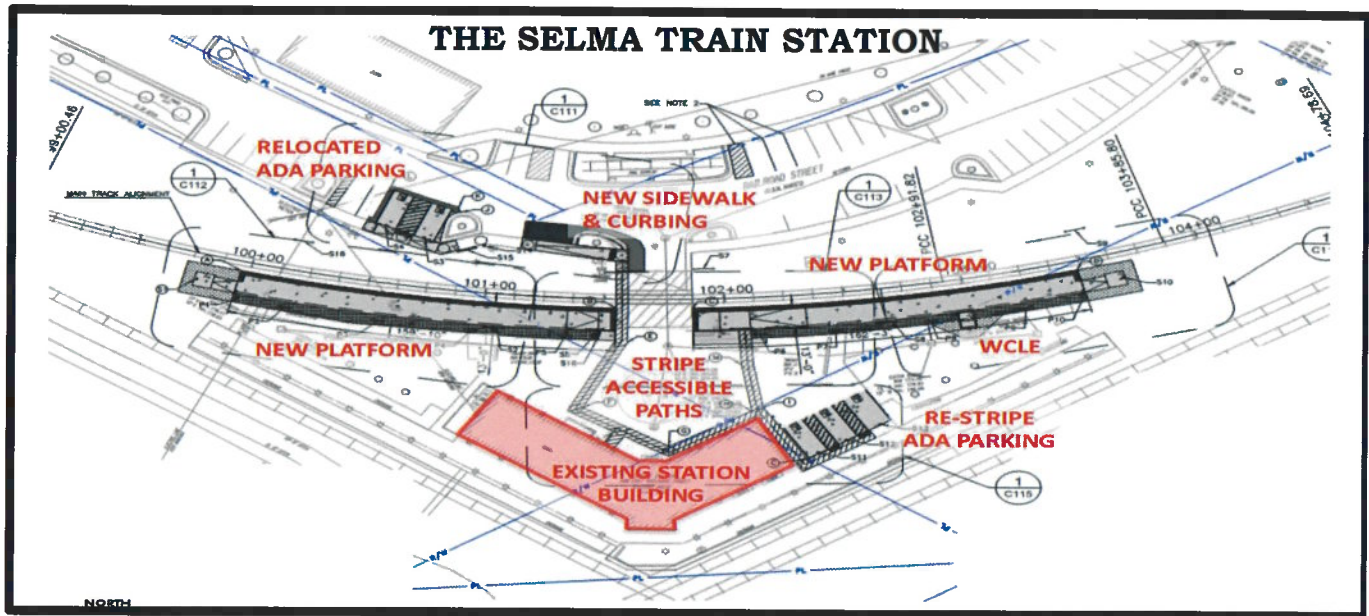
KS Bank

*Same great service - brand new look !!!
Check out our work in progress!*





ADA RAILROAD STATIONS PROGRAM



All Amtrak stations must be made ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessible. The ADA Stations Program is charged to bring all station components, for which Amtrak has responsibility including Selma, into compliance. The chart shown above identifies several improvements including a wheel chair lift enclosure (WCLE). Although the Town of Selma owns the railroad station, the Department of Transportation owns the land. The Council has been told the work should be completed some time in September. We are very excited about this major upgrade to our platform area.

THE BIDS ARE IN & WE ARE READY TO GO !!!!



In our last edition of *The Selma Insider*, we told you about a Golden Leaf Grant that Selma received in order to begin repair of sewer lines damaged by recent hurricanes. The low bid of **\$574,154.55** for this work was offered by KRG Utilities, Inc. from Lenoir, NC (near Boone). This work will rehabilitate approximately 3900 feet of sanitary sewer line. Mr. JP McCann, Director of Public Works, expects the work to begin by the first week in September. The streets to be affected include Lizzie, Massey, Richardson, Sharpe, Sumner, Temple, Waddell, and Webb.

And We Are Going After More Grants This Fall!!



The Council is

1. reapplying for a **\$2 million** CBDG (Community Based Development Grant) from the federal government to continue our work on repairing the sewer lines. We are losing approximately \$650,000 a year in excess sewer treatment fees, so the sooner we can get these lines fixed, the sooner we can use that money for other needs.
2. applying for **\$3 million** of ASADRA monies which is a state revolving loan/grant fund. We are hoping for a 75% forgiveness in a loan situation. This money would also be used to repair the aging sewer lines.
3. reapplying for AIA (Asset Inventory and Assessment) grant which will fund an hydraulic study (water lines) and inventory system for water and sewer as well. This grant would give us **\$150,000** for water and **\$150,000** for sewer.

So, in total, on behalf of the citizens in Selma, the Council, with the assistance of Mr. JP McCann and WithersRavenel Engineering, is now in the process of applying for **\$5,300,000** in grant funds.

Keep your fingers crossed!!!!!!

PUBLIC WORKS' WARRIORS ON THE MOVE !!!



If you can turn on a faucet in Selma and get clean, purified water, flush a commode successfully, drive down an asphalt (not dirt street), get your leaves and branches picked up regularly, and have your loved ones' grave sites maintained in our town cemetery, then the folks pictured below deserve your thanks.



JP McCann, Director



FACILITY & GROUNDS

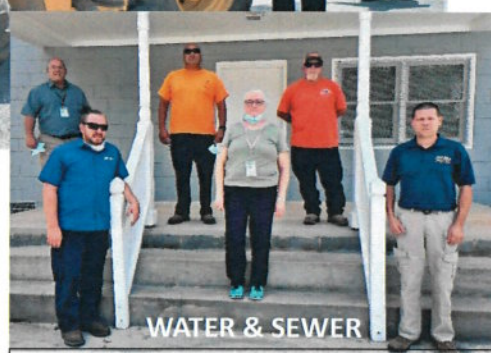
Ricky Stewart, Bryan Christensen, Ben Scoggins

STREET MAINTENANCE

David Cornett, Al Thompson,
Samuel Shaw, Nicholas Hill,
Bobby Pearce, Tommy Harris,
Patrick Moore

Special Notice

New sidewalk work
coming in September!
More street paving in
October!



WATER & SEWER

JP McCann, Johnathan Gundler, Guadalupe Tarango,
Jacqui Smith, Gary James, Matthew Morris

Since our last edition of *The Insider* in March, not only have they been working every day in a very difficult period of time, they have taken on a number of special projects including flood control by retrenching outflow ditches all around town and supervising a major paving project. Four dirt streets paved years after years of requests.



before East Richardson Street after



before Hare Street after



before Winston Circle after



Stokes after



RAILROAD DAYS - A NEW WAY



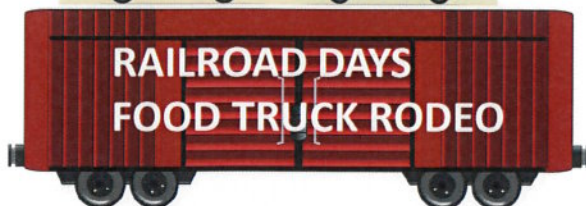
Railroad Days will be different this year without large crowds, vendors, and the parade. But we will have some very interesting activities. Please see the train cars below announcing a few of the events we hope to bring to you the first weekend in October.



From the Town's website soon!



Two Divisions – Business and Residential



Four food trucks Friday, Oct. 2- 5:30. Eat-in at limited spaces, take out, & delivery to cars



At Historic Union Station



Participants will send in a video of their best impression of the conductor yelling "All Aboard."

We may change and/or add events. We hope you can participate in some of these activities. More information will be available on-line.