

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Chamber of Commerce Meeting, Thursday, March 8th, Rail House Grill, 5:30 PM
- City Commission Meeting, Monday, March 12th, Archer City Hall, 7:00 PM
- Planning and Zoning meeting, Tuesday, March 13th, Archer City Hall, 7:00 PM,
- Archer Historical Society, Thursday, March 15th, Old Depot, 7:00 PM
- City Commission Meeting, Monday, March 26th, Archer City Hall, 7:00 PM
- Code Enforcement Meeting, Tuesday, March 27th, Archer City Hall, 7:00 PM

ARCHER NEWSLETTER March 2012



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Happy March Everyone!

I am still as pumped up as I was last month. The on going work by staff is crucial to helping Archer survive the challenges of this dismal economy. Our Public Works Director has been able to save thousands of dollars by shifting some of the community service hours owed the city into repairing streets. Almost everyone in Public Works has completed schooling and are eligible to sit for the class 3 Water Distributor Test.

Public works has been busy locating under ground gate valves and fire hydrants and putting them into our new GPS data base. In some cases the valves were buried for years and had not been exercised. Good job guys locating our utility infrastructure and getting the valves on a regular preventative maintenance schedule.

We are still waiting on permits so we can take care of our water looping problem. Your patience is appreciated.

On February 16th I met with the Archer Junior City Commission. They asked me questions about our sewer project and how they could help. I asked them to begin a letter writing campaign telling our legislators why a sewer system is so important to them. I am very impressed with our future leaders. It is my hope and mission to give them a reason to stay and raise their families here.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTARY by Sarah McIntosh

It is refreshing to hear the positive remarks of Mayor Ogborn as he comments on the progress of the past year and hopes for the upcoming year, especially the work on the sewer system, an ongoing project. It is nice that he recognizes the ceremonial position of the Mayor of Archer, but unfortunate that he didn't remark that there were objections to his not standing on ceremony and passing this ceremonial position on to the vice-mayor as has been the policy followed by previous holders of this ceremonial honor. Because he chose to use his ceremonial position as mayor which allows him to block comments at his ceremonial will, some Archer residents were unable to voice their full displeasure. Yes, as he mentions, Mayor Ogborn walks the halls of the Capitol building and signs the checks for the bills to the City of Archer he incurs for walking those halls, but might not our city be better served by the mayor walking the streets of Archer and finding solutions to the very real and evident problems of crime and security that concern our citizens, or attending to some of the other needed services. Looking at the Archer website and the list of committees and projects on which the various commissioners serve, it is interesting to note that Mayor Ogborn has no more obligations than any of the other City Representatives. Maybe Archer citizens would like to see a more community oriented Mayor, one whose ceremonial obligations encompass the wide variety of ideas and interests held by its citizens.

FLORIDA BLACK HISTORY

I apologize for not recognizing Black History Month in the February newsletter. Several people told me they had submissions about Black History for the February newsletter, but this was after the February newsletter had already been printed. Black history can and should be celebrated any month, so please bring in any submissions you have.

I always try to get each month's newsletter out by the first of the month. (I'm sorry this month's newsletter was a little late; February is just such a short month. It was over before I knew it!) I love to get submissions for the newsletter! (It means less for me to write! Also, it's nice to hear from a variety of people.)

If you have anything you would like to share with the City of Archer, either information or opinion, please feel free to bring us a typed copy to City Hall and ask them to put it in Commissioner Zander's mailbox. I will not edit your writing in any way except to correct any errors. (I can't help it; I'm an English teacher!)

I am working on an article about Mary McLeod Bethune, an African American heroine whom I greatly admire. It will be in the April newsletter. *M. Zander*

Mayor's message continued:

Commissioner Hope and I were in Tallahassee for two days again this year. The annual Mayors Mean Business Summit is a forum where Mayors from all over Florida bring a business partner that has worked successfully with the city to bring jobs and build infrastructure. There were many different companies represented. Engineers and Financial planners, to small beauty shop owners. Commissioner Hope and I brought back some interesting ideas that may be good for Archer.

I met with Jocelyn Garcia and Bob Gache on Friday the 24th. The Archer Veterans Memorial is coming together. Plans and ideas for a grand event were discussed along with the construction details.

Everyone have a great March. Take care.

Mayor Frank

THE ARCHER VETERAN'S MEMORIAL will be located at the Archer Community Center. Additional donations are needed and will be appreciated. Make checks payable to Alachua County Veterans Committee. Mail to Veterans Memorial Committee, 3000 NW 83 St., Bldg. R, Room 110, Gainesville, FL 32606

**ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO HOLD AN
EVENT?**

Check out the New Archer Community Center. It is the place to be when you are planning for a banquet, wedding, plays, family reunions, class reunions meetings birthday parties, workshops, retreats and all other community events.

Please contact City Hall for more information

(352) 495-2880

**THE ARCHER COMMUNITY CENTER IS EQUIPPED
WITH THE FOLLOWING:**

- * Open space dance floor and stage with curtains**
- * Concession area with double door stainless steel refrigerator, Counter top and cabinets, Convection microwave (no stove)**
- * Heat and air conditioning**
- * Piano**

- * Tables and chairs**
- * Stage with lighting and hi-tech sound system**
- * Approximately two acres of outdoor space for other activities**

ARCHER COMMUNITY

CENTER

