

The Northside Voice

Winter 2019 : Issue No. 11

Northside's Mixed Income Housing and Mix Use Commercial Development

Work has begun on the corner of Howard and College for the Northside's Mixed Income Mixed Use project. Grading and site work has started on the Mixed Use side of the street which includes excavation of rock through blasting and removal of dirt that will be eventually moved across the street on the old parking lot of Spartan Mill to prepare for a 90 unit mixed income apartment development scheduled to start 2nd quarter of 2019.

The first Phase of the development consists of a \$14M Mixed Use project consisting of two buildings at the east corner of Howard Street: the main building and a clinic for VCOM. The main building will have office space on the first floor that will include offices for Access Health, NDG, and other organizations, with two floors of apartments above, as well as a portion dedicated to Wofford College's Community Sustainability program. Wofford's space will have classroom and community engagement space for students and community partners with housing above. The Mixed Use development be complete early 2020.



Start: ME Class of 2019

The Northside Development Group, in partnership with USC Upstate Business School, has kicked off its 3rd ever entrepreneurship accelerator program, known as Start:ME Northside. Info sessions for the 2019 class began in September 2018, with more than 50 businesses interested. 64 applied for this year's class and 15 were selected to participate!

Participants will attend 14 weeks of businesses classes and partner up with 2 mentors each throughout the program. This year businesses range from a daycare facility to gift wrapping to online boutique, and many others.

The START: ME model works by injecting knowledge, networks, and capital that entrepreneurs in a community need to be successful. The program takes a

grassroots effort and connects Northside residents to larger Spartanburg area entrepreneurial resources. The goal is to take an intentional approach to uncover these local entrepreneurs and give them access to knowledge through the business school, mentors through community partners and capital through a local community development finance institution (CDFI), CommunityWorks. This program will grow wealth from within the community by helping residents increase earnings and provide job opportunities through their businesses creating a healthier, more economically stable community.

For further information, check online at www.spartanburgNDG.com

Start:ME 
Northside

Employment Available through Construction Training Program

A Construction Training program has been established through a partnership between the Northside Development Group, Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System, Spartanburg Community College, SC Works, Spartanburg Chamber of Commerce, and the Upstate Workforce Board. This program offers scholarships for training in various areas of construction, including masonry, framing, drywall, tile work, and other specified building trades. Participants receive an NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research) certification. Graduates have the opportunity to enroll in a paid Apprenticeship program offered in partnership with SCWorks and Spartanburg Regional Hospital.

48 participants have taken classes through the program since June 2017.

Employment opportunities are immediately available after graduation with the potential to earn up to \$22/hour.

The Chamber of Commerce is currently taking applications for future classes, which may include Core classes, plumbing, electrical, and other trades. Applicants may be eligible for scholarships. If you already have experience in the construction field, NDG will be assisting Harper Corporation and Creative Builders in taking applications for projects related to the Northside.

For more information please call Terrance Hawes at the Chamber of Commerce 864-594-5040, or call NDG at 864-598-0097.

Brawley Street Phase 3

Phase 3 of the Brawley Street Model Block includes 7 new mixed income rental units. Leasing is underway. The project was completed at the end of January. Homes of Hope, a nonprofit affordable housing developer, will lease these 7 new units of mixed income housing to families earning 50%-120% of the area median income the rental rate will be between \$550-\$950 for the 3 bedroom 2 bathroom units. Northside residents will have the first choice of renting these homes if they meet all other leasing requirements.

Although NDG is spearheading the project, Homes of Hope will own the unit and James White Enterprises will manage the properties. Units are now available. For more information visit JamesWhiteLLC.com or call 864-301-8163.



Housing Trust Fund Emergency Repair Program

NDG is dedicated to assisting homeowners in the Northside to stay in their homes. NDG is currently assisting homeowners through the South Carolina Housing Finance and Development Authorities Housing Trust Fund (HTF) program. Homeowners in the Northside with qualifying income may be eligible to receive up to \$8,000.00 in emergency repairs for projects such as roofing, HVAC, accessibility ramps, and many other projects.

To apply for emergency repairs, please call Carolyn at 864-598-0097

C Community Spotlight

Ed Memmott - City Manager - Retires

NDG would like to give a warm congratulation to Ed Memmott, City Manager and NDG Board member, as he retires from his position as City Manager. Ed worked for the City of Spartanburg for 21 years, starting as Community Development Coordinator and moving up to City Manager. Some projects accomplished under Ed's leadership include the C.C. Woodson Center, Morgan Square redevelopment, the George Dean Johnson Jr. College of Business and Economics, and the Butterfly Creek in the Northside.

Ed has been a big supporter of community development, and a large proponent of the Northside Initiative in particular. The creation of NDG was due in large part to the hard work of Ed, his team, and the atmosphere of creativity and collaboration fostered under his leadership. He also served on the NDG board from the beginning, and plans to continue playing a key role in revitalization efforts going forward.

Chris Story, 9 year Assistant City Manager, has taken over as City Manager and will serve on NDG's Board of Directors. Congratulations to Ed and welcome Chris!

Renee Romberger Receives Order of the Palmetto

Renee Romberger was awarded the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor, on November 30th in a ceremony at the Monarch Cafe in the Northside. Renee retired as Spartanburg Medical Center's Vice President of Health Policy and Strategy after 23 years of working in her field. Renee also served as a board member for NDG until 2018, adding invaluable expertise and fostering partnerships between the Northside Community and Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System. Congratulations Renee!

Start:ME 2018 Graduates Open Businesses

FACEZ

Cynthia Watson, a graduate of the Start:ME class of 2018, will be hosting the grand opening of her cosmetology business, FACEZ, on February 11th at 3pm. Cynthia will be partnering with Venus Beauty Supply to provide a convenient location for her clients, located at 127 E. Main Street in Spartanburg, SC. Come out to the Grand Opening to say hello, or call [864-573-9753](tel:864-573-9753) for details on services!

Fly Girlz N'Guyz

Rejeaner Burney, a graduate of Start:Me's class of 2018, is a licensed cosmetologist with more than 25 years experience. Her passion is to give her customers the beautiful, confident look they have always wanted. She is the CEO and Founder of Fly Girlz and Guyz Beauty and More, LLC. Fly Girlz N'Guyz is a one-stop shop for all of your beauty needs. Rejeaner can provide weaves, extension, makeup art, eyebrows, eyelash tech, and more. The store will also offer WiFi and refreshments. Fly Girlz and Guyz is located at 134 Garner Road, Suite D in Spartanburg, SC. For more info, call [864-764-4660](tel:864-764-4660) or visit flygirlzandguyzbeauty.com

HOURS OF OPERATION FOR FLY GIRLZ N'GUYZ:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10:00 am-8:00 pm

Wednesday: 10:00 am-6:30 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am-8:00 pm

Sunday: Closed



Rejeaner Burney

C In The Community

Community Soldiers Lost in 2018



Willie Clarence Miller

MR. WILLIE CLARENCE MILLER (6/22/41 - 8/16/18)

Mr. Miller was a long time resident of the Northside community. After retiring as a machine operator, he became a very active member of the Northside Neighborhood Association where he served diligently until his health declined. There was never a time when asked to take on a task, whatever it was, that he didn't do so with enthusiasm and gratitude to serve. He was quoted as saying, "a community is no stronger

than the men that live in it". Mr. Miller's love for his community was apparent and he was loved and respected by all who met him. Mr. Miller was preceded in death by a son, two brothers, and a sister. He leaves a host of children, grands, great grands, and friends to cherish his memory.



Elizabeth Hardy

MRS. ELIZABETH HARDY (4/12/25 - 10/10/18)

Mrs. Hardy lived for 58 years at her home on Fulton Ave in the Northside Community. Mrs. Hardy was well loved and respected in the Northside Community as a dedicated neighbor and active member of the neighborhood association, where she served as chaplain for several years and was extremely supportive of community events. She always spoke about her love for her family, Pastor, church members, and

community. Visitors often dropped by to say hello and to enjoy the plants she grew and proudly displayed. Mrs. Hardy was preceded in death by her beloved husband and a son. She leaves fond memories to a daughter, son, grandchildren, and numerous relatives and neighborhood friends.



Donald Lee Wray

MR. DONALD LEE WRAY (8/29/52 - 9/5/18)

Mr. Wray was a dedicated husband and father, a cement mason by trade, and a hard working, generous neighbor. He often attended the Northside Neighborhood Association meetings and actively participated in community events. Mr. Wray had a passion for keeping his lawn impeccable and would often cut his neighbors lawn for free. In honor of his dedication and love for community beautification, the Northside

Neighborhood Association will begin the "Donald L. Wray Yard of the Month" program in the Spring of 2019. Mr. Wray is survived by his wife, Mrs. Eloise Teresa Wray, two daughters, five sons, and a host of grandchildren, relatives, and friends.

MR. HERMAN HOWELL (8/3/47 - 6/18)

Mr. Howell, a long term resident of Cleveland Park Drive, was laid to rest on June 15th, 2018, with full military honors. Mr. Howell was a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, as well as a friend and asset to the community.

Northside Neighborhood Association

If you are interested in participating in the monthly Neighborhood Association meeting, please contact one of your neighbors listed above, or call [864-598-0097](tel:864-598-0097). Your participation is vital to giving a voice to the community! Please visit meetings on the second Thursday of every month, 6pm, at the Cleveland Academy media center, 151 Franklin Street.

U Project Updates



THE
FRANKLIN
SCHOOL

Early Learning Through Discovery

The Franklin School is open!

The Franklin School Early Learning Center officially opened on January 7th with 135 students. Some slots are still available for children age 6 weeks to 5 years old. Shawna Bynum, director of the Franklin School: "I am extremely excited to share that The Franklin School is open and off to a great start. We are grateful for the continued support of the Northside Development Group as well as our many Partners. Building relationships and transitions have been the focal point for The Franklin School staff. We are enjoying getting to know our children and their families. My personal favorite part of the day is greeting the children when they arrive for the day."

The Franklin School promises a first-class child development center right here in Spartanburg's Northside Community. The Franklin School boasts well-qualified teachers who value creativity and hands-on activities that promote optimal brain development in a loving and nurturing environment.

The Franklin School is a full-day, full-year early learning center with the capacity to serve up to 160 children, age 6 weeks to 5 years old, with a focus on early learning through discovery: a holistic child development and learning program, using an evidence based curriculum with STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) inspired classrooms. For more information about the school and enrollment call Shawna Bynum, The Franklin School Director at [864-586-7130](tel:864-586-7130).



Dr. T.K. Gregg Community Center

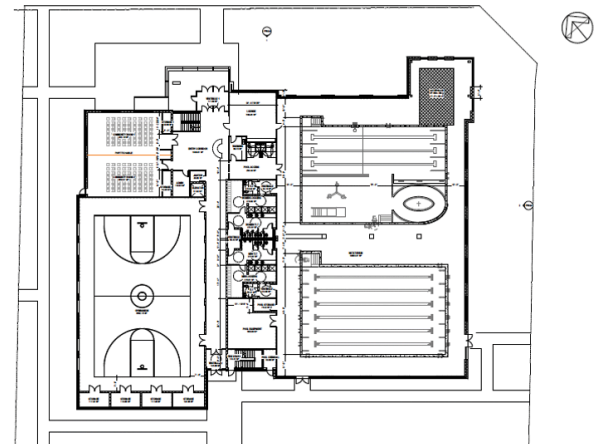
The official groundbreaking for the new Dr. T.K. Gregg Community Center was held on November 30th. The \$16 million City led project, being constructed by Harper General Contractors, is a collaborative effort between the City, NDG, and other area partners.

In an interview with the Spartanburg Herald Journal, Erica Brown (District 6 Representative) said "The Dr. T.K. Gregg Community Center is about people. It is about our Northside residents, and it is about our residents across the city. It represents more opportunities for a healthier, more vibrant city, It will be about programs that help enrich the lives of our youth, and lift up those in need through our afterschool programs, financial literacy classes and the like."

Construction is expected to be completed in the first half of 2020.



Building rendering



First floor rendering

V From The Voyagers

Voyager Spotlight: 10 New Voyagers!

Greetings,

On behalf of the Northside Voyagers I would like to announce that the journey continues with the recruitment of 10 new Voyager trainees! Training will begin in March of this year, and last for six weeks. New Voyagers have been recruited to continue the cycle of engagement in our community, and to foster more opportunities for residents to participate in the leadership and transformation of the Northside. This will be the third generation of Voyagers to embark upon the journey of leadership in this community, bringing fresh eyes and enthusiasm to our vision.

You may ask 'who are the Northside Voyagers'? The Voyagers are a team of resident leaders passionately and genuinely interested in the continued growth and betterment of the Northside Community. Our mission is to engage our partners and stakeholders in building our community while remembering it's rich and diverse history.

There isn't enough to be said about the importance of volunteerism when it comes to redeveloping communities such as the Northside. Community

building is not for the 'faint at heart' and requires dedication and commitment from those willing to participate. In return it gives the volunteer a better understanding of their community and an important voice in the decision making process.

The Voyagers have been on the move for more than six years engaging our partners and stakeholders in planning a shared vision for the Northside community.

Best,
Tony Thomas, *President of the Northside Voyagers*

If you are interested in becoming a Northside Voyager, please contact Tony Thomas at [864-598-0097](tel:864-598-0097).



C Changes at NDG

Welcome Tony Thomas, AmeriCorps VISTA!

NDG would like to welcome Tony Thomas to the NDG office as the 2018-2019 AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer! Tony has been a member of the Northside Community for more than 25 years, and will be working with the NDG team primarily as strategic planner for the Northside Voyagers. Here is a note from Tony on becoming a VISTA, and his goals for his year of service:

"In July of 2018 I embarked upon the journey to become an AmeriCorps Vista Volunteer. The word Vista means 'Volunteers In Service To America.' Well, this was not a foreign concept to me as I had been serving my community for several years as a volunteer and president of the neighborhood led group known as the Voyagers.

"The Voyagers have accomplished many things in collaboration with our stakeholders and community partners to enhance the quality of life for Northside residents, but found that we, the Voyagers, needed to build on those accomplishments by going forward with more clarity in our purpose and goals. My goal as a VISTA is to provide more structure for future Voyager volunteers.

"After completion of a week of AmeriCorps Vista orientation training in Orlando, Florida, I returned home to begin the task of creating the structure needed. It is my hope that residents will better understand the importance of volunteerism and what it means to have a voice in the decisions made that affect their lives. From this point on, volunteers will have the tools necessary to continue moving this community forward with a shared vision. This is the reason why I became an AmeriCorps Vista."



Tony Thomas

Upcoming Events

February 11th / 3pm

FACEZ Grand Opening
127 E. Main Street

March 14th / 6pm

Neighborhood Association Meeting
Cleveland Academy Library

March 20th / 8:30am

Northside Advisory Committee Meeting
Cleveland Park Event Building

April 18th / 6pm

Neighborhood Association Meeting
Cleveland Academy Library

May 9th / 6pm

Neighborhood Association Meeting
Cleveland Academy Library

June 13th / 6pm

Neighborhood Association Meeting
Cleveland Academy Library

July 11th / 6pm

Neighborhood Association Meeting
Cleveland Academy Library

July 27th

Southern Chic Wine and Dine - \$50/person
Monarch Cafe

Don't Forget!

Monarch Café

Open Daily
498 Howard Street

Open Tuesday-Thursday for lunch buffet style! Located at 498 Howard Street, they also have groceries and accept SNAP benefits! Anyone that receives SNAP can spend their benefits locally on fresh, healthy foods! So stop by the Monarch Café today to see their wonderful programs, have a snack in the café, and take home some fresh produce for dinner!

Be sure to stay up-to-date on events sponsored by The Butterfly Foundation. Check their website for more information on upcoming events:
www.butterfly-sc.com/events.html

Farmers Market

498 Howard Street

The Farmers Market at Harvest park is open for the season! Come visit on Saturdays from 8am-12pm at 498 Howard Street for fresh produce and other vendors!

P Our Partners



Northside Development Group
698 Howard Street
Spartanburg, SC 29303
864.598.0097