

City of Columbus, GA
Honorary Designation Application

(Please Print or Type)

APPLICANT NAME: W Greg Herring

PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

NAME OF HONOREE: *Jerry "Pops" Barnes*
(AS IT WOULD APPEAR ON SIGN OR FACILITY):

LIVING OR DECEASED: *Deceased*
(CIRCLE ONE)

REQUESTED LOCATION: *Boxwood Recreation Center, 1068 Enoch Dr, Columbus GA 31906*

TYPE OF TRIBUTE OR REMEMBRANCE: *Renaming the Boxwood Recreation Center to the Jerry "Pops" Barnes Center*

CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA, WHICH ARE USED IN THE EVALUATION FOR EACH REQUEST FOR AN HONORARY DESIGNATION. USE ADDITIONAL PAPER IF REQUIRED. IN ADDITION, HONOREE MUST BE OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER.

HISTORICAL AND/OR CULTURAL INFLUENCE OF THE HONOREE ON THE CITY:

List of Honors and Accomplishments:

- *2016 Family Caregiver Award*
- *2018 Living Legends Award*
- *2019 United States Postal Service Purple Heart Award*
- *2020 Distinguished Older Georgian Award*
- *2021 New Horizons Behavioral Health Impact Award*
- *2023 Columbus State University (CSU) Legacy Award*
- *2023 Columbus State University Alumni Award*
- *2023 River Valley Regional Commission Council Chairman Appreciation Award*

PROVIDE PROOF OF SIGNIFICANT LINEAGE OR FAMILY TIES TO THE CITY:

As his daughter, Simi Barnes, takes over his old seat as District 1 Councilor, a new family legacy is born.

ESTABLISH CLEAR GEOGRAPHICAL RELATIONSHIP TO THE AREA OR PLACE OF INTEREST OF THE HONOREE:

After the Boxwood Recreation Center had been closed for ten years, Councilor Barnes spearheaded its reopening in 2013. With his support the Boxwood Soccer Club, Path to Shine and Friends And Neighborhood Network were established at the Boxwood Center. With his leadership the East Carver Heights Community Development Corporation was started in 2021, these programs continue to this day.

CLEARLY DEFINED COMMUNITY OR PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION MADE BY THE HONOREE:

St. Thomas and Boxwood Soccer were deeply blessed to know Pops Barnes. He was a tireless advocate for his district and for the whole community. Pops served as a connector. He connected his constituents to city leaders by being available and listening. He connected people who were trying to help the community to one another so their efforts could multiply. He connected children and seniors to resources available to them. He connected Boxwood Soccer to Columbus Parks and Rec and to the City's Crime Prevention Grants program, which enabled the soccer program to grow and thrive. His memory is a blessing in this community. My hope is that remembering Pops will inspire others to lead and serve with his commitment, compassion, and joy.

The Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards, DMin

Rector, St. Thomas Episcopal Church

Dean, Chattahoochee Valley Convocation

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: *W. Greg Herring*

DATE: July 7, 2026

Send this completed application to the Deputy Clerk of Council at tcolbert@columbusga.org

For questions, please contact the Clerk of Council's office at (706) 653-4013.

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE:

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date application was received by the Clerk of Council: _____

Date application was submitted to the appropriate City Department to verify any conflicts for the placement of the tribute or remembrance and the requested honorary designation: _____

Date response received from the City Department: _____

Any conflicts identified: YES _____ NO _____

If so, give explanation and contact requestor: _____

Total cost associated with request: _____

Date listed on Clerk of Council's agenda for the consideration of Council: _____

Date reviewed by the Board of Honor: _____

Official action taken: _____

Upon approval from the Board of Honor, date resolution or ordinance listed for adoption by Council:

Resolution No. _____

Ordinance No. _____

Additional Notes: _____
