

# Message from the Mayor

Happy New Year!

The holiday season is a contemplative time, and I found myself incredibly grateful for the honor and privilege of serving as Mayor of our GREAT CITY! Thank you for allowing me this opportunity. The City of Clemson had an amazing 2022, and City staff and council look forward to working with you, the Clemson community, to accomplish even more in 2023.

One of the benefits of serving is meeting and getting to know so many of our residents. It is inspiring to learn of all the generous time and talents that are donated to better our City. One particularly amazing story is that of resident Maryalice Mayberry, who remains quite the inspiration at the spry age of 104! In the spirit of building our community together, I'd like to share a short version of her long and adventurous life story that began in Upstate New York.

Maryalice always wanted to work with children, which led to an extensive education in Psychology then a career working with emotionally scarred children. While in the profession, she took the opportunity to travel to five continents to work with children in remote areas. She traveled to these foreign lands without knowing their languages but was still able to communicate through art and her understanding of children's thinking.

After marrying her husband John, she continued her life of adventure with him at her side. Together they researched and built two solar homes together. They went to the Republic of Colombia as members of the Peace Corp then settled in Clemson to enjoy the intellectual stimulation of a University environment.

Since becoming residents of Clemson, they have contributed to the University and the Community in insurmountable ways by contributing to the building of the Brooks Center, endowing the Human Adventure Symposium, and mentoring students from different countries. Maryalice also served on the Board of Directors for the Child Development Center and aided in its move to its current (and much improved) location.

Maryalice still spends her quiet time thinking about what she can do to make life better for her community. She is still active and retains the curiosity and fearlessness that has served her well in her 104 years. She just recently implemented a drive to collect and assemble kits of art supplies to be distributed to the elderly during the Holiday Season!

Maryalice has spent a lifetime finding ways to give back to her community, wherever that may be. As we reflect on the blessing of living in this amazing City, let's all take a page out of Maryalice's book and think of ways that we can contribute our time and talents to make Clemson even better in 2023.

As always, I want to hear from you! I use social media as a way to distribute information but never as a catalyst for conversation. Call me. If I see you out in our community, stop me. I am happy to sit down over a cup of coffee. Let's Talk!



**Go Tigers!**

**Mayor Robert Halfacre**