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The Forest-Blade

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VOLUME 161, NO. 19

Swainsboro, Georgia • May 6, 2020

ONE DOLLAR

Offers pouring in for SHS middle linebacker

by HALEI LAMB
 Generally speaking, the middle linebacker is a hard-nosed man. He's big, strong, and intimidating, making him the center of attention on the defensive side of the ball. He's physical, taking down even the best running backs in the game. At face value, the "mike" linebacker, as he is sometimes called, is unfeeling. Zabrien Harden, Swainsboro High School's middle linebacker, is all of those on the gridiron. (Off the field is a completely different story, though.) At 6'3" and 230 pounds, he's physically similar to Luke Kuechly, who played middle line-



HARDEN

backer for the Carolina Panthers; that particular eight-year NFL veteran stands at 6'3" himself and has Harden by just 10 pounds. Clearly, the rising senior student-athlete for SHS has the build for greatness. With a well-developed football IQ and outstanding

grades, he has garnered the attention of numerous major football programs—and yet, because of two serious injuries, he hasn't reached his full potential. As Harden's final year of high school football approaches and the time to make the biggest decision of his life to date draws nearer, he has tunnel vision determination.

Like most kids, Harden's athletic development started with pee-wee football at the local rec department. Sprinkle in some afternoon football with his friends throughout the years, along with equal parts natural talent, a gritty ball (Continued on page 2C)



SCENE FROM PARADE

Community parades through parking lot for nursing home residents

On Wednesday, April 29, Emanuel Medical Center Nursing Home hosted a family/community parade for its residents. The establishment, who were delighted to see such an outpouring of support from locals as the COVID-19 pandemic keeps in-person visits restricted. See page 4B for additional photos of the parade.

In doing so, parade participants gathered for line-up at 2 p.m. at Swainsboro-Emanuel County Auditorium and were escorted through the front parking lot of Emanuel Medical Center. Waiting for their arrival wearing masks and spaced 6-feet apart were residents and staff of the



Photo by Bill Cahill

INEZ FLETCHER

Pruitt Health hosts parade to honor resident's 107th birthday

On Friday, May 1, nursing home residents and staff lined the front parking lot of PruittHealth Nursing Home for a family and community parade event in honor of Inez Fletcher's 107th birthday.

Waving to parade participants from her decorated wheelchair that sat in front of a "Happy Birthday" banner adorned with balloons, an abundance of support was felt by Fletcher and her fellow residents as cars, trucks with trailers, and even motorcycles lined down the roadway of Highway 1 South to enter the front parking area.

Fletcher turned 107 on Friday, May 1.

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Mercer serving on Durden Bankshares following Mathis' retirement

The Blade regrets the accidental omission of photos with the following recapped story from the April 29, 2020 edition.

James R. "Jim" Mercer has been elected to serve on the Durden Bankshares, Inc. board, filling long-time board member Bill Mathis' seat left vacant by his retirement. The retirement and election took place at the annual shareholders meeting, held via telephone conference due to COVID-19 restrictions, on April 14, 2020.

Director William L. "Bill" Mathis retired as a member of the fiduciary board and was elected to serve as honorary director. He retired from the board after serving for more than 19 years as a director of

the bank, where he also served on the Executive Committee. Bank President G.W. Johnson, who led the shareholders meeting, commented that Mathis would certainly be missed but was hopeful he would attend meetings as able to share his many years of insight and experience. He cited Mathis as being a man of good character with a congenial disposition and having a high sense of honor and a deep sense of personal responsibility.

Also elected to the board was James R. "Jim" Mercer to fill Mathis' unexpired term. Mercer lives on the family farm near Twin City. He is a graduate of ECI and the University of Georgia's Warnell School of Forestry. He and his

wife, Tracey, an educator in Emanuel County's school system, own and manage MTMS, Inc., a farming and forestry consulting business in Emanuel County. He has been awarded Emanuel County Farm Family of the Year as well as Emanuel County Young Agri-Business of the Year. He is currently on the Board of Directors of Emanuel County Farm Bureau and is a member of Emanuel County Young Farmers. The Mercers are members of Twin City First Baptist Church, where Jim serves as a deacon and Sunday school director. They have two sons, Peyton, a junior forestry student at University of Georgia, and Lawson, a rising sophomore at ECI.



MATHIS



MERCER

Letter to the Editor: Pastor's take on pandemic's impacts

by DAVID DONNAN
We have seen impressive responses during the current coronavirus pandemic. Some of the most impressive have been from the local churches in Emanuel County. We have witnessed how the people of God have changed their habits to help limit the spread of the invisible enemy, but why have Christians changed their worship habits? Is this new?

Put simply, we have changed our worship protocols out of love for God and love of neighbor. One of the simplest acts of Christian love is to care for the welfare of others. We are not alone when we do this. We stand in the long line of Christian witness of modifying or suspending worship from threat of disease. We did so during the plague of Cyprian in the 3rd Century, bubonic plague in the 14th Century,



DONNAN

the 1918 Spanish flu, and, more recently, the ebola crisis. These were different diseases affecting different countries, but the same Jesus followers responded out of love of God and neighbor.

Yet, modifying worship does not mean the church has stopped. This has been a wonderful reminder that the church is active not only on Sunday mornings or only in a physical location. During our worship services at Twin City United Methodist, we affirm in the Apostle's Creed that "we believe in the holy Catholic church." When we say this, we do not mean any specific church, although I can understand where the confusion comes from. Instead, by "holy Catholic church," we mean the universal church at all times and in all places. For me, this has never been truer than now.

I have been blessed to witness Christians from my church and in other churches making an impact in this time. I have seen teachers, like Amanda Caldwell at Twin City Elementary, beautifully manage the tensions of using video technology and keeping kindergarteners engaged. I have seen new parents Brandon and Bekah Johnson continue to work at Emanuel Medical Center and Savannah's Memorial Hospital even though they face greater risk of being infected. I have seen first responders like Twin City Police Chief Randy Beach continue to patrol and bring peace to our village. We have many questions as we try to restart our economy and society. There will be challenging days ahead. As a pastor, I take comfort in knowing I am not alone. I stand with Christians from my church, other churches in the community, and the church throughout time. Together, we will persevere, find deeper ways to connect, and better ways to serve our neighbors.

David Donnan is the pastor at Twin City United Methodist Church. You can join them for online worship during the pandemic at Facebook.com/TwinCityUMC. The services are Sundays at 11 a.m. but can be viewed anytime.



I've worked hard, as many of you have seen the last 8 months, to ensure citizens know of my dedication and drive to be the next Sheriff of Emanuel County. I have a 37-year, unblemished career filled with extensive training and on-the-job, situational experience.

I'm a qualified, tried and proven leader. I am approachable by all, regardless of circumstance, social or financial status. I have a servant's heart as I've shown all my life.

Before casting your vote, please consider my proven record of dedicated, credible service and leadership.

It is my belief a successful career speaks for itself! I would be grateful if you cast your vote for me.

I would be honored to serve you as the next Sheriff of Emanuel County.



The Forest-Blade

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Letter to the Editor: How COVID-19 is affecting Emanuel Medical Center

Dear Community,
I work with a team of dedicated, hard-working healthcare heroes. Prior to COVID-19, we earned the coveted 5-STAR CMS rating. We scored 100 percent on our Sepsis treatment scores in January! This means that we are rated as one of the top hospitals in Georgia.



SCOTT

Due to the economics of healthcare in rural Georgia, we averaged <5 days cash on hand. When the threat of COVID-19 came, we geared up. Early on, we closed our facility to visitors and started a drive-up COVID-19 clinic. Thankfully, we have seen very few COVID-19 patients. As of May 4, 2020, our health system has tested 197 people with only 11 positives.

Unfortunately, people are so afraid of hospitals and doctors' offices that they are putting off necessary care. We have seen a 60 percent

decline from our normal business. This is bad for our community because we are putting off preventative care and chronic care that is desperately needed. Did you know that Emanuel County has high rates of colon cancer, diabetes, COPD and congestive heart failure? These are conditions that worsen without appropriate treatment. I urge our community to see their provider for these and other chronic illnesses.

EMC has applied for the Payroll Protection Program. Unfortunately,

although the intent was to include hospital authorities, the language in the program excluded us. We have had many advocates locally, regionally, and nationally who are working to help us qualify for this program.

On May 1, because of the decline in business, EMC began to furlough our healthcare heroes. For clarity, a furlough is an unpaid reduction in hours. Many of our hospital partners have agreed to lower their rates. Also, my executive team took the first furlough days. We will survive because that is what we do, but please pray for our community hospital as we seek to serve this community during this pandemic and beyond. If you see these healthcare heroes, please thank them for their sacrifice for our community.

Sincerely,
Damien Scott, PT
MBA MS OCS

Active cases of COVID-19 in Emanuel down to four

by HALEI LAMB

According to the county commissioners' noon update before press time Tuesday, May 5, the total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Emanuel has now reached 24—but only four of those cases are active.

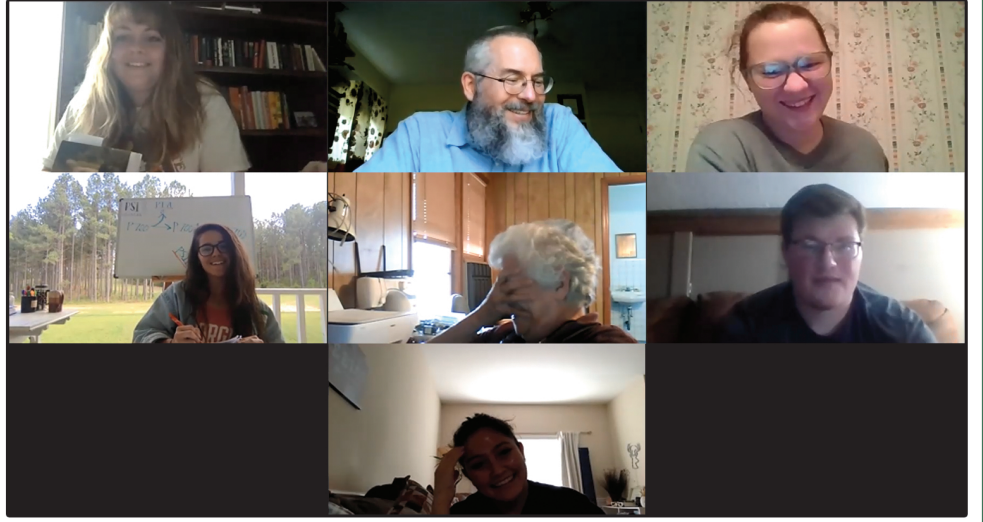
Nineteen cases have recovered, and one patient has died. Eleven cases are awaiting results. A total of 303 patients have been tested.

This is an increase of only 3 cases from last Tuesday's report. As of April 28, Emanuel County had 21 total cases, eight of which were active. This week's report saw the active cases cut in half.

The Emanuel County Board of Commissioners remains the go-to for the most current, cumulative list of local coronavirus cases. The commission works jointly with Emanuel Medical Center, East Georgia Healthcare Center, and the health department to provide an update everyday Monday through Friday at noon on Facebook. To receive these updates, follow the Emanuel County Board of Commissioners and turn on your notifications.

BOBCAT SPOT

—What's going on at your hometown college!



EGSC Book Club holds virtual meeting

EGSC students may not be physically on campus, but that hasn't stopped them from meeting with the different clubs and organizations they are part of. The EGSC Book Club hosted a Zoom meeting Wednesday, April 15. The club discussed William Faulkner's novel *As I Lay Dying*.

Dr. Alan Brasher, Emily Nipper, Amber Amerson, Susanna Hall, Teenie Leader, Seth Love, Charlene Ayala, and Tara Hayslip took part in the discussion. Keep up the good work!

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See our Facebook Event Page for details!

Register online at <https://direc.to/dGKt>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- May 8 - Spring Commencement Virtual Celebration - 6 p.m.
- May 13 - Virtual Open House - 2 p.m.
- May 14 - Virtual Counselor Workshop - 1 p.m.

For more information on EGSC's schedule and response to the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak, visit www.ega.edu/COVID19



Did you attend classes at EGSC? Join our Alumni Association! Contact Karen today at kguthrie@ega.edu

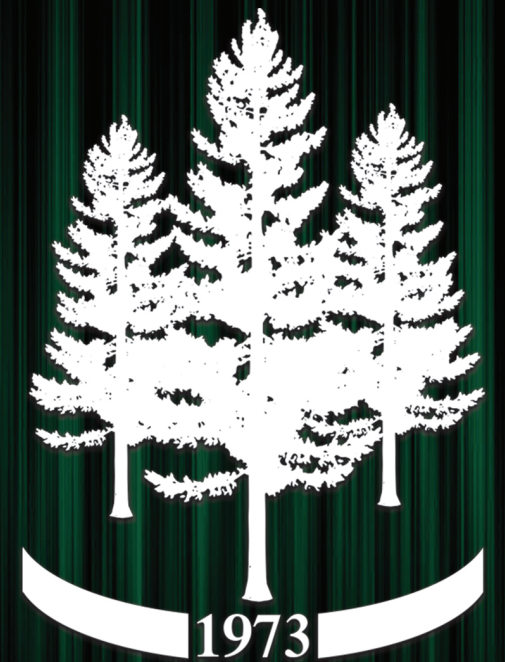
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Janis Williamson Webb Rogers, 84

Durden-Hudson Funeral Directors announces the death of Mrs. Janis Williamson Webb Rogers, 84 of Swainsboro, on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at Emanuel Medical Center Nursing Home.

A private graveside service was conducted Thursday, April 30, 2020 at Mount Zion Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Jim Harrell officiating. Interment was held at Mount Zion Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Terri Edenfield, Craig Williamson, Andy Webb, Steve Peebles, Jack Webb, and Ed Akridge.

Born in Norristown in 1936, Janis Williamson Webb Rogers was the daughter of Elige and Edna Earl Durden Williamson. She was a seamstress by trade and worked at Creston's Knitting Mill, Swainsboro Sportswear, and Woolen Mill in Dublin until they closed. She had a sewing room in her home and enjoyed making dolls for her granddaughter. She was a past member of Swainsboro Primitive Baptist Church and attended Canoochee Missionary Baptist Church. In the late 60s and early 70s, Rogers was an Eastern



ROGERS

Star. She loved fishing, dancing, and always staying busy. She was a homemaker whenever she was not working outside the home, and she loved classic country music and gospel. Rogers adored her dog, Gracie. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Phyllis Lawanna Dixon, and a brother, Bobby Williamson.

Survivors include her sister, Phyllis Williamson of Swainsboro; brother, Shorty Williamson of Norristown; grandchildren, William Henry "Hank" Durden (Sonya) and Dori Durden Johnson (Clay); great-grandchildren, Tyler Durden, Ryan Durden, Haylie Durden, Allison Wimberly, Gage Johnson, Gunner Johnson, and Gavin Johnson; and son-in-law, Cliff Dixon (Terese) of Wadley.

Durden-Hudson Funeral Directors was in charge of arrangements.

Terry Eugene Foskey, 61

Terry Eugene Foskey, 61, of Biloxi, Mississippi, left his earthly body to receive his heavenly wings on Saturday, April 25, 2020 in his beloved home with his family that loved him dearly by his side. He had a very fulfilled life that he left too early.

Terry was born in Swainsboro on April 16, 1959. He received a master's degree from William Carey University in business. He retired from the USAF in 2000 after 21 years and five months of service that took him to Saudi Arabia, Cairo, California, Maine, England, Texas, Greece, Maryland, and Mississippi. While in the military, he received many awards, achievements, and mentored many fellow airmen. He started in the military as an airborne communications analyst, conventional avionics superintendent, communications and navigational systems craftsman, and finished as a financial management and services superintendent. After retirement, he took on a position as a naval contractor at Avondale in New Orleans and at Ingalls for 20 years. He loved his work and took great pride in the editing and design of ships.

In his spare time after work, he loved to fish for bass and crappie. He took on many fishing tournaments with his sons by his side. He also enjoyed hunting, riding his Harley, and Amateur Radio. Doing HAM radio was his favorite after he got sick, and it kept him going. He could do morse code and connect with people



FOSKEY

all around the world. He loved to see how many places and how far away he could connect. Terry will be greatly missed by too many to count. He was an honest and loyal man. He always taught everyone to go after their dreams and passions and never let a day go by that you cannot look back and be proud of. Terry was preceded in death by his father, Gerald Foskey, and his grandparents, Artie Lou and Norman Foskey and Mattie Mae Williams and William Shade Hall.

He is survived by the love of his life of 38 years, Julia Foskey; children, Norman (Nicki) and Bobby Foskey; granddaughter, Julia Katherine Foskey, his princess; his parent, Travis Sears; and siblings, Toni Foskey, Marty Sheppard, and Missy Kilgore.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, graveside services with military honors for the family were held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 2, 2020 in Swainsboro at Corinth Methodist Church Cemetery. A memorial service in Mississippi for local friends will be held at a later date.

Bradford-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Howard Avenue in Biloxi, was honored to serve this family.

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PATRICK DEMONSTRATES HOW TO HANDCRAFT PAPER FLOWERS

Franklin Memorial offering virtual programs to community

Franklin Memorial Library is still reaching out to the community through virtual programming.

Every Wednesday, Deana Patrick offers quick, do-it-yourself crafts via Facebook Live. In her latest segment, Patrick shares how to make beautiful paper flowers. These flowers can be used as decorations for any event such as a child's party, a baby shower, or even an elegant event such as a wedding.

Join Patrick each Wednesday on Franklin Memorial Library Facebook Live at 12 p.m. for other interesting crafts.

Other Facebook live events Franklin Memorial Library has planned include:

- May 4 — Storytime (Read to Me), 12 p.m.
- May 5 — Toddler Time (Stories & Crafts), 11 a.m.
- May 6 — Quick Crafts with Deana (Bath Booms), 12 p.m.
- May 7 — Storytime Fun (Stories, Crafts & Songs), 12 p.m.
- May 11 — Storytime (Read to Me), 12 p.m.
- May 12 — Toddler Time (Stories & Crafts), 11 a.m.
- May 13 — Quick Crafts with Deana (Floral wreath), 12 p.m.
- May 14 — Storytime Fun (Stories, Crafts & Songs), 12 p.m.

All of these live videos are archived on the library's Facebook page for later viewing.

Lions give \$500 to Weekend Blessings at March meeting

Twin City Lions Club met March 5 at the Twin City Lions Clubhouse. Angel Lane and Niamh Omalley of Weekend Blessings attended as guest speakers, and President Tommy Neal presented the two a \$500 check for the charity organization. Jim Nix was in charge of the monthly program meeting.

The Lions Club meets the first and third Thursdays of each month. Community members are encouraged to join. Currently, however, Twin City Lions Club is suspending its meetings on account of the coronavirus.

Fire damages vacant Swainsboro house

by BILL CAHILL, SFD PIO

A 911 call at 3 a.m. reporting a brush fire on Modoc Road turned into a structure fire. Additional 911 calls verified a working structure fire.

Three engines from Swainsboro, along with police and EMS, arrived to find heavy fire in the rear portion of 404 Modoc Road. Thermal conditions inside were close to flashover. A quick exterior attack knocked down the heavy volume of fire allowing for an interior attack.

The fire was brought under control in 45 min-



FIREFIGHTERS INSIDE HOME ON MODOC ROAD

utes with crews overhauling and extinguishing hot spots until after 5 a.m. There were no injuries, and the cause of the blaze is undetermined.

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 10:00 AM - Sunday School
 11:00 AM - Traditional Worship
 5:00 PM - Jr. & Sr. MYF
 6:00 PM - Evening Worship

Wednesday Night

5:30 PM - Bible Study
 6:30 PM - Family Dinner
 7:00 PM - Chancel Choir

PLEASE JOIN US!

Swainsboro High School names honor graduates in virtual ceremony

Swainsboro High School announced 57 honor graduates for the Class of 2020 in a virtual ceremony. In order to reach honor graduate status, students must achieve a cumulative, non-rounded GPA of 90 or higher.

Josie Peebles earned the top spot of the class as valedictorian, and Mitali Patel was named saluta-

torian.

Other honor graduates include Clarissa Acevedo, Alexander Archie, Cole Bell, Zy'Quan Bostic, Raye Braswell, Ja'von Brown, William Donaldson, Josie Drake, Gibson Drew, Christopher Durden, Dylan Edwards, Sh'nyah Ellison, Kaleigh Ely, Jocelyn Franklin, Yadira Gonzalez, Immanuel

Hackett, Josh Hannah, Kamryn Heard, Nix Hooks, Michaela Hudson, Zachary Hunter, Lance Hutcheson, Andrew Johnson, Roanassia Johnson, Jazmin Jones, Emily Kea, Lexi Lamar, Sierra Landaverde, America Maldonado, Andy Martin, Anthony Martinez, Madison Moore, Bryson Newsome,

Meagan Palmore, Krishi Patel, Samantha Peebles, Heidi Puckett, Megan Ray, Kimberly Rios, Gabriela Sanchez, King Screws, Arham Shah, Yaliyah Silas, Skylar Stephens, Damian Tharp, Nancy Ubaldo, Abbi Waters, John White, Corey Wilkerson, Blake Williams, Tykeria Willis, Kade Youmans, and Stephanie Youngblood.

Family and friends help pastor celebrate 86th birthday

On May 1, 2020, Reverend Richard A. Lawrence Jr. celebrated his 86th birthday in Summertown. His eldest son, Ronald Lawrence of Lithia Springs, surprised him with a visit. In attendance at the celebration were six of Rev. Lawrence's 13 grandchildren, his wife, Edna Lawrence, and his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Leigh Lawrence, originally from Cleveland, Ohio.

Rev. Lawrence is a respected member of Emanuel County's business communi-



REV. LAWRENCE years of ministerial service and senior pastoral experience.

May is ALS Awareness Month

by WHITLEY CLIFTON
Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis—a mouthful, right? Also known as motor neurone disease (MND) or Lou Gehrig's disease, the name varies but the diagnosis is still the same: amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

Abbreviated as ALS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis is a devastating, progressive disease that has no developed cure and reacts to only a few effective treatments. Classified as a neurodegenerative disease, ALS affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord.

With a focus on nerves and muscles, this particular disorder gradually impacts a person's ability to speak, swallow, breathe, and walk.

Did you know?

Each year, more than 6,000 individuals are diagnosed with ALS each year in the United States. The cause of this disease is unknown, and its main symptom is muscle weakness. Although the disease is said to be 100 percent fatal, medication and therapy can slow ALS and reduce discomfort.

During the final stages of ALS, almost all voluntary muscles become paralyzed, making it impossible to speak, eat, or drink normally.

According to National Day Calendar, the month of May is ALS Awareness Month, a month dedicated to advocate awareness and support as well as research of this disease.

How to observe?

To learn more about ALS, visit <https://www.mda>.

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Dellwood Baptist Church

175 Dellwood Main Street Swainsboro
Brother Joe Bedgood, Pastor
Michael Womack, Youth Pastor

Look at those gas prices!

COVID-19 continues to impact everyday life, even gas prices. Pictured is the lower-than-usual gas price in Adrian at \$1.55 for regular unleaded last Tuesday. The following information was compiled by GasBuddy, a tech-based company that finds real-time fuel prices in the U.S., Canada, and Australia.

On the whole, Georgia gas prices have fallen 2.8 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$1.60/g today, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 5,883 stations. Gas prices in Georgia are 23.5 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 108.1 cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Georgia is priced at \$1.15/g today while the most expensive is \$2.39/g, a difference of \$1.24/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 4.4 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$1.74/g today. The national average is down 25.6 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 115.1 cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

Historical gasoline prices in Georgia going back ten years:

- April 27, 2019: \$2.68/g
- April 27, 2018: \$2.70/g
- April 27, 2017: \$2.26/g
- April 27, 2016: \$2.12/g
- April 27, 2015: \$2.40/g
- April 27, 2014: \$3.69/g
- April 27, 2013: \$3.36/g
- April 27, 2012: \$3.69/g
- April 27, 2011: \$3.75/g
- April 27, 2010: \$2.76/g

Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:

- Augusta- \$1.57/g, down 1.5 cents per gallon from last week's \$1.58/g.
- Macon- \$1.56/g, down 5.2 cents per gallon from



LOW GAS PRICES IN ADRIAN

last week's \$1.61/g.

- Atlanta- \$1.63/g, down 2.6 cents per gallon from last week's \$1.66/g.

"Unsurprisingly, for the ninth straight week average gas prices have fallen across every state in the country, with more downward potential likely, especially in today's highest priced states," said Patrick De Haan, head of petro-

leum analysis at GasBuddy. "While much of the talk last week was about the West Texas Intermediate benchmark falling to \$0 per barrel and then into negative territory, it was very isolated and oil eventually rebounded back to the current \$15 per barrel level. As a result, gasoline prices will likely remain subdued until meaningful demand for

petroleum returns, and that may not be for weeks or perhaps longer. In addition, every day until OPEC's oil production cut come into force May 1 is another day where global supply drastically outpaces demand, flooding the market with more oil, prolonging the time gas prices will remain low- something that easily could last into the summer, when motorists may be better positioned to take advantage."

The following are some of Georgia's retail milestones for regular

- Highest recorded average - September 16, 2008 at \$4.14
- Lowest recorded average - January 2, 2009 at \$1.49
- Highest average this year - January 7, 2020 at \$2.45
- Lowest average this year - March 30, 2020 at

\$1.58

- Highest average last year - March 28, 2019 at \$2.69

- Lowest average last year - January 7, 2019 at \$2.02

GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data spanning nearly two decades. Unlike AAA's once daily survey covering credit card transactions at 100,000 stations and the Lundberg Survey, updated once every two weeks based on 7,000 gas stations, GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country. GasBuddy data is accessible at <http://FuelInsights.GasBuddy.com>.

Twin City one of several small towns featured in COVID-19 episode of Small Town Podcast

Ocilla Mayor and Small Town Podcast host Matt Seale stays in his own small town of Ocilla and holds Zoom conferences with several previously featured small town mayors and city officials in Georgia. The episode was released Monday, April 20, 2020.

On the episode of the podcast, Mayor Seale checks in with Mayor

Matt Donaldson of Twin City, Genuine Georgia owner Cynthia Smith of Greensboro, Mayor Mike Young of Mcrae-Helena, Mayor James Eubanks of Pelham, and Mayor Jason Weaver of Screven to see how their small towns are managing during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Hosted by Ocilla Mayor Matt Seale, Small Town Podcast is an audio proj-

ect designed to shine the spotlight on small towns that are often overshadowed in the media by the excitement and activity of bigger cities. When small towns do get attention, it is often for something less than desirable. Small Town Podcast tells the whole story of small town living and its joys and challenges.

In Small Town Podcast,

Mayor Seale visits other small towns and talks to city and business leaders. The audience is given an opportunity to learn about the personalities of local officials in small towns and then hear about some of town's unique qualities and what it has to offer.

Small Town Podcast is available on Apple iTunes or the Apple Podcast app,

Stitcher, and other podcast applications. For the full list of podcast platforms available or to listen to an episode on the web, visit www.smalltownpodcast.com and go to the "Listen" tab. Listeners can also follow Small Town Podcast on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook to see photos of the towns Mayor Seale features.



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Social News **B**



THE FREEMAN FAMILY

“Yard of the Month” goes to Freemans

Seedling Garden Club is pleased to name Amanda and Reagan Freeman’s home as Yard of the Month for May 2020.

Amanda, Reagan, and their daughter, Keagan, live at 46 Sunshine Road in Adrian. The Freemans enjoy working in their yard to help Emanuel County stay beautiful.

Nominations for Yard of the Month are welcomed each month. With this award, Seedling Garden Club honors homeowners and organizations that personally work diligently with pride and love to maintain their yards. Call in your nominations to 478-299-2733 or 478-494-6754.

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Scenes from Mrs. Inez Fletcher's birthday parade



Savvy Senior: How Medicare is covering coronavirus

Dear Savvy Senior,
Is Medicare covering testing for the coronavirus? My husband and I are very nervous about this virus and would like to find out if or when we should get tested, and how Medicare manages it.

Nervous Nelly
Dear Nelly,
Yes! Medicare is indeed covering the cost of testing for the coronavirus, or COVID-19. But be aware that getting a test isn't as simple as going to your local pharmacy or doctor's office and asking for one. Here's a breakdown of what Medicare is covering, along with how to get tested if you think you may have symptoms.

Medicare Coverage
Medicare (Part B) will cover the lab test to see if you have coronavirus, but only when your doctor or other health care provider orders it. You will pay no out-of-pocket costs for these tests.

In addition, Medicare also covers all medically necessary hospitalizations. This includes if you're diagnosed with COVID-19 and might otherwise have been discharged from the hospital after an inpatient stay, but instead you need to stay in the hospital under quarantine.

And while there's currently no vaccine yet to protect against COVID-19, when one becomes available next year, it too will be covered by all Medicare prescription drug plans (Part D).

If you happen to get your Medicare benefits through a private Medicare Advantage plan, you will have access to these same benefits. In addition, many Advantage plans are also expanding coverage of telemedicine, which allows beneficiaries to consult with medical professionals without having to go to a doctor's office. Check with your plan for coverage details.

When to Call Your Doctor

Older adults, age 60 and older (especially those in their 70s and 80s), and people with chronic medical conditions like diabetes, heart, lung or kidney disease are at a higher risk of serious illness if they contract the coronavirus. So, everyone in these categories need to be vigilant.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and

shortness of breath. Severe cases can lead to pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure and death.

If you develop any symptoms that are concerning, you should contact your primary-care provider by phone for guidance. If your doctor believes you need testing, he or she will instruct you on what to do. Unfortunately, there have been reports of test shortages across the country, so depending on where you live you may have to wait a few days.

Prevention Tips

To help you steer clear of COVID-19 the CDC recommends that you avoid close contact with anyone who is sick. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after being out in public, blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water isn't available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol.

To the extent possible, try to avoid touching your face, nose, and eyes. And avoid touching high-touch surfaces in public places, like elevator buttons, door handles, handrails, and handshaking with people. Use a tissue or your sleeve to cover your hand or finger if you must touch something.

Also, clean and disinfect your home to remove germs: Practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces – tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, faucets, sinks and cell phones.

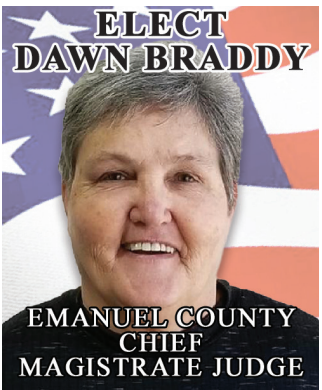
You should also avoid crowds, especially in poorly ventilated spaces. Your risk of exposure to respiratory viruses like COVID-19 may increase in crowded, closed-in settings with little air circulation if there are people in the crowd who are sick.

The CDC also recommends that seniors and high-risk individuals stock up on supplies, such as extra medications and groceries. And, if there is an outbreak in your community, remain at home as much as possible. They also discourage non-essential travel.

For more information on the COVID-19, visit Coronavirus.gov.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box

5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.



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Everyone seems to worship someone or something for one reason or another. Early in life we realize that we need help to survive and cannot make it on our own. Initially it is a parent or a parent-substitute that is there to help us. Then, as we get older and become more independent, we begin to realize that there are other sources to meet our needs. We begin to look to them for what they can do for us or perhaps give to us in exchange for our allegiance or respect. We think that they will bring us something we need. It's only natural.

The question is not whether or not we worship - but what or whom we worship. It can be fame or fortune, power or prestige, a person or a philosophy someone or something that we believe is greater than ourselves and will bring us peace and happiness, joy and satisfaction. It is someone or something that we believe is superior to us and we are willing to surrender and submit ourselves to it. But, really, it only reveals our lostness and our need for Someone Who is above us, beyond us - yet cares for us.

The Psalmist invites us to, "Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker." He wants us to recognize the superiority and sufficiency of God our Creator. Once we acknowledged God as our Creator we immediately recognize Him as the source of all that we have or ever will have. Worship becomes God-centered and not man or thing centered. Worship results in turning our lives over to God and recognizing His grace and sovereignty as we bow before Him in awe.

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Cook of the Week

Featuring the recipes of...

Barbara Poole

This week's Cook of the Week is Barbara Poole. She lives in Swainsboro with her husband, Bob, and she has two sons, Robert and Dylan, as well as two grandchildren, Tristan and Aden. She loves spending time with her family going camping, hiking, and playing board games and, of course, cooking. She is a fifth grade teacher at Swainsboro Elementary School and loves teaching her students, all of whom she misses very much. While she is unable to teach in the traditional manner due to the coronavirus, Poole is making every effort to ensure that her students have all the materials needed to keep up with their education. Poole is now taking the



time to work with her grandchildren as part of their homeschool curriculum with a little Cooking 101. Here are some of their favorite recipes.



From the kitchen of Barbara

Bread in a Bag

- Cooking spray for 2 mini loaf pans
- 3 c. all-purpose flour, divided
- 1/4 c. sugar
- 1 (.25 oz. package) active dry yeast
- 1 c. warm water
- 3 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 tsp. kosher salt

Preheat oven to 375° and spray two mini loaf pans with cooking spray. Place 1 cup flour, sugar, and yeast and add warm water in a zip-top plastic bag. Seal bag and squish together with your hands to mix. Let rest 10 minutes at room temperature. (Yeast should activate). Add 1 cup flour, oil, and salt to the bag, seal and squish together, then let rest 10 minutes. Add remaining cup of flour and mix until combined. Remove from bag and knead 5 minutes until smooth. Halve dough and place in two loaf pans. Cover with a kitchen towel and let rise 30 minutes. Brush top of bread with olive oil or melted butter and bake until golden, about 30 minutes.



From the kitchen of Barbara

Students Favorite Apple Cake

- 2 large eggs
- 1 c. vegetable oil
- 2 c. granulated sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2 c. all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 tsp. cinnamon
- 4 apples, peeled, cored, and finely diced

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease and flour a 9"x13" cake pan. In large bowl, beat eggs and oil until creamy. Add sugar and vanilla, beat well. In a second bowl, combine flour, salt, baking soda, and cinnamon. Slowly add dry mixture to egg mixture and mix with a spoon until well combined. The batter will be very thick. Fold in apples and spread batter into prepared pan. Bake for 45 minutes or until done. Cool completely, slice, and enjoy.



From the kitchen of Barbara

Ultimate Low-Fat Brownie

- 1 pkg. brownie mix
- 2 egg whites
- 1/3 c. non-fat vanilla yogurt
- 1/2 c. chopped nuts (optional)

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease an 8"x8" baking pan. In a bowl, mix all ingredients with a spoon (mixture will be thick). Spread into prepared pan. Bake 30 to 35 minutes.

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It won't last forever

I've heard many people who live in places where there are four distinct seasons talk about how much they enjoy winter, spring, summer, and fall. They like the variety and the unique beauty, qualities, and opportunities of each season. The Bible tells us God Himself changes times and seasons (see Dan. 2:21).

Seasons change, both in the natural world and in our lives. We all have off days, tough weeks, bad months, or even sometimes a whole year that seems way too full of troubles, but thankfully, every difficult situation will come to an end.

Some of the trying situations we find ourselves in seem to go on way too long. When this happens, we're often tempted to complain or get discouraged. Instead of giving in, though, the best thing we can do is look to God for strength and ask Him to teach us something valuable as we press through each day. According to James 1:2-3, God uses trials and pressure to produce character and growth in us.

Sometimes His blessings come through unexpected circumstances that appear negative, but if we choose to trust God and keep a positive attitude in the middle of those situations, we'll experience the blessings He wants to give us. If you're going through a difficult time right now, let me remind you that this probably isn't the first challenge you've ever faced. You overcame the last one (and probably learned some valuable lessons through it), and you will make it through this one, too.

Your trials are temporary—they will not last forever. Better days are coming. Keep your focus on Jesus, let Him strengthen you, and remember that this is just a season, and it will pass.

Prayer Starter: Father, please help me to grow, even in the middle of the difficult things I'm dealing with. Thank You for strengthening me, for staying by my side, and for the blessings You have ahead. In Jesus' name, amen.

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202 Thompson St, Oak Park • Elder W.H. Durence</p> | <p>Twin City United Methodist Church
212 S. College St. Twin City
478.763.2527 • Rev. David Donnan</p> |
| <p>Corinth United Methodist Church
1989 Meeks Road • Kite
Wes Webb, Pastor • 668-3372</p> | <p>Jesus Saves Church
410 West Main Street
Swainsboro, Ga 30401 • 478-455-4367
Pastor Brad Mckenzie</p> | <p>Open Arms Outreach Ministry & Praise
503 5th Avenue, PO Box 395
763-3189 • 763-2432
Rev. George E. Coleman</p> | <p>Union Grove United Methodist Church
1168 Herndon Rd., Midville
478.589.7251 • Pastor Randy Carley</p> |
| <p>Delwood Baptist Church
P.O. Box 645
Hwy. 1 North, Swainsboro
Rev. Joe Bedgood</p> | <p>Kea's United Methodist Church
Adrian, GA 31002 • 478-668-3559
Pastor Mark Hardin</p> | <p>Open Door Fellowship
2248 West Morning Street
Swainsboro, Georgia 30401
268-2308
Pastor Dolly</p> | <p>United Primitive Baptist Church
242 W. Main St., Swainsboro
Elder Paul Thomas
229-424-6486</p> |
| <p>Divine Full Gospel Teaching Ministry
10 Maple Rd., Twin City • 289-8260 289-6086
Bishop Nathan Clark and Pastor Mable Clark</p> | <p>Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses
1064 Old Wadley Rd., Swainsboro 237-4525</p> | <p>Pendleton Springs Missionary Baptist
649 Pendleton Springs Road, Vidalia, GA 30447
912-578-5606
Rev. J. Walter Jarrell, Sr.</p> | <p>Williams Chapel Holiness Church
415 Felix Street, Swainsboro
478-289-6060 • Pastor Apostle Clyde Fowler Sr.</p> |
| <p>Dunamous Alliance Mission Outreach
(Angel Food Ministry)
Missionary Leon Griffin
478-237-7775</p> | <p>*Kite First Baptist Church
Hwy. 57, Kite 469-5241
Rev. Burton Dixon</p> | <p>*Pentecostal Lighthouse Church (Apostolic)
Hwy. 1 North, Swainsboro • 237-0923
Rev. Ronnie Young</p> | <p>Willow Springs Missionary Baptist
1950 Hwy. 80 East, Swainsboro
237-5004</p> |
| <p>Eastwood Church of God
512 Thigpen Dr., Swainsboro • 237-5522
Pastor Andrew Flowers</p> | <p>*Lester Grove Missionary Baptist Church
213 Carver St., Swainsboro • 237-7828
Rev. Charles Holloway</p> | <p>Perfected Love Holiness Church
1127 Hwy 80 E. • 237-4598
Pastor Dean Martin II
http://www.perfectedlove.com/</p> | <p>Wings of Prayer Ministries
509 5th Avenue, Twin City
478-763-2410 • 912-618-3391
Pastor James Davis</p> |
| <p>Ebenezer United Methodist Church
Kemp 706-547-6355
Rev. Clarence A. Thompson, Sr.</p> | <p>Living Way Ministries
213 Oak Grove Church Rd. • 478-299-2819
Pastor Elizabeth Cleo Howard</p> | <p>Piney Grove Missionary Baptist Church
Cross-Green Swainsboro • (478) 589-7658
Rev. Michael Thomas</p> | <p>Poplar Springs United Methodist Church
Adrian, GA 31002 • 478-668-3559 • Pastor Mark Hardin</p> |
| <p>El Bethel Baptist Church
Twin City 763-2001 • Pastor Rob Gray</p> | <p>Love In Action Worship Center
661 S. Main St. • Hwy 1 S. • 478-237-5263
Pastor Willie L. Harden, Jr.</p> | <p>*The Rock Worship Center
302 S. 2nd St. Hwy 57 Stillmore • Rev. Ronie J. Collins</p> | <p>Rountree Chapel
722 North Railroad Ave Twin City • 763-3284
Rev. W.E. Johnson</p> |
| <p>Emanuel Christian Ministries
1338 Lambs Bridge Road</p> | <p>The Message Worship Center
609 New Street Twin City • 763-2720
Pastor Paul Bowen</p> | <p>Rountree Island Missionary Baptist Church
2859 Hwy. 56 N., Summertown • 589-7953
Pastor Richard Lawrence Jr.</p> | <p>Powerhouse of Deliverance Assemblies, INC.
547 Lewis St., Swainsboro • 478-625-7028
Overseer & Founder, Apostle Antonio T. Pringle, Sr.</p> |
| <p>Emanuel Community Baptist Church Adrian</p> | <p>Midville First Baptist Church
145 Kilpatrick St., Midville, Ga • 478-589-7260
Robert Daughtry, Pastor</p> | <p>*Morningside Baptist Church
Rt. 1 Soperton • Pastor James R. Bullard</p> | |



The Blade

Swainsboro, GA • May 6, 2020 • www.EmanuelCountyLive.com



Firefighters salute healthcare workers at Emanuel Medical Center

by BILL CAHILL, SFD PIO

City and county firefighters were on hand on Monday morning to greet and thank the nurses and healthcare workers as they arrived at work. Engines from Swainsboro, Nunez, and Adrian, along with Adrian police, attended.



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ROOFING & RESTORATION

Service to humanity: The best work of life

by WHITLEY CLIFTON

Days following Georgia's shelter in place order, Jaycee club members met to discuss various plans to assist the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. While generating ideas on how to give back to the community, one of the many topics that continued to be brought up in discussion was the loss of communication and connection with family members felt by individuals living in assisted facilities.

After acknowledging family members visiting their loved ones through the windows of nursing home facilities, the Swainsboro Jaycees decided their first goal in a series of steps to help the community: donations of video conference equipment.

Having an allotted budget, Jaycee members chose the three largest nursing homes in Emanuel County to begin with: Pruitt Health Nursing Home, Emanuel Medical Center Nursing Home, and Twin View Health and Rehab. If budgeted funds allow, club members decided to add additional facilities after completing donations to the first three establishments.

Jaycee members discussed options of communication methods to include in donations and voted in favor of the purchase of tablets, external bluetooth speakers, and adjustable mounting stands to the Pruitt Health Nursing Home, Emanuel Medical Center Nursing Home, and Twin View Health and Rehab.

Contact was then made with the establishments to inquire on permission to make said donations. Each administrator of the three locations expressed excitement to see residents reconnect with family members and gave



SWAINSBORO JAYCEE CLUB MEMBER WARD MAKES DONATION TO TWIN VIEW HEALTH AND REHAB

their approval as well as gratitude. After receiving approval for donations to be made, plans then turned into action for Jaycee club members.

"We purchased tablets with the largest display possible and external bluetooth speakers to aid in communication of residents with visual and hearing impairments. We attempted to order adjustable stands, but due to the pandemic, shipping would take a minimum of two months. So, we put our heads together and came up with a solution," Jaycee member James Ward stated.

In determination to see that stands were included in the donations, the Jaycees created the stands themselves.

"We were able to get some adjustable IV poles and refurbished them completely from top to bottom," Ward explained.

In addition to cleaning and polishing the stainless steel poles to prevent any worries of cross-contamination, the Jaycees purchased new wheels and paint to improve the appearance of each refurbished pole. After the poles were revamped, they were outfitted in tablet mounts and

speakers to complete the project. Swainsboro Jaycee members then loaded the donations and traveled to the three nursing homes where they met with each administrator, who were all eager and excited to receive such donations and advised that video chat services would begin immediately for all residents.

For questions about the video conferencing program of each nursing home or to schedule a video chat with nursing home residents, contact should be made directly with each facility.

The Swainsboro Jaycees is a non-profit organization that relies solely on donations to perform works throughout the community. All donations are re-invested back into the community through various hosted projects. Without support of local businesses and donors, hosted projects would not have been possible. The Swainsboro Jaycees are thankful for received support from all businesses, members, and the community as a whole, and would like to remind everyone to support and buy from local small businesses, especially in such hard times.

7 DAY FORECAST

THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
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Offers pouring...

(From front page)

sense of determination, and quality coaches at the school level starting in seventh grade onward, and the result is a formidable opponent.

"Zabrien started playing football when he was 3-years-old. He's 17 now," his mother, Pamela Harden, said. "He has accomplished a lot in those 14 years, but he has overcome even more. If I said I'm proud of my son, that would be an understatement."

As a freshman on varsity, such a promising future looked like an uphill battle. When Coach Scott Roberts returned in 2017 to lead the Tigers, the culture began turning and the expectations about how the football team would compete and fare overall changed as well. As those developments unfolded, the team's athleticism improved, too, so playing time became harder to come by for underclassmen than it had been in years prior to Roberts' return to Tiger Town. Harden was one of the many freshmen who rode the bench that year, but he stuck with the team and the process. He finished the year and experienced a winning season, which had been hard sought for by Swainsboro teams for a few years previously.

"I didn't get to play a lot as a freshman. I played middle school starting in seventh grade, suited up for Jefferson County in the eighth grade, and came back to Swainsboro that spring. Coach Roberts was new and I wanted to play, so I started going to spring workouts for my ninth grade year," Harden explained. "I knew we were trying to turn our program around and we wanted to win. I knew there were bigger, better, more experienced guys than me that year, so when I didn't get to play much, I didn't get discouraged. I knew if I worked hard, my day would eventually come."

When summer workouts rolled around, Harden gave no thought to his little playing time as a ninth grader and went full-speed ahead in preparation for his sophomore year. He was assigned to Coach Dwight Smith as a defensive end, and he earned a starting spot. Harden and company picked up a region championship win, but not before he went out with a shoulder injury.

"Throughout the 2018 season, I was struggling with my shoulder. It was going numb a lot, and the trainer thought it was a pinched nerve. I kept playing until I couldn't anymore," Harden said. "I was playing defensive end at the time. I don't remember what game it was, but the lineman went down. I squeezed, and as I was squeezing, the running back was coming to me. I was standing there, then the lineman came and hit me. I felt my shoulder pop. It just went numb. I went and saw my orthopedic, Dr. Gaines, and he told me I had a shoulder contusion. After he gave me that diagnosis, Coach Roberts sat me out the rest of the year because that was pretty much my only option anyway."

Again, just like the year before, Harden stayed the course. He continued to go to practice, dress out, and travel to games with the team, but he also added in rehabilitation. Through resistance training, he went from struggling to lift a 20-pound dumbbell to his normal self, perhaps even an improved version, given the amount of lower body and cardio he incorporated into his regimen. He would start to see the fruits of that tough labor the following year.

By the time his junior year started in the summer of 2019, Harden had, according to Coach Roberts, grown one of the team's better players. The man at the helm of Tiger football, along with the rest of his coaching staff, especially linebacker coach Morgan Jersey, decided to make Harden the middle man so teams couldn't run away from him. The coaching staff approached Harden with the proposition of switching positions to middle linebacker, and he accepted without hesitation.

"I felt good about it from the start. I understood how well the coaches knew me. I mean, they saw me come up as an underclassman. They watched me in the weight room. They were with me every day. If they thought I was versatile enough, if Coach Jersey thought I was good enough to play middle linebacker, that's what I was going to try to do."

Harden spent that summer working out at mike linebacker, and he was a natural in that position. His main job is controlling the defense, and his quiet yet effective sense of leadership, coupled with his menacing build, yielded the perfect man for the job.

"I liked playing defensive end, but I was excited to make the change because it's an important role and it gave me a chance to help my team. Plus, it opened up a lot more doors for me."

This past year's season was going extremely well for Harden until his knee became a problem. He tweaked his meniscus during practice but continued to play on it, even after being advised by the trainer the inevitable would happen if he didn't take a break. Over the next few weeks, his knee progressively got worse, culminating with a season-ended lock-up during the second quarter of one of Swainsboro's oldest and biggest rivalry games on Tiger Field against Vidalia toward the end of the season in early November.

"I was helping my teammate, Ced Seabrough, tackle a receiver. I helped him out, tackled the guy... When I got up, I actually felt fine until I tried to walk. When I stepped, it was like, 'Oh, man, I can't walk!' I stood there for a few more seconds and tried to walk again, but I couldn't. I waved over our trainer, and

she and some other people helped me off the field," Harden recalled. "I went to the hospital and had some images taken. Sure enough, my season was cut short again."

Fortunately, he had played well enough up until that injury to catch the attention of some college coaches, recording 86 tackles on the year before he went out and having enough stirring plays to create an impressive highlight reel to send out on social media when the time was right. Of course, it didn't hurt that Ced Seabrough and his twin brother, Fred, were having tremendous seasons of their own, beckoning even more collegiate attention to Swainsboro's team. Coastal Carolina University's Coach Cody Ladutko paid a visit to the three young men one day during school, and Harden received his first collegiate offer that afternoon. He posted the offer on Twitter a few hours later, tweeted out his film, and other schools eventually began pursuing him as well.

"When I went out after the Vidalia game, I was extremely bummed. I had started to get some attention, which was nice, don't get me wrong, but I was scheduled to go to East Carolina University for my first gameday visit the Saturday after the Vidalia game. That kind of broke my heart. Plus, your junior year is the most important year. It's the year you put your name out there for coaches. I didn't feel like I had done enough before I went out, so when Dr. Gaines told me I needed surgery, it was a blow to the chest."

Still, the youngster kept his head up and faced the hard truth like a champ. Around three weeks later, during Thanksgiving break to be exact, he went under the knife. Harden then underwent months of rehabilitation for a second spell, only this time for a lower-body extremity.

As those tough weeks of rehab trudged on, Harden found solace in the positives. His team was on fire; they would eventually make an encouraging playoff run to the Sweet 16. The best part, however, was the breath of relief, the weight off his shoulders, as offers continued to roll in after the season ended, despite missing valuable playing time because of his medical sideline.

Today, he has 12 offers from major universities: Troy, CCU, Georgia State, Kansas, Army, Arkansas State, Middle Tennessee State University, Georgia Southern, Fordham, Holy Cross, Tulane, and Gardner-Webb. That list is not reflective of the numerous other schools who are pursuing him but haven't offered as of press time. Coach Roberts is certain other offers are going to follow, including some Power 5 schools. The coronavirus pandemic has complicated the recruiting process in an unprecedented manner, but both the head coach and his middle linebacker, who is certain to be a force next year if only he remains healthy, feel good about his future.

"Getting recruited is nice, no doubt, but it's stressful at the same time. You have to keep up with what time you're supposed to talk to this coach, what time you're supposed to talk to that coach. I wouldn't say I'm feeling the pressure right now because, yeah, I just got cleared to practice, but we can't have spring workouts yet because of the virus... I can't go visit anywhere because of coronavirus. It's just different right now than what it would be if we weren't going through a pandemic, but I'm trying to make the best of it. We're not in school right now, so I have to make sure I'm staying on top of things academically the best I can, and I'm trying to ease myself back into doing lower body exercises. I feel good, though. It's going to work out."

Looking to the future, the 3.5 GPA student is anxious to see which schools pull the trigger next. One institution, the University of Georgia, is admittedly at the top of his list of hopefuls, but he hasn't ruled out any one of the 50-odd schools who have contacted him to date. He found both Georgia State and Troy's campuses pleasant. In addition, he is extremely anxious to visit Kansas because of its rich basketball history, and he is trying valiantly to convince his mom to go with him to visit Tulane in New Orleans.

"I realize this is such a blessing. A lot of these schools are players' dream schools, and to be a priority for those schools is surreal. I know playing at the next level is a privilege that comes with a lot of pressure. I'm going to major in sports management, and I'm trying to keep in mind that I always need a back-up plan in case football doesn't work out. I'm going to work my hardest, compete, and grind it out and hope to be an important part of a college team, but no matter what happens, I'm going to make sure I get it done in the classroom. My goal is to try and turn four years into 40 years," Harden said.

For now, the plan is to take everything one step at a time, starting with getting back right physically from his meniscus injury. Harden says he and his team are ready to get after it. Namely, they are hungry to follow up the school's basketball state championship win with a football title. Coach Roberts said Harden will inevitably be a huge part of the 2020 team because many of the younger guys look up to him and his fellow upperclassmen lend to him the confidence to run the defense, which remains a key part of Swainsboro athletics, no matter the sport. (The 2000 championship football team as well as the 2019 state championship basketball team are both examples of how Swainsboro's athletic programs prioritize defense to win state titles.) The expectations are set,



HARDEN AND HIS MOM DURING HIS VISIT TO GEORGIA STATE



HARDEN MAKES A TACKLE



HARDEN (FAR RIGHT) AND A TEAMMATE TAKES INSTRUCTION FROM COACH JERSEY MID-GAME

and Harden is prepared to do whatever it takes to lead his team while building onto his resumé and bringing more limelight to the pool of athleticism hidden here in rural Georgia.

"I know I won't make my decision today or even tomorrow, but I'm extremely excited to take the next step. Playing in college is going to elevate my life in so many ways and I'm thankful for that already, but I'm also really grateful for the opportunity to show people that we've got real athletes here if you'll take the time to look for us."

Similarly, underneath it all, if you take the time to look—underneath his towering stature and powerful body, tucked away beneath the tough exterior that makes up his middle linebacker DNA, is a humble, hard-working, mature, and ultimately grateful young man. When asked who, if anyone, has helped him along the way and should receive some credit for his accomplishments, he looked at his mom sitting next to him during his interview.

"She's made me who I am. She never let me give up. She always kept my head on straight, always made me put God first, always made me study and do my homework and pass my tests," Harden said. "I wouldn't be where I am, getting these offers, without her."

To that note, Pamela says she's thrilled to see her son's hard work pay off—but she's also hopeful for the other athletes born, raised, and developed right here at home. "I'm so grateful ZaBrien has turned out the way he has. Coming from prematurity to maturity the way he has is nothing short of a blessing. He's been through some struggles, but he kept his head up and did right. I think he's a great example of what perseverance and hard work are," she said, "but I'm not selfish about his accomplishments in the slightest. I want every single Swainsboro Tiger to be well off. There's plenty of room in this world for everybody to be successful on the playing field and in life."

Fittingly, Harden sees his experience as an opportunity to set an example for his younger sister and the athletes who come after him. His message? You can do anything you set your mind to if you have the right people in your corner.

In Harden's corner are his teachers, along with Coach Roberts, Coach Smith, Coach Jersey, and the rest of the football staff, all of whom believed in him throughout the years and developed him without relent. Lastly, he's thankful for each and every college who has given thought to his abilities. All that's left to do is seal the deal with his John Smith on a National Letter of Intent—hopefully soon.

GNTC instructor named Amazon Web Services Educate Ambassador

Amazon Web Services Inc. (AWS), an Amazon Company, recently announced its new round of AWS Educate Ambassadors including Georgia Northwestern Technical College's (GNTC) own Dr. Dwight Watt, Computer Information Systems Technology instructor, who will serve a two-year appointment.

According to its website, The AWS Educate Cloud Ambassador Program is for top-tier cloud educators who serve as ambassadors for AWS Educate. The program has a total of 432 overall ambassadors including the 224 appointed this year. The ambassadors hail from 45 different countries and 205 institutions.

"I am honored to be chosen as an AWS ambassador and to work alongside an international team of educators while also representing Georgia Northwestern Technical

College," said Watt. "As an ambassador, I get to speak to various groups, promoting the program and write articles and blogs promoting the program."

AWS provides educational materials to schools and colleges which allows them to teach about the cloud and AWS, Watt said. The program also includes free credits for students to use the AWS program in learning.

GNTC is a member of both AWS Educate and an AWS Academy, according to Watt. AWS Academy is designed to prepare students for AWS certifications. Watt holds an AWS Cloud Practitioner certification and is an approved AWS Academy instructor. He also holds CompTIA Cloud+ and Cloud Essentials+ certifications.

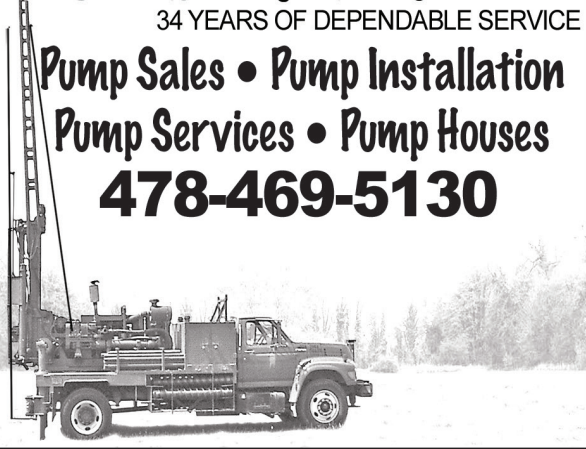
Since May 2015, AWS Educate has provided more than 500 institutions with access to

cloud computing training, tools and technologies. The new AWS Educate capabilities are available to students in the United States, India, Singapore, South Korea, Japan and China at launch. To learn more about AWS Educate, visit: <http://www.awseducate.com>.

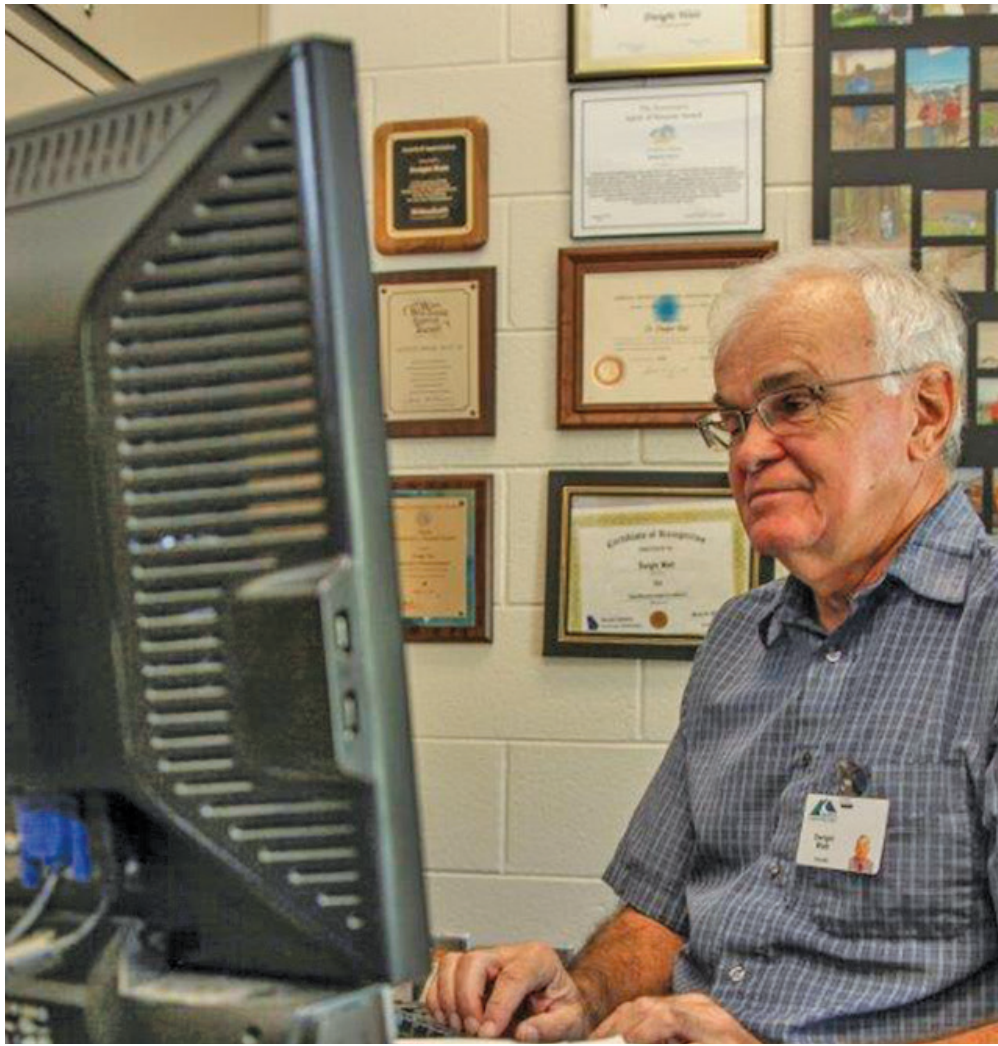
Georgia Northwestern Technical College provides quality workforce education to the citizens of Northwest Georgia. Students have the opportunity to earn an associate degree, diploma, or a certificate in business, health, industrial, or public service career paths. This past year, 12,454 people benefited from GNTC's credit and non-credit programs. With an annual credit enrollment of 7,730 students, GNTC is the largest college in northwest Georgia. GNTC has an additional enrollment of 4,724 people through adult education, con-

tinuing education, business and industry training, and Georgia Quick Start. For more information about GNTC, visit www.GNTC.edu. GNTC is a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia and an Equal Opportunity Institution.

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Editorials Columns

May I?

A favorite game often played during recess on campus of the old grammar school on Church Street was "May I?" The game started by a leader saying, "Let's play May I." "You did not have to be "picked" because everyone was welcome.

Everyone knew the simple rules, and no instructions or equipment was needed. The leader started by establishing a starting point for players to line up and stood a good distance away. The

winner would be the player who reached leader first.

Why did this draw a group of children as much as "free ice cream for all?" The game progressed with the varied commands of the leader. "Take a giant step. Take three baby steps. Take five hops. Take two giant steps backwards." However, before you could move you had to ask permission, "May I?" If in your eagerness to start, you forgot to say the magic word, the answer was "no,"

you lost any gain you had made

had to return to the starting line. Usually, the bell to end recess also ended the game without a winner. Since we are now in the merry month of May, I wanted to give you this uplifting image of children running out from the classroom on a pleasant spring day, laughing and excited to just have fun. This is not happening this May. Classrooms are empty. Playgrounds are not filled with carefree children hold-

ing hands to play Red Rover or London Bridge. Learning continues in their homes via television, computer, or patient parent. Teachers are struggling to find ways to make this time productive. I am on the sideline now and not impacted, but in all of my many years of schooling, the scheduled days were only shortly cancelled for weather.

In *The Blade* I received this week, I read and reread *From the Editor* written by Managing Editor Halei

Shirley Proctor Twiss



Lamb, and I take the liberty of borrowing some of her words. "The coronavirus pandemic has taken a toll on everything, churches, schools, movie theatres, birthday parties, funerals and even our beloved newspaper." She asked that we send her potential news leads on anything you think might be newsworthy during these

strange times. I look forward to some good reading submitted by *The Blade* followers.

The title, "Patience Please," tells us that there will be an ending, and we can return not to the old normal—but to an even better normal. Thank you, Halei.

Stay safe, stay well, and love thy neighbor. Write to Shirley at sptwiss@gmail.com.

In praise of our first responders both here and away

It seems to take a pandemic for us to get our priorities in order. With the death toll in the country having passed 60,000 and with over a thousand of those here in Georgia, suddenly we realize that those who entertain us—like actors and ball-players—are nothing more than diversions.

They are paid obscene amounts of money to make us forget the vicissitudes of our daily lives. In fact, they are as irrelevant as a bump on an elephant's rump.

The real heroes are the first responders. They are the doctors, emergency room personnel, nurses (including one in my family for whom

I pray every day), police officers, firefighters, EMTs and others on the front lines in the battle with the deadly coronavirus battle. They don't get paid nearly what they are worth for the risks they are taking and the enormous pressures they are under. Not only are they on the front lines, in many

cases this is an added responsibility to an already dangerous job which often goes unappreciated until we need them. When we have a life-or-death situation, who do we want to see—a first responder or Colick Kaperdoodle who, if we are lucky, has crawled into a rathole, never to be heard from again?

There is another set of first responders we sometimes overlook—the National Guard. It was my privilege some years ago to be embedded with Georgia's 48th Brigade Combat Team in a part of Iraq aptly known as the Triangle of Death. These unsung warriors are not only soldiers of the first rank, back home they are school-teachers, electricians, prison guards, truck drivers, plumbers and our neighbors.

Today, members of Georgia's National Guard are fighting a different battle as fearlessly as they did in Iraq. Only this time it isn't bombs or bullets. As we speak, men and women of the Guard are disinfecting nursing homes, assisting hospital staff so they can focus on saving lives, packaging food and delivering it to needy Georgians across the state and a host of other responsibilities.

Many members of the National Guard still find themselves far away from home. A friend recently shared a Facebook post with me

Dick Yarbrough



from April McDaniel, an E4 Specialist with the North Carolina National Guard, who is posted somewhere in the Middle East. (For security reasons, she can't say where).

If you are feeling sorry for yourself these days because of having to shelter in place or fretting as to whether you have hoarded enough toilet paper to last you through this decade and beyond, consider yourself fortunate. You could find yourself in the sweltering heat of some godforsaken cesspool in the Middle East, worrying about the health of your family thousands of miles away and that the coronavirus might find you up-close-and-personal, not to mention some nutcase trying to kill you. That is the case of April McDaniel.

McDaniel has been deployed in the Middle East since October 2019. More importantly, she is a wife and mother of eight children, the oldest a 14-year-old daughter.

On Facebook she says, "This coronavirus is affecting everybody. You hear some people complaining about being with their kids. I have to be able to get a good signal just to be able to call home and parent my children and to be a wife.

"It's a hard time for us. Pray for everybody,

not just your situations and your family but for us overseas, too. PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome) is real. Suicide is real. Depression is real. These are things that people wake up thinking about and feeling every day.

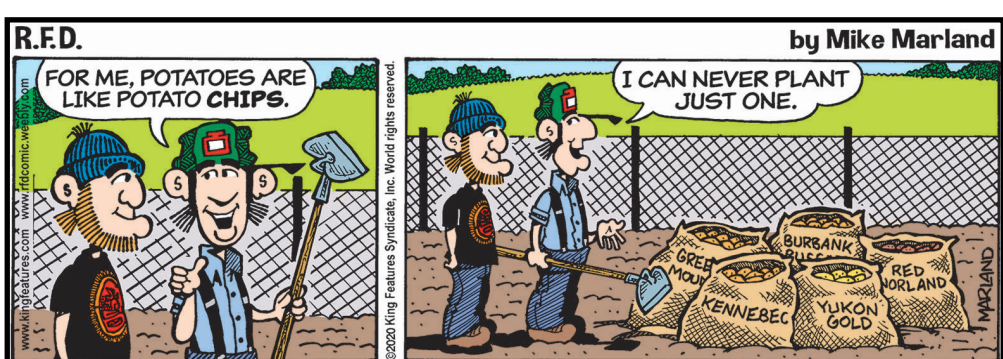
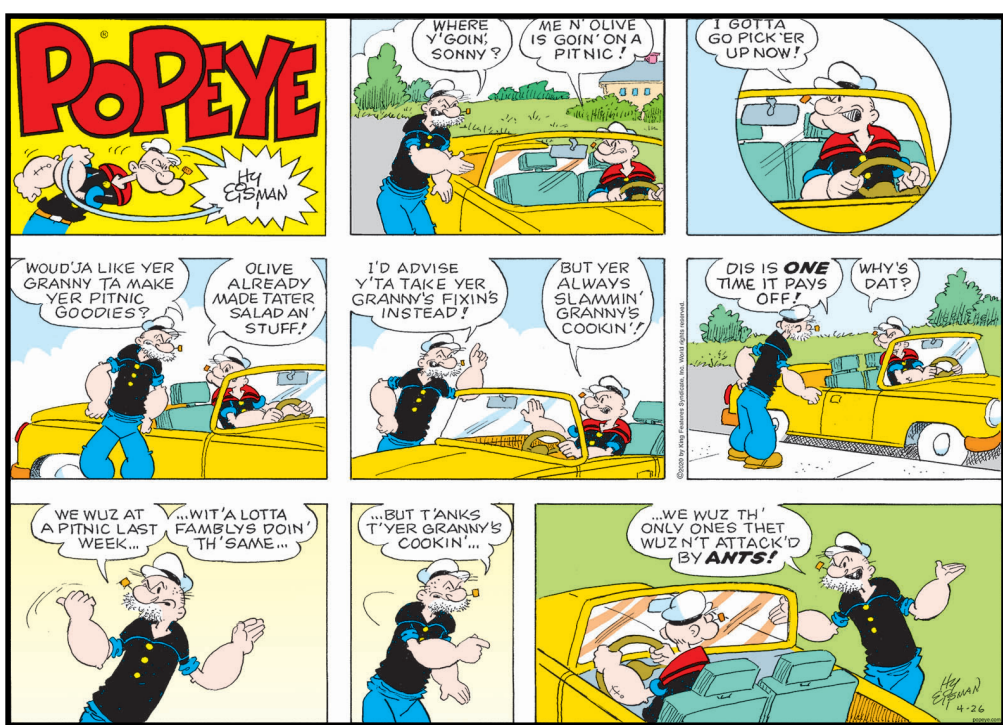
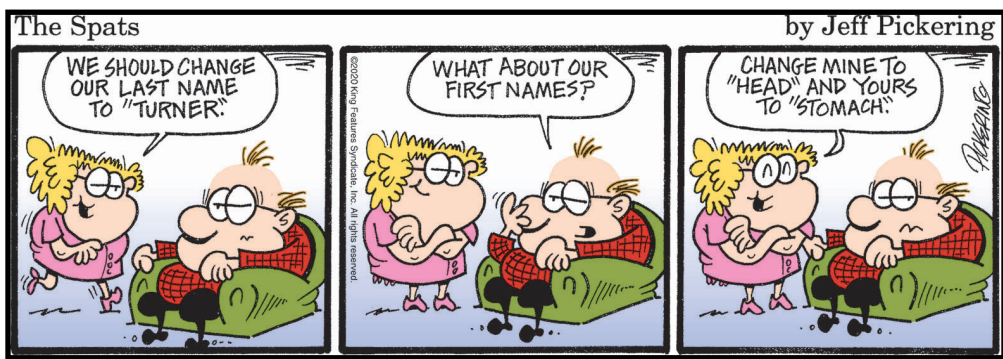
"Appreciate this time you get to spend at home with your kids, reading a book or something. I read a book in the USO, made a recording of myself reading to my child and sent it in the mail home. I don't even know if it made it yet.

"Embrace and enjoy the little things: Cooking dinner, tucking your kids in at night, making sure you are saying your prayers with them, watching TV on the couch on weekends, telling your parents you love them, going to see your mama."

May this pandemic one day be history, but may we never forget who the real heroes are in our society, be they first responders on the front lines here at home or in some godforsaken cesspool in the Middle East. Thank you one and all and please stay safe. Can I get an amen?

You can reach Dick Yarbrough at dick@dick-yarbrough.com; at P.O. Box 725373, Atlanta, Georgia 31139; or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/dickyarb.

Editorial Cartoons



The Forest-Blade

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We welcome Letters to the Editor from our readers. However, due to increasing production costs, we must request that letters be kept to approximately 350 words. All letters must be signed by at least one person. Address and telephone number of the writer should also be given.

The Blade reserves the right to edit letters and limit the number of letters on any one subject from any one person.

Jail Report

The following persons have been booked into Emanuel County Jail, according to Emanuel County Sheriff Tyson Stephens, on warrants obtained by one of several local law enforcement agencies, designated by each name: Drug Task Force (DTF); Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI); Georgia Department of Pardons and Parole (GAPP); Georgia State Patrol (GSP); Emanuel

County Sheriff's Office (ECOSO); Swainsboro Police Dept. (SPD); Stillmore Police Dept. (SMPD); Twin City Police Department (TCPD); Garfield Police Dept. (GPD); Adrian Police Dept. (APD); Child Support Recovery Unit (CSRU); Intensive Probation Service (IPS); or Probation Office (PROB).
 Leroy Ellis Posley, 59, 808 Southlake Cove

Ct., Jonesboro; entered 4/27/20; DUI/alch, open container; released 4/28/20; Stillmore PD
 Jay Jay Cody Pace, 24, 1257 Lambs Bridge Rd.; entered 4/28/20; Child support/superior court contempt order, child support/superior court contempt order, theft/taking; ECOS
 Justin Ryan Coleman, 31, 632 Old Swainsboro

Rd.; entered 4/30/20; Theft/rec/stolen prop, theft/taking, theft/taking; ECOSO
 Jacob Myles Pierce, 23, 362 Old 29 Rd., Royston; entered 4/30/20; speeding 30+ MPH over; released 4/30/20; ECOSO
 Preston Joseph Thornton, 26, 105 Lood Rd., Vidalia; entered 5/1/20; VGCSA possession of drug related object;

released 5/1/20; ECOSO
 Randal Sebastian McKee, 21, 707 Ward St., Vidalia; entered 5/1/20; Entering auto; ECOSO
 Shanteia Tonyotta Coleman, 35, 201 Grady St.; entered 5/2/20; Driving lic susp/rev, dep acct fraud/bad checks over \$499; released 5/2/20; SPD
 William Lawrence Wilson, 27, 462 Lombardy

St., South Hill, VA; entered 5/3/20; Disorderly conduct; SPD
 Lamir Robert Alleyne, 24, 502 Cambridge Ct., Roanoke Rapids, NC; entered 5/3/20; Disorderly conduct; SPD
 Kelvin Kinard Rountree, 37, 140 Lanier Dr., Statesboro; entered 5/3/20; Tag light requirements, DUI/alch; released 5/3/20; TCPD

Sheriff's Reports

According to Emanuel County Sheriff's Office...

April 29
 Complainant damaged his vehicle after striking a deer on Highway 56 South.

Complainant called the sheriff's office and reported an assault. According to complainant, offender came into tent he was sleeping in and kicked him in the face, then ran off and jumped into a silver truck. Complainant was advised of warrant process.

Victim reported a TPO violation. Deputies contacted offender and advised him he could not contact victim at all without the possibility of being charged with aggravated stalking.

Deputies were dispatched to a location on Georgia Avenue in reference to a utility vehicle rolling on top of a subject. Deputy arrived on scene, started riding through the woods, noticed fresh marks on the trails, followed those marks, and located a UTV on its side. Deputy approached the UTV and saw the victim with his leg stuck under the roof of the vehicle. Subject's leg appeared to be broken and bleeding. Deputy lifted the UTV enough to free the leg from under the vehicle, then helped the victim to the patrol vehicle and carried him to the front of the property. EMS was waiting, along with Adrian Fire Department. EMS transported victim to Fairview Park Hospital in Dublin.

April 30
 Deputies responded to a local business in reference to a wanted subject in the store. One of the customers outside stated the offender's name, Justin Ryan Coleman, and informed law enforcement that he had left in a white SUV headed toward Lambs Bridge Road on South Circle Drive. Deputies, along with Swainsboro Police Department, who also responded to the business, immediately searched the area of Lambs Bridge Road and made contact with a white SUV at the intersection of Lambs Bridge Road and West Meadowlake Parkway. As deputies and police approached the vehicle, the passenger door swung open, and the passenger jumped out and ran into the woods

on foot. Deputies chased the passenger into the woodline but lost sight of him. Another deputy detained the driver and placed him into the rear of his patrol vehicle. Another officer contacted the Georgia State Prison's K-9 unit and had them in route to track the passenger. While waiting on the K-9, Coleman turned himself in without further incident and was placed under arrest. He was transported to the jail. While in route there, he informed law enforcement that he could have possibly been bitten by a snake while running but could not say for sure because it was dark. EMS was called to the jail to evaluate him. He was medically cleared and then turned over to jail staff. The driver of the vehicle was released from the scene after Coleman turned himself in.

Deputies assisted an agency with a downed tree in the roadway at Keas Old Mill Pond Road. Complainant on scene stated he struck the tree and caused damage to his vehicle.

Complainant filed a report in reference to fraud/illegal use of his financial transaction card by his ex-girlfriend. Complainant was asked to bring copies of the transaction statements to the sheriff's office. He was also advised of the magistrate's warrant process.

May 1
 Complainant struck a deer while traveling on Griffin Ferry Road, causing damage to his vehicle.

Deputies took assault/battery report involving a minor-aged offender.

Complainant on Flatford Road reported a stolen trailer.

Victim on JM Spearman Road reported several missing items from her residence, including two satellite dishes and a steam cleaner.

Deputy responded to a local business and helped other deputies detain subjects for an investigation.

Complainant on Halls Bridge Road reported a stolen bicycle.

May 2
 Deputy responded to a local business at the request of another deputy by phone. Upon arrival, phoning deputy requested a narcot-

ics detection kit, which the responding deputy provided. Initial deputy field tested an unknown substance. Responding deputy observed two males, who were detained in cuffs prior to his arrival. Another deputy, who was already on scene, directed responding deputy to transport offender to the jail pending charges from an investigation. Offender was transported without incident.

Deputy had an abandoned vehicle at the intersection of Highway 80 and the bypass removed.

Complainant reported his neighbor for driving his truck across complainant's property while pulling a trailer, damaging the ditch and roadway. Complainant was advised of the magistrate process.

May 3
 Deputy responded to a single vehicle rollover on LB Hall Road/Ivey Hall Road. Offender was charged with leaving the scene of an accident and failure to report an accident with injuries.

Complainant stated that while traveling east on I-16, he struck what could have been a brake drum from a commercial truck, causing damage to his transmission, thereby making his vehicle undrivable.

Complainant on Pearl Road stated she believed someone had been coming onto her property and night and letting her animals out of their pens. Complainant further reported she believed someone had gone inside her storage shed because the lights were on.

May 4
 Deputies assisted Georgia State Patrol with a single vehicle crash on Highway 56 North. Driver was transported by EMS to the local hospital.

Deputy removed an abandoned motorcycle from complainant's yard, per complainant's request.

Complainants filed a fraud report after sending offender from Facebook \$200 to hold a dog they intended to purchase. After receiving said funds, offender blocked both complainants.

May 5
 Complainant struck a deer while traveling Highway 56 North, causing damage.

Police Reports

Officers with the Swainsboro Police Department (SPD) reported...

April 27
 Emanuel County 911 dispatched officer to an address on Advance Street in reference to disorderly conduct.

Officer was dispatched by Emanuel County 911 to a West Moring Street address in reference to a dispute.

Officer was dispatched to an address on North Coleman Street in reference to damaged property.

Complainant reported a simple battery offense.

April 28
 Emanuel County 911 dispatched officers to an address on McLeod Bridge Road in reference to a dispute.

Officer was dispatched to an address on North Anderson Drive in reference to theft by taking.

Officer was dispatched to an address on New Street in reference to a dispute.

April 29
 Emanuel County 911 dispatched officer to an

address on Lee Street in reference to a robbery by sudden snatch of a change purse.

Officer responded to the area of Kathleen Road in reference to an at-large dog.

Officers responded to the area of Drake Avenue in reference to the kidnapping of an adult and aggravated assault with a gun. The involved offender fled on foot but was located and apprehended in a nearby wooded area.

May 1
 Officer responded to the area of East Pine Street in reference to burglary by forced entry and criminal trespassing on private property.

Officer was dispatched to an address on Sycamore street in reference to a burglary by forced entry.

Officer was dispatched to an address on East Main Street in reference to an entering auto.

Officer responded to an address on East Main Street in reference to a simple battery report.

Officer was dispatched to an address on

Happiness Drive in reference to a stolen vehicle.

May 2
 Officer made a traffic stop in reference to tag light requirements.

Officer requested assistance of Emanuel County EMS to the area of Hickory Trace Circle in reference to an intoxicated individual.

Officer made a traffic stop. During the traffic stop, officer learned that the driver's license was suspended. An arrest was made.

May 3
 Officer responded to an address on South Main Street in reference to a disorderly conduct.

Officer made a traffic stop in reference to a driver's failure to stop at a stop sign. During the traffic stop, officer found the driver to be in possession of a drug-related object. Citations were written.

Emanuel County 911 dispatched officer to an address on Happiness Drive in reference to battery.

Officer responded to an address on Stevens Drive in reference to a dispute.

Twin City Police Reports

Officers with the Twin City Police Department (TCPD) reported...

April 28
 Officer responded to an address on Mathis Avenue in reference to a miscellaneous report.

April 30
 An individual reported a lost or stolen purse.

May 2
 Officer responded to the area of Highway 80 East to assist a driver with a trailer that had detached from a truck.

Officer made a traffic stop in reference to a speeding driver. During the traffic stop, officer learned that the passenger of the vehicle was in possession of a misdemeanor amount of marijuana. A citation was written.

May 3
 During review and inventory of the Twin City Police Department, officer reported being unable to locate a pistol recovered by the TCPD during 2015. Contact was made with the firearm owner, who reported not being contacted in regard to legally obtaining the involved pistol as well as a laptop computer and shotgun that were recovered during inventory. The investigation was then turned over to the Georgia Bureau of Investigations.

Officer made a traffic stop in reference to tag light requirements. During the traffic stop, officer found the driver to be driving under the influence. After verbally refusing further testing, an arrest was made and the offender was trans-

ported to the Emanuel County Jail.

Officer cited a driver for possession of marijuana.

May 4
 Victim reported an unknown offender removing a trailer hitch from a pick-up truck.

Complainant reported two dogs roaming the area of a residence, causing damage. Contact was made with dogs' owner, who agreed to pay for related damages.

Complainant reported being zapped by an unknown offenders on four-wheelers. Officer responded to search the area and reported no observance of said subjects or evidence of four-wheelers on the property.

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Early intervention can be key to helping children with communication disorders reach their full potential.

Hearing loss and voice, speech, and language disorders can be particularly challenging for young children and older adults. Hearing problems in children, for example, can delay the development of voice, speech, and language skills, and children with developmental speech and language problems are at risk for learning disabilities and for psychosocial problems that emerge during adolescence or adulthood.

Hearing loss and other communication disorders can affect people at any age.

One of the most common communication disorders in older adults is hearing loss, affecting approximately one in three adults ages 65 to 74, and nearly half of those older than 75. Hearing loss can lead to feelings of isolation and loss of connection from family, friends, and the community. Although hearing aids and other assistive devices can improve quality of life, only about one in four adults (age 20 and over) who could benefit from hearing aids has ever used them.

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WRECKED CHEVROLET

Rollover crash on L. B. Hall Road in Garfield

by BILL CAHILL, SFD PIO

Shortly after 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 5, county firefighters and sheriff's deputies were sent to L. B. Hall Road in Garfield.

First-arriving Garfield firefighters found a 2003 white Chevrolet pickup truck in the ditch by Ivey Hall

Clark Road. It appeared the rollover had occurred overnight. There was evidence of some injury, but the operator and/or occupants had fled the scene.

Deputies from the Emanuel County Sheriff's Office are investigating the crash.

Question: What is a DOS attack?

Answer:

DOS stands for Denial Of Service. These attacks occur when a network or computer-type device (a PC, server, camera, meter, etc.) is attacked through a network by attack agents using their machines to make one device or an entire network ineffective for people.

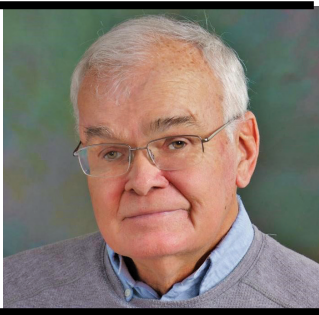
Quite often, DOS attacks are aimed at organizations to prevent computers from working. For instance, someone mad at XYZ Company might want to shut them down, so they conduct a DOS attack, which ties up XYZ's equipment. This means when Jane Doe visits XYZ's website, company personnel cannot respond. A DOS attack will also prohibit websites from receiving payments because of server connectivity issues or because the network is locked.

DOS attacks are typically done by sending tons of pings to the network or device. A ping is a great tool for networkers to determine if sites are accessible, but this can be abused by threat

agents. When a network device receives a ping, it is a high priority request and is to be answered before webpage requests, payment information, and so on. The threat agent forces the device to respond to those pings, which means the website is not able to deal with other messages.

To combat this, lots of websites started blocking pings. Some machines will allow you to block that address in a firewall. However, threat agents improved (or got worse, depending on how you look at it). As a result, these agents started using DDOS attacks, which are Distributed Denial Of Service attacks.

DDOS attacks use planted bots on machines using malware that start sending massive numbers of pings. These attacks are harder to



Dwight Watt

stop because you can't block the address.

Many sites started blocking all pings, which even that stopped white-hat agents from using a great tool. Now, many places let a few pings from a location come through, then start blocking.

Modern firewalls will help protect you from DOS and DDOS attacks. Hopefully, you are never hit by one. Send me your questions about computers to me at the paper or to my e-mail dwight@dwightwatt.com and tell me you read this in this paper. I will pick a question to answer each week.

Dwight Watt does computer work for businesses, individuals and organizations and teaches about computers at a college. His webpage is www.dwightwatt.com His e-mail address is dwight@dwightwatt.com.

Legals

(from page 2D)

SIDE OF GEORGIA HIGHWAY 192 SPUR, AND EXTENDING BACK BETWEEN PARALLEL LINES A DISTANCE OF TWO HUNDRED TEN (210) FEET, AND BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS; NORTH BY LANDS OF MRS. EVELYN WRIGHT; EAST AND SOUTH BY LANDS OF J. ROSCOE BROWN; AND WEST BY THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF GEORGIA HIGHWAY 192 SPUR, SAID PROPERTY IS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY PLAT MADE BY JOHN A. MCGILL, SURVEYOR, DATED MARCH 24, 1972, WHICH IS RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK, EMANUEL COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 269, TO WHICH REFERENCE IS MADE AS A PART OF THIS DESCRIPTION.

The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

Said property is commonly known as **238 W Broad St., Twin City, GA 30471** together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property is (are): **Earl Lanier** or tenant or tenants.

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Note, however, that such entity or individual is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan.

Said property will be sold subject to: (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) unpaid water or sewage bills that constitute a lien against the property whether due and payable or not yet due and payable and which may not be of record, (c) the right of redemption of any taxing authority, (d) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (e) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and non-judicial sales in the State

of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided immediately above.

Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as trustee of Stanwich Mortgage Loan Trust A as agent and Attorney in Fact for **Earl Lanier**

Aldridge Pite, LLP, 15 Piedmont Center, 3575 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 500, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, (404) 994-7637.

2191-1150A THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 2191-1150A

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

All creditors of the estate of PAUL HENRY MOORE, decedent late of Emanuel County, State of Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me. This the 27th day of April, 2020.

CHRISTINE W MOORE, executrix of the estate of PAUL HENRY MOORE, decedent. 37 Wilcher Lane Midville, Ga. 30441

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Oak Park Water System Has Levels of Gross Alpha Drinking Water Standards.

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation. We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. We have been notified by the State that our water system exceeded the maximum contaminant levels (MCL) for Gross Alpha and Combined Radium during the following calendar quarters: 04/01/2019-06/30/2019, 07/01/2019-09/30/2019

Associated Violation IDs#: 2020-21734, 2020-21736, 2020-21737

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. **You do not need to** boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. However, certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation know as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years have an increase risk of getting cancer. Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increase risk of getting cancer.

What is being done?

We are working with a Georgia State agency to evaluate the water supply and are researching options to correct the problem. These options may include treating the water to remove the Gross Alpha and Combined Radium contaminant. We anticipate resolving the problem as quickly as possible.

For more information, please contact Mayor Mickey Lindsey at 912-578-4115 or at City Hall, 3857 Harrington St., Lyons, GA 30436

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartment, nursing homes, school and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or disturbing copies by hand or mail

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The Mighty Eighth: *The decisive force against Nazi Germany*

by ERIC HOGAN

On May 8 a mere 75 years ago, virtually the entire world took a massive, collective sigh of relief. That was the long anticipated day when the surviving leadership of Nazi Germany accepted President Franklin Roosevelt's demand of "unconditional surrender" shortly after Adolf Hitler killed himself. Known as VE Day, it commemorates Victory in Europe during World War II and celebrates the liberation of Western Europe from the tyranny of Adolf Hitler and the Nazis.

Without question, one of the most powerful instruments employed by the Allies to achieve their total victory was the U.S. Eighth Air Force, formed in Savannah in January of 1942 after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor forced the U.S. to enter the war. The Mighty Eighth grew to represent air power on a scale never before imagined and never to be equaled.

It is almost beyond comprehension that with good weather conditions, by the spring of 1944 the Americans could put 2000 bombers and 1000 fighters into the sky on a single day for missions over Germany. This was an air traffic control problem never previously imagined and mid-air collisions were considered an acceptable hazard of the trade. The result of air power of this magnitude was that by the end of the war, German industry and transportation, and every major city, laid in ruins.

There were 71 bomber and fighter bases established in the area to the North and East of London known as East Anglia. The terrain was flat and close to the English Channel, making it ideal for the many home bases of the big four engine bombers-- the legendary B-17 Flying Fortresses and B-24 Liberators.

Almost 350,000 Americans served in the Mighty Eighth in what was called the "friendly invasion" by the Brits. To this day East Anglia remains by far the most Americanized part of Britain, still reflecting the cultural shock of suddenly being overrun by thousands of young Americans. By 1944, the diaries of numerous East Anglian civilians changed from a gloomy tone to one of confidence in final victory as they witnessed these massive American air armadas assemble and then head out over the Chanel for deadly serious business against the Nazis.

The invention of the state of the art "Norden Bombsight", that era's equivalent of today's smart bombs, had led President Roosevelt and American war planners to embrace a totally new use for air power. The concept of "strategic bombing" was developed. The novel idea that air power would not just be used to attack enemy military positions (tactical bombing), but would be deployed with overwhelming force to degrade the enemies' means of production, transportation, and energy. In other words, destroy the ability of your enemy to effectively wage war.

Within months after being formed, the Mighty Eighth had spread all over the country for the needed task of training thousands of pilots, navigators, and bombardiers to man the thousands of planes that the American "arsenal of democracy" was soon to produce and send into battle. It started as a trickle that eventually turned into a stampede, and by August of 1942, the first small cautious mission was flown by 8th AF bombers led by Paul Tibbets, the man who three years later would fly the B-29 that dropped the atomic bomb over Hiroshima.

By 1943, the Mighty Eighth was flying frequent missions deep into the heart of Germany, going after all of the components of the German war machine. However, as these dangerous missions attacked further into Germany, the casualty rate reached unsustainable levels. The infamous August 17, 1943 raid against the ball bearing and Messerschmitt airplane factories in Schweinfurt and Regensburg graphically exposed how bad the losses could be when sending unprotected bombers on a long range mission against a heavily defended target. The attacking force of over 300 bombers lost 60 planes, each with a ten man crew, and another almost 100 bombers suffered extensive battle damage.

The primary problem that had to be addressed was the lack of fighter plane protection against the very effective German Luftwaffe fighters and their experienced pilots. American fighter protection for 8th AF bombers stopped far short of Germany because the fighters would run low on fuel and be forced to return to their bases in Britain. In late 1943, the 8th AF suspended long range missions temporarily until a solution appeared.

Fortunately, by early 1944, that solution began to show up in force. The next generation American fighter plane, the magnificent P-51 Mustang, had come to the rescue. The P-51, equipped with

long range fuel tanks, could escort the B-17's and B-24's all the way to target and back.

By the spring of 1944, the Mighty Eighth turned its attention to the destruction of the German Luftwaffe. With the D-Day invasion planned for June, it was imperative that the Luftwaffe be crippled so that any Allied soldier on the beaches in Normandy who looked up into the skies would see only friendly aircraft.

The "strategic bombing" campaign never completely eliminated German industrial production, but by early 1944, production had stopped increasing, and by that summer it began a downward spiral such that by 1945 war production was virtually nonexistent. Continuous bombing raids in 1944 against Nazi synthetic fuel facilities and oil refineries made the strict rationing of fuel mandatory. This seriously limited the training of new pilots and tank crews, and eventually even front line pilots and crews were forced to curtail operations because of fuel shortages.

Besides destroying military and industrial targets, the Mighty Eighth's "strategic bombing" campaign had three additional major effects on the outcome of the war.

First, the German "88" was recognized as the best artillery, anti-tank, and anti-aircraft gun of WWII. In 1943 the Germans began to strip their armies of their "88's" at an accelerating pace in order to defend their cities with 55,000 anti-aircraft guns. This caused incalculable damage to the fighting abilities of their armies, especially on the Russian front with its huge tank battles.

Second, by late 1943, 70% of German fighters were deployed to defend the homeland against "strategic" bombing, rather than supporting their armies in the field. This put the German armies at a substantial disadvantage to their thoroughly air supported foes—the American, British, and Russian armies.

And lastly, 1.5 million German personnel were assigned to air defense duty against Allied bombing. Every other theater of the war would have been tougher if many of these personnel had been available for other combat duty.

The Mighty Eighth was blessed with some famous personalities that history fondly recalls. General Jimmy Doolittle, of the daring 1942 Doolittle raid over Tokyo, was the commanding officer from January, 1944 to the German surrender. The Academy Award winning actor, Jimmy Stewart, and the legendary Dallas Cowboy football coach, Tom Landry, were squadron leaders on numerous perilous missions. Even the great actor from "Gone With the Wind", Clark Gable, flew some missions as a gunner and photographer.

The explicit strategy of the Mighty Eighth was the strategic bombing of German military and industrial targets. In order to effectively implement this strategy, the American high command decided they must fly daylight bombing missions so that the bombing would be accurate enough to hit most of the intended military and industrial targets. The British considered daylight missions too dangerous and the number of lost planes and crew too high to be acceptable. Thus, the British strategy became night bombing.

Let no one misunderstand this fact: American bombers flew the more hazardous daylight missions over Germany, exposing their gallant crews to greater danger from German fighter planes and anti-aircraft guns, for the specific purpose of making their bombing of military and industrial targets more accurate and minimizing the inevitable civilian casualties.

In recent years, a few historical revisionists have questioned the morality of the Mighty Eighth's devastating bombing campaign in WWII. Because most German cities were destroyed and hundreds of thousands of German civilians were killed as collateral damage, it has even been called a war crime.

These misguided souls conveniently forget that during WWII American troops were dying on average at a rate of 9,000 per month and the execution of Jews and others in concentration camps averaged 80,000 per month. Fair, objective historians agree the cold, hard truth was that the first responsibility of Allied leaders was taking whatever action was at their disposal to end the war and stop the loss of Allied lives and innocent Jewish prisoners. Using the heavy bombers of the Mighty Eighth to destroy German industry and cities, and break the will of the Nazis to resist their inevitable defeat, was a morally justifiable use of a powerful tool to bring the war to a faster conclusion.

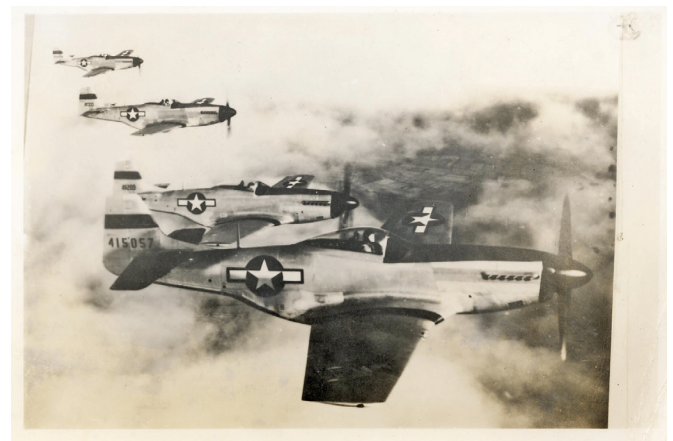
Did the strategic bombing of Germany cause WWII to end faster than it otherwise would have ended? Virtually the entire German high command that survived the war agreed in post war interviews that Allied bombing and air suprem-



acy was the single greatest cause of German
B-17 PLANES



STEWART PLAYING ORGAN



P-51 PLANES



STEWART



HOGAN

defeat. But the most conclusive evidence of all comes from Albert Speer, the man who was in total charge of every aspect of German military and industrial production from 1942 until the end of the war. He asserted that "the strategic bomber is the cause of all of our setbacks" and referred to strategic bombing as "the greatest lost battle on the German side".

The price for this victory was high. The Mighty Eighth had the most fatalities of any American military unit in WWII—26,000, with another 25,000 taken prisoner. WWII was the worst cataclysm in human history, but the ultimate Allied victory determined that the second half of the twentieth century would be dominated by freedom and democracy, not dictatorship and enslavement.

A visit to the Mighty Eighth Heritage Museum in Savannah is a trip to sacred ground. It is an emotional experience to reflect on the somber plaques placed by Mighty Eighth veterans in the memorial gardens to immortalize their crews, to gaze at the original Arlington National Cemetery headstone of Medal of Honor winner Gen. Jimmy Doolittle, to inspect a restored B-17, and to experience what it was like to fly a harrowing WWII mission over Germany in the "Mission Experience" virtual reality exhibit.

The 8th AF was but one of the many vital components of the "greatest generation" that won the essential victory in WWII. However, the brave and resolute crewmen of the Mighty Eighth earned the honor of being remembered as the unstoppable force that delivered the decisive blow against the Nazis.

Eric Hogan is a long-time resident of Tybee Island. He is a graduate of Georgia Tech and Mercer Law School, and he is an amateur historian of World War II. He can be reached at rhoganjr71@aol.com. His wife, Roxy Wimberly Hogan, was born and raised in Swainsboro. Her sister is Leck Boatright of Citizens Bank.

Local chapters honor Confederate History Month

Confederate History Month has come to an end, but the Sons of Confederate Veterans McLeod-Moring Camp #1386 and Heritage Roses Chapter of the Order of Confederate Rose will be continuing their mission to honor soldiers who fought during the Civil War and were buried in cemeteries throughout Emanuel County.

During the month of April, various members of both organizations worked really hard on placing approximately 175 flags on the graves of soldiers buried at various cemeteries throughout the county.

On April 25, members of the McLeod-Moring SCV Camp spent the day cleaning the McLemore Cemetery, which has the gravesites of three

Civil War soldiers. While cleaning the cemetery, a passerby donated to the organization, which the camp was very appreciative to receive.

For more information on joining the Sons of Confederate Veterans or the Order of the Confederate Rose, contact Commander B.

Daryl Hill via email at cableman68@att.net. Camp historian David Love will help trace your ancestry to find your linkage to the Civil War.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans and was formed in 1896. This is a historical preservation organization.

The following charge was given to them by then-lieutenant general Stephen Dill Lee, Commander in Chief of the United Confederate Veterans:

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense


of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those prin-

ciples which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."



LT. SAM BROWN, DONALD HALL, COMMANDER HILL, JOEY GIBSON, AND HISTORIAN LOVE
Not pictured: Chaplain Glenn Grimes

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Did you catch a glimpse?

by WHITLEY CLIFTON

Did you, by chance, witness the airboat being operated in Ponds 3 and 4 of Harmon Park during the morning hours of Monday, May 4?

While some individuals may have caught a glimpse of the event and others may not have, Swainsboro-Emanuel County Parks and Recreation Department uploaded a photo via social media the following afternoon explaining the event.

According to information given, the airboat was being operated by an employee of Edge Aquatics for the

purpose of spraying for invasive aquatic weeds.

Why is there a need for spraying aquatic

weeds, you might ask? The answer is simple:

to assist in the upkeep of aquatic life! SECRD

would like to encourage all park visitors to do the same.

In January, sterile grass carp were introduced to all four ponds at Harmon Park. In doing so, SECRD asks that any carp caught while fishing in Harmon Park ponds be released back into the pond from which it was caught.



AIRBOAT IN ONE OF HARMON PARK'S PONDS



Happy Mother's Day
to all of our mothers
here and beyond!



Sunday, May 10th

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FIREFIGHTER IN THE INTERIOR OF THE STRUCTURE

Multiple counties battle Adrian house fire

by BILL CAHILL, SFD PIO

What started as a dryer fire turned into a structure fire on Monday, May 4. The home located at 608 South Poplar Street received fire, heat, and smoke damage through the 2,100-square-foot, one-story home.

Mutual aid was at its finest with engines responding from Scott and Johnson County, Toombs County, and Blackville and Gillis Springs in Treutlen County, along with Johnson State Prison. Multiple attack lines were stretched into the structure. Emanuel County EMS, Adrian Police Department, and Treutlen County Sheriff's Office responded. There were no injuries at the scene.

All that I am, or ever
hope to be
I owe to my Mother

- ABRAHAM LINCOLN -



**Thank you for being the phone call
that's always answered,
for saying the prayers
I didn't have to ask for,
and for always having the words
to put my mind at ease.
Motherhood didn't come
with a manual,
but you wrote the book . . .**

Happy Mother's Day

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