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VOLUME 162, NO. 6 Swainsboro, Georgia • February 10, 2021 ONE DOLLAR

Happy Valentine's Day

photo BY WANDA SCARBORO

With Valentine's Day falling on Sunday, Feb. 14, *The Forest-Blade* wishes to share the love prior to the day of! Featured in this photo is Kenli Brooke Anderson, 8-month-old daughter of Kaley Ricks and Aaron Anderson. She is the granddaughter of Ken and Wendi Ricks of Vidalia, and Lindsey Anderson of Vidalia, and Becky Burke of Kite. Sweet Kenli seems to be excited over her box of chocolates! Don't forget to purchase your loved one's special gift before V-Day this weekend!



KENLI BROOKE ANDERSON

SHS Competition Cheerleaders to compete in state finals

Swainsboro High School cheerleaders recently advanced from sectionals as the fifth team of the top 16 AA teams in the state and will compete for state finals Monday, Feb. 15, in Macon.

On Saturday, Feb. 6, cheer coach Luci Metz-McNeely stated, "Today was surreal. It was one

of those moments that we talk about happening but hope never do. We had Region/Sectionals competition cheerleading today in Vidalia. We took the mat and had a great beginning, and we get through running tumbling and one of the main fliers gets injured to the point where she cannot put any weight

on her ankle. The head judge stops the routine. In less than seven minutes, we had to regroup and mark a primary stunt and move two fliers around to make the pyramid work. The flyer on the right side of the pyramid had to perform a switch up, high low tick tock, back flip to (continued on page 5D)



SCENE FROM PAST PINE TREE FESTIVAL

2021 Pine Tree Festival is on!

The Pine Tree Festival executive committee announced this week that the 2021 Pine Tree Festival will be back this May! There will be a multitude of quality entertainment activities for the community to enjoy, including a performance by Rhythm and Pines on May 7 and the parade on May 8. Allowances will be made for social distancing. Check back with *The Forest-Blade* and EmanuelCountyLive.com for more details as they become available!

Don't forget: Shepard Community Blood Center to hold plasma drive

Shepard Community Blood Center continues to be in need of Covid Convalescent Plasma (CCP) from donors who have fully recovered from a Covid-19 infection. If you have recovered from Covid-19, you may have antibodies in your plasma that can be used to treat extremely ill patients. In an effort to collect additional CCP, Shepard is hosting two drives in Swainsboro during the month of February. The first drive will be held at Emanuel Medical Center (117 Kite Rd., Swainsboro, GA 30401), on Feb. 20. On Feb. 21, another drive will be held at CPR Fitness and Tan and The Spa @ CPR (203 S. Circle Drive, Swainsboro, GA 30401). The drives will run from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. each day. To be eligible to donate Covid-19 Convalescent Plasma, you must meet the following eligibili-

ty criteria: 1. You must show proof of a positive Covid-19 test or positive antibody test result. 2. You must be symptom free for at least 14 days. 3. You must be able to pass a regular blood donor questionnaire and physical. Additionally, female donors may need to be screened for donor eligibility before they can donate. This can be done on Feb. 8, at Emanuel Medical Center, between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. For additional details regarding donating or pre-screening, or to schedule an

appointment to donate, call 706.737.4551, or email ccpdonor@shepardblood.org. All successful donors will receive a \$100 Visa gift card as a "Thank You" for donating. Shepard Community Blood Center supplies blood and blood products, to include Covid Convalescent Plasma, to 24 hospitals in 30 counties in Georgia and South Carolina. And due to the high demand, Shepard is shipping CCP to other states, as needed, to help in the fight against Covid-19.



MAYOR SCHWABE PRESENTS CHECK TO SCOTT AND EMC NURSES

Mayor Schwabe and City Administrator Lawson present check to Damien Scott, Emanuel County Medical Center administrator

The City of Swainsboro presented a check to the Emanuel County Medical Center last Friday for specialized PPE suits for ICU workers treating Covid 19 patients. EMS Director Courtney Terwilliger explained that the long, tedious hours experienced by nurses working in protective suits can be overwhelming at times. The new suits are equipped to provide conditioned air ventilation making the long hours a little more comfortable. In presenting the check Mayor Charles Schwabe reminded everyone of the sacrifice health care workers are making every day, "On behalf of the folks in the city, I want to thank everyone here at the hospital and all the people who are fighting this virus throughout this community, and I hope these suits make their jobs a little bit easier."

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Keeping you in the know: Rabies

On Thursday, Jan. 24, a deputy with the Emanuel County Sheriff's Office responded to an address within the county in reference to a report involving an animal bite.

Prior to the incident occurring, staff from the Betty Gambrell Animal Shelter received a phone call from a male subject, inquiring on if his canine companion had been an inmate at the local pound.

After animal control responded to the scene, contact was later made with the male subject, who verified that the involved dog was his canine that had escaped from home prior to the incident occurring.

Luckily, the involved bite victim and canine both are okay, and neither of the two have had any symptoms related to the establishment of rabies.

Did you know:

All dogs in city limits and Emanuel County are required and must have a rabies shot yearly (it's not a one time shot). The cost of a rabies vaccination is only \$14 and can only be administered by a license veterinarian.

Listed in the county ordinance, it is outlined that all owners are responsible for getting and having proof of their pet's rabies vaccination. (Article II, Sec. 8-33, No. 6)

Codes 1970 and 1990 of the city ordinance (sec. 10-32 through 10-35), states that if any animal control is called about a dog for any reason, they have the right to ask for proof of rabies

shot. Failure to provide a shot record for rabies can result in a citation and up to \$150 fine.

When a bite happens

If an animal happens to take a bite at a human, there is a process in which each case is handled. First, the animal must be confirmed as a stray or a pet. If the animal is a stray, usually, the involved animal is euthanized if an owner cannot be located. Upon the involved animal being euthanized, brain matter is collected and sent to a lab for further testing to be completed.

However, if the pet is someone's fur baby, proper protocols must take place. Medical records kept on file at the involved pet's veterinary office should reflect vaccination and health records and can be provided to ensure the pet is up to date on rabies vaccination.

If there is no documentation on file to confirm that the rabies vaccination was administered to the involved pet, the animal is to be confined for a 10-day period. Usually, if rabies is present, symptoms are noticeable within 3-5 days. And, still, in some cases, when an animal is current on rabies vaccination, a 10-day confinement may still be required just to ensure the animal isn't rabid.

"Rabies affects the brain and is transmitted by saliva. Normally, rabies is not typically found in just any wild animal. For example, it is uncommon for opossums to carry rabies. However,

raccoons, foxes and bats (though, bats are more uncommon) are known as being carriers of rabies," Allison Connolly Johnson of McRae's Veterinary Clinic stated.

Individuals who have been bit by a rabid animal must also undergo medical treatment. Previously, shots were administered to bite victims in the stomach area. Now, shots are administered to the area in which the bite occurred and are given in series.

Rabies prevention is easy!

Normally, McRae's Veterinary Clinic office offers a rabies clinic. However, due to the Covid pandemic, the office was unable to offer this service in 2020 but hopes to resume normal rabies clinic services in the future, but that shouldn't place a hindrance on your pet getting vaccinated for rabies! A pet owner having their pet vaccinated for rabies is as easy as picking up the phone and dialing their local vet's office to set up an appointment. When your pet receives the vaccination, a tag to place on the pet's collar is given to the pet owner to provide verification of current rabies vaccination.

Rabies vaccinations are also available for individuals as a preventative protocol for if or when a bite may occur. To inquire more information on obtaining this vaccination, contact your primary healthcare provider today.

Commissioner Toomey briefs elected officials on Covid status

In a virtual meeting yesterday with elected officials from across Georgia, Dr. Kathleen Toomey Commissioner of Public Health in Georgia provided an update on the status of the Covid 19 pandemic as well as the progress of vaccinations in the state. According to the Commissioner, Georgia is doing much better on infection rates, but the delay in vaccine delivery means that it remains vitally important that ev-

eryone continues with washing hands frequently, distancing from others, and wearing masks.

The recent onset of variant strains of Covid 19 is also being monitored closely. Cases of the South African strain have not yet been detected in Georgia. But, the U.K. strain is now being seen in Georgia and reportedly is 40% stronger in transmission rates than the original virus. The good news is that the vaccines now in

use continue to be effective against all strains of Covid 19.

In the hour long discussion, Dr. Toomey told Mayors and other elected officials that the plan going forward for vaccinations will be federally administered and hopefully delays in production will be eliminated. Official estimated of widespread availability of vaccines range from late spring to mid-summer.

Deputy Hall gets more drugs off the street

According to Sheriff Jeffrey Brewer, on Tuesday evening, Feb. 2, 2021, Deputy Josh Hall was patrolling in south Emanuel County. Deputy Hall observed a vehicle speeding. He stopped the vehicle and began a dialog with the driver. While talking with the driver, Deputy Hall observed several indicators which necessitated further inquiry. During the course of the investigation, Deputy Hall discovered several illegal substances. The driver, Darius K. Allison of Carrollton, Ga., was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, trafficking methamphetamine, and speeding. The manner in which the items were packaged indicated this was a jail or prison drop.



DEPUTY HALL WITH CONFISCATED ITEMS

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Happenings

**Listed events are subject to change.*

American Red Cross Blood Drive
Durdan Banking Company Inc.
Twin City
February 10

Teen Craft
Franklin Memorial Library
February 11, 4 p.m.

Deana's Dash of Delish
Franklin Memorial Library
February 19, 10 a.m.

Bobcat Baseball vs. Scoutz Sports Performance
Virtual event played from home

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Thank You!

View our local active duty list at www.EmanuelCountyLive.com

Send your changes to news@emanuelcountylive.com

The Forest-Blade

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SPD CHIEF RANDY ELLISON, DETECTIVE RINER, AND SHERIFF BREWER WITH RECOVERED STOLEN PROPERTY

SPD recovers stolen property

On the evening of Jan. 29, a call came from Sheriff Jeffrey Brewer asking for assistance at the location of 821 West Main Street.

Upon arrival, officers found Sheriff Brewer standing beside a Ryder rental truck with several subjects standing next to him. Sheriff Brewer informed the officers that the truck was stolen out of Florida, according to information he had been given. Officers on the scene confirmed the stolen vehicle through a check ran on the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). Officers phoned on-call Detective Ashley

Riner and informed Riner of the situation. A more complete investigation of the events led to the arrest of Andrew Clay Whitmore (27) of Deleon Springs, FL, for the theft by receiving stolen vehicle. The truck was secured and was transported to the police department impound yard for further investigation.

The following morning, Detective Riner secured a search warrant for the truck and its contents. The search revealed evidence associated with four different burglaries that had occurred within the city limits of Swainsboro. Victims were contacted

according to the evidence discovered in the search. As a result of their discovered evidence against the suspect, additional warrants were issued for Whitmore on the following charges: 4 counts of burglary, 1 count of forgery and 1 count of criminal damage to property.

Recovered property was returned to victims after photographs were made for evidence purpose.

The case remains under further investigation by Swainsboro Police Department. Additional charges may be forthcoming from the State of Florida.

Twin City Centennial Kick-Off set for next Friday!

In celebration of its 100th year as an established city within Emanuel County, the city of Twin City will host a centennial kick-off ceremony Friday, Feb. 26, from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m. The event will take place at the Twin City Welcome Center and will include a tour of the old city jail that has recently undergone renovation s. At this particular celebration, Twin City will highlight the mayors of Twin City from 1936 to current. The list of mayors the city has on file are as follows:

Wade Corley, 1936; H V Durden, 1937; J Roscoe Brown, 1938; O.A. Johnson, 1939; Max L. Kingery, 1940; Carl E. Durden, 1941; O A Johnson, 1942; W C Bishop, 1943; Carl E. Durden, 1944; L E Grey, 1945; W R Brown Sr., 1946; J F Mathis Jr., 1947; W C Bishop, 1948; L E Grey, 1949; W C Bishop, 1950; W P Trull, 1951; Clyde C. Durden, 1952; W R Brown Sr., 1953; W R Bishop; 1954; J Thomas Durden, 1955; O A Hall Sr., 1956; Carl Grimes, 1957; J H Durden, 1958; Dolan E Brown Jr., 1959-1963; J Howard Quarles, 1964-1969; John E. Whetsell, 1970-1979; F Dickson Durden, 1980-1999; Gene Baker, 2000-

2003; James Greenway, 2004-2015; Eileen Dudley, 2016-2019; and Matt Donaldson, 2020-present.

Did you know: The 1st through 15th mayors of Twin City are unknown. With no documentation to validate who served in the City of Twin City, no names can be provided

at this time. The City of Twin City encourages anyone with information pertaining to individuals who served as mayor of Twin City from 1921-1935 to contact the Twin City City Hall. Pictures of Twin City (Graymont and Sumit) throughout the years are also encouraged to be shared.

BOBCAT SPOT

What's going on at your hometown college!

Bobcat Athletics Week in Review: February 1 - 6

The EGSC Bobcats kicked off last week with a busy day on Tuesday, Feb. 2, when the Bobcat Baseball team took on Columbia International College JV in a double-header, taking the first game 7 - 1 and the second 13 - 0.

The Lady Bobcats Softball team followed with a double-header against Brewton Parker JV, taking the first game 4 - 2 and the second 13 - 5.

Rounding out Tuesday's action was the Lady Bobcat Basketball team, taking on Georgia Highlands for an overtime loss of 69 - 77. They took to the court again on February 6 against the Highlanders and played well, but ended the game with a loss 61 - 68. They will be back in action again on Tuesday, Feb. 16 against Albany Tech at home!

The Men's Bobcat Basketball team's scheduled faceoff against Spartanburg Methodist on Saturday was cancelled, and they took on South Georgia State yesterday. The Lady Bobcat Softball team's double-header against USC Union on Saturday was postponed and will be played at a later date, and they took the field yesterday against Spartanburg Methodist. Those scores will be reported in next week's Spot!

EGSC has now begun allowing fans to join us at softball and baseball games! At this time, no fans are allowed at basketball games and livestreams are still forthcoming. Fans attending baseball and softball games must social distance and wear face coverings, as well as stay in their own groups and not visit with other groups. Bleachers are still off limits, so fans must bring their own seating. No fans are allowed near dugouts, and no food or drinks may be brought to the dugouts. We also ask that there are no gatherings or visits with players between games or in the parking lots after games. Fans who enter the PE building to use the restrooms are required to wear face coverings. Thank you for observing all rules, and we look forward to you joining us in supporting our Bobcats!

Don't forget, you can see photos from our games on our Flickr account at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/egcpr/sets/>

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- February 10 - 16 - 12 Week Session Drop for Non-Attendance Add Back
- February 10 - Sheppard Blood Drive - 10 a.m.
- Kahoot Black History Month Trivia - 11 a.m.
- Self-Love Workshop - 6 p.m.
- February 11 - Red Hot Thursday - 8 a.m.
- Criminal Justice Club Meeting - 1 p.m.
- DAR Meeting - 1:30 p.m.
- February 16 - BCM Club Meeting - 10:45 a.m.
- BCM Valentine's Event - 11 a.m.
- EGSC Women's Home Basketball Game* - 5:30 p.m.
- EGSC Men's Home Basketball Game* - 7:30 p.m.

*Due to COVID-19 concerns, no fans or spectators are allowed at home athletic events for basketball. Fans are allowed at home baseball and softball games, but must observe all rules.

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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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!

Cecil Lamar Brewer, Jr., 66

Mr. Cecil Lamar Brewer, Jr., 66, of Fernandina Beach, FL, passed away Monday, February 1, 2021. A memorial service to remember and celebrate his life will be held Friday, February 19, at 3 p.m. in the Burgess Chapel of Oxley-Heard Funeral Directors.

Mr. Brewer was born in Waycross to the late Cecil L. and Peggy Cox Brewer. He was raised in Swainsboro, and was a graduate of Swainsboro High School and East Georgia College. Mr. Brewer was a longtime officer with the Florida Marine Patrol. He originally came to the area from Key West in 1984. Shortly after his posting in Jacksonville, he moved his young family to Fernandina Beach in 1986. Mr. Brewer retired from the Marine Patrol in the early 1990's and worked for several years with the Florida Park Service until his last retirement. In his youth, he was an avid runner and swimmer, and enjoyed diving whenever he could. Always an outdoorsman, he loved camping, shooting, and fishing, especially floun-



BREWER

der gigging. Mr. Brewer was a noted story teller who enjoyed regaling his friends and family of his many adventures and experiences. He had become the Patriarch of his family and was the loving father of his three children, Melani Brewer (Jay) Akins of Lexington, SC, Brandon "Bo" Brewer and Jody Ferrell Brewer, both of Fernandina Beach; his grandchildren, Cole (Sarah) Meeks, Clay (Shayne) Akins, Marshall (Samantha) Meeks, Sydnie Meeks, and Morgan Meeks; his great-grandchildren, Brantley, Harper, Jaxon, and James; as well his brother, John Benjamin Brewer of Swainsboro.

Oxley-Heard Funeral Directors is in charge of arrangements.

Mary McIntyre, 76

Mrs. Mary McIntyre, age 76, of Vidalia, passed away Friday, February 4, 2021, at the Community Hospice House in Vidalia. A graveside funeral was held Saturday, February 6th, at 12 p.m. in the North Thompson Baptist Church Cemetery with Pastor Jason Davis and Elder Bill Torrance officiating.

Mrs. McIntyre was a native of Johnson County as a child, moved to the Dellwood Community in Emanuel County, and was a 1962 graduate of Swainsboro High School. She was a licensed cosmetologist, and worked many years with Georgia Ag Chem and Spivey State Bank in Swainsboro. Mary and her husband traveled with his career with Wal-Mart, and ultimately made Vidalia their home in 1994. She started with the City of Vidalia as Administrative Assistant to the city manager and the mayor, and retired as city clerk. To many she worked with at the city, she was affectionately known as "Queen Mary". Mary was a member of the Grace Community Presbyterian Church. Mrs. McIntyre is preceded in death by a granddaughter, Anna Leigh Wells; parents,



MCINTYRE

Evelyn and Oscar Price; three sisters, Arlene Price Horton, Nelouise Price Flanders, and Shelby Jean Price Smith; and one brother, Verlon Price.

Mrs. McIntyre is survived by her husband, Marvin McIntyre of Vidalia; three children, Michael (Rachel) Wells and Cassie McIntyre, both of Swainsboro, and Bishop (Torrey) McIntyre of Cadwell; a special daughter, Toni Corbin; six grandchildren, Emma, Lainey, Ethan, Katlyn, Sydney, and Reese; several nieces and nephews; and two special caregivers, Davina Franklin and Lucenda Chafen.

The family has suggested memorial contributions be made to Grace Community Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 1848, Vidalia, GA 30475.

Ronald V. Hall Funeral Home of Vidalia was in charge of arrangements.

Carolyn Gadson Boatwright, 67

Ms. Carolyn Gadson Boatwright, 67, of Midville, passed away Thursday, January 28, 2021, at Burke Medical Center following a brief illness. Graveside service was held Friday, February 5, 2021, at 2 p.m. at Lane Grove Baptist Church with Minister Christine Reese officiating. The family received friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, February 4, at Chapman Funeral Home. In compliance with the guidelines set by the CDC, 6-foot rule was enforced during visitation and service.

Pallbearers were Christopher Woods, Carlton Adams, Donnell Anthony, Jr., Andre Jackson, Jermaine Jackson, and Marcus Gadson.

Ms. Boatwright was born December 22, 1953, in Swainsboro, to the late Sam Gadson and Sally Bradley Gadson. She entered a welcoming place where she will rest in eternal peace. Ms. Boatwright was a very kind-hearted person that didn't mind helping others. She opened up her home to others and treated them like her own. Ms. Boatwright was a hard-working woman coming up in age. She loved being in the kitchen cooking for family and friends. Ms. Boatwright was an extraordinarily strong and outgoing person. She would go for a walk in the evenings to exercise her knees. Ms. Boatwright never went to bed at night, and she listened to some of her old music all night. She



BOATWRIGHT

would be up at night and sleep during the day. Ms. Boatwright is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Fred Willie Boatwright; and brothers, Robert Jones and Jessie James Gadson.

Survivors include her sons, Ronald Boatwright and Donald Boatwright, both of Midville, Jaquavius Woods of Swainsboro, and Christopher Woods of Hinesville; daughters, Trina Boatwright and Tamika Woods, both of Swainsboro, Jessica Woods, Justine Woods, and Robbie Woods, all of Midville; godchildren, Michelle Brinson, Irenette Brinson, and Terrance Brinson; brother, Joseph Gadson of Swainsboro; sisters, Robertha Gadson of Swainsboro, Josephine Jackson of Canoochee, and Earnestine Reese of Millen; grandchildren, Malaysha Adams, J'Smyne Adams, Carlton Adams, Jr., Tra'Layha Adams, Ashanti Car-swallow, and Mya Boatwright; several nieces, nephews, and many friends.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro was in charge of arrangements.

Robert Wilkerson, 80

Durden-Hudson Funeral Directors announces the death of Mr. Robert Wilkerson, age 80, of Twin City, on Sunday, February 07, 2021, at Pruitt Health in Swainsboro. Funeral services were conducted at Peebles-Curry Memorial Chapel on Tuesday, February 09, at 2 p.m. with Rev. Dale Wilkerson officiating. Visitation was Monday, February 08, from 5 - 7 p.m. at the funeral home. CDC social distancing guidelines were observed and masks were encouraged for the safety and health and well-being of others. Interment followed in the El Bethel Baptist Church Cemetery in Twin City.

Pallbearers were Craig Hendley, Roy Wilkerson, Bobby Wilkerson, LaRan Wilkerson, and Bobby Wilkerson, Jr.

Born in Ocala, Florida, Robert was the son of the late Roy and Willie Maude Arnold Wilkerson. He was an extremely hard worker, having "grown up" in the cotton fields. Later in life, he worked with Hodges-Moore Funeral Home doing whatever needed to be done. Mr. Wilkerson would work in the facility, at the cemetery, and with the service



WILKERSON

vehicles. He enjoyed gardening and he loved flowers. Robert had a green thumb and could grow anything. Mr. Wilkerson is preceded in death by his parents; sister, Catherine Garvin; and four brothers, Roy Wilkerson, Jr., Jimmy Lee Wilkerson, Tommy Wilkerson, and Bobby Ray Wilkerson.

Survivors include daughter, Virginia Steels of Ellabelle; sons, Earl Wilkerson of Claxton, Joe Wilkerson of Metter, and Dean Wilkerson of Twin City; sisters, Minnie Lanier of Millen, Vera Henderson of Swainsboro, Jean Shepard of Swainsboro, Brenda Coleman of Canoochee, and Diane Strickland of Canoochee; five grandchildren, two great-grandchildren; numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Durden-Hudson Funeral Directors was in charge of arrangements.

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Larry James Kea, 77

Tomlinson Funeral Home announces the death of Mr. Larry James Kea, 77, of Swainsboro. He passed away Tuesday, February 2, 2021, at Augusta University Medical Center in Augusta following a sudden illness. Private memorial services for Mr. Kea will be held Saturday, February 13, at 6 p.m. from the chapel of Tomlinson Funeral Home with Reverend Louis Pearce officiating. The family will receive friends at Tomlinson Funeral Home Saturday, February 13, from 4 until 6 p.m. During the visitation, social distancing and the use of a face covering is required.

Mr. Kea was born November 3, 1943, in Savannah, to the late George Robert Kea and Lila Frances Hooks Kea. In 1945, at the age of two, his family relocated to Swainsboro while Kea's father was stationed in Japan during World War II. While in Emanuel County, he met and married Margaret Neal of Twin City. From this union came one son and one daughter, Tim and Melissa. Mr. Kea managed Swainsboro Sportswear before moving to Union, South Carolina, where he managed LeTIGRE for many years. He later moved to Estill, South Carolina, and managed BEST Manufacturing. While in Estill, Mr. Kea met and married Lynn Ruth of Hampton, South Carolina. From this union came one daughter, Jami. In addition to Mr. Kea's roles in management, he was also a GED instructor. He was a member of



KEA

the Shriners Club and the Jaycees, as well as a member of Sandy Run Baptist Church in Hampton, South Carolina. He later returned to Swainsboro in 2010, where he resided until his death. Mr. Kea was a master carpenter and avid Coca-Cola collector. In his spare time, he enjoyed woodworking, fishing, and participating at the Senior Citizen Center in Swainsboro. Mr. Kea is preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include three brothers, Wayne Kea, Phil (Carrol) Kea, and Gene (Ann) Kea; one sister, Barbara "Bo" (Bill) Williams; three children, Timothy Allen (Terri Williams) Kea, Melissa Kea (Anthony) Frost; and Jami Kristina Kea; three stepchildren, Rachael (Bryan) Ruble, Rebecca Lee, and Heather (Thomas) Summerlin; grandchildren, Allen Kea, Abigail Kea, Ashleigh Williams, Peyton Williams, Hendrix Shelton, Michael Ruble, Hayden Ruble, Trevor Ruble, Thomas Summerlin, Kyleigh Summerlin, and Bradley Summerlin; and a host of uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Tomlinson Funeral Home of Swainsboro is in charge of arrangements.

Mitchell L. Wilson, 59

Mr. Mitchell L. Wilson, 59, of Twin City passed away Saturday, February 6, 2021 at Comfort Care in Wadley following an extended illness. Memorial Service will be private at a later date.

Mr. Wilson was born in Macon on March 7, 1961, to Irvin J. Wilson, Sr. and Ora Lee Bennett Odom. He was a graduate in Santa Monica, California. Mitchell liked spending time with family, being outdoors, and listening to music. Mr. Wilson is preceded in death by his father, Irvin J. Wilson, Sr. and brother, Andrew K. Wilson.

Survivors include his mother, Ora Lee Odom of Midville; brother, Irvin J. Wilson, II of Twin City;



WILSON

sister, Cynthia (Michael) Meeks of Oak Park; niece, Rosalee Wilson of California; nephews, Christopher C. Rickerson of Midville, Justin C. Allen of Oak Park, and Mathew Wilson of California.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro is in charge of arrangements.

Robert Kirkland, Jr., 74

Mr. Robert Kirkland, Jr., age 74, passed away January 27, 2021. He was laid to rest on February 6, in Swan Cemetery in Garfield with Rev. Amos Handsom officiating.

Mr. Kirkland, effectively known to some as little Rob through his young adult years and life in Twin City, and others as "Papa". He was born in Swainsboro on September 22, 1946, to the late Robert Kirkland, Sr. and Rose Lee Kirkland. Robert was the youngest of five children. He is preceded in death by his parents; sister, Jessie Smiley; and brother, Booker T. Kirkland.

Mr. Kirkland leaves to cherish his beloved wife, Annie I. Kirkland; three stepdaughter, Shellie Miller, Latosha Waters, and Elder Chayntina (Pastor Jamaal) Thomas; stepson, Cornelius Johnson; Godson, Pastor Northern



KIRKLAND

Dunbar, Jr.; three grandsons, Torrance, Donovan, and Nzimiro; six granddaughters, Dekalia, Ariel, T'Naya, Ty'Anna, Aaliyah, and Hadassah; two great-grads, Rain Layany and David IV; two sisters, Ruby Bigham of Augusta and Betty (Robert) Washington of Blythe; James Register of Hollywood, FL; six sisters-in-law; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and classmates.

Mosley's Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



JAMEY AND JENNI CHALKER

Hometown Public Servant: Jamey Chalker

This week's Hometown Public Servant is Jamey Chalker. Having served our country for a combined 20 years of service with the Army and National Guard, Chalker has been stationed in Iraq, Afghanistan and many other places. He was highlighted in CMT's American Soldier tribute, as well as in the "20 Under 40" publication of *The Forest-Blade*. In addition to serving our country, Chalker has found many ways to give back to his community, including serving as the 2016 Jaycees president and the 2020 Shrine Club president.

During a recent interview with Chalker, he gave credit for his willingness to serve to time spent in the military, where he was ranked as Sergeant First Class.

"After leaving the military, I felt a void in my life that needed to be filled. I chose to fulfill that void by serving our local community through the fire department. It's the thrill involved, I guess you could say, when responding in times of crisis. I love my community and being able to serve locally," Chalker stated.

Chalker has found fulfillment through working with the Swainsboro Fire Department and serving as chief of the Nunez Fire Department. According to Chalker, he has dedicated 10 years of volunteer fire services to the Swainsboro Fire Department and has also served in a fulltime capacity at the local station for the past four years.

Apart from serving both nationally and locally, Chalker also fulfills the duties of a husband and

father. He and his wife, Jenni, share love for five children who they are proud of, Colby Butler (19), Jarred Chalker (16), Jacob Chalker (14), Jade Anna Chalker (4), and the late Jaylen Chalker.

"What I love most about being able to serve our county versus our country is being able to see my family more. They don't like me being gone at night but accept that my dedication to the local community has to include nights away from home," Chalker stated.

When speaking on his current roles to the local community, Chalker's advice is simple, and that is to support your local public servants.

"It's important that local first responders, police, EMS, firefighters, Emanuel County 911 dispatch and other emergency personnel have the support from those that we serve. It can be hectic on us at times not knowing what emergency we will be responding to next and what we're going into, but we do it because that's what we signed up for. It's not for the money, but to support and serve the community. I encourage all members of the community to give a little more support to your local emergency personnel. We take stride in what we do and can only do so much with what we have but we use it to the best of our ability, and the support received from locals goes a long way," Chalker concluded.

Submit your nominations for Hometown Public Servant by emailing Whitley Clifton at forestbladereporter@gmail.com.

Angelia (Angie) Handberry Walker, 77

Mrs. Angelia (Angie) Handberry Walker, 77, of Garfield, passed away Saturday, January 30, 2021, at the Emanuel Medical Center following a brief illness. Graveside services were held on Saturday, February 6, at 2 p.m. in the Mt. Zion Cemetery with Pastor Matthew Davis, Sr., officiating and Rev. Johnny L. Branch presiding.

Mrs. Walker was born October 17, 1943, in Jenkins County. She was the eleventh child of twelve children born to the late Rev. George Willie Handberry and Mrs. Elizabeth Malone Handberry. Angelia was a graduate and educator in the Emanuel County Schools. She attended Savannah State University, where majored in Comprehensive Business Education. Mrs. Walker furthered her education at the university of Georgia, Georgia State



WALKER

University, and Georgia Southern University. She was well known in several counties where she taught school, and was a huge influencer to the lives of many. Mrs. Walker is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Johnny Evans Walker, Sr.; two sisters; and eight brothers.

Survivors include one son, John E. Walker, Jr. of Garfield; sister, Marie Burroughs of Garfield; grandchildren; a great-grandchild; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Mosley's Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Emanuel County's Covid-19 virus and vaccine update

According to the county commissioners' update on Tuesday, February 9, the total active cases of COVID-19 in Emanuel has increased from 47 to 49 since last week's COVID-19 update report.

The report on February 2 was as follows:

- 47 active cases
 - 2,310 confirmed cases
 - 2,193 recovered cases
 - 70 deaths
- This week's most updated information made available on February 9 is as follows:
- 49 active cases
 - 2,357 confirmed cases
 - 2,228 recovered cases
 - 80 deaths

Statics reported in the February 2 and February 9 reports reveal an increase of 2 active COVID-19 cases; an increase of 47 confirmed cases; an increase of 35 recoveries; and an increase in death by 10.

Newly implemented into the social media postings of Emanuel County Board of Commissioners is the Emanuel County Weekly COVID-19 Vaccination

Update. This data is the most up to date and is provided in a joint effort by the Emanuel Medical Center, East Georgia Healthcare Center, Emanuel County Health Department, Shop-Rite Pharmacy, and the Emanuel County Board of Commissioners.

The most recent report regarding 1A+ vaccinations was made Tuesday, February 9, and was as follows:

- Total vaccinations administered: 2,220
- Total to have received the first vaccination: 1,963
- Total to have received the second vaccination: 257

Please Note: Emanuel County Board of Commissioners strive to give Emanuel County the most up-to-date and correct information, with data coming from different state-wide sources. Please understand that sometimes information is delayed, and the county office will update information as soon as it is received. Be sure to follow the Emanuel County Board of Commissioner's Facebook page and turn your notifications "ON".

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The Road Ahead: 10 months after COVID comes to town business owner Wilkes speaks out

By Deborah Clark
Regional Editor, The Advance, Vidalia, Ga

Without doubt, the infusion of federal dollars kept communities afloat during the health pandemic in 2020, and financial experts project that Georgia's economy will remain resilient in 2021.

Area real estate brokers celebrated a stellar year in 2020. House construction and property sales reached a new zenith. Food service found a way to keep going—through takeout and delivery—but the hospitality indus-

try took a real hit and has not recovered. Big box stores, considered essential, boomed and sales tax soared. The revenue raked in by liquor retailers prompted one local official to quip that taxes from liquor sales were holding up the local economy. Municipalities ended the year with positive numbers—again because of federal infusions. Banks reported a decline in overdrafts and an increase in personal savings accounts.

Now, with the second round of the Payroll

Protection Program underway and the promise of more federal funding for the state through the second stimulus package, the road ahead doesn't look too dismal—at least on paper. But with a new presidential executive order for a \$15 per hour minimum wage as some businesses barely hang on, what does the remainder of 2021 really look like?

In May of 2020, *The Advance* polled a group of local business owners who were just emerging from abrupt closures in March. The various ways they approached getting back to business were varied, but they were all united in their determination to weather the storm.

When the pandemic struck, Wes Wilkes, owner of Hardware Pizza in Lyons said his restaurant reinvented itself. Wilkes took stock of not only the status of his business but also the welfare of the community. He kept serving customers through takeout service and also turned his restaurant into a community market.

Since people were not permitted to dine inside because of pandemic protocol, Wilkes began to offer items that customers were



WILKES IN THE KITCHEN

having trouble finding in the grocery stores. He sold French fries, beef, chicken breasts, chicken fingers, sugar, flour, and yes, toilet paper. In one of the oddities of the early days of the pandemic, panic buying emptied the shelves at even the big box stores of the commodity. Wilkes said of the service he provided customers as the pandemic struck, "We are still stocking some items, but the community market has pretty much played itself out."

Additionally, during the early days of the pandemic, Wilkes launched "Hardware to Go," a service that offered entrees for two that were available as

takeouts and could be cooked at home. He also implemented "Heroes and Pizza," an undertaking that honored front-line medical workers and first responders. The project offered 10 pizzas for \$100 and many community members stepped up and bought pizzas to feed local heroes. "We made about 300 pizzas for 30 community events," Wilkes said. He also opened outside dining until health protocol prohibited that. "We tried to push the envelope to keep things as normal as possible because it's a tough time and we need normalcy," he said in the May interview.

Now in the first month of 2021, everyday life is hardly back to normal for most, but Hardware Pizza's owner is encouraged. "We are still seeing the effects of COVID, but a lot of our business has returned and that has been a pleasure and a blessing." Since he was interviewed in May, Wilkes has maintained a safe, socially-distanced dining room, but that was not hard to accomplish in his spacious venue. "Under health code guidelines we are running a reduced-size dining area with fewer chairs, but the spacing of our tables goes beyond health guidelines. We are proud that people can come in here and sit comfortably."

At this point, Hardware Pizza's in-house dining sales have eclipsed the takeout service. "We took our biggest hit the last of March and first of April in 2020. We have been on a steady incline since then," a fact for which Wilkes expresses gratitude. "So many businesses are struggling."

During the pandemic, Wilkes was able to keep all employees who wanted to stay, but like Owens at Steeplechase, he admits to having difficulty in finding workers. "We are in a constant process of hir-

ing to improve staff. There is a lack of people wanting to work." Wilkes thinks the mandate for \$15 per hour minimum wage will put a strain on all businesses. "It's good for people to come out of poverty levels, but for businesses, it cuts into their income. Business owners will say maybe it's time to raise prices." He elaborated, "A lot of businesses operate on a very fine margin. A mandatory increase in minimum wage will hurt the businesses if they are not able to manage sales and the costs of goods. I see it (prices) all going up. It is the only way to survive."

Wilkes said he tells his employees, "The harder you work, the more I pay. I want to keep you here." He said he is not really interested in applying for the PPP right now. "We are all sitting around waiting to see what new administration will do. They're already squabbling in Washington. It's so hard to predict."

The restaurant owner agreed that employers will have to do what they are mandated to do, so for now, he will take each day as it comes. "But you have to have a vision for the future or you will always be in a day-to-day operation and that's not where we want to be." He said he is always looking to hire and innovate, find new ways to satisfy his customers, and increase business. But for him, it's more about quality than quantity. "There is a buffer line. We have a small kitchen and there is only so much business we can do out of that kitchen."

Wilkes has been uplifted as he has seen customers return, but admits, "It's hard to predict whether more people will be coming back out after getting used to staying at home. We are prepared to go back to takeout if that is what is required. We will weather the storm that is COVID."

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Henry and Braswell make wedding plans

Jamie and Brenda Henry of Adrian are excited to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kara Henry, to Hunter Braswell, son of Matt and Catina Braswell of Swainsboro. Miss Henry is a 2016 graduate of David Emanuel Academy and a 2018 graduate of East Georgia State College. She will graduate from Georgia Southern University in the Fall of 2021 with a Bachelor's degree in Business Management. Mr. Braswell is a 2017 graduate of Swainsboro High School and a 2019

graduate of East Georgia State College. He will graduate from Georgia Southern University in the Spring of 2021 with a Bachelor's degree in middle grades education. The bride-elect is the granddaughter of the late James and Margaret "Peggy" McClendon of Swainsboro and Betty Henry Hudson and the late Kenneth Henry of Adrian. The groom-elect is the grandson of Larry and Debbie McDaniel of Swainsboro, Sarah Farrow of Swainsboro, and the late Walter Braswell of Yemassee,



BRASWELL AND HENRY

SC. The wedding is set for June 5, 2021, at 7 p.m. at The Barn at Collins Family Farm in Cobbtown. A reception will follow at the same location.

Welcome baby Mason Olivia Watkins

Megan and Dustin Watkins of Swainsboro are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Mason Olivia Watkins. Born at the University Hospital in Augusta on April 20, 2020 at 2:39 p.m., she weighed 7 lbs. and 10 oz. and was 20" long.

Mason Olivia is the granddaughter of Tracy and Keith Thompson, Tammy and Glen Watkins, and Amanda Braddy, all of Swainsboro. She is also the great-granddaughter of Gail Thompson of Nunez, Sharon Manning of Swainsboro, Bonnie and Milton Womack of Swainsboro, the late Billy Thompson of Nunez, the late Reba and Fred Mason Sr. of Swainsboro, and the late Herbert and Lucille Watkins of Swainsboro.

Baby Mason was welcomed home by her older sister, Millie Layne Watkins.



MASON OLIVIA WATKINS

EGSC professor receives doctoral degree from GSU

Jing Kersey, Associate Professor in Mathematics at East Georgia State College, received her DrPH (Doctor of Public Health) in Biostatistics from Georgia Southern University (GSU) in July 2020. Dr. Kersey joined the Department of Mathematics at East Georgia State College in 2010 as an instructor after earning her master's degree in Statistics from GSU. At EGSC, she teaches College Algebra, Elementary Statistics, and Calculus II & III. She is also an eCore instructor teaching Elementary Statistics and Quantitative Reasoning. Dr. Kersey received the 'Distinguished Faculty Award' in both 2015 and 2019.

"Dr. Kersey is a valu-

able member of the Mathematics Department and the School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. She is an excellent teacher and colleague. I am very proud of her accomplishment," said Dr. David Chevalier, Interim Dean of the School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at EGSC.

Besides teaching, Dr. Kersey is actively involved in research on the statistical evaluation of diagnostic tests. She has co-authored a few journal articles and two book chapters in this area. Developing open educational resources (OER) in college-level statistics and mathematics is one of her commitments. She is the Editor-in-Chief and contributor of the OER

textbook Healthcare Economics.

"Dr. Kersey's contribution to the EGSC community has been outstanding to say the least," said EGSC Mathematics Department Chair Dr. Da'Mon Andrews. "The reception of her DrPH will only strengthen her service to our students, community, and provide an additional depth of expertise to the EGSC faculty. My colleagues and I extend our congratulations to Dr. Kersey on this great accomplishment."

Dr. Kersey is a proud member of the Georgia Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (GMATYC), American Statistical Association (ASA), International Biometric Society East-



DR. KERSEY

ern North American Region (ENAR), and Public Health Students Association (PHSA).

Despite her busy schedules, Dr. Kersey enjoys life with her husband, two young daughters, and three dogs in Statesboro, GA. She likes gardening, cooking and reading.

St. Phillip Center of Hope Food Pantry

Free food boxes will be disbursed Saturday, Feb. 13, at 9:30 a.m. at 220 S. Racetrack St. First come, first serve!

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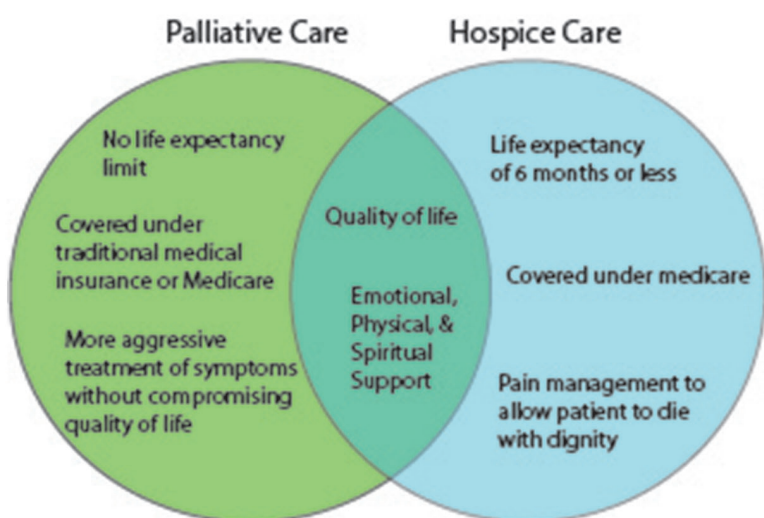
Dr. Gonzalez received his Doctor of Medicine degree from Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, Georgia, and practiced his residency at Emory University Medical Center, Atlanta, Georgia.

He is certified by the American Board of Urology, and will be seeing patients at Meadows Health Urology.

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February 9, 1961

Taking the Title

Glada Hooks, SHS forward, pumps one towards the bucket in Saturday night's championship battle of the Central Savannah River Area girls' tourney. Looking on is Sylvia Hooks (10), SHS forward, who was both high scorer and Most Valuable Player for the tournament. Edgefield's Polly Tompkins attempts to stop the Swainsboro onslaught, but to no avail. Swainsboro won the game, 60-32, and captured the championship. (Visit emanuelcountylive.com to see photos)

Miss Avery named Betty Crocker S.H.S. Homemaker
Llewelyn Avery has been named the Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow from SHS according to Mr. W. C. Fordham, principal. The announcement came after the results of the national Betty Crocker homemaker tests were announced. On Dec. 6, all senior class girls took a standardized test on homemaking knowledge and aptitudes. This test was a part of the Betty

Crocker Search for the American Homemaker of Tomorrow. The tests were graded by Science Research Associates and the highest scorer in each school was designated local school winner.

February 10, 1971

Compare schools

Visitors from Argentina discuss their school customs, curriculum and dress codes with local Parent-Teacher Association members. The Argentine visitors were included in a panel discussion at last Wednesday's SPS and SES PTA meeting. Panelists were, from left, seated: Graciela Corazza, Olga Ceja, Irene Bianco, Mrs. Jim Buckley, Jorge Villuendas, Maria Lasarte; standing: Aulbert Kinsaul, Teresa Ochoa, Hilda Gugliemone, and Mrs. Raymond Mason. (Visit emanuelcountylive.com to see photos)

Final preparations

Jim Prevatte (second from left), director of the land and water division, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (BOR) discusses plans for construction of Harmon

Park in Swainsboro with Swainsboro Mayor R.J. Waller, Jr. and Ed Schwabe, Chairman, Emanuel Chamber of Commerce recreation and youth activities committee. At left is Burt Weerts, who accompanied Mr. Prevatte to Swainsboro. Grant for construction of the park has been approved by BOR. (Visit emanuelcountylive.com to see photos)

February 11, 1981

See my dinosaur

Jay Irvin and David Clemens, from left, students in Mrs. Annette Woodard's first grade class at SPS, show the dinosaurs they made in class to Dr. Hulon Madeley during a program at the school. Dr. Madeley, professor of geology at Emanuel County Junior College, presented a program on dinosaurs during a regular class session for the first graders. Fossils, dinosaurs, samples of whale bones and other items were inspected by the students during the presentation. (Visit emanuelcountylive.com to see photos)

Lawmen of the year

Swainsboro Exchange Club President Jerry Cadle, second from right, presents awards to Lawmen of the Year named in Tuesday night's meeting. Accepting the "Bobby Powell" Award, named in memorial to the late Police Chief Bobby Powell, is Police Chief Bill Hendley (center). Other Lawmen of the Year include left, Fire Chief J.D. Wilkerson, State Patrol Trooper Danny Terry, and Deputy Sheriff Hildred Corbin. Observing ceremonies is guest speaker L. Carey Bittick, Monroe County Sheriff and president of the National Sheriffs' Association. (Visit emanuelcountylive.com to see photos)

February 13, 1991

In your honor

Mrs. Tanya Lamb, teacher at SES, presents to Principal James A. Harper, the flag which flew over the U.S. Capitol in Washington in his honor. Mrs. Lamb had requested that the 5x6' flag be flown over the capitol in honor of Mr. Harper and the students at SES. Assisting with the presentation are students Tony Frecker and Kevin Samples. Mrs. Lamb received a letter and certificate of verification from U.S. Senator Sam Nunn. (Visit emanuelcountylive.com to see photos)

ECI athletes sign

Two football athletes from ECI recently signed letters of intent to play college football. Head Coach Isiah Andres, center, announces that 6-3, 240-pound offensive tackle Reggie Mack, at left, son of Sara Mack of Stillmore, signed with Ft. Valley State College.

Defensive tackle Perry Fann, 6-4, 308-pound son of Helen and Perry Fann, Sr. of Twin City, at right, signed to play ball for Albany State College. (Visit emanuelcountylive.com to see photos)

February 14, 2001

Rocking the house

Swainsboro basketball players Tony Newton, Tre' Robinson, Aljeana Harden, Adrienne Moore, Charles Silas, Tracy Harden, Titus Peebles, Maurice Mincey, Rocky Trice and Shatoya Hunt expect Swainsboro's gym to be packed and rockin' during this week's tournament action. (Visit emanuelcountylive.com to see photos)

Donating to Sunshine House

Kiwanis Club of Swainsboro makes a contribution to The Sunshine House Children's Advocacy Center from donations they received during one of their many Christmas projects. Kiwanis Club chose to donate the proceeds from this Christmas project to The Sunshine House Children's Advocacy Center. Kiwanis president Gary Couse presents a check to Leah Rehberg, community education coordinator of The Sunshine House, as Kiwanian Chip Durden looks on. (Visit emanuelcountylive.com to see photos)

February 9, 2011

SHS Tigers poised for a run

The Swainsboro Tigers took both games this past week with ease and are starting to hum like a well-oiled machine. It took some time for their true identity to emerge as they struggled with consistency early in the season, but as the regular season draws to a close this week, they appear ready for the test. (Visit emanuelcountylive.com to see photos)

The Smack Down on SMS wrestling

The 2010-2011 wrestling season at SMS was a great success. The team competed in weekly duals against Dublin, Vidalia, West Laurens, East Laurens, Dodge County, and Toombs County. The region tournament was held January 28, 2011, at West Laurens High School with seven teams participating. Members of the SMS Wrestling team are as follows: Chris Atkinson, Cody Atkinson, Vincent Gomez, Jacori Culbreth, Jyreal Jackson, Zykell Brown, Clyde Fowler, Rodunshae Carlton, Keon Burke, Darrel Royal, Timothy Stanford, Seth Anders, Quarvell Harris, and Jackson Edenfield. Coaches are Justin Coleman, Chase Marsh, Christopher Moore, and Kristy Clemens. (Visit emanuelcountylive.com to see photos)

Swainsboro Elementary School announces

honor students

According to Swainsboro Elementary School Principal Valorie Watkins, the following students have made honorary status during the second nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year:

Third grade

Star Honor Roll

Sereniti Clark, Jazlyn Jackson, Stetson Sheppard, Donavan Clements, Adreyen Luckel, Sakiyna Sanders, Cierra Thomas, Banks Burke, Ansley Frye, Maddux Hendrix, Alice Acosta Lopez, Kaylee Screws, Ashlyn Turner, Harper Ware, Jocelyn Williams, Morgan Jackson, Emberly Luckel, Levi Phillips, Paityn Sherrod, Ester Figueroa-Ramirez, Juan Jackson, Gregory Parker, Lyley Mills, Cade Colston, Jayce Cox, Addi Rae Robertson, Callen Sapp, Abi Torpy, Gavin Veal, Teresa Lane, Sa'Riyah Smith, Amelia Taylor, O'Bryan Clarke, Channing Smith, Jordan Smith, Kayden Smith

Honor Roll

Trinity Allen, Jared Garcia De La Cruz, Maria Yaretzy Marcelo Cruz, Jasien Lovett, Za'Kiyla Ricks, Landon Green, Edyn Henry, Luis Lopez, Brooklynn Peebles, Kirstin Coleman, Arleth Ambrosia-Cruz, Jayley Hart, Jennifer Hernandez, Maxwell Hooks, Gabe Sammons, T'ayla Scott, Jude Thompson, Madison Williams, Matisyn Benjamin, Kabry Burrell, Aviana Harris, Jazalyn Jackson, Elena Martin, Tanner Smith, Adam Strickland, Zoey Thompson, Samaria Givens, Raelyn Romig, Savannah Morris, Jayden Pate, John Perez Hernandez, Aubree Roberts, Daniel Rosas, Calli Fields, Bowyn Harvey, Ava Patel

Fourth Grade

Star Honor Roll

RayAnna Burnette, Christopher Barrett, Haley Brooks, Kaitlyn Hughes, Parker Outlaw, Sara Talledo, Isis Trice, Cayden Hutcheson, Levi Bishop, Jamir Carter, London Clark, Zayden Cuyler, Jeremiah Davis, Christian Pullen, Jada Warner, Raymond Williams, Andrew Wu, Annalise Burke, Brennan Collins, Alexis Rowland, SanQuan Benjamin, Adalia Cloud, Kaybreigh Hostilo,

Rayleigh Hutcheson, Sydney Lively, Stella Kate Marsh, Melian Ramos-Perez, Maritza Saldana-Martinez, Colt Sconyers, Bowen Ware, Ayden Bishop, Hannah Camarero, Ansleigh Edenfield, Jeslee Hernandez-Puon, Raylin Stapleton, McKinley Walden, Raleigh Walls, Ne'Veah Connor, Ry'ion Harris, Zaelon Huston, Brinley King, Raylen Tillman, Joy Conley, Otto McNeal, Hadley Woods

Honor Roll

Kyliee Clark, Tristian Schoen, Khymmerre Bell, Lillian Beneteau, Josheua Lockett, Ja'riah Williams, Belen Ambrosio, Owen Cheeks, Lidiya Davis, Peyton Deriso, Teno'Jay Parker, Steven Pierre, David Bear, Addison Denney, Shaniyah Marion, Hayden Wren, Jurnee Wynn, Mylie Beneteau, Emma Peebles, Ashton David, Chianti Mosley, Cristian Santiago, Jamar Sherrod, Ki'Montae Smith, Jayla Clark, Ty'Landon Hackett, Payton McCullough, Ryan McKenzie, Skylee Meller, Bentley Peebles

Fifth Grade

Star Honor Roll

Kamm'Rynn Bell, Chloe Boulineau, Amelia Grace Clements, Weston Lee, Eduardo Ortiz-Moreno, Safia Prentice, Landon Akridge, Lake Bush, Ethan Mason, Santavious Roberts, Edward Rodriguez, Mariska Hutcheson, Chloe Livingston, Sara Pierre, Miranda Rich, Christopher White, Jayda Daniels, Dayna Tillman, Sara Smith, Gracee Allen, Kali Brown, Ava Mack, Arlin Swanner, Savannah Thompson, Caleb Dolph, Savannah Jackson, Elijah Holley

Honor Roll

Alexander Fuentes Garcia, Nikirra Robinson, Gatlin Martinez, Eldridge Richardson, Kamauri Moses, Levi Hall, Landon Claxton, Logan Claxton, Jared Coleman, Aiyannah Cuyler, Kandis Smith, Ason Wheeler, Za'Layshia Freeman, Johnny Allen, Toriah Williams, Jerome Long, Layla Headrick, Gzourney Gardner, Bethany Hall, Hanley Moorman, Adrian Odom, Mason Fleming, Jamarri Holmes

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PAM AKRIDGE PRESENTS CHECK TO D. JONES

Jones wins \$160 in monthly giveaway

Kristi Jones was the winner of *The Forest-Blade's* January give-a-way celebrating 160 years. Pictured is Debbie Jones, Kristi's mother, receiving the check. In honor of *The Blade's* 160th anniversary, we will be giving away \$160 each month through different promotions, and in December we will give away \$1600!

Fall 2020 Dean's List at Georgia State University

Georgia State University has named outstanding students to the Fall 2020 semester Dean's List.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, degree-seeking students must have earned a GPA of at least 3.5 for a minimum of nine semester hours of academic credit taken at Georgia State during the fall or spring term with no incompletes for the semester. Eligible students must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 for all classes taken at Georgia State.

majoring in Pre-Psychology, was one of the students to make placement on Georgia State University's Fall 2020 Dean's List.

Georgia State University, an enterprising urban public research university, is a national leader in graduating students from widely diverse backgrounds.

The student body of nearly 52,000 demonstrates that students from all backgrounds can achieve at high rates with unsurpassed connections to the city's business, government, nonprofit and cultural organizations.

Students from our area include:

Cynthia Salinas of Stillmore, studying/

Bright celebrating seven years as manager of Main Street Market

The Downtown Development Authority of Swainsboro approached Michael Bright in January 2013. They gave him 90 days to improve Main Street Market (MSM). If not, they were going to close it down. Within those 90 days, more than 30 dealers moved in, and by the end of the year 2014, the 12,000-square-foot building was filled with more than 60 dealer booths and a waiting list. The rest is history. Despite being closed for more than a month in 2020 due to Covid, Main Street Market is breaking records. When they opened back up on May 1, it was the largest month in sales ever for Main Street Market since Bright took over as manager, and sales have been increasing every month since. As a matter of fact, MSM has more sales in 2020 than in 2019, and that's including being closed due to Covid. January is usually the slowest month of the year, but January 2021 is now the largest month in sales ever within the past seven years. MSM has more than 150 new visitors sign their guest book every month, and 250 guests signed it just in January 2021. Visitors from all 50 states and 16 countries have signed the guest book since the 2014 opening of Main Street Market. MSM also has seen their Facebook following grow to more than 8,000 followers. The Music Memories Museum located inside

Main Street Market has been a draw, helping to bring in visitors. It was recently acknowledged as a must-see tourist attraction on the website roadsidemerica.com. The museum is Bright's private collection, and it's one of the largest private collections of autographs, personal items and personal clothing once owned by country music, rock 'n roll and R&B singers this side of Nashville, TN.

Bright was in the music industry for more than 20 years. He decided the museum would be a great accent, being Swainsboro has a lot of local music history, such as Hank Williams Jr.'s first time performing on a stage in Swainsboro in 1958 at the age of 8. He performed on the Nancy Auditorium stage with his mother, Aubrey Williams. You will see a personal suit once owned by Hank Williams Jr. in the local music history display. You will also see items in the museum once owned by Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, Frank Sinatra, Jerry Lee Lewis, Janice Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, James Brown, Aritha Franklin, Michael Jackson, Whitney Houston, George Jones, Loretta Lynn, Kenny Rogers, and Dolly Parton. There are also hundreds of other items, and it's no cost to view the museum. Main Street Market is located at 215 West Main St. and is open six days a week, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

Read more on the website www.musicmemoriesmuseum.com or facebook.com/musicmemoriesmuseum.



There is, perhaps, no more reassuring picture of God's presence and protection than that of a shepherd leading and protecting his flock. That image from Psalm 23 brings us comfort and assurance whenever we face insecure moments when our lives are filled with uncertainties. It brings to memory the grace, goodness, mercy and might of our God.

In bringing Psalm 77 to a conclusion our author presents a picture of the Good Shepherd - the One who was with the children of Israel and of the One who could come as Redeemer and one day Ruler.

He writes, "You led your people like a flock, by the hand of Moses and Aaron."

Can you picture what he wanted those who read this Psalm to visualize in their minds? Seas writhing and convulsing, drenching rains falling from dark clouds that covered their path; skies that cried out and echoed with deafening thunder; flaming arrows flying above their heads; a whirlwind with noise and lightning; earthquakes that shook the ground under their feet. He wanted to remind them that through it all and in it all was their Creator-Sustainer-God who not only brought them into existence and would not let them perish, but had a plan and purpose for their lives.

Here then is what the Psalmist said to them then and is saying to us today: "Whenever life seems to be coming to an end it is only the beginning for My chosen. I am your Shepherd and will love you and lead you. You are mine and no one can take you from me! I'll always be with you."

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Cook of the Week

Featuring the recipes of...

Stella Robertshaw



Our "Cook of the Week" is Stella Robertshaw. She and her husband, Lewis, live in Yorkshire, England. The couple owns a plantation in Emanuel County and visits as often as possible. While here, they enjoy cooking and spending time with close friends, George and Gail Williamson. Here are three recipes Stella shared. Hope you enjoy!



From the kitchen of Stella

Yorkshire Pudding

4 tablespoons plain flour
2 eggs
quick dash of milk

Mix all ingredients with water added slowly to make a mixture that pours. Meanwhile, add olive or vegetable oil to a baking tin. Place tin in a hot oven until oil sizzles, then add batter mix to tin. Bake for 15 minutes, or until batter rises. Don't open oven door until cooking is finished or it will sink! In Yorkshire, we eat it with gravy either before or with roast beef.



From the kitchen of Stella

Wylde Green Chicken

6 chicken breasts
2 tbsp peanut butter
2 cloves garlic chopped
2 tbsp olive oil
1 tsp dried mustard
1 tsp paprika
1 tsp chili sauce
1 tbsp dark rum or wine vinegar
1/2 pint water

Mix peanut butter, garlic half the oil. Lay the chicken in dish, pour over mixture and leave to stand for at least 30 mins. In a large frying pan heat rest of oil, add mustard, paprika. Tip chicken with marinade into pan and sauté until colored. Cut them into pieces in pan and add chili sauce, rum and water and cook over a low heat until cooked through (usually 10 mins). Serve with new potatoes or rice and green salad.



From the kitchen of Stella

Jam Buns

Jam
8 oz self-rising flour
4 oz sugar
4 oz butter
1 egg

This recipe is at least 100 years old and has been made by all the generations of my family! Mix all ingredients except jam, like you would mix pastry. Roll into rounds (like a sausage shape). Cut into biscuit shapes and stick your finger into middle of each one and plop in some jam. Bake at 375 degrees for 10-15 minutes. Leave to cool before burning your throat!

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Pastor David Oliver**Adrian United Methodist Church**
Adrian • 668-3559
Pastor Mark Hardin**Antioch Primitive Baptist Church**
827 Antioch Church Rd., Twin City
Elder Jim Bowen**Beacon of Hope Church of God**
560 East Pine St., Swainsboro 237-8509 •
Pastor John Hancock III**Bithynia Primitive Baptist Church**
2270 Hwy. 1 North, Swainsboro**Blackville Church of God**
12106 Hwy. 15 South, Adrian
912-529-4959 • Rev. Kipp Boswell**Blundale Baptist Church**
2675 Hwy. 1 North, Swainsboro
494-8538 • Brother Shannon Boula**Brown's Chapel Center of Deliverance**
515 N. Green St., Swainsboro
289-0075 • Rev. Frankie O'Neal**Calvary United Methodist Church**
21 South Main St., Swainsboro
237-2191 • Rev. Mark Miller**Canoochee Baptist Church**
Canoochee • Rev. Mark Wiggins**Church of Jesus Apostolic Faith**
511 Miller Dr., Swainsboro • 237-5566
Elder Willie Freeman**Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**
463 West Meadowlake Pkwy.
Swainsboro • 237-2645**Coleman Chapel AME Church**
1 Kemp Rd., Swainsboro
Rev. Samuel A. Cooper Jr.**Coleman Temple Holiness Church**
Dogwood Hill Subdivision
Rev. Robert Coleman Sr., Pastor**Community Baptist Church**
342 Market St., Swainsboro • 237-6585
Rev. Lenard Richards**Consuming Fire Ministries**
710 Sycamore St., Swainsboro
299-4826
Pastor Nicholas Robertson**Corinth United Methodist Church**
1989 Meeks Rd., Kite
Wes Webb, Pastor • 668-3372**The Crossroads Church**
529 South Main St., Swainsboro
912-237-3498 • Rev. Wayne Nichols**Dellwood Baptist Church**
P.O. Box 645
Hwy. 1 North, Swainsboro
Rev. Joe Bedgood**Divine Full Gospel Teaching Ministry**
10 Maple Rd., Twin City
289-8260 • 289-6086
Bishop Nathan Clark
Pastor Mable Clark**Dunamous Alliance Mission Outreach**
(Angel Food Ministry)
Missionary Leon Griffin • 237-7775**Eastwood Church of God**
512 Thigpen Dr., Swainsboro • 237-5522
Pastor Andrew Flowers**Ebenezer United Methodist Church**
Kemp • 706-547-6355
Rev. Clarence A. Thompson Sr.**El Bethel Baptist Church**
Twin City • 763-2001 • Pastor Rob Gray**Emanuel Christian Ministries**
1338 Lambs Bridge Road**Emanuel Community Baptist Church**
Adrian**Emanuel Worship Center**
915 Old Nunez Rd., Swainsboro
912-585-7571 • Reverend Kenneth Edge**Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd**
621 West Main St., Swainsboro
237-7122 • Rev. Curtis Johnson**Faith Outreach Deliverance Church**
216 S. Green St., Swainsboro • 237-7545
Pastor Lorene Peebles**First Baptist Church**
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237-7564 • Pastor Casey Shaw**First Baptist Church of Twin City**
Twin City • Pastor Bill Perry
478-763-2654**First United Methodist Church**
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237-7535 • Rev. David Unkles**Franklin Grove United Methodist Church**
Swainsboro**Friendship Free Will Baptist Church**
Twin City • 912-585-4805
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Pastor Bob Conley**Garfield United Methodist Church**
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Pastor Bryan Price • 912-425-1066**Gateway Worship Center**
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455-2033 • Rev. Jan Brantley**Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church**
195 Lexsy/Nunez Rd., Swainsboro
279-2288 • Rev. Mario D. Webb**God's Tabernacle**
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Pastor Richard Herndon**Greater St. James Missionary Baptist Church**
423 Hopkins St., Swainsboro • 237-5873
Rev. Melvin Adams Jr.**Hawhammock Baptist Church**
27 Hawhammock Church Rd., Swainsboro
237-3429 • Rev. Cail Pressey**Hebron Baptist Church**
Old McLeod Bridge Rd., Swainsboro
237-6107 • Rev. Ervin Stapleton**Hillcrest Baptist Church**
990 Hwy. 1 North, PO Box 347
Swainsboro
334-435-3711 • Rev. Jonathan Shepard**Hines Baptist Church**
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625-8678 • Pastor Billy Brinson**Holy Trinity Catholic Church**
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Apostle T.R. Pursley
Pastor Gary Hackett**Jesus Saves Church**
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Pastor Mark Hardin**Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses**
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237-4525**Kite First Baptist Church**
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Rev. Burton Dixon**Lamb's Chapel United Methodist Church**
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145 Kilpatrick St., Midville
589-7260**Midville United Methodist Church**
Midville • 589-7251 • 589-7837
Pastor Randy Carnley**Morningside Baptist Church**
Rt. 1, Soperton • Pastor James R. Bullard**Mount Olivet Baptist Church**
1593 Mt. Olivet Church Rd., Garfield
763-2411 • Pastor J. Randy Graham
Pastor J. Randy Graham**Mount Shady Baptist Church**
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Assistant Pastor Wayne Page**Mount Zion Primitive Baptist Church**
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Ephesians 4:2-3

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PRESIDENT SMITH, CHEERS, KNIGHT, AND T. GOODMAN

Cheers presents program to Kiwanis

The Kiwanis Club of Swainsboro held its weekly meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2021 at the New China Restaurant at 7 p.m. With President Dess Smith III presiding, there were 27 in attendance, including six Zoomers. The guests for the evening were Governor-Elect Byron Mullican, former Lt. Governor Gary Howard, Veronica Cheers, LaDerrica Knight, Eula Knight, Farrah Knight, Mary Knight and Yvette Knight. The whipped-cream pound cake, donated by Joe Ware, brought \$54 and was won by Travis Garrett. The Domino's pizza was donated by Domino's Pizza and was won by President Smith.

Tim Goodman hosted the program for the evening. He introduced Cheers, coordinator of Student Life at EGSC. Cheers is also the coordinator of the Bobcat Bridge. The Bobcat Bridge program was organized to ensure that students attending East Georgia State College would not be adversely affected in their academic studies due to their inability to provide basic needs. The program also fosters relationships among students, staff and faculty. She talked about how the program is sustained by donations and by grants.

The Kiwanis Club members brought items this week for the bridge, enough to

fill a pickup. Some student groups like Phi Theta Kappa volunteer to assist in the program. The program is a little smaller this spring because of lower enrollment due to Covid, but it usually serves about 300 students per year.

President Smith asked Governor-Elect Byron Mullican to come forward for two special presentations. Governor-Elect Mullican presented a Mel Hayden Award to EGSC Circle K member LaDerrica Knight and a Governor's Leadership Medallion to Kiwanian Deana Patrick. Knight sang for Kiwanis Club members at the end of the program. Also, Cheryl Goodman reported to the club on the pizza lunch for *The Forest-Blade* staff in appreciation for what they do for Kiwanis and the community.

If you would like to become a member of the Kiwanis Club, contact membership Chair Jane Durden at 478-494-4113 or e-mail her at hsdurden@bellsouth.net. Also, if you would like more information about the club and the many community service projects that they do each year, go to the Kiwanis Club's website at: <http://www.swainsborokiwanis.org> or to our Swainsboro Kiwanis Facebook page.

Georgia Farm Bureau members elect new president Tom McCall

Georgia Farm Bureau (GFB) members elected Tom McCall for a two-year term as president of Georgia's largest general farm organization on Dec. 8. McCall of Elbert County grows wheat, oats, triticale, grain corn, sweet corn and hay. The McCall family also raises beef cattle, hogs and sheep. McCall replaces Gerald Long, who retired from the position after serving as GFB president since 2016.



GEORGIA FARM BUREAU PRESIDENT McCALL

Committee from January 2005-2020. He also served on the House Game, Fish & Parks Committee, Natural Resources & Environment Committee and the Transportation Committee.

McCall and his wife, Jane, have two living adult children: Al (spouse Rachel) and Katie M. Archer (spouse Bristol). Their oldest son, Bud, died in 2000. The couple have two grandchildren, Winn and Wilkes, who love farm life. The McCalls attend Eliam United Methodist Church.

McCall has been a Farm Bureau member since 1978. McCall's first leadership role with Farm Bureau was serving as the chairman of the Elbert County Farm Bureau (ECFB) Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Committee. He represented GFB's 2nd District on the GFB YF&R Committee in 1981-82 and chaired the state committee in 1982. McCall represented GFB's 2nd District on the GFB Board of Directors from 1984-1996. He also served as ECFB president for a number of years.

McCall served in the Georgia House of Representatives for 26 years from Jan. 9, 1995, when he was sworn into office, until he retired from the legislature at the end of his 2020 term. As a state representative, McCall represented Georgia's House Dist. 33, which includes Elbert and Lincoln counties and portions of Madison, Wilkes and Columbia counties. McCall chaired the Georgia House Agriculture & Consumer Affairs

GFB members in the organization's North Georgia Region re-elected Bernard Sims of Caltoosa County to represent their region on the Georgia Farm Bureau Board of Directors for his fifth three-year term.

Daniel Johnson of Pierce County was re-designated the organization's 1st vice president by all GFB voting delegates. Johnson also represents GFB's South Georgia Region.

Robert Fountain Jr. of Emanuel County continues to represent the organization's Middle Georgia region on the

GFB Board of Directors in the third year of his seventh term. The GFB Middle Georgia Region includes 56 county Farm Bureaus in the middle third of Georgia. While serving on the GFB Board, Fountain has chaired the GFB Legislative, Finance and Insurance committees numerous times. He is the third generation to own his family's farm located in Emanuel and Johnson counties. He raises cattle, hay, timber, small grains and pecans.

Founded in 1937, the Georgia Farm Bureau Federation is the state's largest general farm organization with 158 county chapters. As a membership-driven, nongovernmental organization, GFB serves as the voice of Georgia farmers and rural Georgia by advocating for them on legislative issues and promoting Georgia commodities. Its volunteer members actively participate in activities that promote agriculture awareness.

GFB membership is open to the public and offers a wide variety of benefits, including insurance and discounts for health services, travel and family entertainment. Enrollment in any of the member benefits is optional and not a requirement for membership. If you would like more information about agriculture, please visit www.gfb.org, like Georgia Farm Bureau on Facebook @GeorgiaFarmBureau or follow on Twitter @GaFarmBureau.



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No matter where your little person lives or how old he or she is, their pictures will be accepted. The charge will be \$10.

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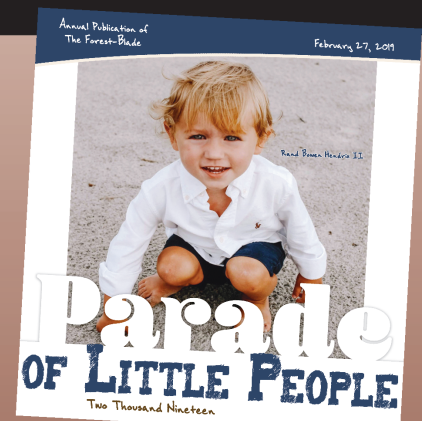
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ATTENTION PARENTS!

One photo will be selected for the cover of this year's Parade of Little People! For the chance to have your child on this year's cover, please submit your best photo. An additional \$5 entry fee is required.



ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FRI, February. 12th @ 4 pm

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Tigers dispatch Vidalia and Bacon County

by TROUP BRINSON
The Swainsboro Tigers (14-1) took two tough region opponents to the woodshed this past weekend, blowing out Vidalia 67-46 and Bacon County 55-40. The wins allow the Tigers to claim the #1 seed heading into the region playoffs next week as Swainsboro has dominated a stout Region 2-AA with a 11-0 record with just Jeff Davis remaining on the season schedule.



WASHINGTON PROVIDING INSTANT OFFENSE FOR SWAINSBORO

from Tyler Kelly and 12 points from Derrick Jones.

Bacon County visited on Saturday night and once again Swainsboro's defense was the key factor, limiting the Red Raiders to only 6 points in the opening quarter. Kelly scored 6 points by himself over that stretch in route to another strong performance. The Tigers slowly but surely pulled away from Bacon County to win by 15 points, led by Kelly's 11-point performance and Derrick Jones, Demonte Smith, and Flex Wash-

ington all scoring 9 points as Swainsboro dominated from the guard position.

Swainsboro will wrap up the regular season this Saturday night at home against a very tough Jeff Davis squad as the Tigers look to go a perfect 12-0 in region play. Woodville-Tompkins and Jeff Davis are currently tied at 6-3 for second place with games to play this week. Region playoffs are set to begin next week with Swainsboro playing over the weekend for another region crown.

The Tigers hosted region rival Vidalia in the Tigers' Den on Friday night and were far from hospitable to the Indians. Swainsboro pressed full court, and Vidalia struggled mightily to get into an offensive set, turning the ball over repeatedly as Swainsboro jumped out to a 12-0 lead early. Swainsboro led 29-22 at the half but turned on the jets midway in the 3rd quarter to pull away and take a 53-38 lead into the final period.

Fred Seabrough led the way with 16 points followed by 14 points

SECRD Basketball All-Stars to compete in district tournaments

Swainsboro-Emanuel County Recreation Department's 8U Boys, 10U Boys and 12U Boys All-star Basketball teams will compete in the Georgia Recreation and Park Association Class "B" First District Tournaments being held Feb. 16-19 in Springfield. Hosted by Effingham County Recreation and Parks, all three tournaments will be played at the Clarence E. Morgan Complex Gym.

Boys All-Star team are Jonquin McKinney, ShaRon Sherrod, Emery Watson, Justin Nobles, Cameron Williams, Terrance Coleman, KJ Coleman, Jayce Sherrod, Drake Clements and De'marion Jones. Coaches are Jonquin McKinney and Kawasquie Coleman.

Members of the 10U Boys All-Star team are Jayvion Sherrod, Malcolm Steele, Artis Kingsberry, Kamarion Dukes, Quintin Dukes, Ty'kevius Worthen, Caden

Watson, Zi'len Boynton, Ashton David and Charlie Fluellen. Coaches are David Coleman, Kawame Coleman and Quintin Dukes.

Members of the 12U Boys All-Star team are Jayden Butler, Elijah Smith, Cameron Woods, Landon Stapleton, Thomas Purvis, Demetreous Hamiel, Dexter Parrish, Calynn Fouts, Colten Lewis and Jacob Trey Faircloth. Coaches are Dexter Parrish and Michael Woods.

EGSC Correll Scholars Program accepting applications

The East Georgia State College Correll Scholars Program was established in 2014 by Mr. and Mrs. Pete Correll to prepare exceptionally promising students for the future as community leaders in our region. Students are selected for this full-tuition scholarship based on demonstrated scholarship, leadership and service. Students

selected for the Correll Scholars Program will participate in a one-hour credit course each semester that focuses on issues and challenges facing our region and work collaboratively to design solutions for those challenges. Students will also participate in service leadership programs and act as ambassadors for the college.

For more information, contact Michael Wernon at mwernon@ega.edu. To read more about qualifications and to apply for the scholarship, visit <http://www.ega.edu/correll>.

Applications for the 2021-2022 Correll Scholars Full-Tuition Scholarship Program are due by March 22, 2021. Apply today!

DEA Lady Eagles win two of three region games

On Tuesday, Jan. 26, David Emanuel Academy's Lady Eagles hosted The Habersham School in regional play, where the Eagles fell short of a victory by only nine points with a final score of 53-44. Scoring Eagle points were Bree Wimberly, 21; Sara Jo Perkins, 10; Ann Carol Daniel, 7; Liz Dye, 5; and Jordyn Bell, 1.

The Lady Eagles hosted another regional game on Jan. 29 against the Nathanael Greene Academy Patriots. The visiting team was sent home after the Eagles defeated them 41-35. Scoring points in the Eagles' win were Bree Wimberly, 17; Jordyn Bell, 9; Liz Dye, 7; Sara Jo Perkins, 6; and Ann Carol Daniel, 2.

On Feb. 1, the Lady Eagles travelled to The Habersham School in



DYE AT PLAY VS. NATHANAEL GREENE ACADEMY GAME

Savannah to face the Patriots again in regional play. The Eagles avenged their Jan. 26 loss by defeating the Patriots 51-45. Scoring points for the

Lady Eagles were Jordyn Bell with 9 points; Liz Dye, 11; Sara Jo Perkins, 6; Ann Carol Daniel, 2; and Bree Wimberly, 24.

FARM & CONSTRUCTION AUCTION SATURDAY

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CONSIGNMENTS ACCEPTED
February 15th - 19th
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UPCOMING AUCTION
March 27th - Springfield



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Sheriff's Reports

According to the Emanuel County Sheriff's Office...

January 26

Victim reported two separate thefts and stated an unsub stole a 100-piece Craftsman tool set out of the on 1/26/21 and two 20ft logging chains out of the bed of his truck on Atkinson Dr.

January 28

Deputies responded to a burglary forced entry on Friendship Church Rd. Complainant stated he cleaned his guns and put them back inside the gun safe on and left his residence around 17:30. When he returned the following day, he found some things out of place and noticed his screen door handle was broke off. C/o went inside and found his gun safe had been stolen containing appx. 8-9 guns inside it. He further stated he hid rifles in between the headboard of the bed and mattress of in the gun room and placed pillows on top of them and they were also stolen. C/o and deputy then walked to his shed where he stated he was missing several tools and a drill kit. C/o also stated he had around 20 fishing poles and a large amount of fishing tackle that was taken off his porch and fishing dock.

February 1

Vehicle was towed from McLeod Bridge Rd. due to being abandoned for over 24 hours. Complainant stated offender, which is his cousin's boyfriend, lives next door and keeps texting him and won't leave him alone and keeps going onto his property. Deputy clocked a vehicle running 120 MPH in a 70 MPH zone. Vehicle was all over the road and passing other vehicles. Complainant met with deputy I reference to advise about a custody issue with his wife. C/o explained that the witness separated from him and moved in with her grandparents. In the process of the witness leaving, she removed the children from the household to be under her custody. While the witness is living away from the home, she is also not allowing c/o to have visitation with the children. C/o has attempted to arrange times of visitation with his children and the witness explained to him that her lawyer advised her to not let him see the children for thirty days.

February 2

Deputy stopped a vehicle for a window tint and seat-belt violation. Driver stated his license has been suspended from a traffic violation in SC.

February 3

Deputy met with complainant in reference to stolen items. Deputy observed a vehicle pass another vehicle in the no passing zone and initiated a traffic stop. Upon making contact with the driver, he advised deputy that his license were suspended due to an old traffic ticket. Deputy responded to Hwy 23 S. residence in reference to a vicious pit bull that would not leave. Complainant state that her ex-boyfriend showed up at her residence with a metal baseball bat and tried to kick the door of her residence in because he wanted to fight her new boyfriend. C/o stated after the offender couldn't get in the front door, he took the baseball bat and busted the rear passenger side window of witness' vehicle then left. Deputy observed a vehicle make a turn without stopping at the stop sign, at which time he initiated a traffic stop and discovered the driver had a suspended license due to child support. Complainant stated he heard something behind him and turned around to find offender. C/o stated offender told him he had gotten fired so complainant told him he needed to leave and go home if he was fired but then c/o stated offender asked him several times if they had problems and c/o told him no. C/o then stated offender punched him twice and c/o grabbed offender to try and hold him down until someone could remove him from the property but offender caused c/o to fall and hit his

head on the corner of a table causing c/o to gash open his forehead. Deputies responded to Hwy 1 S. in reference to a verbal domestic dispute. Upon arrival, deputies spoke with both parties who advised they were arguing and one of the kids got scared and called 911 but that they were ok and were just having a heated argument, but it would not get physical. Deputies were dispatched to Hwy 80 W. in reference to a male laying on the side of the road. Deputy were dispatched to Mitzi Ln. in reference to a prowler. Deputies were dispatched to Hwy 23 S. in reference to a female walking beside the road. Deputy responded to Summertown to a report of 3 males in a van trying to open doors on houses. Complainant stated someone went onto his property. Deputy noticed a SUV stopping suspiciously I the area of Modoc Rd. An investigative stop was conducted and the driver was found to have outstanding warrants. Investigators went to Chandler Rd. to assist officer in a search of a residence that probationer had been staying. In the search, 2 firearms, a small amount of marijuana, and a device used for inhaling marijuana were located.

February 5

Complainant stated someone tried to break into her vehicle. Upon arrival, deputy noticed where someone attempted to bust the driver side window. Offender was taken into custody under an arrest warrant. Deputy made an arrest on I16 for speeding. Complainant stated she and offender got into an argument because he keeps messing around with other women and while she was on the phone with her mom, offender tried to take her phone and tried to hit her. Offender stated the reason he tried to take the phone is because c/o is always on the phone talking crap about him to other people and he was tired of it but he did not hit her. Deputy made an arrest on I16 for DUI. Deputies responded to Bird Flanders Rd. Upon arrival, contact was made with offender who had been observed by c/o as a suspicious male who appeared as if he had attempted to enter into the residence. When questioned, offender stated he was bored and had walked from Price Williams Rd. and was looking for a ride to Dellwood. Subject in question was known to EmCo Law Enforcement as a mentally ill and care dependent patient. Contact was made with offender's mother and was advised of the situation, and offender was transported back to his residence. Deputies received a 911 call from victim and stated before deputies arrived that she had left the scene and did not want to talk to a deputy. Later the same day, ECSO got a call from Candler Co. Hospital that victim was at their facility. Reporting deputy talked to victim by phone and refused to give information needed to file a family violence report.

February 6

Deputy made contact with offender on Griffin Ferry Rd. and further investigation revealed that offender had an active arrest through EmCo. Deputies assisted GSP with a single vehicle MVA where driver was DUI. 911 dispatched a call to Scarboro Church Rd. in reference to a domestic dispute. Upon arrival, deputy spoke with victim who stated his son jumped on him and hit him in the head several times, leaving a knot on his head and wanted EMS to check him out. Complainant was then transported to Metter Hospital. Offender was placed under arrest for simple battery family violence.

February 7

Deputy met with complainant on Hwy 80 E. in reference to a verbal dispute between both parties. C/o stated she was at another address because she wanted to get away from offender. C/o further stated offender showed up at that residence and threatened to burn all her belongings if she did not return home. Vehicle was found unoccupied and abandoned in the ditch on Canoochee Rd. Evidence showed the driver lost control and slid into the ditch. Complainant called in complaining that Flatts Lounge was playing loud music and that there were too many people there and someone needed to go shut them down. Deputy went to the area and sat down but was unable to hear any music being too loud.

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AGES 6-12

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Jail Report

The following persons have been booked into Emanuel County Jail, according to Emanuel County Sheriff Jeffrey Brewer, 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 (ECSSO); 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 (CSRUI); Intensive Probation Service (IPS); or Probation Office (PROB).

Joseph Wright Copeland, 36, 142 Hunnicutt Cir, entered 2/1/21; Disorderly conduct; released 2/1/21; ECSSO

Shane Wesley David, 34, 87 Sunset Dr, entered 2/1/21; Theft/taking; released 2/4/21; SMPD

Dakota Antoine Kelly, 28, 215 Watson St, entered 2/1/1; Probation/State Court/Middle Ga Probation; ECSSO

Zaire Jquill Powell, 24, 277 Peshine Ave, Newark, NJ, entered 2/1/21; Speeding <14 MPH over/Reckless driving; released 2/1/21; ECSSO

Terrance Jamar Gadson, 34, 376 Joe Frazier Rd, Beaufort, SC, entered 2/2/21; Driving lic susp/rev; released 2/2/21; ECSSO

Shelia Carol Moore, 44, 520 Jones Ave, entered 2/2/21; Theft/shoplifting; released 2/3/21; SPD

Donyal Lakarl Carter, 17, homeless, entered 2/3/21; Theft/taking/Obstr/ofc/Financial transact card theft/Crim trespass; SPD

Darius Keith Allison, 23, 110 Castlegate Cir, Carrolton,

entered 2/3/21; VGCSA/ga control subst act/Speeding <14 MPH over/VGCSA possession marijuana w/intent to distribute; ECSSO

Robert Brian Palmer, 41, 10996 Daisy Nevils Hwy, Claxton, entered 2/3/21; Driving lic susp/rev; released 2/3/21; ECSSO

Casey Daniel Pierce, 30, 130 Lanier Dr, Statesboro, entered 2/3/21; Driving lic susp/rev/Speeding 15-29 MPH over; released 2/4/21; ECSSO

Cordaro Damien Kirkland, 34, 25 Redoak Rd, entered 2/3/21; Probation/State Court/Middle Ga Probation/Crim damage to prop/Leaving scene of accident; released 2/3/21; SPD

Diamond Shitrell Williams, 17, 56 Rd Bud Rd, entered 2/3/21; Obstr/Hindering of officer; released 2/4/21; SPD

Joe Nathan Knight, Jr, 26, 208 Modoc Rd, entered 2/4/21; Driving lic susp/rev; released 2/3/21; ECSSO

Johnathon Shane Futch, Sr, 40, 35 Williams Rd, Kite, entered 2/4/21; Probation/Superior Court/ Hold for out of county billing; ECSSO

Mary Jessie Gregory, 26, 120 Buckwill Dr, entered 2/5/21; Probation/Swainsboro PD/Middle Ga Probation/VGCSA Possession of drug related object; SPD

Megan Deann Nasworthy, 29, 860 Sunset Dr, entered 2/5/21; Probation/Swainsboro PF/Middle Ga Probation; SPD

Jarvis Terrell Williams, 36, 3787 W. Germanwood Ct, Memphis, TN, entered 2/5/21; DUI/drugs/Speeding

15-29 MPH over/CGCSA marijuana/poss less than oz/VGCSA possession of drug related object; released 2/5/21; ECSSO

Robert John Good, 40, 46 Little Canoochee Creek Rd, Twin City, entered 2/5/21; Probation/ Superior Court; ECSSO

Teresa Ellyn Moon, 36, 2503 North Ave, Anderson, SC; entered 2/5/21; Hold for out of county billing; released 2/6/21; HOLD FOR DEKALB CO

Dontavious Darrell Jackson, 24, 1334 2nd Montgomery St, Americus, entered 2/5/21; Speeding <14 MPH over/Reckless driving; released 2/5/21; ECSSO

Margaret Kitchens Woods, 38, 26844 Ga Hwy 46 W, Metter, entered 2/6/21; DUI/alch/Failure to maintain lane; released 2/6/21; GSP

Jacqueline Marie Vasquez-Oliver, 30, 517 Reedy Creek Cir, Lyons, entered 2/6/21; DUI/alch; released 2/6/21; GSP

Wyatt Cameron Adams, 19, 961 Scarboro Church Rd, Twin City, entered 2/6/21; Simp battery; ECSSO

Justin Brandon Estrada, 29, 211 Hwy 29 Vidalia, entered 2/6/21; Speeding 30+ MPH over/Driving lic susp/rev; released 2/6/21; ECSSO

Jessica Gail Copeland, 30, Roadway Inn, entered 2/6/21; Probation/Superior Court; ECSSO

Tess Danielle Grumme, 31, 408 Pony Trail, Statesboro, entered 2/6/21; Probation/Superior Court; ECSSO

Ruiz Mendoza Robeltis, 43, 350 N. Lewis St, Metter, entered 2/7/21; Driving while unlicensed/ expired/ Other; released 2/7/21; GSP

Swainsboro Police Reports

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

January 27

Officer ran the registration plate on a vehicle and it was returned with no insurance, t which time officer made a traffic stop. Upon making contact with the driver, officer could smell a strong odor or marijuana coming from the vehicle.

Officer was dispatched to S. Main St. in reference to lost or mislaid property.

Officer responded to Hickory Trace Circle in reference to a child custody argument. Upon arrival, officer made contact with complainant who advised that she showed up to get her son and take him to a doctors appointment and was going to take him back to her sister afterwards, and when she went inside to get him, offender pushed her out of his house and pushed their son back inside before closing the door. Officer then spoke with offender who informed him that complainant dropped him off that morning and found out complainant was going to take their son to her sister's house afterwards and he was aware of the individuals having COVID and he didn't want him over there. Officer then returned to the front yard to speak with complainant who was hostile and angry and attempted to inform her of why offender did what he did and she didn't want to hear it. C/o then went on to state to someone on the phone that if she had her "piece: on her she would have shot him. Officer then informed c/o that was a criminal offense of terroristic threats at which point she informed him she didn't care and stated again she would have shot offender and to take her to jail because she did not care.

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

January 22

Officer took a walk-in report regarding complainant stating she had damage to her vehicle.

Officer responded to Sunshine Rd. in reference to a burglary. Officer was behind a vehicle that had an expired tag decal. Officer then ran the tag display information and it came back as expired and no insurance, at which time she initiated a traffic stop.

Officer responded to Enmarket in reference to a male subject slumped over a table inside the store. Subject advised he was walking and it started to rain so he went inside and fell asleep.

Officer noticed a vehicle with no tag displayed, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. Upon making contact with the driver, he advised that he did not have a valid driver's license. Upon checking the driver's info, it was found that he was wanted for failure to appear.

Officer was dispatched to Dollar General in reference to a theft by shoplifting.

Officer observed a vehicle with one head light and upon running the tag, it came back with suspended registration, wanted person, and suspended license. Offender stopped at Easy Stop, exited the vehicle, and began to walk towards the store when he was called back to the vehicle. Subject complied, then the female passenger began trying to do all the talking for the driver. Offender was asked for his ID and he stated he did not have none. When asked for his name and DOB, he gave a false name. Officer advised offender he was under arrest because he was wanted out of Laurens County with full extradition and he began to resist. Officers maintained control of offender and advised him to stop resisting. 911 advised Laurens Co. and they stated the warrant was not valid and was recalled.

January 23

Officer was dispatched to Pughsley St. in reference to a dispute. Complainant stated the offender went to her residence to pick up a child and a dispute occurred. The mother of the child is known to have a substance abuse issue, homeless, no means of transportation, and is known in the area and has a history of prostitution. Offender appeared to be under the influence of a strong stimulant during the time of the encounter and stated she planned to take the child to Augusta but only brought a bike to pick the child up. The 4 y/o child has been residing at the residence with the complainant his entire life, with his own bedroom and bed, clothing, toys, along with electricity, food, and running water. Offender was advised to seek a more stable environment, better suited for the safety of the child.

Officer noticed an individual at Mojo's Car Wash and knew he had numerous outstanding felony warrants. Officer notified supervisor and returned to the car wash.

January 25

Officer was dispatched to Global Parts International where complainant state they sold 2 Poulan Pro 21" 136CC snow blowers for \$299 each through Ebay and to a man in Madison, WI. Offender requested a refund through Ebay and sent back 2 items that were not snow blowers.

Officer was dispatched to Longview Rd. in reference to an entering auto report.

January 26

Officer was dispatched to Walmart in reference to a female subject swallowing pills. Manager stated she would like to have the female criminally trespassed from the premises as other officers had been there on two other occasions for the same individual.

Officer was dispatched to Wendy's in reference to a male subject without a shirt on sitting inside his vehicle beating on the steering wheel and was getting in and out of the vehicle. Upon arrival. Officers made contact with the driver and noticed him beating on the steering wheel and hitting himself in the arms. He was having mood swings, from crying to beating on his legs and arms. He was asked if a search could be done and he agreed. A syringe was found in the driver side floor board and he had

several puncture wounds from needles on his right arm from his forearm to his elbow.

January 27

Officer ran the registration plate on a vehicle and it was returned with no insurance, t which time officer made a traffic stop. Upon making contact with the driver, officer could smell a strong odor or marijuana coming from the vehicle.

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January 28

Officers were dispatched to Lucky Spot in reference to offender opening her car door striking the passenger door of complainant's car causing damage.

Officer responded to Longleaf Dr. in reference to a 17 y/o male destroying the inside of the residence. Upon arrival, the mother and offender could be seen in the yard tussling. Once the vehicles were noticed, the two broke apart and the mother ran to the road as the offender walked towards the residence. Offender refused to cooperate and was using racial slurs towards law officer. Offender was placed under arrest of disorderly conduct on account of his language and behavior in a residential neighborhood.

Officer ran a tag to return with no insurance, at which time he initiated a traffic stop.

Vehicle passed officer and his tag reader alerted him that the vehicle had suspended registration. When verifying the information, officer learned that the vehicle was also uninsured, at which time he conducted a traffic stop.

Officer was dispatched to Washington Ave. I reference to complainant stating a male subject was knocking on here screen door and did not know who he was, but kept stating he was her neighbor. C/o stated the male subject then took her mail that was in the screen door and left.

Officer was dispatched to WalMart in reference to disorderly conduct because males were jumping on top of counters yelling political statements and running around. Male subjects were gone when officer got there.

January 29

Officer was dispatched to the storage buildings across from Thompson Minit Mart in reference to meeting with Emanuel 1 who was out with a stolen vehicle. Two males and one female were on scene and it was told that the Uhaul in the back of the storage buildings were stolen. Uhaul was ran through GCIC and it came back stolen out of Volusia County, FL.

Complainant stated her ex-boyfriend continues to stalk and harass her since they broke up. She stated he calls her and her parents phones threatening to beat up her new boyfriend and mess with his new car. C/o also stated that offender stated he was going to go to her house uninvited and beat both of them up, and made several insinuating threats regarding his brief National Guard training. C/o's parents are scared and want to take a TPO or restraining order out on offender.

January 30

Officer was dispatched to W. MLK Blvd. in reference to complainant stating a vehicle struck her vehicle that was parked in her driveway.

Officers were dispatched to N. Racetrack St. in reference to a window being shot with a BB gun.

Officer took a report where complainant stated he has been getting threats from offender stating not to make him use his gun, and also shows up in places where c/o is trying to start altercations.

Officer was patrolling the area of Gold Dr. when he noticed the front door of a residence open. Due to knowing the residence was just purchased and complainant had not moved in yet, officer contacted him and asked if the door should be open and c/o stated not if there wasn't any vehicles there. Officer could tell where the door had been jimmied on numerous occasions.

January 31

Officer met with complainant who stated her uncle who stayed on Stevens Rd. had just recently passed and left her as power of attorney over his property. C/o stated her aunt paid offender to take down a two-car metal carport and move it off the property without c/o's permission.

Officer was dispatched to S Coleman ST. and spoke with complainant show stated is friend, offender, had been staying with him for a while and when he left, he took some of his things.

Officer was dispatched to Roadway Inn in reference to a stolen

firearm.

Officer was dispatched to S. Green St. in reference to someone breaking into the property.

February 1

Officer was dispatched to Lewis St. in reference to a civil dispute. Complainant stated she has lived with her grandmother for a long time and she just recently passed away. C/o reported her aunt, offender, went to the residence and began to remove her grandmother's belongings.

Officer was dispatched to WalMart in reference to some losing \$200 while shopping.

Officer was dispatched to W. Amin St. in reference to the burglary of a storage building.

Officer was instructed to form a report for criminal trespass and burglary at the storage units located on Neal St.

Officer was dispatched to N. Coleman St. in reference to a burglary.

Officer was dispatched to N. Coleman St. in reference to a burglary of a storage building.

February 2

Officer was dispatched to Lambs Bridge Rd. in reference to complainant stating she believes someone stole her son's German Sheppard out of her yard.

Officer was dispatched to S. Central St. in reference to complainant stating a 17 y/o male went into the bar and asked to borrow her cell phone to call his mother. C/o allowed offender to do so at which point he stepped outside and did not return.

Officer was dispatched to WalMart in reference to a damaged vehicle.

Officer was dispatched to WalMart in reference to looking at the cameras for a customer that stated he lost his wallet.

February 3

Officer was dispatched to Harvey's in reference to a hit and run occurring in the parking lot.

Officer was dispatched to the area of Electric Dr. in reference to an altercation between a male and female.

Officers were dispatched to Center St. in reference to a dispute between a male and female.

Officers were dispatched to W. Church St. in referenced to a male wanting to make a report about money being taken from his Chime account.

February 4

Officer was dispatched to Wincore in reference to some drugs being found on the property.

Officer observed a vehicle traveling 64 MPH in a 45 MPH zone, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. Upon making contact with the driver, it was found that the vehicle had no insurance and suspended registration.

Officer responded to Jones Ave. in reference to a burglary.

February 5

Officer was behind a vehicle that had one brake light, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. Upon further investigation, it was found that the vehicle had suspended registration and no insurance.

Officer observed a vehicle never slow down and fail to stop at the stop sign. Officer heard a gunshot, but was unsure of where it came from. The driver of the vehicle exited the vehicle and ran behind some houses.

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WILKERSON



FOSTER



LEE

Lady Bobcats claim two wins from Brewton-Parker

The East Georgia State College Lady Bobcats Softball Team picked up two wins Tuesday, Feb. 2 in their home opener of 2021 against Brewton-Parker College JV. The Bobcats won game one by a score of 4 to 2 and game two with a score of 13 to 5.

The Bobcats were led on the mound by Britney

Foster, who struck out nine batters and allowed just two runs in seven innings of work.

At the plate Alaina Lee, Allana Hooks, Taylor Morgan and Jana Crews provided the Bobcats with run support. Hooks would knock in Lee and Morgan in the sixth inning on a double off the center field fence

to break a 2 to 2 tie and give the Bobcats the win at 4 to 2.

In game two the Bobcats fell behind 2 to 0 in the first inning, but came storming back in the third inning scoring seven runs.

Sierra Taylor, Jana Crews, Taylor Morgan, Makenzie Wilkerson, Alaina Lee, Allana

Hooks and Stephanie Ruffin all got hits in the inning, and the Bobcats never looked back in route to a 13 to 5 victory.

Madison Bussell got her first win of the season with four innings of work with Payten Strickland closing out the final two innings for the Lady Bobcats who are now 2 and 0 at home.

"We provided great run support for our pitchers Tuesday," stated the Bobcat's Head Coach Chuck Wimberly after the victories. "Game one was a pitcher's duel and Britney Foster did really well holding on and getting the victory for us on the mound. Game two saw our bats come alive and post 13 runs which

makes pitching a little easier. Alaina Lee and McKenzie Wilkerson both caught great games for us behind the plate, and Madison Bussell and Payten Strickland may have pitched their best games collegiately. Defensively we made no mistakes and that was key in our victories."

Faulkner wins Big Game Contest

The winner of the 19th annual Big Game Contest hosted by The Forest-Blade and Daniels Chevrolet is Rita Faulkner of Swainsboro. To play, participants had to pick the winner of the 2021 NFL championship game (Kansas City Chiefs or Tampa Bay Buccaneers). Tiebreakers for the contest included correctly guessing the total points scored by both teams and the quarter in which most points were scored. In addition, participants had to "like" Daniels Chevrolet and Emanuel County Live on Facebook to be eligible to win!

Faulkner was announced



WHITLEY CLIFTON PRESENTS CHECK TO FAULKNER

the winner on Monday, Feb. 8, and collected her \$100 prize at The Blade.

Stay tuned for fun ways to win money with *The Forest-Blade!*

EGSC Lady Bobcats named Players of the Week

Two of East Georgia State College's softball players have been named Georgia Collegiate Athletic Association (GCAA) players of the week. Jana Crews was named Player of the Week for EGSC's conference, and Britney Foster was named Pitcher of the Week.

This is the first time in EGSC's history that the softball program has had a Player of the Week and a Pitcher of the Week for the conference during the same week.



CREWS



FOSTER

Jana Crews had a .700 batting average, 5 R, 1 3B, 5 SB, and 14 PO's in the four games played

last week. Britney Foster was 1-0; IP: 9, R: 2, ER: 3, K's: 9, 1 BB in one game last week.

Finding of No Significant Impact on the Environment

City of Twin City
City of Twin City City Hall
112 South Railroad Ave,
Twin City, GA 30471

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS, AND PERSONS

On or about March 1st, 2021, the City of Twin City will submit a request to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for the release of Community Development Block Grant under the Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project known as City of Twin City FY 2019-Water Improvements improving W. Short St, Sandridge Rd, Wilson Rd, Coursey Rd, Hattaway St, Hall St, N. Railroad St, and 1st Ave at a total estimated cost of \$750,000.00 in Twin City.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

The City of Twin City City Council has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at City of Twin City City Hall, 112 South Railroad Ave, Twin City, GA 30471 and Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission, 5405 Oak St, Eastman, GA 31023 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:30a-5:00pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission. All comments received by March 1st, 2021 will be considered by the City of Twin City City Council prior authorizing a submission of a request of release of funds.

Comments should specify which notice they are addressing.

ENVIROMENTAL CERTIFICATIONS

The City of Twin City certifies to Georgia Department of Natural Resources that Matt Donaldson as his capacity as mayor of Twin City consents to accept the jurisdiction of the federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities have been satisfied. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Twin City to use program funds.

City of Twin City
Matt Donaldson, Mayor of Twin City
City of Twin City City Hall
112 South Railroad Ave,
Twin City, GA 30471

Twin City Elementary students create a starry night of science

A talented group of kindergarten through fifth graders turned an ordinary Thursday evening into a creative science adventure during a virtual STEM NIGHT on Jan. 21, co-sponsored by Magnolia Midlands Georgia Youth Science & Technology Center - Twin City Elementary. Participating children let their skill and imaginations soar as they worked on experiments and projects grounded in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). The children worked with supplies generously donated by community sponsors to investigate the dimensions of sound, shapes, force, measurements and problem solving. Their hands-on work produced models and prototypes that illustrated these concepts.

Twin City's Principal, Robbie Warnock said, "It was amazing to watch our students design and refine their projects. I feel like I saw a great group of future scientists and engineers!"

Christie Henry, STEAM teacher at the school, echoed the enthusiasm, "Virtual Steam Night was a wonderful opportunity for our TCE students! The excitement on their faces and watching them engineer was so much fun!"

STEM NIGHTS (days and weekends, too) are signature events at GYSTC member kindergarten through middle schools throughout Georgia. There, students join



SCENE FROM VIRTUAL EVENT

with parents, teachers and community members to celebrate science through exhibits, performances, discussions, group activities and especially displays of potential STEM careers students might pursue in the future.

Erin Youmans, GYSTC Coordinator for the Magnolia Midlands Region, said, "We are so fortunate to be able to use technology to continue to reach out to students at area schools and host events like our Virtual Family Nights."

GYSTC is an educational non-profit wholly dedicated to increasing K-8 teacher competence in STEM through support and professional learning opportunities. GYSTC works with public, private and charter school districts to encourage equality and excellence in STEM education for children throughout Georgia. For more information about activities in the Magnolia Midlands GYSTC Region, contact Erin Youmans at ehyoumans@ega.edu or (478) 289-2094. For inquiries about GYSTC and its many pro-

grams and resources, Contact Cody Richards at (470) 578-7592 or cricha48@kennesaw.edu.

MMGYSTC is located at East Georgia State College in Swainsboro, Ga. Student-focused, East Georgia State College (EGSC) - a state college offering two-year degrees and targeted bachelor degrees - provides affordable access to quality higher education, enabling all students to achieve their academic goals with minimum delay and expense. EGSC's specialized attentiveness effectively supports a wide range of academic abilities and preparation levels. Students can pursue associate's degrees, targeted bachelor's degrees and transfer paths to other institutions. EGSC's most recent prominence is in being among the first and few University System of Georgia institutions approved to award associate degrees with disciplinary distinction, which provides students a foundation of courses in a specific major, rather than just the core curriculum.



WOODS WITH DEER



FREE WITH DEER



SCARBORO WITH DEER



PAM AKRIDGE PRESENTS CHECK TO WOODS



JAMI KEA PRESENTS CHECK TO FREE



MADELYNE MEEKS PRESENTS CHECK TO SCARBORO

Deer Harvest Gallery winners announced

Throughout deer season, *The Forest-Blade* had an online contest on [emanuelcountydrive.com](http://www.emanuelcountydrive.com) where hunters could submit photos of their kill. There were two categories for entry and \$100 was given away in each category. A third entrant was also randomly selected for a \$100 prize. The winners are as follows:

Scrap Scarboro, Adult Category: Scrap, a resident of Swainsboro, bagged a massive non-typical 15-pointer on Nov. 16, 2020 in West Reydon, Texas. He was accompanied by his mother, Wanda, who

downed an 11-pointer; cousin Gage Hooks, who got a 9-pointer; and father, Wayne, who harvested – well, better luck next time, Wayne. Gage was gifted the trip from his parents, Tracy and Chandra Hooks, because he will graduate from Swainsboro High School and East Georgia State College at the same time this year.

Peyton Free, 16 & Under Category: This was Peyton's first kill ever. Not only did she kill one buck that day, she bagged two. She was hunting with her

father, Bill Free, on private property. Peyton is also the daughter of Haylee Free. She is a 10th grade student at David Emanuel Academy.

Lake Woods, Randomly Selected Winner: Lake got his kill while hunting on private property owned by his Papa Joey. Lake said he eyed another BIG BUCK but was not able to get a shot at him before he ran. Lake is a 5th grade student at David Emanuel Academy. He is the son of Tracy and Luke Scott and Timmy Woods.

Bulldogs hoping for a complete season

by RON WEATHER-FORD

The ECI Bulldog baseball team is entering the 2021 year, hoping as most teams are, to play a full season.

Because of Covid restrictions, spring sports were cancelled in the middle of March last season with the Bulldogs only playing nine games. The cancellation also created an early ending of senior players' careers who, unlike college players, cannot get that season back.

Three games had to be rescheduled to later in the season (which were never played) because of the ongoing drainage problems at Joe Harvey Field. A normal rain can sometimes make the field unplayable.

Because of that reason, the Bulldogs have just one home game scheduled in the month of February this season.

After an away scrim-

mage game against Statesboro, the Bulldogs start the season with a home opener against Burke Co. The Bears and Bulldog series has turned into a pretty good rivalry in the last several years. ECI also plays in the Burke Co. Invitational every year slated for Saturday, Feb. 27.

The Bulldogs will see some new faces on the schedule this year. The region added Screven Co., Metter, and Bryan Co. to an already tough region.

The Bulldogs are again coached by head baseball coach Brooks Collins with assistant coaches, Chad Harper, Chris Kearson and Caleb Pressey.

Calling pitches from the dugout this year will be first-year pitching coach Caleb Pressey, who pitched for the Bulldogs from 2010-2013 and was on the pitching staff at Georgia Southern.

"We have a good mix

of returning starters with a large number of tenth and ninth grade players that are going to be thrown into the fire early to compete for the starting spot," commented coach Brooks Collins.

The Bulldogs enter the season fielding four seniors, two juniors, six sophomores and seven freshmen, which includes seven returning starters.

Returning to the lineup in 2021 are 3B-SS Chase Whitehead, 2B-OF Jeremy Jones, P-Trey Hughes, RF-Natavus Robertson, P-1B Lawson Mercer, P-Joseph Stewart, and P-SS Bryce Kearson.

The success for any baseball season will rely heavily on the pitching staff. Bulldogs return one senior to the mound. Trey Hughes will complete his ECI pitching career for the Bulldogs this year. Also returning to the pitching staff as starters are junior

Joseph Stewart, and sophomore Lawson Mercer. Other potential starters for the Bulldogs in 2021 are sophomore Bryce Kearson and freshman Charlie Rehberg. Rounding out the staff are Hudson Henry, Andrew Chalkley and Natavus Robertson.

At this time there are no Covid protocols for the fans at the game at ECI except the normal social distancing. Other venues may differ depending on community and system protocols.



SENIOR ROBERTSON AND BULLDOGS ARE EAGER TO START A NEW SEASON

ECI VARSITY BULLDOG BASEBALL			
Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Feb. 10	Statesboro (Scrimmage)	Away	6 p.m.
Feb. 16	Burke Co.	Home	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 18	Treutlen Co.	Away	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 23	East Laurens	Away	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 27	Burke Co. Invitational	Burke Co.	10 a.m.
Feb. 27	Jefferson Co.	Burke Co.	12:30 p.m.
Mar. 3	East Laurens	Home	5:30 p.m.
Mar. 5	Southeast Bulloch	Away	6 p.m.*
Mar. 9	Jenkins Co.	Home	5:30 p.m.
Mar. 10	Swainsboro	Home	6 p.m.*
Mar. 12	Jenkins Co.	Away	5:30 p.m.
Mar. 16	McIntosh Co. Academy	Home	5:30 p.m.
Mar. 17	Treutlen Co.	Home	5:30 p.m.
Mar. 19	McIntosh Co. Academy	Away	5:30 p.m.
Mar. 23	Bryan Co.	Away	5:30 p.m.
Mar. 25	Savannah Christian	Away	5:30 p.m.
Mar. 26	Bryan Co.	Home	5:30 p.m.
Mar. 30	Screven Co.	Away	5:30 p.m.
Apr. 1	Screven Co.	Home	5:30 p.m.
Apr. 5	Portal	Home	5:30 p.m.
Apr. 6	Portal	Away	5:30 p.m.
Apr. 7	Southeast Bulloch	Home	6 p.m.*
Apr. 13	Claxton (Senior Day)	Home	5:30 p.m.
Apr. 16	Claxton	Away	5:30 p.m.
Apr. 20	Metter	Away	6 p.m.
Apr. 23	Metter	Home	5:30 p.m.

* Game times are subject to change

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*Claim is Based on Outdoor Power Equipment Institute market statistics from 2019 unit shipments. © Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2021. \$0 Down, 0% A.P.R. financing for up to 60 months or customer instant rebates of \$300 are available on purchases of select new Kubota ZD Series equipment from participating dealers' in-stock inventory. Promotional rate available to qualified purchasers through Kubota Credit Corporation, U.S.A.; subject to credit approval. Example: 60 monthly payments of \$16.67 per \$1,000 financed. \$300 rebate is not available with 0% A.P.R. or other promotional financing. Some exceptions apply. Offers expire 2/28/2021. Terms subject to change. This material is for descriptive purposes only. Kubota disclaims all representations and warranties, express or implied, or any liability from the use of this material. For complete warranty, disclaimer, safety, incentive offer and product information, consult your Dealer or KubotaUSA.com.

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VIDALIA HS 1/ 9/ 21	REGION @ VIDALIA 2/ 6/ 21	
TOOMBS HS 1/ 23/ 21	STATE FINALS 2/ 15/ 21	




- Allie Hendrix
- AnnaLise Newsome
- Ayla Thompson
- Brooke Hannah
- Caitlyn Fleming
- Caroline Mason
- Etta Key
- Hayleigh Jordan
- Jada O'Quinn
- Jaylee Justice
- Kai'Yana Henderson
- Lawren Wadley
- Madison Hancock
- Madison Williford
- Melanie Purcell
- Malashia Lockett
- Maggie Palmer
- Raegan Thompson
- RayShona Hooks
- Treazure Franklin
- Sarah Beasley
- Victoria McRee
- Coaches: Luci McNeely
- Bob McNeely
- Whitney Brown
- Bekkah Warnock



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& Classifieds **D**

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Looking for 2 - 3 acres in Emanuel County to purchase - developed or undeveloped. Call 478.299.5614 if you have anything for sale.

MOBILE HOME FOR RENT

MOBILE HOME: EXTRA CLEAN!!! 2BDR/2B. No Pets. No smoking. Will be checked every 30 days. 12 month lease can be terminated by owner. 2 references required. \$450 dep/\$450 month. If interested, call 478.494.8888.

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MISC NOTICES

WE DO not knowingly accept advertisements that discriminate, or intend to discriminate, on any illegal basis, nor do we knowingly accept employment advertisements that are not bona-fide job offers. All real estate advertisements are subject to the Fair Housing Act. We do not accept advertising that is in violation of the law. The law prohibits discrimination based on color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap, or family status. **NEED TO SEND A COPY OF A DOCUMENT, LETTER, ETC., TO SOME PLACE IN A HURRY? The Forest-Blade** can do the job for you in minutes with its fax machine. We can also receive copies of documents. For more information come by our office on West Moring Street.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Lane Storage has payments past due. Contents include various miscellaneous items. Auction will be held February 17, 2021 at 9 am. For questions contact Rusty Lane at 478-455-1861

Eddwina Stanford
-Unit # AH71

Cara Lovins
Unit# B124, B125, A185, BH2, BH17

LANE STORAGE
338 East Main St,
Swainsboro, GA 30401

PUBLIC NOTICE

Daniels Chevrolet abandoned vehicles:
The following vehicles will be sold on or after Friday, February 19, 2021 for all amounts occurred up until this date unless other arrangements are made by the above date:

2011 Chevrolet Equinox LT
VIN: 2CNALDECOB6235610

2015 Ford Fusion
VIN: 3FA6POHD6FR138217

2006 Chevrolet Impala LT
VIN: 2G1WC581X69314984

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HELP WANTED

First Baptist Church of Swainsboro is looking for a part-time, Ministries Assistant: Mon-Thurs, 9am-4pm. Must have confidence with current technology, good communications skills, maintain confidentiality, has an eye for detail, & works well with others.

Must be self-motivated and shows up on time with a bright and positive attitude. Preferred candidates will have experience with Windows & Mac Operating Systems, MS Office 365 (especially Publisher), WordPress, YouTube, Facebook, ProPresenter & mail merging. Pay is commensurate with experience.

Email resume with references to:
pastorcasey@fbcswainsboro.org.



HELP WANTED

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Public Hearing Notice

The Emanuel County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning Committee will hold a Final Public Hearing on Wednesday, February 17th, 2021 from 2:00pm. to 4:00p.m. The hearing will be held at the Commissioner's Board Room at 101 N. Main St. Swainsboro, Georgia 30401.

The purpose of this public hearing is to inform citizens and provide the opportunity to review and voice input concerning the pre-FEMA submission draft of the 2021-2026 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan that is taking place in Emanuel County. The 2021 Emanuel County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan draft has been prepared on behalf of Emanuel County and the Cities of Adrian, Garfield, Nunez, Oak Park, Stillmore, Summertown, Swainsboro, and Twin City.

All interested parties are invited and encouraged to attend. For the safety and health of all attendees, the Emanuel County EMA office kindly requests that all attendees wear a mask and maintain at least six feet of distance between each person at all times.

For more information, please contact Martha Culbreth, Emanuel County Emergency Management Agency Director at 478-237-3169 or Courtney Domst, Community Development Planner with the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission, at 478-374-4771.

SCV Camp, OCR Chapter donate books to Franklin Memorial Library

On Feb. 4, the McLeod-Moring Camp #1386 Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) and Heritage Roses Chapter #15 Order of Confederate Roses (OCR), with the cooperation of Library Manager Gladys Collins, donated a selection of books to Franklin Memorial Library.

Previously, the library was found to be short on selections published from southern authors during the 1800s. The SCV and OCR have made it a priority to find these books and donate them to the library for the community to be able to borrow. The first selections donated were:

The True Story of Andersonville Prison by James Madison Page (1839-1924). Page was a second lieutenant of Company A Sixth Michigan Cavalry for the Union Army. He was captured in September of 1863 and spent 13 months in southern military prisons. Seven months were spent at Camp Sumter near Andersonville, Georgia. Page wrote the book in defense of Major Henry Wirz, the former commandant of the prison who was

accused of murder. The book was first published in 1908.

A Constitutional View of the Late War Between The States, volumes I and II, by Alexander H. Stephens (1812-1883), first published in 1870. Stephens was a lawyer, a U.S. congressman from Georgia before the war, served as vice president of the Confederate States of America during the war and served as Georgia's governor from 1882 until his death in 1883.

The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government, volumes I and II, by Jefferson Davis (1808-1889), first published in 1881. Davis was a former lieutenant in the United States Army, who served as a colonel of a volunteer regiment during the Mexican-American War from 1846-1848. He served as a Representative in the 29th Congress and as a Senator in the 30th United States Congress for Mississippi, where he served through 1851. He was later appointed secretary of war in 1853 under President Franklin Pierce. He served as the president of the Confederate States of America.



LIBRARY ASSISTANT TERKEITHA MOYE, LIBRARY MANAGER WINDY WARD, CAMP COMMANDER DARYL HILL, CAMP MEMBER JOEY GIBSON, AND LIBRARY ASSISTANT DEANA PATRICK



MOYE, WARD, OCR VICE PRESIDENT KRISTI SWAN, OCR PRESIDENT BUFFY HILL, AND PATRICK



WARD, SWAN, B. HILL, D. HILL, GIBSON, AND PATRICK

SHS Competition Cheerleaders...

(From front page) prone, inversion to lib and a ball up with only one run through.... stuff that she had never done before and she did amazing! And I'm so glad our injured flyer was able to watch from the side to see her team pull

together and perform as an army of one. We advanced to state finals and get another week to perfect everything! They weren't perfect but they pulled together in a way that no other team I have ever coached has. I see this happen in All-Stars

and at state every year, but never did I think it would happen to my team! Nothing short of a miracle!"

The SHS competition cheer squad is coached by Luci McNeely, Bob McNeely, Whitney Brown and Bekkah

Warnock. High school participants of the SHS competition cheer squad include Allie Hendrix, Analise Newsome, Ayla Thompson, Brooke Hannah, Caitlyn Fleming, Caroline Mason, Etta Key, Hayleigh Jordan, Jada

O'Quinn, Jaylee Justice, Kai'Yana Henderson, Lawren Wadley, Madison Hancock, Madison Williford, Melanie Purcell, Malashia Lockett, Maggie Palmer, Raegan Thompson, RayShona Hooks,

Treasure Franklin, Sarah Beasley and Victoria McRee.

The girls will take the mat with competition beginning at 4 p.m. this Monday. Stay tuned for more information to come!

Franklin Memorial Library holds guitar ensemble workshop

The library's guitar ensemble kicked off last Monday at 4 p.m. in the Smith Room. Students learned the chords G, C, and D while picking, strumming, and drumming on their instruments. Three new guitars were purchased from DeLoache's Music in Statesboro, thanks to funding from the Mill Creek Foundation. These slightly smaller guitars were built for children, and are easier to keep tuned.

The Jenkins family enjoyed their first week and look forward to performing "Wade in the Water" for the library's upcoming virtual Black History Program on February 20.



TRE'QUON JENKINS AND REBEKAH BLACK, LIBRARY ASSISTANT



2021 RIDGEWAY LODGE 104 OFFICERS

Ridgeway Lodge 104 installs 2021 officers

The 2021 officers were installed at Ridgeway Lodge 104 in Garfield on Monday night, Feb. 8. Officers are Patrick Sweet, worshipful master; Mike Hatcher, senior warden; Donald Hall, junior warden; Hal Bridges, treasurer; Chris Carr, secretary; Jay Elmore (not pictured), senior deacon; Glenn Grimes, junior deacon; Jimmy Phillips, senior steward; Joey Allen (not pictured), junior steward; Howard Elmore, chaplain; and Howard Miller, tyler.



SPD CHIEF RANDY ELLISON AND CPL. GRANT

Grant nominated for TAC of the Year recipient

Corporal Melody Grant was recently recognized by the State of Georgia for nomination of Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC) of the year for 2020. During the ceremony held on January 22 in Athens, Cpl. Grant was presented an award for her nomination for TAC of the year.

The nomination letter for Cpl. Grant described Grant's dedication to her duty, not only as clerk of court, but as agency's lead data terminal operator for Swainsboro Police Department's criminal record system.

Grant started her career with the Swainsboro Police Department as a receptionist in 2014. In late 2015, Grant requested to attend the basic law enforcement academy to become a certified peace officer. Grant garnered outstanding marks and worked as a certified officer on patrol.

In December of 2019, the agency TAC announced her retire-

ment after many years of service. Officer Grant saw a need by the agency to find a qualified replacement for the soon vacant position of TAC and requested to be considered for the position. In late December 2019, Officer Grant was given the opportunity to begin working with the current TAC to learn what she could about the job. The agency immediately noted the loss of a very proactive and well-trained patrol officer, but was rewarded by that same energy and worth ethic to its TAC position. Grant, since taking over as agency TAC, has done a remarkable job. Since taking the position, this agency has benefited tremendously from Grant's organizational skill and desire to get the job done correctly.

Today, all staff are current in their training and have developed a remarkable relationship with the department's TAC operator and this new relationship has had incredible results.

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Drop off your entry form here at The Forest-Blade office on or before February 26, 2021 or mail to P.O. Box 938 Swainsboro Ga 30401. Participants with the correct answers will be entered into a random drawing, and the winner will be announced in the March 3rd edition.

Also, we will celebrate each month with a new promotion that will give you a chance to win!

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Editorials Columns

Cake Pan

My kitchen cabinet is home to a large and bulky pan. It is sixty-five years old and nowhere near retirement. It is not shiny, nonstick, and useful for only one thing---making the world's best

pound cake. It has resided in twelve different kitchen cabinets and once in storage for a few months. This is a tube cake pan, and when the cake has cooled, it can easily be released intact. The crusty top is mouthwatering and so tempting to break off a taste while it is cooling. It is a dessert masterpiece to behold. The aroma perfumes your house.

This cake has become legendary in my family and carries a historic name. The recipe is quite simple, and you probably

have all the ingredients in your pantry. Whenever I am designated to make a dessert, the request is "MAKE THE POUND CAKE. All have received the cherished recipe but know it will not be as delicious if not baked in "Mae Vann's tube cake pan."

How did this cake and the required pan become legendary? Mrs. Vann was a widow and possibly one of the wealthiest citizens of Swainsboro. She wore big picture hats and drove a big long Buick. Her heart was even bigger than her hat or car.

This lady has been mentioned many times in the life of my columns, but these stories are worthy of retelling. However, I do think this is the first praise

of the tube cake pan.

The First Methodist Church (the old church on corner of Church and Green) was the heart and soul of Mrs. Vann. She supported and was an active part of everything. She played the piano, directed women's projects, often served on boards of Methodist Conferences and added to this assisting many community needs.

Her first love was for the children. She knew young people were the future church, so she was the devoted teacher of the high school Sunday School Class, grades 8-12 for I don't know how

many years. Our classroom in the vestibule beside the church entrance was the size of a roomy

coat closet.

We heard the passages *Do Unto Others, The Least of These and To whom Much is Given Much is Asked*. We opened our class by saying together, "You're writing a Gospel a chapter each day by the things that you do and the things that you say. Men read what you write whether false or true, so what is this Gospel according to you". This was the road map she gave us.

Often on pleasant Sunday morning, Mrs. Vann arrived carrying a covered cake on a tray. We knew we were in for our favorite treat. We sat outside on the Church steps, and everyone got a huge slice of the melt in your mouth pound cake.

A few days before my marriage to the boy from

Shirley Proctor Twiss



Arkansas. She came to my house with a large, wedding-wrapped package. I opened to find an exact duplicate of her tube cake pan along with

the handwritten recipe and a note that brought tears.

Mrs. Vann impacted my life with that sacred road map. I think of her each time I use the pan. That was her intention. During the span of my high school years, I shared her with Rita Johnson,

Maurice Vann, David

Lamb, Roddy Rich, Bobby Gene Coleman, Betty Sisco, Joyce Smith, Deene Spivey, Donnie Kea, Roy Hayes, Patricia Anderson and many others that I cannot recall. I have

asked class members if they remember the passage, we said together each Sunday. Yes, it is still in our hearts and memory. Mrs. Vann planted seeds of faith that have grown and prospered.

Write to Shirley at sptwiss@gmail.com

Some final harrumphs on Trump's grumps

My column suggesting to Republicans that, like it or not, the presidential elections are over and for those crying 'foul' they might want to take out their anger on the Democrats and not each other brought some interesting and some predictable responses. There was, of course,

the "Fergit, Hell," group who think they can garner enough support among Georgia voters to defeat Gov. Brian Kemp, Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan and Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger in 2022 for not backing Donald Trump's claims that the election results in Georgia were rigged. They still don't get it.

In their fantasy world, they will somehow get the Republican incumbents defeated and a new crowd in place and will prevent Democrat Stacey Abrams from waltzing into the governor's office. Not going to happen. Write it down. Don't forget that Republican incumbent David Perdue and his co-

hort Kelly Loeffler were all-in for Trump and both lost their seats in the United States Senate to a couple of political neophytes, Rev. Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff, which guarantees that Democrats not only have the White House but both houses of Congress, as well. How did that work out for you? I have received a number of responses from conservatives - some names that might be recognizable to some of you - who agree that it is time to move on. They are worried that the Trump devotees in their quest for revenge are going to severely hurt the Republican Party and that the damage will be long lasting. Some say their vote in the last election was more a vote against Hillary Clinton than for Donald Trump. The Republican Party is bigger than Donald Trump. His zealots are standing on the shoulders of a group of visionaries who built the Republican Party in Georgia when the torch-and-pitchfork crowd were a gleam in their daddy's eye. People like Bob Shaw, the no-nagenarian who was around when Republicans could have held their conventions in a phone book; former U.S. Sens. Johnny Isakson and Mack Mattingly; the late Sen. Paul Coverdell; former U.S. Rep. Bo Calloway and former State Reps. Rodney Cook and Kil Townsend, among others. They were compassion-

Dick Yarbrough

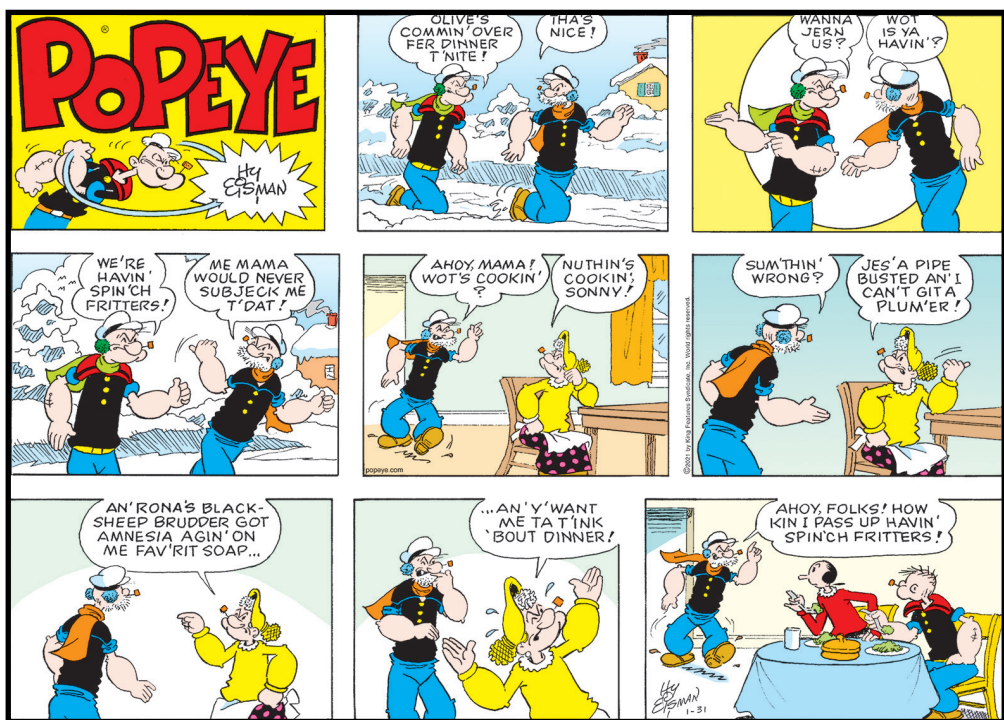
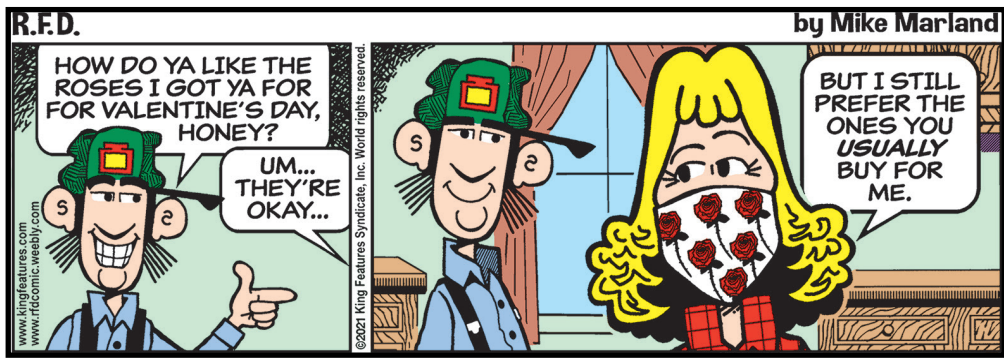


ate conservatives who offered a responsible alternative to a left-leaning Democratic Party certainly before Donald Trump came along and before he was doling out money to Democrats like Chuck Schumer and John Kerry and Hillary Clinton. Not to mention \$6,000 to current Vice President Kamala Harris in her race for California attorney general (\$5,000 in 2011 and \$1,000 in 2013.) For those who have tried to rationalize the actions of the mob that stormed the U.S. Capitol last month or who support some paramilitary group flexing their muscles and talking jive talk about taking matters into their own hands because they disagree with the outcome of the presidential election, please do not use the word "patriot" with me when describing yourselves as though you are and the rest of us are not. Webster's Dictionary defines a patriot as "one who loves his country and supports its authority and interests." You may claim you love your country but only if it operates by your authority and in your interests. Quit throwing the term around until it loses its real meaning. By the way, I am still trying to figure out why some of the self-styled patriots showed up that day in Wash-

ington waving Confederate flags. Correct me if I am wrong, but that war ended 156 years ago this coming April and the final score was 1-0. Our side lost. What is your point? Most disheartening to me are the letters I have gotten from readers so frustrated with how things turned out in November that they say they are not going to vote in the future. They have lost faith in the system. I hope that is not the case. It is critical that our legislators closely examine our current election laws and come up with solutions that will give us faith that our vote truly counts. At another time of crisis in our country, Abraham Lincoln said, "We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory will swell when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature." It is time to get this election over with and to once again find the better angels of our nature. It is time to move on.

You can reach Dick Yarbrough at dick@dickyarbrough.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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