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VOLUME 162, NO. 19

Swainsboro, Georgia • May 12, 2021

ONE DOLLAR

Emanuel County Schools Superintendent search update

The Emanuel County Board of Education continues to make progress in naming a new superintendent to replace retiring Superintendent Dr. Kevin A. Judy.

Among the steps completed in the process, the Board reviewed results of a survey of the community and school system staff to seek input as to the characteristics desired in the new superintendent; adopted qualifications for the applications; approved and disseminated a recruitment brochure; reviewed applications; and interviewed candi-

dates that appeared to have closely met the qualifications.

Thirty applications were received from a broad range of applicants. From these, a number of candidates were chosen for close review and were recently interviewed as the Board sought to determine those applicants best qualified for the position.

At least 14 calendar days before taking final action on the position, the Board is required to make available to the public, documents for inspection and/or copying concern-

ing as many as three persons under consideration whom the Board has determined to be best qualified for the position.

Three applicants have been named by the Board as determined to be best qualified for the position. Information on these candidates is available at the Board office. Those applicants are in alphabetical order:

Mr. Anthony J. Aikens
Mr. Scotty W. Hattaway
Dr. Denise B. Warnock

The Board hopes to have a new superintendent in place by Wednesday, May 19, 2021.



GREEN JACKET RECIPIENT, WADE JOHNSON



NON-PROFIT 1ST PLACE - DELLWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH



PROFIT 1ST PLACE - THE FOREST BLADE



SCENE FROM GRAND OPENING AND RIBBON CUTTING

Unique Body Sculpting LLC hosts grand opening ribbon cutting

On Thursday, May 6, members of the community joined together for a ribbon cutting at Unique Body Sculpting LLC, located at 115 Roger Shaw St., Unit 9, in Swainsboro. Shunteese T. Young, CEO of Unique Body Sculpting, cut the ribbon to mark the occasion of her grand opening.

The service Young performs is non-invasive body contouring with no downtime and no pain. Young has more than five years of experience and is certified in all services she performs on her clients. Body sculpting is something she has a passion for, and she loves to see her clients' end results. Young appreciates those in attendance at her grand opening and ribbon cutting and would like to thank everyone that came out to support her and her new business.



SCENE FROM RIBBON CUTTING EVENT

Crossroads Nutrition holds ribbon cutting

Crossroads Nutrition, located at 108 West Main Street in Swainsboro, held a grand opening and ribbon cutting event Thursday, April 29, at 4 p.m. Samples of lit teas and finger foods were provided as refreshments.

Pine Tree Festival 2021 deemed a success

Downtown Swainsboro was the place to be this weekend as the community celebrated the 74.5 Pine Tree Festival.

Activities kicked off Friday night with the Rhythm & Pines Music Festival featuring Sam's Drive-In Band on the Square, Rhett Blount and Friends at the Boneyard Farmers Market Shelter, and the Swingin' Medallions at the Boneyard Pavilion. The Gospel Stage, located behind the Emanuel County Tax Commissioner's Office, also featured a variety of local talent throughout the evening.

After enjoying a fun-filled evening of music, the crowds returned Saturday morning for an exciting lineup of festival activities.

The morning began

with the Knotty Pine 5K race, which brought in runners from across the region. At approximately 10:00 a.m., all eyes turned to the main stage as Swainsboro Mayor Charles Schwabe welcomed the crowd, followed by an invocation by Emanuel County Sheriff's Office Major Nick Robertson, an introduction of the Pine Tree Festival's Royal Court, and the National Anthem, led by Donna Haddock. Wade Johnson was then awarded the Green Jacket and deemed Grand Marshal of the 2021 Pine Tree Festival Parade.

The parade commenced at 10:30 a.m. with floats, marching groups, and other entries representing a variety

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Rain

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Citizens Bank Student Advisory Board visits East Georgia State College

On Monday evening, April 26, for the thirteenth consecutive year, the Citizens Bank Student Advisory Board held their monthly meeting at East Georgia State College. The Student Advisory Board is comprised of quality high school seniors representing Swainsboro High School, ECI, and David Emanuel Academy. Approximately 30 members of the 40-member board were in attendance. They were accompanied by board sponsors Leck Boatright, Vice President/Mortgage Executive; and Angie Cavanah, Assistant Vice President/Customer Service. The program is a learning experience as well as being highly beneficial for future financial success, an opportunity for leadership training and community involvement. Students apply for the program and submit recommendations from teachers as well as have a private interview to be chosen for the board.

The group gathered

in the Luck Flanders Gambrell Auditorium where they were welcomed by Jim Beall, Associate Vice President for Academics and Enrollment at EGSC. Beall then introduced Michael Wernon, EGSC's Director of Financial Aid, who presented the program, which encompassed information about college Financial Aid. Wernon spoke on how to complete a FAFSA, apply for scholarships, and what websites were the best resource for the students and their parents. Each one of the board members received a handout for easy reference as they prepare to submit applications for financial aid and scholarships to the various institutions they will be attending in the fall.

Following the presentation, the group gathered in the rotunda for a picture, then followed Angie Williams, Director of Event Planning & Scheduling at EGSC, to the newly opened Jean

A. Morgan Student Life Center expansion for a tour. Prior to the tour, Williams informed the group whether they were attending EGSC in the fall or another college, they were always welcome on the East Georgia campus. For those who may be interested in getting extra classes completed while on winter or summer break from another college, Williams told them about becoming a transient student at EGSC and having their course credits transferred back to their institution.

The members of the board, along with their advisors, enjoyed touring the new addition of the Jean Anderson Morgan Student Activities Center. The meeting and tour ended in the Richard L. Brown Dining Hall, where the group was treated to a delicious buffet meal provided by the East Georgia State College Foundation.



BACK ROW: SWAINSBORO EXCHANGE CLUB CHAIRMAN MARK WILLIAMS, DAVIS, CRUZ AND SWAINSBORO EXCHANGE CLUB CO-CHAIRMAN DR. KEVIN A. JUDY
FRONT ROW: CONNOR, KERSEY AND CLEMENS

Clemens named Swainsboro Exchange Club's Overall Youth of the Year recipient

The 2021 Swainsboro Exchange Club Youth of the Year Awards Banquet was held Tuesday, May 4, at The Rustic Grill. The National Youth of the Year Award provides the National Exchange Clubs with the opportunity to honor outstanding students who have exhibited excellence in academics and leadership. It is the culmination of an effort by hundreds of Exchange Clubs across the country to identify and recognize the young leaders of our nation. The recipient serves as a role model to his or her peers, by exhibiting exceptional scholastic achievement, respect for self and others, and ambitious career goals. National Youth of the Year recipients have illustrated that the diligent pursuit of higher ideals truly brings rewards.

The process for selecting the National Youth of the Year begins at the local club level. Exchange Clubs provide a yearly

recognition of outstanding youth in their communities. Each club selects a Youth of the Year and forwards an application for district (or state) judging. District honorees are judged at the national level for the final selection of the prestigious National Youth of the Year.

The National Youth of the Year receives a \$10,000 scholarship and the opportunity to address hundreds of Exchangites at the National Youth Recognition Luncheon. In addition, the recipients winning essay is featured in Exchange Today magazine. This year's theme and essay topic is "I recognize my responsibility in shaping America's future: I have stepped out of my comfort zone during uncertain times and made a difference. I am part of history and here is where it started".

The Youth of the Year application scores the youth on several sections of achievement:

School related activities, Community service activities, grades, special achievements and awards, and finally the essay. All these are scored and totaled up allowing us to come up with overall scores and the winner(s).

The Scholarship awarded on the local level is \$450 for first place and \$350 for second place.

Emanuel County Youth of the Year contestants included Swainsboro High School students, Layla Conner and Daniel Cruz; Emanuel County Institute students, Sarah Kersey and Jack Davis; and David Emanuel Academy students, AnnaKade Clemens and Garrett Claxton.

Clemens was named the overall winner. She was awarded a \$600 scholarship and will advance to the Georgia District competition. Kersey placed second and received a \$400 scholarship.



CITIZENS BANK ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS AT EGSC

Pine Tree Festival...

(from front page)

of schools, businesses, non-profit organizations, and individuals. The following organizations received awards for their parade entries:

- Non-Profit 1st place Dellwood Baptist Church
- Non-Profit 2nd place -Jesus Saves Church
- Profit 1st place - The Forest Blade
- Profit 2nd place - Swainsboro Financial Service
- Profit 3rd place - Central Georgia Chiropractic

The festivities continued after the parade with an antique tractor show, car show, chainsaw carving demonstrations by Tim Davis,

and a kids zone with a selection of inflatables and rides. The parking lots located behind the Emanuel County Courthouse were filled with vendors offering everything from crafts and face painting to homemade ice cream and barbecue.

Featured entertainment included the Jurassic Kingdom Dinosaur Show, which packed the stands for each of its three shows. The show engaged the little ones with a cast of realistic, interactive dinosaurs ranging from baby raptors to a T-Rex. In addition, Flight Crew Jump Rope wowed the

crowds assembled for its three shows as the team of professional jump ropers demonstrated incredible acrobatics and choreography set to an upbeat soundtrack.

Dubbed the 74.5 Pine Tree Festival, the event was slightly scaled back due to the impact of the pandemic. However, the weekend's fantastic weather paired with the festival's status as the first major community event since 2019, was the perfect recipe for a successful event. Festival organizers appreciate the community's support and are already working to make next year's festival even better.



NON-PROFIT 2ND PLACE -JESUS SAVES CHURCH



PROFIT 2ND PLACE - SWAINSBORO FINANCIAL SERVICE

The Forest-Blade

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Send your changes to news@emanuelcountylive.com

Emanuel County Chamber Member Spotlight: Mill Pond Kayak

Mill Pond Kayak was founded in 2009 by Wesley Hendley. After earning a zoology degree from the University of Georgia in 1983, Hendley's career path led to 25 years as a manufacturing engineer. But, upon retiring in 2009, he decided to return to his original interests and founded Mill Pond Kayak. With a lifelong history of hunting, fishing, camping, and enjoying a variety of water-related outdoor activities, this was a perfect fit! He says that kayaking is a unique way to exercise the body while relaxing the mind. He especially enjoys helping people create memorable experiences with friends and family while developing an appreciation for the natural beauty in our midst.

Mill Pond Kayak offers guided tours on the paddling trails of George L. Smith State Park's historic 412-acre mill pond, and occasionally on other waterways including the Ogeechee and Ohoopie Rivers. Kayaks, paddles, and PFD Vests are provided, or you may bring your own. Pictures are taken during each tour at no extra charge. The calm, black water is the perfect venue for kayakers of all ages, and no experience is required. The tours are great for small groups or large, including couples, family and friends, photographers, birthdays, reunions, company picnics, church activities, scout troops, school clubs, and more. Come see birds nesting in spring, start a summertime water fight, or enjoy the colorful reflections of fall.

Mill Pond Kayak's mission is to be safe, enjoy, and have fun! They value going the extra mile to ensure that each visitor has a great experience. If anyone doesn't have a good time, the tour is free. So far, everyone has paid! When asked why Mill Pond Kayak is a Chamber member, Hendley, founder and sole operator, stated that he feels it's important to support the Chamber's efforts to serve our business community and grow our local economy. This improves the quality of life for all our citizens. In turn, the Chamber offers resources and helps to promote his business.

Hendley is heavily involved in the community, holding current and past positions in several organizations. He is a member of Georgia's Classic South Travel Association and a Board Member of Historic Twin City, Georgia, Inc. He previously served on the Chamber Board as Chairman of the Tourism Committee and is a former Board Member of the Development Authority of Twin City and Friends of George L. Smith State Park. An interesting fact about Hendley is that after almost twelve years in business, he's paddled over 5,000 miles and is quite sure at least 1,000 of them have been while going backwards!

Mill Pond Kayak's address is P.O. Box 576, Twin City, GA, 30471. Hours of operation include any day of the week during daylight hours, except



MILL POND KAYAK LLC

TWIN CITY, GA
MILL POND KAYAK LOGO



HENDLEY RELAXING IN A KAYAK



KAYAKERS ENJOYING MILL POND KAYAK RENTALS

only in the afternoons on Sundays. Advance reservations are required. Contact Mill Pond Kayak at 478-299-6616 or visit Mill Pond Kayak online at www.millpondkayak.com.

Keep up with Mill Pond Kayak updates via social media through Facebook (facebook.com/MillPondKayak) and Instagram ([@millpondkayak](https://instagram.com/millpondkayak)).

*Congratulations,
Spring 2021 Graduates!*

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www.ega.edu/2021-Spring-Commencement

www.EGA.EDU

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BOBCAT SPOT
What's going on at your hometown college!

**EGSC Softball, Baseball
move forward in GCAA Playoffs**

The East Georgia State College Bobcats kicked off the GCAA Conference Playoffs last week by hosting ABAC on May 6 against the Lady Bobcat Softball Team and on May 7 against the Bobcat Baseball Team.

The Lady Bobcats took their home field on Thursday for a double-header against the Stallions, taking game 1 by a score of 4-3, then took game two 14 - 3. The Lady Bobcats were scheduled to take on Gordon State College on Monday in Barnesville, but the games were rescheduled to yesterday due to weather. Scores were not available as of press time, but the teams were scheduled to play two games at 4 and 6 p.m., with an "if" game scheduled later in the week to determine the best of three for the teams to see who advances in the Conference. Check out our Facebook page to see the final results of the tournament at www.facebook.com/EGSCAthletics.

The Bobcats hosted the Stallions on the baseball diamond on Friday, May 7, entering Conference play with a 29-20 overall record and third-place seed in the tournament. The game turned into a thriller, with the Bobcats defeating the Stallions 6-5 to move on to Sunday's double-elimination final four series in Rome. They took on Georgia Highlands College Sunday afternoon, defeating them 14 - 7 to advance in the winner's bracket. The Bobcats played in the Final Four in Cuthbert, Georgia yesterday, but scores were not available as of press time. We await the results with bated breath! Check out our Facebook page to see the final results of the tournament at www.facebook.com/EGSCAthletics.

Go Bobcats!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
GCAA ALL-CONFERENCE
SOFTBALL PLAYERS**

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 22 - May 31	Summer and Fall Open Registration
May 12	EREA Anniversary Committee Meeting - 10 a.m.
May 13 - 14	End of Term Processing
May 13	Maymester Last Day to Withdraw without Penalty Family Connection Meeting - 12 p.m. DAR Meeting - 1:30 p.m.
May 17	End of Term Processing
May 18	Total Wellness Session - 12 p.m.
May 19	Semester Grades Available

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

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Sunday

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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!

David Henry Gambrell

David Henry Gambrell died peacefully at home on May 6, 2021, after a brief period of declining health. A proud and lifelong resident of Atlanta, David graduated from public schools there, and then from Davidson College (1949) and Harvard Law School (1952) with honors.

The summer after law school graduation, David met Luck Flanders of Swainsboro, Georgia at the National Democratic Convention in Chicago, and the following year they married and spent an extraordinary 62 years together until Luck's death in 2015.

David began his legal career as an associate partner at King and Spalding in Atlanta. In 1963, he co-founded the firm that became Gambrell and Stolz, which merged in 2007 with what is now Baker Donelson. During his long professional career, David was elected to serve as President of the Atlanta Bar Association (1965-66) and President of the State Bar of Georgia ((1967-68). He was awarded the State Bar's Distinguished Service Award (2002), The Atlanta Bar's Leadership Award (2007), and the Outstanding Service Award of the American Bar Association Foundation in 2012. David made time for civic life as well. Among the Boards and Commissions where he dedicated time and expertise were The Atlanta Legal Aid Society, The Atlanta Mission, Habitat for Humanity, The Carter Center, and The Buckhead Coalition.

In the 1960s and 1970s, David was active in political life, helping then-State Senator Jimmy Carter in his gubernatorial races, and serving as Chair of the Georgia Democratic Party in 1970. In 1971, he was appointed by then-Governor Carter to fill the unexpired term of US Senator Richard B. Russell. While in Washington, David led the successful effort to pass a \$250 million loan guarantee to keep the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation from bankruptcy. At the time, Lockheed was a major Georgia employer and critical to the state's economy. Not being re-elected to the Senate, David returned to his law practice in Atlanta and took the opportunity to spend more time with family, friends and his interests, which included history and genealogy. His lifelong curiosity about family history led him to remote towns around the world. All of this culminated in his book, "Georgia Girl," which focused on the life and times of his ancestor Ann Grace in the years leading up to the Civil War.



GAMBRELL

David visited all 159 counties in Georgia and maintained friendships statewide. He spent many hours hunting and fishing in his adopted stomping grounds in Emanuel and Jefferson Counties, and thoroughly enjoyed bringing home wild turkeys to cook for Thanksgiving at Cooter Creek Farm. He also had an agrarian streak that inspired him to cultivate his side yard in Atlanta, startling visitors with urban cornrows and grapevines. For a while, he kept bees, and later made wine in his Buckhead Atlanta kitchen.

As a father David was patient and rarely heavy-handed, believing that his children could learn more from making their own decisions and mistakes. As a friend and co-worker, he was a trusted advisor, showing malice toward no one, ever. He was an active member of First Presbyterian Church, where he served as an Elder for many years and taught a men's Bible Class. David moved to Lenbrook Retirement Community after the death of his wife, Luck. There he was able to spend time with many new and old friends, including Jeanne Martin. David and Jeanne married in 2016, and had an active and happy life together attending social and cultural activities, traveling and playing golf whenever possible.

In addition to his wife Jeanne, David is survived by his children Luck Davidson, Henry Gambrell, Alice Gambrell (David Rollo), and Mary G. Rolinson (Frank). He also was proud grandfather to Dave, Charlotte (Tyler Quinn), and Kathleen Davidson, and Callum and Duncan Rolinson.

The Gambrell family extends deep appreciation to David's Executive Assistant, Bonnie Johnson, who worked with him for a remarkable 33 years. Alisa Bingham and Karen Pittman were constantly there to give David love and care during their many years of helping the entire family.

For those who wish to make a donation in memory of David's life, you may send gifts to Atlanta Mission, Potter's House, P.O. Box 20017, Atlanta, Ga., 30325 or go online to <https://atlantamission.org/ways-to-give/>

Jo Ann Pollett, 77

Mrs. Jo Ann Pollett, 77, of Norristown, passed away Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at her residence following an extended illness. Funeral services were Friday, May 7, at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Chapman Funeral Home with Reverend Joe Bedgood officiating. Interment followed at Ebenezer Methodist Baptist Church Cemetery. The family received friends Thursday, May 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Chapman Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Jeff Coleman, Brandon Morris, Derek Sharpton, Brent Mann, Charlie Wilson, and Ken Rutherford.

Mrs. Pollett was born October 20, 1943, in Swainsboro, to the late Hubert Warren Durden and Ruby Mae Hall Durden. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Carlos Pollett; and daughter, Tracy Morris Short.

Survivors include her



POLLETT

sons, Raymond Morris (Susan) and Ashley Pollett (Gayla), both of Norristown; daughter, Carla Pollett of Norristown; brother, Hugh Durden (Kathy) of Macon; sister, Deborah Johns of Metter; grandchildren, Brandon Morris, Jessica Johnson, Derek Sharpton, Harli Cheyenne Moore, and Jada Pollett; 7 great-grandchildren; several nieces, nephews, and many friends.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro was in charge of arrangements.

Sara Riner Hudson Claxton,

94

Durden-Hudson Funeral Directors announces the death of Mrs. Sara Riner Hudson Claxton, age 94, of Swainsboro, on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, May 6, at 11 a.m. in the Peebles-Curry Memorial Chapel with Rev. Rusty Moore and Rev. Jim Harrell officiating. Visitation was Wednesday, May 5, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home. Interment followed in the Union Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery. CDC social distancing guidelines were observed and masks were encouraged for your safety and the health and well-being of others.

Pallbearers were Bryan Flanders, Brent Hudson, Russ Harrell, Hunter Moore, Justin Strickland, Mason Manning, and Levi Manning.

Mrs. Claxton was born in Swainsboro on September 25, 1926. She was the daughter of the late Dennis and Charlotte Faircloth Riner. Mrs. Sara retired as a seamstress with Creston Knitting Mills, and is of the Baptist faith. She enjoyed flower gardening, fishing, and cooking. However, her greatest joy was her



CLAXTON

family - spending time with them and caring for them. Mrs. Claxton is preceded in death by her parents; husbands, Oliver "Jr." Hudson Jr. and Elder William Claxton; son, Jerry Oliver Hudson; sisters, Anne Roberson, Dora Mae Wiggins, and Maggie Youngblood; brothers, Earnest "Slim" Riner, Oscar Riner, and I.T. Riner; and stepson, Harold Claxton.

Survivors include daughters, Judy Moore (Russell), Linda Flanders, Barbara Strickland (Allan), and Jessie Garrett (Donnie), all of Swainsboro; stepson, Lewis Claxton of Swainsboro; 14 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; 4 great-great-grandchildren; numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Durden-Hudson Funeral Directors is in charge of arrangements.

Janis Hopkins Drake

Janis Hopkins Drake, of Midville, died Sunday, May 2, 2021 in Augusta. Funeral services were held Thursday, May 6, at 1 p.m. from the Midville Baptist Church with Reverend Daryl Cox and Reverend Terry Quick officiating. Interment followed at Hawthamock Baptist Church Cemetery. The family received friends at Tomlinson Funeral Home Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m.

Pallbearers were Scotty Hall, Darrell Hall, David "Spec" Hall, David Hopkins, Nicky Drake, Jeff Drake, Micky Frederick, and Landan Frederick.

Ms. Drake was born in Emanuel County, daughter of the late Elzie Hopkins and

Emma Hutcheson Hopkins. She attended Midville Baptist Church where she was very faithful in her attendance in Sunday School and Church, and sang in the Church Choir. Ms. Drake is preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Charles Ray Hopkins, Thomas Hopkins, and Wendell Hopkins; sister, Shelba Jean Hopkins Hall; and husband, William "Billy" Drake.

Survivors include her sister, Nell West; 3 sisters-in-law, Gail Edenfield, Gail Drake, and Susie Bishop; several nieces and nephews; and her "Fur Babies, Scooter, Jill, Drake, Ralph, and Packey. Arrangements were by Tomlinson Funeral Home and Crematory.

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Betty Hall Anderson, 96

Durden-Hudson Funeral Directors announces the death of Mrs. Betty Hall Anderson, age 96, of Twin City, on April 21, 2021 at her residence. Memorial services will be held on Saturday, May 15, at 11 a.m. in the Twin City First Baptist Church with Dr. Bill Perry officiating. CDC social distancing guidelines will be observed and masks are encouraged for your safety and the health and well-being of others.

Mrs. Anderson was born January 1, 1925 in Miami, Florida to the late William, Jr. and Annie Laurie Rountree Hall. She was a member of the Twin City First Baptist Church. Mrs. Anderson loved attending her Sunday School class and being with her Sunday School classmates. She enjoyed playing the piano and organ. One of Mrs. Anderson's greatest loves was her 32 grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren. She enjoyed playing golf, cards, the beach, and going to Biloxi, Mississippi. Mrs. Anderson retired as an LPN from Candler Hos-



ANDERSON

pital in Savannah. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, Robert Anderson; son, Samuel Joseph Overstreet, III; two sisters, Lottie Jean Hall and Mary Lerwick; granddaughter, Jody Anne Whetsell; daughter-in-law, Patsy Overstreet; and step-son, Robert W. Anderson, Jr.

Survivors include her daughters, Jann Henry of Twin City, Jeannie Moxley (Tommy) of Shellmans Bluff, and Judy Whetsell (John) of Twin City; step-son, Bill Anderson (Renee) of Florida; 32 grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren; nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Durden-Hudson Funeral Directors was in charge of arrangements.

A Place for YOU!

by BISHOP BERTHA JONES

As things began to get chaotic in this world, everyone is looking for a special place. They are looking for a place of their own, a place where they feel comfortable. My, how much time, resources and effort are spent on trying to make your home a special place. Everyone would like for their place to feel secure. As we purchase valuables, we want them to be safe. For safety reasons, people began to try to secure their homes with alarms, cameras and guns. They began to lock themselves in their own homes, so where is the comfort? It sounds like troubled hearts and insecurity in your own place.

But in St. John Chapter 14, Jesus told His discipline not to have a troubled heart. He told them not to let their hearts be afraid because He is going away to prepare a place for them. In His Father's house are many mansions. He is preparing a place for His disciples because He is coming back to get them. Yes, He is coming back just like He said. Why would He prepare somewhere

for you to live forever and not come back for you and take you there?

The place that Jesus has prepared cannot be reached through navigation. It is not accessible by boat, truck, car, nor plane. NASA and spaceships cannot get you there. Jesus is the only way to get to that prepared place. He said in His Word, "I am the way, the truth and the life, and no man comes to the Father, but by Me." The prepared place is in His Father's house.

Matthew Chapter 6 and verses 19-20 tells us not to lay treasures up on earth because moth corrupts and thieves break through and steal. "But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor dust corrupt, nor thieves do not break through nor steal."

So today, accept Jesus to come and live in your heart now so you can live with Him forever in the place which He has prepared for you. Yes, you have a special place prepared just for you. This is a prepared place for a prepared people. Prepare yourself today by receiving Jesus as your personal Savior. You are special and loved by Him.



EMBA WITH BRINSON

EMBA shares the Gospel

by PASTOR JOE BED-GOOD

The E.M.B.A. is the Emanuel Missionary Baptist Association, which includes 24 churches that work together on different things throughout the year. These churches are also a part of the Southern Baptist Convention. This past Saturday as a part of the Pine Tree Festival about a dozen folks worked together to share the gospel with anyone who would be willing to hear it. It required a simple survey of five to six questions. Once they took the survey they were eligible for a free sno-cone and they got a chance to win a PS4

prize package. Keith Brinson was the winner of the prize package!

After the survey if anyone wanted to hear the gospel, they would have someone open the bible and let them read the scriptures for themselves. Many took this opportunity to hear what God's word said to them and then prayed to receive Christ! It was a great day of outreach. The people in this world need Jesus and it is our responsibility to share his good news with them. After all, the good news is only good news if it gets to them in time!

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May 11, 1961
L.L. JOYNER RESIGNED; TOOK POST AT GEORGIA SOUTHERN
 Lloyd L. Joyner, Jr., principal of Emanuel County Institute of Twin City since 1956, tendered his Resignation to accept the post of Registrar at Georgia Southern College in Statesboro. In addition to his principal duties at ECI, Mr. Joyner held a number of posts in area school associations and groups. He was president of the First District High School Principals Association, 1960-61, and was executive secretary of Region 2-B, Georgia High School Association, since 1957. (visit emanuelcountylive.com to see contestants' photos)

LAYTON TO SPEAK AT POSTMASTER MEET
 Carl Layton, national president of the National League of Postmasters, was among the guest speakers at the annual convention of the Georgia branch of the organization May 21-23 at the Gen-Oglethorpe Hotel on Wilmington Island, Savannah. The league had been serving postmasters since 1904. (visit emanuelcountylive.com to see contestants' photos)

May 12, 1971
GAY CHOSEN FESTIVAL QUEEN
 Miss Paulette Gay, student at ECI, reigned over festivities at Emanuel County Pine Tree Festival. Daughter of Mr. and Mss. M.L. Gay of Twin City, she was crowned Pine Tree Festival queen during the annual beauty contest in Swainsboro High School auditorium. Her official escort was Eddie Brown. (visit emanuelcountylive.com to see contestants' photos)

CHAMPIONSHIP GOLFERS
 Maurice Driggins holds the championship title of Emanuel County's Pine Tree golf tournament. George DeLoach took second place honors in the championship flight in Thursday's play-offs and championship in Flight B went to Butch Parrish of Swainsboro. With the winners are Dr. H.R. Frost tournament chairman, and Harold Knowlton, who assisted with trophy presentations. Gene Baird took top honors in Championship Fight C. (visit emanuelcountylive.com to see contestants' photos)

May 13, 1981
VOLUNTEERS ELECT MRS. FRECKER
 Mrs. Robert Frecker was elected president of Emanuel County Hospital and Nursing Home Volunteers. Others elected to officer were Mrs. Al Seckinger, vice president, Miss Sue Stanford, secretary, Mrs. J.D. Cruce, secretary, and Mrs. Randolph Cardoza, historian. Mrs. Bonnie Ogburn was named nominating committee chairman with Mrs. Woodruff Kea serving on her committee. (visit emanuelcountylive.com to see contestants' photos)

PARTICIPATING IN EXERCISE
 PFC James W. Fields, Jr., the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Fields Sr, of Swainsboro, participated in exercise Hardened Steel III with the 2nd Armored Division, Fort Hood. PFC Fields was a Cannon Crewman assigned to C Battery, 1st Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery. Hardened Steel III is an Armored Division moving to and operating out of field locations. The exercise is designed to trail soldiers to live and accomplish training requirements while in a field environment for an extended period of time. PFC Fields attended Swainsboro High School. (visit emanuelcountylive.com to see contestants' photos)

May 15, 1991
'GET HOPPIN'
 'Get Hoppin' was presented by the Swainsboro Primary classes of Mrs. Patti Oglesby and Mrs. Ginny Smith May 21 at 7 p.m. at the Middle School auditorium. The play, funded by a grant from the Emanuel County Mini-Grant program, was written by Jill Gallina and was part of the Honors Day program. Getting in the act were Keli Hall, Clay Price, Holly Boatright, and Ana Warnock. (visit emanuelcountylive.com to see contestants' photos)

PRESENT LEARNING AIDS
 Members of Cub Scouts Pack 205, Twin City, presented learning aids to the kindergarten classes at Twin City Primary School. The Cubs made the items as part of their craftsman achievement requirements. Shown with some of the items are Wade Johnson, Chad Thompson, Kindergarten teacher Tammy Carr, Brandon Neal, Daniel Lacy, and Dustin Woods. (visit emanuelcountylive.com to see contestants' photos)

May 9, 2001
THIS IS FUN!
 Swainsboro Primary School students enjoyed "Reading is Fun Day" held Friday, May 4. These students are delighted as they watch their teacher go down the slide. Other activities included music, a visit by Ronald McDonald, and a pie throwing contest. Students also had the opportunity to read with parents and take Accelerated Reader test. (visit emanuelcountylive.com to see contestants' photos)

CAMERON TAKES 55TH PINE TREE INVITATIONAL
 On a day when birdies were hard to come by, Josey Cameron sank a curling 30-foot putt on number 16 to take the prestigious Pine Tree Invitational Golf Tournament title. (visit emanuelcountylive.com to see contestants' photos)

May 11, 2011
KELLUM AWARDED GREEN JACKET
 Rodney Kellum was presented the Green Jacket by previous winners, Jimmy Morgan and Senator David Gambrell. (visit emanuelcountylive.com to see contestants' photos)

NAIL WINS PINE TREE TENNIS 18U SINGLES
 Gordon Nail, Jr, age 17, was named the Pine Tree Tennis 2011 Boys 18U Singles Champ. He was a full-time student at East Georgia College through the Move On When Ready program during the time. He and Austin Proctor, son of Donald and Staci Avery, won the Runner-Up Medals in the Boys 18U Doubles competition. (visit emanuelcountylive.com to see contestants' photos)

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Back the Blue, Respect the Fallen

This week, we celebrate National Police Week and National Peace Officers Memorial Day. Highlighting law enforcement officers throughout the nation, it's important to know the difference and meaning behind both nationally recognized traditions.

National Police Week

National Police Week is celebrated on an annual basis during the week of May 15. During this week, contributions of law enforcement officers (LEO) are recognized throughout the nation. Answering the call to public service is demanding and often underappreciated, yet, every workday, law enforcement officers put on their uniforms and respond to serve no matter what the day may hold.

How to observe National Police Week

Recognize and support services provided by local police departments.

Wear blue this week.

Pay for an officer's meal. You don't even have to let them know it was you! Just flag down the waitress or hostess and request for the officer's tab.

A "Thank you for your service," goes a long way.

Share a positive story about a law enforcement officer you know.

Peace Officers Memorial Day

Also recognized each year on May 15 is Peace Officers Memorial Day. On this particular day, tribute is paid to law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice or been injured while serving in the line of duty. Fallen law enforcement officers represent all levels of law enforcement, including local, state, federal, tribal, and military law enforcement. This Saturday, May 15, honors the fallen law enforcement officers across the nation and offers support to surviving family members and officers.

Facts:

According to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, as of Monday, May 10, a preliminary fallen officer fatality report indicated that a total of 96 LEO deaths have been reported since the beginning of this year. Of the 96 fatalities, 19 were firearm-related, 25 were traffic-related and 52 resulted from other causes. Nine of the 96 total fallen officers were in the state of Georgia.

National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund also points out that more than 800,000 law enforcement officers serve in the United States today. Each year, new names are added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund wall, which averages approximately 163 deaths per year and features the names of more than 22,000 law enforcement officers who have been killed in the line of duty.

National Police Week and Peace Officers Memorial Day History

On October 1, 1961, Congress asked President John F. Kennedy to designate May 15 to honor peace officers. In 1962, President Kennedy declared Peace Officers Memorial Day to be observed on May 15 and recognized the week of May 15 as National Police Week. In 1994, Bill Clinton made an amendment through Public Law 103-322 that directed the United States flag to be flown at half-staff on May 15 in honor of the day.

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Twin City issues proclamation for Professional Municipal Clerks Week

A Proclamation, issued by City of Twin City, on May 4, 2021 resolves that the week of May 2 through May 8, 2021 was designated as "Professional Municipal Clerks Week."

Unanimously adopted by the City Commission of Twin City, the Proclamation extends appreciation to all Municipal and Deputy Clerks for the services with which they provide their communities. Specifically, the Proclamation cites that the Clerk "serves as the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies and agencies of government at other levels."

The Proclamation was presented to City Clerk Eugenia (Genia) Duckler and signed by Mayor Matt Donaldson. It also honors Municipal and Deputy Clerks for "continually striving to improve the administration of their duties through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops and annual meetings of their state, province, county and international professional organizations."

The International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), a professional association of City, Town, Town-



DUCKER

ship, Village, Borough, Deputy and County Clerks, sponsors Municipal Clerks Week. IIMC has 14,700 members throughout the United States, Canada and 15 other countries.

IIMC President Mary Johnston, MMC, and Clerk of Council for the City of Westerville, Ohio, urges Municipal and Deputy Clerks to highlight the importance of their roles and functions and the impact the Municipal Clerk's office has on the public.

"There are many responsibilities of the Municipal and Deputy Clerk that the public takes for granted, such as keeping the council advised of legislation that affects them," said

Johnston. "Yet, if Clerks are inattentive in their duties, then the efficient operation of our local government is greatly affected."

"The functions of the Clerk necessitate a thorough knowledge of law procedure, administration and interpersonal relations. To keep up with the consistent transformation in local government, many Clerks participate in continuing education and seminars and attending Clerk Institutes," said Johnston.

"Genia is doing a great job as our City Clerk. We could not run the City of Twin City without her and the rest of our clerks," said Mayor Matt Donaldson.

Letter to the Editor

Often when a loved one passes, the funeral service held for them is called a celebration of life. Family, friends, neighbors, and even co-workers stand before the congregation and talk about the deceased's good qualities, and may even share funny stories about good times had in his or her company. Though the audience appreciates the fond memories, the one who really needs to hear them can't.

That's why I was so glad to witness a true celebration of life as friends, family, and neighbors performed a drive-by celebration of C.B. Badie's 90th birthday. To say that he was

surprised is an understatement. You have no idea how blessed he felt to see so many vehicles lining the street just to honor his special day.

As the long line of vehicles made its way to the house, everyone was honking horns, cheering, blowing noise makers, and yelling "happy birthday". At first, he wondered what in the world was going on. Even though some of the cars were decorated, it still didn't click that this was for his birthday. When I told him that all the commotion was for him, he stared in disbelief. During the entire event he kept repeating, "I didn't know people thought so much of

me." After all the excitement ended and the last well-wisher had gone, Dad and I sat down and read each card together.

So, thank you to everyone for making my dad feel so special and so loved. The smile still hasn't left his face. A special thank you to Sis. Damita Bynes for organizing the entire event. Thank you also to all of you who either didn't know about the drive-by, or who couldn't participate, but came to visit or sent your well-wishes by mail. Each and every greeting touched Dad's heart and made this a birthday that he will never forget!

God bless you all,
Christine Badie

Hometown Public Servant: Richard Peacock

This week's Hometown Public Servant is Captain Richard Peacock with the Swainsboro Police Department.

Captain Peacock has been a resident of Swainsboro since moving to the area with his parents at the age of three-years old. Following high school graduation, he was enlisted in the military for a short period of time before returning home to further his education. He attended Swainsboro Tech, pursuing an electrician degree before stumbling upon his career as a law enforcement officer.

"Growing up, I remember always being amazed by the lights and sirens of police vehicles and wondering what was going on. I didn't have a goal to become an officer when I was old enough to do so. In fact, I didn't know what I wanted to do, but I'm glad I made the decision to work in law enforcement," Captain Peacock stated.

Captain Peacock began his career with the Swainsboro Police Department in 1982 as a patrol officer. Within his first year with SPD, Peacock ranked his way up to sgt. detective effective September 1, 1992. On March 5, 2021, he received another promotion, being his most recent rank as captain.

Did you know: September 2021 will mark 20 years since Captain Peacock began his career with the Swainsboro Police Department.

Fun fact: Each year,



PEACOCK

LEOs are required to complete 20 hours of training on top or working regular shift hours. Since the beginning of his career to current day, Captain Peacock has completed a grand total of 1,596 hours in training.

"It was surprising that I received this promotion," Captain Peacock stated, "I was and still am very appreciative of it. It means a lot to me."

Working in law enforcement, Captain Peacock says his most enjoyable part about his position is serving the local community by ensuring crimes are solved and crime rates remain at a low. For this to actually take place, law enforcement rely on assistance from the public so that investigations can be solved. In order to form that bond of trust with locals, Captain Peacock's strategy is simple – treat others with the same respect you wish to receive.

"I've always treated others the way I want

to be treated. I've never passed judgement, regardless of what someone did," he commented.

Instead of condemning others, Peacock took the opportunity to help when possible which has aided in building companionship with locals.

Since becoming an employee of the Swainsboro Police Department, Peacock has worked under the direction of four chiefs, Ken Daniels, Smith Edenfield, Johnny Shuman, and current Swainsboro Police Chief Randy Ellison.

When asked if he would like to address anything to the local community, Captain Peacock stated the following:

"I wish to see the community be more involved. I encourage members in the community to get involved and get to know the local law enforcement officers. When and if they do, they'll realize there are a lot of good officers who care about this community. I think we have a department that this town should be proud of. Not only our department, but the Emanuel County Sheriff's Office too. I enjoy Swainsboro.. It's a great community with a great support system. I know this to be true because I was once a recipient of community support and I'll never forget the support that I received. I love Swainsboro and the people in it," Captain Peacock concluded.

Peacock is the son of Bobby and Kay Peacock. He was happily married for 30 years. From this union came one son, Benjamin Clay Peacock, age 34.

Twin City announces upcoming Memorial Day service with flag retirement

As part of Historic Twin City's Centennial Celebration, the city of Twin City will host its annual Memorial Day observance service on Monday, May 31, beginning at 5 p.m. at the Oglesby/Pavilion Welcome Center.

Memorial Day observance is a great opportunity for families to show their children what this great country is about. It is an opportunity to meet some great veterans who may have fought in World

War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan and some smaller conflicts in between.

The City of Twin City encourages community support and extends a special invitation to all veterans. If you are a veteran and plan to attend this celebration, RSVP by May 28 by contacting Huddie Culbreth at 478-763-2696 or mainstreet@twincityga.com.

Information on Memorial Day

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May. Originally known as *Decoration Day*, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.

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Social News B

Miss Carr, Mr. Neubauer to wed in Savannah

The Reverend and Mrs. M. Franklin Sasser of Garfield and Mr. and Mrs. Keith Carr of Statesboro formally announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Libby Carr, to Mr. Colin Neubauer of Atlanta, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Neubauer of Gainesville.

Miss Carr, a graduate of Georgia Southern University, is a certified public accountant and fraud examiner employed by Aprio, LLP in Atlanta.

She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Arlene Carr, the late Mr. and Mrs. Dickey Harrison, as well as the late Mr. Emory

Carr. Mr. Neubauer, a graduate of the University of Georgia, is an investment banker employed by Truist Securities.

He is the grandson of Mrs. Barbara Amor of Lexington, Missouri, Mrs. Marlies Wilkerson of Moberly, Missouri, the late Mr. Herbert Amor, the late Mr. Horst Neubauer, and the late Mr. Duane Wilkerson.

Miss Carr and Mr. Neubauer will wed at the Georgia State Railroad Museum in Savannah on September 18, 2021. The couple plans to reside in the Atlanta area. Friends and family will receive formal invitations.



MR. NEUBAUER AND MISS CARR

Miss Collins to wed Mr. Oglesby this fall

Mr. Pete and Mrs. Patty Akridge of Stillmore and Mr. Elvis and Mrs. Paula Meeks of Vidalia, and Mr. Randy and Mrs. Kim Oglesby Sr. of Millen proudly announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their children, Mr. Matthew Garrett Oglesby and Miss Brittany Karmen Collins.

The bride-elect graduated from Emanuel County Institute in 2013. She is a stay-at-home mother. Collins has two children, Addyson Brown and Gannon Copeland. Together, Oglesby and Collins have one daughter, Lilyan Oglesby. Maternal grandparents of Collins are Wanda Collins and the late Durwood Collins. Paternal grandparents are Danny Collins of Baxley, Lewis and Joan

Akridge of Stillmore and the late Katherine Bright.

The future groom attended Jenkins County High School. He is employed with Carson Cross Farm of Midville. His maternal grandparents are the late Alex and Lucille Saxon. Paternal grandparents include Lynell Oglesby of Millen and the late Sonny Oglesby.

The wedding will take place November 20, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. at Mossy Oak Farm in Brooklet. A reception will follow at the same location. Family and friends of the couple are invited to attend. Formal invitations will be sent. Oglesby and Collins are registered at Amazon. RSVP for their wedding by visiting theknot.com/brittany-garrettwedding.



OGLESBY AND COLLINS



BACK ROW: ANDREA PULLEN, DESTINY AKRIDGE, BREANA LIBRIZZI, KATI-BROOKE HOOKS, SALMA CUEVA AND LILY KATE ROBERTSON
FRONT ROW: TAYLOR RADFORD, CATARINA WILSON, ALAYA HUDSON AND FAITH MINCEY

ECI FBLA holds awards ceremony

ECI FBLA gathered to honor outstanding members in an end-of-year awards program held in the cafeteria at the school. The evening kicked off with dinner catered by Simply Southern. After lunch Mrs. Stefanie Mason, Emanuel County Schools CTAE Director, delivered the keynote address. Mrs. Mason discussed the importance of building your resume. She talked about the ways to do this by joining a Career Technical Stu-

dent Organization (CTSO) and the importance of community service.

Then FBLA officers began by enlightening the group on the different conferences that members attended this year. Mrs. Jessica Smith, adviser then presented awards to outstanding students that have excelled in competitions throughout this year.

Officers conducting the ceremony were Catarina Wilson, Andrea Pullen,

Kati-Brooke Hooks, Taylor Radford, Breana Librizzi, Destiny Akridge, Alaya Hudson, Lily Kate Robertson, as well as adviser Mrs. Jessica Smith.

Special guest included Board of Education Member Tanya Lane, CTAE Director Stefanie Mason, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Learning Toni Terwilliger, ECI Principal Anetria Edenfield, and ECI Assistant Principal Brooke Frye.

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Delta Kappa holds April meeting

President Denise Warnock called the April 26 meeting of Delta Kappa Gamma to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Jean Anderson Morgan Student Center at East Georgia State College. The Society was meeting face to face for the first time in a year.

The President welcomed members and guests and asked Patricia Walden of the hostess committee to give the inspiration. Her topic was "Love Lasts Longer Than School." The final seconds of school unfortunately seem to never end, but we want God's love to last forever. Other hostesses were Chair Donna Campbell, Cindy Ware, Catherine Page, Petite Garrett, Betsy Johnson, Kaye Mincey, and Marcia Stefansen.

After a delicious meal, Jean Schwabe, Scholarship Committee Chair, presented the program. She recognized the two grants-in-aid recipients for 2021, Kaci Alana Aldrich and Gracie Rae Smith. Aldrich is an East Georgia State College sophomore majoring in Early Childhood/Elementary Education, and she is the daughter of Timmy and Belinda Aldrich of Twin City. Smith is an EGSC sophomore and the daughter of Mark and Shelli Smith of Kite. Smith and her parents were present for the award.

In the business session, the minutes of the February meeting, as well as the treasurer's report were approved.

Warnock recognized Kay Hooks, who is the

Georgia State Organization scholarship recipient. She was one of only three to receive the \$2000 award for 2021 and was recognized at the State Convention.

Melanie Frye, Projects Committee Chair, collected notes of encouragement that will be presented to 72 new teachers in our four-county service area. The teachers will also receive gift cards from our chapter.

Mary Ann Peebles, Membership Committee Chair, assisted by Tammy Gray, presented pins and certificates to members. Ten-year recipients were Laura Moore, Tammy Gray, and Toni Terwilliger. Twenty-year pins went

to Sue Brewton, Martha Cobb, and Beverly Lawson. Thirty-year memberships were Joan Davis, Petite Garrett, Gail McRae, and Vikki Womack and forty-year recipients were Betsy Johnson and Mary Ann

Peebles.

Warnock presented a beautiful potted geranium to Past President Tammy Gray in appreciation for her excellent service. Door prizes were awarded before the meeting adjourned.



MRS. GRAY AND DR. WARNOCK



GRANT RECIPIENT SMITH WITH PARENTS, MARK AND SHELLIE

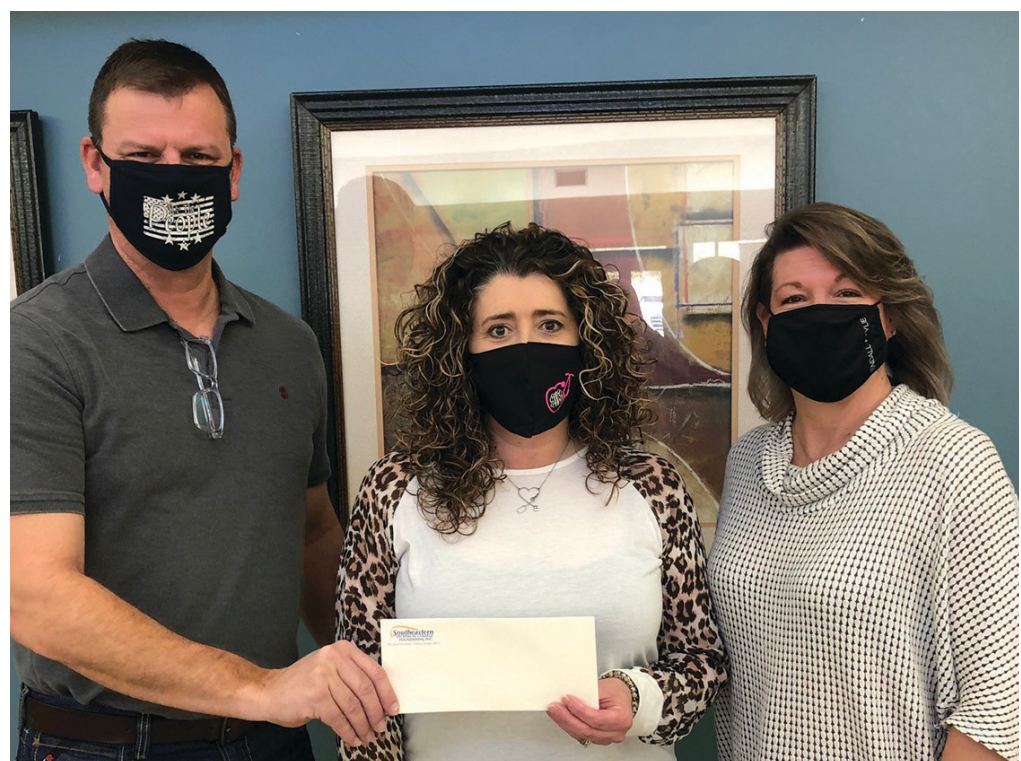
STC announces Grace E. Smith Scholarship recipient

On behalf of the Southeastern Technical College (STC) Foundation and the family of Grace Smith, STC announced Gina Williamson as the recipient of the annual Grace E. Smith Memorial Scholarship.

"It has been a pleasure getting to know Gina as the recipient of this year's Grace E. Smith Memorial Scholarship. She is an excellent student and is currently in the Practical Nursing program on Southeastern Tech's Swainsboro Campus. I know she will be successful in her future nursing career and she will represent STC well," said Blythe Wilcox, executive director of institutional advancement.

This \$1,000 scholarship was established in 2014 by the friends and family of Grace Smith, the daughter of Eric and Laura Smith from McRae, Georgia and Community Hospice. The scholarship is awarded once per year to a student in a health care program.

Grace lost a 10-month



ERIC AND LAURA SMITH PRESENTING GRACE E. SMITH SCHOLARSHIP TO WILLIAMSON

battle with cancer in 2013, at twenty years of age. Grace's choice to live in peace and hope for a future not only inspired her family and community, but all who came in contact with her. Grace's memory and her legacy of love and inspiration live on through the work and generous donations of those who support the

Grace E. Smith Memorial Scholarship. You may learn more about Grace and her journey at <http://www.dayofgrace.org/>.

"Being touched by hospice in my own family put an additional consideration on working in hospice care," said Gina. "I thank the Smith family for offering this scholarship opportunity and

allowing me to continue my dream of becoming a nurse."

Williamson resides in Lyons with her husband and their two sons.

For more information on scholarship opportunities at Southeastern Technical College, visit www.southeasterntech.edu or call (912) 538-3100 or (478) 289-2200.

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JEAN AND RODNEY BECKWORTH

Seedling Garden Club recognizes Beckworth home as May 'Yard of the Month'

The Seedling Garden Club proudly announces that the May 2021 Yard of the Month is the home of Jean and Rodney Beckworth. Jean and Rodney live at 311 Deer Creek West, Swainsboro. The Beckworths enjoy working in their yard to help Emanuel County stay beautiful.

Nominations for Yard of the Month are welcomed for each month. The Seedling Garden Club wants to honor homeowners and organizations that personally work so diligently with pride and love to maintain their yards. Please call in your nominations to 478-299-2733 or 478-494-6754.

Local authors enjoy book signing

A book signing for local authors Dena Walden and Jocelyn Kiyara Williams was held from 4 until 5:30 p.m. at Patriot's Square in downtown Swainsboro on Friday, April 30. The event was sponsored by the Swainsboro-Emanuel County Chamber of commerce and offered an opportunity for locals to meet and greet with the authors.

"I've always wanted to write a children's book. It has been on my bucket list for quite some time. I have

been in education for 15 years but it wasn't until becoming a mom that I truly had the desire to pursue writing my own book. When the pandemic hit is when I really pursued my first book," Walden commented when asked what prompted her to publish her book *The Year We Stayed at Home*.

Walden said the illustration process for her second book has begun.

Williams, age 9, author of *Grace Needs Hay*, said it was her love for her pet

goats that prompted her book publication. "I wanted to write a book to let everybody know about my animals and how I love them so much," Williams stated.

Making a special appearance with Williams was her best friend and pet goat G.G., Grace's baby goat is the main character in her book. Williams also stated that a second book is in the works and also announced that her goat, Grace, recently had a set of twins, a girl and a boy.



WALDEN, ACCOMPANIED BY HER DAUGHTER, SIGNING A COPY OF HER BOOK



WILLIAMS, ACCOMPANIED BY HER MOTHER, SIGNING A COPY OF HER BOOK



WILLIAMS FEEDING GRACE

Cook of the Week

Featuring the recipes of...

Darin & Hillary



This week's Cooks of the Week are newly engaged couple Darin M. Griner of Swainsboro and Hillary P. McGahee of Harlem. Darin is the son of Lisa M. Griner and Craig B. Griner, and father to Hadley M. Griner of Swainsboro, Mackenzie P. Griner, and Landon M. Griner of Bristol Vermont. Darin is a full-time firefighter and would help anyone in any way he could. He enjoys spending his time outdoors, hunting, fishing and playing golf.

Hillary is the daughter of Kimberly and Nathan Martinez of Harlem, and mother of Jackson N. Knoeferl, Kevin C. Knoeferl, and Madison C. Knoeferl of Harlem. In her spare time, Hillary enjoys singing, being outdoors and volunteering time with the elderly.

Here are three recipes they would like to share. Enjoy!



From the kitchen of *Darin & Hillary*

Chicken Supreme

- 1 box Escort crackers (4pkg.)
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 small carton sour cream
- 1 small jar pimento
- English peas (optional)
- 6 chicken breasts, cooked, deboned and cut into pieces
- 1 stick butter

Crumble two packages of crackers in the bottom of three quart casserole. Melt and dribble 1/2 stick butter over crackers. Lay chopped chicken over this. Mix together soups, sour cream, pimento and peas. Spoon on top of chicken. Crumble remaining crackers on top. Melt 1/2 stick butter and dribble over crackers. Bake at 325°F for about 40 minutes.



From the kitchen of *Darin & Hillary*

Green Pepper Steak

- 1 lb. beef chuck or round
- 1/4 c. soy sauce
- 1 clove garlic
- 1 1/2 tsp. grated fresh ginger or 1/2 tsp. ground ginger
- 1 c. green onion, sliced thin
- 1 c. red or green peppers, cut into 1 inch squares
- 2 stalks celery, sliced thin
- 1 Tbsp. cornstarch
- 1 c. water
- 2 tomatoes, cut into wedges

With a very sharp knife, cut beef across grain into thin strips 1/8-inch thick. Combine soy sauce, garlic and ginger. Add beef; toss and set aside. Heat oil in large frying pan or wok. Add beef and toss over high heat until browned. Taste meat, if it is not tender, cover and simmer for 30 to 40 minutes over low heat. Turn heat up and add vegetables. Toss until vegetables are tender-crisp, about 10 minutes. Mix cornstarch with water. Add to pan; stir and cook until thickened. Add tomatoes and heat through.



From the kitchen of *Darin & Hillary*

Cheeseburger Casserole

- 1 lb. hamburger meat
- 2 small onions
- 3/4 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1/4 c. ketchup
- 1 small can tomato sauce
- shredded cheese, Cheddar
- 1 can biscuits

Brown meat and onions; drain. Mix salt, pepper, ketchup and tomato sauce with meat and onion mixture; simmer 5-10 minutes. Place in casserole, put cheese on top (as much as desired). Put biscuits on top and bake at 300°F for 30 minutes.

Age	# of Words	Typical Speech Patterns
0-6 months	Babbling begins	Double syllables Put lips together /m/ Babbling shows pitch and inflection changes
6-12 months	Babbling	Reduplicative babbling (bababa) Uses /m, n, t, b, p, y/ in babbling multiple syllables
1-1.5 years	Uses 3-20 words	Uses most vowels and consonants in jargon Omits final consonants and some initial consonants Accurately imitates some words
1.5-2 years	Uses 50 recognizable words	Words increasing, jargon almost gone Approximately 65% intelligible
2-2.5 years	Uses 200 intelligible words	Approximately 70% intelligible May omit final consonant(s), reduce consonant blends, substitute one consonant from another
2.5-3 years	Uses 500 intelligible words	Now 80% intelligible Mastered /p, m, n, w, h/ sounds Still may substitute/distort sounds
3-3.5 years	Uses 800 words	Uses final consonants most of the time Phonological processes disappearing by 3
3.5-4 years	Uses 1000-1500 words	Mastered /b, d, k, g, f, y/ sounds Becoming very intelligible in connected speech
4.5-7 years	Uses 1500+ words	Most consonant sounds used consistently More errors in difficult blends 5-6 /t, -ing, r, l/ mastered 6-7 /th, sh, ch, J/ mastered 8: /v, s, zh/ mastered

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Better Hearing & Speech Month



Marion to graduate high school and college this month

by CASEY JONES

Graduation is almost upon us, which means a whole new generation of people are going to be taking the next step toward carving their path through life. The most likely destination is college for most students who graduate high school; however, this week's story throws a wrench into this conventional method of educational pursuits. This story involves a young woman who is not only graduating high school this month, but she just graduated college, too! That woman is 18-year-old Ke'Asia Marion, who began attending college during the 9th grade, when she was just 15 years old.

Ke'Asia was born in Swainsboro and attends both Swainsboro High School and East Georgia State College (EGSC). She graduated from EGSC on May 5th, and she will graduate high school on May 21st. How uncanny is that for a young person - to graduate college before you graduate high school? One day you're donning your hat and gown, walking up to the podium to receive your collegiate degree, two weeks later you're doing the same thing, except for high school. It's truly a remarkable feat.

What, then, does Ke'Asia think about it all? When asked what led her to decide to take on this academic pursuit, she responded, "For a while, I was getting bored with my classes in high school. That's not to say that my teachers were boring, but that I just didn't feel challenged enough."

Ke'Asia wanted to push the boundaries of what her mind was capable of, and though it was difficult at first to balance learning high school and college curriculums simultaneously, she feels the journey was worth it.

"Initially I just wanted to get my feet wet starting off college, so I chose 'easy' classes that summer. I took a general psychology course and an English course," Ke'Asia said.

When she started at EGSC, Ke'Asia walked into a different atmosphere. She went from being the same age as everyone in her high school classrooms to "basically being everyone's child in college," she said.

"At first I was nervous the entire first day in college. The entire class thought I was joking when I first told them my age during our introductions," Ke'Asia said. But when the shock wore off, the gravity of what Ke'Asia was attempting started to settle in on her new classmates.

"I started getting asked if I really was sure I wanted to do this. I told them, 'I think I can do this.'"

Sometimes when attempting such a momentous task, you must take necessary precaution and even make sacrifices to complete a goal. However, in Ke'Asia's case, she said it was dedication and support



MARION WITH HER EGSC DIPLOMA

that kept her going. It was a team effort to accomplish Ke'Asia's goal, and although Ke'Asia's mother feels that her daughter deserves the credit, Ke'Asia thinks it's her mother that should be recognized.

"It was really just pure dedication that inspired me. As well as keeping my parents and counselors in the know about what was going on each day. Having everyone on the same page," Ke'Asia said. "I really don't think I would have made it through it without my mother and my counselors."

The people that really inspire Ke'Asia to do her best, no matter what, are her parents and sister.

"My parents have really good-paying jobs that they didn't need a lot of schooling or education to get. My mom works for Interfor, and my dad is a welder, which are really good jobs. After thinking about it, I realized my generation wouldn't be able to get such a good-paying job without a college degree, or I didn't think so. I went to college to figure out what I really wanted to do as far as my career is concerned. As far as I was concerned, all I had to do was show up and pass." Ke'Asia continues, "The goal was always an A, but I quickly learned you're not going to get an A out of everything. That experience was really humbling."

Ke'Asia says that she was inspired at a young age by the human brain and how it functions. It was this idea that inspired her to pursue a psychology major in college. This interest in psychology actually stems from her younger sister, or more specifically how and why her younger sister acts differently than her and has different interests, even though the girls grew up in the same household.

"She likes blue and I like red. It's kinda weird because we have the same parents, living in the same household, so what really makes us different?" It was

this question that molded into Ke'Asia's fascination with psychology.

This mentality is going to take Ke'Asia even further, as she plans on transferring to Albany State to complete her Bachelor's degree in psychology. At only 18 years of age, she is on track to have a career at an earlier age than most. This privilege is not lost on her though, as she says, "I am certainly blessed with this. Although it is hard at times, I definitely aim to reach my destination."

Believe it or not, Ke'Asia still finds the time to have a social life and even a social media life, something she says has benefited her during this journey.

"I've met a lot of people over the internet that have motivated me more than some people I've known my whole life," she expressed.

Ke'Asia has had to make one notable sacrifice though, and that is what she refers to as "leisure time." She said, "I don't really have much time to watch TV or play video games, or anything like that, so that is one sacrifice I have had to make." However, even with everything going on in her life, she still finds a way to get, in her own words, "my eight hours of sleep." As if that wasn't enough, she also finds the time to work a part-time job with Taco Bell! In essence, Ke'Asia truly is Superwoman.

This is something Ke'Asia's mom, Lashonta, also echoes about her daughter. "I'm extremely proud of her, and words could never be put into a sentence to express how deeply proud of Ke'Asia I am and my family as a whole," Lashonta said. "She has so much support from all over within the family. What this means to my family is that she will be the first out of our family to graduate from college and high school simultaneously."

There are not a great many people in the world that could make such a claim, regardless of their family and background. To be able to graduate high school and college at the same time is no common feat.

Lashonta said that it really cannot be understated what Ke'Asia was able to do and how much credit her daughter deserves for accomplishing such a feat as graduating from both high school and college at the same time.

"I believe what Ke'Asia has done will set the tone for future students and details that this can be done if you put forth the required hard work and determination it takes to stay the course. If we put our minds to something and realize that we are responsible for our own success--that alone will resonate with other students who may decide that they want to do what Ke'Asia has done."

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Levis talks about changes in his office

by WHITLEY CLIFTON

During the year 1976, Attorney Brett Merrill opened a law firm in Swainsboro. Just 10 years later, in 1986, Attorney Jesse C. Stone joined the firm that became known as Merrill & Stone LLC. In 2004, the firm welcomed Attorney Jon Levis to the office.

A native of New Jersey, Levis relocated to Georgia in 1997 as an Emory University undergraduate continuing his education at the University of Georgia, School of Law. After excelling through his studies and graduating cum laude, Levis graduated law school in 2004 - the same year he was admitted to the practice of law in Georgia and began his career at Merrill and Stone LLC. The firm has remained a community staple within Emanuel County throughout the years since its establishment and has continued to provide dedicated services in Swainsboro and many other cities.

Shortly after Levis began his career at the local law firm, Attorney Merrill retired from his capacity. The firm has since seen other changes in office - some that have already occurred and others that are still in the works.

On February 22, 2021 Attorney Stone was appointed to the Superior Court Bench in the Augusta Judicial



LEVIS

Circuit of Georgia, leaving Levis the only attorney in office and prompting the name change of the firm to Levis Law Firm LLC. Since the changes in office and impacts faced by the Covid-19 pandemic, Levis has spent more time at the firm's Swainsboro setting, which has allotted him more time to focus on developing solutions to better serve local community needs.

In an effort to provide services across the spectrum for clients in a small-town setting, Levis plans to introduce in the rural area is teleconferencing services. Through implementing this service, Levis aims to provide sufficient services to reduce travel and time spent away from work and home to make court appearances by providing resources to utilize and ensure an effective process.

In addition to the firm's recent name change and focal point solutions, Levis has also made a virtual update by launching a new website, <https://www.levislawfirmllc.com>.

By visiting the link, interested clients can access background information about the firm as well as access contact information and review practice areas offered by Levis Law Firm LLC.

"We offer a variety of very versal services and are excited to offer more effective solutions to the local community. Levis Law Firm will continue, as it has always done, to provide high quality, effective and cost-efficient legal representation to our clients," Levis commented.

Professional admissions of Levis include State Bar of Georgia, 2004; U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia, 2004; U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia, 2005; United States Court of Appeals (11th Cir.), 2007; United States Supreme Court 2008, Supreme Court of Georgia, 2008; and Court of Appeals of Georgia, 2008. Levis is a member of the Middle Judicial Bar Association, W. Homer Drake, Jr.; Georgia Bankruptcy American Inn of Courts, Georgia Inn of Courts (2015), American Association of Justice (2006), American Bar Association, Association of Trial Lawyers of American (2006).

Levis Law Firm LLC is located at 101 South Main Street. Inquires can be made through the firm's online website or by calling 478-237-7029.



PARTICIPANTS GATHER FOR PRAYER

Oak Park hosts National Day of Prayer service

The City of Oak Park recognized National Day of Prayer by hosting a prayer service in the city's park on Thursday, May 6. The service was led by Don Carroll, Oak Park resident and pastor of Pathway Church of God.



AAMI MEMBERS WITH LEADERS AT END OF SEMESTER EVENT

The AAMI D.R.I.V.E. at East Georgia State College

Part of the mission at East Georgia State College (EGSC) is educating, graduating, and serving communities. The African American Male Initiative (AAMI) program mirrors that goal. Completing college offers a stronger path to career opportunities, personal growth, and even financial security. AAMI students enhance their ability to grow and triumph while at EGSC. The commitment to the program teaches students to DRIVE through college instead of walking. The African American Male Initiative (AAMI) expectations are clear: Dedication, Respect, Inspiration, Vigilance, and Excellence! Therefore, they are required to DRIVE.

The students are empowered by mentors and are encouraged to maintain a strong brotherhood while navigating through some of the obstacles they may face while in college. A new program was implemented Fall 2020 called Men of Courage Series, where students in AAMI attended zoom meetings with prominent and professional African American males in the community. The Men of Courage Series has been instrumental in the DRIVERS allowing them to hear and learn from the presenters who shared their stories of success and issues they had to overcome to obtain the courage to succeed.

"With the struggle that African American males are experiencing, I want to instill some positivity and encouragement in them while they are pursuing their education. What other way to do this then by allowing

successful African American males to empower our students to persevere while in college and to validate their decision to complete college," said Dr. Kittrell-Mikell who serves as an AAMI Coordinator on the Swainsboro campus. "In addition, students who are in the program are required to complete community service, and this year they hosted recruitment fairs at Swainsboro High School. Who better to recruit students to come to East Georgia, than our current students?"

In Fall 2020 guest speakers included, Dr. Georj Lewis, President of Atlanta Metropolitan State College, Dr. TaJuan, Associate Vice President of Inclusion & Chief Diversity at Georgia Southern University, Dr. Francys Johnson, Attorney at Law in Statesboro, Mr. Marty Holder, Assistant Principal at Statesboro High, Mr. Kevin Holder, Executive Director in Atlanta, Mr. Jonathan McCollar, Mayor of Statesboro, Mr. Hardie Davis, Mayor of Augusta, and Mr. Van Johnson, Mayor of Savannah, Georgia.

In Spring 2021 guest speakers were, Dr. Jermaine Whirl, President of Augusta Technical College, Dr. Anthony Howard, Internal Medicine in Swainsboro, Mr. Spencer R. Moore, Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Drivers Services, Mr. Kevin Thigpen, City of Atlanta Police Department, and Captain Kenny Thompson, Bulloch County Sheriff Department. Another Spring activity that the students participated in virtually was Georgia Southern University's Black Man Empowerment Summit

which covered topics such as "When They See Us: Black Men Navigating White Spaces" facilitated by Mr. Paris Lawrence, "Black Boys Don't Cry...Or Do They?" facilitated by Mr. Nehemiah McClendon, and "I am Who I am, but Who Am I?" facilitated by Dr. Christopher Pugh. Yet, one of the most highly favored meetings was Barbershop Talk. This program encouraged African American males (from all three EGSC campuses) to engage in intellectual conversations and topics that affect them. Topics such as black male identity in America, education, history, politics, and sports as it pertains to an African American male.

AAMI students have shown a great appreciation for the program at EGSC. Upon graduating from EGSC, AAMI DRIVERS leave with at least one of the following attributes: stronger leadership skills, academically energized and gratefulness for their AAMI experience. It has been ascertained that African American males perform better in college when they feel welcomed and embraced by the community. Continued support from Dr. Sandra Sharman, Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs; Mrs. Karen Jones, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs; Mr. Antre' Drummer, Director of AAMI, Dr. Damon Andrews, AAMI Coordinator (Statesboro) and Mr. Nick Kelch, AAMI Coordinator (Augusta) helps strengthen the commitment to help student retention and completion.

GSP Trooper Riner visits ECI Jr. ROTC

Georgia State Patrol Trooper Payton Riner visited with the ECI Junior ROTC program during the students' career day held May 4 at the Twin City school setting. He spoke with students about his career and where it all started for him. Trooper Riner also spoke about his time as an ECI student, what motivated him, and some of the phenomena he had to absorb in life along his journey. Trooper Riner

stated that he was no different in his adolescence years as those juveniles of today, but it took his senior year in high school to realize he needed a plan, a goal, and support to reach his aspirations in life, which lead him toward the law enforcement field.

Trooper Riner was motivated by his family, he wanted them to be proud of him for his accomplishments. He also communicated that no matter what

obstacles are encountered in life, you can overcome those obstacles if you have a plan, a goal, and a support system to attain lifelong success.

"Bottom line, up front - there are no shortcuts in being successful," Trooper Riner stated during his visit.

Trooper Riner's inspiring speech cultivated cadets to never give up and stick to what they want to be in life.



RINER WITH ECI JR. ROTC STUDENTS



RINER WITH A SECOND GROUP OF ECI JR. ROTC STUDENTS

Total Wellness Session scheduled for May 18

The second session of the 2021 Total Wellness Series is scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, at noon, at the Sudie A. Fulford Community Learning Center on the campus of East Georgia State College. Emanuel Medical Center will provide useful information on COVID-19 and vaccinations. Bailey Creamer, Director of Pharmacy, will provide the program.

The session is free and is made possible through a partnership with Emanuel Medical Center, East Georgia Healthcare Center, East Georgia State College, Queensborough National Bank and Trust Company, UGA Extension, and CarePartners. There is no cost to participate, and enrollment is limited to 20 people. The session will feature lunch, a presentation, handouts and door prizes. Social distancing guidelines will be followed, and face coverings are required. Pre-registration is required and may be made with Harley Smith at the Fulford Center at (478) 289-2464 or by email hdsmith@ega.edu.

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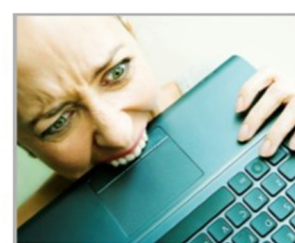
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SPENCER LAWRENCE, LAUREN SAPP, AND KAMM'RYNN BELL
JUDGE A CLASS OF MARKET POULTRY

4-H poultry judging teams win at area contest

by Jakyn Tyson

Eight 4-H'ers from Emanuel County tested their poultry knowledge on April 19, 2021 at the Area 4-H Poultry Judging Competition held in Lyons, Georgia.

At the competition, all contestants judged two classes of live birds for egg production and gave oral reasons for their selections on one class. In addition, they judged carcasses and ready to cook products for meat quality, candled eggs to determine freshness and grade, and judged eggs for exterior and broken-out quality.

"Despite the COVID challenges this year, students and coaches have done a great job preparing for and participating in the poultry judging events," says Dr. Casey Ritz, University of Georgia Professor and Poultry Science Extension Program Coordinator.

"It is our pleasure as faculty of the UGA Poultry Science Department to assist with 4-H youth devel-

opment efforts."

The Junior team (4th-8th grades) received first place. Team members were Kamm'Rynn Bell, Lawson Frye, Sam Lawrence, Spencer Lawrence, and Lauren Sapp.

The Senior team (9th-12th grades) also received first place. Team members were Jose Hernandez, Sarah Beth Kersey, and Grace McBride.

Additionally, many 4-H'ers were recognized for their individual scores. From a total of 28 competitors, Sarah Beth Kersey was recognized as the overall highest individual score in the senior division. In the junior division, Lauren Sapp was the overall highest individual score and Spencer Lawrence was the second highest of 33 competitors.

The Georgia 4-H State Poultry Judging Contest was held on April 30th at the Oglethorpe County Livestock Facility. The Senior Emanuel County 4-H team made up of Jose Hernandez, Sarah Beth

Kersey, and Grace McBride placed 9th out of the top 14 teams from across the state.

Team members prepared for the event by attending classes and workshops instructed by Jakyn Tyson, Emanuel County 4-H Agent. Crider Foods generously served as the donor for the Emanuel County 4-H Poultry Judging Team.

Georgia 4-H empowers youth to become true leaders by developing necessary life skills, positive relationships and community awareness. As the largest youth leadership organization in the state, 4-H reaches more than 190,000 people annually through the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension offices and 4-H facilities. For more information on Emanuel County 4-H and how you can get involved as a student or volunteer, contact them at (478) 237-1226 or visit the office located at 129 North Anderson Drive in Swainsboro.



PAM AKRIDGE PRESENTS CHECK TO MARSH

Marsh wins April BLADE BALL giveaway

The winner for The Forest-Blade's \$160 April BLADE BALL giveaway is Shebbie Marsh. In order to win, contestants were to locate hidden BLADE BALLS in April editions of *The Blade* and provide the number on the ball and page number where the ball was located. A winner was then chosen during a random draw.

Pine Tree Festival Tractor Show results

This year, the Pine Tree Festival featured a tractor show. And the winners are:

- Most Original – Cory Kraus
- Fan Favorite and Best in work clothes – Cody Williamson
- Farthest Traveled and oldest tractor – Mr. Ledford
- Best in show – Mr. Lockwood



KRAUS



WILLIAMSON



LEDFORD



LOCKWOOD



REESE



WALDEN



WATSON

Reese, Watson and Walden place first in GRPA State Track and Field Meet

Twenty-three boys and girls represented Swainsboro-Emanuel County Recreation Department (SECRD) in the Georgia Recreation and Parks Association (GRPA) State Track and Field Meet held April 30 and May 1 at Jefferson Memorial Stadium in Jefferson. Three came home with first place medals.

SECRD participants finishing first in the state track meet were Genesis Reese in the 8U Girls 50 meter; Emery Watson in the 8U Boys 50 meter; and McKinley Walden in the 10U Girls Standing Long Jump. Genesis also placed second in the 8U Girls 100 meter and Running Long Jump. Emery also brought home a third place medal in the 8U Boys 100 meter and an 8th place medal in the Softball Throw.

Treasure Phillips earned a third place medal in

the 12U Girls Softball Throw and Franklin Barnes received a fourth place medal in the 12U Boys 100 meter and 200 meter. Franklin also placed fifth in the Running Long Jump.

Also receiving medals in the 12U Boys division were Demauri Roberts, who placed sixth in the Softball Throw, and Javari Williams, who placed sixth in the Standing Long Jump.

All three SECRD relay teams were top finishers in the event. The 10U Boys 4x100 Relay Team consisting of K.J. Coleman, Zi'Len Boynton, Caleb Jones and Gavin Jones placed third. The 12U Boys 4x100 Relay Team made up of Demauri Roberts, Franklyn Barnes, Jeffery Davis and Javari Williams placed third. The 12U Girls 4x100 Relay Team of Kamiya Freeman,

Treasure Phillips, Kali Brown and Savannah McKinney finished fourth.

Also representing SECRD in the GRPA State Track and Field Meet were Taylor Clark, Cameron Williams, Braylen Handsom, Jada McKinney and Trinity Hayden-Smith. Others qualifying to compete were India Hoover, Daveyhon Williams and Tyrone Hoover. Assisting at the event were SECRD staff members Daphne Stobridge, Clifford Williams and David Coleman.

All participants qualified to compete in the GRPA State Track and Field Meet by placing first or second in the GRPA First District Track and Field Meet held April 17 in Swainsboro.

7 DAY FORECAST

THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
SHOWERS	AM SHOWERS	MOSTLY SUNNY	PARTLY CLOUDY	MOSTLY SUNNY	PARTLY CLOUDY	PARTLY CLOUDY
63° 52°	71° 50°	77° 54°	80° 58°	84° 61°	84° 61°	85° 62°



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There was a time on earth when there were no nations or governments. People did as they pleased. As a result, God's creation - the human race - sank into disgraceful depths of despair. God wanted to solve the problem so He covered the earth with a flood in judgment. Then He put government in the world to restrain wickedness. That first government came from God and every government ever since, has come from God.

Why? Because no one has any authority except from God. Whether those who govern us are good or bad, right or wrong, gracious or greedy - they are there because God put them there. Some use their power to do God's will. Others use their power in an attempt to go against God's will. Whoever serves the people as leaders serve as He pleases with His permission. Yet, it follows that those who refuse to obey the laws of God will ultimately be punished for their disobedience. Perhaps they will get away with it here, but certainly not in the "here-after."

"God presides in the great assembly," wrote Asaph, the author of Psalm 82. And he concluded, "He gives judgment among the 'gods.'" In other words, if those whom God has placed in positions of leadership as rulers or judges do not rule with God's laws and commandments as their guide they will face His judgment.

Not long ago, one ruler who was dying cried out, "Now I must face the Judge. This is what disturbs me." We, too, must face this Judge. What will we face on that day?

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EGSC athletes sign to further athletic, academic careers

Last week seven East Georgia State College baseball players and six basketball players signed to further their academic and athletic careers. The signings were held in the EGSC gymnasium and off campus.

On Monday, May 3, Ka'Shay Hankerson, a guard on the EGSC women's basketball team from Reidsville, Ga., signed a national letter of intent for an athletic scholarship to play for Albany State University. Destinee Ellison of Sandersville,

Ga., signed to play with Point University. Ke'Tara Trappio of Savannah, Ga., signed with Albany State University. Kayla Garrett of Reidsville, Ga., signed with Southern Wesleyan University.

On Wednesday, May 5, men's basketball player Joseph Williams signed to play for Fort Valley State University. Williams is a forward originally from Delaware. Preston Crisp of Savannah, Ga., signed to play with South Carolina State University.

Also, on Wednesday,

seven baseball players signed their letters of intent. Cameron Gilkey from Richmond Hill, Ga., signed with Erskine University. He is a right-handed pitcher. Brandon Blume, also a right-handed pitcher, signed to continue playing for the University of South Carolina-Beaufort. Blume is from Buford, Ga. Griffin McClure of Roswell, Ga., signed with Georgia Southwestern State University to play as a right-handed pitcher. Connor Frost of Roswell, Ga., signed to play

for the University of North Georgia. Gabe White, a left-handed pitcher, plans to play for Bethune-Cookman University. White is from Toccoa, Ga. Kyle Wilkinson of Evans, Ga., is an infielder who also signed to attend Bethune-Cookman University. Austin Mercado, a left-handed pitcher, is from Bronx, NY. He signed to play for Anderson University.

Mercado's mother, Joviana Mercado, was able to travel from New York to attend the event. She said it was a bitter-

sweet moment to watch her son sign to continue his baseball career, but she is excited for this new chapter.

"East Georgia was a lot more than baseball to us. Austin was here for three years and it felt like home. He made so many friends and received a good education to move forward at this next college," she said.

East Georgia State College would like to congratulate these athletes on their hard work and dedication! We wish you all the best!



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GARRETT



HANKERSON



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BASEBALL SIGNINGS

Emanuel County Schools
School Choice (HB 251)
Applications Accepted May 12, 2021 – May 28, 2021

The Emanuel County School System will accept applications for School Choice transfers. Parents may request to transfer their child to another public school in the district for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year if the school has available space after its assigned students have been enrolled. The Emanuel County School System considers factors such as projected enrollment and maximum class size when determining available space. The chart below indicates space availability by school and grade. Parents will be responsible for transportation for a student attending school outside his/her attendance area.

School	K	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9-12
Swainsboro Primary *	0	0	0							
Swainsboro Elementary *				0	62	10				
Twin City Elementary *	0	0	0	0	24	11				
ECI Middle *							14	7	2	
Swainsboro Middle *							25	38	2	
ECI High *										**
Swainsboro High *										**

* Transfers for Kindergarten students will not be considered until after the first 10 days of school. Only Kindergarten students who are enrolled and have completed a School Choice transfer form application during the HB 251 window will be considered for transfer.

** Emanuel County Institute and Swainsboro High School will allow transfers if scheduling requirements can be met when enrolling with the counselor. Enrollment into certain courses (Honors, Electives, etc.) may not be accommodated due to the number of students already enrolled in those courses. Students transferring to another high school, within the district, may not be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities due to GHSA guidelines.

For more information visit the Emanuel County Schools website:
www.emanuel.k12.ga.us

School Choice transfer forms may be picked up from the Emanuel County Board of Education building at 201 N. Main Street, Swainsboro, Georgia **beginning May 12, 2021**. All applications must be hand delivered to the office. No applications will be accepted **after May 28, 2021** at the close of the business day.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The City of Swainsboro is considering applying to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for a Community Development Block Grant of up to \$750,000. These funds must be used to primarily benefit low and moderate income persons.

The activities for which these funds may be used are in the areas of housing, public facilities, and economic development. More specific details regarding eligible activities, plans to assist displaced persons (if any), the estimated amount of funds proposed to be used for activities to benefit low and moderate income persons, and the rating system will be provided at a public hearing which will be held at the City of Swainsboro City Hall, 101 West Main Street, Swainsboro, GA 30401 on May 20, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. This meeting is accessible by phone for any citizens wishing to attend. Please call toll free 1-866-527-1159 Attendee Code 41358.

The purpose of this hearing will be to obtain citizen input into the development of the application and to review progress on the previous CDBG grant (if applicable). Persons with special needs relating to handicapped accessibility or foreign language shall contact Al Lawson, City Administrator at (478) 237-7025 prior to May 20, 2021. This person can be located at the Swainsboro City Hall between the hours of 9:00am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Individuals who are hearing impaired can contact the Georgia Relay Services, telephone number (TDD) 1-800-255-0056, (Voice) 1-800-255-0135.

Lady Bobcats sweep ABAC in GCAA softball playoffs; Baseball Team advances to Final Four

The East Georgia State College Lady Bobcats Softball Team advanced to the final four with a two-game sweep of ABAC in the GCAA Softball Tournament on Thursday, May 6 at Bobcat Field. The final score in game one was 4 to 3 and in game two the final score was 14 to 3.

The Bobcats were led by Mattie Cash in game one on the mound who allowed just five hits and three runs. At the plate, Allana Hooks, Jana

Crews, Taylor Morgan, and Sierra Taylor provided key hits for the Bobcats, who would score four runs in seven innings and win game one by a score of 4 to 3.

In game two Britney Foster took the mound and completely dominated the ABAC batters allowing just three runs on four hits. At the plate the Bobcats pounded out 14 runs on 15 hits with all nine of the Bobcat starters getting at least one hit in game two. Jana

Crews, Alaina Lee, Allana Hooks, Sierra Taylor, Makenzie Wilkerson, Dani Wells, Stephenie Ruffin, Taylor Morgan, and Madelyn Denning all got hits and scored runs for the Bobcats who are advancing to the Final Four in the GCAA Tournament. The Lady Bobcats will travel to Gordon State College on Tuesday for two games.

"We played our best ball of the season today," said Head Coach Chuck Wimberly. "We

came ready to play and it showed with our pitching, fielding, and hitting. I am just so proud of the way we battled in game one to get the victory and came out in game two and completely had our best day at the plate as a team for the entire season hitting the ball."

This year, four Bobcat softball players have been named GCAA All-Conference Softball Players. Allana Hooks, Aliana Lee, Sierra Taylor and Britney Foster have

all been named GCAA All-Conference Softball Players. Congratulations!

The EGSC Baseball Team defeated Georgia Highlands over the weekend by a score of 14 to 7 to advance in the winner's bracket to Tuesday's Final Four in Cuthbert, Georgia!

The Bobcats were led by Anthony Westbrook, who hit a grand slam in

the seventh inning with the score 10 to 7. The hit increased the lead to 14 to 7 and the Bobcats never looked back in knocking off top ranked Georgia Highlands.

Cameron Oliu and Griffin McClure pitched outstanding for the Bobcats in the victory, which advances the team to the winner's bracket.



FOSTER



HOOKS



LEE



TAYLOR



CASH PITCHING



MORGAN



OLIU



HOOKS GETS THE OUT ON FIRST BASE



CREWS SLIDING INTO THIRD



MYERS MAKES A HIT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to city regulations' regarding the issuance of an alcoholic beverage license, notice is hereby given to the public that an application has been filed by Denise Miles dba Lounge 2020 LLC, for a license for Beer and Wine Consumption on Premises at 406 Rentz St, Swainsboro, Ga. 30401.

This application will be considered at a meeting of Mayor and City Council to be held on June 07, 2021 at Swainsboro City Hall.

This 11 day of May, 2021.
City of Swainsboro, Al L. Lawson
City Administrator

The City of Swainsboro will accept sealed bids for purchase of surplus vehicles:

- 2001 Ford Crown Victoria
- 2005 Ford Crown Victoria
- 2004 Ford Crown Victoria

Inspection of these vehicles maybe conducted at the Swainsboro City Maintenance Shop at 357 Market St. Swainsboro Ga.

Bids must be received by mail at "Surplus Bids"
City of Swainsboro
P.O.Box 600
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No later than May 21, 2021

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Sheriff's Reports

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

April 30

Deputy was patrolling Bus. 1 N. when he saw a vehicle with no tag lights, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. Deputy obtained the driver's license and they came back suspended. Offender was placed under arrest for suspended license.

Officer made a traffic stop in the parking lot of Mojo's Liquor Store due to tag light requirements, failure to maintain lane. Upon further investigation, the driver was driving under the influence.

May 1

Deputy was contacted by complainant who needed a report in reference to her ex-husband going to the workshop and taking the door handles off so she could not get inside the building. C/o stated the shop is marital property and they both should have access to it. Deputy advised c/o that she needs to contact her attorney.

May 2

Complainant stated offender stuck a knife in the wall of her residence and threatened to take her life and his own. C/o was unsure if the offender was actually trying to stab her or not. C/o stated her child was present during the acts.

May 3

Offender presented himself to Em. Co. Jail and was taken into custody for multiple outstanding warrants.

Deputy responded to Shady Ln. in reference to a civil dispute. Upon arrival, complainant advised that she and offender are going through a divorce and she has court documents stating that he is not allowed at the residence, only the shop. C/o noticed the cameras to her residence had been tampered with again and advised that the camera monitors are located inside the shop and her husband changed the locks and she did not have access to the monitors. C/o advised that she notified her lawyer and wanted a report generated.

Deputies responded to Union Chapel Rd. I reference to a civil dispute. Upon arrival, contact was made with the victim, who advised that he has been living at his residence for 3 months and complainant advised him that he needed to leave the property. Deputy spoke with c/o via phone as she resides in Ohio and she stated that the victim is stealing from another tenant and destroying the property. Deputy advised her of the eviction process to seek in resolving the matter further and spoke with the other tenant about the possible theft and de declined wanting a report.

Deputy responded to Old McLeod Bridge Rd. in reference to an alarm call showing multiple zones.

May 4

Deputies responded to Norristown Covena Rd. in reference to an unresponsive female.

Deputies responded to Gar Rd. in reference to a domestic dispute.

Complainant stated offender violated an easement agreement that had been in place since the parcel was surveyed on April 5, 1984.

Deputy received information that a tag was missing from a vehicle and could have possibly been missing for a while due to the vehicle being out of operation for several years.

May 5

Deputy spoke with complainant who stated a male subject went to her residence asking if she was interested in selling any cad lilac converters and she told him no. The male subject then stated he would get a card to give her in case she changed her mind. C/o stated he went to the vehicle and looked around for 10 minutes then left without giving her a card. C/o stated she saw the truck driving around the area again, driving very slow and it looked suspicious so she wanted to let law enforcement know.

Deputies responded to Union Chapel Rd. in reference to complainants stated that their landlord changed the locks on the residence where they couldn't get in. When deputies arrived, both c/o's stated their landlord had been trying to kick them out of their residence without serving them with eviction papers, but they already came to an agreement that they would have all their things moved out by May 7, after they talked with offender's lawyer. C/o's stated when they arrived home, the front door lock had been replaced and offender had been making threats that he was gonna have them arrested for stealing stuff off the property and killing his animals. Deputy then walked over to speak with offender who stated that they did have an agreement but that changed when he found that 15 of his baby ducks had been killed and he did not feel safe with them around the house anymore.

Deputies responded to JM Spearman Rd. for a female complainant making a call about a dispute. 911 advised while enroute, the second party had left the scene. Upon arrival, deputy spoke with c/o who stated her sister had barged into residence and started an altercation. C/o stated offender did not live at the residence but she may claim residency if asked. C/o stated she did not want offender at the residence and asked her to leave because it was late and that's when offender started yelling and c/o walked out the front door to show offender her way out, and offender shoved her. C/o stated she did not want offender to get in trouble, she just didn't want her at the residence anymore because she has an 18-year-old and offender is shooting meth.

Deputy was requested by another deputy in reference to a vehicle stop he was on with the driver being possibly intoxicated. When deputy arrived, offender was

in the back of the patrol unit due to him going by deputy at a high rate of speed in the turn lane on N. Main St. Deputy could smell a strong odor of alcohol coming from offender and asked if he had consumed any alcohol and he stated he had. Offender tested positive for alcohol and was arrested.

May 6

Deputy responded to George L. Smith State Park Rd. in reference to a domestic dispute at Bear Branch RV Park. When he arrived, he made contact with complainant walking down the road. Complainant stated offender drugged her and did sexual things to her, and took her money from her CashApp. C/o also stated when she tried to call 911, offender beat her. C/o did not have any visible marks on her at the time of the incident, but then started complaining she couldn't hardly breathe and had heart problems and wanted deputy to carry her to the hospital. EMS arrived to check her out and she began giving them a hard time asking them to provide her medications and refused to sit down so they could check her vitals. After a few minutes of arguing with EMS, c/o finally got in the ambulance and said she wanted to go the hospital but before EMS could get going down the road, offender got out of the ambulance and refused to go with them because she didn't want to leave her mom's vehicle in the parking lot of the park. Deputy then went over to the campsite to speak with offender and he stated he did not put his hands on c/o, that she just flipped out on him and started accusing him of taking her money. Offender then stated c/o tried to run over him with the vehicle. After speaking with both parties, deputy could tell they were both on some type of narcotic so he ran their info through 911 and both suspects came back with warrants out of Ohio. C/o's warrant was only for in state pick-up and offender's being full extradition. Arrest was made for pick-up.

Complainant stated her neighbor's dogs tear into the pens made for her cats and has killed at least 6 of them.

Victim entered into a contract with offender to rake pine straw on a tract of land on Cross Jones Rd. C/o stated he had a prior contract to rake on the same land. After talking to the witness, it was determined that most likely, c/o had the older contract that was made with another company.

Deputy responded to Griffin Ferry Rd. in reference to an animal collision. Upon arrival, no injuries were reported and the driver advised that he was driving and struck a deer, causing minor damage to the front driver side of his vehicle.

Deputy responded to Dellwood Main St. for a domestic dispute. Upon arrival, victim stated she had just got home ad her

boyfriend shoved her. C/o stated she took a baby deer home to foster and offender stated it was him or the deer, and a verbal argument ensued and that's when offender shoved her into a dresser. C/o stated she did not want offender to get in trouble, she just didn't want him to go back to her residence, but offender did reside there.

Deputies responded to the area of S. Main St. for a third party complainant calling about a female stuck on the side of the road, possibly out of gas. Upon arrival, offender immediately became hostile towards other law enforcement. Offender stated 2 cell phones were stolen from her vehicle. She stated she wanted to make a report but didn't believe any law enforcement on scene was actually law enforcement. Offender began cursing and telling them to leave, that she was out of gas. Offender was informed that they could not leave her stranded without help and deputy observed offender may have been suffering from an altered mental status. Offender insisted on leaving, but the investigation had gone too far to allow her to leave in the state she was in. Offender was screaming and yelling and making demands, cursing at law enforcement stated they were impersonating law enforcement. She was transported to EMDC.

A vehicle was found to be vandalized while parked and unoccupied on Racket Town Rd. Further investigation also found that several mechanical parts on the vehicle had been cut and removed from the motor compartment.

Deputy met with complainant in reference to a previous incident concerning offender. C/o stated she and offender got into a heated argument that turned physical around which time c/o stated she sustained minor bruising to the left forearm. C/o further stated she is concerned for her safety and her children's safety due to offenders alleged drug abuse and unstable behavior.

Deputies were dispatched to Longbay Dr. to meet with victim in reference to a domestic dispute.

May 8

Deputies were dis-

patched to Modoc Rd. in reference to a male subject near the road displaying strange behavior.

Deputies were dispatched to Quick Loop Rd. to meet with complainant in reference to reporting a lost wallet.

Deputies were dispatched to the area of Hey 57 E. and Stillmore store in reference to loud music. Deputies patrolled the area but had negative contact with any music.

Victim stated when he got home, he noticed someone had spit tobacco on the driver's window of his truck and turned his rear-view mirror around. C/o stated she thought it was the offender which is her ex-husband because he went to the address to pick up their son prior to victim getting home from work. Victim also stated he had a facebook message from offender that he had not opened and has no idea why offender would message him or how he knows his name. C/o stated offender has sent her over 90 text messages in the past 2 days.

Deputy responded to the Toombs/Emanuel county line on Hwy 1 S. to meet with a Toombs County Deputy that had gotten out with offender and discovered she had an outstanding warrant through Em. Co. Offender was then detained on the warrant and transported to the county line, where deputy took custody of her and transported her to the jail.

Complainant stated offender went to his residence and busted a window out of his camper and both headlights in his vehicle. C/o stated he believes that the retaliation stems from an incident that occurred in Jenkins County where the offender got her tires slashed. C/o also stated offender has accused him of being the offender that slashed her tires.

May 9

Deputies were dispatched to Hey 23 S. in reference to offender possibly traveling to the location with a knife.

Deputies were dispatched to the area of N. Old Reidsville Rd. to

locate complainant and assist him with his vehicle being stuck. Deputies located c/o and he was stuck in sand. The road appeared to be access to land used for farming and a current logging operation. C/o stated he had been at a known location and was traveling back to Statesboro. C/o stated his GPS routed him down the road in question. C/o stated he realized he was not on a marked road when it began to narrow to a small path and became sandy, and got stuck while attempting to back up and turn around.

Reporting deputy met with complainants to file a report.

Deputies responded to Ivy W. Roundtree Rd. in reference to threats being made. Upon arrival, deputies spoke with both complainant and discovered that the incident occurred in Toombs Co. and that offender was trying to locate them. Both c/o's stated offender threatened to beat and kill them.

Deputies received a call that offender who has multiple outstanding warrants was walking down Asa Lindsey Rd. Deputy made contact with offender and took him into custody.

Deputies were dispatched to Deer Run Trace Rd. to possible shots fired in the area. While enroute, dispatch was notified by a 2nd caller that it was more than likely someone shooting off fireworks.

Complainant stated 4 drones chased him from hi residence on Railroad Ave. to US 1 S. C/o also went on to state people are controlling his phone through the dark web. While on scene, c/o he ran back towards his house and was pointing back towards another street asking deputy if he saw the green and blue flashing lights. Deputy rode towards that street then went back to c/o's residence and notified him that the convenient store at the end of his road had flashing lights and that's what he was seeing.

To Community

City (Town) of Swainsboro

Emanuel County Citizens GA USA

From, James Markowitz

Representative of Emanuel Sale is putting up 6 ft privacy security fence around the perimeter-. It's suspending reporting/stopping crime, drugs, thefts, etc or help of victims due to circumstances that I/we are 73 years old. We don't create debt or have debt. We can't afford bankruptcy problems between Americans. Since 1975 as Markowitz Bros/ 1985 Emanuel Sales it's business fix, repair, rebuild, remanufacture buildings equipment of all kinds-/ We small businesses has help to give job skills to persons only Americans who made mistakes in life.

Note:

My Brother has serious disabling injury! I am US (USA/Military) Military OCT 1981-1990 injured, wounded peacekeeper EG asked by US Military Police Camp Stanley South Korea 3 of us 19 Delta assault/rescue 19 Delta safely escort South Korean back to her village- she assaulted; my back up one ran away the other 19 Delta without warning (friend of assaultee) in hand 2 hand dragging by the hair. Beat, intent to rap the girl / (The camp has 33 hundred all male personnel)

I am not a citizen USA nor pretend to be one. Don't do acts of Tyranny Peracy- / I am only to defend this country if invaded by foreign elements! I am not a citizen USA nor pretend to be one. Don't do acts of tyranny piracy-/ I am only to defend this country if invaded by foreign elements!

I and anti war, crime, waste/for, prosperity equality peace - to all.

Paid for and written by: James Markowitz

Pine Tree 100 makes history at Swainsboro Raceway!

by CANDY CARROLL

Swainsboro Raceway kicked off the Historical Pine Tree festivities with the South's Best Dirt Track and Go Kart Racing Events in the history of Emanuel County. Crowd records were broken as over 100 racecars registered for six different divisions to battle for the ultimate one of a kind hard carved pine trophies. Fans lined the grandstands on the edge of their seats leaving standing room only with the maximum crowd capacity.

The nights events kicked off with 32 Southland Insurance Crate Late Model drivers competing in 4 heat race events that locked in the top six for a 20 lap showdown. Ches Chester and Caleb Gay led the field off turn four to green. Chester quickly took the lead as Ryan Davis would claim second. All bets would be on the 97 of Little Sexy Cody Overton taking a quick claim to that fast outside groove in the third position. Lap four, working his way through the pack JJ Reich brings out caution with heavy front end damage giving up the seventh position. After the famous, dixie double file restart, Overton gets his advantage and takes the lead on lap 6. Near halfway, Swainsboro's Ben Faircloth putting up a challenge in a three wide battle for third. As laps dwindle down, Overton carries the lead as Chester and Gay side by side for second. Lap 14, Chaz Haskins makes it three wide for fourth. Five to go, Eric Register ended a good night battling for 3rd with a left rear flat. Cody Overton takes the checkered, Ryan Davis moves into second, Caleb Gay third, Ches Chester fourth, and

Ben Faircloth fifth.

In the Zaxby's Crate Late Model division 23 drivers saluted fans with a 4 wide pace lap as Pearson Lee Williams and Cody Overton take the green off turn four. Overton to the high side inches to the lead over Williams. The outside groove of the new racing surface appearing to be faster. Ches Chester sets in on the third position. As the top two started working through lapped traffic, just before the halfway point Williams took the lead. Williams and Overton continue numerous laps duking it out door to door weaving in and out of traffic. Fans on the edge of their seat. Pearson Lee Williams becomes the first third generation driver to earn the Pine Tree 100 title with a well-deserved and earned win holding off top competitor Cody Overton in second, Ches Chester third, Garrett Mosley fourth, and Corey Gordon fifth.

Two seasoned drivers took control of front row in the Rustic Grill Street Stock division with Robert Oglesby and Jimmy Sharpe Jr out front. Little Jimmy quick to take the lead as lap four sent Brent Herndon running fourth to the rear. Running in the second position, Monk Gullege began having issues and slowly falling back. Five laps to go, battling for third Daniel Roland and Jamie Whitaker hook both spinning in turn one. Jimmy Sharpe Jr picks up the win, Robert Oglesby second, Josh Nelms third, Brandon Carpenter fourth, and Monk Gullege fifth.

Twenty-seven drivers took the green in the Daniels Chevrolet Road Warrior division with 18 year old young Tyler Davis showing up from prom in a tux-

edo leading the way. Roger McKenzie brought the power and took advantage of the new racing surface quickly taking the lead as Davis fought setup and handling issues the entire race. However, McKenzie had another Davis to worry about as Kyle Davis moves in to take over the lead. Kyle Davis takes the checkered, Roger McKenzie second, Clinton Love third, Jordan Johnson fourth, and Justin Williams fifth.

Trying make it two in a row for the Bargain Bucket 440 division Tyler Davis took the lead over John Hooks once again. As Davis and Hooks have battled several weeks door to door swapping positions and putting on a good show for fans, one slight wrong move can cause the other a race win. Davis seem to seal the deal early getting a slight lead ahead of Hooks as teammate Rod Morris plays around for second. Just within the halfway point, the lapped traffic that seems to play a role each week. As the leaders work their way through with a multiple groove track, Hooks finds the advantage. John hooks takes the lead to pick up the win over Tyler Davis, Rod Morris, Scotty Hunnicutt, and Mitchell McNure.

After practice and a Thursday night call out paying \$710 in the Lynn & Bobs Crown Vic Class, Jared Peebles returned once again to take the checkered earning another \$200 plus hand carved pine for Blue Moon Racing Team. Gary Edwards falls short again in second place, Lenny Hobbs third, Trey Hobbs fourth, and Phillip Johnson fifth.



JARED PEEBLES – CROWN VIC



KYLE DAVIS – ROAD WARRIOR



JIMMY SHARPE JR. – STREET STOCK



PEARSON LEE WILLIAMS – 604 WINNER



JOHN HOOKS – 440 WINNER



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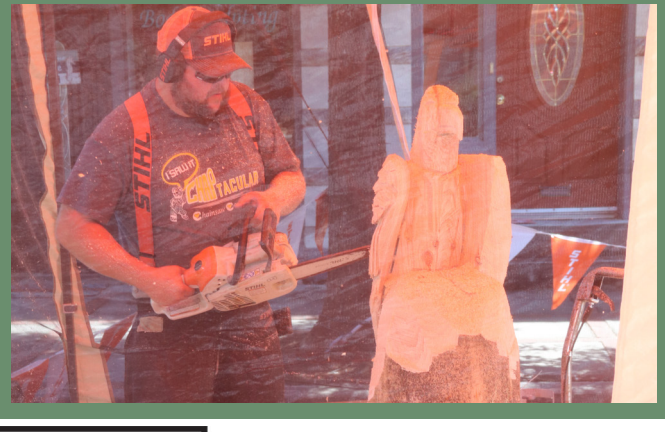


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Scenes from the 74^{1/2} Pine Tree Festival



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SCENE FROM SATURDAY

City trash truck burns

by BILL CAHILL, SWAINSBORO FD PIO

Shortly after 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 8, a passerby knocked on the door at the Southside Fire Station on East Meadowlake Parkway and reported a vehicle fire at the wastewater treatment plant on Industrial Way. Engine 3 radioed in the alarm and reported heavy smoke showing. Engine 1 and Engine 4 also responded to the call.

Upon arrival, firefighters found the dump body of city-owned trash pickup truck SD-30 burning. The blaze heavily damaged the hydraulic operated crane also. Firefighters were on scene almost two hours overhauling the burning debris.

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Emanuel County Board Of Commissioners P.O. Box 787 Swainsboro, GA 30401

Sealed BIDS for Emanuel County Generator Upgrades Projects will be received by Emanuel County at the Emanuel County Commissioner's Office located at 101 North Main St., Swainsboro, GA until 2:00 PM, Local Time on May 27, 2021 and then at said office will be publicly opened and read aloud. The project includes the installation of a new 125 KW generator at the Emanuel County Courthouse to power the Sheriff's Office, and a new 60 KW generator to replace the existing generator at the Emanuel County Detention Center.

The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following locations: 101 North Main Street, Swainsboro, GA

An optional pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00AM on May 18, 2021, at the Emanuel County Commissioner's Office (101 North Main Street, Swainsboro, Georgia). Project scheduling, coordination requirements, and questions of interpretation will be addressed at this time.

All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Bond in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the Base Bid. Performance Bond and Payment Bond, each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, will be required of the successful bidder. Bonds must be written by an acceptable Surety Company licensed to do business in the State of Georgia and listed in the Department of the Treasury, Circular 570, latest edition.

NOTE: Contractor and all subcontractors must obtain a business license in Georgia, be fully insured, and be a Licensed Contractor in the State of Georgia.

INSURANCE: Contractor shall maintain the following insurance (a) comprehensive general liability, including blanket contractual, covering bodily injuries with limits of no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence, and property damage with limits of no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence; and (b) commercial automobile liability, including blanket contractual, covering bodily injuries with limits of no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence, and property damage with limits of no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence; (c) statutory worker's compensation insurance, including \$1,000,000 employer's liability insurance (d) employee dishonesty and/or crimes coverage with respect to personnel of Contractor having access to County buildings, with limits of no less than \$50,000 per occurrence. All insurance shall be provided by an insurer(s) acceptable to the County, and shall provide for thirty (30) days prior notice of cancellation to the County. Upon request, Contractor shall deliver to the County a certificate or policy of insurance evidencing Contractor's compliance with this paragraph. Contractor shall abide by all terms and conditions of the insurance and shall do nothing to impair or invalidate the coverage.

The successful bidder shall secure and pay for all permits, assessments, charges or fees required in connection with the proposed construction. Answers to all questions shall be provided a minimum of 72 hours prior to the time of the bid.

All work to be performed under this project must be completed within 90 consecutive calendar days following receipt of Notice to Proceed.

Emanuel County reserves the right to reject any or all bids, including without limitation, the right to reject any and all nonconforming, non-responsive, unbalanced or conditional bids and to reject the bid of any bidder whom the Owner believes would not be in the best interest of the Project to make an award to that bidder whether because the bid is not responsive, the bidder is unqualified, or of doubtful financial ability or fails to meet any other pertinent standard or criteria established by the Owner.

Digital copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS, Specifications, and drawings may be obtained upon a non-refundable payment of \$150.00 for each set at the Statesboro office of EMC Engineering Services, Inc. Please contact Emmalee Jones (912)764-7022 or by email at emmalee_jones@emc-eng.com.

Jim Sherrod
Chairman
Emanuel County Board of Commissioners

City of Adrian 2020 Annual Water Quality Report WSID # 1070000

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

The city has two wells located inside the city limits where we add chlorine for disinfection and fluoride for teeth and bone growth. Our water comes from the upper Floridian aquifer which provides ample water for all the city's needs.

Source water assessment and its availability

At the present time the city is not required to perform a source water assessment and its availability.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

Our regularly schedule council meetings are held on the second Monday night of each month at 6:00 pm. City Hall Annex is located on 107 Nora Blvd. The public is invited to attend, please sign up at the City Hall at 205 West Main street to be put on the Agenda.

Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. City of Adrian is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your

water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	4	4	.57	.43	.8	2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes
THMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	1.19	NA	NA	2020	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.87	.72	.99	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform (TCR) (positive samples/month)	0	1	0	NA	NA	2020	No	Naturally present in the environment
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
Inorganic Contaminants								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.079	2019	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	11	2019	1	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

Unit Descriptions	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

Unit Descriptions	Definition
positive samples/month	positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

For more information please contact:

Contact Name: Felicia Owen
Address: 205 W. Main Street
Adrian, GA 31002
Phone: 478 668 3376



PHOTO FROM SECOND ANNUAL MEMORIAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

Wiregrass and Brier Creek start scramble

Three members of the Brier Creek and Wiregrass Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution, traveled to Screven County on Saturday, May 1, to start the second annual Cpl. G. Alex Mincey Memorial Golf Scramble. Scotty Scott, Brier Creek Chapter member and chairman of scramble, asked Commander Steve Burke to start this year's scramble using his 6-pounder Naval Cannon from the Brier Creek Artillery. Burke asked Compatriots Wilder and Dess Smith III from the Wiregrass Chapter in Swainsboro, also dual members of the Brier Creek Chapter, to assist him. At 9:30 a.m., Burke gave the order to fire. Immediately after the cannon fire, Commander Burke, W. Smith and D. Smith fired their Brown Bess 75 Cal. muskets as part of the starting of the scramble.

Auto burns at Jordan Estates, subject arrested

by BILL CAHILL, SWAINSBORO FD PIO
Shortly after 11:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 2, Swainsboro Fire and Police departments were dispatched to a motor vehicle fire at 221 East Pine Street. First arriving officers reported a 2005 Chrysler 300 4-door

sedan fully engulfed in flames. Firefighters from Engine 4 stretched and charged an inch and three-quarter attack line to extinguish the blaze. The pressure force and temperature of the fire separated the roof from the sides on the vehicle body. Once the fire was

extinguished, it was determined the point of origin was the trunk area and confined to the total interior of the vehicle. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Eddie Terrell Mack, 32, of Swainsboro by officers of the Swainsboro Police Department.



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Brinson charged with two counts malice murder

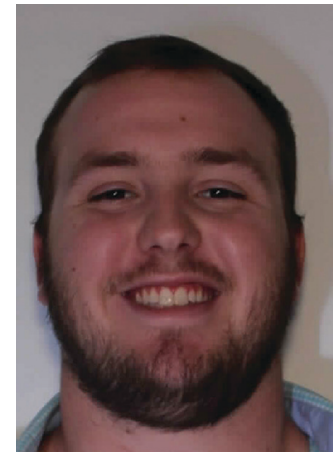
by WHITLEY CLIFTON

Friday, May 7, Johnson County Sheriff's Office provided an update on the April 23, 2021 double homicide involving Destiny Hope Kight, 18, of Wrightsville and Charles Jaylon Garrett, 18, of East Dublin.

On Friday, April 23, Emanuel County Sheriff's deputies responded to the address of 1383 Paul Lord Road in Wrightsville to assist Johnson County Sheriff's deputies with a double homicide case. Upon arrival of Johnson County deputies, the bodies of Kight and Garrett were discovered. Both died from apparent gunshot wounds.

The following Monday, April 26, Daniel Peyton Brinson, 22, a resident suspect of Washington County and known associate of Garrett, was arrested by Marietta Police Department after an immediate pursuit on unrelated charges for multiple counts of felony theft by taking. Brinson is currently being held in the Cobb County Jail and has been charged with two counts malice murder.

"I want to start off by saying, first of all, we need to keep these two families in our prayers; they have lost two kids. We need to keep this community in our prayers and this county in our prayers. We're not use to something like this. This is going



BRINSON

to be a long investigation. Please continue to pray for these families and for our communities," Johnson County Sheriff Greg Rowland stated.

Sheriff Rowland then thanked his deputies as well as the Wrightsville Police Department, Emanuel County Sheriff Jeffrey Brewer and deputies, Laurens County Sheriff's Department, Washington County Sheriff's Department, Sandy Springs Police Department, Marietta Police Department, Cobb County Sheriff's Department, the Dublin Circuit District Attorney's Office, the U.S. Marshals Service, the Southeast Region Fugitive Task Force, and the Georgia Bureau of Investigations (GBI) for their assistance in this case.

This case remains an active investigation. Any information pertaining to this case should be relayed to the Johnson County Sheriff's Office at 478-864-6988, the agency's tip line at 1-800-597-8477, or to the GBI at 478-374-6988.

Editorials Columns

May I?

You gotta love the month of May with its blue, blue skies, floating puffy clouds and warm sun that washes away thoughts of the harsh weather, fears and confinement indoors that we have endured for the past year. We now have the joy of May and a promising hope of controlling the virus and opening our world again. We can sing like Bert to Mary Poppins, Ain't it a grand day, right as a morning in May. Have you ever seen the grass so green or a bluer sky?

All other months must surely be envious of May. Granted, special holidays do occur in other months, but no other month has thirty-one May days. Sultry hot weather, freezing days with icy roads,

hurricanes, taxes due, raking leaves, mosquitoes and gnats are some of the displeasures of the other eleven---but not in May.

Fresh outdoor air is calling to me. I live in a condo, and the main selling attraction is "No Yard Work". That also means "No Yard". I grew up with a front yard, side yards and back yard which included the huge grape vine, a chicken yard and vegetable garden. Now, I have a postage stamp sized patio and ten feet of space away from backside of my home where I can put in plants. My joy is a swing that has hung in trees at several of my homes. My dear son, John, made a frame to hang it on the patio. Most May Days find

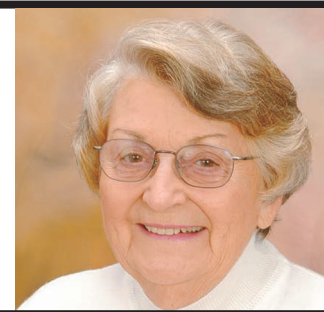
me having a meal at the picnic table or day dreaming in the swing. My thoughts are often, "I have never seen the grass so green or the sky so blue."

My patio is filled with hanging baskets and potted plants, but the small spot of ground space is reserved for tomato plants. No matter what the limitation, I must plant tomatoes. You can't change your heritage. These brave plants surprise me every year by growing tall and giving me many juicy, tasty tomato sandwiches on light bread with mayonnaise. My father tended a large garden with enough tomato plants for our table, my mother's canning and to share with many others. Almost every other day, he filled my wagon

with garden fresh vegetables to deliver to Miss Celestine Williams and her mother, Mrs. Ginny Williams who lived just up the street. There was a downside to my delivery. Miss Celestine always asked, "Are you keeping up with your practicing during the summer?" Truthfully, I had not touched the piano since my last lesson with her.

When I sat in the grammar schoolroom, with the open windows bringing in the soft, sweet air, I was listening for recess bell to ring and make a mad dash outside to play one of our favorite games, MAY I? You did not have to be "picked". Everyone was welcome. There was only one rule. When the leader gave you the command to

Shirley Proctor Twiss



take a number of varying types of steps, first you had to ask "may I?". If you did not ask and receive permission, you had to return to the starting line. The bell to end recess usually ended the game without a winner.

Other popular, more competitive games were Red Rover, Dodge Ball, London Bridge and Tag.

Some girls were experts at playing Jacks, and boys squatted in a circle on the ground to shoot marbles. Discipline was necessary only when boys were caught playing marbles "for keeps". I

suppose this was looked upon as gambling. Penalty was confiscating all the marbles. A worst offense was two boys squared off with fists clenched and dancing around daring a lick to be passed. This was quickly settled by principal marching the boys to the office and possibly a few licks with paddle. Of course, those are two things never done by girls.

"May I?", continue to enjoy this loveliest of months along with you."

Write to Shirley at sptwiss@gmail.com.

Could that COVID-19 shot be spying on you?

It is my firm policy that all members in my conglomerate of companies must receive their COVID-19 shots or risk losing the generous perks offered them as employees. These include occasional weekends off (without pay), discounts on zither lessons, signed photographs of me kneeling during the playing of

"Ramblin' Wreck from You-Know-Where-Institute of Technology," and the book, "The Best of Northern Cuisine" (one page) among other morale boosters. As the leader it is, of course, incumbent on me to lead the way. I had no negative reaction to either shot, except I forgot to tell the nurse that I am allergic to la-

tex and after pulling off the little spot bandage following my second shot, my shoulder nearly exploded and threatened to sue me for glenohumeral joint cruelty. Among the many organizations that make up my conglomerate is the Yarbrough Worldwide Media and Pest Control Company, located in Greater Garfield, Geor-

gia and best known for publishing the much-respected Round or Square Polls ("You provide the dough and we'll cook the numbers.") Junior E. Lee is the general manager. As you know, Junior E. Lee is one of the most-respected media analysts in the nation as well as a certified pest control professional. That is a rare combination of skills. Yet, Junior is very modest when I offer him praise. He says whether it is a guy in a buffalo hat storming the U. S. Capitol or your run-of-the-mill Cabbage looper (*Trichoplusia ni*), a pest is a pest. I asked Junior how the vaccinations were going at the workplace. He said he had gotten his shots although he didn't think he needed to. He has inhaled enough malathion and permethrin over the years that he feels he is pretty much immune to anything from COVID-19 to calluses but Aunt Flossy Fulmer had told him to forget poking around in her drawers looking for fire ants unless he was fully vaccinated. Junior said most of the staff had also been vaccinated and they wanted me to know how much they appreciated the discounted zither lessons. Several of them have gotten together and formed a Zither Club over in Stillmore. Nothing pleases me more than to see my employees happy as long as they remember they are expected to work weekends for the foreseeable future.

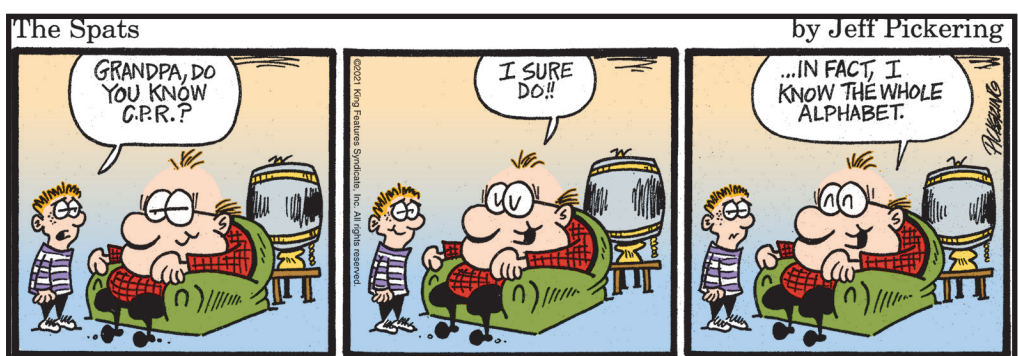
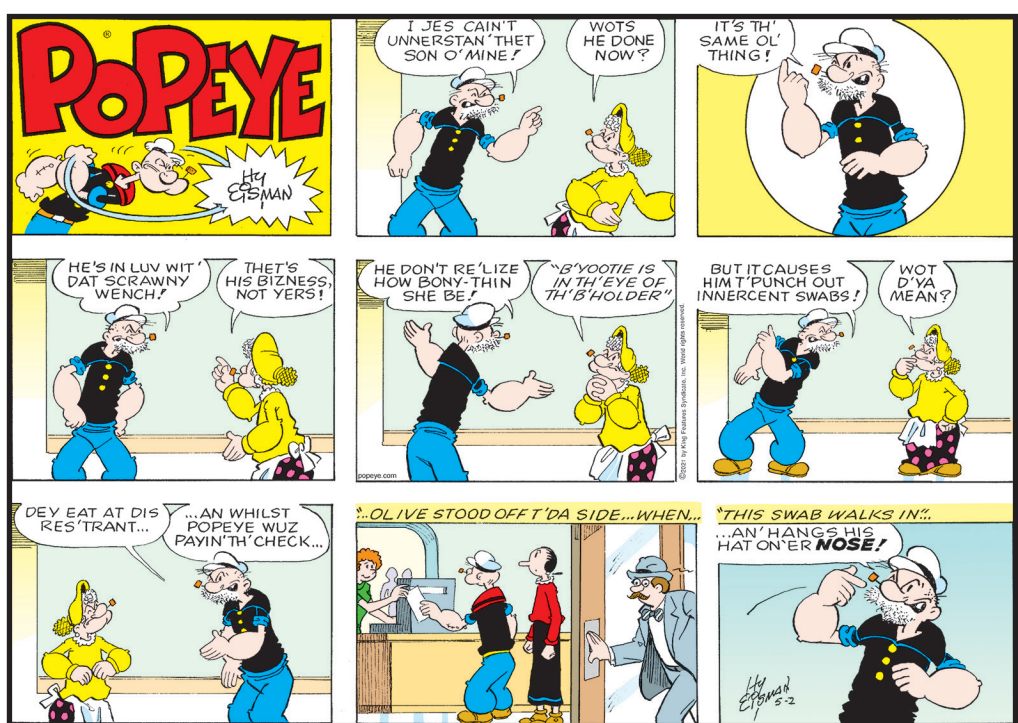
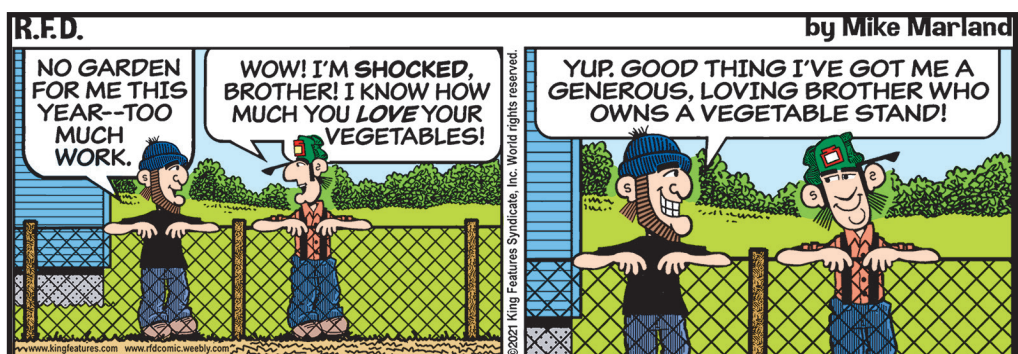
Dick Yarbrough



No need to spoil them. There is one small problem, Junior admitted. Thurlow Scruggs, the new hire who is responsible for crunching the numbers in our latest polls as well as maintaining our new gas-powered Tomahawk Turbo Boosted Backpack Mosquito Fogger and Leaf Blower, says he isn't getting the shots. Junior has warned Thurlow that with that kind of attitude he might be forgoing the opportunity to learn to master the zither and enjoy the camaraderie of the Stillmore Zither Club. Thurlow said it doesn't matter. He says he has been told by highly-placed sources in Greater Garfield that a microchip has been inserted in the vaccine and when you get the shot, the government can track you wherever you go, including to Aunt Flossy Fulmer's house. Junior said your cell phone can do that now. Thurlow says that is where Bill Gates got the idea. Hillary Clinton told him. Thurlow is sure he saw Gates loitering around the Hacienda De Gay International Airstrip in Garfield waiting for a shipment of microchips. Soon, the government will be able to tell who voted for Trump and will send us all to reeducation camps in Vermont.

Then it will be just a matter of time before the United Nations orders Satanic ritual worship and the harvesting of our organs by Democrats in Washington. As for wearing a mask, Thurlow Scruggs says he isn't doing that, either. He says his right to breathe unencumbered on his fellow citizens is protected by some amendment to the U. S. Constitution, if that document hasn't already been destroyed by the CIA. I ask Junior if Thurlow is maintaining social distancing as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Junior said that was no problem. Even Arvel Ridley's cows won't come near the guy. Why are we keeping him on the payroll, I asked. Junior says he is a whiz with numbers and keeps the mosquito sprayer in tip-top shape. Besides, Junior thinks it is just a matter of time before Georgia Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene brings Thurlow Scruggs to Washington. I think that is a splendid idea. One nutcase deserves another and I would save a lot of money on zither lessons. 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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The Blade reserves the right to edit letters and limit the number of letters on any one subject from any one person.

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