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VOLUME 164, NO. 7

Swainsboro, Georgia • February 15, 2023

ONE DOLLAR

No city administrator hired

Swainsboro City Council held their regular monthly meeting Monday, February 13, at 6 p.m. Following invocation by Rev. Mark Hardin, and the Pledge of Allegiance, Council approved the minutes from the January 24 meeting. In old business, John McClellan with Turnipseed Engineers gave an update on the Elevated Tank Project. This project is located at the intersection of Old Nunez Road and Sycamore Street. The contractor has agreed to hold the earlier quoted price. Council voted to move forward with the project 6-0.

Council voted 6-0 to approve the alcohol license application for Dirghayn V. Patel at 202 E. Main St.

Chris Morton with

Clearwater Solutions presented the Georgia Department of Public Health Drinking Water Fluoridation Award to the city. This award is for properly fluoridated and disinfected the drinking water for the city. He also presented a check to the city for \$10,758.35. This is a refund from the repairs and maintenance account for funds not spent in 2022. Morton also requested the purchase or lease of two backhoes for the city. Three bids were submitted (Yancey, John Deere and JCB). Council unanimously voted to lease the backhoes from the low bidder, JCB, for 72 months. This will be paid with SPLOST funds.

Jacqueline Brantley addresses council regarding dilapidated property near her home. "Nothing has happened since the

last time," said Brantley. Following advice from City Attorney John Levis, Council voted to amend the agenda to put the nuisance abatement back into review. Council voted 6-0 for amendment.

Matthew Bright, once again, was present to talk about the issue with the property on Brown St. "month after month after month passes and you do absolutely nothing," stated Bright. Mayor Greg Bennett informed Bright that the issue had been sent to the insurance company. Bennett told Bright he could hire an attorney if he was not satisfied.

Next on the agenda was Debbie Hudson Dubberly who addressed council on damage to her property caused by neg-

(Continued on page 2A)



TY ADAMS SURROUNDED BY HIS FAMILY AS HE SIGNS TO NORTH CAROLINA

Ty and Jonorian: From Tigers to Tar Heels & Yellow Jackets

by HAROLD SCOTT
 Two Swainsboro High School senior football players recently signed letters of intent to attend college on athletic scholarships. During the early signing period in December, Ty Adams signed with the University of North Carolina of Chapel Hill, North Carolina. In the February signing period, Jonorian Fouts signed with Georgia Institute of Technology

of Atlanta, Georgia. Both young men have been integral members of the Tigers football team for the past four years.

Despite being injured in 2022, Ty rushed for 933 yards and 15 touchdowns. He saved his best performance for the state championship game, where he rushed for 250 yards and four touchdowns. Ty earned Region 2A Offensive Player of the year and

All-State honors. Ty had a tremendous junior season in 2021. He was named all-state and the Region 2 player of the year. Over the summer, Ty performed well at the Rivals Combine and garnered significant exposure. He followed up that performance by running a 4.34 forty at the Mercer University camp. That performance and his previous resume helped earn (Continued on page 10A)

DeMello Jones recruiting

by HAROLD SCOTT

The 2022 Swainsboro High School football season ended a few months ago, but the Tigers are still feeling the residual impact of a successful season. SHS finished the season with a 13-1 record. The Tigers only loss occurred in the State Championship game. Team success of this magnitude usually translates to individual honors for coaches and players. The Tigers coaches have been recognized for their outstanding work. Several players have received accolades, such as all-region and all-state. As a result of their performances this season, several players have also received scholarship offers to play in college. Football is the ultimate team sport. No one player or coach is singularly responsible for the team's success. Although time and space preclude me from naming each team member, it is important to acknowledge that every team member plays a role in its success.

DeMello Jones is one of the players receiving accolades for his performance and team success. Jones was selected as the region Player of the Year and to the all-state team. Additionally, the junior has received numerous college scholarship offers. Jones offers are from the heavyweights of college football, which include Georgia, Alabama, Ohio State,



JONES

Tennessee, Michigan State, Kentucky, South Carolina, Florida, Texas A & M, Vanderbilt, Florida State, North Carolina State, Georgia Tech, North Carolina, Notre Dame, Colorado, Miami, Ole Miss, Central Florida, Coastal Carolina, Georgia Southern, Georgia State, Charlotte, and Middle Tennessee State. Along with the college offers comes the attention of the National media. Long-time national recruiting analyst Tom Lemming of Chicago was in town recently to interview Jones. Lemming has input into the selection of the USA Today and Parade All-American teams.

It is safe to say that DeMello is already one of the most heavily recruited athletes in Swainsboro High's history. Recruiting has changed over the years, but to my knowledge, no other SHS athlete has received this much attention and this many offers during their junior season. This is quite an achievement since SHS has had sev-

eral highly recruited athletes in the past. I'll take just a moment to recap some of the history.

Two high schools once existed in Swainsboro. In 1969 the two schools, Emanuel County Elementary and High School Rattlers and Swainsboro High School Tigers merged. My reference point of Tiger football history will begin at this period. During the first year of the merger, Fletcher Young immediately became a highly sought-after recruit by colleges such as South Carolina, Florida, and Georgia, as well as other southern schools. Unfortunately, a devastating knee injury during his senior season derailed a promising career. In 1974, David Bright became one of the first Tiger players to receive national recognition. Bright was selected by Kick-Off Magazine as one of the top 100 players in America. Bright accepted a scholarship to Kansas State University. (Continued on page 10A)

Taylor named Emanuel County DAR Good Citizen

William Thomas Taylor, DAR Good Citizen for Emanuel County Institute for 2022-23, has been named the Emanuel County DAR Good Citizen. Taylor is the son of Russ and Lisa Taylor of Twin City. He exemplifies the DAR Good Citizen qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism. Taylor's many accomplishments honor his family, his community, and his school. He will be recognized by the Governor David Emanuel-Adam Brinson Chapter of the Georgia State Society, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) at the 2023 Emanuel county Institute Honor's night in May.

The DAR Good Citizens Award and Scholarship contest were created in 1943. It recognizes and rewards graduating seniors who possess the qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in their homes, schools, and communities. These students are selected by their teachers and peers because they demonstrate these qualities to an outstanding degree.

In his scholarship essay, Taylor wrote about

the importance of honoring our nation's heritage and our duty to preserve it for future generations. When people think of our nation's people and past, they think of a country that has flourished and continues to flourish from its rich and varied history and that is an image we have to preserve.

Taylor is active in many clubs and organizations at ECI that give back to the community, most notably Beta Club and Fellowship of Christian Athletes, FFA, and FBLA.

In recognition of Taylor's honor, Governor David Emanuel-Adam Brinson NSDAR Chapter will present the DAR Scholarship to him at the Emanuel County Institute Honor's night.

9th grade accomplishments and involvements:



TAYLOR

- Football 2019-20 season
- Bill Bonds Fellowship of Christian Athletes award
- 2019-20 Positive Athlete nominee
- FFA member
- FBLA member
- Star Honor Roll
- Senior Beta member
- Senior Beta State Convention
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes President
- 21st Century Leaders

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No city administrator...

(From front page)
 ligent city management. "I am seeking the status after we had the public hearing. I have not been contacted by anyone. I have another big chunk that has fallen off in the ditch. So, tell me please what the status is please," said Dubberly. Mayor Bennett informed her that the insurance company denied the claim. "The insurance company denied the claim. If you do not agree with the insurance company, you need to seek other counsel," stated Bennet.

In new business, the request for a game room application for 230 W. Moring St. was postponed due to no one being present to represent the application.

Council approved the advertisement for alcohol license for Ashley Brewer Youmans dba The Liquor Vault LLC at 403 N. Coleman St. The vote passed 6-0.

Council approved 5-0 for advertisement of alcohol license for Niranjali A Patel dba Mojo's Wine and Spirits located at 546 South Main Street. Mayor Bennett recused himself due to him being the owner of the business.

Parker moved the next order of business by asking to amend the agenda to recognize an owner of a business that is located on Rentz street that needs to re-approve their application for a beer and wine license, due to missing the deadline for the application. The vote passed 6-0 with Sconyers seconding. Parker then made a motion to advertise for the alcohol license of this business and was seconded by Sconyers.

addressed the Council regarding upcoming cleaning projects and membership guidelines with Keep Emanuel Beautiful. She explained that the community needs more people who will reach out and inform them of areas within our County that need cleaning and revamping and would assist with the efforts of keeping it a beautiful place to live, and asked Council for recommendations. She also mentioned that Keep Emanuel Beautiful will be affiliated with the Keep Georgia Beautiful program and will require an application fee of \$3,500 and annual dues of \$170, however, the County has already made promises to cover those costs because they believe in the efforts of this organization. She also presented a memorandum of understanding that basically explained the many projects that the group will be overseeing including, Operation Clean Sweep that will be held on Earth Day of every year, beginning this Earth Day, April 22. Ryan concluding her presentation by elaborating to Council and guests that there is no registration fee to become a member of KEB, they simply just need to participate and clean up trash 10 hours per year. The next meeting for Keep Emanuel Beautiful will be held on Thursday, February 16, at 5:30 at the County Office. Dumpsters have also been provided throughout our county to meet these efforts.

Kayla Williams, the children's coordinator, and Wendy Ward, the manager, at Franklin Memorial Library

addressed the council regarding "National Take a Walk in the Park Day," that is observed every year on March 30th. Her request was to initiate an annual celebration for this holiday to be held at one of our community parks every year on this day. The vote for this request passed.

Verdell Brinson addressed the council about safety issues surrounding hunting on private property. Police Chief Randy Ellison advised that he would be in contact with property owners for more information and resolution. Chief Ellison also addressed council to consider hiring Jacob Wheeler for the vacant Police Officer position available. Council agreed with the hiring pending completion of all training qualifications. Chris Morton with Clear Water Solutions presented quotes for installation of an additional car lift at the city shop. Recommendation was passed by council. Morton also requested the sale of surplus items at auction which was also passed by council.

Mayor Bennett presented quotes for the annual city audit. Low bid was approved from Lanier Deal Proctor and Blocker. Councilperson Parker presented a petition from residents in his district regarding road paving. Parker was advised that requested action would be taken to accelerate that project. Parker addressed pay for part-time workers. Council tabled further discussions.

Mayor Bennett discussed fleet management plans and discussion was held regarding a workshop to address details. Council voted to adopt a resolution dealing with "Re-Statement with Work Week and Work Period for Non-Exempt City Employees; Overtime Hours." The vote passed unanimously.

Council voted to convene an executive session dealing with personnel. Following executive session council entertained discussion regarding hiring of a City Administrator. In a somewhat chaotic session, various motions were made in support of two applicants. At one point a motion was made and seconded to hire Mr. Middlebrooks. Councilmembers Davis, Sconyers and Stafford voted not to pass the motion, Parker and Quarterman voted in favor. Councilperson Collins abstained. With no majority vote for either decision, the issue remains in confusion with no hiring taking place.

Taylor named Emanuel...

(From front page)

- s member
- Dual enrollment
- Academic letter
- Biology award
- Governor's Honors

Biology District nominee

- Audio/video production coordinator at Connection Church Millen
- Volunteer at Connection Church Millen services and events
- Member of Church Youth Group at Connection Church Millen

Engage Global Missionary training

- FFA prepared public speaking
- Worked for grandfather at OA Hall Store

10th grade accomplishments and involvements:

- Football 2020-21 season
- FFA member
- FBLA member
- Star Honor Roll
- Senior Beta member
- Senior Beta State Convention
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes President
- 21st Century Leaders member
- Dual enrollment
- Academic letter
- Audio/video production coordinator at Connection Church Millen
- Volunteer at Connection Church Millen services and events
- Member of Church Youth Group at Connection Church Millen
- FFA impromptu public speaking
- Worked for grandfather at OA Hall Store
- 11th grade accomplishments and involvements:
- Football 2021-22 season
- Bill Bonds Fellowship of Christian Athletes award
- FFA member
- FBLA member
- Star Honor Roll
- Senior Beta member
- Senior Beta State Convention
- Senior Beta State Convention 5th place 3D design
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes President
- 21st Century Leaders member
- Dual enrollment
- Academic letter
- Student Council Representative
- One Act Play
- 2022 Region Literary Competition Duo Dramatic Interpretation 1st place
- University of Georgia Certificate of Merit
- Engineering Concepts award
- Bobcat LEAD Society EGSC
- 12th place 2022 TSA CAD Engineering
- Audio/video production coordinator at Connection Church Millen
- Volunteer at Connection Church Millen services and events
- Member of Church Youth Group at Connection Church Millen
- FFA prepared public speaking
- Worked for grandfather at OA Hall Store
- Usher at class of 2022 graduation
- 12th grade accomplishments and involvements:
- FFA member
- FBLA member
- Star Honor Roll
- Senior Beta president
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes President
- 21st Century Leaders member
- Dual enrollment
- Meghan's Learning Academy Technical Support
- Academic letter
- Student Council president
- One Act Play team 1st runner-up
- One Act Play region 3A best actor award
- Citizens Bank Advisory board

- Audio/video production coordinator at Connection Church Millen
- Volunteer at Connection Church Millen services and events
- Member of Church Youth Group at Connection Church Millen
- Speaker at Millen Make a Difference See You at the Pole Rally
- Worked for grandfather at OA Hall Store
- ECI Today (school news) host/editor/director
- Led pep rally

When asked about Taylor's service within the Community, he said:

"I have been involved in my community for a large portion of my youth. I have been involved in Audio/Video Production for my church since 6th grade and I have since moved to a more prominent role in setting up equipment and supervising volunteers who assist in the production side of a Sunday church service. This leadership role has allowed me to develop relationships with many youths at my church and get them involved in volunteer service on Sundays. Another place I have been involved in my community was leading the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. As president, I have led monthly meetings and assisted with community events such as the See You at the Pole Rally. I have also assisted my grandfather at his feed and seed store since the 7th grade. Working with my grandfather allowed me to experience caring for and assisting the elderly. I was also able to gain experience while providing customer service by working the cash register and helping customers load items such as bags of fertilizer, deer corn, and pine straw twine."

When asked about the DAR /good Citizen qualities he embodies, Taylor said:

"I believe that I exhibit the qualities asked of a recipient of the DAR Good Citizen award. These qualities are dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism. Throughout my middle and high school careers, I have been regularly called upon to assist in many places in my community. As mentioned before, I have been in a prominent position leading much of the audio/video production at Connection Church Millen. In this position, there have been many instances where assistance was needed, and I was called upon to fill that role. In my work at OA Hall Store, I was called upon to assist in general maintenance and any immediate needs or crisis that may have arrived. In my school career, I have been asked to perform many services whenever a need may arise. When a teacher was unable to lead a pep rally, I was asked to take his place. Whenever someone needed to say a prayer at an event, I was ready to complete the task. These examples demonstrate my dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in my community."

When asked about his future plans and goals, Taylor explained:

"In the future, I plan to go to college and get a mechanical engineering degree. I also would like to remain active in my church and continue to assist my grandfather whenever I am able. I college, I will continue to find ways to become involved such as in clubs and organizations on or around campus."

Our American Heritage and our responsibility for

preserving it
 By William Taylor
 "How will the essential actions of a good citizen, dependability service, leadership, and patriotism meet the challenges that America will face in the next decade?"

In America's history, moments of monumental change have always been met with contention. There have been protests, riots, and even wars born from these pivotal places in history. In a time of change, there must be leaders that embody the qualities of a good citizen in order for stability and peace to be maintained. The qualities of dependability, service, patriotism, and leadership will all be integral to the success of America in this decade and beyond.

In order to be a leader for our communities, one must be dependable. Always being ready and willing to act will be essential to the survival of the nation. In a time of such confusion and conflict as seen in civil issues such as abortion and LGBTQ and rights, one must be available to listen to all sides of every argument, giving the proper respect to any opinions, whether one may agree or not. Without a dependable mediator for these complex issues, any side may feel ignored or even threatened, which will lead to unnecessary division and conflict within our nation.

Service is another aspect of a good citizen that will be very important for the success of America in the future. Charitable service is a vital way to provide love and care for one's community. Providing help for the poor, caring for the elderly and sick, or even helping a neighbor all promote unity among one another; however, this kind of service cannot be limited to just like-minded people. True service transcends the bindings of opinions and allows for service despite one self. The practice of such service will allow the nation to be unified while also maintaining the right to hold differing beliefs.

Patriotism is defined as love and devotion to one's country, and this will be a very important factor in the future of America. Unfortunately, for many Americans, patriotism has moved beyond a love or respect for one's nation; it has become an arrogant pride in the hearts of many Americans. While pride in one's nation is admirable, that pride can grow to the point of blinding on to the shortcomings of the nation. This is a very dangerous position as a denial of issues only cause them to grow. True patriotism is to love one's nation enough that one may be able to acknowledge and address the failures of this thawed nation. If we are to deny the fact that America is an imperfect nation, our façade of perfection will fall as the country crumbles from within.

The qualities of dependability, service, and patriotism are all a part of what makes both a good citizen and leader. In order to be a good leader, one must be dependable in one's community, willing to service those around oneself, and willing to address the shortcomings of the nation. A leader who embodies these trials is essential to the survival of America. As seen in times such as the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, and the Civil Rights movement, America is at a pivotal point in its history. It is a house divided, and without good citizens and leaders it cannot stand.

The Forest-Blade

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Photo by Mark Williams Studio

DADDYS AND DAUGHTERS

Daddy-Daughter Dance held at SECRD

Over 92 couples Swainsboro-Emanuel County Recreation Department Friday evening, February 10.

The annual event was held in the Recreation Department Gym. The event was for girls ages 4 and up and their father or an adult escort. The girls enjoyed an eve-

ning of socializing and dancing to a variety of music provided by disc jockey Joey Crapps. Refreshments were also served throughout the evening.

East Georgia State College plans Community Homecoming event

East Georgia State College (EGSC) is hosting a community Homecoming event Saturday, February 25 beginning at 12 p.m. The event will conclude Homecoming Week at the college and help kick off the 50th Anniversary for EGSC.

The celebration will begin at 12 p.m. at the gymnasium on EGSC's campus with a bounce house, rock-climbing wall, and other activities for families. At 3 p.m. the sophomore basketball players will be recognized at the start of the Homecoming game. During half time of the game, members of the 2013 GCAA State Championship Men's Basketball Team will be recognized. The team has been invited back to campus to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the championship. Following the recognition ceremony, the EGSC Homecoming Queen and King will be announced.

EGSC invites the community to join them for this free event.

Emanuel County Veterans Center to host event

March 4th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Emanuel County Veterans Center will host a veteran's git-to-gather. It will be a time to connect with old friends with food and a casual atmosphere. In addition, there will be in attendance Veteran Service Officer's from the State of Georgia, The American Legion, and Veterans of Foreign Wars, to help answer any questions that you may have. Also, members of the National Guard Unit in Swainsboro will be invited to join. Come out and talk with them and see how life for a soldier has changed over the years. There is no cost for this event, and and everyone is encouraged to come out and visit.

Our Community Resources... Second to NONE!

A great big **THANK YOU** to Emanuel Medical Center Emergency Room Staff

Dr. Ajibade, Phyllis Dixon, FNP, Calli Drake, LPN, Jeanie Thain, RN, Sally Powell, RN, Rhaney Starling, RN, Hannah Akins, LPN, Ashley Akridge, ED tech, Misty Adams, RN, Radiology Dept: John Proctor, Radiographer, Laboratory: Katrina Charity, Phlebotomist, Respiratory Dept: Dewayne Ivey, RT and Erin Young, RT.



On Friday, February 10, our grandson, Bishop, was taken to Emanuel Medical Center with a temperature of 105 and seizures. From the moment we got there until we left, no better care could have been given. After he was stabilized, we were transferred to Childrens' Hospital in Augusta. Physicians there told us the staff at EMC did everything right and Bishop was sent home.

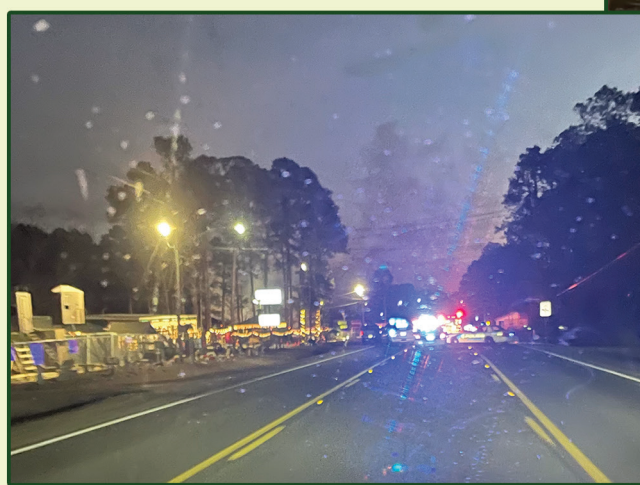
A great big **THANK YOU** to Swainsboro Fire Department and Swainsboro Police Department!

Christmas Eve morning, one of the buildings at Yardmaster caught on fire. In 17 degree weather, with ice on the ground, the Swainsboro Fire Department and Swainsboro Police Department responded immediately. Everyone involved went above and beyond to extinguish the fire and direct traffic.



With heartfelt thanks,

**Frank & Teah Canady
Tyler & Alie Hendley
Sam & Kala Almond**



Book signing for local author, Sara Young

Meet new author, Sara 'Saray' Young. Saturday, February 18 from 5pm-7pm, drop by The Emanuel Arts Council for a book signing of Sara's new book, "The Journal & Planner of Expectancy." *The Journal & Planner of Expectancy* is a planner and journal with "DIY" calendars, goal setting checklist with an action plan, journal prompts, positive affirmations and prayer list. This is just the workbook you need to help you reach your goals, meet your expectations, and tap into your greatness while writing out your intellectual thoughts, to help you fulfill your purpose. Sara is a Swainsboro



YOUNG

native. She is the mother of Zaylin Lee and daughter of Mrs. Syvetta D. Young. She is employed at East Georgia State College, a blogger known as 'SaraSaray' and owner of Sate's Treasures and SaraSaray Event Planning & Coordinating. Books will be available for purchase on Saturday at the book signing.



TERWILLIGER WITH SCOTTY NASWORTHY



SUTTON WITH NASWORTHY

Terwilliger and Sutton win 1st place

Local David Emanuel Academy Students Addalyn Terwilliger, and Anna Sutton have both won 1st Place for the 6th District, Veterans of Foreign Wars. Addalyn won 1st Place in the Voice of Democracy Competition, and Anna has won 1st Place in the Patriot's Pen Competition. These programs are conducted each year from August through October.

You can visit (<https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>) if you would like more information or contact your Local VFW here in Swainsboro.

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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



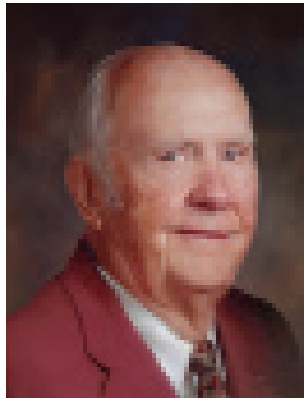
PLEASE JOIN US!

Elmo Wyatt Rich, 92

Mr. Elmo Wyatt Rich, 92, of Moultrie, passed away Sunday, February 5, 2023, at Magnolia Manor. A memorial service was held Sunday, February 12, at 3 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Swainsboro with Rev. Casey Shaw officiating. Visitation was from 2 p.m. until time of service. Committal service followed at Swainsboro City Cemetery.

Honorary pallbearers were anyone associated with Dixie Youth League baseball.

Mr. Rich was born June 11, 1930, in Swainsboro, to the late Elmo Dennis Rich and Lena Mae Black Rich. He was a lifetime resident of Swainsboro until March of 2022. Mr. Rich was a forester with Southland Timber Company and Union Camp, and retired in 1992. He was a faithful follower of Christ, and this is what he most wants to be remembered as. Mr. Rich belonged to the First Baptist Church of Swainsboro, and belonged to and worked closely with the Gideons. He was a coach and a manager for 40+ years for the Dixie Youth. Mr. Rich also coached beside his daughter, Kathy, for his granddaughter, Kelley Smith-Patch Recreational Fast-pitch Softball team. The Dixie Youth Baseball in Swainsboro named a complex in his honor, "Wyatt Rich Complex". He loved



RICH

his "boys" and "girls" with all his heart. Mr. Rich not only guided them in the game, but in their lives. This is what brought him much joy. In addition to his parents, Mr. Rich is preceded in death by his wife, Bessie Neele Oliver Rich; son, David Rich; brothers, Bobby Rich and Dennis Rich; sisters, Edith Rich Lyons and Patsy Rich Gray; nephews, Shane Rich and Mike Lyons; and niece, Cheryl Fields Turner.

Survivors include his daughter, Katherine Rich Fowler (Bruce) of Moultrie; grandchildren, Kelley Nicole Smith Patch (Rion) of Athens and Kaitlyn Mari Smith of Savannah; nieces and nephews, Denise Rich, Donald Rich, Sallie Rich Oden, Rudy Gray, Sandie Rich Thompson, Stan Rich, Stacy Rich, Deadre Hadden, Debbie Lyons, Kenneth Fields, Duncan Fields and Geri Fields.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro was in charge of arrangements.

Kenneth Edward Griner, 74

Kenneth Edward Griner, 74, passed away Wednesday, February 8, 2023, at his family home in Claxton following a brief illness. Visitation was held Sunday, February 12, at 1 p.m. with a memorial service at 2 p.m. Jordan Cameron and Wade Williams, both former students of Mr. Griner's, officiated.

Mr. Griner was born in Tattnall County on October 18, 1948, to Jim and Dot Griner. He graduated from Claxton High School and furthered his education at Abraham Baldwin College. Ken graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in Business Education and began his teaching career at Swainsboro High School in 1971, and taught at Swainsboro High School until his retirement. Soon after retirement, he returned to Evans County to live out his years on the family farm. Mr. Griner

was admired by all his students, and was a great friend to all who knew him. Ken was an active member of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Swainsboro where he served on the Mission Council. He also attended Union Church in Claxton. Mr. Griner is preceded in death by his parents; and brother, Bill Griner.

Survivors include his sister, Wanda Griner Pitkin (Bruce Pitkin) of Hilton Head, SC; sister-in-law, Linda Griner of Claxton; Hollie Griner Harper (Jimmy) of Claxton; Jamie Griner of Odum; Heather Griner Floyd (Paul) of Guyton; Josh Griner of Claxton; and Matthew Mauney of Brunswick; his God sons, Justen Woods of Buford, Chandler Woods of Savannah, and Elliott Woods of Macon; many nieces and nephews.

Mellie NeSmith Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Second Union Missionary Baptist Association to hold Black History Program

The Second Union Missionary Baptist Association Youth Ministry is celebrating Black Excellence on February 16, beginning at 7 p.m. at the Second Union Missionary Baptist Association Center located on 296 Oak Grove Church Road, Swainsboro. Everyone is cordially invited.

Reverend Doctor Muriel Bell is the Moderator and Reverend Melvin Adams, Jr. is the Vice-Moderator.

Judith "Judy" Amy Jackson Wammock, 77

Judith "Judy" Amy Jackson Wammock, ageless beauty, passed away on February 5, 2023, in Brunswick. Judy's life will be celebrated by her immediate family in a private service.

Born to Herbert Jackson and Louise Moye Jackson on May 8, 1945, Judy grew up on the family farm in Donovan. As a teenager, she ventured to the nearby metropolis of Adrian, where she caught the eye of Mike Wammock. Judy and Mike raised four children in Swainsboro, where Mike co-owned Wammock Furniture Company and Judy worked in interior decorating and medical equipment sales. They also co-managed two beachfront resorts on Jekyll Island, and later retired to Brunswick. Judy loved gardening, walking on the beach, listening to music, talking politics, and telling Mike what to cook. She was gorgeous, funny, irreverent, and fiercely protective of her family, who loved her to no end. Mrs. Wammock is preceded in death by her parents; son, Jim Wammock; brother, Sammy Jackson; and



WAMMOCK

sister, Olivia Stevens.

Survivors include her husband of 61 years, Mike Wammock; brother, Bill Jackson (Billie); children, Gina Wammock (Eric Rothstein), Chris Wammock (Stephanie), and Laurie Karagul (Gurkan); grandchildren, Jessica Walker (Areon), Aaron Wammock, Dylan Wammock, Wes Wammock, Morgan Rich, Nicholas Karagul, and Matthew Karagul; great-grandchildren, Addi Lyn Rich and Gray Rich; and a number of nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank the staff at the Southeast Georgia Health System's Brunswick Campus for their care and compassion.

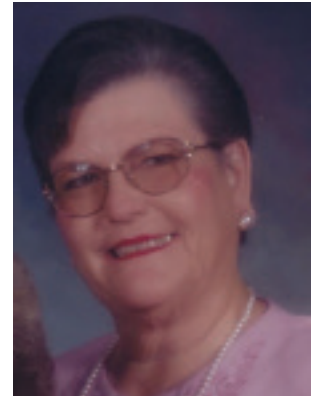
In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the American Lung Association.

Mary Ellen Drake, 82

Tomlinson Funeral Home announces the death of Mrs. Mary Ellen Drake, 82, of Swainsboro, on Friday, February 10, 2023, at the Emanuel Medical Center Nursing Home. Funeral services were held Sunday, February 12, at 4 p.m. in the Tomlinson Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Jim Nary officiating. Interment followed in the Swainsboro City Cemetery. The family received friends Sunday, February 12, from 3 to 4 p.m. at Tomlinson Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Randy Johnson, Steve Wells, Doug Bennett, Shane Woods, Jared Drake, and Justin Drake.

Mrs. Drake was born in Adrian, to the late F.E. and Althea Darley Woods, JR. She was a member of the Swainsboro First Church of the Nazarene. Mrs. Drake



DRAKE

was the office manager for Goldkist. In addition to her parents, Mrs. Drake is preceded in death by her husband, Billy Drake, Sr.; and brother, Jimmy G. Woods.

Survivors include her son and daughter-in-law, Billy J. and Donna C. Drake of Swainsboro; grandchildren, Justin D. Drake, Josie D. Drake, and Jared D. Drake.

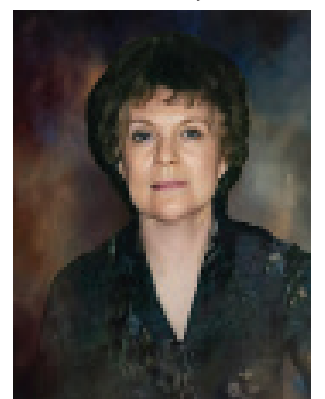
Memorial contributions can be made to the Swainsboro First Church of Nazarene.

Tomlinson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Helen Irene Coleman, 91

Ms. Helen Irene Coleman, 91, of Stuart, FL, passed away Thursday, January 19, 2023. Graveside memorial services were held at Swainsboro City Cemetery February 6, at 11 a.m. with Rev. Tom Tidwell officiating.

Ms. Coleman was born July 31, 1931, in Swainsboro, to Curtis Coleman and Mary O'Cilla Coleman. She was a graduate of Swainsboro High School. Helen has lived in many places including Savannah, Long Island, NY, and Rahway, NJ, before settling in Stuart, FL. She was a member of Calvary United Methodist Church. Mrs. Coleman is preceded in death by her parents; brothers, James Olvie Coleman, George



COLEMAN

"Buck" Coleman, and Rev. Bobby G. Coleman; sister, Gaynell Coleman Cosden.

Survivors include her sister, Annette Lewis Evans; sisters-in-law, Mary A. Coleman of Swainsboro and Brenda Coleman Youmans of Tifton; several nieces and nephews and many friends.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro was in charge of arrangements.

Tony Louis Randall, 68

Mr. Tony Louis Randall, 68, of Swainsboro, passed away Friday, February 10, 2023, at Emanuel County Nursing Home following an extended illness. Funeral service was held Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Chapman Funeral Home with Rev. Greg Ely officiating. Interment followed at Hebron Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery. The family received friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, February 13, at Chapman Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Roy Rachels, Travis Slater, Brandon Coleman and Darvin Hendley.

Mr. Randall was born January 28, 1955, in Aiken, SC, to Tunney Randall and Doris Proctor Randall. He worked at King Cotton Mill in Augusta. Tony later moved to Emanuel County. He was a jack of all trades. Tony worked on BL's Dairy Farm in Millen for many years. He was a handy man and avid



RANDALL

wood carver. Tony enjoyed cooking for his family and friends. He loved fishing the creeks with his son, David (a.k.a. Buster) and loved to spend time with his family. Mr. Randall is preceded in death by his parents; son, Louis Randall; and daughter, Melissa Randall.

Survivors include his son, David (Alyssa) Randall of Cartersville; sister, Judy Edenfield of Twin City; five grandsons; 21 great-grandchildren; several nieces, nephews, other family members, and many friends.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro was in charge of arrangements.

Patricia Ann Tootle Campbell, 77

Tomlinson Funeral Home & Crematory announces the death of Patricia Ann Tootle Campbell, age 77, of Adrian, on Sunday, February 12, 2023, at Pruitt Health Nursing Home in Swainsboro.

Memorial Services will be Wednesday, February 15, at 2 p.m. in the Tomlinson Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Billy Brinson officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the time of service at Tomlinson Funeral Home.

Mrs. Campbell was born in Reidsville to the late James Allen and Kate Eason Tootle. She grew up in McIntosh County before moving to the Adrian area. Mrs. Campbell loved coloring, painting,



CAMPBELL

Diamond Dots, shopping and caring for her animals. She adored her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Survivors include her sons, Bryan Campbell (Rayann) of Adrian and Austin Campbell of Vidalia; a whole host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and many other relatives.

Tomlinson Funeral Home and Crematory is in charge of arrangements.

St. Philip February food pantry distribution scheduled

St. Philip Center of Hope will be open Thursday, February 16, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Monetary and food donations are greatly appreciated, because this would not be possible without them.

Timothy Wayne Clark, 69

Mr. Timothy Wayne Clark, 69, of Garfield, passed away Sunday, February 12, 2023, at his residence unexpectedly. Funeral services will be held Friday, February 17, at 11 a.m. at Mount Olivet Baptist Church with Reverend Thomas Simmons officiating. Interment will follow at Mount Olivet Baptist Church cemetery.

Tim was born April 2, 1953, in Millen, to W. H. Clark and June Ellen Sikes Clark. Mr. Clark is preceded in death by his father; brother, Steve Clark; and his beloved pitbull, Yabba.

Survivors include his mother; daughters, Hope Henry (Travis) of Stillmore and Kim Monk (Caleb) of Richmond Hill; sisters, Stacey Moore (Stebo) of



CLARK

Twin City and Rene Rhoney (Sidney) of Garfield; grandchildren, Mason Henry (Alexis), Haley Henry, Payleigh Monk, and Jeremiah Monk; sister-in-law, Debbie Clark of Garfield; several nieces, nephews and many friends.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro is in charge of arrangements.

Living to live again

by BERTHA JONES

Today we will explore life. Everyone wants to have a good, prosperous life. Now that's all well and good. But we do know that this life is set in time. That means this life has a sure expiration date which is unknown. While most of us are trying to make life comfortable here, we all have a common denominator, death. That is our way out of here.

Now since we know that we have to leave, let's first prepare for the everlasting then we can enjoy the temporary. In the everlasting there is no opportunity for change. In whatever state we are in when our time expires, that's the state we will remain in the everlasting. Revelation 22:11 tells us, "He that is holy, let him be holy still; and he that is filthy, let him be filthy still; and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still; and he that is unjust, let him be unjust

still."

So there we have it. Knowing this, the word of God tells us to, "Seek you the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." (Isaiah 55:6-7) Yes, God is waiting for you to come back to him while you are still living in time. So while you still have time (which will expire) accept the one who has made it possible for you to live in eternity with the Lord.

John 3:16 can never be expressed too much. It tells us that God loved us so much that he gave us his Son that whosoever believes in him will not perish but will have everlasting life. So Yes, prepare now to enjoy the everlasting life.

New Hope to Ordain Sanders

On February 26th at 2:00 p.m., New Hope World Outreach will have an ordination service for Georgia Sanders. She will be installed into the office of minister. Sanders completed her studies to her calling by graduating from Destiny Christian University of Fort Lauderdale, Fla. She also holds a Master of Arts in Organizational Management, and a BA in Psychology.

Sanders is one of nine children born to Willie and Lula Mathews in Midville. She now resides in Swainsboro with her husband Timmie L. Sanders and is a loving

mother to three children, and grandmother to four grandchildren.

She has worked in higher education since 1999 and is currently serving as the Director of Retention at East Georgia State College. She is a member of the New Hope World Outreach Church. Her services at the church include being the Sunday School teacher, one of lead vocalists of

the praise team and assisting in whatever capacity she's needed.

You are cordially invited to attend this blessed event. The pastor of New Hope is Pastor Jeanette H. Harden.



Akridge/Stapleton Reunion

March 5, 2023

Vann Community House in Swainsboro at 1pm
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Please bring side or dessert.



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CHOIR MEMBERS

Voices United to celebrate 30th choir anniversary

Voices United will have their 30th choir anniversary reunion celebration Sunday, February 26, at 4 p.m. at the 4-H Clubhouse. The theme will be "God is in control". The celebration will feature Voices United, UC4JC, Better Together Ministry, The Harden family, SOG, with Mcee - JT Dudley. President is Matthew Howard and director is Vernessa Pierce. The public is invited.



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Editorials Columns

Common Sense

People have all kinds of different talent. I think almost everybody is born with some sort of special sense or awareness. Some folks have "horse sense," some folks have "book sense", and somewhere between those two is "common sense". Common sense tells us the things that anybody with good eyes and an honest heart will know. We might not always listen, but at least the advice is there if you are smart enough to take it. Common sense gets better with experience. That's why they don't let you do a lot of things like driving or voting or getting married or borrowing money until you are a little older. Common sense tells you not to build a house on a mountain cliff or in an overgrown forest in Cal-

ifornia where they have 3 years of drought, then floods, forest fires and earthquakes. Common sense tells you that if you buy a house by the ocean in Florida or the Caribbean, there is a good chance that some future hurricane will have your name on its "to do" list. Common sense says that if you let 12 million people into your country illegally, then your country is going to change in ways you can't even imagine and won't like. Common sense tells you that sometimes you just can't win in some situations, like fighting Mother Nature or dealing with bad neighbors. Common sense tells you that if somebody is sending blimps, or balloons, or whatever kind of objects over your country, to spy on

you, then they probably aren't interested in being your closet friend. Based on your life experience, good common sense is clearly trying to say something to you right now, "Ok, let's see here." China holds more treasury notes on the USA than anybody else in the galaxy; which means they basically hold a mortgage on our country. By hook or crook, China now makes more of everything than anybody. They have more manufacturing capacity than we do, which means they own and control just about everything we buy, from aspirin to Buicks. Millions of American jobs have been lost to China because the state-controlled communist economy of China is a complete monopoly and decides the price of

products and controls how much the workers make. The Chinese labor force works for a fraction of what U.S. workers earn, and a free market economy will always be undercut by an autocratic communist dictatorship. The Communist Party of China requires that every business in China transfers a sizable portion of its stock to the state. This means that every item with a "made in China" sticker on it has helped pay for the largest-ever buildup of the Peoples Liberation Army of China; from submarines to aircraft carriers to tanks to Mach 6 jet fighters and intercontinental ballistic missiles. Look around your home and count the stickers; from clothing to electronics to medicine to "you name

Charles Schwabe



it", all made in China.

So, when the country that has the most surveillance cameras in the world watching all its own people and has "Tik Tok" watching everybody else, decides to send an even bigger blimp over next week, don't be surprised. China has reached a point where they are immune to what anyone else thinks, and that is the gravest concern of all. Spying goes on around the world every day, and blimps and balloons in the news are almost comical, but there is nothing funny about

China's campaign to prod and test to discover the strength and resolve of The United States of America. China is not worried about breaking up any friendships, but if we don't understand what common sense is saying to us and the other countries of the free world, China will notice and will most certainly understand that they can continue to push forward toward becoming the pre-eminent world power without any interference from what they increasingly see as a very unobservant and indecisive neighbor.

All about love

The days of the short month of February seem to slip pass from sunup until sundown. It is not unusual to go to work before daylight and return home as the light is darkening. This little fellow of a month is jampacked with love. As soon as we learned our future weather report from a little furry rodent in Pennsylvania, or colored a mimeographed copy of George Washington and the log

cabin of Abe Lincoln, the classroom was filled with all sizes of hearts cut from construction paper. We filled a decorated box with cards asking "Be my Valentine." Love was all around, and we did not realize how much would be ahead for us. My first love was my father. He walked home via Bell Street on most days. I watched for him and ran as fast as I could to meet him. Because of his heart condition he

could not pick me up. He leaned down to kiss me on the forehead and then we walked home hand in hand. Through the coming years I found much to express as "I love" and mainly that was school. As it came to boy, girl feelings, we said "I like". The romance was known by drawing a heart and adding "SP + Whoever at the time." The first for me was Rene' Kemp and the friendship lasted for a

lifetime. Now for the present, I do not overuse the word love on such as strawberries, a movie or new shoes—these are likes. I love my family, old and new friends, my career as a teacher and memories of growing up in Swainsboro. Valentine Day brings back the cherished love of my life. At age nineteen I met a boy from Arkansas. Though he is no longer with me to say "Be My Valentine" and

Shirley Proctor Twiss



give me my favorite box of Reese's Peanut Butter cups, My thoughts and heart will always be with him on February 14. On our first Valentine date, he gave me a carton of Reese's Peanut butter cups I was hooked

on the candy and the boy from Arkansas forever. I know this was meant to be. How else would a boy from Little Rock, Arkansas meet a girl from Swainsboro, Georgia in Atlanta, Georgia in 1955.

We the unwashed get hosed again

I am struggling to come up with just the right word to describe the trip two lame-duck politicians and their posse took to Europe this past November on your and my dime (aka, taxpayers.) Boondoggle, which is defined as "an activity that is wasteful or pointless but gives the appearance of having value," is about the best I can do at the moment. But "arrogant" and "insensitive" wouldn't be far behind. It seems that before leaving office, Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan, who chose not to run for reelection, and Sen. Butch Miller,

R-Gainesville, president pro tem of the state senate, who ran to replace Duncan and lost, decided they needed to go on a weeklong economic development trip to Germany and the United Kingdom as part of a special Senate Committee on Economic Development and International Relations. The committee, by the way, was created at the end of the 2022 legislative session under the watchful eye of - guess who? - outgoing Sen. Miller. Knock me over with a feather. The entourage included 14 people: Duncan,

Miller and state Senators Sheikh Rahman, D-Lawrenceville; Emanuel Jones, D-Ellenwood; Sonya Halpern, D-Atlanta; and Clint Dixon, R-Buford, as well as the state senate's PR guy and two members of Duncan's security detail. (Why does Duncan need a security detail when most people in Georgia couldn't tell you who the Lt. Governor is and likely nobody in Germany or Great Britain would know or care?) I am sure all the Brits and Germans they met were polite and accommodating but

were no doubt aware that these two guys have zero power now. They couldn't pass gas. Some of you may recall the Thanksgiving turkey of a trip the late Speaker David Ralston made in 2010 to Germany and the Netherlands with his family and his chief of staff and spouse, courtesy of a Washington-based lobbying firm to look at highspeed rail service between Chattanooga and Atlanta. Why you had to go to Europe over the Thanksgiving holiday to talk about running a train from Chattanooga to Atlanta was never explained to me satisfactorily. What I did understand was that boondoggle cost We the Unwashed \$17,000.

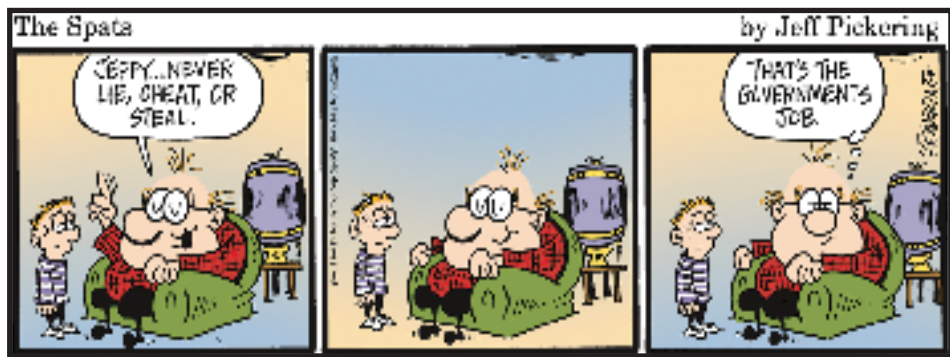
Dick Yarbrough



The more things change, the more they remain the same. A boondoggle is still a boondoggle. Only, in the case of this particular boondoggle, we don't know what it cost us. That is because our intrepid public servants and their bureaucratic minions under the Gold Dome won't tell us. The Atlanta newspaper found out about the trip and asked how much it had cost. Although the paper estimates the cost to taxpayers to underwrite the boondoggle as being in the "tens of thousands of

dollars," the General Assembly's legislative counsel, Rick Ruskell, told the paper to go suck an egg. "The Georgia General Assembly and its members, staffs, committees and offices are not subject to Georgia's open records laws," he wrote. So there. It seems that the people who pass our laws feel no need to abide by them. Legislators will tell you that conversations with constituents should remain private. I have no problem with that. But when a gaggle of politicians and their PR flack and security detail bop off to Europe on a meaningless sight-seeing trip, you and I have every right to know how much it cost us. It is, after all, our tax dollars. There may be a light at the end of the tunnel. The Atlanta newspaper reports that in a rare moment of bipartisanship, current Lt. Gov. Burt Jones, Senate President Pro Tem R-Macon, and Senate Minority Caucus Chairwoman Elena Parent, D-Atlanta, are wondering aloud themselves about the trip and say they plan to

Editorial Cartoons



The Forest-Blade

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Gail Williamson, Editor/Publisher

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Honoring our Educators

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A lasting impression: Meet inspiring teacher, Cindy Riner

by BRITTANY HALL
It's safe to say that we have all experienced at least one inspirational teacher who helped us to understand their subject more and taught us to become a better person. The best teachers pass on this burning enthusiasm to their students, inspiring students to view the subject through refreshed lenses and to see things from a different perspective. Some inspired students have even gone on to become teachers, which is the case for one of Swainsboro High School's most encouraging educators, Cindy Riner.

"I have always had a love for math." She explained, "I wanted to be able to share my passion with others and make a difference in the lives of students. Having great math teachers throughout school really inspired me to want to become a math teacher myself."

So, immediately following her graduation from Swainsboro High School in 1991, Riner set off to become the person she was called to be and in 1999, she returned home as a college graduate and began her career at her beloved alma mater, SHS, where she has been influencing brilliant young minds ever since.

"I have always had a love for mathematics and being a teacher has given me the opportunity to share that passion and love with my students." Riner said with a smile.

Among her many sophisticated titles, Riner holds an Associates of Arts degree from East Georgia State College and a Bachelor of Science/Arts degree in Middle Grades Education from Georgia Southern University. In 2002, she furthered her education by earning a Master of Education degree in Secondary

Math. In the Summer of 2022, she earned an Education Specialist degree in Instructional Technology from Kennesaw State University.

Throughout her career, she not only earned many degrees, but also earned her gifted endorsement and initially taught in the special education department for the first two years of her career at Swainsboro High School. Since 2002, she has been teaching in the math department, and currently teaches Algebra II and Precalculus. In addition to those incredible titles, she has also served as the Beta Club sponsor for the past fifteen years and as math department chair for the past two years. Furthermore, she also serves on the Organizational Management Team.

In 2022, Riner was nominated as STAR Teacher for Swainsboro High School and for Emanuel County Schools. She was also the 2022-2023 Teacher of the Year for Swainsboro High School and the 2022-2023 Emanuel County Teacher of the Year.

When asked what she loves most about Swainsboro High School, Riner said:

"Swainsboro High School is such a wonderful school. The "Tigers" have always held a special place in my heart and I have great pride in my school. We have great teachers and leaders that are passionate about the students and will do what it takes to ensure success. At SHS our students feel valued, accepted, and safe which allows them to achieve a higher level of performance. There is strong teamwork among all staff across all grades and subject areas. Everybody is involved and connected to each other, including parents and members of the

community. We all strive to identify problems and work on solutions."

It was these same fundamentals that the Swainsboro Tigers, school system, has upheld, that first inspired her to become the uplifting, inspirational teacher that she is today:

"I had many great teachers that had a lasting impression on me. However, I can think of a few that really inspired me to become a better student and motivated me to want to become a math teacher. I had Mrs. Mary Stewart (Mary Cooler) for 4th grade math. That is my first memory of truly loving Math. She was such a great teacher and always motivated me to do my best. Then in seventh grade my math teacher was Mr. Travis Garrett. He was wonderful and inspiring. I remember loving math so much and how succeeding in his class boosted my self confidence level tremendously. Finally, in high school I had Mrs. Emmalene Youmans for several math classes. She always provided me with encouragement that increased my interest and motivation. All these admired teachers were sources of motivation, inspiration and learning for me. They not only contributed to my academic achievement but also to my personal and social development. I think that I remember these teachers because they made learning interesting and productive."

In addition to teaching, Riner's passions include traveling, crafting, and spending time with her family and friends, especially her husband Greg and their son Daylan, who is an eighth-grade student at Swainsboro Middle School.

Collectively from all your current and previous students, thank you

for being the awesome math teacher that you are, "Mrs. Riner," and helping us to become a better version of ourselves.

Now that you've met the teacher and read her story, read her Q/A's below to further understand Cindy Riner's incredible values of teaching and how she's changing and inspiring young lives in our community. Interview conducted by Brittany Hall.

What have you found most rewarding in your career?

Riner: Teaching has always been full of excitement and rewarding opportunities. It has been so gratifying to be able to help my students improve their lives. Teaching has changed my life forever. I find it so inspiring to make an impact that significantly changes students' lives.

Do you feel that each of your students have left a lasting impression on you?

Riner: I feel that each one of my students have left a lasting impression on me. Teaching has made me the person that I am today. Each student that I have taught over the years has contributed to my growth and success as a teacher.

What advice would you like to give to new or upcoming educators?

Riner: Relationships with your students matter more than anything. Building strong relationships with your students are critical for learning. Once you build that relationship students will usually give you their very best.

How does it make you feel to see the success that many of your previous students have become?

Riner: It is so rewarding to see how successful that many of my previous students have become. Just to know that I was a part of that student's success and that I helped shape their



RINER WITH HER SON DAYLAN AND HUSBAND GREG

future in some form. I always hope that as a student leaves my classroom that I have made a difference in their life and have helped them become a better version of themselves.

If you could tell your past students or future students one thing that you hope will stick with them all throughout life, what would that be?

Riner: Take risks and see your mistakes as learning opportunities. We all face life difficulties, and how we deal with these challenges defines us as people. When you make a mistake, it can be tempting to give up or feel like you're not good enough. However, it's important to remember that everyone makes mistakes. What matters is how you learn from them and become a stronger person as a result.

What's a favorite memory or some of your favorite memories that you have from your time as an educator?

Riner: The lightbulb moments are some of my favorite memories. Hearing a student say "I get it now" or "Mrs. Riner, you have made me love math again" are some of the best moments in my teaching career. I think I can actually see it in their eyes: the relief and appreciation for what they've just come to understand. It is so wonderful know-

ing that I have helped that student reach his/her potential at that exact moment. Some of my other favorite memories are those that I have made with my Beta students. I have been the SHS Beta sponsor for the past fifteen years. We have worked on numerous service projects, attended state and national conventions, and made tons of memories together. Working with this group is so rewarding and inspiring. Beta pushes my students to excel both in and out of school. I have watched their work ethic improve and they have been challenged to continuously put forth their all in everything that they do. Beta pushes me to excel both in and out of school. Since being a member, my work ethic has improved, and I'm challenged to continuously put forth my all in anything I do.

Cindy Riner was nominated by the Emanuel County Board of Education as February's phenomenal local teacher for Durden Banking Company's monthly Teacher Spotlight column. Once a month, a teacher is selected by the Board of Education to celebrate the inspiration that they are to the youth of our community.

"The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires" - William A. Ward

It's according to who you ask

by RONNIE JOHNSON

It all began very innocently. For the last two weeks, the news on the radio and television had been depressing. I asked my sister if she thought the world was going to hell in a handbasket and does she believe that we were living in the last days according to scriptures. She looked at me straight in the eye and spoke five words of wisdom that shook me to the core, "It's according to who you ask", she said. From that moment on, we had stumbled on a mind game that we play regularly and truly enjoy.

Sometimes I will brag about how smart, well-read or intelligent a person is, and she'll let me lavish more compliments until she stops me and exclaims, "It's according to who you ask".

You can be sure not everyone agrees with your positive or nega-

tive opinion of the same person. "It's all about who you ask," they say. The Bible says we are all imperfect, and no truer statement was ever spoken. Jim and Janet will present publicly a totally different face or personality for public opinion rather than who they truly are, and act in private behind closed doors, so you are only aware of that person at 50% face value. Years ago, it seemed that a popular couple announced their wedding engagement. As the wedding date drew near, they called off the wedding. Everyone was crushed; they seemed like the perfect couple, but they weren't. She was spoiled and he thought her family was well-off, but was broke. They were smart enough to realize they didn't love one another, but it was according to who you ask, or was it "whom"?

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Moses: His people freed
Exodus

Moses returned to Egypt to lead his people out of Egypt and to the land of Canaan. God told him to perform before Pharaoh the wonders God gave him the power to perform but warned him that Pharaoh's heart would be hardened and he would refuse to let Moses people go free.

Moses and Aaron asked Pharaoh to permit the people of Israel to go to the desert to worship God. Pharaoh refused and made life difficult for the People of Israel. Moses prayed to God and God reaffirmed the covenant that he had made with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob - to give them the Land of Canaan.

Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh again and performed 11 mighty acts to convince Pharaoh. The first mighty act was that Aaron's staff became a snake when cast on the ground. This was followed by a plague of the water in the Nile River being turned to blood, a plague of frogs, a plague of gnats, a plague of flies, a plague of the death of the livestock that belonged to the Egyptians, a plague of boils, a plague of hail, a plague of locust, a plague of darkness and a plague of the death of the firstborn of the Egyptians. Only the last plague convinced Pharaoh to let the people of Israel go. Moses led the people through the Red Sea while the pursuing Egyptian Army (Pharaoh had a change of heart and decided to detain the people in Egypt) was drowned in the sea.

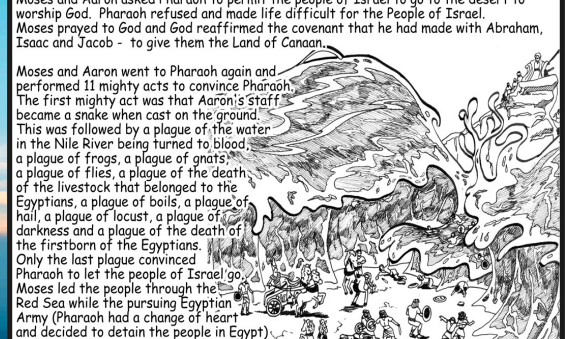


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Ty and Jonorian...

(From front page)
him a scholarship offer from East Carolina State University. Ty committed to East Carolina but eventually changed his commitment to North Carolina.

Jonorian is a tackling machine. He has been a defensive force for the Tigers since his 9th-grade season when he had 50 tackles in just five games. He followed that up with 112 tackles in his 10th-grade season and 109 in his junior season. Jonorian has averaged 10 tackles per game throughout his varsity career. In the 2022 season, he had 132 tackles and 7 sacks. Jonorian earned All-State honors in 2021 and 2022. Additionally, he was the Region 2 Defensive Player of the year for 2022.

Jonorian and Ty are more than two teammates signing with different colleges. Ty's mother, Mrs. Meyoshi Worthen, and Jonorian's mother, Mrs. Kenosha Brown, are sisters. With such a close family relationship, Ty and Jonorian have spent a lot of time together away from the football field.

I recently spoke with Jonorian's mother, Mrs. Kenosha Brown, about her son and nephew. Mrs. Brown said, "Jonorian is an amazing young man,

and it has been a joy watching him grow into the person he is today. I can't take all the credit for his upbringing. My spouse (his stepdad) played a major role in his athletic development. Jonorian and his stepdad trained every summer, starting when Jonorian was in 6th grade. The training was not just for football; it was for his overall health and enjoyment. Jonorian's stepdad always told him in order to get results, you have to work hard and stay healthy. Jonorian did just that, not only in football but in his schoolwork as well".

Mrs. Brown also said, "Ty, and Jonorian are both two young men who don't say a lot. Ty would come over, and he and Jonorian would play games, and you could hear a pin drop. It was amazing watching the two interact. She recalls watching the two from the kitchen window one Saturday. They had weights, bars, and tires set up in the backyard as they worked out. It was surreal watching them go from middle school to starting for the varsity in 9th grade. It made my sister and me some very proud parents." Mrs. Brown said, "Ty and Jonorian were different in a good way, my sister and I never had to discipline them

for anything major. Its impressive and an honor to see praises and endorsements from so many people toward my son and nephew. They are outstanding kids, and it feels great to see so many people look up to them."

Former SHS twin brothers Frederick and Cedric Seabrough signed football scholarships with North Carolina State University a few years ago. Ty and Jonorian are not brothers, but they are closely connected. Although they are not going to the same school, it's safe to say they will remain close. Many in the Worthen family have already circled the game between Georgia Tech and North Carolina. I am sure Ty and Jonorian will work hard against each other to win the game, they will not say a lot, and they will remain close before and after the game. The Worthen family will be well represented at the games, and all Tiger fans will be watching closely.

Mrs. Brown's final comments were, "watching them play on the next level in college is going to be a joy to see. This is truly a blessing from God, and we are here and enjoying it all. I know my mom would have been so proud".

DeMello Jones recruiting

(From front page)
Unfortunately, Bright suffered a knee injury during his freshman season at Kansas State. The following year (1975), both Frank Ellis and Allan Johnson were heavily recruited. Ellis eventually signed with the University of South Carolina and Johnson with the University of Tennessee Chattanooga. Robert Troupe, Barry Young (UGA) and Greg Waters (UGA) were other highly recruited players from the late '70s and early '80s. The '90s brought another decade of highly recruited players. Derrick Young (1991-1995), who some say may have been as talented as Hershel Walker, was rated one of the top running backs in the South. The national media and college coaches recognized Shannon Wadley (1995) as one of the top players in Georgia and in the South.

Dante Brown (1998) was selected as a Prep All-American and one of the top players in the South. Tom Lemming recognized Sergio Washington (1995) as one of the top 10 quarterbacks in America. Curtis Fann (1997) and Jarvis Jones (1996) were other highly sought-after recruits. The 2000 state championship team had several players that were highly recruited, including Brandon Andrews, Jason Samples, Damien Coleman, Titus Peebles, Charles Silas, and Dewayne Woods. Tavares Jones (2004), Derrick Shumate (2008), Malcolm Eady (2010), Eric Worthen (2010), Fredrick and Cedrick Seabrough (2021), and ZaBrien Hardy (2021) were other highly recruited players. Several other Tigers over the years have received significant recognition for their talent and were highly recruit-

ed. This article will not attempt to name everyone. I apologize for omitting names, but this gives a small glimpse into Tiger football recruiting history.

DeMello Jones is from a very athletic family. His brothers Quan Akins (2009-2013) and DJ Jones (2018-2021) were outstanding athletes at Swainsboro High School. DeMello's cousin Shannon "Body Bag" Wadley starred at SHS (91-95), and at the University of South Carolina. Shannon also spent time in the NFL with the Miami Dolphins. DeMello's uncle, Deke Cooper, moved to Indiana from Swainsboro before starting high school. Deke excelled in Indiana and was runner-up for Mr. Indiana (Player of the Year 1996). Deke also starred at Notre Dame under the legendary coach Lou Holtz and a young assistant coach named Urban Meyer (96-2000). Deke followed his Notre Dame career with a ten-year career in the NFL. DeMello's maternal grandfather, John Dennis, excelled at SHS (74-77) and was a college All-American in track and field. Lastly, his paternal grandfather Bud Holmes was a phenomenal three-sport, star athlete with the Emanuel County Rattlers. DeMello also has numerous family members who are currently excelling in school. His sister Derris is a promising athlete at ECI middle school, and cousins Deke Jr, Delany, and Lauryn Cooper are excelling at Woodward Academy in Atlanta. Numerous other family members were also outstanding athletes.

DeMello has piled up impressive statistical numbers in high school, but it is more than those numbers that impress college coaches. DeMello's greatest attribute is not

what he has done but what he has the potential to do. DeMello will receive high rankings from the local and national recruiting services. He will be ranked as one of the top players in Georgia and the USA. Things will get more intense for DeMello as he juggles recruiting, football, basketball, track, and schoolwork. DeMello is a good student and young man. He has a great support system. He has family and other trustworthy friends who have been through the process at similarly high levels. He will not be overwhelmed.

On a personal note, my connection to this family (like many in Swainsboro) goes a long way back. DeMello's grandfather, John Dennis, and I played together on a Tiger basketball team that won 25 games and lost only 1 during our senior season (1977). Also, DeMello's uncle Deke and my son Chris played for the NFL's Carolina Panthers. Deke was a highly recruited athlete out of Evansville North High School (Indiana) in 1996. Deke is well versed in the recruiting process and so is John Dennis.

DeMello's says one of his goals is to make his mother and family proud. There is no doubt in my mind he will accomplish that goal and many others. A few years ago, it became apparent to me that DeMello (and other Tiger players) had elite talent potential. I shared that opinion with them and their parents. I also shared with DeMello's mother a few months ago that things were "about to heat up." The recruitment and story of DeMello Jones are not ending; they are just beginning. Things are going to get more interesting in Swainsboro over the next year. Stay tuned.

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Clarke, Watson announce wedding plans

Kathryn and Richard Clarke of Swainsboro are pleased to announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Kelley Clarke, to Zachariah Watson of Kennesaw. Mr. Watson is the son of Janie and Darryl Watson of Kennesaw. The bride-elect is a 2011 graduate of Swainsboro High School. Miss Clarke graduated from Georgia Southern University in 2016 with a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology and a minor in History. She is currently

working as a flight attendant for American Airlines based in Charlotte, NC. The future groom is a 2012 graduate of Harrison High School. Mr. Watson received a Bachelor's degree in business administration with a focus in healthcare management from Georgia Highlands in 2021. He is currently employed by Curtin as HR senior coordinator. The wedding is set for May 13, 2023, at 6 p.m. at Ocoee Crest in Benton, TN. A reception will follow at the same location.



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Oglesby, Graham announce fall wedding plans


Gregg Oglesby of Twin City is pleased to announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of his daughter, Cherokee Montana Oglesby of East Dublin, to Cole Douglas Graham of Twin City. Mr. Graham is the son of Jeff and the late Dana Graham of East Dublin. Miss Oglesby is also the daughter of the late Dawn Oglesby. The bride-elect is a 2018 graduate of Emanuel County Institute. Miss Oglesby studied nursing at Southeastern Technical College in Swainsboro and Middle Ga University in Dublin. She is currently employed as a travel nurse. Miss Oglesby is the granddaughter of

the late Jimmy Murphy of Millen and Jimmy Carol (Leroy) Edwards of Statesboro, and the late Mars and Nell Oglesby of Twin City. The future groom is a 2016 graduate of Trinity Christian School in Dublin, and attended college at Middle Ga University. Cole is employed as the ranch manager at his family's cattle ranch in East Dublin. Mr. Graham is the grandson of Doug and Martha Holder of Hawkinsville, and the late Claude and Sara Graham of East Dublin. The wedding is set for September 23, 2023, at J Bar D Ranch in East Dublin. A reception will follow at the same location.



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Moore home named Adrian Yard of the Month

Mr. Henry Moore won the February 2023 Yard of the Month title in Adrian. Each month, a resident of an Adrian neighborhood is eligible for Yard of the Month. The Yard of the Month program and the City of Adrian recognizes and supports neighbors who demonstrate exceptional efforts to maintain and improve their property in a manner that contributes to the overall appearance of the community at large. Thank you, Mr. Moore, for helping Adrian to "Build for the Future!"



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Akridge honored at handy man shower


A "Handy Man Shower" was held for Christopher Blake Akridge, future groom of Jada Kellie Armstrong, at the home of Chris and Pam Akridge on Saturday, October 8, 2022, at 6 p.m. The honoree chose blue jeans, boots, and "the Groom" shirt as his attire. The theme was a BBQ style cook-out, which included red and white checkered table cloths and rustic centerpieces. The gift table centerpiece was a two-tiered cake made of different BBQ sauces. Low Country Boil (cooked by Curtis Armstrong and



BRIDE AND GROOM WITH HOSTESSES AND SISTER/FUTURE SISTER-IN-LAW LUCY, THE DOG

Special guests and Hostesses for the occasion were Chris and Pam Akridge and Curtis And Kellie Armstrong, parents of the bride and groom. Special guests were the future groom's grandparents, Garland and Ann Akridge, and the bride's grandmothers, Marilyn Armstrong and Jean Chapman. Hostesses were Chris and Pam Akridge and Curtis And Kellie Armstrong, parents of the bride and groom.

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Dorsey crowned Miss TCE

Twin City Elementary held their annual Mr. and Miss TCE Pageant on Saturday, February 4, 2023, at the Swainsboro Auditorium at 3 p.m.

Contestants were grouped in three divisions: Prince & Princess - kindergarten and first grade, Little Mr. and Miss TCE - second and third grade, and Mr. and Miss TCE - fourth and fifth grade.

In addition to the pageant, a photogenic competition was also held, as well as a spokesmodel event and a people's choice award.

The winners for TCE's 2023 Pageant Competition are as follows:

Miss TCE Bristol Dorsey; 1st runner up - Joleigh Coxwell; 2nd runner up - Kinsley Womack; 3rd runner up - Addyson Harrison; 4th runner up - Pearl Meadows

Mr. TCE Ezekiel Pague; 1st runner up - Caleb Miguel Albor

TCE Princess Ayla Brooke Marsh; 1st runner up - Paisley Taylor Johnson; 2nd runner up - Payton Elizabeth Hooks; 3rd runner up - Madeline Kate Landon; 4th runner up - Kynslee Gordon

TCE Prince Broxton Hooks; 1st runner up - Aycen Fleming; 2nd runner up - Alonzo Burke

Little Miss TCE Maddie Grace Sherrod; 1st runner up, Jocelyn Leigh Lovett; 2nd runner up, Ella Jo Hooks; 4th runner up, Avery Frye and 3rd runner up, Kallen Georgia Braddock

Little Mr. TCE Camden Hughes; 1st runner up - Brooks Brantley Hall

PHOTOS BY GAMBRELL PHOTOGRAPHY



L TO R: HARRISON, COXWELL, MISS TCE DORSEY, WOMACK AND MEADOWS



L TO R: ALBOR AND MR. TCE PAGUE



L TO R: LANDON, PRINCESS MARSH, HOOKS, JOHNSON AND GORDON



L TO R: FLEMING, PRINCE HOOKS AND BURKE



L TO R: BRADDOCK, LOVETT, LITTLE MISS TCE SHERROD, HOOKS AND FRYE



L TO R: HALL AND LITTLE MR. HUGHES

Quality care for children adds Twin City provider to its food program

Quality care for children (qcc) today announced that three new childcare programs will join its U.S. Department of Agriculture-sponsored child and adult care food program (cacfp) this month. Qcc aids Georgia's childcare providers through cacfp as a way to help them deliver a better-quality

ty food program and assist children living in food insecure homes with access to healthy food. Qcc supports more than 150 childcare centers, at-risk after-school programs, emergency shelters, and 410 family childcare home programs located throughout Georgia.

"Qcc's childcare food program helps

childcare programs stretch their food budgets while providing resources to help them serve well-balanced meals and snacks to the children in their care," said Ellyn Cochran, president, and chief executive officer for quality care for children. "This means that our youngest learners are receiving nutritious

foods that keeps them happy, healthy and learning."

While the childcare food program benefits Georgia's childcare providers in a variety of ways, it is also very positive for families who live in food insufficient households as they often rely on childcare programs and schools for daily meals

and snacks to supplement what their children eat at home. This is a crucial service for these families as children with poor nutrition often lag behind their peers in cognitive development and may have poor health overall.

Meals are available to all children enrolled in the program at no sep-

arate charge, helping to provide them with regular and nutritious meals daily at their childcare program.

The newest early learning childcare programs sponsored by quality care for children are:

Family childcare home programs:

Shandra Harden (Emanuel County)

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Kearson goes the distance for the Bulldogs for a no-hitter

by RON WEATHERFORD

The Bulldog baseball team hosted Swainsboro Wednesday in the season and home opener at Joe Harvey Field.

Backed up by a couple diving catches in the outfield and solid defense on the infield, senior Bryce Kearson tossed a no-hitter against the Tigers in a 5-0 win to begin the 2023 season.

The Bulldogs took an early lead in the first inning. With Kearson on after a walk in the bottom half of the first, Jack Walden ripped a double to left, putting runners in scoring position at first and second.

Lawson Mercer plated Kearson on a ground out to short to put the Bulldogs up 1-0 in the opening inning.

ECI added 3 more runs to their lead in the second. With 2 outs Aden McQuaig and Kearson were on after back to back walks. Walden singled to load the bases. All 3 score on back to back singles by Mercer and Hudson Henry to put the Bulldogs in front 4-0 after two innings.

Charlie Rehberg and McQuaig begin the bottom of the sixth on base after getting hit by pitch. Jack Walden pops a ball in between second and right to load the bases. Mercer sacrificed to center field to score McQuaig to put up ECI 5-0 after sixth



KEARSON

innings of play.

Swainsboro went down in order in the top of seventh to secure the no-hitter and a 5-0 win for the Bulldogs.

Kearson, going the distance for the Bulldogs was 2 walks away from a rare perfect game, while striking out 7 Tigers at the plate.

Walden had the hot bat with 3 hits with Mercer leading the way in RBIs with four.

The Bulldogs won't return to action at home until February 28 when they host Burke Co.

ECI will be playing

up in class for the next several games, including the Burke game.

February 17-18 they will compete in the Georgia Dugout Tournament in Lake Point. They will start off with 4A Starrs Mill on Friday and end up with 6A East Paulding and 5A Greater Atlanta Christian on Friday.

They will be playing a little closer to home on February 25 when they meet South Effingham and Swainsboro in the annual CBIT tournament hosted by the Tigers.



4-H PARTICIPANTS

Emanuel County 4-H'ers compete in District Project Achievement

February 3-5, twelve 7th-12th Grade 4-H'ers competed at District Project Achievement held at Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton, Georgia, and 11 came home as first, second, or third place winners. Nataleigh Belcher, Jose Hernandez, Wallee Kersey, and Lauren Sapp will be advancing to State 4-H Congress this summer.

First Place Winners were: Sam Williams, 8th Grade Dairy Foods; Scout Hall, 7th grade Performing Arts Dance; Jonna Woodward, 7th grade Workforce Preparation & Career Development; Wallee Kersey, 11th Grade Dog Care and Training; Lauren Sapp, 9th grade, General Recreation; Jose Hernandez, 12th grade Arts & Crafts; and Nataleigh Belcher, 10th Grade Beef.

Second Place Winners were: Yasmin Rios, 9th Grade Communications.

Third Place Winner: FaithAnn Rogers, 11th Grade Dairy Foods; Terralynn Brinson, 9th grade Photography & Videography; Jack Williams, 12th grade Workforce Preparation

& Career Development. Other Competitors placing well in their projects: Parker Frederick, 10th Grade Dog Care & Training.

In addition to individual project competition for 4-H'ers, other awards are given out as well. Emanuel County 4-H received an award for having 2nd highest percentage (89%) of Senior winners (9th-12th Grade) place in their project area. Graduating seniors Jose Hernandez and Jack Williams were recognized for their achievements and received honor cords to be worn with their caps and gowns at graduation.

While at District Project Achievement, 4-H'ers also have the opportunity to campaign and be elected to the Southeast District Board of Directors. Yasmin Rios was elected to the Senior Board of Directors and will represent Emanuel County and the Southeast 4-H District on the 2023-2024 board.

4-H Project Achievement is a cornerstone of the Georgia 4-H program. 4-H'ers pick a project area of interest,

complete project work in that area throughout the year then research a specific topic, write a presentation, and present it to a judging panel. The 7th-12th grade competition process also includes submitting a portfolio for written work. For Senior (9th-12th Grade) 4-H'ers, District winners also have the opportunity to compete at the state level to become a Master 4-H'er and attend State Congress. State winners advance to National Congress. For more information on Emanuel County 4-H and how you can get involved, call the UGA Extension Office at (478) 237-1226 or visit our office located at 129 North Anderson Drive in Swainsboro.

Emanuel County 4-H'ers at Rock Eagle for Junior/Senior DPA: Front row, left to right: Jose Hernandez, Nataleigh Belcher, Lauren Sapp, Terralynn Brinson, Scout Hall. Back row, left to right: Wallee Kersey, Jack Williams, FaithAnn Rogers, Sam Williams and Parker Frederick. Not pictured: Yasmin Rios and Jonna Woodward.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant O.C.G.A. § 36-35-4(a)(3), the City of Swainsboro hereby provides (1) notice to its citizens of a proposed increase in the salary and compensation of Councilmembers of the City of Swainsboro; (2) notice to its citizens of a public hearing on the proposed increase in the salary and compensation of Councilmembers of the City of Swainsboro; and (3) notice of the intent to take action as to the salary and compensation of the Councilmembers of the City of Swainsboro, as follows:

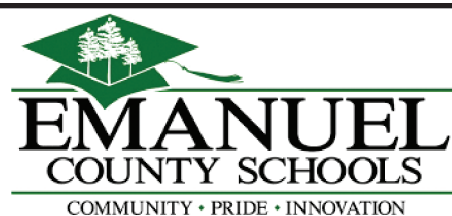
- Proposed Increase. The proposed salary and compensation increase for Councilmembers of the City of Swainsboro is from a current annual salary and compensation of TWO THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED AND NO/100THS (\$2,400.00) DOLLARS per year per Councilmember plus FIFTY AND NO/100THS (\$50.00) DOLLARS per Councilmember for each meeting in excess of two council meetings in a calendar month held and attended by the Councilmember to an annual salary and compensation of NINE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND NO/100THS (\$9,600.00) DOLLARS per Councilmember.

- Effective Date. Any approved increase shall not be effective until after the taking of office of those elected at the next regular municipal election which is held following the date on which the action to increase the compensation was taken, to wit: January, 2024.

- Public Hearing and Vote. A public hearing will be held for public comment on March 6, 2023, at 6:00 pm in Swainsboro City Hall. Any increase in salary and compensation of Councilmembers of the City of Swainsboro shall be considered at the March 6, 2023, regular meeting of Mayor and City Council at Swainsboro City Hall which shall immediately follow the Public Hearing.

- Qualification of Candidates. The Notice herein, the public hearing date of March 6, 2023, and the proposed date of taking action of March 6, 2023, are not within the period of time beginning with the date that candidates for election to membership of the municipal governing authority may first qualify as such candidates and ending with the date members of the municipal governing authority take office following their election.

City of Swainsboro
Melissa Kirby
City Administrator



Request for Qualifications Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contract for Emanuel County Schools

Emanuel County Schools requests qualifications from interested Energy Services Companies (ESCO's) for the design and implementation of a Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contract in various facilities, in accordance with (OCGA Title 50, Ch. 37 or O.C.G.A. § 20-2-506) or other Georgia legislation.

This Request for Qualifications requires the selected ESCO to conduct an investment grade audit. The selected firm will be required to identify, engineer, design, install, maintain and provide financing options for approved energy conservation measures in a fixed cost scenario. The intent of this project is to provide Emanuel County Schools the means to improve its designated facilities through guaranteed energy, operational, maintenance and capital cost avoidance savings, as well as new revenue sources.

**RFQ for Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contract
Release date: February 6, 2023
Due Date: March 8, 2023 Time: 11:30 AM**

Right to Reject: In submitting a response to this RFQ, it is understood by the respondent that the right is reserved by Emanuel County Schools to accept or reject any and all responses, and to waive any irregularities or informalities when to do so is in the best interest of Emanuel County Schools.

**For more information contact:
Jansen Ware
Executive Director of Operations
Emanuel County Schools
478-237-6674
jware@emanuel.k12.ga.us**



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PEYTON LEE ATTACKING THE HOOP



TONY SUTTON LOOKING TO PASS

Swainsboro Tigers kick off soccer season with two wins

by CHANG HUA LIN In the second game of the season, Swainsboro High School Soccer Team kicked off the first game of the season last week and traveled to face off against Claxton High School. Swainsboro High School Girls Soccer team started the season strong, winning the game with a final score of 3 to 1 against Claxton. The SHS Girls move to 1-0 record for the season. Goals were made by Senior Hope Tant and Sophomore Dekota Mason. With the win, SHS Girls move up the record to 2-0 for the season.

SHS Boys gave a valiant effort but fell to Vidalia Boys 0-2. The game was called early due to rain. With the loss, SHS Boys move to 0-2 for the season.

Eagles oppose Glasscock County Panthers

On Thursday, February 9, the David Emanuel Academy Eagles traveled to Gibson to square off against the Glasscock County Panthers. The varsity girls played a close game that night but were unable to achieve the victory with the final score being 53-42. Emma Procor led the team with 15 points, Addalyn Terwilliger contributed with 11 points, Kyli Bell scored 10 points, Aubrey Williams added 5 points, and Jada Lewis had 1 point.

The varsity boys competed next and managed to win 45-32. Randon Williams led the team with 15 points, Billy Martin scored 10 points, Jesse Moore contributed with 7 points, Tony Sutton added 5 points, Racyn Faircloth and Richard Braddy each had 3 points, and Peyton Lee scored 2 points.

David Emanuel Eagles versus John Hancock Rebels

The DEA varsity basketball squad traveled to Sparta on Friday, February 10th to compete against the John Hancock Rebels. The Lady Eagles had the first game of the night, and the scoring went back and forth during the whole event. Unfortunately, they could not keep up with the Lady Rebels in the 4th quarter and eventually lost 41-36. In this game, Kyli Bell led the team with 11 points, Addalyn Terwilliger scored 7 points, Aubrey Williams put up 6 points, Christen McCoy and Emma Proctor both contributed with 3 points apiece, and Molly Hammock, Maddie Perkins, and Jada Lewis each had 2 points.

The Varsity Boy Eagles took the court next and scored 15 unanswered points in the first quarter. However, John Hancock managed to slowly decrease the Eagles' lead making it a close game. Despite the Rebels' efforts, the Eagles were able to achieve the victory with the final score being 53-49. Billy Martin led the team in scoring 20 points, Racyn Faircloth racked up 14 points, Jesse Moore contributed with 6 points, Richard Braddy added 5 points, Tony Sutton scored 4 points, and Randon Williams and Peyton Lee each had 2 points apiece.

DEA Eagles contend with Mosignor Donivan Rams

The David Emanuel Academy Eagles hosted the Monsignor Donivan Rams on Tuesday February 7th. The Varsity Lady Eagles played the first game of the night and won 59-15. Kyli Bell outscored the Lady Rams single-handedly

with 17 points, Aubrey Williams contributed with 14 points, Emma Proctor and Molly Hammock both scored 11 points each, Jada Lewis added 4 points, and Maddie Perkins had 2 points. The varsity boys

played next and were met yet again with a much larger opponent. Even though they put up a good fight, they were unable to leave victorious and lost 88-55. Peyton Lee played easily his best game of the season leading the

team with 20 points, Jesse Moore managed to put up 12 points, Randon Williams racked up 9 points, Racyn Faircloth and Richard Braddy both scored 6 points apiece, and Tony Sutton scored 2 points.

EGSC Women's Basketball Team ranked in the NJCAA D1 Top

The East Georgia State College (EGSC) Women's Basketball Team has been named in the Top 25 National Junior College Athletic Association's (NJCAA) Division One Women's Basketball Rankings. The Lady Bobcats are ranked 24th in the country with a 17-4 record.

"It has been an honor to coach this talented and determined group of young ladies this year. The leadership from our sophomores has set the tone for our season. Zuriyah Davis and Torrion Starks are the top two scorers in the Georgia Collegiate Athletic Association



EGSC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

(GCAA) and LaQuan Coe is the best defender in the conference. The team has worked hard to reach this goal. It's great to see the hard work displayed by our

student-athletes and coaches manifest on the court," stated Theo Howard, EGSC Head Women's Basketball Coach and Interim Athletics Director.

The rankings were released Monday, February 13, 2023. To view the full list of rankings, visit <https://www.njcaa.org/sports/wbkb/rankings/D1/index>.

Swainsboro Middle School basketball

by HAROLD SCOTT

Swainsboro Middle School basketball season concluded last week. The girls played at home on Monday, February 6, against West Laurens. The Tigers lost a closely contested game to West Laurens. The leading scorer for the Tigers was Quintasia Boynton, with 25 points. The final score was 46-40.

On Tuesday, February 7, the boys traveled to Vidalia to play J.R. Trippe Middle School. The Tigers lost to Trippe by the score of 45-27.

The middle school teams consist of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. We look forward to seeing the 6th and 7th graders come back next year and continue building on the foundation that has been established. Good luck to the 8th graders as they move on to high school.



SMS GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM



SMS BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

Notice of Public Hearing Twin City, Georgia

The Planning Commission of Twin City, Georgia will hold a public hearing on the application of Heather Marie Donaldson to amend the City's official zoning map to rezone the property located at 2735 US Highway 80 East from B-1 to R-2. The public hearing will be held at 5:30 p.m. on March 7, 2023, at the City Commission Chambers in the Twin City Police Department, which is located at 112 South Railroad Ave, Twin City, GA 30471.

The public is invited to attend and comment on this matter.

SHS Tigers winter & spring sports

by HAROLD SCOTT
We are almost half-way through February. The conclusion of winter sports is occurring, and spring sports are starting to bloom at SHS. The basketball teams have concluded the regular season and will be hosting the region tournament starting on Thursday Feb 16th. The wrestling team is bringing its season to an end. Baseball, Tennis, and soccer season is underway. Here's a look at what's happening in the Swainsboro High sports scene.

Boys Varsity Basketball
The boys' basketball team got off to a slow start due mainly to several members playing on the football team. The

team finished the regular season with a 9-9 record; however, they have a 5-2 region record. The Region record was good enough for first place. The Tiger's leaders are DeMello Jones, Ty Adams, Dorien Fouts, Carmelo Lewis, and LJ Morgan.

Last Friday, Feb 3rd, the Tigers lost to Jefferson County 43-39. On Saturday the 4th, they defeated Metter 69-39. The leading scorers in the Metter game were DeMello Jones, 15 points; Carmelo Lewis, 14 points and Ty Adams, 10 points. On Tuesday the 7th, the Tigers defeated Claxton 54-40. In the last game of the regular season on Friday, the 10th, the Tigers defeated Bleckley County 56-41.

Girls Varsity Basketball
The Tigers girls' team suffered a devastating blow before the season began when two-year starter and team leader Jayden Wynn sustained a season-ending ACL injury. The team has managed to overcome the loss and have an outstanding season. The return of Taniya Williams, who missed all last season, has helped the Tigers to a 14-6 record and an 8-0 region record. Taniya is the leading scorer and rebounder. Senior Serah Kelly is next in scoring, followed by Jr Tonia Ricks, Sr Jamia Smith, and Jr Hannah Howard. The Tigers finished first place in the region and the #1 seed for the region

tournament.
Last Friday (Feb 3rd), the Tigers defeated Jefferson County 57-27 and defeated Metter on Saturday 67-53. The leading scorers in the Metter game were Serah Kelly with 26 points, Hannah Howard with 18 points, and Taniya Williams with 8 points. On Tuesday, the Tigers defeated Claxton 49-43. On Friday, the Tigers defeated Bleckley County 61-30 in the last regular season game of the year.
Tigers Boys' and girls' teams will host the Region tournament starting Thursday, Feb 16th.

Varsity Soccer
On Feb 2nd, the Tigers Girls' soccer team defeated Vidalia High school 2-1. Hope Tant and Dekota Mason scored one goal each for the Tigers.

Vidalia Boys Varsity Soccer beat Swainsboro 2 - 0 in one half of play. The match was canceled at halftime due to the weather.

On Feb 9th, the Lady Tigers defeated Bacon County 3-1

Varsity Tennis
On Tuesday Feb 7th the Tigers defeated Dublin. On Thursday Feb 9th Jeff Davis defeated the Tigers 5-0. The Jeff Davis varsity men's team defeated the Tigers 4-1.

Varsity Baseball
On Wed Feb 8th the Tigers lost to ECI 5-0

Varsity Wrestling
The Tigers have 5 members advance to the Sectional tournament held Feb 11th. Winners in this event will qualify for the state championship to be held Feb 16-18 Dre Hill-126 lbs. Zach Lee-144 lbs. La'Marqus Webb-165 lbs. Christian Kirkland-190 lbs. Jonorian Fouts -215 lbs.



Varsity Baseball



Boys Varsity Basketball



Girls Varsity Basketball



Varsity Wrestling

CITY OF ADRIAN, GEORGIA 2023 PROPOSED BUDGET

INCOME

Water Revenue	\$124,993.92
Garbage Revenue	\$67,820.95
Total	\$192,814.87

Expense

Salaries	\$66,820.00
Contract Fees	\$1,800.00
Tank Maintenance	\$20,083.92
Utilities	\$8,700.00
Supplies	\$3,500.00
Postage	\$1,700.00
Gas & Oil	\$1,600.00
Maintenance	\$3,000.00
Advertising	\$700.00
Employee Training	\$750.00
Dues	\$1,600.00
Savings	\$12,240.00
Garbage Transfer	\$67,820.95
Software	\$2,500.00
Total	\$192,814.87

CITY OF ADRIAN, GEORGIA 2023 GENERAL PROPOSED BUDGET

INCOME

Property Tax Revenue	\$58,940.00
General Sales Tax	\$117,896.00
Excise Taxes and Fees	\$101,713.00
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	\$5,740.00
Garbage Revenue	\$67,820.95
Water Salary Reimbursement	\$66,820.00
Bonds and Fines	\$13,699.43
Total	\$432,629.38

Expenses

Mayor & Council Fees	\$18,200.00
Legal & Audit	\$14,000.00
General Insurance & Workers Comp	\$35,874.75
Garbage Collection	\$44,111.16
Loan	\$12,000.00
Advertising	\$1,500.00
Dues	\$2,000.00
Salaries	\$209,980.00
Payroll Taxes	\$16,063.47
Employee Training	\$5,000.00
Gas/Oil	\$3,000.00
Supplies	\$7,500.00
Maint. & Repair	\$6,500.00
Admin	\$2,500.00
Street	\$3,000.00
Fire	\$1,000.00
Utilities	\$40,000.00
Election	\$6,500.00
Contract Fees	\$5,400.00
Fire Dept Reimbursement	\$5,000.00
Total	\$432,629.38



(TOP): BLAKE LIBRIZZI, MACKENZIE DAVIS, WILL SASSER, WILL TAYLOR, BRALIEY RADFORD, EMMA LIA TYAM, ANNISTON O'DELL, AND MADISON BELL.
(MIDDLE): CAMDEN HALL, AND ANSLEY MOXLEY.
(BOTTOM): AMELIA MEADOWS, LAURAN BEDGOOD, NATALEIGH BELCHER, AND ALAINA CONLEY

ECI FBLA attends region 4 conference

ECI FBLA from the Middle and High school level attended the Georgia FBLA Region 4 Conference on Monday, January 30, 2023. Over 300 members from region 4 attended the conference. During the evening, members participated in various performance competitions and leadership workshops. Workshops include FBLA Statesmen Trivia, Socialization and Communication, Building Confidence in Public Speaking, Personal Finance Management, and Communication Skills.

These members successfully brought home awards during the

Awards of Excellence Program. Winners included: Middle School level chapter: In Business Math: Amelia Meadows-5th, Camden Hall-3rd, and Madison Bell-1st; Business Etiquette: Lawson Frye-4th; Critical Thinking: (Team Event) Lawson Frye and Camden Hall-2nd; Elevator Speech: Anniston O'Dell-1st; Mission and Pledge: Madison Bell-2nd; Leadership: Lauran Bedgood-4th. Many of these have advanced to Georgia FBLA Middle School State Leadership Conference in Covington at the end of the month!

The High School level chapter: In Economics: Will Taylor-10th; FBLA

Knowledge: Ansley Moxley-5th; Business Communication: Emma Lai Tyam-3rd; Intro to Business Presentation: (Team Event) Nataleigh Belcher and Emma Lai Tyam-1st; Job Interview: Ansley Moxley-1st; Public Speaking: Lily Kate Robertson-1st; Sales Presentation: (Team Event) Will Sasser, Will Taylor, and Mackenzie Davis-2nd. These two girls competed at Fall Leadership Conference in November: Client Service: Braliley Radford-1st; Impromptu Speaking: Emma Lai Tyam. Many of these have advanced to Georgia FBLA High School State Leadership Conference in Atlanta at the beginning of March!

Sheriff's Reports

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

February 6

Deputies responded to Longbay Dr. in reference to a glass bottle being broken in the roadway. Complainant stated her grandchildren observed a group of young males and female break glass beer bottles in the road. C/p stated she had to drive around some of the bottles to keep from puncturing her tires. Deputy observed several fragments from a broken beer bottle laying in the roadway. The names of the offenders were given and all are minors.

Deputy made contact with a vehicle parked at the trash dump in Dellwood and discovered offender had an active bench warrant for her arrest. Offender was placed

under arrest and transported to EmCo Jail.

Deputy was dispatched to Cordie Rd. to meet with complainant who stated her sister-in-law has been harassing her about moving out of their camper. C/p stated she has had enough of the harassing and was moving out. Deputy spoke with the sister-in-law who stated she has not done anything to c/p and she has no problem with her living in the camper.

Deputy responded to Bailey St. in reference to complainant advised her mother was keeping her from going in the house. Complainant stated she has been living with her mother for two years and pays rent. C/p stated her mother got upset because she was not home and refused to let her and her child return to the residence. Deputy knocked on the door with no answer and c/p was able to use her key to enter the home.

Deputies responded to Oak St. in reference to a repossession in progress and the debtor was refusing to let them take the vehicle. Deputies advised the repo agent of the peaceful repossession law. Deputies then drove around the block to receive another call from the repo agent that the debtor was still refusing to relinquish the vehicle, even after he was told it was a civil matter. Repo agent then proceeded to argue with the debtor and was asked by the home owner to leave the property. Deputies then advised the repo agent again of the repossession laws in Ga and he left the property.

Deputies responded to I16 in reference to a tanker trailer on fire. While enroute, dispatch advised the tanker had inflammable liquids inside and to use caution. Deputies discovered that the driver had already unhooked the tanker and the trailer's rear axle tires were on fire. Deputies assisted with traffic control.

February 7

Deputies responded to Cordie Rd. and met with both parties in reference to a verbal dispute concerning

personal items belonging to complainant. Arrangements were made for c/p to collect her items.

Deputy met with complainant at ECSO in reference to a complaint of someone claiming her daughter on their taxes. C/p stated her boyfriend's mother use to claim her minor child but when c/p and her ex broke up, and c/p advised offender she would be claiming her child. C/p stated that offender has no legal rights to the child and should not have claimed it on her taxes.

Deputy responded to Pro Parts in reference to an alarm. Deputy found a door unsecured but nothing appeared to be disturbed.

Deputy responded to SW Railroad Ave in Oak Park about threats being made. Complainant advised his wife passed and her sister and her boyfriend called him advising that they were going to his house to get c/p's wife's belongings. C/p stated they have never been allowed at the residence and his deceased wife had a will made for her belongings to be between their kids and grandchildren. Deputy advised c/p to call 911 if subjects showed up.

Deputy took a report where complainant stated she hit a deer on Injunction Rd.

February 8

Complainant stated she hit a deer on US 1 Bypass.

Victim stated his tag was stolen off his vehicle.

Deputy took a walk-in report from complainant who stated his vehicle was side-swiped on the side of I-16.

Deputy took a walk-in report in reference to a lost/stolen firearm.

Deputy assisted

complainant with a writ of possession for a vehicle.

Deputy was dispatched to Nunez-Lexy Rd. in reference to a stolen boat motor. Complainant stated the motor had been cut from the fuel line and stolen.

February 9

Deputy was dispatched to Bonnie Rd. for a vehicle unlock.

Deputy met with complainant in regards to Uber Technologies sending c/p a 1099. C/p stated he has never worked for this company and could not file his taxes until the matter is resolved.

Deputy contacted victim who stated his phone was stolen in October and someone turned his phone on at Swan Creek Rd. in Kite on this date. Victim stated he knows the subject that turned his phone on. Victim was advised to contact Johnson Co. SO.

February 10

Deputy met with complainant at ECSO in reference to a theft. C/p stated that his boat motor was taken from his residence the Saturday night before.

Deputy responded to Huckleberry Rd in reference to a civil dispute over rent. Upon arrival c/p advised that she had been living in this residence for over a month and had been paying rent. C/p stated that the suspect had been staying with her and the residence belongs to him. Suspect had come home and wanted her to move out because he claimed that she was not paying rent. Deputy informed both parties of the eviction process.

Deputies responded to Falcon Trail in reference to a domestic dispute in progress. Upon arrival c/p advised that the offender had left prior to deputy arrival and stated that the offender was arguing with another fami-

ly member. C/p stated that the offender got upset and kicked her front door causing damage.

Deputies along with Emanuel County Fire Units were dispatched to Kea's Church Circle in reference to a brush fire threatening structure.

Deputy met with key holder in reference to an alarm call & residence was found secured and undisturbed.

February 11

Deputies responded to Pruitt Health in reference to a patient calling 911 advising that she needed help and there were no nurses in the building. Upon arrival deputy contacted a nurse at the front door and advised her about the call. Nurse advised that they were having a small party and were going to check on the patient then.

Deputies were dispatched to Hawhammock Church Road in reference to an alarm. Motion was advised to be entry area. Alarm was set off accidentally.

Deputy met with landlord to said property in reference to an eviction to ensure all unauthorized parties were vacated from the property upon closure of court order.

Deputy was called to a report of a broke down vehicle on John Deere Road. Upon arrival deputy talked with the driver and she said she had a wrecker on the way.

C/p is going through a divorce and had a final order from the courts to pick up some items from the offender, who is her ex-husband. The offender let the c/p in to get her belongings. The items in the final order were not in the home. The c/p and the offender got into a verbal argument. C/p began to go into the bathroom and throw things. Deputy

advised her to leave because she didn't need to destroy and property.

Deputies responded to Hall's Minit Mart for a burglary alarm. Upon arrival all windows and doors were secured with no visible signs of forced entry.

February 12

Deputy discovered a vehicle at the intersection of HWY 1 & Harrington St. The vehicle was unsecured with no one around it. Vehicle was towed.

Deputies were dispatched to Dollar General in reference to a business alarm. Everything seemed to be secure.

Deputies along with EMS and Emanuel County Fire Units were dispatched to Pike Johnson in reference to a structure fire with entrapments.

Deputy was dispatched to the Sheriff's Office in reference to meeting someone about damage to property. Deputy spoke with c/p upon arrival. He stated that he and his girlfriend got into a verbal argument where he told her he was done with her. She then came out with a bat and asked to talk with him and for a smoke. She got into her car and they spoke for a short time when he told her to get out of the car and that he was leaving. She got out of the car and busted the back glass with the bat. C/p did not wish to press charges unless she didn't fix the damages.

Deputies responded to Cool Spring Road in reference to a non-responsive male. Upon arrival contact was made with c/p who stated that the victim was not responsive. Entry was made and a white nude male was found lying in the corner of the living room. 911 was contacted and a coroner was requested. On call detective was contacted also.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Jordane Jones
UNIT #8 & 14
Balance \$237.00
plus add fees
 Units will be sold on or after
 February 16, 2023 if the balance is not paid in full.

Holsonback Rentals
 342 W Main St., Swainsboro • 478.419.1333

Seeds of Hope

There is, perhaps, no more reassuring picture of God's presence and protection than that of a shepherd leading and protecting his flock. That image from Psalm 23 brings us comfort and assurance whenever we face insecure moments when our lives are filled with uncertainties. It brings to memory the grace, goodness, mercy and might of our God. In bringing Psalm 77 to a conclusion our author presents a picture of the Good Shepherd - the One who was with the children of Israel and of the One who could come as Redeemer and one day Ruler. He writes, "You led your people like a flock, by the hand of Moses and Aaron."

Can you picture what he wanted those who read this Psalm to visualize in their minds? Seas writhing and convulsing, drenching rains falling from dark clouds that covered their path; skies that cried out and echoed with deafening thunder; flaming arrows flying above their heads; a whirlwind with noise and lightning; earthquakes that shook the ground under their feet. He wanted to remind them that through it all and in it all was their Creator-Sustainer-God who not only brought them into existence and would not let them perish, but had a plan and purpose for their lives. Here then is what the Psalmist said to them then and is saying to us today: "Whenever life seems to be coming to an end it is only the beginning for My chosen. I am your Shepherd and will love you and lead you. You are mine and no one can take you from me! I'll always be with you."

Visit us at: SowerMinistries.org
 PS 177

Swainsboro
 and the Redding Family
 122 Kite Road
 Swainsboro
 478.237-7811
 www.swainsborofordlincoln.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the Georgia Open Meeting Act as amended, volume 50, chapter 14, notice is hereby given; **The City of Adrian Mayor and Council will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, February 22, 2023. The hearing will be held at 6:00pm at the Community Center located on Nora Blvd., Adrian, Georgia. Purpose of Meeting: Public Hearing for the budget**

Veterans at the Library hold weekly meeting

The Veterans at the Library held their weekly meeting, Monday, February 13, 2023, at the Franklin Memorial Library at 9:15 a.m. with Chair John Tapley presiding and 42 in attendance. Tapley began the morning discussion about the plans to erect a permanent Christmas Tree at the Patriots and First Responders Park. Tapley has located the tree and and obtained the funds to purchase it. Three new veterans attended the Monday morning breakfast at the library. They were Johnny Edward Wood, Gwilda Yvonne Harris, and Tommy Lee James. Edward served in the U.S. Navy from March 1978 to June 1986. He served on the USS Independence CV-62, NAS Norfolk and the NATTC Milling. He also served during the Falkland War, April 2 - June 14, 1982, and obtained the rank of E-5. Harris served in the GA Air National Guard



JOHNNY EDWARD WOOD, GWILDA YVONNE HARRIS, AND TOMMY LEE JAMES

from December 2, 1978 - March 13, 2007. She was stationed in Savannah, GA at the 165th Air National Guard Unit and obtained the rank of MSGT. James served in the GA Army National Guard from 1974 - 1994. He served as an enlisted soldier in Company A, 878th Combat Engineer Battalion, and after fin-

ishing OCS, he served as a platoon Leader in Company C, 878th CEB. Later he was transferred to the 878th CEB Staff and then became the Company Commander of Headquarters, Support Company of the 878th CEB. James deployed to the Country of Oman in 1992 to perform Combat missions for that Country and

obtained the rank of Captain. The Veterans at the Library need the citizens of Emanuel County to step up and sponsor one of the 172 cemeteries in Emanuel County for the 2023 WAA on December 16th. Please contact Jane Durden at 478-494-4113 or Scotty Nasworthy at 478-455-3264, is you would like to be a sponsor.

HELP WANTED

Experienced Handyman/Maintenance Man Needed with References and tools for Mobile Home Repairs. Call 904.834.9450

MISC NOTICES

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

PETS/ANIMALS FOR FREE/MISSING

Animal shelter — We have lots of great family dogs as well as great guard dogs. The shelter is always in need of donations of canned and bagged dog food. We appreciate any and every donation. If you are missing a dog or have found a dog, please call the shelter at 478-237-4040 to report it. Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/EmanuelCountyShelter or visit our visitor website, www.petestablished.com/organization/1760/, to view our adoptable dogs. Adoption fee is \$35. This goes to pay for part of the spaying/neutering cost. The other \$30 must be paid to the vet, by the owner after it has been spayed or neutered. Please call the shelter for details. Come visit our adoptable dogs at 343 Market St. in Swainsboro. We are open Monday through Friday, 8-4, and Saturday, 8-12.

Subscribe to The Forest-Blade. Call Denise today 478.237.9971

Publisher's Notice
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitations or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status including or national origin, or an limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Now Taking Applications!
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Phone: 478-237-7381
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310 Mary Ann Street • Swainsboro, Georgia
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2012 CLUB CAR • ELECTRIC • 4-SEATER
\$2,800
CALL 478-237-5038



CITY OF SWAINSBORO SEEKING FIREFIGHTERS
The City of Swainsboro is now accepting applications for the position of Certified and Non-Certified Firefighters. Applicants must have possession of a valid Georgia Motor Vehicle Operator's License and a high school diploma or its equivalent. Must be 18 years of age. Applicants must have a good knowledge of the geography of the city and the ability to respond quickly to changing situations under emergency pressure. Firefighters not certified will be sent to a GA public fire safety training center for eight weeks training provided by the city.
Anyone interested in applying may obtain an application at the Swainsboro Fire Department at 205 North Green Street between the hours of 8AM and 5PM, Monday through Friday.
Beginning Date - February 8, 2023
Closing Date - February 17, 2023, at 5PM
THE CITY OF SWAINSBORO IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
CITY OF Swainsboro GEORGIA
Crossroads of the Great South
The City of Swainsboro is an equal opportunity employer

Classifieds Deadline is Monday at 9:30 a.m. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Call Melva at 478-237-9971 to help sell your unwanted items! Homes for sale or rent • Apartments for rent • Land for sale • Yard and estate sales • Miscellaneous for sale • Pets/animals • Help wanted • Services offered

WE'RE HIRING East Georgia STATE COLLEGE
PART TIME Food Service Workers I/II/III
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Food Service Worker I, Barista
AND MORE!
SCAN HERE TO APPLY! or visit www.ega.edu/careers
Questions? Contact EGSC Human Resources at 478-289-2180
East Georgia State College offers an excellent benefits package for full-time employment! Visit benefits.usg.edu for more information.

Help Wanted
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For more information, or to apply, contact Cooper or Paula at 706.485.4771
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Pineland phone + internet + technology + security
Engineering Technician
Pineland is seeking a highly qualified Individual to serve as a member of the Outside Plant Team in the role of an Engineering Technician. The Individual selected will have a primary role of work order preparation, OSP site design and development, preparing aid-to-construction estimates, highway relocation projects, cost estimates, and invoicing. S/He will prepare drawings for engineering, commercial, and office projects, construction of new and removal/rearrangement of existing aerial and underground lines, cables and conduits, develop and maintain geographic information system (GIS) databases, maintain a filing system for copies of engineering materials, and respond to locate requests.
Qualifications
Bachelor's degree in engineering or equivalent experience plus three to five years of telephone engineering experience. Additional experience may be substituted for degree requirement. Must have knowledge of telecommunications construction and engineering practices and principles, and industry regulations affecting engineering projects. Must have proven ability to complete projects/assignments in a timely manner without constant supervision.
Locations
This position will be based out of Metter, Georgia.
How to apply
An application can be found on the Pineland website - www.pineland.net. The completed application, resume, cover letter, and three work related references should be sent via mail, email, or dropped off in a sealed envelope to the following:
Hiring Manager
Pineland Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
PO Box 678 I Metter, GA 30439
dlee@pinelandtelco.com
Applications can be dropped off at the Metter office only. Please use a sealed envelope.
30 S Rountree Street I Metter, GA 30439
No faxed applications will be accepted.
Deadline to apply – March 3, 2023 at 5PM
Pineland's mission is to offer an outstanding customer experience through the efficient delivery of progressive technology solutions in the markets served. We will achieve this mission by applying the Core Values of Excellence, Integrity, Innovation, and a Servant's Heart in everything we do.

