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VOLUME 164, NO.33 Swainsboro, Georgia • August 16, 2023 ONE DOLLAR

Commissioners look at rising costs

In a conversation this past Monday with Emanuel County Administrator Guy Singletary, the Forest Blade asked for updates on several items of interest, not the least of which was the reported millage rate increase anticipated for the upcoming tax year. Singletary opened the book on the county's financial position which appears to be on sound

footing. "The tax digest for Emanuel County is again up by a respectable amount which would indicate that the county continues to grow." That's the good news. The not so good news is that inflation, the tight job market, and energy policies have all teamed up to make it more expensive to run Emanuel County. The Administrator

went on, "Our budget is right on track. We are right where we should be, but just like with your household expenses, we are seeing increases in operating costs that we have never seen before, and it is costing the county considerably more money to operate today than it did last year. Fuel, equipment breakdowns and repairs, (Continued on page 5A)



SHS BETA FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: SHS PRINCIPAL BRANDON ANDREWS, BOARD MEMBER JOHN ALLEN BAILEY, ROY REYNOLDS, BETA SPONSOR CINDY RINER, VICTORIA MCREE, MCKAYLA HALL, TISEY POWELL, KISNA PATEL, D'ANDRE SMITH, YI'ZHARIAH BELL, BOARD MEMBER CHERIE HOOKS, BOARD MEMBER SANDRA SWINNEY

BOE holds first meeting of the school year: SHS BETA recognized

The Emanuel County Board of Education met on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at the Swainsboro Primary School cafeteria with the following members in attendance: John Allen Bailey, Del Brown, Cherie Hooks, Tanya Lane, Johnny Parker, and Sandra Swinney. Chairman Del Brown welcomed everyone calling the meeting to order. Johnny Parker delivered the invocation followed by Del Brown leading the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion was made by Johnny Parker to accept the agenda as presented. Tanya Lane seconded. John Allen Bailey, Del Brown, Cherie Hooks, Tanya Lane, Johnny Parker, and Sandra Swinney voted "yes". CARRIED.

Dr. Denise Warnock recognized the following students:

For Swainsboro Middle School - National Junior Beta Convention:
Emma Grace Sconyers - 6th Place - 3D Design; Lexsy Brown - 10th Place - Reimagine, Reinvent, Recreate; Grayson Braswell - 10th Place - Reimagine, Reinvent, Recreate; Zaylin Lee - 10th Place - Reimagine, Reinvent, Recreate; Emma Grace Sconyers - 10th Place - Reimagine, Reinvent, Recreate

For ECI - Varsity Track State: Jayna Kearson - 2023 GHSA Class A - Division II State Champion - Girls Discus (Threw a personal best and school record of 121' 10" to defeat the defending champion who was a senior.)

For Swainsboro High - FCCLA National Leadership Conference: Morgan

Green - Repurpose and Redesign - Top 10 Gold

For Swainsboro High - Beta National Convention: Anna Donaldson - 8th Place Character Performance; Victoria McRee - 8th Place Character Performance; D'Andre Smith - 8th Place Character Performance; Rory Reynolds - 8th Place Character Performance; Kisna Patel - 8th Place Character Performance; Achazia Harmon - 8th Place Character Performance; Tisey Powell - 8th Place Character Performance; Jada Thompson - 8th Place Character Performance; McKayla Hall - 8th Place Character Performance; Terralynn Brinson - 8th Place Character Performance; Megan Peebles - 10th Place Portfolio; Madison Peebles - 10th (Continued on page 5A)



STANDING WITH THE NEW SIGN FROM LEFT TO RIGHT; MARCUS SIMMONS, WIFE AND DAUGHTER OWNER OF THE NANCY AUDITORIUM, DONALD SMITH, CHARLES AND JEAN SCHWABE, PHIL WILSON OF SAM'S DRIVE-IN BAND, OTT AND SUE STEPHENS OF WPEH RADIO, MICHAEL BRIGHT OWNER OF THE MUSIC MEMORIES MUSEUM, GRAMMY NOMINATED SONGWRITER ARCHIE JORDAN, MARY ANN SMITH WITH LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MELISSA KIRBY DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY DIRECTOR, LYNN BRINSON EMC DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT, DONNA HADDOCK AND KEN WARNOCK FROM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Nancy Auditorium receives marker

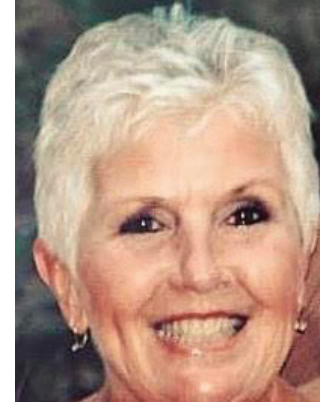
by BRITTANY HALL
On Monday, August 14, Michael Bright, Manager of Main Street Market Antique Mall & Owner of Music Memories Museum, donated the official sign and historical marker of Swainsboro's Nancy Auditorium to Emanuel Janitorial and its owner, Marcus Simmons, to signify the importance of the Nancy Auditorium in Swainsboro's history.

WJAT Radio Station, and the Peach State Jamboree which featured some of the biggest acts in country music. Throughout its existence, the "Nancy" hosted concerts for major performers including Johnny Cash, Loretta Lynn, Ferlin Husky, The Big Bopper, Bill Anderson, Merle Haggard, Lester Flat and Earl Scruggs, Jerry Clower, Minnie Pearl, Jim Ed Brown, Roy Acuff, Ray Price, Brenda Lee, Webb Pierce, Jerry Lee Lewis, Mel Tillis, The Lewis Family and Ernest

Tubb. Most notably, the Nancy Auditorium featured Hank Williams Jr.'s first concert, where at the age of 8, he sang "Lovesick Blues" during the Peach Tree Jamboree on March 22, 1958. When Mr. Williams was recently notified about the place where he first appeared on stage being honored he commented, "All I remember about that night was just being one scared little boy. I sang and then the rest of the time I just stood there (Continued on page 5A)

Baggett seeking vacant District 1 Board of Education seat

Pam Riner Baggett has qualified to run for the vacant District 1 Board of Education seat. She is a life-long resident of Garfield, where she has served on the Garfield City Council and the Garfield WashPot Committee. Baggett has been an integral part of the Garfield Volunteer Fire Department for many years and is a First Responder as well. She is a 1979 graduate of Emanuel County Institute. Pam also graduated from Georgia Southern University with a Masters in Interrelated Special Education. This past May, she retired from teaching after 31 years. Her teaching career began at Emanuel County Institute where she taught her entire career. Pam is also involved with the Averitt Center for the Arts in States ett has three grown children, two who are teachers in the Emanuel County



BAGGETT
School system, Devin Coxwell, teacher at Swainsboro Primary School, and Dena Walden, Instructional Coach at Emanuel County Institute, and son, Payton

Riner, who is a deputy with the Emanuel County Sheriff's Department. Serving others and a love of community runs strong in her family. Pam also has ten grandchildren - Gauge Coxwell, Swainsboro High School, Lola and Mary-Ella Walden, Emanuel County Institute, Joleigh and Micah Coxwell, Jorie Walden, Twin City Elementary, and Sarah Laine Coxwell at Swainsboro Primary School. She has three other grandchildren (Continued on page 5A)

Donaldson to seek another term as Mayor

Twin City Mayor Matt Donaldson has announced he will be seeking another term as the Mayor of Twin City. Donaldson was elected Mayor of Twin City in 2019 and began his term in 2020. Donaldson previously served on the City Commission of Twin City from 2016-2019, with most of that time serving as Mayor Pro Tem.



DONALDSON
Twin City." During Donaldson's time as Mayor (2020-2023), Twin City has been awarded over \$2 million dollars of funding. Of that funding, over \$1.5 million of that funding has been through grants. That funding has or will fund the purchase of

public works equipment, water line infrastructure improvements, police department vehicles, fire department equipment, a new fire department truck, a large road resurfacing project, recreation improvements, and a water meter replacement project. Further, Donaldson has worked with US Senator Raphael Warnock's office to apply for a further \$12 million in direct federal grant appropriations - with \$11.2 million for a complete sewer system rehabilitation and \$800,000 for a sidewalk extension project to connect to Emanuel County Institute. The funding (Continued on page 5A)

What's Inside...

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Scentsy Buddy Drive going on

The Scentsy Buddy Drive will be donating "buddies" (stuffed animals) to Emanuel County Sheriff's Office, Swainsboro Police Department and Swainsboro Fire Department. These buddies will be used to help comfort children who have experienced a traumatic life event. Help shine some light to these little ones. NOTE: Some buddies are limited to "while supplies last" and some are subject to change due to quantities.

The goal is to donate 300 buddies, and donations will be accepted through November 20. All donated buddies will be shipped directly to the consultant. To donate, or if you have any questions, contact Hazel Hatfield at 912.921.9692 or email her at Hatfield.Hazel99@gmail.com.

Look for flyers around or visit emanuelcountylive.com to see more about the Buddy Drive.

Hunter's Safety Course to be offered

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources Division will be having a Hunter's Safety Course Saturday, August 26, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Ridgeway Masonic Lodge in Garfield. The course is free of charge! You MUST register online

at GoOutdoorsGeorgia.com no later than August 24, to attend the class. Lunch and refreshments will be provided by Ridgeway Lodge #104 of Garfield. Contact Patrick Sweat at 954.931.3732 or Mike Hatcher at 478.494.3807 should you have any questions.

Mayor Donaldson announces over \$1 million in funding for Twin City

At the August meeting of the City Commission of Twin City, Mayor Donaldson announced the award of over \$1 million dollars in grant & loan funding from 3 different programs. The City Commission met on August 1st in the City Commission Chambers, with Mayor Donaldson and Commissioners Jesse Brown, Kenton Landon, and Charles Moody in attendance. Mayor Pro Tem Jule Bady was absent.

The first program was from the Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (GTIB). The City will receive a \$350,000 grant and a \$250,000 loan to fund the city's largest road surfacing project. The total project cost is \$1 million, with the city funding the remainder in city funds. The Commission

discussed the advertisement of bids during the meeting. The advertisement was posted in July, with the bids due to City Hall by August 25, 2023 at noon.

The current project scope is to resurface (13) city roads. Those roads are Mathis Avenue, Princess Street, King Street, Palm Street, Maple Street, South Railroad Avenue, South College Street, Old Statesboro Road, Rainbow Ridge, Allen Street, Paradise Road, Stokes Avenue, and Eastside Road. The 13 roads account for 5 miles of resurfacing, which is 25% of all the roads in Twin City.

In 2020, the City Commission approved to submit (7) roads for resurfacing to be funded with T-SPLOST 2 funding. Those roads

are: First Avenue, West Broad Street, Parrish Pond Road, Old Swainsboro Road, Wilson Road, Coursey Road, and Sandridge Road.

The second program was from the Department of Homeland Security Assistance to Firefighters Grant. The City will receive \$427,619 in grant funding for the purchase of a new fire truck. The total project cost is \$449,000, with the city matching the grant funding with \$21,381 of City SPLOST funding. The City could wait 12 months or more for the new fire truck, due to the supply chain issues.

Mayor Donaldson said, "With a new fire truck, we hope to lower the City ISO (Insurance Services Office) fire rating. Once we lower the fire rating, this would lower the property in-

surance premiums for everyone in Twin City and the surrounding 5-mile area. I'd like to thank Fire Chief Foster Grimes and our firefighters for all their hard work."

The third program was from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA). The city will receive \$54,750 in grant funding to comply with a new federal requirement to inventory all city water lines for lead pipes. This project is pending, with more information to be discussed at a future meeting.

The action items from the meeting were approval of minutes from the June 6th and June 22nd meetings and approval of Resolution 08-2023 to approve the GTIB funding. All 3 items were approved unanimously.

Vote! Brandon Jones Emanuel BOE District 1



"Hi, I'm Brandon Jones and I want your vote on September 19th for the Emanuel County Board of Education! I come from a long line of educators in Emanuel County and my wife, Tosha, has also been an educator for 24 years. I have a track record of effective leadership in business, church and the community for many years. I will work tirelessly to benefit each and every child that attends school in our school system. God Bless!"

Brandon, his wife, Tosha, and their children

Vote September 19, 2023
Your Vote is Greatly Appreciated

Brandon Jones



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Thank You!



The Forest-Blade

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DWYER, E. ANDERSON, L ANDERSON AND D. ANDERSON

DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen wins award

DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen recently named David, Eric and Leesa Anderson of the East Georgia location winner of its 2023 "Enhancing Lives. Improving Homes" award. Commitment to the client experience, professionalism, and a desire to exceed client expectations are just a few of the things this location does consistently to deliver on our brand position, "Enhancing Lives and Improving Homes". Their clients say that their communication, customer service, and the quality of craftsmanship are what puts DreamMaker of East Georgia at the forefront. As stated by one of their clients, "This team is magical, and there is not any challenge they cannot work around to resolve and ensure satisfaction of the client. The name says it all. They really do make dreams come true!" "We feel very honored to

receive this award. The client said something about the team being 'magical'. We couldn't have provided this level of customer service without our guys out in the field. They are the ones performing the 'magic'. They are out there in front of the clients basically being the face of the company. We are very proud of them and very grateful for the team that God has given us. To God be the glory!" says Eric Anderson. The awards have national recognition and were presented at the company's Reunion on June 6. The Reunion is an annual event for DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen and its franchisees, and it is held in different locales each year. This year, franchisees from around the country converged in Louisville, KY. The gathering focused on improving profit margins, accurate cost estimating and project

management, marketing training and more. DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen is one of the nation's most respected home remodeling franchise brands, with customer satisfaction consistently outpacing national averages. DreamMaker franchise owners and team members adhere to a "Code of Values," which emphasizes honesty and integrity combined with customer-first designs and remodeling. "Our Code is not just something that hangs on the wall; it's a living, breathing philosophy based on timeless principles," says Doug Dwyer, President and CSO. "This means that we conduct our business completely above-board, honesty all the way." DreamMaker is a distinctive, full-service interior remodeling franchise dedicated to superior craftsmanship and ethical excellence.



PAST PRESIDENT DJ DAVIS, P.I. YOUNG AND COACH SCOTT ROBERTS

Coach Roberts speaks to Exchange

Swainsboro High School Head Football Coach Scott Roberts addressed the Swainsboro Exchange Club on Tuesday, August 8. Coach Roberts briefed the club on the Tigers upcoming season which began with a Scrimmage Game Thursday night at Swainsboro High School against Northeast Macon High School.

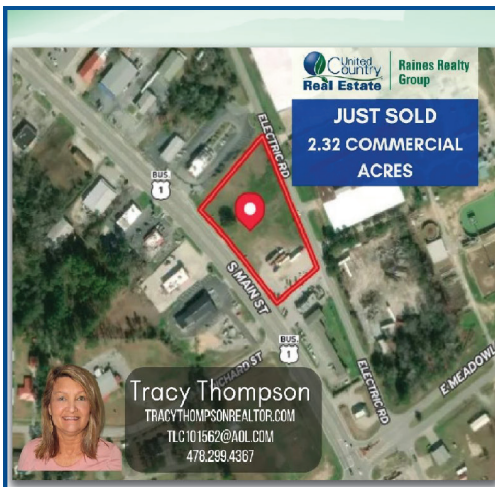
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Engaging parents and community members is crucial for the success of our schools. That is why we highly value the support of all our community partners. Emanuel County schools receive year-round support from EGHC, which helps our students' learning and development at home and school. Recently, East Georgia Healthcare donated car stickers to Swainsboro Primary and Swainsboro Elementary for parents who pick up their children in the afternoon. Additionally, EGHC participated in our schools' Open Houses to educate families on the unique services available to students.



EGHC AT SWAINSBORO ELEMENTARY OPEN HOUSE



EGHC AT EMANUEL COUNTY INSTITUTE OPEN HOUSE



EAST GEORGIA HEALTHCARE EMPLOYEES PRESENT STICKERS TO SWAINSBORO PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Farm Bureau to hold annual meeting

Emanuel County Farm Bureau will hold their annual meeting Monday, August 28, 2023, at the Farm Bureau building on Lambs Bridge Road. Refreshments will be served beginning at 6:30 and the meeting will start at 7 p.m. "Among items on the agenda will be Year-end reports, highlights of committee activities the past year, policies to be adopted affecting agriculture and recognition of art, book-mark and scholarship winners, as well as election of officers and director," according to County President Robert Fountain, Jr. Mr. Jake Matthews, from Georgia Farm Bureau's Public Policy Department, will be our guest speaker. All Farm Bureau members are invited to attend. Emanuel County Farm Bureau has been serving its members since 1941.

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Commissioners look at...

(From front page)
utilities, facility management, everything we do and use has gone up due to inflation. But the most severe problem is making sure we don't lose our quality people, and unfortunately some have already left for higher paying jobs." From the Sheriff's Office to all the Courthouse offices, as well as the Tax Commissioner and others, the salary issue is worrying all department heads. Sheriff Brewer is concerned that his deputies start out at a lower pay scale than Jenkins or Candler County. "We are asking these folks to go

out there and put their life on the line every day for our safety. I just don't see how we can tell them they should work for less than what the other counties around us pay." Other department heads echo the Sheriff's concern for hanging on to their good, trained personnel.

To provide for a determination of property taxes for the coming year, the county commission projects what county operating expenses will be and what the millage rate must be set at to provide that portion of revenue. Singletary believes a prelimi-

nary figure of a 1.3 mill increase should be proposed. From all appearances, the county has a steady, conservative plan for continued growth and building. As long as that combines with a vigorous hand to control spending, the result justifies a common sense adjustment to any operating budget. Any tax increase is not what the taxpayer wants to hear, but in the long run, you get what you pay for, and eventually, a motivated and fairly compensated employee might be the best way of all to keep future taxes down.

Donaldson to seek...

(From front page)
has been submitted in the next federal budget. All these improvements have not come at the cost of the Twin City taxpayer. When Donaldson took office as Mayor, the city property tax millage rate was 7.213. The 2022 millage rate was 6.619. This is a 9%

reduction in city property taxes in 4 years. In 2022, the city used excess Water & Sewer funds to prepay a loan by 2 years to the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority. This saved thousands of dollars in interest. Also, the city reserve balance has increased 95% since 2019.

Donaldson closed with, "I am proud of the work we have done in Twin City. Twin City is on the move, and we are working every day to make our city even better. I love Twin City. I live and work there every day, and it's my greatest honor to lead the people of Twin City."

BOE holds first...

(From front page)
Place Portfolio; Tisey Powell - 10th Place Portfolio; Anna Donaldson - 10th Place Portfolio; Yi'Zhariah Bell - 2nd Place Performing Arts Solo, Duo, Trio Dancer; Caleb Long - 6th Place Division II Speech; Mattie Boulineau - 7th Place Division II Quilling; Teralynn Brinson - 10th Place Division I Black & White Photography

For Swainsboro High - State Champion:
Demello Jones - State Champion in the 100-meter Dash Class A Division I

1. Tammy Allen provided an update on the Family Connection program.
2. Stefanie Mason provided the 2023-2024 Assessment Schedules.
3. Mollie Smith elaborated on FY23 Property Tax Digest & 5-Year History.
4. First Week of School Update was

given.
5. Valorie Watkins provided personnel numbers.
6. Jansen Ware gave a transportation update.
7. Dr. Denise Warnock provided an update on the Coastal Plains Charter School

The Consent Agenda was presented as follows:

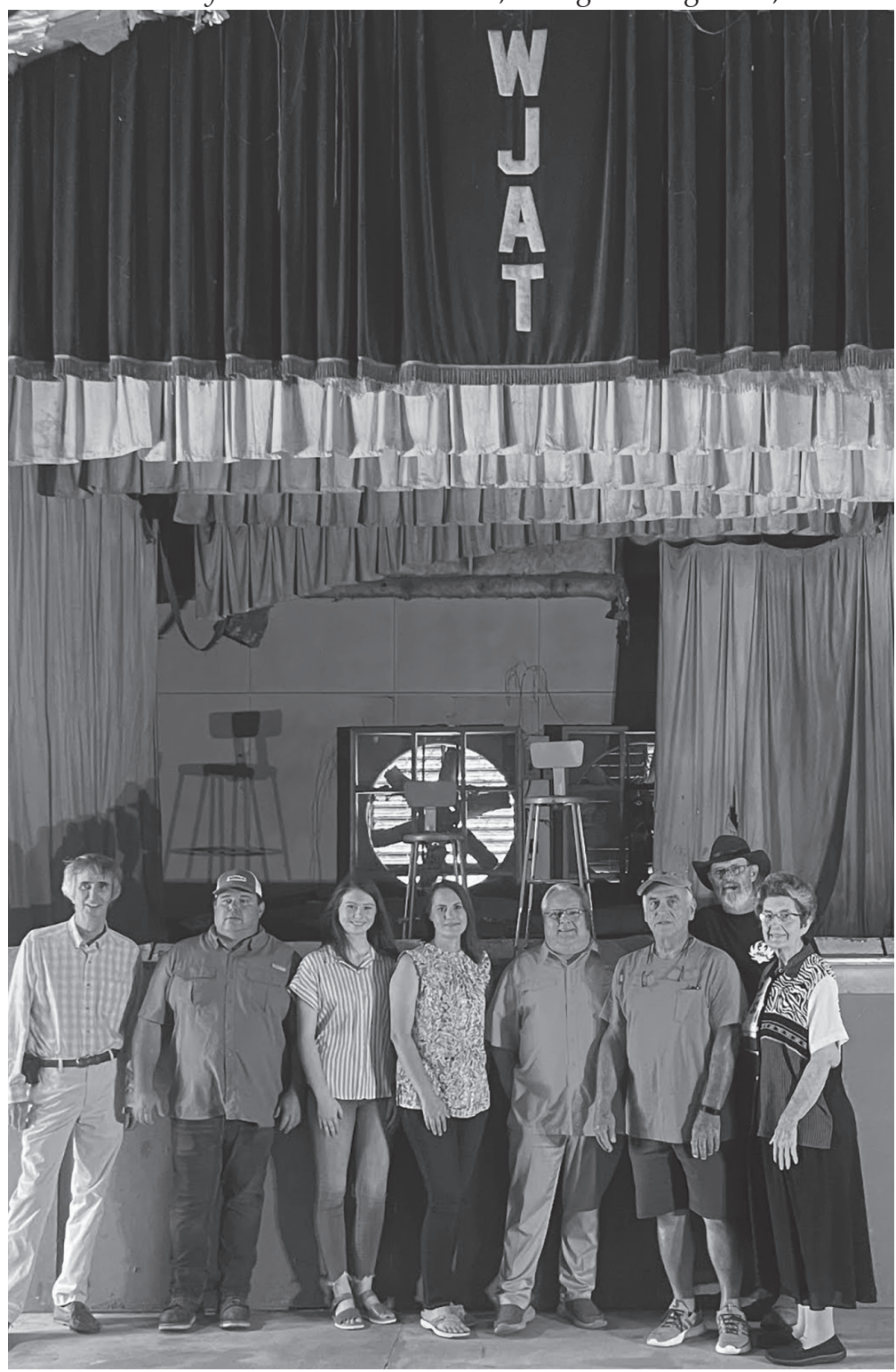
1. Minutes of the July 13, 2022, Regular Board Meeting and July 31, 2023, Called Board Meeting.
2. Mollie Smith provided a list of the financial reports.
3. Mollie Smith provided approval to Transfer Funds to Local SPLOST Capital Outlay Account.
4. Fundraisers.
5. Shannon Lawrence provided an updated on the FY24 CTAE Budget and Programs.
6. FY24 RESA Con-

tract
The Board approved an amended consent agenda with changes made to the July 31, 2023, called Board meeting minutes removing Cherie Hooks as being present for the meeting.

Executive Session

In executive session, the Board approved the employment of the following classified employees: Jeremy Mosley, SHS Custodian, 8/2/2023 - NCIC INCOMPLETE; Jaylee Justice, SHS Clerical, 8/9/2023 - NCIC INCOMPLETE; Richard Thompson, Bus Driver Transportation, 8/14/2023 - NCIC INCOMPLETE; Jessica Wilkes, SHS Paraprofessional, 8/14/2023 - NCIC INCOMPLETE

The Board approved the resignations of the following classified employee: Shamonica Shamonica, SMS Custodian, 8/16/2023.



STANDING IN THE NANCY AUDITORIUM FROM LEFT TO RIGHT; ARCHIE JORDAN, MARCUS SIMMONS AND HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER, MICHAEL BRIGHT, PHIL WILSON, DONALD SMITH AND MARY ANN SMITH

Nancy Auditorium receives...

(From front page)
with my hands in my pockets." Many years later, everyone would agree that it was a pretty good start for Hank, Jr.

In attendance to celebrate this significant event, were Phil Wilson of Sam's Drive-In Band, former Mayor Charles Schwabe and his wife Jean, and Grammy Award Winner, Archie Jordan. Wilson, Schwabe and Jordan all performed on stage at

the Nancy Auditorium during its glory days when everything from rock to country to gospel music was featured. Additionally, Ott Stephens who is the owner of WPEH Radio 92.1 "The Peach", in Louisville, was there and was recognized for his efforts in providing many of the exclusive artists that sang at the Nancy Auditorium. In comments, Emanuel County Chamber of Commerce Director Ken Warnock com-

mended the Simmons Family for their plans and interest in honoring this special place and its role in the history of Swainsboro and Emanuel County. Others attending the ceremony were Chamber of Commerce staff members, Donna Haddock and Anna Torrance, EMC's Director of Development, Lynn Brinson, DDA Director, Melissa Kirby, and Swainsboro historian, Mary Ann Smith.

Baggett seeking vacant...

(From front page)
who will start school in Emanuel County next year, as well as a great-grandchild in Early Headstart. It is safe to say that Pam has a vested interest in Emanuel County Schools. Attracting and retaining good teachers is a priority - teachers are leaving the profession, and there is no one to take their place. Keeping our schools safe and drug free for our students and teachers is just as important. Baggett began her career teaching Special

Education classes, as a resource and co-teacher in all grade levels and subject areas from sixth to twelfth grades. For the last ten years of her teaching career, she headed the alternative school at ECI and taught Credit Recovery as well as ISS. Pam has a heart for kids who need second and third chances. She advocates for these students and will continue to do so, just as she will be a voice for all students. Pam will be an advocate for teachers as well, having "been

there, done that", she knows how very important it is to have a voice on the Board of Education.

Being retired, Pam will be accessible to all whenever there is a need. With her large family and their involvement in Emanuel County Schools, Pam Baggett will be a fixture and advocate for education in Emanuel County for years to come. With 31 years of experience, she can bring much to the table and experience matters.

Derden speaks to Brier Creek

The Brier Creek Chapter Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution held its monthly meeting, Thursday, August 3, 2023, at Wall's Diner in Sylvania, at 7 p.m. with President Wayne Howard presiding, and 18 in attendance. Compatriots Don Bazemore, John Joyner, Bernard Maring, Steve Burke were each presented a Certificate of Appreciation for participating with their cannons in the Grave Marking, Commemorating the Service of Compatriot Ryall S. Morgan, President General

National Society Sons of the American Revolution (1972-73) on April 8, 2023, at the Ryall Cemetery located outside of Cloy, GA in Effingham County. The program for

the night was presented by Compatriot John Derden of the Wiregrass Chapter in Swainsboro. His program was on the Battle at Frederica, "Not One Man Hurt".



COMPATRIOT JOHN DERDEN PRESENTING HIS PROGRAM



DON BAZEMORE, JOHN JOYNER, BERNARD MARTIN, STEVE BURKE RECEIVING CERTIFICATES



BOTSFORD BAPTIST CHURCH ATTENDEES

Compatriot Steve Burke speaks at 250th Anniversary

On Sunday July 30, 2023, Compatriot Steve Burke of the Wiregrass Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution traveled to the Botsford Baptist Church in Burke County. The church was celebrating their 250th Anniversary. Reverend Mike Dann introduced Steve to speak to the over 300 in attendance. Steve's program was "What it took to survive and attend a church in 1773".

Editorials Columns

Let's talk about Hunter Biden

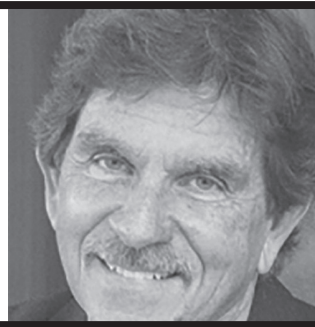
What can you say about the President's son? Well, if you remember what your mother and your Sunday School teacher said about being quiet unless you have something nice to say, you might just sit there and squirm a little and try to think of something, but mostly you just smile in silence. Hunter Biden is a classic case of the horse who was led to water but couldn't follow the instructions about the drinking part. He always seems to have problems, and that happens to a lot of folks, but instead of turning onto the right street, Hunter always winds up on the shadiest short cut he could find, and ends up creating a gigantic mess

from a little problem. Hunter has been a banker, a lawyer, a lobbyist, a hedge fund principal, a venture capital and private equity fund investor, an artist, and a dishonored Navy officer. His Daddy got him a job with Bank of America, then another job at the Department of Commerce, then got him a seat on the Board of Amtrak, then at 2 law firms, then helped him start 2 more businesses, finally ending up on the board of Burisma. Wow, that would take five full seasons of "This is Your Life" to cover all that. Anyway, Hunter has now pretty much found himself on a dead-end street. He's 53 years old and living

with his dad and stepmom in a comfortable, old house at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington D.C. His latest problem is with a plea deal arrangement for tax violations and gun registration fraud. That deal was all handled with kid gloves, wrapped up in pretty paper with a bow on top and sealed with a kiss by a man named David Weiss who happens to be the U.S. Attorney for Delaware District Court and works for United States Attorney General Merritt Garland who was appointed by President Joseph R. Biden, (alias Daddy). Everything was good to go, and Hunter was set to get a "Good luck,

sorry we bothered you" Hallmark card and a pat on the head until some judge in Delaware who was not appointed by "daddy" found a never-ever-before-seen lawyer hocus pocus clause in the sweetheart plea agreement that gave Hunter immunity from prosecution for pretty much anything short of murdering the Easter Bunny. Judge Maryellen Noreika said, "Has anybody ever seen anything like this before?" Nobody spoke up, and she promptly kicked the whole deal out of her courtroom like a 62-yard field goal by Rodrigo (hot rod) Blankenship. The Judge then told Hunter and his merry band of lawyers to, "Come back and

Charles Schwabe



try it again in 30 days boys!". Well, before you could say "Bless her heart," Daddio Biden got Merritt the Ferrett to appoint David Weiss as Special Counsel to investigate himself and all the other doodles in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Delaware District Court. This is one more shady short cut on the Hunter Biden road map, except this time Daddy might have gone too far. The brazen arrogance of the Biden Department of Justice in putting

Mr. Weiss in charge of investigating himself and his department should win the "Wiley Coyote Award" for judicial misconduct along with the "Fox Guarding the Henhouse" bronze plaque for incompetence. I will conclude this conversation with two more well-known expressions. "He may not have crossed the line, but he's got chalk dust all over his feet, and perhaps the most appropriate; "Where there's smoke, there's fire. Thanks for the chat.

Law enforcement

Back in my time in Swainsboro, the youth of our town minded our parents and did not want to participate in anything that might seem rowdy. We were good kids. However, there was one enticement that tempted the boys. Note I said boys—for no girl would set foot in the "Busy Bee Café." This little café was on the square and con-

tained pool tables and served beer. The boys were allowed to play at the pool tables, but alcohol was not sold to anyone underage. This eliminated the real fear of parents. With long time Emanuel County sheriff Payton Youmans and his deputies giving surveillance, there was no way this law would be broken. Police Chief, Walter Lamb, and offi-

cers, Elmo Berry, Curtis Coleman, and the fearful "Tar Bucket" Braswell, kept a watchful eye that "Busy Bee" never served these young pool players more than a hamburger and coke. There was a time when many law-abiding citizens rebelled. Parking meters were installed at each of the spaces around the square. A nickel had to be had to be put through

the slot for each half hour. Ingenious ways were used to avoid this insult. Some would drive around until they found a meter with time left. Another escape was telling the passing meter checker that they had put in their nickel, but it did not register. The checker put in another nickel which gave the car owner a legitimate half hour. Also, you

Shirley Proctor Twiss



could park and ignore completely. When tickets appeared under wipers, the wind just blew away. What a dilemma this caused! What should the fine be for an unpaid nickel? What was a need for such

meters when the Bone Yard was never filled. Meters were removed, and as far as I know, were not tried again. Our little city returned to being law abiding. Write to Shirley at sptwiss@charter.net.

Honoring those who quietly honor our country

Warning: This a No-Trump Zone. If you want to revere the man or revile him this week, you are going to have to go somewhere else. Not here. Instead, I am going to talk about unsung heroes who have been serving their country quietly and with dignity for the past 97 years — those who guard the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National

Cemetery in Virginia. People ask me where I get my ideas for this space. I am blessed with readers who regularly suggest topics to me (not including those whose topic is to suggest I seek another line of work.) One such reader is Carol Muldawer. An early supporter of the effort to bring the Olympic Games to Atlanta and a long-time aide and confidante

of former Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young and the late Congressman John Lewis, Carol shared with me information on the story of those who serve the hallowed grounds as Sentinels of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. And a fascinating story it is. The Tomb holds the remains of an unknown soldier from World Wars I and II as well as Korea. The remains of

the Vietnam War soldier interred there was later identified through DNA as Air Force 1st Lt. Michael Joseph Blassie, who was shot down in Vietnam in 1972. He was reburied in his home state of Missouri and the crypt that once held his remains now reads "Honoring and Keeping Faith with America's Missing Servicemen." That includes my fraternity brother, Lt. Pat Boggs, USAF. As with many of you, I have visited the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on several occasions and have always been inspired with what I witnessed. It is a pageant of solemn dignity. After learning what goes into guarding the site, it becomes even more special. The soldiers who guard the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier — men and women from every state in the union — are hand-picked and rigorously trained. Less than 20 percent of those who apply are accepted. The Tomb has been guarded every minute of every day since March 25, 1937. The Guard is changed every 30 minutes during the summer and every hour during the winter. During the time the cemetery is closed, the guard is changed every two hours. Twenty-one is a critical number at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. It refers to the 21-gun salute,

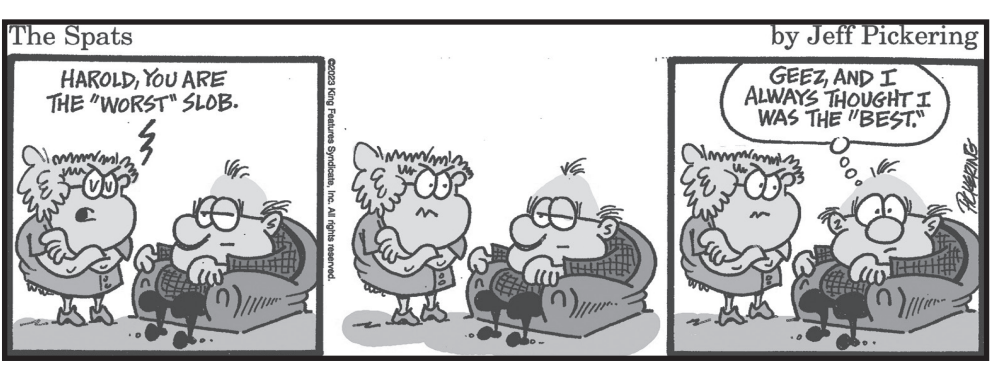
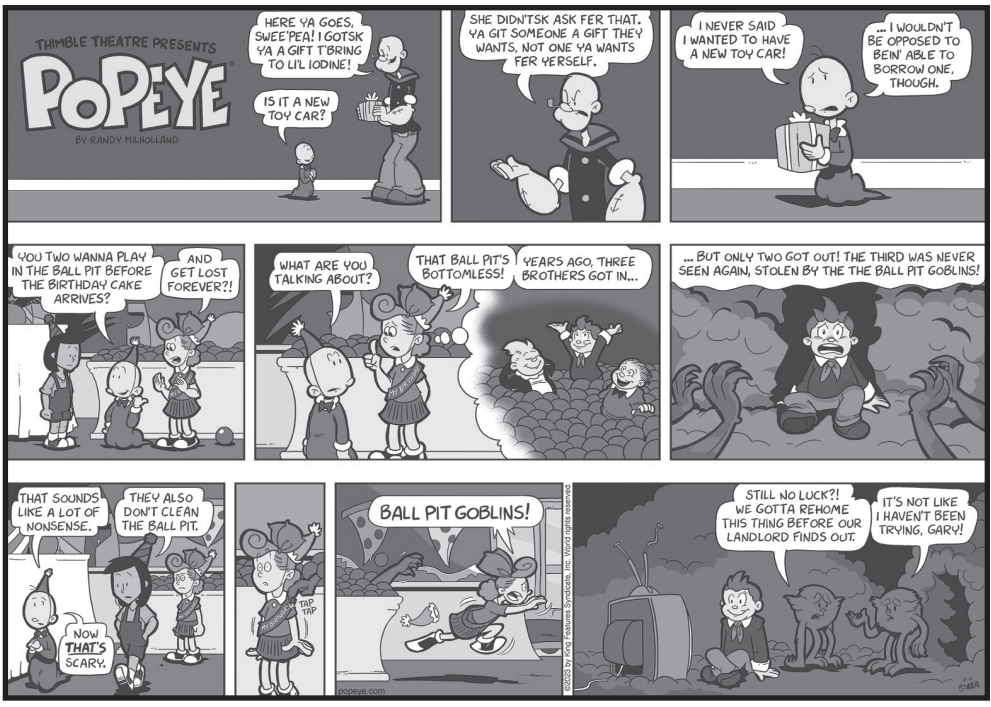
Dick Yarbrough



the highest honor given to any military or foreign dignitary. The Sentinels walk 21 steps, stop on the 21st step, turn and face the Tomb for 21 seconds. They then change their weapon to the outside shoulder, count off 21 seconds and step off for another 21 steps and face the Tomb. The Sentinel repeats this over and over until the Guard Change ceremony. Incidentally, the guards do not wear insignia, so as not to outrank the Unknowns, whatever their ranks may have been. The weather does not bother the Sentinels at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. They march through rain, sleet, snow or blistering heat. But the welfare of the soldier is paramount. The Tomb Guards have contingencies plans in case weather conditions put them at risk. There is a rumor that during Hurricane Isabel, the Sentinels were ordered to abandon their posts for shelter and that they refused. No such order was ever given. The Society of the Honor Guard which provides information on both the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and those that guard it also debunks several other rumors

about those who serve as Sentinels, such as they cannot drink alcohol for the rest of their lives and cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives. Not true. I mean, these are outstanding human beings we are talking about here, but they are human. I thank Carol Muldawer for sending me the information on those who perform this sacred duty and I wanted to share it with you. Why? Because we need to be reminded that we live in a great country where there are special people quietly doing selfless things, like the men and women of our military who guard and protect the memory and the resting place of those who made the ultimate sacrifice for us and whose names we do not know. This is the real America. Not a bunch of loud-mouth know-it-all wing-nuts on both ends of the political spectrum blathering their incessant and divisive drivel. Oops! I think I just reentered the No-Trump Zone! You can reach Dick Yarbrough at dick@dickyarbrough.com or at P.O. Box 725373, Atlanta, Georgia 31139.

Editorial Cartoons



The Forest-Blade

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Gail Williamson,
Editor/Publisher

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

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

Brandon Powell, 37

Mr. Brandon Powell, 37, of Swainsboro, passed away Sunday, August 6, 2023, at Emanuel Medical Center in Swainsboro following a brief illness. A memorial gathering will be held Friday, August 11, at 6 p.m. in the Chapel of Chapman Funeral Home.

Brandon was born July 19, 1986, in Bartow, FL, to Darren Powell and Linda Harrell. He was 100% a family man. Brandon loved his family dearly and spent all available time with them. He loved to cook with the kids and teach them new things. Brandon also loved working on vehicles with his sons. He was such a sweet man and made friends everywhere he went. His smile was infectious. Mr. Powell is preceded in death by his mother, Linda Harrell; and maternal grandfather, Nelvin Harrell.



POWELL

Mr. Powell is survived by his wife, Jessica Powell of Swainsboro; father, Darren Powell of Eastman; sons, Jesse and Tyler Powell, both of Swainsboro; daughter, Savannah Powell of Swainsboro; brother, Justin Harrell (India) of Eastman; sister, Myrakl Powell of Eastman; maternal grandmother, Kay Harrell of Bartow, FL; nieces, Alexis Raffield and Kaylee Harrell; several aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro was in charge of arrangements.

Henry James Sutton, 60

Henry James Sutton, age 60, passed away Sunday, August 6, 2023. A Celebration of Life and Legacy was held Sunday, August 13, at 2 p.m. at St. Phillip Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor Alan Moss officiating and Evangelist Alex Worthen presiding. Interment followed in Phillips Family Cemetery in Lexsy.

Henry was affectionately known as "Tiger" or "Big T" by many because he was an "OG". He loved his family and wasn't selfish when it came to helping them. Henry enjoyed racing and wouldn't turn down the challenge when asked. Mr. Sutton is preceded in death by his father, Bennie Sutton; brothers, Varnell Sutton and Lagrant Hughes; and daughter, Christy Sutton.

Mr. Sutton leaves to cherish his memories with his mother, Betty Sutton (Levi) Smith of Nunez; wife, Carolyn Sutton of Stillmore; sons, Chris (Star)



SUTTON

Kirkland of Swainsboro, Cordale (Ariel) Sutton of Statesboro and Jameson Sutton of Louisville; daughter, Katrisha Sutton (Quintin) Dukes of Swainsboro; sisters, Eva Collins of Swainsboro, Franchester Turner, Allison (Leo) Phillips, Ruby Sutton and Janice Sutton, all of Nunez; brothers, Bennie Sutton and Victor Sutton, both of Nunez and Jermaine Sutton of Swainsboro; five grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and a host of uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Mosley's Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Phillip D. Braswell, 70

Mr. Phillip D. Braswell, age 70, of Swainsboro, passed away Wednesday, August 9, 2023, at his home. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, August 13, at 2 p.m. at Keas United Methodist Church in Adrian with Pastor Morris Brantley and Pastor Phil Wilson officiating. Mr. Braswell was laid to rest in Keas Church Cemetery. Family received friends Sunday from 1 p.m. until the hour of service at the church.

Pallbearers were Tim Bush, Jamie Henry, Kevin Wilkee, Buster Edenfield, Ronnie Ricks, Luis Machado, Trojan Harrison, Ezra Price, Charles Henry, William Brett, Robert Copeland and Taylor Brett.

Born in Dublin, Phillip was one of four children born to the late Joseph Dillon Braswell and Anne Lois Fort Braswell. He grew up in Adrian and was a graduate of Adrian High School class of 1970. After high school, Phillip attended the University of Georgia for two years. Growing up as the son of a farmer, it was a natural fit that he follow in his father's footsteps and become a "tiller and custodian of the land". Phillip knew no clock - he worked when there were things that needed to be done, no matter the hour or the day. He was successful in his efforts and toils growing cotton, tobacco, soybeans and peanuts. Phillip was passionate about his family, time spent with them and being able to provide for their needs. After his family came his Georgia Bulldogs. Phillip was not only a fan of his Alma Mater, but he loved all sports and was a walking encyclopedia recalling stats, winners, losers, NASCAR wrecks and many events from games and contests of years past. Phillip stayed abreast of local and national politics



BRASWELL

and was always ready to share his viewpoint on the present state of affairs. He enjoyed traveling, primarily when he could treat his family to destinations to include Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge, Cherokee, Las Vegas and all the parks associated with Disney World, especially the annual family Christmas to Disney trip. Phillip was a regular face at the weekly card games and birthday club events at the Swainsboro Country Club. He had been a member of the Keas United Methodist Church since childhood and had most recently attended Swainsboro United Methodist Church.

Mr. Braswell leaves behind his wife of twenty-five years, Carolyn Giles Braswell of Swainsboro; children, Tori Lariscy (Brad) of Pooler, Kristie Braswell of Wilmington Island, John Skipper of TX, and Mike Skipper of Swainsboro; bonus children, Matt Follis of Thunderbolt and Chelsea Price of Swainsboro; sister, Lana Faye Haywood of Wilmington, NC; two brothers, Joseph Eugene "Gene" Braswell (Patsy) of Dublin and David Kenneth Braswell of Huntsville, AL; grandchildren, Dylan Lomas, Harper Lariscy, Christa Braswell (Bradley), Kristi Skipper and Nikki Minton; two fur babies, Bandit and Buffy; and several nieces and nephews.

S A M M O N S FUNERAL HOME was in charge of arrangements.

Belva D. (Key) Campbell, 83

Mrs. Belva D. Campbell, 83, of Meeks, passed away Wednesday, August 9, 2023, at the home of her daughter, Becky Hooks, following an extended illness. Funeral service was held Saturday, August 12, at 11 a.m. at the Chapel of Chapman Funeral home with Reverend Jeff Stark officiating. The family received friends Saturday, August 12, from 10 to 11 a.m. at Chapman Funeral Home. Interment followed in the Corinth Methodist Church Cemetery in Meeks.

Pallbearers were Dylan Edwards, Jeff Hulette, Rufus Harrell III, Roger Hooks Jr., Marty Phillips and Cody Hulette.

Belva was born June 4, 1940, in Gallatin, TN, to Willie and Mable L. Key. She was retired from Swainsboro Sportswear and was a member of Union Hill Baptist Church. Mrs. Campbell is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Russell Campbell, brothers, J.F. Key and Beuna G. Key;



CAMPBELL

and sister, Ethel Mae Phillips.

Mrs. Campbell is survived by her three daughters, Peggy Harrell (Rufus) of Perry, Becky Hooks (Roger) of Meeks and Linda Roland of Ashford, AL; sister, Marion Ann Fishburn; grandchildren, Tori Hulette, Rufus Harrell III, Roger Hooks Jr., Nielia Phillips, Brandi Stinnett, Amanda Applewhite, Kandice Holton and Charles Roland; 14 great-grandchildren, three great-grand-grandchildren; and many friends.

A special Thank You to Agape Hospice, Evelyn Tucker and Rachael Walker.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro was in charge of arrangements.

Ronald "Scott" Gene Kidd, 80

Mr. Ronald "Scott" Gene Kidd, 80, of Swainsboro, passed away Saturday, August 5, 2023, at his residence.

Mr. Kidd was born October 8, 1942, in Madison, WV, to the late Mack Kidd and Gwendolyn Jackson Peters (James). Scott was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He was a radio personality with WJAT and WSYL and a life-long fan of Cincinnati Reds. Mr. Kidd is preceded in death by his parents; and sister, Sonja Jackson.

Mr. Kidd is survived by his wife, Donna Kidd; son, Jeff Kidd; daughter, Kim Roughton (Keith); sisters, Carolyn Workman (Bob) and Debra Milam; grandchildren, Nella Martin (Josh),



KIDD

Sunni Williams, Libby Williams and George Roughton; great-granddaughter, Emmie Martin; several nieces, nephews and many friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to American Cancer Society, 515 Denmark Street, Suite 500, Statesboro, GA 30458.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro was in charge of arrangements.

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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!

Jimmie Jewel Bell, 82

Jimmie Jewel Bell, age 82, passed away Friday, August 4, 2023, at Augusta University Hospital. A Homecoming Celebration was held Saturday, August 12, at 11 a.m. at God's Holy Tabernacle Church in Twin City with Rev. Jacob Bell officiating and Rev. Amos Handsom presiding. Interment followed in Mt. Zion Church Cemetery.

Jimmie Jewel was born October 15, 1940, to the late Hazel Bell. She was a kind and loving mother and a proud grandmother. Jimmie Jewel was a dedicated member of Endtime Ministry and remained so until God called her home. She enjoyed spending time with her family



BELL

and church family. Miss Bell leaves to cherish her memories with her son, Eugene B. Sapp of Hephzibah; grandchildren, Malcolm B. Sapp and Alexis Jessica Sapp, both of Texas; great-grandchild, Malcolm Sapp Jr; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Mosley's Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Tommy Lee Wicker, 73

Tommy Lee Wicker, age 73, passed away Monday, August 7, 2023. A Homecoming Service was held Saturday, August 12, at 3 p.m. at Mosley's Funeral Home Chapel officiated by Elder Delmus G. Mosley. Interment followed in the Swainsboro City Cemetery.

Mr. Wicker was born March 17, 1950, to the late Clinton and Catherine Wicker. He was a graduate of Treutlen County High School. After graduating, Tommy Lee became a logger for Barney Morris Logging Company. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and spending time with his family and friends. Mr. Wicker is preceded in death by his parents; brothers, James Wicker and Author Lee Wicker; and sisters, Lula Mae Wicker and Annie Ruth Wicker.



WICKER

Mr. Wicker leaves to cherish his memories with his sons, Christopher Givens, Russel Clinton Givens and Timothy Jason Givens, all of Swainsboro; daughters, Shannon N. Givens (Alfred Williams) and Robbin C. Givens, both of Swainsboro; 17 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

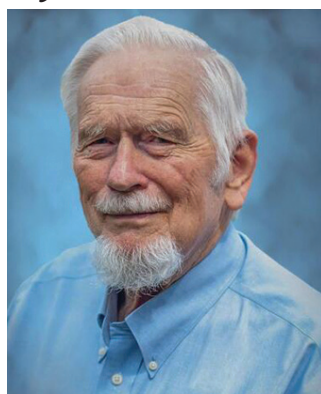
Mosley's Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Charles Archer Johnson, 82

Mr. Charles Archer Johnson, 82, of Twin City, passed away Monday, August 14, 2023, at his residence following an extended illness. Funeral service will be Wednesday, August 16, at 11 a.m. at Canoochee Baptist Church with Pastor Mark Wiggins officiating. Interment will follow in Eastbrook Cemetery & Mausoleum in Swainsboro. The family will receive friends from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, August 16, at Canoochee Baptist Church.

Pallbearers are Steve Johnson, Woody Hayes, Wade Johnson, Marvin Johnson, Corey Kraus, Mace Henry, Clay Johnson, and Chase Johnson. Honorary pallbearers are Rick Grube, David Blount, Joe Kirkland, Kelvin Turner, Corbin Wiggins, Donald Hooks, Bill Walden, and Blake Marsh.

Charles was born April 14, 1941, to the late Theo Madison Johnson and Bonnie Lou Archer Johnson. He was a member of Canoochee Baptist Church. Charles lived out every lesson he taught. A man who loved the Lord, his family, his church, and simple living. He was a deacon at Canoochee Baptist Church where he served our Lord with a servant's heart as a Sunday School teacher and song leader. A man not afraid to speak up and stand up for what's right, for himself, or for his family. A brave man. A man with his priorities in order. A smart man. A kind and gentle man. How could someone be so tough and so gentle simultaneously - oh, but he was. A man who somehow made the same 20 jokes hilarious with each retelling. His family will forever love a green sports coat, a fishing pole, a vegetable garden, a shirt with a pocket, a boiled Easter Egg, a western, a nap with a baby, hymns, Dolly Parton, Johnny Cash, Conway Twitty, reading the classifieds, John Wayne, and a Gide-



JOHNSON

on's Bible. Charles didn't hunt, golf, or watch football - he daddied. He husbanded. He planted. He harvested. He served. He fixed things. A husband for 62 years, he loved and served Mary with all his heart. A man who never bragged on himself and just snickered the most precious crooked smile when others bragged on him. Charles didn't just sing the hymns - he lived them. He was amazed by grace, cherished the old rugged cross, blessed the name, awaited the day that he would lay his burdens at Calvary, and prayed in the garden alone. A sinner saved only because of the work of the cross. Mr. Johnson is preceded in death by his parents; and brother, Reverend Jim Johnson.

Mr. Johnson is survived by his wife, Mary W. Johnson of Twin City; son, Darin Johnson of Evans; daughters, Tammy Gray (Milton) of Swainsboro and Tonya Torek (Tyler) of Waynesboro; brother, Marvin G. Johnson (Gail) of Canoochee; grandchildren, Joey Johnson, Tiffany Rahl (B.J.), Channing Powell (Dustin), Brittany Gray, Chad Johnson, Seth Torek and Drew Torek; great-grandchildren, Morgan Rahl, Bailey Rowell, Reeze Rahl, Elin Powell and Eryn Johnson; several nieces, nephews and many friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Gideon International, P. O. Box 365, Swainsboro, GA 30401.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro is in charge of arrangements.

It's time to arise

Now there have been times when we felt despondent. Even sometimes feeling hopeless. And today some feel as though you are in a dark place. Life is real. Sometimes when you have tried your best, it seems as if things are not working out. Let me encourage you today not to give up. Keep your dreams and ambitions alive. When you have taken a chance on everything and everyone else, take a chance with God.

I'm reminded in the 2 Kings chapter seven, of the four leprous men who were outside of the camp of Israel. They could not be in the city because of their disease. The Syrians were staging war with Israel. Those men said to themselves, if we sit here, we will surely die. We cannot go back to our city because of our disease. So they said, let us go to the Syrians, the enemy's camp. If they kill us we die, if they capture us we live.

So in the twilight, the leprous men rose up to go to the camp. When they rose up, at twilight, God rose up with them. When they headed for the camp, God caused the Syrians to hear a great noise of chariots and horses. He caused



BISHOP JONES

the enemy to think that Israel had hired soldiers from Egypt and other countries, so the Syrian army fled. They left everything in the camp. They left food, clothes, gold and precious things. Now these leprous men could live.

So today, please know that when you get up in the twilight, God will get up with you. When you arise to read the Word of God and pray in the twilight, God will rise up with you. He said he will "never leave you nor forsake you." He is the same God yesterday, today and forever more.

Paul and Salius sang and prayed in jail at midnight and God freed them. So arise out of your situations. Get up with God. Put your trust in Him. He will lead you just as he led those outcast men. Jesus died and gave you victory. Accept it today. Rise up and live.

Lena Mae Tillman Lewis, 79

Lena Mae Tillman Lewis, age 79, passed away Thursday, August 10, 2023. A Homecoming Celebration was held Sunday, August 13, at 11 a.m. at Church of Jesus with Bishop Willie Freeman officiating and Evangelist Alex Worthen presiding. Interment followed in the Swainsboro City Cemetery.

Lena Mae was born August 28, 1943, in Emanuel County, to the late Horace and Essie Tillman. She was employed with Keller Ladders for more than 30 years. Lena Mae was married to Ira Lewis. She was a dedicated member and faithful worker of Church of Jesus and was a true missionary of Christ. Lena Mae loved her family, church family and community. Mrs. Lewis is preceded in death by her parents; husband who passed away in 2011; daughter, Sheena Lewis; and son,



LEWIS

Jerry Tillman. Mrs. Lewis leaves to cherish her memories with her daughter, Pamela (Torriss) Mitchell of Louisville; son, Kevin Tillman of Swainsboro; stepsons, Tony (Elaine) Lewis of Columbia, SC and Michael Stokes of Tacoma, WA; sisters, Geneva Brooks of Swainsboro and Adelle Scott of Wrightsville; grandson, Darryl Brown; four great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Mosley's Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

The Greater St. James Missionary Baptist Church Senior Mission Program to be held

The Greater St. James Missionary Baptist Church on 423 Hopkins Street, Swainsboro, cordially invites everyone to their Senior Mission Demonstration Program on August 20, 2023, at 3 p.m. The guest speaker

for this occasion is the Reverend Doctor Carl Wardlaw Jr., Pastor of the First African Baptist Church of Vidalia. Others on the program are Rashunda Bell, Doris Rease, Dale Levenson, Inell Jackson, Cendy Lee, Syvette Young, Debra Brown, Mary Parker, Imogene Sutton, Verdell Brinson, Annie Williams, James Lott, Henry Washington, First African Baptist Choir, Telisa Calloway, Teresa Bright, and Elizabeth Harrison. Reverend Melvin Adams Jr. is the Pastor.

Gary Leon Green, 65

Mr. Gary Leon Green, 65, of Adrian, passed away Wednesday, August 9, 2023, at Fairview Park Hospital in Dublin. Funeral service was held Sunday, August 13, at 2 p.m. in the Chapel of Chapman Funeral Home with Pastor Allen Green and Pastor Jimmy Stapleton officiating. Interment followed in Odomville Cemetery in Adrian. The family received friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, August 12, at Chapman Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Michael Wilson, Michael Dobson, PeeWee Wilson, Ricky Beck, Billy Bennett, Justin Johnson and Don Wilkes.

Gary was born July 29, 1958, in Jasper, FL, to the late J.W. and Sara Hysmith Green. He drove a school bus for many years, and also drove a gas truck for many years. Gary was employed at Swainsboro Concrete. He loved farming, fishing and spending time with his family, children, and grandchildren. Gary loved reading the bible



GREEN

and preaching God's world. Mr. Green is preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Vivian Coren, Wanda Barber and Karen Green; brothers, Michael Green, Buddy Green and Frank Green.

Mr. Green is survived by his wife, Jennifer Green of Adrian; sons, Gary Green, Jr. (Tiffany) and Matthew Dent, both of Adrian; daughters, Latosha Green and Tammy Coleman (R.J.), both of Swainsboro, and Brittany Phillips (Matt) of Soperton; brother, Allen Green (Linette) of Kite; 13 grandchildren; several nieces, nephews and many friends.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro was in charge of arrangements.

Swainsboro Food Pantry August distribution

Swainsboro Center of Hope Food Pantry will be open for distribution on Thursday, August 17, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.



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Nancy Auditorium sign donated to Music Hall

by MICHAEL BRIGHT

As long as I can remember I have always loved to sing. I enjoyed all types of music. I remember my father told me that whatever you love to do, be sure to get around as many other people who love to do the same thing and learn all you can about it. I ended up singing full-time over 20 years. I started singing secular music, a little rock-n-roll but more country music. During that time in the 1980s, I was introduced to country singer Ronnie McDowell. Through his friendship I was able to meet many singers such as Conway Twitty, Reba McEntire, Roy Clark, Ricky Scaggs, Jerry Lee Lewis, Tanya Tucker, Sawyer Brown, just to name a few. But one memory I will never forget was when I had the rare opportunity to stand side by side with Roy Acuff on the grand Ole Opry stage. But later in life in the early 1990s, I was introduced to someone else... His name was Jesus, and I gave my life to the Lord and started singing Southern Gospel Music. In 1995 I recorded my own Southern Gospel Music CD. I sent it out to radio stations and took the time to call the disc jockeys and asked them to play my music. Then the next amazing thing happened... The song "It's Gonna Be A Good Day" charted at #34 in the Top 40 in the USA. My music then reached out of the USA. In 2006 I became the first and only Southern Gospel Music Singer to have five songs simultaneously chart in the Top 25 in the UK on SonRise Radio and two of those songs "By Faith" and "It's Gonna Be A Good Day" reached #1 on the charts and stayed in the Top 40 charts for almost a year.

I was also invited as special guest on "Dove Broadcasting TV Network" and the "Atlanta Live TV Network". (What makes this incredible, all this happened without a Radio Promoter, Booking Agent or



BRIGHT

Record Company.) I was fulltime touring all over the US from 1995 - 2013 performing over 250 concerts a year.

Now that I'm retired from full-time singing, I'm now enjoying my other passion, Antiques. I've been the manager since 2014 for Main Street Market Antique Mall.

I decided to share my music memories of singers I grew up listening to on the radio and some that I had the opportunity to meet personally through my private collection of hundreds of autographs, authentic items and personal clothing once owned by some of the biggest names in the music industry. You can see my private collection at the Music Memories Museum located inside Main Street Market Antique Mall.... And what better place than Swainsboro Georgia because of all the music history it has.

Did You Know?... Grand Ole Opry star Webb Pierce who was Known for the song "He's In The Jailhouse Now" and Jim Denny who was the manager of the Opry in Nashville, went in as partners and purchased the local radio station WJAT and the Nancy Auditorium in Swainsboro in 1957. They had some agreement in contract, if you performed on the Opry in Nashville, you also had to perform on the Nancy Auditorium stage in Swainsboro. Johnnie Bailes of the Bailes Brothers also moved to Swainsboro about the same time. Webb Pierce hired Johnnie Bailes as the General Manager for WJAT radio. Johnnie lived in Swainsboro until he died in 1989.

Hundreds of singers performed in

Swainsboro back in the 1950s & 60's. Did You Know?... Hank Williams Jr.'s first time ever performing on a stage in front of a live audience was on the Nancy Auditorium stage in Swainsboro March 22nd, 1958, at the age of only 8 years old. He performed with his mother Audrey Williams and sung his father's song "Love Sick Blues"... Brenda Lee had her first paid performance on the stage at 9 years old... Patsy Cline performed in Swainsboro in 1957 at the age of only 25. Also, JP Richardson known as the Big Bopper performed on the same stage in November 1958 and three months later, he was killed in an airplane crash with Ritchie Valens and Buddy Holly known as "The Day the Music Died". A few others who performed here in Swainsboro were Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, George Jones, Lorretta Lynn, Ferlin Husky, Bill Anderson, Merle Haggard, Lester Flat and Earl Scruggs, Minnie Pearl, Ernest Tubb, Roy Acuff, Ray Price, Webb Pierce, Mel Tillis, The Lewis Family, James Brown, Aretha Franklin, Otis Redding and many others...

The Nancy Auditorium is still standing and it's only one mile from the Music Memories Museum... But it's not open to the public at this time...

No matter how old or young, if you love music, then you will enjoy the Music Memories Museum. My goal for the museum is not just to preserve music history but also hoping every visitor may discover some music history they did not know or see a personal item from their favorite singer that brings back a special memory in their life.

When you visit the Music Memories Museum you will see authentic items and personal clothing once owned by over 200 of the biggest names in Country, Rock-n-Roll and R&B music. You can see our updated list on our website. www.musicmemoriesmuseum.com.



PRESIDENT ALLEN, FITZNER AND DURDEN

Fitzner speaks to Kiwanis

The Kiwanis Club of Swainsboro held their weekly meeting, Tuesday, August 1, 2023, at the Rustic Grille at 7p.m. With President Tammy Allen presiding, there were 26 in attendance including four guests; J. T. Cannady, Jimmy Allen, Tripp Fitzner and Kelly Baumhoer. The 14-layer caramel cake, provided by Gary Howard was won by Deana Patrick. The Domino's pizza donated by Domino's Pizza, was won by Scotty Hattaway. Petite Garrett presented the member spotlight, Jane Durden. Durden, one of four children, was born and raised in Swainsboro. She received her education at Swainsboro High School and Georgia Southern University and is a former kindergarten teacher. Additionally, Durden was the First Lady of the Georgia District of Kiwanis when Chip Durden was Kiwanis

Governor. She is described as full of grace, charm, and hospitality, is a genealogy "buff" and recently headed the Swainsboro Kiwanis Club's Hundredth Anniversary Planning Committee. She continues to be very active in the Kiwanis Club. Her favorite candy bar is the Milky Way. The program for the evening was sponsored by Jane Durden, who introduced Middle Judicial Circuit District Attorney Tripp Fitzner. The Middle Judicial District covers Emanuel, Toombs, Candler, Jefferson, and Washington Counties. Fitzner and his staff of six attorneys have closed over 800 felony cases in Emanuel County since 2021. They have 600 pending cases. Most of the cases are drug related, but some are homicides, and a growing number of cases are gang related. Although based in Eman-

uel County, the District Attorney's Office now has satellite offices in Lyons and Tennille. The District Attorney's Office has charging power but cannot initiate investigations. They can control the flow of cases but still need two more attorneys. They do not have the ability to sentence nor are they able to set bail. Those functions of the court rest with the two judges in the Circuit, who hear the cases. If you would like to become a member of the Kiwanis Club, please contact membership chair, Jane Durden, at 478-494-4113 or e-mail her at hsdurden@bellsouth.net. Also, if you would like more information about the Kiwanis Club and the many community service projects they do each year, visit their website at <http://www.swainsborokiwanis.org> or to our Swainsboro Kiwanis Facebook page.



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Southeastern Technical College holds 2023 Practical Nursing Pinning Ceremony

Twelve Practical Nursing students from Southeastern Technical College (STC) graduated on Tuesday, August 1. A special pinning ceremony was held at the Vidalia campus to celebrate the class.

Receiving their pins were Jamie Armstrong, Allison Austin, Amanda Barnes, Tiffany Birkheimer, Jania Cephus, Jessie DeLoach, Kaitlin Graham, Season Hodges, Angela Johnson, Adriana Saldana, Kayla Townsend, and Samantha Turner.

Practical Nursing Instructor Sheila Van Dyke welcomed the friends and family of the graduates and thanked them for their support of the students over the last three semesters. She said, "Crossing this stage means these graduates are headed to make a big difference in the world."



2023 PRACTICAL NURSING GRADUATES

Students enter the Practical Nursing program in either the fall or spring semesters on the Swainsboro or Vidalia campus. The program prepares graduates to give competent nursing care through general core and occupational courses, providing a variety of techniques and materials. Students then take part in clinical

experiences so that theory and practice are integrated under the guidance of clinical instructors. Upon graduation, students write the NCLEX-PN for licensure as practical nurses.

Graduate Allison Austin said, "This program prepares students to enter the medical field armed with skills and knowledge

to be successful nurses. Thank you, STC and the instructors, for shaping us into the people we have become. We look forward to making a difference in our communities."

For more information on STC's Practical Nursing program, visit www.southeasterntech.edu or call (912) 538-3100 or (478) 289-2200.

ASN Class of 2023 Graduates from STC

The Associate of Science in Nursing program at Southeastern Technical College graduated its Bridge Option class on July 31 in Vidalia's Tattall Auditorium.

Southeastern Tech faculty and staff honored the accomplishments of the graduates in a pinning ceremony held before an assembled crowd of friends and family.

The members of the graduating class are: Ladresha Allen and Rosemary Zul-moreno of Bulloch County, Keri Moseley and Samantha Ross of Candler County, Whitney Boatright and Haleigh Henry of Emanuel County, Caleb Farrow of Evans County, DeAnna Clay-Beecher, Jessica Clements, and Amber Yawn of Jeff Davis County, Reagan Dean and Taylor Oliver-Hinojosa of Tattall County, Megan Britton, Justin Burkett, Megan Campana, Karlye Claxton,



2023 ASN GRADUATES

Chassidy Harvey, Megan Losolla, Erica Madison, Lucy Renteria, Karley Williams of Toombs County, Hayli Castro and Allison Holton of Treutlen County, and Rebecca Floyd of Liberty County.

"Twenty-one in this class were also graduates of the PN or Paramedic programs at STC and came back through our ASN Bridge program," said Rachel Sikes. "Ten began as Nurse Aid students and have worked their way up to now earn

a seat for the N-CLEX to become registered nurses."

Graduates, totaling 23, walked across the stage of the Tattall Auditorium as part of the program's Bridge Option "pinning" ceremony.

"The dedication and hard work it has taken to get to this point has proven worthwhile," Sikes said. "It's clear you all learned how to take care of your patients by first learning to take care of each other."

In the nursing school tradition, pins were placed

on each student, signifying their entrance into the professional ranks.

The ceremony gave recognition of the support provided by those around the graduates. Faculty recognized the important contribution family and friends provided.

The graduates also made sure to thank the instructors who brought them to that moment.

For more information on STC's ASN program, visit www.southeasterntech.edu or call (912) 538-3100 or (478) 289-2200.



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Seeds of Hope



One of the most irritating, aggravating, frustrating - and yet stimulating - questions is - "Why?" It angers parents and annoys teachers. It disturbs moments of quiet reflection when we think we have the answers to "everything" then we realize we don't. It bothers us deeply when we are asked "why" did you do this or "why" did you do that. It seems to be planted deep within the brains of children to make us defensive or angry or even feel stupid.

But "Why" is an important question. It can force us to look at what we have done or what we are about to do. It can, in all reality, keep us from doing wrong or encourage us to do what is right.

David addresses the "Why" question quite frequently. In Psalm 86, however, he makes an observation and then answers it with "why."

He wrote, "I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify Your name forever." Then he adds the why for us: "For great is Your love toward me; You have delivered me from the depths of the grave."

"Praise" and "glorify" are a most important part of our worship. When we look at these two verses together, we find an important reason to remind us why we worship God: it is because of His love and mercy.

We may not know what he is referring to when He said that "God delivered me from the depths of the grave."

And perhaps that's good. What's don't matter - God does! There are many days when we feel we are about to be "buried alive." Then, God delivers us. It's time to worship.

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Social
Sports
Legals/Classifieds **B**

Miss Curry, Mr. Cannady exchange vows



MR. AND MRS. CANNADY

of Americus, as her Maid of Honor. Katelyn wore an ankle length hot pink dress and carried a smaller version of the bride's bouquet. Mr. Cannady chose his father, Wayne Cannady, as his best man.

The bride's mother wore a knee length flutter sleeve soft pink dress of metallic knit and the groom's mother wore a knee length soft blue dress as their attire.

The reception was held in the Social Hall of the church following the ceremony, hosted by the bride's parents. Guests were greeted by Alisa Scott. Tables were adorned

with small vases of multi-colored flowers as centerpieces. The bride's cake was a three tier with white frosting adorned by flowers matching the bridal bouquet, made by Patti Hendley and served by Alisa Scott. The groom's cake was golf themed, made by Donna Newsome.

The couple went to St. Simons Island for the weekend with plans for a honeymoon later in the year. Mr. and Mrs. Cannady will make their home in Swainsboro.

A rehearsal dinner was hosted Friday, June 2, at Coleman's Lake Restaurant, hosted by the groom's parents.

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Swainsboro vs NE Macon football scrimmage

by HAROLD SCOTT

On Thursday, August 10, the Swainsboro Tigers and Northeast Macon Raiders played a scrimmage game. The scoreboard said 15-7, but there are no winners or losers in scrimmage games. With this type of scrimmage, the score is less important than the coaches seeing their team in live action against another team. I'm sure both coaching staffs will evaluate the film, correct errors, and have their teams ready for the first regular season game.

Northeast Macon was a good challenge for Swainsboro. Northeast returned nine starters on offense and seven on defense. They finished with an 8-4 record last year and lost to eventual state runner-up Appling County in the second-round playoffs. Sophomore quarterback Reginald Glover returns to an offense that averaged 38 points per game. Also returning is junior running back Nick Woodford who rushed for 2,700 yards and 40 touchdowns last season.

Northeast has athletes and size on the defensive and offensive lines. Their defensive line made it challenging for Swainsboro to run consistently early in the scrimmage, and their offensive line helped their backs run well early. Northeast was able to hit a few passes and had receivers running open a few times. Running back Nick Woodford broke a long run in Northeast's first possession to get inside the 10-yard line, but penalties moved them back.

Swainsboro scored on a field goal. DeMello Jones picked off a deflected pass and returned it for a touchdown just before half-time. Swainsboro also scored on a fumble return. The Tigers missed a couple of extra-point conversions.



Photo by Mark Williams Studio
TIGER BREAKING UP A PASS IN THE END ZONE

Several Tiger players looked good, but these are a few that stood out to me.

#7 Jylerris Williams is going to be a playmaker on defense. Williams was all over the field. Williams is a junior and was selected to the all-region team last year. Additionally, he has attended summer camps for the past two years with other top players from across the state. Those camps have helped improve his skills and confidence. #8 Jerrod Steward is a major college prospect. Jerrod is big, fast, strong, and aggressive. Jerrod is in his third year starting for the Tigers. #17 Jamarcus Webb and #11 Qin Brown also made plays on defense.

Offensively #51 Kason Palmer stood out with his line play. Bryson Tarver and Jordan Williams had big runs. The Tiger's passing game was a little sporadic, but it gives opposing coaches something to prepare for. #2 Bryson

Tarver, #1 Jones and #12 Kason Edenfield played quarterback.

DeMello Jones played receiver, quarterback, and defensive back. Jones showed glimpses of why he is one of the top players in the country.

9th graders #3 Shannon Benjamin, #9 Jabois Smith and #21 Davyhon Williams stood out in their 4th quarter action. Smith will be an interesting player for the Tigers. He is about 6'3 and 190 lbs and very athletic. Smith has the size and speed to play multiple positions on offense and defense. It will be interesting to see how the coaches use him to minimize his inexperience while maximizing his immense talent.

Northeast opens its regular season on Saturday, August 19, against Mary Persons. Swainsboro's first regular season game will be Friday, August 18th, in Metter.



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EXECUTIVE ORDER THE CITY OF SWAINSBORO EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2023-3 "EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY JUVENILE CURFEW"

WHEREAS, the City of Swainsboro ("City") enjoys all rights, privileges, and powers incident to the establish of the City as a municipal corporation and is authorized to act through the Swainsboro City Council ("Council") who shall have full power and authority to enact all ordinances, by-laws, rules, regulations necessary for the good government of the City and for securing the health of its citizens. Charter of the City of Swainsboro ("Charter"), § 42(1); and

WHEREAS, the City has the right and authority to protect the personal property of the citizens and to establish the police force; Id. at§ 42(11); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 30 of the Swainsboro City Ordinances ("Ordinance"), the Council has established an emergency management system for the City ("Emergency Management System"; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 62-9 of the Ordinances, the Council has granted the Mayor of the City of Swainsboro ("Mayor") the right and authority to institute a curfew and the hours thereof, when the Mayor "deems it necessary for the protection of the health and welfare of the citizens or public or private property or located in [the City]"; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order No. 2023-2 Declaration of Temporary Juvenile Curfew ("Ex. Order 2023-2") a temporary juvenile curfew was established and is in place from August 10, 2023 until midnight September 9, 2023 which may be extended if so ordered within the effective period of Ex. Order 2023-2 for period not longer than thirty (30) days;

WHEREAS, the Mayor deems it necessary to extend the temporary juvenile curfew for an additional thirty (30) days for the protection of life and property of the citizens of the City; and

IT IS THEREFORE HEREBY RESOLVED by the City of Swainsboro that:

- I. Title. This Executive Order shall be known as the "EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2023-3 EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY JUVENILE CURFEW".
- 2.Preamble. The foregoing recitals in the Preamble are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full herein.
- 3.Declaration. The Mayor hereby declares the necessity to extend the temporary juvenile curfew to protect the life and property of the citizens of the City.
- 4.Extension. The temporary juvenile curfew established under Ex. Order 2023-2 shall be extended and effective until midnight October 9, 2023.
- 5.Effective Date. EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2023-3 EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY JUVENILE CURFEW shall be effective upon signing by the Mayor ("Effective Date").
- 6.Expiration. EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2023-3 EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY JUVENILE CURFEW shall expire at midnight on October 9, 2023 ("Expiration Date"); provided however, the Mayor shall be authorized to extend the Expiration Date of this Executive Order for a period of thirty (30) days conditioned on (i) the extension occurring prior t? he Exp_irat_ion Date; and (ii) the new Expiration Date being no more than thirty (30) days from the ex1stmg explrat1on date.
- 7.Notice to Public. This Executive Order shall (i) be available for the public at City Hall; (ii) shall be posted at City Hall upon execution and for a period ofnot less than fourteen (14) days; and(iii) a public notice shall be placed in the Forest Blade in the first publication after the Effective Date. SO ORDERED this 11 day of August, 2023

City of Swainsboro
Greg Bennett, Mayor

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26TH

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Proposed property tax increase for Emanuel County

The Emanuel County Board of Commissioners today announces its intentions to increase the 2023 property taxes it will levy this year by 12.93 percent over the rollback millage rate.

Each year, the board of tax assessors is required to review the assessed value for property tax purposes of taxable property in the county. When the trend of prices on properties that have recently sold in the county indicate there has been an increase in the fair market value of any specific property, the board of tax assessors is required by law to re-determine the value of such property and adjust the assessment. This is called a reassessment.

When the total digest of taxable property is prepared, Georgia law requires a rollback millage rate be computed that will produce the

same total revenue on the current year's digest that last year's millage rate would have produced had no reassessment occurred.

The budget tentatively adopted by the Emanuel County Board of Commissioners requires a millage rate higher than the rollback millage rate; therefore, before the Emanuel County Board of Commissions may finalize the tentative budget and set a final millage rate, Georgia law requires three public hearings to be held to allow the public an opportunity to express their opinions on the increase.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearings on this tax increase to be held at the Coleman Hotel, 101 North Main Street, Swainsboro, GA, on August 28, 2023, at 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., and on September 5, 2023, at 6 p.m.

by HAROLD SCOTT
Swainsboro High School DeMello Jones has been selected as a 2023 AJC Super 11. DeMello is a senior at Swainsboro High School. The Super 11 is one of Georgia's most prestigious statewide awards for high school athletes. Swainsboro has had countless outstanding football players, but DeMello is only the second player to receive this recognition. SHS's other selection was current Principal Brandon Andrews in 2000.

What is the AJC Super 11?

In 1985 the Atlanta Journal and Constitution began selecting 11 top players from across the state and called them the Super 11. Several factors go into selection, including team success. Playing on a good team and having good teammates is a plus. However, many of the players selected have outstanding individual stats and achievements. Many of the players are also heavily recruited by colleges.

AJC Super 11



Photo by Jason Getz

JONES

Other media outlets select top players for their areas, i.e., Middle Georgia, South Georgia, and Central Georgia, but the AJC covers the entire state. The AJC Super 11 comprises athletes from the whole state.. Choosing 11 players from the thousands of athletes playing football in this talent-rich state is dif-

icult. This selection means that sportswriters feel you are one of the best players in the state. The players who make this list are exceptional. The designation of Super 11 will remain with them forever. This title will always be a cherished award.

DeMello Jones is an outstanding young man.

He represents himself, his family, school, and community with distinction on and off the field. DeMello is continuing the rich Swainsboro athletic history and raising the bar even higher for other athletes to aspire to obtain.

Congratulations, DeMello Jones, and continued success.

Franklin Memorial Library updates

Franklin Memorial Library would like to announce the events for August 14 - 19. These activities cater to a diverse audience, from veterans to toddlers, and everyone in between. On August 7th at 9:30 a.m., the library hosted a special Veteran's Breakfast. This event is

a token of gratitude to all the heroes who have served our nation. It is a chance to gather, share stories, and enjoy a meal amongst fellow service members and women. Following breakfast, at 11 a.m., was the Military Records Genealogy Class. These sessions are an excellent opportunity

for those interested in tracing their military heritage. Discover more about your ancestors' service, their journey, and the role they played in shaping history. For our younger patrons, Kids Anime Club will meet on August 17 at 4 p.m. This is a welcoming space for children

to explore the vibrant world of anime, share their favorite series, and make new friends. On August 18 at 10:30 a.m., the library opens its doors for Toddler Time. This gathering is for babies and children not yet attending school. It is a wonderful chance for them to explore the world of books, play, and learn in a safe, nurturing environment. On August 19, Franklin Memorial Library invites all adults to join a special craft session at 10:30 a.m. This event promotes creativity, social engagement, and the joy of creating something with your own hands.

In addition to these events, Franklin Memorial Library is also committed to supporting students in their academic journey. FML is all about extending a hand with schoolwork. With a vast collection of books and internet-enabled computers, the library is a resourceful hub for all your study needs. These events underscore Franklin Memorial Library's commitment to fostering a sense of community, promoting lifelong learning, and offering diverse resources and activities for all ages.

NOTICE

The Emanuel County Board of Education does hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at Emanuel County Board of Education Central Office, 201 North Main Street, Swainsboro, GA 30401 on August 24th at 8:30am and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32 does hereby publish the following presentation of the current year's tax digest and levy, along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years.

CURRENT 2023 PROPERTY TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY

BOARD OF EDUCATION		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
V A L U E	Real & Personal	542,342,494	549,960,414	549,555,744	613,704,669	646,046,006	716,029,539
	Motor Vehicles	14,733,490	12,878,870	6,088,295	9,324,110	8,753,130	8,944,240
	Mobile Homes	5,993,271	5,451,239	5,822,382	5,926,198	6,201,398	6,522,569
	Timber - 100%	12,785,410	20,771,854	13,787,812	13,359,448	20,441,545	24,349,477
	Heavy Duty Equipment	0	58,855	0	20,148	0	39,545
	Gross Digest	575,854,665	589,121,232	575,254,233	642,334,573	681,442,079	755,885,370
	Less Exemptions	124,742,281	125,499,214	110,524,221	106,937,618	110,059,215	117,825,768
	NET DIGEST VALUE	451,112,384	463,622,018	464,730,012	535,396,955	571,382,864	638,059,602
R A T E	MILLAGE RATE (Maintenance & Operation)	13.6570	14.0000	13.9970	13.2310	12.9600	12.5280
	TOTAL M&O TAXES LEVIED	\$6,160,842	\$6,490,708	\$6,504,826	\$7,083,837	\$7,405,122	\$7,993,611
T A X	Net Tax \$ Increase	\$6,160,842	\$329,866	\$14,118	\$579,011	\$321,285	\$588,489
	Net Tax % Increase		5.35%	0.22%	8.90%	4.54%	7.95%

NOTICE

The Emanuel County Board of Commissioners does hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at the Coleman Hotel on September 5, 2023 at 6:00 PM and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32 does hereby publish the following presentation of the current year's tax digest and levy, along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years.

CURRENT 2023 PROPERTY TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY

COUNTY WIDE		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Countywide Area	V A L U E	Real & Personal	542,342,494	549,960,414	549,555,744	613,704,669	646,046,006	716,029,539
		Motor Vehicles	14,733,490	12,878,870	6,088,295	9,324,110	8,753,130	8,944,240
		Mobile Homes	5,993,271	5,451,239	5,822,382	5,926,198	6,201,398	6,522,569
		Timber - 100%	12,785,410	20,771,854	13,787,812	13,359,448	20,441,545	24,349,477
		Heavy Duty Equipment	0	58,855	0	20,148	0	39,545
		Gross Digest	575,854,665	589,121,232	575,254,233	642,334,573	681,442,079	755,885,370
		Less Exemptions	119,167,730	119,719,899	104,721,064	101,252,702	104,184,910	111,942,220
		NET DIGEST VALUE	456,686,935	469,401,333	470,533,169	541,081,871	577,257,169	643,943,150
R A T E	Gross Maintenance & Operation Millage	14.0350	14.2300	14.4180	13.8710	13.6840	14.6350	
	Less Rollback (Local Option Sales Tax)	2.3170	2.5000	2.6900	2.7780	2.8160	2.7670	
	NET M&O MILLAGE RATE	11.7180	11.7300	11.7280	11.0930	10.8680	11.8680	
T A X	TOTAL M&O TAXES LEVIED	\$5,351,458	\$5,506,078	\$5,518,413	\$6,002,221	\$6,273,631	\$7,642,317	
	Net Tax \$ Increase		\$154,620 ▲	\$12,335	\$483,808	\$271,410	\$1,368,686	
	Net Tax % Increase			2.89%	0.22%	8.77%	4.52%	21.82%

Sheriff's Reports

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

August 6

Deputies responded to Indian Trl. in reference to shots fired. Complainant stated that several shots were fired directly in front of his residence from the road and he was sure the alleged suspect was responsible because of a previous incident that involved a female who was in a relationship with suspect and c/p received several text messages from suspect that implied threats. C/p was able to identify a truck that fled away from the scene after the shots were fired that matches the description of one belonging to the suspect. Deputies were advised that the witness who is familiar with the suspect was able to track the suspect's location via GPS cell phone and was able to provide a tracking history of suspect's location on the night of the incident.

August 7

Deputies were dispatched to Wd St. in reference to a nuisance animal call. Caller advised of two aggressive dogs belonging to a relative in her yard and the caller is scared of them. Animal Control advised he is familiar with the dogs and their owner and attempted to catch the dogs.

Deputies were dispatched to Tony Baker Ln. I reference to a fight between two males.

Victim stated someone shot a tire and windshield on a pickup truck on his property.

Complainant stated someone stole her son's lawnmower at a residence on Hwy 297.

Deputy was dispatched to Ever Wild Boutique in reference to a vehicle unlock. Vehicle was unlocked with no damages.

Deputies responded to Five Pints grocery store in reference to a hit and run. The attendant on duty showed video of a truck turning into the parking lot and striking a pillar on the building and left without getting out of the vehicle. Partial tag was observed in the video.

August 8

Complainant went to ECSO to report a fake check he received in the mail.

Deputy responded to an alarm call on Bull St. where he found a repair man fixing the water system. The homeowner forgot to deactivate the alarm.

Deputy was dispatched to 4th Ave. for a VIN verification.

Deputies were dispatched to Hwy 1 South in reference to a possible dispute of two subjects in a vehicle. Deputies met with the female who advised she and her husband had been in a verbal altercation and she wanted to get out of the vehicle. Both parties advised this is a common occurrence and did not wish to make a report or file charges.

Deputies were dis-

patched to W. Broad St. in reference to a report of criminal trespass.

Deputy spoke with complainant who stated offender had been constantly harassing him from the roadway. C/p stated offender had stopped by his residence and threw a can in his yard and constantly drives fast down the road in front of his house and stops in front of his residence and revs his motor to antagonize him.

Deputy was called to Hwy 46 in reference to a tree in the road blocking both lanes of travel and complainant stated he hit one of the power lines hanging in the road. Deputy observed damage to c/p's vehicle.

Deputies were dispatched to Dellwood Store in reference to a report. Complainant advised the offender had been at c/p's home starting trouble and was highly intoxicated. C/p stated he was trying to be nice to offender by allowing him to take a shower but told him not to bring alcohol and offender showed up with beer and fireball. When c/p told offender he was not going in and needed to leave, offender started yelling and trying to get inside the house by beating and pulling on the door, then left and went across the street to an abandoned home and began texting and calling c/p. Deputies went to the abandoned home and made contact with offender who was highly intoxicated and placed him under arrest for disorderly conduct. Upon running a background check, offender was found to be wanted out of Chatham County and they advised they would pick him up.

Complainant stated offender is her stepson and her husband/offender's father recently passed away and the deceased husband's property and assets have been previously agreed upon and settled in court and since then, offender sent her a letter accusing her of killing his father. C/p stated she is scared that offender may try to do something to retaliate against her and she is scared of him. C/p was advised to speak with her attorney and advised of a stalking order.

August 9

Deputy unlocked a vehicle on Hwy 192 with no damages.

Deputy met with complainant at ECSO in reference to a complainant concerning alleged suspect who is known and identified by c/p. C/p stated she and suspect had been in a previous relationship and had been back and forth for the past two years and she received several harassing text messages from suspect.

Deputy responded to Piney Grove Rd. in reference to a nuisance animal. Complainant stated she walked outside and saw a large sow laying in her yard nursing

seven small pigs. C/p then observed the damage the sow caused by rooting up her flower bed all the way around her residence, valued at \$1,000.

Deputy took a report regarding packages being stolen from Red Oak Rd. C/p stated she got notification about two packages being delivered and when she went to get them, they were gone and advised she has had packages stolen from the location in the past.

August 10

Complainant reported his vehicle was stolen by a known offender. C/p stated offender was to attend a class in Garfield and he walked out of the class and took c/p's vehicle without permission. Offender was arrested in Millen and the vehicle was turned over to c/p.

Deputy responded to EMC in reference to an injury from a domestic dispute. Complainant advised she and her husband/offender were at home on Modoc Rd. and began arguing. C/p stated the argument became physical when offender pushed her and hit her in the face. C/p then stated she hit offender back, at which time he threw her out the kitchen door that leads outside. C/p had swelling to her face, busted elbows and deformity to her wrist. C/p advised this is not the first time she has been abused by offender and on previous times, she dropped charges for the kids. C/p did state that her 13-year-old son was home during the incident and offender took her to the ER and she is scared of his actions after this incident. Deputy advised c/p of the TPO process.

Deputy spoke with offender who advised c/p got upset about issues in the past and they began arguing and c/p hit him in the face, and he grabbed her and toted her out the kitchen door onto the porch and she fell on a rocking chair. Deputy placed offender into custody and transported him to EmCo Jail. Deputy got in contact with the ER and confirmed that c/p's wrist had a hairline fracture all the way thru and would require surgery.

August 11

Deputy responded to I16 in reference to a Greyhound bus driver requesting assistance with an irate passenger. Complainant advised offender was highly intoxicated and was causing problems with other passengers. C/p stated offender was very loud and belligerent on the bus and he wanted her removed per company policy. Deputy made contact with offender who was slurring and upon asking her to step off the bus, deputy observed she was unbalanced and stumbling. Deputy also observed offender put two small open containers of Brandy in her bag. Offender was

explained the reason for contact, and she was placed under arrest for public intoxication and transported to EmCo Jail. Offender continued to be belligerent during transport and at the jail.

Deputy met with complainant at ECSO for a report of vehicle damage. C/p stated she heard a dog outside her home and believes it was trying to get her cat and she found damage to her vehicle believed to be from the dog. The vehicle has several scratches around all four sides that appeared to be from the dog jumping on it trying to get to her cat. C/p advised she believes the dog belongs to her neighbors and stated when she spoke to them, they advised her their dog had not caused the damage to her vehicle. C/p also stated that the dog often gets in her yard and chases her cat.

Deputy met with complainant at ECSO where she stated her tag is missing.

Deputies responded to Redbud Rd. in reference to a civil dispute. Complainant advised she and offenders got into an argument and she left the residence and not offenders are riding by her residence and messaging her.

Deputies responded to Egret Pl. in Lyons in reference to a dog being hit in the head with a hatchet. Complainant advised her neighbor hit her dog with a hatchet and deputies observed large cuts on the dogs head. C/p stated she went down stairs to find a cat deceased at the bottom of her stairs and buried it in her flower bed where she buries all her pets and on this date, offender went to in her yard with a rifle yelling and screaming at her wanting to know where his cat was and she advised offender she found a cat deceased and buried it in the flower bed and showed him where she buried it C/p stated offender fell to his knees and was digging in the dirt with his hands while screaming then got up and stated that since her dogs killed his cat, he's gonna kill them and went to his camper then came back and chased her dogs around the yard, catching one by the neck and began punching and kicking it. C/p stated offender then left and went back to his camper and came back with a hatchet and went upstairs on her porch and grabbed her dog and began hitting it in the head with the hatchet screaming "this is the one that killed his cat so he's gonna kill it". C/p stated she tried to stop offender, but he was too big and when he was through hitting her dog, he left and went back to his camper.

Deputies were dispatched to New Hope Church Rd. in reference to a residential alarm. Deputy checked all doors and windows,

finding no signs of tamper or forced entry but the front door was found to be unlocked. The homeowner arrived a short time later and was advised of the unlocked door and asked if she wanted them to perform a walkthrough of the residence and she denied the walkthrough.

Deputy responded to Stallion Rd. in reference to a threat call.

August 12

Deputies responded to GLS State Park Rd. in reference to a dispute. Complainant stated offender threw a plate at her and she wanted him gone. Offender stated c/p threw a mirror at him first and agreed to leave. C/p agreed to drive him to his mother's.

August 13

Deputies responded to Modoc Rd. in reference to a dispute. Complainant stated offender burst into his house after being told not to return to his property and after being asked to leave, offender threatened him with bodily harm. C/p stated that after several times of asking offender to leave, he left. Deputies tried to make contact with offender but was unsuccessful.

Deputies responded to Hwy 80 East in to assist EMS with a male that had passed out from walking. EMS stated the male subject needed a ride to Bulloch Co. and was cleared with no medical problems. Upon running suspects name and DOB, he was found to have active warrants through Bulloch Co. Upon contacting Bulloch Co., they confirmed they wanted to place a hold on offender, at which time he was transported to EmCo/Bulloch Co. line and turned over to BCSO.

Deputy observed a vehicle traveling 73 MPH in a 55 MPH zone, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. Deputy approached the driver and informed him why he was stopped and asked him about another vehicle that was following him and he stated they were traveling together. While speaking with the driver, deputy could smell marijuana coming from the vehicle and asked the driver when he last smoked, and he stated it was during the morning. Deputy informed the driver that he had probable cause to search the vehicle and asked if there was anything in the vehicle he should be aware of and the driver started digging around and lifted the center console, exposing a revolver. The driver then grabbed the handgun and began to lift it at which point deputy stepped back and began to tell the driver to put the gun down. Driver complied by placing it on the dashboard and deputy began to tell him to exit the vehicle, at which time offender reached for the handgun and was advised

not to touch it. Once the driver was out of the vehicle, he continuously tried to hide his right hand behind his back and was told numerous times to take his hand out from behind his back. Offender did not listen and tried to hide his hand in the back of the truck and deputy observed a small bag of marijuana in offender's hand and told him he could see the weed in his hand. Offender was then placed in handcuffs and deputy searched the vehicle. Offender was transported to EmCo Jail for suspended license, possession of marijuana and speeding.

Deputy was called to Flatts Lounge about an irate female. Deputy spoke with complainant who stated offender was looking for her phone and went up to the DJ and took the microphone and announced she was looking for her phone. C/p stated when that didn't work, offender unplugged the speakers and started yelling and c/p told her to leave and she became irate. C/p stated he got ahold of her and took her outside and she tried to fight him and he pepper sprayed her and she stated "that's ok - I got something for you". C/p, along with another security guard, followed offender to the gate and they stopped while offender went out into the parking lot and a short time later, offender walked back up and c/p realized she had a gun and started to raise it and he tackled her and took the gun, and in the process, his back-up gun fell out of his vest and offender grabbed it and took it to her car. Deputy then spoke with offender who stated she lost her phone and tried to get help from staff to find it but they wouldn't help her. Offender then stated she did unplug the speakers and security grabbed her and forced her outside and sprayed her with pepper spray and she did go to her vehicle and get a gun and approach the security guards but never pointed it at them. Offender stated the security guard tackled her and took her gun and she then went to the parking lot. Deputy asked the security guard if he wished to press charges and he stated no, he just wanted her gone like he had asked her to do. Deputy then spoke with the owner who advised he wanted offender gone and to never return. Deputy then asked offender if she wanted to make a report about the missing phone and she stated no and that they were all crooks and working for the club owner and that her dad works for GSP and that ECSO staff would be investigated after the incident.

Jail Report

The following persons have been booked into Emanuel County Jail, according to Emanuel County Sheriff Jeffrey Brewer, on warrants obtained by one of several local law enforcement agencies, designated by each name: Drug Task Force (DTF); Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI); Georgia Department of Pardons and Parole (GAPP); Georgia State Patrol (GSP); Emanuel County Sheriff's Office (ECSSO); Swainsboro Police Dept. (SPD); Stillmore Police Dept. (SMPD); Twin City Police Department (TCPD); Garfield Police Dept. (GPD); Adrian Police Dept. (APD); Child Support Recovery Unit (CSRU); Intensive Probation Service (IPS); or Probation Office (PROB).

possession of drug related object/VGCSA/vio ga control subst act/VGCSA/vio ga control subst act/VGCSA/vio ga control subst act/Possession of meth; ECSO
 Benjamin Ray Caraway, entered 8/7/23; Probation/Superior court; ECSO
 Jonathan William Turner, entered 8/7/23; Terror threats and acts; SPD
 Shamecciaa Shiann Hagins, entered 8/8/23; Probation/State court/Middle Ga Probation/No license on person/Unregistered vehicle/VGCSA marijuana/poss less than oz/Hold for Bulloch Co; released 8/8/23; SPD
 Heriberto Ruiz Santiao, entered 8/8/23; Disorderly conduct/Hold for Chatham Co; released 8/9/23; ECSO
 Britney-Ann Tamala Thompson, entered 8/8/23; Disorderly con-

duct/Other; SPD
 Chris Lavern Tarver, entered 8/9/23; Harassing phone calls; released 8/9/23; WALK-IN
 Elijah Carswell, entered 8/9/23; Probation/Swainsboro PD/Middle Ga Probation; SPD
 Brian Claud Coburn, entered 8/9/23; Bench warrant-Out of county; released 8/9/23; ECSO
 Kevon Santonio Smiley, entered 8/9/23; Probation/Swainsboro PD/Middle Ga Probation/Child support/Superior court contempt order; SPD
 Romero Dumas Jackson, entered 8/10/23; Speeding 30+ MPH over/Driving lic susp/rev; released 8/10/23; ECSO
 Stacia Ambrianna Burke, entered 8/10/23; Probation/Superior court/Probation/Superior court/Probation/Superior

court/ECSO
 Jaquan Marquis Martin, entered 8/10/23; Theft/shoptlifting; released 8/10/23; SPD
 Justin Allen Williams, entered 8/10/23; Theft by taking/Motor vehicle/Hold for Jenkins CO; ECSO
 Enrique Matzhua Xochicale, entered 8/10/23; Cruelty to children 3rd degree/Battery/simp battery-family violence; released 8/11/23; TCPD
 Mitchell Dean Henry, entered 8/11/23; Aggr battery; released 8/11/23; ECSO
 Sakeita Cherrelle Williams, entered 8/11/23; Public drunk; ECSO
 Ronald Shaye Shepard, entered 8/11/23; Driving lic susp/rev/Failure to stop at stop sign; released 8/11/23; SPD
 David Rodriguez Ramos, entered

8/11/23; Driving while unlicensed/expired; released 8/11/23; SPD
 Damien Isaiah Brodus, entered 8/11/23; Obstr/ofc/Crim trespass/Probation/Swainsboro PD/Middle Ga Probation; SPD
 Denosha Naycole Harris, entered 8/12/23; Tag light requirements/Speeding 15-29 M PH over/Driving lic susp/rev/Other; released 8/12/23; SPD
 Phillip Daniel Stallworth, entered 8/12/23; Driving lic susp/rev; released 8/12/23; SPD
 Tishuan Shaquez Williams, entered 8/12/23; Fleeing/attempt to elude ofc/Failure to stop at stop sign/Windshields/front door cracked/tinted/matls proh/VGCSA marijuana/poss less than oz/Other; released 8/13/23; SPD
 Billy Ricks Sr, entered 8/12/23; Theft/shop-

lifting/Probation/Swainsboro PD/Middle Ga Probation/Probation/State court/Middle Ga probation; SPD
 Julius Montez Dubsoe, entered 8/13/23; VGCSA possession of MDMA/Possession of meth; ECSO
 Kyle Antonio Carswell, entered 8/13/23; VGCSA marijuana/poss less than oz/Windshields/front door cracked/tinted/matls proh; released 8/13/23; SPD
 Richard Otis Scott, entered 8/13/23; VGCSA possession of drug related object/VGCSA marijuana/poss less than oz/VGCSA possession of MDMA/Possession of meth
 Ellis Jerome Cooper, entered 8/13/23; VGCSA marijuana/poss less than oz/Speeding 15-29 MPH over/Driving lic susp/rev; released 8/14/23; ECSO

Swainsboro Police Reports

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

August 4
 Officer responded to N. Main St. For someone wanting to make a report about someone hitting complainant's vehicle.

Officer observed a vehicle on N. Green St. with expired registration, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. The driver had suspended license and was placed under arrest and transported to EmCo Jail. Once at the jail, officer was informed that offender had a probation warrant through EmCo State court.

Officer met with complainant at SPD in reference to a report of account fraud. C/p stated an unknown person linked a Cashapp card to her bank account without her authorization resulting in unauthorized transfers over \$500.

Officer was contacted about a firearm left in his vehicle. Complainant stated several juveniles were hanging around his home and he found the handgun in his car.

Officer responded to Harmon Park for a male subject not acting right. Officer made contact with offender and he started moving around a lot and stated he does

meth and had been drinking. Officer asked offender if he could look in his pockets due to seeing a Gatorade bottle in his back pocket and found clear bags inside of it. Offender stated meth was in the bags.

Officer observed a vehicle parked in the middle of the roadway blocking traffic so he pulled behind it and offender came out of the yard, got in the driver's seat and pulled the car to the side of the road. Officer ran the tag and it came back "wanted person, invalid license", at which time officer initiated his blue lights as the driver was walking away and officer asked him to step back to the vehicle. Officer advised offender he could not be parked in the middle of the road and asked his name and he gave it as the "wanted person". Offender was handcuffed and officer asked offender if there was anything in the vehicle and offender advised there was a gun in the glove compartment. A strong smell of marijuana was coming from the vehicle and a clear plastic bag of marijuana was located in the back seat of the vehicle. Offender was transported to EmCo Jail and stated to officers that they were racist and the officer replied "no we're not.

I am just doing my job and getting criminals off the street."

Officer noticed a vehicle on Hwy 1 South with no tail lights, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. Officer made contact with the driver who did not have a valid driver's license or passport. Offender began to use his phone app to communicate with the officer in English and was able to get his name and DOB. Offender was placed under arrest for driving while unlicensed.

August 5
 Officer was dispatched to El Valle in reference to someone stating he was a prior employee and was wanting his pay from last year. Officer met with complainant and offender where c/p stated he does all of the finances and he cannot find anything that states offender worked there in the past and asked offender to leave several times and he refused. Officer asked offender for his ID and he stated he did not have it on him and they stepped outside and he gave his name but refused to give his DOB, but finally did after being told he could be charged with criminal trespass. Employees advised they do not want offender back on the property and offender was given a criminal trespass order valid for two years and offender left the property.

Officer was dispatched to Maryland's in reference to a damaged vehicle. Complainant stated she struck her vehicle on the concrete post near the drive-thru speaker, causing a dent and scratches to her vehicle. The concrete barrier was knocked over but still intact.

August 6

Officer responded to Alice Cir. For a fight. Contact was made with three females and was advised that two of the females started fussing and one made a vulgar statement about one's baby and the other female started with her. She advised offender hit her and kicked her in the head but offender stated she did not. SPD units have been to this residence several times in the past months for fighting.

Officer was dispatched to Hickory Trace Cir. In reference to an entering auto. Complainant reported she and offender were previously involved in a relationship that ended badly and there were several verbal altercations between them two days prior. C/p reported the vehicle was parked on the back side of the apartment and reported she observed it scratched or keyed and a small window removed by tearing out the seal. The window was still intact and laying in the back seat. C/p reported a pistol was disassembled as well and her license plate is missing. C/p stated she did not see offender commit the act but does not know of anyone else that would have done it.

August 7
 Officer was dispatched in reference to a report of vehicle damage. Complainant stated she returned home from WalMart and found damage to her vehicle.

Officer was dispatched to SPD for a walk-in report. Complainant stated she was driving on S. Main St. behind a dump truck hauling a load of rocks and a rock fell off the truck and struck her rental car windshield.

Officer respond-

ed to Little Caesars in reference to terroristic threats by an employee. Complainant stated offender is one of her employees and they got into a verbal argument and offender ended up leaving work. C/p stated offender returned the following morning and while he was speaking with the witness, offender stated he left work because he was gonna choke c/p and if I have to work more than five hours with her, I will kill myself, kill her and kill her husband. Offender was arrested and transported to EmCo Jail and was issued a six-month criminal trespass notice for Little Caesars.

Officer was dispatched to Gumlog Rd. in reference to a report where complainant stated when her daughter got home from school, she discovered the TV in the living room was missing and the TV and PS4 in her room was missing as well.

Officer ran the tag on a vehicle to find it had suspended registration and the owner had an active warrant through Bulloch Co, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. Officer approached the vehicle and identified the driver as the registered owner and asked for her license and she stated she did not have them on her. While speaking with offender, officer could smell marijuana and asked her to step out of the vehicle. Offender was placed under arrest and transported to EmCo Jail. While at the jail, officer found out that offender also had an active warrant through Middle Ga Probation.

August 8
 Officer was dispatched by 911 to Hwy 80 West to assist ECSO with a call. 911 advised a female was walking in the roadway holding a beer can. Officer made contact with the female subject and advised her to stop several times and she refused and started speeding up while walking as she was going to run. Officer then advised the female subject that she

was about to go to jail and then she stopped. Officer asked the female where she was headed and she became aggressive and officer asked if she had any identification on her and she stated no and tried to walk away again. Officer asked her for her name and DOB and she gave her name. Officer advised offender to walk in front of his unit so she wouldn't get hit by traffic and she refused so he advised her that she was under arrest for failure to comply and she began to yell profanity very loud while people were stopped on the side of the road. Offender was placed under arrest and transported to EmCo Jail. Offender advised the officer that she just got out of Screven Co. Jail and she is from Atlanta and refused to sign her citations. Screven Co. Jail advised offender was in their custody and was released, and stated she is homeless and they did not have any contact info.

August 9
 Officer was walking across WalMart parking lot when she was approached by a good Samaritan stating a wallet was found in the roadway on Industrial Way. The wallet had an ID identifying the owner from Missouri.

Officer was directed by the Chief to meet with Animal Control in reference to offender's bulldog killing victim's Yorkie. Officer observed the bulldog unattended and unrestrained in the front yard of offender's residence. Officer spoke with offender who stated she was not home at the time of the incident and the dog belongs to her ex that has not lived at her residence for three months. Offender was issued a citation for officer's observations.

Officer met with complainant at SPD in reference to GPS tracker that was recovered at her residence on Canoochee Rd. C/p reported she found it lying in her driveway and does not know who it belongs to



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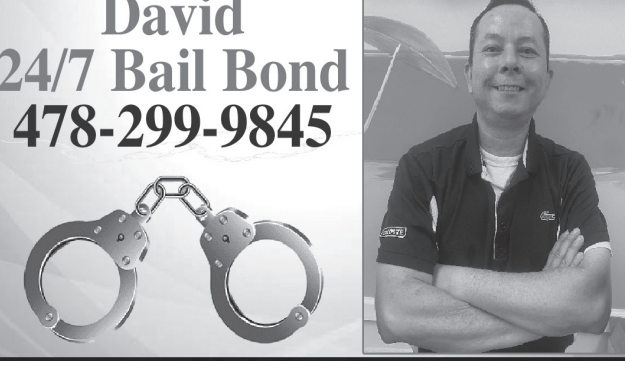
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MISC

WANTED: A variety of antiques. Will also buy and/or trade. Call 478.494.2880.



PELLERIN

Tori Pellerin earns title of Georgia Certified Plant

Professional Congratulations to Emanuel County Institute Agriculture teacher Mrs. Tori Pellerin, who has earned the title of Georgia Certified Plant Professional. The Georgia Certified Plant Professional (GCPP) program certifies those in the profession who have mastered a thorough knowledge and understanding of job skills required to be successful in the horticulture industry. The Georgia Certified Plant Professional exam consists of a written exam and a plant identification exam. The written test is based on a study manual available through the UGA Center for Urban Agriculture and features 100 multiple-choice questions and the second portion of the exam is plant identification which consists of 100 plant specimens. Mrs. Pellerin attended class in July where she mastered the certification.

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.

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.

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

Now Taking Applications! SWAINSBORO HOUSING AUTHORITY

420 N. Racetrack Street
Swainsboro, GA 30401
Phone: 478-237-7381

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HUD Subsidized Handcap Units Available

DELIVERY DRIVER

Looking for a responsible and dependable driver on Wednesdays starting at 5am to deliver newspapers.

Must be at least 21 years old, have a valid drivers license and clean driving record.

Apply in person at:

The Forest-Blade
416 W. Moring St.
Swainsboro, GA 30401

FUMC IS SEEKING A FULL-TIME DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES

First United Methodist Church of Swainsboro is seeking a full-time Director of Youth Ministries to begin immediately. Swainsboro is a vibrant mid-sized church with a growing children's ministry and desires to extend this success into the youth and young adult age groups.

Salary and benefits would be commensurate with education, experience and position development.

Interested applicants should submit a cover letter, resume and a list of references to:
fumcswainsboro@gmail.com

You may contact Rev. David Unkles at 478.237.7535 for more information.



Now hiring:

Quality Control Manager
Big truck/CDL driver

Apply in person or contact Whitney Henry:
wheny@ogeecheesteel.com
133 Lindsey Rd.
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478.237.2770 Ext. 31

AUCTION

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• Brick Home w/ Carport • 40' x 24' Shop w/ Barn
• Washington Co Tax Parcel 126 009

12 ACRE LOT

• 2004 Planted Long Leaf • Clean Rakeable Straw
• Washington Co Tax Parcel 126 010A

EQUIPMENT & PERSONAL PROPERTY

2001 John Deere 6410 Cab Tractor 4WD w/ Front End Loader, 2018 Silverado Pickup Truck, 8" Bushhog, Honda 4 Wheeler, Hand Tools, Household Furnishings, Appliances and Much More...

For A Complete List of Items Being Offered Visit Our Website

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19TH @ 10:30 A.M.
Inspection: Sun. Aug 6th & Sun. Aug 13th from 2:00-5:00 & Fri. Aug 18th from 12:00 - 5:00



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Install & Repair Technician

Pineland is seeking a highly qualified Individual to serve as a member of the Outside Plant Team. The Individual selected to join this team will have a primary role of installing, maintaining, and repairing customer premise voice, internet, and television equipment. The individual will utilize testing equipment to determine trouble created for necessary repairs. S/he will complete all installation and repair related forms and reports; fiber splicing, electrical switch/router, and PBX skills preferred. The individual will be in direct contact with customers via phone and on-site services.

Qualifications

Minimum of high school diploma or equivalent. Two years of telecommunications schooling or equivalent work experience desired. Demonstrated ability to learn new technology with accuracy and at a fast pace. Knowledge of voice and internet technologies preferred. 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 | 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 | Metter, GA 30439
No faxed applications will be accepted.

Deadline to apply – August 25, 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.



phone + internet + technology + security

Cable Technician/Facility Maintenance

Pineland is seeking a highly qualified individual to serve as a member of the Outside Plant Team. The Individual selected to join this team will have a primary role of installing, maintaining, and repairing fiber optic cable, and maintaining the Central Office cable system. S/he will provide hands on assistance and troubleshoot all equipment failures and service issues, assist with locate requests, and conduct routine preventative maintenance to buildings and facilities, including custodial care of plant and offices. The individual will be in contact with customers on a day to day basis.

Qualifications

Minimum of high school diploma or equivalent plus one to three years of technical training. One year experience in telephone plant operations also required. Must have a valid DOT health card. Demonstrates ability to learn new technology with accuracy and at a fast pace. Knowledge of voice and broadband technologies preferred. Must be proficient in the use of hand tools, including various punch tools, test equipment, ribbon and/or single splicer's and various power tools. 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

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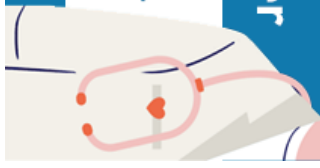
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Receive a 100% tax credit in exchange for your contribution to our hospital!



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Legals

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF EMANUEL COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF JOE THOMPSON JR., DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 23E0090
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
 TO: CURTIS THOMPSON, TIMMY ARCHIE, MARCUS THOMPSON and to whom it may concern:
 WILLIE ANN THOMPSON has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of JOE THOMPSON JR. deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before AUGUST 21, 2023. **BE NOTIFIED FURTHER:** All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds

of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
 DON E. WILKES
 Judge of the Probate Court
 By: Jeanie Hooks
 Clerk of the Probate Court
 P. O. Box 70 / 125 South Main Street
 Swainsboro, Ga. 30401
 Address (478) 237-7091
 Telephone Number
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
 IN RE: The Estate of Samson Davis Frew, deceased
 All creditors of the estate of SAMSON DAVIS FREW, deceased late of Emanuel County, State of Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the

undersigned.
 This the 25th day of July, 2023.
 Dustin Michael Barr, BARR LAW
 Attorney for Administrators of the Estate
 712 S. Main Street
 Statesboro, GA 30458
STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL
IN RE: ESTATE OF FAYE C. POWELL, DECEASED.
All creditors of the Estate of Faye C. Powell, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to Richard M. McNeely, attorney for Jacquelyn P. Davis and Julie P. Strohmetz, Executors of the Faye C. Powell Estate, at P. O. Box 767, Swainsboro, Georgia 30401, according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment of any indebtedness due the estate.
This 24th day of July, 2023.
RICHARD M. MCNEELY, Attorney for Jacquelyn P. Davis and Julie P. Strohmetz Executors of the Faye C. Powell Estate
Richard M. McNeely, P.C.
 P. O. Box 767
Swainsboro, Georgia 30401

(478) 237-4225
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF EMANUEL COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF LEWIS EDWARD OGLESBY, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 23E0100
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
 TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES and to whom it may concern:
 MICHAEL OGLESBY has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of LEWIS EDWARD OGLESBY deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before SEPTEMBER 5, 2023.
BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such

objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
 DON E. WILKES
 Judge of the Probate Court
 By: Jeanie Hooks
 Clerk of the Probate Court
 P. O. Box 70 / 125 South Main Street
 Swainsboro, Ga. 30401
 Address (478) 237-7091
 Telephone Number
STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL
IN RE: ESTATE OF TIM CLARK, DECEASED.
All creditors of the estate of Tim Clark, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to Richard M. McNeely, attorney for Kimberly Monk and Hope Henry, Administrators of the Tim Clark Estate, at P.

O. Box 767, Swainsboro, Georgia 30401, according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment of any indebtedness due the estate.
This 1st day of August, 2023.
RICHARD M. MCNEELY, Attorney for Kimberly Monk and Hope Henry Administrators of the Tim Clark Estate
Richard M. McNeely, P.C.
 P. O. Box 767
Swainsboro, Georgia 30401
(478) 237-4225
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
 All creditors of the estate of FRED DUNN, deceased late of Emanuel County, State of Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me. This the 3rd day of August 2023.
 Billy Chapman, executor/ executrix of the estate of Fred Dunn, decedent.
 P.O. Box 559 Swainsboro, GA. 30401
 Address of Executor (478)494-4341
 Telephone

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to O.C.G.A./12-2-132(a)(3) and O.C.G.A.>12-2-131(a)(1)(A) notice is hereby given that a General Election will be held November 7, 2023, for the City of Summertown. Qualifying fees and available offices are as follows.

To be elected: Two at large city council positions currently held by Joe L. Kirkland, Sr. & Linda D. Braddy and the position of Mayor currently held by Donald V. Bishop.

Qualifying fees are as follows:
 City council \$25.00
 Mayor \$35.00

Such fees shall be paid to the City of Summertown by any candidate seeking nomination in the November 7, 2023, election.

Each of these officers will be for 4 years and will expire December 31, 2027.

Date to qualify for these offices will be Wednesday, August 23, 2023, between the hours of 9:00 AM and 12:00 PM. Qualifying shall take place at the City Hall in Summertown, GA.

Registration deadline to be eligible to be cast a ballot for the General Election is October 10, 2023.

Linda C. Kirkland
 City Clerk
 City of Summertown, GA

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NOTICE OF PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Emanuel County Board of Commissioners has tentatively adopted a 2023 millage rate which will require an increase in property tax by 12.93 percent.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearing on the tax increase to be held at the Coleman Hotel, 101 North Main Street, Swainsboro, GA on August 28, 2023 at 8:00 AM.

Times and places of additional public hearings on this tax increase are at the Coleman Hotel, 101 North Main Street, Swainsboro, GA on August 28, 2023 at 6:00 PM and September 5, 2023 at 6:00 PM.

This tentative increase will result in a millage rate of 11.868 mills, an increase of 1.359 mills. Without this tentative increase, the millage rate will be no more than 10.509 mills. The proposed tax increase for a home with a fair market value of \$100,000.00 is approximately \$54.36 and the proposed tax increase for non-homestead property with a fair market value of \$75,000.00 is approximately \$40.77.

Public Notice for Logic and Accuracy Testing

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to O.C.G.A. 21-2-379.6 (c), preparation and testing of voting equipment will begin Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 11:00 am. Testing will take place in the Elections Office at 105 South Main Street, Swainsboro, Georgia. Testing shall continue daily until such preparations are complete. Preparations and testing of equipment is for the September 19, 2023 Special Election.

Kerry K. Curry
 Director of Elections
 Emanuel County, Georgia