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VOLUME 165, NO.10 Swainsboro, Georgia • March 6, 2024 ONE DOLLAR

Sherrod seeking Probate/Magistrate Court Judge position

by CHASE SHERROD

With the help of the great people of Emanuel County, I am seeking the positions of Probate Court Judge and Magistrate Court Judge. As a lifelong resident, Emanuel County has taught me many valuable lessons that I still carry with me to this day, and I am looking forward to the opportunity to give back to the place that I have called home my entire life.



SHERROD

career in law enforcement, I made the decision to attend Georgia State University's School of Law in Atlanta, Georgia. In 2020, in the midst of Covid, I graduated law school and was able to come back to my home, Emanuel County, and began work as an Assistant District Attorney in the Middle Judicial Circuit, which included prosecuting cases in Emanuel County. (Continued on page 2A)

Warnock appointed to State Workforce Development Board

Governor Brian Kemp officially announced February 22, 2024, the appointment of Ken Warnock to the State Workforce Development Board for the State of Georgia.

The official swearing in ceremony was held in Governor Kemp's office at the State Capitol on February 27, 2024. The State Workforce Development Board (SWDB) is appointed by the Governor and is tasked with administering Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funds across the state and overseeing the Governor's state workforce development initiatives. Their



WARNOCK BEING OFFICIALLY SWORN IN BY GOVERNOR BRIAN KEMP, FEBRUARY 27, 2024

guidance is essential competitive advantage workforce. The SWDB to sustaining Georgia's nationwide in terms of (Continued on page 2A)

Busy council meeting ends with questions

City Hall was once again the scene of much discussion concerning alcohol ordinances as the council, the mayor and the city attorney struggled to straighten out the fine points of when, where and how the public may imbibe. The March meeting of Monday, March 4, 2024, sailed through a full agenda in record time thanks to preparation from a previous workshop meeting. However, things ran aground when the final item under new business was addressed. But prior to that, under old business, the council

unanimously approved an alcohol beverage license for Denise Miles dba Lounge 2020 at 406 Rentz Street. Council also approved change orders for the Karrh Theater project by a vote of 4-2, with Collins and Quartermann opposing. Moving into new business, the council unanimously approved plans for the "First Saturday" activities downtown, in April. Also approved were repairs for a sewer lift station and expenditures of \$32,000 for operations at the Inert Landfill. Unanimous agreement

authorized the contracting with Turnipseed Engineers for a Lead Service Line Inventory which would total \$100,455.00 for Phase I and II. This survey is required by the Environmental Protection Division under the Lead and Copper Rule and must be completed by October 16, 2024. Turnipseed Engineers has applied for a funding application from GEFA on behalf of the city which is now pending. Council approved the closing of the 100 Block of North Green Street for activities

of the Arts Council. Also approved were the purchase of a new tag reader and an agreement to authorize participation in the State Mutual Assistance Agreement. A motion allowing for a change in the meeting's agenda had been passed at the outset of the meeting and allowed for council to consider changing the regular meeting site from City Hall to the classroom at the Swainsboro Fire Department Headquarters Building. The motion was agreed to. Council also con- (Continued on page 2A)



Photo by Wanda Thompson Scarboro SANCHEZ

Don't forget to 'Spring forward'

It's that time of year again! Daylight Savings Time begins March 10, at 2 a.m., prompting everyone who wants to be on time to turn your clocks forward an hour.

Pictured is 16-year-old Estrella "Star" Sanchez. She attends Swainsboro High School and is the daughter of Juana Perez and Gabriel Sanchez of Swainsboro. Star is patiently waiting for her clock to spring forward.

Your vote counts

Be sure to remember that next Tuesday, March 12, is election day throughout Georgia. The Democratic Presidential Preference Primary and the Republican Presidential Preference Primary races will be held to help decide who will be on the ballot for President in the general election on November 5, 2024. In District 1 of Emanuel County, there will also be a non-partisan election for County Commissioner to fill the unexpired term of Dessie E. Davis. Candidates for that position are Kawame Coleman, Allen Farley, Kenny Griffin, Chris Jukes and Quin McKinney. Voting places will be the usual locations throughout the county including the 4H Clubhouse in Swainsboro, even though it is presently undergoing renovations. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.



SIMMONS



FRYE

Simmons elected Chairman and Frye named EVP

The Citizens Bank of Swainsboro is pleased to announce that William E. (Bill) Simmons was elected to serve as the Chairman of the Board of Directors during their 2024 organizational meeting. Mr. Simmons has served as a member of the Board of Directors since 1988 and has been actively involved in banking, real estate development, and commercial construction during his long and successful career.

"We are proud to have Bill to fill the vacancy left after the loss of Denny Key as our Chairman," said President Milton Gray. "He has a lot of banking knowledge and has been a mentor to me during my banking career." Mr. Simmons resides in Swainsboro and is married to Marcie N. Simmons. They have a son Wes Simmons, daughter Jessica Collins, and four grandchildren, Cody, Ashlyn, Marylee, and Maggie.

Zachary D. (Zac) Frye was also named Executive

Vice-President and will assume additional responsibilities for the overall management of the bank. "Zachas proven to be a tremendous asset to the bank, and we are preparing him for enhanced leadership roles in the future," said Mr. Gray. Mr. Frye has fifteen years of banking experience and will complete his third and final year of rigorous instruction at The Graduate School of Banking at LSU in May. He resides in Swainsboro and is married to Leah Lanier Frye. They have three children, Ansley, Avery, and Aubrey.

In addition to Mr. Simmons, other elected members of the bank's Board of Directors are Milton Gray, Jeff Cannon, Gary Johnson, Minton Hester, Steve Rushing, and Ben Ross. The Citizens Bank of Swainsboro is locally owned and operated with a family of banks located in Swainsboro, Dublin, and Statesboro.

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Warnock appointed to...

(From front page)
is comprised of business owners, members of the Georgia General Assembly, statewide agency heads, local elected officials, and representatives from other workforce groups.

Ken Warnock is the CEO of the Swainsboro-Emanuel County Chamber of Commerce and the Emanuel County Development Authority. Warnock is presently serving as Chairman of the East Georgia Regional Airport Authority and is a charter board member of the Georgia Aviation Authority.



ATTENDING THE SWEARING-IN CEREMONY WERE REPRESENTATIVE BUTCH PARRISH, CAROL PARRISH, DR. DENISE WARNOCK, KEN WARNOCK, GOVERNOR BRIAN KEMP, AND FIRST LADY MARTY KEMP

Sherrod seeking Probate...

(From front page)
After almost three years with the Middle Circuit District Attorney's Office, I swapped over to working with Jess Clifton, handling all major cases in the East-Middle Region Public Defender's Office—which covers approximately twenty counties stretching from Washington County to Charlton County down on the Georgia-Florida Line. Working both sides of the aisle, I have the unique position of seeing both sides of the criminal justice system. In the course of these jobs, I have also worked with the Emanuel County Probate Court on several occasions on a *pro bono* basis. As demonstrated in the below paragraph, my family raised me to not be a stranger to hard work. My aim is to provide Emanuel County citizens with the best services possible. I have no

doubts regarding my ability to do just that.

My goal has always been to gather enough knowledge and experience to make a positive and lasting impact for the citizens of Emanuel County. Growing up, God blessed me with an amazing family who ultimately raised me to be the person I am today. That is, someone who strives to help as many people as possible. My Dad, Jim Sherrod, instilled the ideals of Hard Work in me at a young age not by his words, but by his actions. Growing up, I watched my Dad work multiple jobs just to make sure that our family always lived a comfortable life. While I didn't realize it at the time, watching him work and always lending a helping hand showed me just how important being a public servant is. To date, he now

proudly serves on the Emanuel County Board of Commissioners. Similarly, my Mom, Bobbie Sherrod, demonstrated to me the grit and determination it takes to be a mother of six, while at the same time bettering herself by attending Georgia Southern University to obtain her degree to become a teacher. Today, she proudly boasts a Masters and Specialists degree. While impressive enough, her ability to do this while being a full-time stay at home mother is nothing short of miraculous. The amount of perseverance and dedication still inspires me to this day. Looking back, I now realize that two of the finest people I know have raised me to share the same trait that I look up to in them—that is, a servant's heart.

For this upcoming election, I will be asking each

and every one of you for your vote. When elected, my primary goal will be to ensure the right decisions get made—that the citizens of Emanuel County have an individual in these positions who will fight for the best interests of the people of this County, no matter who they are. Many of you may already know who I am and many of you will likely meet me as I am knocking on doors asking for your vote. I strongly encourage each and every one of you to make your final decision based on my character and who I am as a person. I know, that when given the opportunity, you will see exactly what I am about.

I look forward to meeting you and I hope to gain your trust and vote for the positions of Probate Court Judge and Magistrate Court Judge in 2024!

Busy council meeting...

(From front page)
sidered a request from business owners on East Main Street to help with the expense of upgrading their connections to the city sewer system. A majority of council determined that such expense must be borne by the property owner, and a motion to provide assistance from the city failed to pass. This brought the meeting agenda to final consideration of the updated city alcohol ordinance. City Attorney Jon Levis again led the discussion of changes to the local code and questions from council consumed an extended period including the issue of delivery of alcohol by paid drivers such as Uber or Lyft. The

status of the Swainsboro Golf and Country Club and the Sunday sale of alcohol was also questioned. A refusal to vote by one councilmember stemmed from allegedly not being informed of changes to the ordinances made after the public meetings. In view of the continuing unsettled nature of the council's position on the alcohol ordinance, it was decided that council would have a called meeting by Zoom at 6 p.m. on Wednesday March 5. It was not clear if the approval process could continue at that point or whether a new series of public meetings would be required before council could vote for final approval.



SCOTT, ROBINSON AND DURDEN

Robinson speaks to Exchange Club

Dal Durden had Emanuel County Institute Assistant Principal and Athletic Director Corian Robinson as the speaker at Exchange Club on Tuesday, February 27, 2024. Robinson gave an overview of the status of athletics and construction/renovation projects at ECI.

Pictured left to right Exchange Club President Damien Scott, Corian Robinson and Dal Durden.

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FLYER

King publishes first book

Tashanda Stokes-King is a native of Swainsboro and currently resides in Waynesboro. She is an employee of Waynesboro Primary School and a faithful member at Cornerstone Christian Center with Pastor Ernestine Patterson. Tashanda has had a passion of working with children for over twenty years, where she was the former director/owner of two daycares in Emanuel County and this inspired her to subsequently begin writing children's books. She aims to enchant and inspire readers to feel confident, strong and special about who they are. Tashanda enjoys spending time with her two children BJ and Lyriq King and granddaughters, Melani and Harmony. "Anyla's School Day" is her first book, which is on Amazon for purchase in paperback and E-book.

Elect

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COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1

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The Forest-Blade

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KEEP EMANUEL BEAUTIFUL MEMBERS

K.E.B. keeping up the fight

Members of Keep Emanuel Beautiful gathered on Tuesday, February 20, for their regularly scheduled 5:30 p.m. meeting in the County Commissioners Board Room at the Coleman County Office Building. The volunteer citizens group is busy with planning for events in March and April to further their efforts to combat the growing litter problem in Emanuel County. The group continues to schedule spot clean-ups in the county to increase public awareness of the waste of resources and the damage to the environment that litter

causes. In the February meeting, Chairman Tony Hutcheson discussed the recent litter pick up on Kemp Road that resulted in a great volunteer effort by the Girl Scouts, KEB members and Kemp area volunteers. Their dedication resulted in a significant improvement in the appearance of the area. Hutcheson also suggested moving the date for the annual Clean Sweep Campaign until after the Pine Tree Festival. The county-wide cleanup is traditionally held in April, but members agreed that delaying the event might result in higher

volunteer participation. KEB President George Elder reported on the success of an on-going campaign posting anti-litter yard signs throughout the county. The group is committed to keeping up the fight to keep Emanuel beautiful. If you care about the appearance and the impression that Emanuel County presents, you are encouraged to participate in this volunteer organization. Keep Emanuel Beautiful meets the third Tuesday of each month at the John C. Coleman County Office Building in Swainsboro at 5:30 p.m.

It's that time!

by WANDA THOMPSON SCARBORO

The month of March has always been labeled as cold, wet, windy and miserable. All of these are true, but March is quite special. We have Daylight Savings Time. St. Patrick's Day, first day of Spring and best of all, the hummingbirds are coming back to Georgia to spend their summer with us. Our hummers should arrive around the middle of March. In 2013, 2016 and 2021, they arrived on March 16. If you are a true hummingbird fanatic, this is an excit-



HUMMINGBIRD

ing day. You will see them at your feeder and call all your friends who have the same sentiment towards these beautiful creatures.

ELECT

ALLEN FARLEY

COUNTY COMMISSIONER
DISTRICT 1

A Voice for Everyone

As your County Commissioner I pledge to;

- Serve Emanuel County to the fullest of my ability.
- Be a voice for the whole community.
- Stand up for what is important to the residents of Emanuel County.
- Ask the hard questions.
- Support getting the resources the community needs to help fight crime and poverty in Emanuel County.
- Be the voice of reason, to bring jobs and industry to our community so our town is a place our children will want to stay and be able to flourish as adults.

I believe that faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life, and that service to humanity is the best work of life!



Early Voting
ends March 8



Election Day
March 12



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Gary Beasley, Sr., 74

Mr. Gary Beasley Sr., age 74, of Oak Park, died Sunday, February 25, 2024, at his residence after an extended illness. Funeral service was held Thursday, February 29, at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Ronald V. Hall Funeral Home. Entombment followed in the Kirby Cemetery in Oak Park. Family received friends Wednesday, February 28, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Ronald V. Hall Funeral Home.

Gary was a native of Oak Park and lived most of his life in Oak Park. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War and was a paratrooper. Gary was a carpenter by trade and was a member of the United Fellowship Baptist Church. In his spare time, he enjoyed, gardening, fishing, playing cards, and riding his golf cart. Gary especially loved watching Georgia Bulldog football games and spending time with his family and friends. Mr. Beasley is preceded in death by his wives, Carolyn Joy Deaton Beasley and Oliene Kirby Beasley; parents, Calvin Beasley and Ora Williamson Beasley; brothers, Ricky, Tony,



BEASLEY

Don and Arnold Beasley; and sisters, Joyce Beasley Oliva and Gail Beasley Cloud.

His family includes four children, Jennifer Strange (Ricky) of Oak Park, Cortney Gaddy (Chris) of Jackson, Gary Beasley (Erin) of McRae and Michelle Heady of East Providence, Rhode Island; two brothers, Wayne Beasley of Oak Park and Lonnie Michael Beasley (Allen) of Waycross; 11 grandchildren, Allison, Rick, Madison, Jaxon, Jonathan Gary, Brayden, Brody, Vinnie, Dylan, Anthony and Nick; four great-grandchildren, Hudson, Dylaney, Anson and Shelby; and several nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives.

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

Steve Akridge, 58

Mr. Steve Akridge, 58, of Swainsboro, passed away Sunday, March 3, 2024, at Emanuel Medical Center. Funeral services will be held Thursday, March 7, at 11 a.m. in the chapel of Chapman Funeral Home with Reverend Tim Price officiating. Interment will follow at Lamb Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 6, at Chapman Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Timmy Oliver, Christopher Clifton, David Akridge, Clint Akridge, Tommy Kirby and Tyler Bedgood.

Steve was born August 20, 1965, in Louisville, to Elzie Akridge and Ellen Jackson Gay. Mr. Akridge is preceded in death by his infant sisters, Pamela and Patricia Akridge.

Survivors include his mother, Ellen Gay of Twin City; father, Elzie



AKRIDGE

Akridge of Soperton; son, Dustin Akridge of Twin City; daughter, Rebecca Ducker (Curt) of Twin City; grandchildren, Kainon Ducker and Lakota Ducker; sisters, Denise Kirby (Steve) of Nunez, Dena Clifton (Brent) of Twin City, Jamie Simoes (Thiago) and Renee Bush (Shannon), both of Swainsboro; several nieces, nephews and many friends.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro is in charge of arrangements.

Carl Henry Taylor, 77

Carl Henry Taylor, age 77, passed away Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at East Georgia Regional Medical Center. Funeral service was held Monday, March 4, at 1 p.m. in the funeral home chapel with Pastor Jody Bryant officiating. Interment followed at Bishop Chapel Cemetery in Midville. The family received visitors Monday, March 4, from 12 to 1 p.m. at Joiner-Anderson Funeral Home in Statesboro.

Pallbearers were Jon MacDonald, Jason Daughtry, Noah Shuman, Josh MacDonald, Jacob MacDonald and Doug Brown. Honorary pallbearers were close family friends, Paul Rushing, Gary Wilhelm and Johnny Vickery.

Carl was born September 13, 1946, in Emanuel County. He attended Swainsboro High School and Georgia Southern College. After college, Carl remained in Statesboro and worked as an industrial engineer at various companies including Brooks Instrument, Cooper Wiss and Gulfstream Aerospace. In 1993, he opened Taylor Built Products, a machine and hydraulic shop, where he was known to be able to "fix" anything. Carl truly had a heart for helping others. He enjoyed camping, boat-



TAYLOR

ing, hunting, and fishing, but his favorite pastime was spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. Mr. Taylor is preceded in death by his parents, Henry Cardell Taylor and Velma Bishop Taylor.

Mr. Taylor is survived by his loving wife, Nan Taylor; daughters, Leslie Shuman of Statesboro, Jill MacDonald (Jon) of Virginia Beach, Virginia and Ashley Daughtry (Jason) of Statesboro; six grandchildren, Noah and Peyton Shuman, Josh and Jacob MacDonald, and Olivia and Wilkes Daughtry; sister, Barbara Stokes of Swainsboro; brother, Larry Taylor (Debbie) of Brunswick; aunt, Sybil Taylor of Cedartown; sister-in-law, Anita Reames of Valdosta; and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

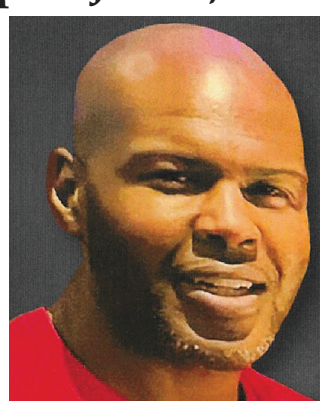
Joiner-Anderson Funeral Home & Crematory of Statesboro was in charge of arrangements.

Tavares Marquis Jones, 37

Tavares Marquis Jones, age 37, passed away Thursday, February 22, 2024, at Ascension Saint Thomas West Hospital in Nashville, TN. A Celebration of Life was held Saturday, March 2, at 2 p.m. at St. Philip Missionary Baptist Church with Rev. Leroy Jordan, Jr. officiating and Rev. Herbert Hodges presiding. Interment followed in Swainsboro City Cemetery.

Tavares was born March 30, 1986, in Augusta, to Lillie Ruth Jones and Willie James Dawson, Jr. He was a graduate of Swainsboro High School. After graduation, Tavares attended Middle Tennessee State University with a full football scholarship. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology.

Mr. Jones leaves to cherish his memories with his mother, Lillie



JONES

Jones of Swainsboro; father, Willie James (Sabrina) Dawson, Jr. of Wadley; sisters, Sheree Brown Perry of Swainsboro, Talonda Brown of Chesterfield, VA, Sheniza Dawson of Atlanta, Shankeil Tarver and Shekenia Dawson, both of Wadley; brothers, Clarence Williams of Swainsboro, Michael Keith (Ashley) Brown of Waynesboro and Gerrie Brown of Swainsboro; several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends.

Mosley's Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

John W. Bowden, 81

Mr. John W. Bowden, 81, of Canoochee, passed away Sunday, March 3, 2024, at The Oaks in Vidalia. Graveside service will be held Wednesday, March 6, at 11 a.m. at Johnson Family Cemetery with Pastor Randall Smith officiating. The family will receive friends Wednesday, March 6, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Chapman Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Roy Frank Edenfield, Wendy Underwood, Steve "Cool Breeze" Clark, Henry Terwilliger, Richard Portwood, Larry Clark, Randy Farrow and David Graham.

Mr. Bowden was born February 14, 1943, in Swainsboro, to Willie Bowden and Rena Hackle Cowart. He was a very sociable person and never met a stranger. John was a very loving and dedicated husband. He enjoyed working on small equipment, tinkering as one would call it. John loved antique cars and spreading the gospel, and he could always be found chewing on a cigar. Mr. Bowden is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Marie



BOWDEN

Busbee Bowden; brothers, Cleve Bowden and Bobby Bowden; and sisters, Elizabeth Curf Linda Powell and Clar Skinner.

Survivors include his stepson, Wyatt Johnson (Mandy) of Canoochee; stepdaughters, Kaye Mincey (Jimmy) of Twin City and Susan Rountree (John) of Swainsboro; brother, James Bowden (Frankie) of Cusseta; sister, Alice Davis (Jimmy) of Canton; grandchildren, Mellissa Graham (David), Kara Olliff, Nikki Hayslip (Clay) and Tedi Rountree; seven great-grandchildren; several nieces, nephews and many friends.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro is in charge of arrangements.

Clifford Atkinson, Jr., 66

Mr. Clifford Atkinson, Jr., 66, of Swainsboro, passed away Sunday, March 3, 2024, at Emanuel Medical Center. Funeral services will be held Thursday, March 7, at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Chapman Funeral Home with Reverend Brad McKenzie officiating. Interment will follow in Eastbrook Cemetery and Mausoleum. The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 6, at Chapman Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Chris Atkinson, Cody Atkinson, Randall Atkinson, John Atkinson, Ronnie Bedgood and Roger McKenzie. Honorary pallbearers will be David Landrum, Jerry Hall, Andy "Oodie" Edenfield and Johnathan Johnson.

Clifford was born June 27, 1957, in Swainsboro, to the late Clifford Atkinson, Sr. and Katie Pearl Tanner Atkinson. Mr. Atkinson is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Dianne Atkinson; son, Johnny Atkinson; and brother, Randall Atkinson.

Survivors include his son, Jason Atkinson (Lindsey) of Swainsboro; daughters, Wendy



ATKINSON

Bell (Jamey) and Jessica Hopkins, both of Swainsboro; grandchildren, Abrianna Ahrens, Harley Ahrens, Timothy Bell (Lexi), Savannah Bell, Abby Hopkins, Hunter Goddard, Jeslyn Hooks, Ella Atkinson, Brelynn Atkinson, Wrangler Atkinson, Ryder Atkinson, Zaydan Guterrez Atkinson, Austin Bray, Kylie Phillips, Kaisley Phillips and Cameron Phillips; great-granddaughter, Brooklyn Bell; brothers, Curtis Atkinson, Charles Atkinson, Bobby Atkinson, all of Swainsboro, and H.B. Atkinson of Macon; special niece, Crystal Atkinson of Swainsboro; several nieces, nephews and many friends.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro is in charge of arrangements.

Our Sincere Thanks

We would like to extend our sincere thanks for all the Prayers, Calls, Text, Cards, Flowers, Food, and Visits during this difficult time. Your kindness and sympathy will always be held in grateful remembrance.

The Family of Thelma Dixon Sweat



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Thank You

We the family of the late Deacon Jeremiah Foats would like to extend a thank you to each and everyone. We thank everyone who spoke words of encouragement, for their thoughts and prayers, cards, gifts, floral arrangements, food, telephone calls and most of all during his illness, we deeply appreciate your support and kindness.

May God bless you.



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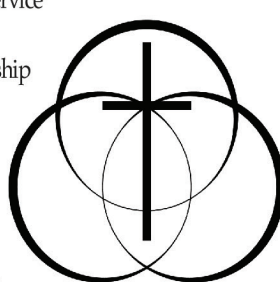
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Wednesday Night

5:30 PM - Bible Study

6:30 PM - Family Dinner

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Editorials Columns

Local news you can use

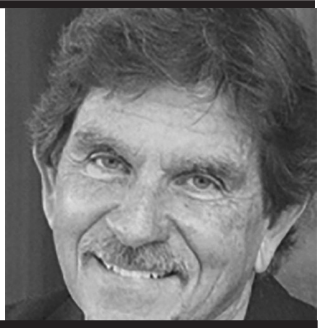
If you want to get a pretty accurate picture of what's going on in this part of Georgia, there's nothing better than the pages of a local newspaper. I know Facebook and all the other social media platforms scoop up all the street news, and the Savannah, Augusta and Macon television stations cover the big stories, but only in local newspapers can you find out about things like the scandal in City Hall in Marshallville, Georgia, or the high-speed chase a week ago through Treutlen, Toombs and Emanuel County that ended up with a foot-race and a tackle-arrest in the cow pasture. Local newspapers give you all the details on a big page with big print, not the

tiny little letters dashing around on a tiny little screen that remind me of an alphabetical ant-hill. I enjoy reading the local area newspapers because you can take the news at your own pace, and even review if you weren't quite sure you read what you thought you read. There's a good deal of similarity in small local papers from town to town. Sports, obituaries, church news, school news, who's getting married, and who got elected Kiwanis President; that's the standard stuff, the stuff you usually see every week. But in the last few months, there seems to be something different in between the lines. There is a little more of a busier pace, a little bit more expectation and

eyebrow raising. When a new element is introduced into a landscape, it can change the whole picture. Little stones can create big ripples, and that is occurring right now in southeast Georgia. A year and a half ago, the biggest economic development project in the history of the State of Georgia was announced in Bryan County. A little stone known as the Hyundai Meta Plant turned into a snowball that started to slowly roll downhill. It's now grown to the size of the Jolly Green Giant's beachball and is picking up momentum as it speeds down I-16. It has not only brought over 22 supplier industries with all their jobs to places like Dublin, Metter, Statesboro, Glenville,

Pembroke, Hinesville and Chatham County, but it also has spawned collateral development and growth in retail, government, health, education and other sectors in these counties. All that is good and makes for a feast for the tax base, but with every feast comes the threat of a little indigestion and maybe a hang-over. Already, elected officials in Bryan, Bulloch and Candler counties are cautiously waving red flags about over-loaded infrastructure, housing shortages, needed school expansions and higher taxes to pay for it. Add to that, the "aftershock" that always accompanies any "jolt" to the economic system of any area, whether it be a plus or a minus. When you add

Charles Schwabe



the uncomfortable news that the sale of electric vehicles in the U.S. in the last 5 months has taken a serious downturn, you might think that could bring a chill to the party since the production at the new auto plant will be 100% electric vehicles. Not so, apparently, because Hyundai Motor Group has now announced that have accelerated their schedule and will begin building cars in Bryan County in the last quarter of this year, not next year. They also announced that their

investment in the Georgia project has now grown to \$7.59 billion, *that's billion with a B*. Given all that, I would say the next 8 or 9 months will tell an interesting story about the economy in this part of Georgia. Stay tuned to your favorite local newspaper for all the news you can use, and as they say, *"If you can't plow with the Big Boys, you better stay in the Barn"*, especially since Hyundai just announced its investment in the Georgia project has now grown to \$7.59 billion.

Savannah, GA

Atlanta has been my city of pride and love in previous columns. Now I will go southeast to another city of my heart. When I was in the sixth grade, I was issued a small textbook with a blue cover and the title *The History of Georgia*. I learned the story of General James Oglethorpe, the founder of Georgia. At that time, the king of Britain had a problem of controlling the prison for debtors.

The prisons were filled, with always more coming in and none being released since there was no way for a prisoner to earn money to pay his debt. The king also wanted to provide a buffer of English people between the Carolinas and Spanish Florida. General Oglethorpe offered a solution to the king. The debtor's prison was not filled by criminals. Those held there only owed money

that they would never be able to accumulate while they were locked in prison. The prisoners could be released and become colonists to the British owned land in North America. The prisoners were willing to take this opportunity to start a new life for their families. The king agreed and General Oglethorpe set sail with the new colonists. After many days on the sea, they arrived at a river that took them

to a good place to dock. They were welcomed by the native Indians who were instrumental in helping the new arrivals settle into a place to make their homes. The city squares in Savannah were what kept them safe and secure. The Indian chief, Tomochichi, is honored for his friendship, with a huge rock bearing his name in middle of the city. As a proud Georgian, I think of the bravery of the fathers and

Shirley Proctor Twiss



mothers who took their families to an unknown land and were willing to bear hardship for this opportunity. "Thank you, General Oglethorpe and Tomochichi and thanks to the little blue book and my sixth-grade teacher who gave me

this story of my heritage. Some ancestors of these brave settlers could now be living in Emanuel County possibly in Garfield, Summit or Swainsboro. Write to Shirley at sptwiss@gmail.com.

Looking at some serious monkey business in Bainbridge

I get a number of suggestions from readers regarding topics for a column. For that, I am grateful. I also get suggestions from some readers about what I can do with the column and where I can go while placing it where they suggest. For that, I will leave to your imagination. A good example of how this particular column came to be was from an

incident related to me by a good friend and loyal reader, Janice Carter of Atlanta. I found it worth passing along. It is a reminder that in spite of all the negativity we see and hear daily, there is a goodness among us that we tend to forget. A few weeks ago as she was departing her bank, Ms. Carter happened up on an elderly woman

sitting on the curb of a heavily traveled street in Atlanta and a big burly man towering over her. She immediately went to investigate and discovered that the woman had just been involved in a wreck. She had been injured, was bleeding and was going into shock. The man had physically carried her across the busy intersection

from the wreck site and was administering aid. What happened next is where the goodness comes in. Strangers came out of the bank and other locations, all seeking to help. To my knowledge, no one asked about stolen elections or the war in Ukraine or the border crisis or the economy. The elderly lady was everyone's priority. A well-dressed man leaving the bank offered his belt as a tourniquet. A delivery truck driver stopped to see what was happening and immediately retrieved her emergency medical kit from her vehicle to assist. That was a big assist. There was no question that the big guy was in charge and remained so until emergency responders arrived and transported the victim to the hospital. With that accomplished, all the strangers who had come together to provide aid and comfort dispersed and went their separate ways. When everyone had left, Ms. Carter, the wife of a retired physician, walked over to the man and complimented him on his bravery in getting the elderly woman across the street amid heavy traffic and his leadership in directing others until the EMTs arrived. He looked at her and said simply, "Ma'am, I am a Marine." 'Nuff said. For a brief moment, a

Dick Yarbrough



group of strangers who I suspect may have had divergent views among themselves had they been in a different environment where politics, race or sexual orientation had been the topic, instead had one goal: Unite together to help someone in distress. For some reason, Janice Carter's story reminded me of a comment by our late U.S. Sen. Johnny Isakson. I was at a small gathering with him when someone asked what would it take to unify our country, His answer? A disaster. Never were we more united that after Sept. 11. I still recall the senators standing on the steps of the U.S. Capitol and singing "God Bless America," scared out of their gourds. Today, that bunch in Washington can barely keep our government open or our borders closed for all the partisan infighting. Hopefully, it won't take Chinese or Russian hackers taking down our power grid or Vladimir Putin invading Europe or that nutcase with the bad haircut in North Korea dropping a nuclear bomb or Arab terrorists blowing up another tall building to get us to understand we are not each oth-

er's adversary, in spite of what political wing-nuts and special interest groups promulgate. I have little use for social media, and no use for those who use it anonymously and, particularly, for those who accept what they see or hear without checking its accuracy. In my opinion, much of social media is a clear and present danger to our society. It seeks to divide us rather than unite us. Frankly, I'm not sure what to make of the advent of artificial intelligence except it seems to have the same capacity for creating good or evil. Forgotten in all of this is that deep down we are decent people. We do a good job of volunteering, looking out for each other and coming together when we are needed in a crisis situation. This is who we really are when we choose to be. I thank Janice Carter, the Marine, the delivery truck lady and the other generous souls who pitched in to help an unfortunate crash victim for reminding me of that fact. We all should. You can reach Dick Yarbrough at dick@dickyarbrough.com or at P.O. Box 725373, Atlanta, Georgia 31139.

Editorial Cartoons



Out on a Limb by Gary Kopervas



The Forest-Blade

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Gail Williamson,
Editor/Publisher

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.

Southeastern Technical College Welding Instructor receives AWS Educator of the Year Award

On March 4, Michael Crumpler was presented the Educator of the Year Award for the Atlanta Section of the American Welding Society (AWS) by Robert Trudelle, Chairman of the Atlanta Section.

Michael Crumpler has been a Welding and Join-

ing Technology instructor at Southeastern Technical College's Vidalia Campus for the past 24 years.

The Education/Meritorious/Service awards recognize individuals who have made notable contributions to the welding industry. From educators who have advanced

welding knowledge to those who have exhibited outstanding service, these awards celebrate dedication, expertise, and the advancement of welding as both an art and a science.

The Section Educator Award is given as a means of recognizing

high school, trade school, technical institute, or community college instructors whose teaching activities are considered to have advanced the knowledge of welding students in their respective schools.

"On behalf of AWS Atlanta Section, it is an

honor to recognize Mr. Crumpler for his dedicated service to the welding industry. He is now among instructors for the state recognition," said Mr. Trudelle. "I cover the state, as a volunteer, and our job is to help these instructors in any way that we can. We are working on establishing a student chapter at STC. That would provide, even to high school students, nationwide industry connections."

Mr. Crumpler's Dual Enrollment class was in attendance for the presentation of the award.

"It is always an honor to be recognized by peers for your hard work. The American Welding Society has been an integral part of my career for the past 24 years," stated Crumpler.

Mr. Crumpler's welding career began right after high school, with his first welding job in Tennessee. Mr. Crumpler has worked for both small companies and large industrial contractors and has traveled the world. He has worked in most of the 50 states in America and some in South America.

While employed in the industry, Mr. Crumpler was a certified boiler-maker welder, structural welder, and pipe welder. He earned welding certifications in various welding processes. He also holds professional certifications through the AWS as a Certified Welding Educator (CWE), Certified Welding Inspector (CWI), and Certified Welding Supervisor (CWS).

Mr. Crumpler's weld-

ing biography has been published in a nationally known welding textbook: *Welding Principles and Applications 7th Edition*, published by Cengage and also in an internationally known welding magazine: *The World of Welding, Summer Edition 2011*, published by The Hobart Institute of Welding Technology.

Mr. Crumpler is an award-winning welding instructor. He was nominated for Instructor of the Year at Southeastern Technical College in 2006, 2012, 2016, 2017, and 2023. In 2017 and 2023, he won Instructor of the Year for Southeastern Technical College and placed in the Top Nine Finalists for the State of Georgia both years. He was most recently nominated for the Howard Adkins Memorial Instructor of the Year Award through the American Welding Society's Atlanta Section.

"Congratulations to our rock star, Michael Crumpler, for being recognized by his peers within his American Society of Welding District. Just further proof of what we, here at STC, already know," said Teresa Coleman, Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Mr. Crumpler is a graduate of Brewton Parker College, Heart of Georgia Technical College, and The Hobart Institute of Welding Technology.

For more information on American Welding Society, visit aws.org.

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

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Jehovah's Witnesses launch invitation campaign

Swainsboro Residents Invited to Two Special Events in March

While the date Sunday, March 24, may pass quietly for many, millions around the world will gather at sundown to commemorate the death of Jesus Christ.

Considered the most important day of the year for Jehovah's Witnesses, the Memorial is observed annually on Nisan 14 of the Jewish calendar in adherence to Jesus' statement found at Luke 22:19, "Keep doing this in remembrance of me." Though there are over 8.6 million Jehovah's Witnesses around the world, almost 20 million people attended the event last year. "Around the world, many people who are not Jehovah's Witnesses attend the Memorial. We hope that members of our local community will also join us in remembering the death of Jesus Christ to show gratitude for his sacrifice," said Jamie Carrington, spokesperson for Jehovah's Witnesses. "While it is a solemn occasion, it is also a joyous one."

The one-hour event will feature a talk highlighting the significance of Jesus' death and what it means for all of mankind.

In Swainsboro, a special campaign will be launched in March 2024 to invite residents to attend the annual observance of the Lord's Evening Meal as well

as a special public talk that will be delivered the week before. Titled "The Resurrection—Victory Over Death!", the special talk will be delivered at local Kingdom Halls on the weekend of March 16 and 17, 2024. This 30-minute, Bible-based public discourse will focus on the scriptural hope of a resurrection of the dead in the near future.

Swainsboro resident, Scott Weigl, added: "The Memorial and Special Talk are so important to me that I've never missed attending them throughout my life primarily for two reasons. One is because Jesus said to "keep doing this in remembrance of me." And secondly, it was the greatest act of love in mankind's history for God to give his son to die for me." "I feel that being present for these events encourages my family to be obedient to God. It also helps me to reflect on the love he has shown for us. I feel by attending, even in a small way, it's a way for me to express how I feel about everything he has done for us."

To learn more about how Jehovah's Witnesses observe the Lord's Supper, please visit the event's Frequently Asked Questions page found on jw.org, the official website of Jehovah's Witnesses.

For more information about the 2024 Memorial and special talk and how to attend, please visit jw.org.

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A lasting impression:

Meet inspiring teacher, Kristy Wimberly

Mrs. Kristy Wimberly was chosen by Swainsboro Middle School as their 2024 Teacher of the Year. In a letter of support of Mrs. Wimberly, a colleague discussed how Ms. Wimberly has been dedicated to the ideals of portraying herself to her students and her colleagues as a lifelong learner. The colleague discussed how Mrs. Wimberly was always willing to do whatever was necessary to ensure she was well equipped for each new role. This was evident when she transitioned first from special education to regular education and, most recently, to their school's Career Connections teacher. She further stated, "A huge part of what makes Ms. Wimberly such a successful teacher is her willingness to get to know her students better to understand their specific learning needs and learning styles. In doing this, she is always willing to put in the extra effort and hard work to ensure that her students are challenged and supported in their learning. Her students truly know she wants them to succeed and that she genuinely cares about them and their future."

"I am Kristy Dixon Wimberly. I graduated from Swainsboro High School and continued my education at East Georgia College and Georgia Southern University. I graduated from GSU with a BS degree in Psychology. After working several years in counseling, I returned to school and got a master's in special education. I started teaching in 2002. I later received my certification in General Education as well as my gifted endorsement. I have taught at Swainsboro Middle my entire career. I have taught 8th grade for the majority of the time. I am now enjoying teaching Career Connections to 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. I am married to Alf Wimberly and we have two daughters, AnnaKade and Allison. I love spending time with my family. I enjoy anything that requires me to be outside. During the summertime, you can find me in the pool or at the beach, which is my happy place. My family and I love to garden and hunt", stated Wimberly.

Mrs. Wimberly has taught at Swainsboro Middle School for her entire 22 years. She

taught special education for about 12 years in the resource and co-teaching environments. Wimberly then transferred into the general education setting and the gifted setting teaching English Language Arts. These last two years, she has moved into the Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education program and teaching Career Connections. Mrs. Wimberly is also serving as the Swainsboro Middle School Future Business Leaders of America advisor this school year. She also served many years as grade level lead, as a SILT team member, and Management Team member. Mrs. Wimberly served as an advisor for Jr. BETA and is currently the FBLA advisor and currently serves on the superintendent's Teacher Advisory Council.

"I have always enjoyed helping others. I originally obtained a degree in Psychology just so I could help others. I was working at a youth home and really enjoyed getting to know the young people who were residents. I realized young people face so many challenges that require guidance and support. Part of my job was to collaborate often with the school system", stated Wimberly. One day she was asked if she ever considered becoming a teacher. It stuck with her and after thinking and praying about it, Wimberly went back to school and received her master's to do just that. She realized quickly this was what she was meant to do.

"I have had the honor to work side by side some of the absolute best educators that ever taught in Emanuel County. If I had to say one person who inspired me and mentored me, it would be Mr. Mark Sweat. His love for students and what he taught was amazing. I have never seen a teacher able to hypnotize students with stories and information as he did. I wanted students to sit in my class and soak up knowledge in a fun and exciting atmosphere like he created", added Wimberly. "I love Swainsboro Middle School. There is not a better school in Emanuel County. The teachers there are family. Our administration is strong, supportive, and encouraging to the students and staff. We work together to give our students the oppor-



WIMBERLY

tunity to be successful in a safe and loving environment. Every day I watch teachers and staff go out of their way to support, motivate and care for students and each other. We all have the same goal, and that's to make sure our students are prepared academically as well as social and emotionally. SMS is MY school. It's the BEST!", Wimberly stated.

Now that you've met the teacher and read her story, read her Q/A's below to further understand Kristy Wimberly's incredible values of teaching and how she's changing and inspiring young lives in our community.

What have you found most rewarding in your career?

Wimberly: *What has been the most rewarding in this career are the relationships that grow with young people and continue into their adulthood. Anytime I am out in the community, someone says, "Hey Mrs. Wimberly, you remember me?" I see students who are excited to tell me about their careers, family, and even their kids. It's being told how much they miss you and to see how they have actually worked hard and have become successful adults, and I played a part in that.*

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

Wimberly: *The longer I teach the more evident it becomes that the students teach me as much sometimes as I teach them, just in a different way. Every year my students become more than just names on my roll. They become individuals who make me laugh, when I think I could cry. They are the ones who I know count on that smile each morning, even though they walk by and never speak. They are the ones who I see finally have those successful moments at school when they thought it would never happen, and they realize they "CAN" do it.*

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

Wimberly: *The advice I would give to any upcoming educator is to stick with it. You will find your why. You will figure out what it takes with certain students. Not all students are going to love you, but as long as they know you care, they will too. Remember they are kids, they are going to make mistakes, and you will too. Grow from your experiences and always be a lifelong learner and teacher.*

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

Wimberly: *It give me so much pride in a student when I see their successes, and it's not just academic success. I love to see the smiles on their faces and the pride they have when they work hard and benefit. It warms my heart to meet them years later and see productive mature adults. That is success to me.*

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

Wimberly: *I tell all my students, you can be successful. Work hard, don't quit, don't make excuses, and surround yourself with positive people.*

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

Wimberly: *Some of my best memories are field trips, just spending time with students away from school having fun. I have tons of great memories with co-workers who I have laughed and cried with. One of the best is when the seniors are graduating and you see a picture of past students wearing their cap and gown, and I smile because they were mine in middle school and they will always be "mine".*

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For more information on Emanuel County 4-H and how you can get involved, call the UGA Extension Office at (478) 237-1226 or visit our office located at 129 North Anderson Drive in Swainsboro, or visit georgia4h.org.



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Swainsboro Middle School reactivates the FBLA Chapter

Over thirty students from Swainsboro Middle School have been taking part in an extracurricular experience, possibly paving the way for future business leaders in their community. For several years, the school has been without a chapter of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), but Mrs. Kristy Wimberly stepped up as the SMS FBLA Adviser to reactivate the chapter.

Mrs. Wimberly, a CTAE teacher at Swainsboro Middle School (SMS), was asked if she would be interested in becoming the adviser for the FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) chapter at the beginning of the year. Understanding the need for business and career exposure and education for students, she accepted the offer. Being an active member of FBLA throughout her high school career, she knew the benefits of being a part of such an organization that encourages career preparation and leadership skills in its members. She wanted to offer the same experience and opportunity to the students at SMS. Mrs. Linda Kelly, SHS FBLA Adviser, and Mrs. Jessica Smith, ECI FBLA Adviser, provided her with great support and motivation as she tried to assemble the FBLA chapter.

Students were excited about joining FBLA, Mrs. Wimberly said. "Students have been eager to try competition events and have been so motivated." She proudly said she was impressed with their ability to meet each monthly service challenge. "Students have gained valuable experience and knowledge studying for competitive exams and producing projects submitted for competitions at the regional and state levels. Students have gained experience in fundraising and leadership skills through participation in FBLA rallies, conferences, and chapter activities and events. Some stu-



MCULLOUGH AND WIMBERLY

dents are active members who have never been a part of an organization before and are becoming leaders in our school and community," remarked Mrs. Wimberly.

Last month, the chapter competed for the first time in the Region Competition. The following students placed:

1st Place Awards: Dayna Foster - Business Etiquette, Stella Marsh - Career Exploration, Jocelyn Williams - Business Concepts

2nd Place Awards: Karlie Bettencourt - Business Etiquette, Stetson Sheppard - Digital Citizenship and Intro to Business Communication, Jocelyn Williams - Public Speaking

3rd Place Awards: Zaylee Braddy - Social Media Concepts, Trevor Bragg - Career Exploration, Dayna Foster - Marketing Concepts, Stella Marsh - Intro to Business Communication, Sara Taliedo - Elevator Speech, Rose Polke - Business Etiquette

4th Place Awards: Rose Polke - Marketing Concepts

5th Place Awards: Maritza Martinez - FBLA Concepts, Sakiyna Sanders - Digital Citizenship, Sara Taeido - Intro to Business Communication

This past week, the chapter competed for State, and Myli McCullough earned third place in Career

Research. She will advance to the National Competition in June in Orlando, FL.

FBLA Middle School students learn what it means to be a leader and begin developing business skills. It also allows members to discover what lies within themselves as leaders and gain foundational leadership skills. As part of their community service efforts, the chapter has undertaken several projects this year, including donating bags of candy for the Downtown Fall Festival, hosting a canned food drive for Pruitt Health, providing stocking stuffer items for residents of the Pruitt Health Nursing Home, and working with SMS Jr. Beta to collect items for the local animal shelter.

The chapter holds monthly meetings after school to discuss upcoming events and deadlines. They celebrate the victories and accomplishments of their members, including Trevor Bragg, McKinley Walden, and Dayna Foster, who were named school-level winners of the Georgia Young Authors Writing Competition. Wimberly said, "There are so many talented and successful students at SMS, and SMS FBLA has been shining as a result of hard work, dedication, and leadership from the students who proudly represent SMS."



GUEST DRAWING WINNING TICKET



MR. WILLIE BUSH WITH MRS. PATRICIA BUSH

SAL Squadron holds fundraiser

The SAL Squadron 103 had a raffle/fundraiser and the drawing was held February 8, at The Peking Chinese

Restaurant. The winner of the raffle was Mrs. Patricia Bush and a guest in the restaurant drew the winning ticket.

Commander Willie Bush and SAL Squadron 103 would like to thank everyone that supported the fundraiser.

Hickman: Week eight Under the Gold Dome

by SENATOR BILLY HICKMAN (R-Statesboro)

What a week it's been at the Capitol! With Cross-over Day behind us, we've been hard at work pushing bills through committee and onto the next stage of the legislative process.

Late-night sessions and a whopping 58 bills to vote on Thursday kept us on our toes, but I'm proud to say we've made significant progress on several fronts. From enhancing public safety to streamlining regulations and fortifying our electoral system, the agenda has been packed with initiatives aimed at making Georgia a better place for all its residents.

One key resolution I've championed is Senate Resolution 470, which establishes a study committee focused on preserving our state's invaluable farm-

lands. Agriculture is the backbone of Georgia's economy, but our farmers are facing unprecedented challenges, from crop losses to legal pressures and water scarcity. It's imperative that we find practical solutions to safeguard this vital industry, and this committee will seek expert guidance to do just that.

Additionally, there are numerous other measures I have been a strong advocate for. Senate Bill 360, which expands capital outlay funds to include Pre-K classrooms, will ensure that our youngest learners have access to quality education facilities. Further, Senate Bill 384 aims to make Georgia a model employer for individuals with disabilities, opening doors to meaningful employment opportunities for all. Senate Bill 497, we're working

to expand high-demand apprenticeship programs, bridging the gap between our skilled workforce and the needs of Georgia's thriving economy. I'm thrilled to report that these measures have garnered strong support, with none receiving more than one vote against.

Despite the passage of these key initiatives, our work is far from over. As we head into the next phase of the legislative session, I remain committed to fighting for the best interests of Georgia's families, ensuring that our state remains a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers. Please don't hesitate to reach out if there's anything I can do for you. Thank you, and God bless Georgia!

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Your tax dollars at work: *New ambulance getting ready to roll*

by HALEI LAMB,
COUNTY CLERK

The next set of emergency lights and sirens you encounter in Emanuel County will be brighter and louder than the last. A brand-new ambulance has been added to our EMS fleet, and it's largely thanks to your tax dollars.

The process has been a long one with several moving parts. Voters got it started in 2017 when they passed yet another SPLOST.

Kerry Curry is the county's elections director. She says area voters have historically *always* supported the fund since it began here in the early 90s.

"A SPLOST has never failed in Emanuel County," she said. "Not every county passes their SPLOST referendums strongly and consistently, but we do."

Voters kept up the trend with SPLOST 6, giving it the go-ahead by 81 percent. It went into effect in 2018, bringing with it a spending power of 6 years.

"SPLOST 6 has done a lot for us in that amount of time," County Administrator Guy Singletary said. "It has bought new breathing apparatuses for our fire-fighters, paid for major renovations at the animal shelter, made way for new public works and solid waste equipment, and a whole lot more."

It also purchased the 2024 Ford E-450 that was brought home last week. Nicky Drake started searching for it shortly after he took over as EMS director in 2022.

"We put about 60,000 miles a year on every one of our ambulances. Our county shop does

a great job at keeping up the maintenance of them, but when you think about us repeatedly climbing in and out, loading and unloading patients, the vibrations from being on the road so much... That's still a good bit of wear and tear," he said. "In the past, we've bought chassis for them and put our old boxes on top, or essentially remounted them, but you can only do that one time. Once we did that to our last one, we had to go a different direction."

And so began the hunt for a new ambulance. Unfortunately, COVID had slowed production across the entire vehicle manufacturing sector and put chassis in short supply. Ford, Dodge, Chevy—no matter the make, none of them were expected to be unavailable before sometime in 2025.

Until a company in Woodbury, Georgia projected a delivery date of March 2024.

That information made its way up the chain of command and was presented to the commission during their September 2022 meeting.

At the time, Jim Sherrod was chairman of the board. Today's chairman, Hugh Foskey, James Canady, the late Keith Thompson, and the late Desse Davis served alongside him.

Looking back, Jim and Hugh call it a solid investment.

"We understood the others in our fleet were getting dated, and you can't put a price on public safety," Jim recalled. "If you need an ambulance, you want to be able to count on it, so when this company offered us a competitive

cost and delivery date, it was a no-brainer."

"It's never a bad idea to stay on top of emergency services," Hugh added. "This came up a few years ago, and it made sense to move forward with this truck, especially since we had a good price."

Sure enough, every commissioner voted in favor of the purchase, planning to buy the almost \$189,000 truck with SPLOST 6.

Timmy Oliver took office in January 2023, and Ricky Thompson joined three months later. Although they weren't members of the board back then to cast votes, both say it's a decision they support.

"I attended a lot of the meetings before I became a commissioner officially, and I remember them voting on this," Timmy said. "I was happy to see some of our SPLOST money go toward this. I would've voted 'yes' with them. I'm also a volunteer firefighter with Twin City, so I've seen our EMS folks at work. They're top-notch, and they deserve it."

"All of our departments work really hard. I know since I joined the board, we try to take care of them the best we can," Ricky said. "This was the previous commission's way of doing that for EMS. They're one of the most vital services we provide for the entire community, so in my opinion, it was money well-spent."

Fast-forward about 18 months from the vote and the company delivered on their promise. Nicky went up to inspect it Wednesday and found everything in working order as expected, so he parked it at its new



NICKY DRAKE AND BEN BROWN

home on Kite Road on Thursday. By the end of the day, the EMS team had fully stocked the cabinets with all the supplies they need to save lives.

The county shop spent Friday and Monday installing equipment mounts and communication systems, and the state EMS office signed off on its inspection yesterday. Then, just a few hours later, the vehicle finally went into service.

"Any time you get something new, it's exciting, especially after you've waited for so long. The first day we had it in town, some of our folks dropped by to check it out," Nicky said.

Katie Denison has worked for Emanuel

County EMS for the last 11 years. She was one of the first in line to see her new workspace.

"When I heard it was finally in, I had to come see it myself. It's nice, and we appreciate it for sure," she said. "The newest ones we had, excluding this one of course, already had 200,000 miles on them. Now we can be more reliable."

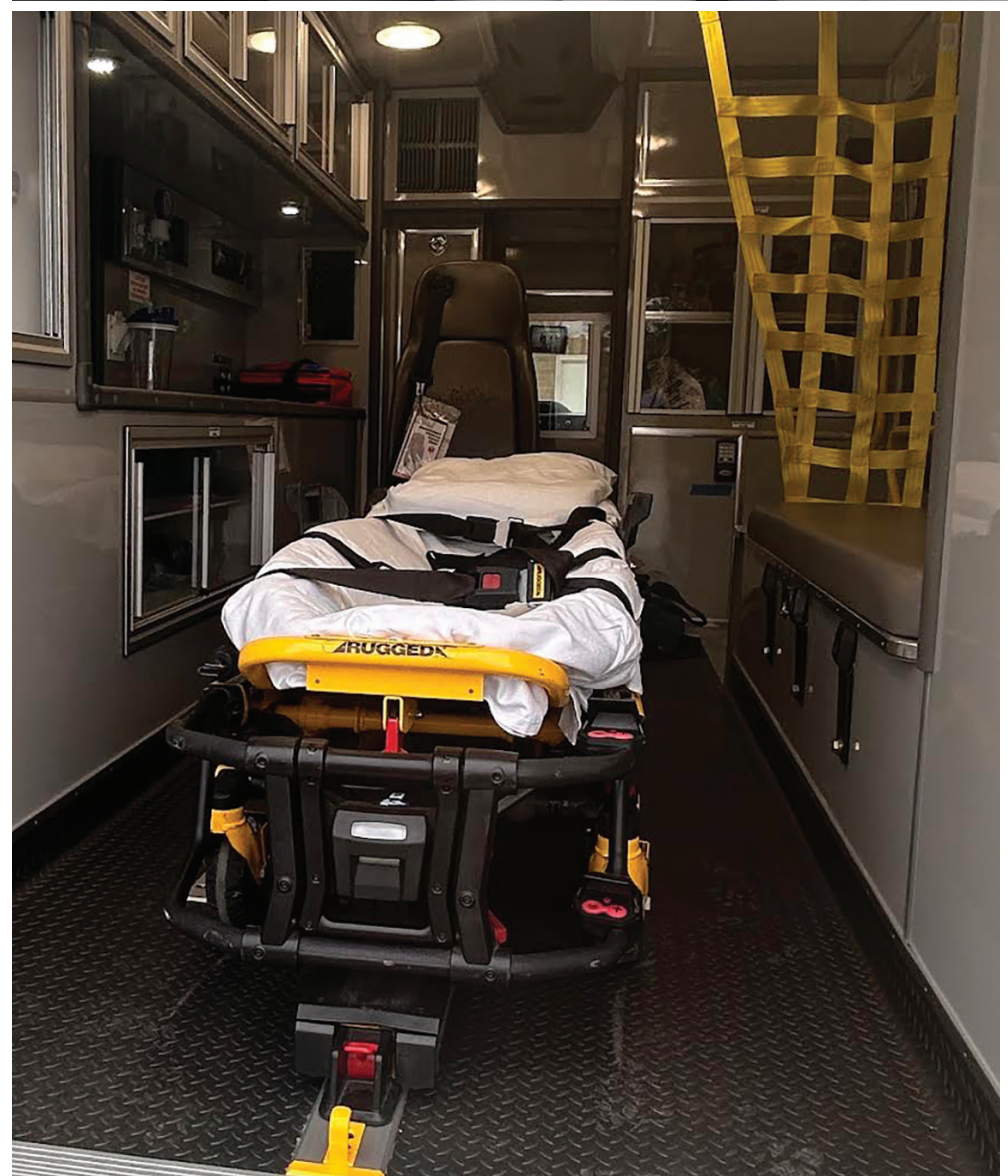
Nicky agrees with her.

"We have a big county to cover, and we do a lot of transports. We run two 24-hour crews, plus one day truck from 8 in the morning to 8 at night, seven days a week. If something happens and one of our trucks goes down, that's a big hit to our operation. This new

ambulance brings our fleet to 5 road-ready rigs, not including our spare. That's huge because it means we can increase our dependability, and that's what *we're* most excited about," Nicky said.

That's why commissioners want to see continued support for SPLOST.

"This new ambulance is something that can help *everybody* in our community and even people who are passing through," Jim said, "and we were able to buy it without burdening property owners. The money we get from the 1-cent tax goes a long way. As long as the voters keep giving it to us, we'll keep putting it to good use."



A LOOK INSIDE THE NEW AMBULANCE

The *Forest* Blade

Swainsboro, GA • March 6, 2024 • www.EmanuelCountyLive.com

Social
Sports
Legals/Classifieds **B**

Swainsboro Rotary Club holds meeting

The Swainsboro Rotary club met at the Rustic Grill on Monday, February 26, during the noon hour. The meeting was called to order by President Tanya Lane. A prayer was offered and the pledge and 4way test were recited. Mitch Fagler introduced the speaker for the meeting. Rebecca Ethredge

and Jamie Mallard gave presentations to the club. Rebecca is an employee of Southeastern Technical college and Jamie Mallard was a student at the college. She won the GOAL award this year and will compete at the state level in the next few weeks. Jamie's major was Business

management. She discussed the advantages of getting a technical college degree and how this has impacted her life and her family's life. The club also discussed the Pine Tree Festival Pageant activities that will be held on April 27, at the Swainsboro City Auditorium.



FAGLER, MALLARD AND ETHREDGE

CHALKLEY AND LEE HAD QUALITY STARTS AGAINST BEARS
AND YELLOW JACKETS

Bulldogs' three-game series begins this week

The ECI baseball team split the two games played last week. Still in their non-region schedule, they easily defeated Burke Co. in Waynesboro Wednesday, February 28, 14-6 and lost in another road game to Southeast Bulloch last Thursday, 2-0. They jumped on the Bears early Wednesday, scoring nine runs in the first three innings. Gabe Lee got the hitting started in the first with a double and his pitch runner, James Parker later scored to put ECI up 1-0 in the opening inning. With two on in the second inning, Tuff Boddiford plated two runs to extend the Bulldog lead to 3-0. The Bears matched that score in the bottom of the second to tie the game at 3-3. The Bulldogs broke the game open in the top of the third scoring six runs to get back the lead 9-3. Hunter Henry had the big hit in the inning with a double, scoring Kanyon Thompson, Aiden McQuaig and James Parker. ECI extended their lead to 13-3 in the fourth inning, scoring four more runs. Burke plated three runs in the bottom of the fifth and ECI had one run cross in the top of the sixth to make the final score of the game 14-6.

Catcher Gabe Lee, starting his first game on the mound this season held Burke to just two hits in four innings of work with six strikeouts. Jackson Kennedy and Ab Marsh closed the game for the Bulldogs. The Bulldogs collected ten hits against the Bears. Leading hit-

ters for the game were Jackson Kennedy, three hits with Hunter Henry and Ab Marsh ending the game with two hits each.

Thursday the Bulldogs traveled to Pembroke for their first of two games against Southeast Bulloch.

Pitchers for ECI and the Jackets were on their mark with neither team changing the scoreboard until the bottom of the fifth inning. Both scattered five hits each in the first five innings. SEB put two on the board in the bottom of the fifth on a single, FC and a double to plate the only runs they would need to win the game. The Bulldogs threatened in the top of the seventh putting two on with one out but could not get the timely hits to push a run across. Andrew Chalkley toed the rubber for ECI allowing just five hits while striking out five in his five innings of work. Tuff Boddiford relieved Chalkley in the sixth striking out two of the three batters he faced. Six Bulldogs, Lee, Henry, Bodiford, Rehberg, Marsh and Parker had one hit each in the game.

Starting pitching will be in the forefront for the rest of the season for the Bulldogs. This week, ECI begins their weekly three-game series with each team. They will begin this week with a non-region three game series with Metter. The Bulldogs hosted Metter yesterday in a double header. They will travel to Metter Thursday for the third game.

The Bulldogs will

begin their region schedule next week in a three-game series against McIntosh Co. with one game in Darien on March 12, and a double header at Joe Harvey Field on Friday.



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- Be a voice for the whole community.
- Stand up for what is important to the residents of Emanuel County.
- Ask the hard questions.
- Support getting the resources the community needs to help fight crime and poverty in Emanuel County.
- Be the voice of reason, to bring jobs and industry to our community so our town is a place our children will want to stay and be able to flourish as adults.

I believe that faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life, and that service to humanity is the best work of life!

 **Early Voting ends March 8**
 **Election Day March 12**



Another good week for ECI Middle School

by **RON WEATHERFORD**

The Bulldogs Middle School baseball team played two games last week. Tuesday, they beat the Trojans from Wrightsville 18-5, and played to a 3-3 tie against William James Middle School last Wednesday. William Kennedy started on the mound against Johnson Co., pitching two and 1/3 innings allowing just two hits, no earned runs with five strikeouts. Hane Henry pitched the final three and 2/3 innings, giving up just three hits with seven strikeouts. Leading hitters for the game were Jacob Hughes three for four with two doubles and Kennedy, also 3-4. Judson Underwood was 2-5, three RBI with a double. TJ Weaver had the big blow in the game with a walk off grand slam, going 2-4 with four RBI.

Wednesday, the Bulldogs traveled to Statesboro to take on William James Middle School. The two teams played to a 3-3 tie with

the game called due to darkness because William James does not have lights on their baseball field. The Bulldogs led 3-0 going into the bottom of the sixth inning. WJ scored an unearned run in the sixth and two more unearned runs in the seventh. The young Dawgs gave William James extra time at the plate committing seven errors in the game which let William James back into the game. The errors were the difference in the game with both Bulldog pitchers allowing just one hit each during the game. Hughes started the game, giving up just one hit with six strikeouts in four innings. Underwood closed out the final three innings, also giving up one hit, striking out six William James batters. Four Bulldogs had one hit each during the game. Underwood with a HR, Jack Lee with a double, Hughes and Kennedy with singles had the hits for ECI.

Swainsboro Tigers Baseball sweep Diamond Day

by **TROUP BRINSON**

The Swainsboro Tigers baseball team improved to 4-2 on the young season by sweeping the annual Citizen's Bank Diamond Day. Swainsboro had quite the day offensively, beating Screven County 17-7 and ECI 9-4. Swainsboro hosted Toombs County Tuesday before traveling to Morgan County on Thursday to play the #7 ranked team in AAAA.

DJ Stanford and Kason Edenfield handled the pitching duties for Swainsboro. However, it was the offense that carried the way Saturday morning, with Brandon Chapman hitting his third homerun on the season and three hits for the game. The Tigers took advantage of 10 walks and compounded Screven County's penchant for giving away free bases with 9 stolen bags. Swainsboro put the game away with an eight run third inning to cruise to an easy win.

Against ECI, Brice Marchman and Peyton

Mason covered seven innings for the Tigers, allowing only three earned runs for the Bulldogs. Swainsboro's offense once again had its way, tallying 14 hits. Marchman was four for four with a double Lenox Lively and Shane Gamiza had multiple hits for the Tigers as they avenged an early season loss to ECI.

The two-game sweep was preceded by a Wednesday loss to Vidalia, 10-7. Peyton Mason pitched into the third inning for Swainsboro and held the Indians to three runs. Swainsboro led 3-1 early, behind a Stanford RBI single and a run scoring double by Marchman. Vidalia got their offense going with a big third inning to take the lead, 4-3. Gamiza drove in three runs for Swainsboro while Gabe Conley collected two hits in the loss.

Swainsboro has one more week to tune things up before kicking off region play in mid March.

Lions Club members recognized for years of service

Lions Club members were recognized for years of service milestones by District Governor, Jim Mock. Members recognized were Tommy Neal, 10 years of service; Loy D. Cowart, charter member and 60 years of service; John William Turner, charter member and 60 years of service and perfect attendance for all 60 years of the club's existence; John Bussell, 10 years of service; and Kirk Cavannah, 10 years of service; and Jim Nix, 15 years of service (not pictured).



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David Emanuel Varsity Boys' and Girls' basketball teams are Region runner-ups

The David Emanuel Academy Eagles Varsity Boys' and Girls' basketball teams played in the 2024 GIAA Region Tournament at John Hancock Academy that started on February 13. The Lady Eagles secured a win over the John Hancock Lady Spartans with a final score of 51-44. Addalyn Terwilliger led the Eagles on the scoreboard with 17 points followed by Emma Proctor with 16 points. Also contributing were Kylie Bell (8 points), Aubrey Williams (4 points), Payton Peebles (3 points), Maddie Perkins (2 points) and Bailey McNure (1 point).

The Eagles Varsity Boys' team defeated the John Hancock Rebels in overtime 61-59. Billy Martin led the team on the board with 18 points. Also contributing to the Eagles score were Randon Williams (13 points), Richard Braddy (10 points), Peyton Lee (10 points), Ethan Fields (8 points) and Brody Fleming (2 points). Both wins advanced the Eagles Varsity Girls' and Boys' teams to the Region Championship game on February 16.

In the girls' championship game, the Lady Eagles competed against the Thomas Jefferson Lady Jaguars. The game ended in a loss to the Jags with a final score of 45-38. Emma Proctor led the Eagles on the board with 13 points followed by Addalyn Terwilliger with 12 points. Also contributing were Aubrey Williams (5 points), Kylie Bell (4 points), Bailey McNure (2 points) and Maddie Perkins (2 points).

The Eagles Varsity Boys' team battled the Monsignor Donovan Christian School Rams in a final score of 84-64. Randon Williams led the Eagles with 24 points. Also contributing to the scoreboard were Billy Martin (12 points), Ethan Fields (11 points), Tony Sutton (7 points), Peyton Lee (6 points), Jay Carter (2 points) and John-Nathan Martin (2 points). Both Eagle teams were able to advance to the GIAA State Playoffs.

our Lady Tigers handled business, reflected true "Tiger" fashion, with double-digit point spread victories. As a coach, the amazing, rewarding takeaway from each win was the desire to improve further. For a moment, it is very fulfilling to have players ask the day after a big win, "Coach, how can we get better?". Proud is an absolute understatement. Fast forward through the 2023-2024 season, entering the MGMSAA Girls Basketball Region Championship Playoffs as the #1 seed for a second consecutive year. A different, unique approach was clearly evident. The 1st rd. of the playoffs witnessed the Lady Dublin Irish visit Our #1 Lady Tigers defending "The Den" vs. #4 Lady Dublin Irish. The final score concluded with our Lady Tigers defeating the Lady Irish 42 to 24, once again in Tiger fashion. The leading scorers are Kimiya Freeman (20 pts.), Kali Brown (19 pts.), and McKinley Walden (3 pts). The champion journey for our Lady Tigers welcomed the #2 seeded team, East Laurens Lady Falcons, to the SMS Tiger Den for the MGMSAA Girls Basketball Region Championship. The Lady Falcons, a well-coached, disciplined team, competed at the highest level vs. our SMS Lady Tigers. Each team battling with intense effort, competing at the highest level. However, in the end, our SMS Lady Tigers capped an amazing season, defeating the Lady Falcons 26 to 22. The leading scorers are Kimiya Freeman (17 pts.) and McKinley Walden (9 pts). Our young ladies exemplified great character and sportsmanship, exhibiting the discipline to be coached. Oftentimes unnoticed, the greatest teams experience success, winning "off the court" prior to winning "on the court."

Great teams consistently remain in the "improvement" phase. At the conclusion of the 2022-2023 Basketball season, our SMS Lady Tigers were upset in the 1st round of the MGMSAA Girls Basketball Region Championship. The team entered the tournament as the #1 seed but exited the tournament finishing as the last place team. Understandably, the 2023-2024 season began with the SMS Lady Tigers wearing a "chip" on their shoulders. The desire to revive the #1 spirit began with a commitment and dedication to the goal of winning the MGMSAA Girls Basketball Region Championship. Beginning the season by defeating the Dublin Irish by double digits set a winning tone for the crusade. Preparation and prowess presented purpose every time our young ladies stepped on the floor. The intensity and the approach of how

ing scorers are Kimiya Freeman (20 pts.), Kali Brown (19 pts.), and McKinley Walden (3 pts). The champion journey for our Lady Tigers welcomed the #2 seeded team, East Laurens Lady Falcons, to the SMS Tiger Den for the MGMSAA Girls Basketball Region Championship. The Lady Falcons, a well-coached, disciplined team, competed at the highest level vs. our SMS Lady Tigers. Each team battling with intense effort, competing at the highest level. However, in the end, our SMS Lady Tigers capped an amazing season, defeating the Lady Falcons 26 to 22. The leading scorers are Kimiya Freeman (17 pts.) and McKinley Walden (9 pts). Our young ladies exemplified great character and sportsmanship, exhibiting the discipline to be coached. Oftentimes unnoticed, the greatest teams experience success, winning "off the court" prior to winning "on the court."



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ning "on the court." In any championship run, the "ball" has time to bounce your way. For our "Lady Tiger" program, our young athletes must win off the court before setting foot on the court. Our Lady Tigers must maintain:

- A proficient Grade Point Average
- Zero percent discipline referrals
- Perfect attendance

"Our Lady Tigers are student-athletes says Coach Ikera Devouil. "The key word being 'student' first." She says that the "Education" & "Do Right" will always serve as the foundation of their program. "We preach the motto of our program, "we are a family". This is about more than just basketball. To our 8th-grade student-athletes; effort,

hard work, and commitment will carry you as you transition to competing in the Georgia High School Association at Swainsboro High School under the tutelage of Coach Walden. To our 6th and 7th graders; the 2024-2025 season has already begun. Hats off to a great 2023-2024 season! I love each and every one of you!" says Coach Devouil.

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Sheriff's Reports

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

February 23
A search warrant was served at Sunset Inn. Investigator was called for assistance by deputy in reference to GSP making a traffic stop with narcotics. Offender was transported to EmCo Jail.

February 25
Investigator made a traffic stop on Circle St. Offender was arrested transported to EmCo Jail for marijuana possession. Complainant filed a report in reference to two 30 gallon propane tanks being stolen off his camper and believes they were taken by his neighbor.

February 26
Complainant went to ECSO and stated her tag was lost in the mail. Deputy responded to Hwy 86 East in reference

to a theft. Victim stated someone took several items from his property.

February 27
Deputies were dispatched to North 2nd St. in reference to a burglary in progress and complainant had intruder held at gunpoint. Deputies made contact with c/p who stated he confronted offender at gun point while inside the shed and he fled with several items taken from a freezer. C/p attempted to pursue offender but lost contact in a wooded area. Video footage was obtained from the home security camera. Upon further investigation, deputies set up a perimeter and found him hiding in an abandoned home off of 4th Ave. Offender was taken into custody.

February 28
Complainant went to ECSO and stated he had two tags that were

mailed to him about a month ago that he never received. Deputy responded to Griffin Ferry Rd. in reference to a male subject passed out on a four-wheeler with a gun in his waist band. While enroute, deputy observed the male subject traveling south on the four-wheeler and attempted to make a traffic stop. The four-wheeler failed to stop and turned onto Robin Rd. and continued through a field where deputy lost sight of him. 911 then advised a male on a SXS followed the four-wheeler and advised it turned on Lee Williamson Rd. then Reedy Creek Circle then wrecked, and the male subject fled on foot. Deputy was able to identify the male subject as being a former inmate at EmCo Jail and was able to match the four-wheeler on his

wife's Facebook page. Warrants will be taken out on offender.

February 29
Deputy responded to Dollar General in Garfield in reference to a shoplifting. Complainant stated an unknown male subject went in the store for the last two days and tried to steal items. Deputy got a picture off the male subject off the surveillance cameras and was able to get him identified. Deputy went to offender's residence and trespassed him from the store. He was advised that he would be charged if he returned.

March 1
Victim stated he usually gets his children on the weekend and he called his wife to see about getting them and she told him he couldn't. Deputy advised c/p he would have to go to court if this happens

again. Deputy met with complainant who stated an account that he never had was sent to collections. C/p advised he opened a fraud case.

March 3
Deputies responded to Gumlog Rd. in reference to an assault. Complainant stated she attempted to pull into her parking spot in front of her apartment but couldn't due to her neighbor's visiting family member being parked there. C/p stated an argument took place that turned physical and appx. five people jumped on her. C/p advised she fell to the ground and was stomped during the altercation. No physical evidence was observed. Deputy walked over to the other party who stated he parked in the parking spot and as he was attempting to leave

in order to deescalate the situation, c/p grabbed him from behind and they began wrestling around and people broke it up. Victim had a scratch under his chin but declined to press charges. Deputy met with complainant in reference to a criminal trespass and theft incident. C/p stated someone stole a dirt bike and cut through the fence line to get it from under a shed. An unknown vehicle was observed using a search on the property as it passed from the road. It was further. Noted that c/p's ex-girlfriend of c/p's son would likely be the suspect due to her knowledge of the property and would be able to direct someone as to where and how to enter the property.

February Food Service Establishment Inspection Reports

Listed below are Georgia Department of Public Health Food Service Establishment Inspection Reports for the months of **February 2024**, along with the violations:

Peking Chinese Super Buffet – 88 B (1/31/24)
Observed personal drink above prep area without lid or straw (Corrected on-site)
Observed no soap at any hand sinks in kitchen and drink stations (Corrected on-site)
Observed unsealed bag of dried peppers ibn dry storage area (Corrected on-site)
Observed no sanitizer in cloth water used for wiping tables (Corrected on-site)
Observed scoop handles down in food in bulk storage containers and ice bins. Observed bowls without handles using for dispensing
Observed knives being stored between prep coolers
Observed rodent droppings in dry

storage area

Southern Taste – Score 84 B (2/1/24)
Observed no sanitizer in wiping cloth bucket
Observed several food items on floor (Corrected on-site)
Observed permit and inspection not posted
Observed cup being used to dispense ice
Observed deeply pitted spatula for use in kitchen
Observed mop sink not connected to city sewer
Have not received approval of hood system from Fire Chief
Observed no self closer on rear door

Southern Taste follow-up – Score 95 A (2/9/24)
Observed boxes of crackers not 6" off the floor
Observed wet cloth on prep table and sink area
Air gap of sinks not installed correctly
Observed sewage line backing up causing food/sink water to spill all over the ground

Sonic Drive In - Score 98 A (2/13/24)

Observed wet stacking of dishes
Observed trash and crumbs in box with single use containers
Observed ice build up/debris under shelves in WIF

El Valle - Score 93 A (2/13/24)
Observed no labels on bulk storage containers of rice and beans
Observed frozen hamburger patties in freezer but no in packing
Observed dirty cloths on prep surface
Observed scoop down in ice

Farmhouse Cafe – Score 96 A (2/8/24)
Observed wet cloths on prep table (Corrected on-site)
Observed peeling paint on walls in dry storage area
Busted walls in walk-in cooler. Missing ceiling tiles, exposed fiberglass insulation over a food prep area

Domino's – Score 99 A (2/6/24)
Observed crump accumulation in several areas throughout the


kitchen

New Garden – Score 92 A (2/6/24)
Observed improper date marking on several items in RIC
Observed bags of rice in dry goods storage area that were open
Observed mop in mop bucket

All the Fixins' - Score 95 A (2/22/24)
Observed containers of food on floor in WIF
Observed scoop handles down in bulk storage containers
Observed single use cups not in plastic sleeves
Observed crumb/debris accumulation in areas around kitchen

Bernis - Score 100 A (2/9/24)
Off the Hook Fish & Seafood - Score 100 A (2/13/24)
Tasty Swainsboro LLC – Score 93 A (2/6/24)
Observed several items in freezer uncovered
Observed wet cloth on prep table
Observed cardboard

being used as shelf liner
Observed several dead roaches in kitchen




The word "righteous" in Scripture carries with it the idea of meeting God's standards of doing what is right in the sight of God - being obedient to Him and being just and fair to others. If the "righteous" what does that mean?

1. Palm trees grow straight up - always looking upward to heaven for light and nourishment. Likewise the Christian looks to God to find His will for their life.
2. Each and every part of a palm tree is useful. The leaves not only provide shelter from the elements but the tree itself has many nourishing and medicinal qualities. The Christian is expected to give life and hope and nourishment to others.
3. Palm trees are not affected by drought. A palm tree is not affected by the weather and can survive nearly every surface injury. The Christian rooted in Christ draws his strength and well-being from God.
4. The palm tree is an evergreen tree because it draws its life flow within its being, keeping it fresh.
5. The palm tree cannot be grafted into any other tree because it has its own unique identity. Christians have one Master and cannot be grafted to any other identity.
6. Palm trees are an emblem of victory. This was seen when Jesus entered triumphantly into Jerusalem.
7. Palm trees always show a place where water can be found. Christians find their "living water" in Christ who can quench their thirst.

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PS 233



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SEMI TRUCK PARKING



PUBLIC NOTICE

All units listed will be sold on or after **March 11, 2024** if balances on said units are not paid in full.

Tiara Williams Unit# 243
Tiffyne Crouch Unit# 442
Rhonda Reed Unit# 522
Billy Barwick Unit# 707

Recent blood drive exceeds expectations: FBLA's commitment to saving lives

The recent blood drive organized by the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) has proven to be a resounding success, with overwhelming participation and generous donations from students, staff, and the community. On February 8, our organization rallied together to support this vital cause, and the results speak volumes about our collective commitment to making a difference in our community. One of the most remarkable aspects of this blood drive was the enthusiastic response of 70 individuals stepping forward to donate. Likewise, the units collected during the blood drive amounted to 53, further highlighting the significance of our efforts. Each unit of donated blood has the potential to save lives, providing essential sup-

port to patients in need of transfusions due to surgeries, accidents, or medical conditions. By contributing to this cause, FBLA members have played a direct role in improving the health and well-being of others within our community. The success of this blood drive would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of everyone involved. From organizing the event to recruiting donors and providing support throughout the donation process, FBLA members demonstrated exceptional teamwork and leadership skills. Special thanks are also due to our partners and sponsors who helped make this event a reality. FBLA is not only about developing business skills and pursuing

professional growth but also about representing principles of service, compassion, and community engagement. By organizing events like the blood drive, we demonstrate our commitment to making a positive dif-

ference in the lives of others and contributing to the greater good. Our forthcoming blood drive at Swainsboro High School is scheduled for April 4, 2024, and we eagerly anticipate another impactful event.

Public Notice
Emanuel County Schools
Notice of destruction of inactive Special Education records

Special Education records from 1997 through May 2003 are scheduled for destruction on March 25, 2024. If you wish to take custody of your/your child's records, you must have proper authority to do so. If the records you wish to take ownership of do not belong to you, you must show legal guardianship of the individual for whom the records belong.

All persons must show picture identification when picking up records.

Please contact the Department of Student Services at Emanuel County Schools at 478-237-6674 to notify us of your wish to obtain any records scheduled for destruction.

Failure to contact the school district by March 25, 2024 will result in the destruction of all records.

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); Probation Office (PROB); or East Georgia State College (EGSC).

Bailey, Larry Burton, 51, arrested 2/27/24; Probation violation – felony

Anthony Jody Bender,

25, arrested 3/3/24; Possession and use of drug related objects/ Hold for White Co.

Corey Best, 34, arrested 2/28/24; Probation violation – felony

Ashley Tabitha Brown, 37, arrested 2/29/24; DUI refusal/Cruelty to children 2nd degree

Chrishanna Nikita Brown, 39, arrested 3/3/24; Theft by taking – felony

Maurice Antwan Brown, 37, arrested 3/1/24; Driving while license suspended/revoked/Speeding

Leonard Bustamante, 24, arrested 2/28/24; Driving while license suspended/revoked/ Suspended tag

Frederick Tire Carswell, 33, arrested 3/3/24; Obstruction of law enforcement officers/Criminal trespass

Michael Dustin Carter, 21, arrested 3/3/24; Criminal damage to property 1st degree

Terry Lee Champion,

55, arrested 3/3/24; Disorderly conduct

Melvin Barnard Clark, 56, arrested 3/1/24; Bench warrant – felony

Patrick Ryan Connally, 31, arrested 2/27/24; Child molestation

Sergio Lavar Davis, 24, arrested 2/27/24; Probation violation – felony

Troy Stanley Edgar, 51, arrested 2/26/24; Driving while license suspended/revoked

Brittany Lynn Gabriel, 27, arrested 2/26/24; Court protection order

Octavis Jerome Gordon, 31, arrested 3/3/24; Windshield/ window wiper requirements/Tag lights required/Possess of marijuana less than oz

Henry Lee Hall, 47, arrested 3/1/24; Probation revocation

Robert Lee Henry, 71, arrested 2/27/24; Hold for Cherokee Co.

Sammie Jo Herndon, 40, arrested 2/28/24; Theft by shoplifting/

Possession and use of drug related objects

Kevin Ray Hudson, 36, arrested 2/28/24; Theft by shoplifting/ Possession of meth/ Possession and use of drug related objects

Malik Donte Jamison, 26, arrested 2/28/24; Speeding/ Hold for Orangeburg, SC

Alexandria Sha'Tay Johnson, 2/27/24; Bench warrant/SPD probation

Sydney Ne'Cole Jones, 19, arrested 3/3/24; Possess of marijuana less than oz

Marcus Tyler Kirby, 29, arrested 2/29/24; Probation violation – felony

Kaliel Knight, 29, arrested 2/27/24; Burglary 2nd degree – felony/Probation violation/Probation violation

William Lanier Law, 30, arrested 2/27/24; Hold for Richmond Co.

Alfredo Lumonte McLean, 41, arrested 2/26/24; Hold for Fulton Co.

Luis Antonio Meraz-Garcia, 39, arrested 2/29/24; Driving while unlicensed/No insurance/Suspended tag

Samuel L. Morgan, 52, arrested 2/26/24; Terroristic threats and acts/Endangering security interest

Ashley Leshe Murphy, 28, arrested 3/3/24; Expired registration/ DUI less safe

Anthony Dewayne Nichols, 34, arrested 3/1/24; Disorderly conduct/Public drunkenness/Probation violation

Pepper Forest Parker, 30, arrested 2/29/24; Failure to notify owner upon striking unattended vehicle

Micah Thanh Phan, 44, arrested 2/28/24; Child support lockup order

Amanda Lynn Potts, 41, arrested 3/3/24; Giving false name, address or DOB to law enforcement officer/ Possession of schedule I controlled substance

Walter Bradley Rabitsch, 43, arrested 3/1/24; Probation violation – felony/ Hold for Screven Co./ Hold for Columbia Co.

Tyler Nicole Rachels, 34, arrested 3/1/24; Probation revocation

Breanna Michelle Smith, 19, arrested 3/3/24; Possession of marijuana less than oz

William Jeffrey Tant, 35, arrested 2/29/24; Fleeing or attempt to elude police officer/ Probation violation – felony

Antonio Letez Thomas, 31, arrested 3/1/24; Driving while license suspended/revoked

Shuntavian Kenyetta Turner, 29, arrested 3/2/24; DUI less safe/ Open container/Failure to maintain lane

Derek Demario Williams, 32, arrested 2/27/24; Driving while license suspended/revoked/Speeding

Swainsboro Police Reports

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

February 21

Officer met with complainant in reference to c/p advising a male she met online is harassing her and threatened to kill her.

Officer met with complainant in reference to his neighbor's dogs attacking his rabbits.

Officers were dispatched to N. Green St. in reference to a female wanting to leave the residence, but offender would not allow her to. When officers arrived, c/p loaded her children and left but did not tell officers that offender put his hands on her. The following day, c/p went back to make a report and gave her statement about what happened and stated she feels threatened by offender due to statements he has made to her.

February 22

Officer responded to Lee St. in reference to a report about someone opening complainant's mail.

Officer met with complainant who stated offender has had her two vehicles for a long time and has paid him \$6,000 to have a motor put in one of them and the other was to have minor repairs done. C/p advised she went to the shop and did not see her vehicles so she

tried calling and texting offender and did not get an answer or response. C/p later called SPD and advised her vehicles were found at LRS Towing and the motors were gone from both vehicles.

February 23

Officers responded to S. Main St. in reference to a fight. Multiple witnesses and victim stated offender had an argument with victim that turned physical and offender punched victim in the face multiple times. Offender then went outside and grabbed a brick and attempted to go back inside when he was stopped by employees and he left walking. Offender was spotted on S. Green St. and officers made contact with him. Offender stated he and his sister got into an argument and he hit her in the face. Offender was placed under arrest and transported to EmCo Jail.

Officers were dispatched to S. Main St. in reference to complainant stating while her car was getting fixed she decided to look around the pawn shop and saw a metal box that belongs to her. C/p stated her camper was set on fire by offender but law enforcement didn't have any proof he was the one who did it and the metal box was lost the night her camper burned. Officer met with an employee and asked for information of the

person that took it in and was given paperwork that showed offender as being the one who took it in. The case was turned over to investigators.

February 24

Officer heard another officer get out with a large crowd on N. Coleman St., at which time he met the officer there. There was a large crowd and it continued to grow so officers and deputies stood by as security did their job to make sure they didn't have any issues. After a short time, security started having trouble with patrons trying to get in the club and asked several people to get in line and they continued to pile up at the door. Officer spotted a subject he was familiar with that had warrants for him assaulting a female so he made contact with him and detained him to check for warrants. The male subject came back wanted so he was placed in the back of officer's unit and transported to EmCo Jail. Other officers were standing around and a crowd of people came running out of the club yelling "they are fighting and are gonna shoot up the place". Officers went back towards the building and saw more people running and security trying to shut things down but didn't have any luck, with multiple fights going on in different directions. A vehicle pulled towards officers and the driver was advised to put her vehicle in reverse and refused, so she was asked again to back up and she refused again. Officer advised her that she would be pulled out of the vehicle and arrested if she didn't and she stated she would sue him. As officers were standing there, the driver aggressively drove by them and the officer had to jump back to keep from getting struck by the vehicle. Officers went around to the driver side of the vehicle and the driver stopped and was assisted out of the vehicle as she continued to resist and fight officers. Officers were able to take the female to the ground and place her under arrest. As officers were dealing with 80 to 100 people fighting, any avail-

able back up was called. When back up arrived, most of the crowd was dispersed. A GSP arrived and was speaking with the female subject that was detained and she was believed to be under the influence and transported her to EmCo Jail. Once officers got the area cleared out, officer went to the jail to finish booking the female and male subjects. Another officer transported four subjects to EmCo Jail.

February 25

Officer observed a vehicle without a license plate, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. Officer approached the vehicle and could smell a moderate odor of alcoholic beverage. The driver stated she had a tag but it fell off. Officer asked how much she had to drink and she stated not much then stated none. Back up arrived and the driver was asked to step out of her vehicle and swayed, then placed her hand on the vehicle for balance. Officer asked her again how much she had to drink and she stated nothing, the subjects in the vehicle had been drinking. Officer noticed her eyes were glassy and her speech was slow and could smell a moderate odor of alcoholic beverage coming from her person and asked her to take a field sobriety and she agreed. Officer then asked her to perform a PBT and it showed positive. Offender was transported to EmCo Jail.

Officer was inside Enmarket when he was asked by the manager to ask two subjects to leave and have them trespass because they were suspected of shoplifting. Officers arrived and the female subject was wanted for a probation violation. Offender was transported to EmCo Jail.

February 26

Officer met with complainant who stated she was parked on King Circle Dr. and the wind picked up a tent and blew it onto her vehicle causing damage.

Officer met with complainant who stated offender has had her vehicle for about two years and was supposed to fix the transmission after paying him \$900.

C/p advised she found out the vehicle was not fixed and there were multiple damages to the vehicle.

Complainant went to SPD and stated she had been scammed while trying to purchase a vehicle off of Facebook. C/p stated she contacted the person through Facebook messenger and was told the seller was out of town and had multiple people interested in the vehicle and if c/p would send \$300, she would hold it for her. C/p stated that after sending the money, the seller told her that someone offered \$600 to hold the vehicle so she sent another \$300. C/p then stated that her boyfriend told her to just go ahead and send the last \$600 so they would not lose out on the vehicle so she sent the remained, totaling \$1,200. C/p stated the seller messaged back and told her the price was now \$1,500 so she asked the seller to refund her money and the seller asked her for personal information that she would not provide and the seller blocked her. Officer had c/p call the number provided and spoke with the female who stated that was her old account that had been hacked a couple months ago.

February 27

Officer responded to Williams St. in reference to unwanted people. Complainant stated he did not want offenders at his house and wanted both of them criminally trespassed. Officer used GCIC to look up the subjects and one came back with a warrant so he had it confirmed. Offender was placed under arrest and transported to EmCo Jail. The other subject was issued a trespass citation and advised that if he returned to the property he would be arrested.

Officers were dispatched to Allen St. in reference to complainant being threatened by a female who had already left. C/p stated he was asleep when he heard a vehicle with loud music outside his residence and got up to see who it was when he noticed it was the offender. C/p stated offender was very irate and asking where her brother was and c/p told

her he did not know and offender started making threats about killing him. C/p stated he turned around and went back inside and started calling offender's brother and he advised him to call the police.

February 28

Officer used GCIC to run the license plate on a vehicle to find the registered owner had suspended license and the vehicle had suspended registration, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. The driver handed the officer two licenses and 911 advised both were suspended. Offender was transported to EmCo Jail.

Officer observed a vehicle traveling 68 MPH in a 45 MPH zone, then reduced to 61 MPH in a 35 MPH zone, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. Upon running the driver's license, it was determined that he was wanted through Orangeburg, SC. The warrant was verified and they wanted a hold placed. Offender was transported to EmCo Jail.

Officer met with complainant in reference to stolen headphones. C/p stated he found a pawn ticket in a female's pants pocket and when he confronted her, she told him a random man went up to her while she was waiting inside c/p's vehicle on him and grabbed the headphones and left. C/p stated he went to the pawn shop and found the headphones he believes are his.

Officer was dispatched to WalMart in reference to a previous shoplifting incident. Complainant stated four subjects went in on January 18, and left with appx. \$825.72 and two of them returned on this day and went to the family restroom in the back of the store and stayed in there for over 20 minutes. Officers approached the restroom and both subjects exited and were detained for further investigation. Both were arrested for shoplifting after being observed on camera footage. The male subject was being searched and illegal drugs and drug related objects were found on his person. Both subjects were transported to EmCo Jail.

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News from under the Gold Dome

by REPRESENTATIVE BUTCH PARRISH
STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 158

The House kicked-off the eighth week of the 2024 legislative session on Monday, February 26. We dedicated an entire day of work in our committees to make sure bills made it to the House floor for a vote. Thursday was especially important as it marked Legislative Day 28, or "Crossover Day," the deadline for bills and resolutions to pass from their originating chamber to remain eligible for final consideration by Legislative Day 40, or "Sine Die." On Crossover Day alone, the House passed 72 bills.

One piece of bipartisan legislation that I sponsored-after many years of collaborative work, passed last week. It is aimed at modernizing and refining healthcare regulations throughout Georgia, with a strong emphasis on addressing the unique healthcare challenges faced by rural communities. House Bill 1339 would stand as a cornerstone in this effort, proposing a comprehensive overhaul of the state's certificate of need (CON) laws. HB 1339 would also bolster rural healthcare through the expansion of rural hospital tax credits and the establishment of the Comprehensive Health Coverage Commission, which would be tasked with advising the governor, General Assembly and DCH on healthcare access and quality for low-income and uninsured communities in Georgia. This important legislation would not only address critical healthcare access and efficiency issues across the state but would also signify a significant step forward in ensuring equitable and effective healthcare delivery for all Georgians.

The House gave unanimous passage to House Bill 451, which would require public entities to offer additional, illness-specific insurance to first responders diagnosed with work-related post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Ensuring adequate support and financial resources for those on the front lines would improve their mental health and resilience.

House Bill 971, or the Firearm Safe Handling and Secure Storage Tax Credit Act would allow a Georgia taxpayer to claim a tax credit for eligible expenses incurred for firearm safe handling instructional courses and the acquisition of firearm secure storage devices in the amount of the eligible expenses or \$300, whichever is less. HB 971 would institute a lifetime limit of \$300 per individual taxpayer and prohibits the carryover of unused credits, ensuring that benefits are distributed equitably among all eligible citizens. By promoting responsible gun ownership across the state, we could cultivate a safer and more secure environment for all Georgians.

We also unanimously passed a bipartisan measure to support Georgia's servicemembers and their families as they relocate to our state with House Bill 880. HB 880 would bring our state in compliance



REPRESENTATIVE PARRISH

with the federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act by allowing the spouses of servicemembers to continue practicing their jobs without a license in certain circumstances. This military-friendly legislation would streamline the licensing process by providing clear guidelines for qualification and expedited application procedures, offering timely relief to military spouses seeking employment opportunities upon relocation to our great state.

As we continue our commitment to enhancing mental health services in our state, the House gave passage to House Bill 1104, which would address mental health risks for public and participating private school student athletes. This bipartisan bill would require athletic associations, in consultation with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, to post guidelines and relevant materials on their website to inform and educate students, parents and/or guardians, school personnel, and coaches about mental health risks and available resources for students.

The House backed our promise to support victims of human trafficking by giving unanimous passage to House Bill 1201, which would allow a victim of human trafficking to have their sentence vacated when related to the conditional discharge of possession of controlled substances as a first offense, as long as the crime was a direct result of being a victim of human trafficking. HB 1201 would help ensure that victims who are sentenced under The First Offender Act have the same opportunity of innocence as other victims of human trafficking. It is vital that we grant victims of human trafficking, who have been vacated of their offenses, a chance to re-enter society with clean records.

On Crossover Day, we gave unanimous passage to legislation that would allow for a designated essential caregiver to be present with a patient or resident of a hospital or long-term care facility while they are receiving care. House Bill 663, or the "No Patient Left Alone Act," would permit a minor or an adult who is admitted to a hospital or long-term care facility, to have a parent, guardian, person, or caregiver to be physically present with them at all times while the patient remains in the hospital or facility. As we saw during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, many Georgians who were in these facilities could not see their loved ones. This legislation would change that to ensure that patients are never left alone without their family or caregiver by their side.

Into the late hours

on Crossover Day, the House also gave unanimous passage to House Bill 499 to support disabled Georgians. HB 499 would authorize child support and insurance policies for disabled children who have become adults and have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits major life activities. HB 499 would allow a court to require either one spouse or both spouses who are in a divorce proceeding, living separately or in a state of separation to pay child support for a disabled child who has become an adult but lacks the ability to take care of themselves independently. Adults with disabilities may not be able to secure full-time employment needed to live independently so it is important we provide support for them to receive the care and supervision that they may need well into adulthood.

Finally, the General Assembly gave final passage this week to House Bill 915, the Amended Fiscal Year 2024 budget, via the adoption of a joint House and Senate conference committee report. I have provided a detailed overview of this budget in previous newsletters.

With Crossover Day now behind us, the House of Representatives will shift its focus to reviewing legislation that has passed in the Senate as we move through the final weeks of the session. We will also be tracking the progress of House legislation as it makes its way through the legislative process in the Senate to ensure final passage of our House bills. The House will return to session for Legislative Day 29 on Monday, March 4.

I was thrilled to have my friend and neighbor, Ken Warnock, sworn in as a member of the state workforce board.

I remain dedicated to serving your interests as your state representative, and I hope that you will contact me with any questions or concerns you may have regarding the legislative session or with any proposals or recommendations for future legislation.

You can also stay in touch by visiting our website at www.house.ga.gov to watch a live stream of the House in action, as well as archived committee meetings, and review legislation that we are considering.

Follow me on Facebook for updates throughout the year.

Thank you for allowing me to be your representative.

Sincerely,
Representative Butch Parrish

MAY COMMITTEES

- Special Committee on Healthcare - Chairman
 - Rules - Chairman
 - Banks & Banking
 - Economic Development & Tourism
 - Health
 - Human Relations & Aging
 - Public Health
 - Technology and Infrastructure Innovation
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HM-1 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334
404.656.5141 Office
Pamela Lewis - Administrative Assistant
- District Address**
132 Victory Drive
Swainsboro, GA 30401
478.237.3838 - Office

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

ESTATE TAG SALE

Wednesday, March 6 – Saturday, March 9, from 9am to 5pm daily, at the home of the late Louie and Francis Dryden, 311 Neal St., Swainsboro. Everything will be tagged and ready for you to purchase. This sale will last four days to enable you to have an opportunity to enjoy shopping. Included will be bedroom suits, mattresses, dining room table and chairs, two like-new leather sofas, TV, four matching bookcases, end tables, china and crystal, rattan sofa and chairs, very nice dog carrier, wide variety of pots and pans, dishes, outside yard furniture, flowerpots and two outside buildings and contents, washing machine and dryer, upright freezer, huge selection of Christmas decorations, jewelry, and so much more. Sale conducted by Edna Purvis, Ann Cobb and Meg Leonard.

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.

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A local company is seeking an individual who is mechanically inclined or has construction experience and is interested in a good paying job with benefits.

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Apply in person or contact
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whenry@ogeecheesteel.com
133 Lindsey Rd.
Swainsboro, GA 30401
478.237.2770 Ext. 31

Legals

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL IN RE: ESTATE OF JAMES EDWARD PROCTOR, DECEASED.

All creditors of the estate of James Edward Proctor, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to Richard M. McNeely, attorney for Joseph M. Proctor and Jennie Wilcher, Executors of the James Edward Proctor 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 7 day of February, 2024.

RICHARD M. MCNEELY, Attorney for Joseph M. Proctor and Jennie Wilcher Executors of the James Edward Proctor Estate

Richard M. McNeely, P.C.
P. O. Box 767
Swainsboro, Georgia 30401
(478) 237-4225

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS GEORGIA, EMANUEL COUNTY

All creditors of the estate of Nicky L. Perkins, decedent, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render in their demands to Jerry N. Cadle, P.C., P.O. Box 68, Swainsboro, GA 30401 according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 15th day of February, 2024.

Vicki W. Perkins, Executrix of the Estate of

Nicky L. Perkins, decedent

Jerry N. Cadle, P.C.

P.O. Box 68

Swainsboro, GA 30401

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF EMANUEL COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF MARK RINGER, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 24E0021 PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES and to whom it may concern:

Jamie Fountain has petitioned for Morgan Boulineau to be appointed administrator of the estate of Mark Ringer 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 MARCH 25, 2024.

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 S. Main Street
Swainsboro, Ga. 30401
Address
(478) 237-7091
Telephone Number
I

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, EMANUEL COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Megan L Edenfield and Dakota M Edenfield to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for LOANDEPOT.COM, LLC, its successors and assigns, dated August 21, 2019, recorded in Deed Book 485, Page 7, Emanuel County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to MidFirst Bank by assignment recorded in Deed Book 517, Page 552, Emanuel County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY-FOUR AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$137,464.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Emanuel County, Georgia, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in May, 2024, the following described property: SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF

The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 13-1-11 having been given).

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to the Security Deed first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned.

MIDFIRST BANK is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCGA § 44-14-162.2.

The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: Midland Mortgage, a division of MidFirst Bank, 999 N.W. Grand Boulevard Suite 100, Oklahoma City, OK 73118-6116, 800-654-4566.

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

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Megan L Edenfield and Dakota M Edenfield or a tenant or tenants and said property is more commonly known as 2331 US Highway 80 E, Twin City, Georgia 30471. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description the legal description will control.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed.

MIDFIRST BANK
as Attorney in Fact for
Megan L Edenfield and Dakota M Edenfield
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC
1544 Old Alabama Road
Roswell, GA 30076

www.foreclosurehotline.net
EXHIBIT "A"
All that tract or parcel of land lying, situate, and being in the 1560th G. M. District of Emanuel County, Georgia, containing 6.383 acres, more or less, and designated at Parcel No. 2 on that particular Plat of Survey prepared by George William Donaldson, Surveyor, dated December 21, 2007, which is recorded in Plat Book 20, page 78D, of the Records of the Office of the Clerk, Emanuel Superior Court. Said plat by reference hereto is incorporated herein for a more full, complete, and accurate description of said property. Said tract of land being bounded according to said plat, now or formerly, as follows: North by Parcel No. 7 as shown on said plat; East by Parcel No. 3 as shown on said plat; South by the right-of-way of U.S. Highway 80; and West by Parcel No. 9 as shown on said plat.

There is also conveyed to the Grantee herein an easement for ingress and egress over and across the existing woods road, as shown on plat of survey that extends from the right-of-way of U. S. Highway 80 along a portion of Parcel No. 9 of said property. Said easement shall extend from the right-of-way of U.S. Highway 80 to the northwestern most corner of Parcel No. 2 as shown on said plat. This easement is for purposes of ingress and egress to Parcel No. 2, shall run with the land and shall be for the benefit of the Grantee herein, his heirs, successors, and assigns.

MR/ca 5/7/24
Our file no. 22-06192GA - FT17
I

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, EMANUEL COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Yasmine D Turner to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc., its successors and assigns, dated March 9, 2020, recorded in Deed Book 493, Page 551, Emanuel County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 536, Page 407, Emanuel County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of NINETY THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$90,824.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash

before the courthouse door of Emanuel County, Georgia, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in April, 2024, the following described property: SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF

The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 13-1-11 having been given).

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to the Security Deed first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned.

Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc. is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCGA § 44-14-162.2.

The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: Rocket Mortgage, LLC, 1050 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48226, 734-805-7125.

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

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Yasmine D Turner or a tenant or tenants and said property is more commonly known as 502 Richard St, Swainsboro, Georgia 30401. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description the legal description will control.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed.

Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc.
as Attorney in Fact for
Yasmine D Turner
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC
1544 Old Alabama Road
Roswell, GA 30076
www.foreclosurehotline.net
EXHIBIT "A"

One certain tract or parcel of land, together with any and all improvements thereon, lying an being in the 53rd G.M. District, Emanuel County, City of Swainsboro, Georgia, and being known as Lot No. 1 in Block H of Neal's Fine Haven Subdivision as shown on plat prepared by Frank J. Ford, Surveyor, September 19, 1959, and recorded in Plat Book 1 page 259, of the Records of the Clerk, Superior Court, Emanuel County, Georgia. Said lot being more particularly shown on an individual plat of same prepared by Frank J. Ford, Surveyor, on August 2, 1963, and recorded in Plat Book 2, page 235, aforesaid Clerks Records. Said Lot No. 1 in Block H being bounded as follows: On the Northeast for 117.98 feet by Richard Street; on the Southeast for 150 feet by Lot No. 2, Block H, said subdivision; on the Southwest for 121.85 feet by lands now or formerly of Mrs. Richard Neal; and on the Northwest for 150 feet by James Avenue.

ALSO: All that tract or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the City of Swainsboro, 53rd G. M. District of Emanuel County, Georgia, and being designated as Parcel "A", Lot 2, Block H, of Neal's Pine Haven Subdivision on a Plat prepared by Walter K. Maupin, Surveyor, dated June 13, 1977, and recorded in Plat Book 8, page 673, in the records of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Emanuel County, Georgia. Said Plat is hereby incorporated herein for a more full, complete and accurate description hereof. Said property being bounded as shown on said plat as follows: On the Northeast by Richard Street; Southeast by Parcel "B" Lot 2, Block H, said subdivision; Southwest by lands now or formerly of Mrs. Richard Neal and Northwest by Lot No. 1, Block H, said subdivision.

The above described tracts of land is the same as that conveyed by a Joint Survivorship Warranty Deed dated August 31, 2010 to Mark Galo and Ashley Galo from Shelby Coleman, which is recorded in Deed Book 344, Pages 427-428, of the Records Office of Clerk, Emanuel County Superior Court.

MR/kri 4/2/24
Our file no. 24-13962GA - FT1
I

Notice of Sale Under Power State of Georgia, County of Emanuel. Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed given by 308 Glenwood Associates LLC ("Grantor") to Newtek Small Business Finance LLC ("Grantee"), dated November 22, 2019, and recorded December 10, 2019 in Deed Book 489, Page 401, Emanuel County, Georgia records (the "Security Deed"), conveying the after-described property to secure a certain Note dated November 22, 2019 in the original principal amount of \$1,738,800.00 from Place Vendome Holding Co., Inc. and 308 Glenwood Associates LLC to Grantee (the "Note"), with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Emanuel County Courthouse within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in April, 2024, the following described property:

Tract one: All that tract or parcel of land lying, situate, and being in the 53rd G.M. District of Emanuel County, Georgia, containing Four and Two Hundred Eleven One Thousandths (4.211) acres, more or less, and bounded as follows: East by Meadowlake Parkway; North by the lands of Mrs. Jerry Rich; South by lands of Emanuel County Development Authority; and West by Glenwood Road. Said property is more particularly described in plat made by J.C. McLeod, surveyor, dated December 21, 1972, which is recorded in the Office of the Clerk, Emanuel Superior Court, in Plat Book 7, Page 50, to which reference is made as a part of this description.

Tract two: All that certain tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the City of Swainsboro, 53rd G.M. District of Emanuel County, Georgia, containing 0.950 acres and designated as Parcel No. Two on a plat prepared by George William Donaldson, Surveyor, dated May 25, 1989, and recorded in Plat Book 14, Page 206, of the records of the Clerk, Superior Court, Emanuel County, Georgia. Said Plat is hereby incorporated herein for a more full, complete,

and accurate description hereof. Said property being bounded as shown on said plat as follows: On the North by Parcel No. One as described by said plat; East and Southeast by land of Rich, et. al.; on the Southwest by lands of the Emanuel County Forestry Unit; on the West and Northwest by lands of Ithaca Industries, Inc.

Being the same property conveyed to 308 Glenwood Associates LLC from Emanuel County Development Authority by Limited Warranty Deed, dated March 28, 2016 and recorded on April 12, 2016 in Book 429, Page 18.

A.P.N. 096-033

The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note, Guaranty and Security Deed. Because the debt remains in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorneys' fees (notice of intent to collect attorneys' fees having been given). Newtek Small Business Finance, LLC is the present holder of the Note, Guaranty and Security Deed. Newtek Small Business Finance, LLC is the entity with full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the loan. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 44-14-162.2, Newtek Small Business Finance, LLC may be contacted at: Newtek Small Business Finance, LLC, 1981 Marcus Avenue, Suite 130, Lake Success, NY 11042. Please note that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. 44-14-162.2, the secured creditor is not required to amend or modify the terms of the loan. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party/parties in possession of the subject property known as **308 Glenwood Road, Swainsboro, Georgia 30401** is/ are: 308 Glenwood Associates LLC or tenant/tenants. Said property will be sold subject to (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (c) all matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above, including, but not limited to, assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, easements, restrictions, covenants, etc. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and nonjudicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided in the preceding paragraph. Newtek Small Business Finance, LLC as Attorney in Fact for 308 Glenwood Associates LLC. THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ROBINSON FRANZMAN LLP, 191 Peachtree Street, N.E., Suite 2600, Atlanta, Georgia 30303 Telephone: (404) 255-2503.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF EMANUEL COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF HERBERT MOORMAN, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 24E0023 PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES and to whom it may concern:

TONYA K. MOORMAN has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of HERBERT MOORMAN 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 APRIL 1, 2024.

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 S. Main Street
Swainsboro, Ga. 30401
Address
(478) 237-7091
Telephone Number
I

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF EMANUEL COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

Civil Action File No. 24CV55
JAMIE TRYON
Plaintiff,

v.
NEWMAN TRYON
Defendant.

SUMMONS

To the above-named defendant: You are hereby summoned and required to file with the Clerk of said Court and serve upon Jamie Tyron, the pro se plaintiff, whose address is 9866 Burkhalter Rd. Statesboro, Ga 30458 complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 30 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

This 1st day of March, 2024.
Clerk of Superior Court, Emanuel County
I

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF EMANUEL COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF WILLIE LEE BELL, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 24E0013 PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES and to whom it may concern:

CLARISSA BELL CAMPBELL has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of WILLIE LEE BELL 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 APRIL 1, 2024.

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 S. Main Street
Swainsboro, Ga. 30401
Address
(478) 237-7091
Telephone Number
I

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF EMANUEL COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF STEVEN NEIL MUNS, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 24E0025 PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES and to whom it may concern:

PATRICIA MUNS has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of STEVEN NEIL MUNS 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 APRIL 1, 2024.

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 S. Main Street
Swainsboro, Ga. 30401
Address
(478) 237-7091
Telephone Number
I

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 S. Main Street
Swainsboro, Ga. 30401
Address
(478) 237-7091
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I



514 Industrial Way • Swainsboro
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20 X 120 TRUCK PARKING

SEMI TRUCK PARKING



PUBLIC NOTICE

All units listed will be sold on or after
March 11, 2024
if balances on said units are not paid in full.

Tiara Williams Unit# 243

Tiffyne Crouch Unit# 442

Rhonda Reed Unit# 522

Billy Barwick Unit# 707

High school teachers in Emanuel County Schools successfull complete another round of Industry Tours

Over 100 teachers, administrators, counselors, and staff members from Emanuel County Schools recently gathered at the Swainsboro High School cafeteria to kick off another series of industry tours. Prior to this event, educators collaborated with instructional coaches, counselors, graduation coaches, and teacher leaders to understand the importance of these tours for our students and community. The tours help educators define the industry skills needed to prepare students for success. Teachers use this knowledge to integrate these skills into their classroom instruction. By doing so, they aim to prepare students for future careers and help them understand the potential career opportunities available in the community.

The morning began with a Chick-fil-A breakfast sponsored by the Emanuel County Development Authority. Dr. Shannon Lawrence,

CTAE Director of ECS, welcomed the group, while Britt McDade, Owner and Operator of Chick-fil-A of Vidalia, delivered an inspirational talk on servant leadership. Ken Warnock, CEO of the Emanuel County Chamber of Commerce and the Emanuel County Development Authority, gave an overview of the initiative and its importance in our community.

Each group toured two industries or businesses. The following business and industry partners participated in this round of tours: Advanced Metal Components, AirStar, American Knits, American Steel, Daniels Chevrolet, East Georgia Healthcare, East Georgia State College, Emanuel Medical Center, Faircloth Forest Products, Nordson, Southeastern Technical College, Stitch-N-Print, and WinCore.

After completing the tours, the participants were asked to respond to a survey. Below are some of the responses when

asked how they plan to utilize this experience to benefit their students:

"I think that this gives me more knowledge that I can share with my students about career opportunities in Emanuel County."

"This Friday I will play a version of "Headbands" in which the students go to the chamber of commerce website and select a job for a friend at the table, write it on a sticky note and post it on their friend's forehead. Then the friend asks questions and guesses what job they have been given."

"We have a lot of dual enrollment and Accelerated Career Diploma kids. I know what they are talking about now."

"I will share this information with others, including students. I will work and show appreciation to our partners."

"I would like to organize industrial tours for my ESOL students, juniors and seniors."

"I plan to discuss

the programs and opportunities available through STC and EGSC. I would like to see us take the 10th grade class on industry tours, especially to STC and EGSC, to expose them to the programs available. These are the students who would be enrolling in DE the next year, and it could give them some guidance on choosing courses."

"I can identify more diploma and certificate programs at Southeastern Tech and how long the programs take to complete. This can help me inform students who are interested. After visiting Emanuel Medical Center, I am aware of many more jobs and career opportunities that our students can find at Emanuel Medical Center. I can also share the excellent ratings and evaluation criteria for our local hospital."

I plan to share what I learned with students and the community about the opportunities available to our students in our own community. Hopefully,

they will not feel the need to leave our community to have a successful career.

Additional comments about the day:

"Today was outstanding. All counties need to be doing this! It was great to go into the businesses and see for myself what our students would be doing."

"The tours seemed much more organized this time. I was happy to have printed information to bring back to my students. Our guides were better prepared to provide information about what our students need to do to take advantage of the opportunities available."

"The industry tours were great. Southeastern Tech has a lot of great programs for the kids. I was impressed on their facilities and hands on opportunities offered. Wincore was eye-opening. I did not know all the components to this business and I was very interested in learning about this business and everything behind the scenes."

"Having the representatives from STC travel with us to each site. I enjoyed hearing them explain what programs they offered and how they would help students gain employment at each location."

"I love that you incorporated the college tours to help teachers connect the dots and see the programs that are offered right here in their community."

Dr. Shannon Lawrence, CTAE Director, said, "We are hopeful that our Industry tours are giving our teachers new experiences to help shape conversations for our students to be able to better plan their futures. We hope to start incorporating industry tours with students so that teachers and students will be fully knowledgeable about the opportunities in our area. We are so grateful to our industry and business for always being willing to host and share their story."



AMERICA KNITS



SOUTHEASTERN TECH



CHIC-FIL-A



EMANUEL MEDICAL CENTER



EAST GEORGIA STATE COLLEGE



SWAINSBORO TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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

Sixteen 7th-12th grade 4-H'ers competed at District Project Achievement February 9-11, held at Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton, and 15 came home as first, second, or third place winners. Paxton Dixon, Lauren Sapp and Sam Williams will be advancing to State 4-H Congress this summer.

First Place Winners were: Sam Williams, 9th Grade Festive Foods; Scout Hall, 8th grade General Recreation; Lauren Sapp, 10th grade General Recreation; Hannah Camarero, 7th Grade Food for Fitness; Nathaniel Harry, 7th Grade Target Sports; and Stella Kate Marsh, 7th Grade Team Sports.

Second Place Winners were: Nataleigh Belcher, 11th Grade Safety; Yasmin Rios, 10th Grade International; Paxton Dixon, 9th Grade Wildlife; Parker Frederick, 11th Grade Human Development; Sydney Lively, 7th Grade Horse; Lilly O'Quinn, 7th Grade Dog Care & Training; and

Morgan Terry, 10th Grade Food for Fitness.

Third Place Winners were: FaithAnn Rogers, 12th Grade Performing Arts-Vocal; and Terralynn Brinson, 10th grade Photography and Videography.

Also earning honorable mention was Maritza Martinez, 7th Grade General Recreation.

In addition to individual project competition for 4-H'ers, other awards were given out as well. Emanuel County 4-H received an award for having the highest percentage (100%) of Senior winners (9th-12th Grade) placed in their project area. Graduating senior FaithAnn Rogers was also recognized for her achievements and received an honor cord to be worn with her cap and gown at graduation.

While at District Project Achievement, 4-H'ers also have the opportunity to campaign and be elected to the Southeast District Board of Directors. Nataleigh Belcher was elected to serve

as a representative to the Senior Board and will represent Emanuel County and the Southeast 4-H District on the 2024-2025 board.

4-H Project Achievement is a cornerstone of the Georgia 4-H program. 4-H'ers pick a project area of interest, complete project work in that area throughout the year then research a specific topic, write a presentation, and present it to a judging panel. The 7th-12th grade competition process also includes submitting a portfolio. For Senior (9th-12th Grade) 4-H'ers, District winners also have the opportunity to compete at the state level to become a Master 4-H'er and attend State Congress. State winners advance to National Congress.

For more information on Emanuel County 4-H and how you can get involved, call the UGA Extension Office at (478) 237-1226 or visit our office located at 129 North Anderson Drive in Swainsboro.



LILLY O'QUINN, NATALEIGH BELCHER, MARITZA MARTINEZ, HANNAH CAMARERO, STELLA MARSH, SCOUT HALL, NATHANIEL HARRY, GRACIE JONES, EMANUEL COUNTY 4-H EDUCATOR, LAUREN SAPP, PARKER FREDERICK, TERRALYNN BRINSON, PAXTON DIXON, JAKYN TYSON, EMANUEL COUNTY 4-H AGENT, YASMIN RIOS, SYDNEY LIVELY, FAITHANN ROGERS, MORGAN TERRY AND SAM WILLIAMS



DELLWOOD BAPTIST

Hwy. 1 North
Joe Bedgood, Min.



ASSEMBLY OF GOD
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
529 S. Main St., 478-237-7535

BAPTIST
ADRIAN BAPTIST
210 N. Nora St., Adrian
David Oliver, Min., 478-668-3589

ANTIOCH PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
827 Antioch Church Rd., Twin City
Elder Jim Bowen, 912-763-3726

BAPTIST REST
Twin City
Elder Mike Gray

BETHEL PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
231 Harmon Rd., 478-237-5387

BITHYNIA PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
2270 Hwy. 1 North

BLUNDALE BAPTIST
2675 Hwy. 1 North, 478-494-8538
Shannon Boula, Min.

CANOOCHEE BAPTIST
Twin City, 912-687-3449
Mark Wiggins, Min.

COMMUNITY BAPTIST
342 Market St., 478-237-6585
Lenard Richards, Min.

DELLWOOD BAPTIST
Hwy. 1 North
Joe Bedgood, Min.

EL BETHEL BAPTIST
1726 Fannie Brewer Rd., Twin City
Larry Jennings, Min., 478-763-2001

EMANUEL COMMUNITY BAPTIST
Adrian

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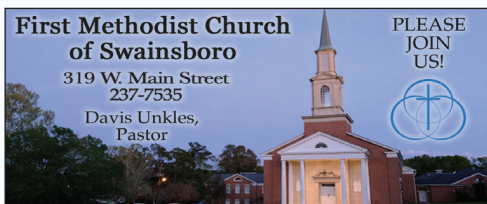
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Peace is what the world seems to lack more and more. Where there is confusion, discord, pride, hatred, jealous, envy and strife, then there is no peace.

When I read St. John 14:1 Jesus said for us not to let our hearts be troubled. He was preparing his disciples for his departure. They began to feel abandoned. They began to feel hopeless. But Jesus promised in that same chapter to send them a Comfort-

Follow Peace

er. He said if he didn't go away then the Comforter could not come. The Comforter is The Holy Spirit (John 14:26). Jesus said that he would abide with you forever.

So don't be discouraged. You don't have to live in unrest. John 14:27 Jesus said, "My peace I leave with you, not as the world gives, I give unto you." So receive the peace of Jesus Christ. In Romans 14:17 Paul tells the Romans to "Follow peace with all men

and holiness without which no man shall see the Lord".

So today there is peace on earth. Remember the angel at the birth of Jesus announced to the shepherds, "peace on earth and goodwill toward men." So today, follow Peace. Matthew 5:6 tells us that "Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God". So my brothers and sisters, follow after peace, it's your identity as a child of God.

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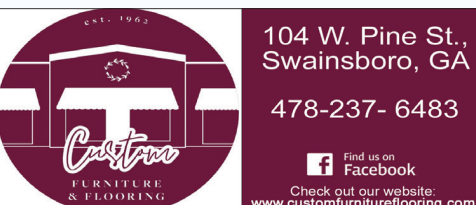
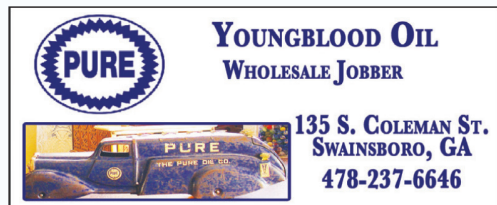
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