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# The Forest-Blade

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VOLUME 165, NO.11 Swainsboro, Georgia • March 13, 2024 ONE DOLLAR

## Dr. Warnock named Superintendent

The Emanuel County Board of Education voted unanimously at a called meeting on Thursday, March 7, to approve the appointment of Dr. Denise Warnock as the next Emanuel County School Superintendent. Dr. Warnock is replacing retiring Superintendent Scotty W. Hattaway and will assume her duties on April 1, 2024.

Dr. Warnock brings a wealth of experience and a proven commitment to Emanuel County Schools. She has dedicated her entire educational career to public education in service to the students and families of Emanuel County. "I am honored to be appointed the next Superintendent



**DR. WARNOCK** of Emanuel County Schools," says Dr. Warnock. "To ensure our community's prosperity and promote its growth, a viable school system is essential. The students, parents, teachers, administrators, and community at large have been an integral part of my life. As such, I am fully invested in the success-

ful future of our school district and community. As I reflect on my career, it is clear to me how fortunate I have been to gain invaluable knowledge and expertise from my colleagues. Their varying perspectives and professional input have guided my abilities to think critically and solve problems effectively. Over time and experience, I have found one fundamental tenet common to every impactful educator: every child is teachable and capable of learning. I sincerely believe that the influence of an educator hinges on whether that educator truly believes they can make a difference (Continued on page 2A)

## Wright announces plans for retirement

Long time Tax Commissioner Sandra Wright has announced her plans for retirement.

"My plans are to retire at the end of my term in December 2024. I have been blessed to have worked hard in the Tax Commissioner's Office for 46 years. At the end of my term, I will have served as Tax Commissioner for 28 of those years. It is time for me to move on with the next



**WRIGHT** phase of my life and

let the younger minds handle the office," said Wright. "My plans are to enjoy my grandchildren and my great-grandbabies and hopefully do some traveling. I am looking forward to not being on a schedule. I want to say thank you to the citizens of Emanuel County for the trust you have placed in me by allowing me to serve as your Tax Commissioner."

## Swainsboro native bringing the Air Force to town

One of Swainsboro's very own will return home soon. At work, his title is Flight Commander Lieutenant Sconyers, but around here most folks just call him Jay. There will be a few Air Force buddies coming along with him when the Swainsboro native pays a visit. As a matter of fact there will be 61 of them and they comprise the United States Air Force Band of the West, from Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Lieutenant Sconyers is responsible for assisting the Unit Commander in leading, organizing, and equipping the squadron as they travel to engagements throughout this area of the United States



**SCONYERS** and abroad on behalf of the 502d Air Base Wing. On Sunday, March 24, 2024, The United States Air Force Band of the West will travel our way, and along with Associate Conductor Lieutenant Jay Sconyers the group will appear on the campus of East Georgia State College here in Swains-

boro. The 3:00 p.m. concert will feature a program of band classics and a debut performance of a new work by composer Henry Jackman known for blockbuster musical scores for major Disney Productions. Tickets are free and the public is encouraged to attend. Prior to serving in the Air Force, Lieutenant Sconyers was Director of Bands at McNeese State University. He received his doctorate in conducting (2017) from the University of South Carolina, where he studied with Dr. Scott Weiss, and his bachelor's degree (2009) and Master of Music Education (2011) from the (Continued on page 2A)

## Council accepts new alcohol ordinance

The Swainsboro City Council held a called meeting on Monday evening, March 11, for the purpose of considering the adoption of the new Alcohol Ordinance for the City of Swainsboro. Present were Councilpersons Collins, Davis, Foster, Quarterman, Sconyers and Stafford. Mayor Greg Bennett was excluded from participation in the meeting due to conflict of interest. Mayor Pro Tempore Bobbie Collins conducted the meeting in which Councilperson Sconyers made a motion to adopt the new ordinance. Councilperson Foster seconded the motion, and a 5 - 0 vote resulted in its passage. The new ordinance goes into effect April 15, 2024. There was no further business reported.



ADVANCED METAL

## Jemison Metals expands portfolio with acquisition of Advanced Metal Components, Inc.

Jemison Metals, a leading provider in the metal manufacturing industry, announces a definitive agreement to acquire Advanced Metal Components, Inc. This strategic acquisition marks another milestone in Jemison Metals' commitment to growth and diversification within the metal sector. The transaction is scheduled to be completed on or before March 29, 2024.

"We are thrilled to welcome Advanced Metal Components into the

Jemison Metals family", said Craig Mathiason, CEO of Jemison Metals. "Their reputation for excellence and commitment to innovation align perfectly with our values. This acquisition further enhances our ability to meet the evolving needs of our customers and underscores our dedication to driving industry-leading solutions."

Doug Brown, President of Advanced Metal Components, expressed his enthusiasm regard-

ing the acquisition, stating, "I am excited about the opportunities that the acquisition by Jemison Metals will provide our customers and our employees. By joining forces with Jemison Metals, we gain access to greater resources and a broader platform to showcase our expertise. Together, we are poised to deliver even greater value to our customers and drive innovation in the metal manufacturing landscape." (Continued on page 2A)

## New faces on the local political scene

Voters in Emanuel County might feel like they need a weekly scorecard to keep up with politics as we roll into the summer and fall. The Georgia Presidential Primary and Emanuel County District 1 Commissioner election has just taken place. Qualifying for the Georgia General Primary/Non-Partisan Election ended Friday, March 8. The Georgia General Election is coming up on May 21, 2024, for numerous county offices, and on the national scene, the Presidential races including the Democratic Party Convention in July and the Republican Party National convention in August are all up ahead.

A recap of those qualifying for the May 21, 2024, county election includes Brandon Jones who will be unopposed for the Board of Education District 1 post. Incumbent Del Brown will face Cathi Frederickson for Board of Education District 3 and John Allen Bailly is unopposed for District

7. In the May 21, 2024, election for the regular term of County Commissioner for District 1, five candidates have qualified. Kwame Coleman, Kenny Griffin and Quin McKinney are running as a Democrat, Allen Farley will run as a Republican and Chris Jukes has qualified as a Republican. In the race for District 3 County Commissioner, four candidates are seeking the slot and will all run as Republicans. They are Nicky Alfonso, Chandra Hooks, John "Johnny" Moore and Randy Youmans.

The remainder of the May 21, 2024, ballot

will feature uncontested races. For the post of County Coroner, Incumbent Jeffrey Peebles is the sole qualifying candidate. In the office of Probate Judge, a political newcomer, J. Chase Sherrod has qualified without opposition. For Sheriff, the incumbent Jeff Brewer is unopposed and for Solicitor, Cindy Delgado is the sole candidate. Incumbent Richard McNeely is the single candidate for State Court Judge, and another political novice, Jessica Underwood Moran, will have no opposition in the race for the post of County Tax Commissioner.

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## Dr. Warnock named...

(From front page)  
in every student’s life. I am confident that every student can experience growth through personalized instruction under the guidance of a teacher who has faith in that student’s success. In order for teachers to do their jobs effectively, they and our other employees need school and district leaders who provide and ensure a safe

and secure learning environment for students and a safe and secure work environment for adults. I look forward to continuing to work with the ECS Board of Education, our system’s educators, parents, and community members to capture Emanuel County School’s vision of strengthening our community one student at a time.”

Dr. Warnock is cur-

rently the Assistant Superintendent of Emanuel County Schools. A native of South Georgia, she has proudly called Swainsboro-Emanuel County home for most of her adult life. She and her husband, Ken Warnock, have been married for 27 years and have a son, Cameron, and daughter-in-law, Megan, who live in Woodstock, Georgia.

## Swainsboro native brings...

(From front page)  
University of Georgia, where he studied trumpet with Professor Fred Mills. Prior to his time in higher education, Sconyers served as the Director of Bands at Elbert County Comprehensive High School in Elberton, GA. He has performed in a wide variety of instrumental and choral ensembles, performing throughout the United States, Germany, Australia, Italy, the Vatican, and China. Jay has served as an associate producer with the USC Wind Ensem-

ble’s album Dynasty on the Summit Label and as a producer and conductor on the McNeese State University Marching Band’s album McNeese Saturday Nights. Lt Sconyers is heavily involved in the marching band and drum and bugle corps activities having previously served on the instructional staff of the University of Georgia Redcoat Band, University of South Carolina Marching Band, several open and world class drum and bugle corps, and is an alumnus of Carolina Crown Drum and Bugle Corps.

Currently, he serves as a brass instructor with the Blue Stars Drum and Bugle Corps (2016-present). He is an active music arranger, drill designer, adjudicator, and clinician throughout the United States.

During his earlier school years in Swainsboro, Jay studied under Mrs. Paula Scott, Dr. Gene Hundley, Ms. Stephanie Lawless, and Mr. Barry Golden. He is a 2003 Honor Graduate of Swainsboro High School and is the son of Julian and Norma Sconyers.

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### EMANUEL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

## Local Board members recognized

The Emanuel County School District is participating in a celebration across the state to recognize local school board members’ hard work and commitment. Georgia has declared the week of March 11-15, as School Board Appreciation Week. The purpose of this weeklong celebration is to express gratitude to the Emanuel County Board of Education members for their service and dedication.

“As Superintendent of this district, I am privileged to work alongside a group of dedicated individuals who consistently demonstrate unwavering support, guidance, and appreciation,” says Superintendent Scotty Hattaway. “During this School Board Appreciation week, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for the incredible support you provide me and the entire educational community. Your commitment to excellence,

strategic vision, and advocacy for education have not only shaped our schools but also profoundly impacted the lives of our students and staff. Your unwavering support has created an environment where innovation, collaboration, and growth thrive. Your willingness to listen, thoughtful guidance, and collaborative approach make working with you a true pleasure. Your support enables me to navigate challenges, celebrate successes, and continuously strive for improvement in our educational system.” Superintendent Hattaway thanked the School Board Members for making all of our students, faculty, staff, and stakeholders feel supported, valued, and appreciated. “Your dedication to our schools, students, and community is truly inspiring. I am honored to work alongside such a dedicated group of servant leaders who are committed

to making a difference in the lives of others.”

The current Board of Education members and how long they have served our school district are as follows: District 1 – Brandon Jones - 1<sup>st</sup> year; District 2 – Cherie Hooks - 2<sup>nd</sup> year; District 3 – Del Brown, Chairman - 7<sup>th</sup> year; District 4 – Tanya Lane - 5<sup>th</sup> year; District 5– Johnny Parker, Vice-Chair - 9<sup>th</sup> year; District 6–Sandra Swinney - 5<sup>th</sup> year; District 7 – John Allen Bailey - 7<sup>th</sup> year. As constitutional officers of Georgia, school board members are responsible for setting educational policies, employing school personnel, providing buildings and equipment, operating a transportation system, and disbursing school funds. As community leaders, school board members advocate for the children in local public schools. They must study, evaluate, and decide what actions are in the best interest of those students.

## Jemison Metals expands...

(From front page)  
Looking ahead, Doug remarked, “This is a great opportunity for the future of the company and its employees. Jemison is a great company, and I am looking forward to my new role in operating the Jemison Metals facility in Swainsboro.”

About Jemison Metals

Jemison Metals is

a leading supplier of carbon flat-rolled products. The Advanced Metal Components facility will mark Jemison Metals’ seventh processing location, complementing its existing operations in Ohio; South Carolina (2); Virginia; and two locations in Alabama.

For more information about Jemison Metals, please visit [www.jemisonmetals.com](http://www.jemisonmetals.com).

sonmetals.com.

About Advanced Metals Components  
Founded in 1977 by Richard L. and Regina Brown, Advanced Metal Components, located in Swainsboro, Georgia, is a leader in precision sheet metal manufacturing. Doug Brown assumed the role of President in 2001, overseeing day-to-day operations.

## SSC/SSU to hold meeting

There will be a meeting of Savannah State University Alumni on Thursday, March 21, at The Rustic Grill at 6 p.m. For more information, contact Rita Faulkner at 478.237.9609 or 478.494.8263.

Thank You!

**WE APPRECIATE OUR MILITARY AND ALL YOU DO FOR OUR COUNTRY!**

### The Forest-Blade

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## 2nd Annual Easter Eggstravaganza to be held

by MELISSA KIRBY,  
DOWNTOWN  
DEVELOPMENT  
DIRECTOR

Did someone say Easter Bunny?? If you missed him last year, he will be back for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Easter Eggstravaganza. We will kick it off with the Golden Egg Hunt giveaway on March 19–22, for kids ages 12 and under. To enter the giveaway drawing, visit any of the participating businesses, find the hidden egg and take a picture with the egg at the store, have a parent post the picture to their Facebook page and tag the business AND Downtown Swainsboro Georgia Facebook page. All entries must be posted on Facebook prior to midnight on March 22.

We hope everyone will join us Downtown on Saturday March 23, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. during our Downtown Business Egg Hunt so be sure to follow the Downtown Swainsboro Georgia Facebook page. The Downtown Development Authority coordinates this event with the help of many others in our community. To stay up to date on things happening in our community, make sure you are following the



### EGGSTRAVAGANZA FLYER

Hunt! The Easter Bunny will reveal the winner of the Golden Egg Prize during our Downtown Business Egg Hunt so be sure to follow the Downtown Swainsboro Georgia Facebook page.

The Downtown Development Authority coordinates this event with the help of many others in our community. To stay up to date on things happening in our community, make sure you are following the

Downtown Swainsboro Georgia and City of Swainsboro Facebook pages. The DDA board would love to hear your feedback or recommendations for future events/activities that you would like to see in Downtown Swainsboro. This information can be sent to [melissa@cityofswainsboro.org](mailto:melissa@cityofswainsboro.org). We hope you will come out and support our small businesses who make this event possible.



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## Emanuel Artists Guild exhibition scheduled at EAC

An exhibition of artworks by members of the Emanuel Artists Guild will be featured at The Kalmanson Gallery of Emanuel Arts Council. An opening reception will be held March 21, from 5 to 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. The exhibition will be on display through April 26.

The Guild is an informal group of local artists who meet twice a month at the gallery to create art. Art pieces on display will include various mediums including oil and watercolor paintings, and photography. Anyone is welcome to join the Guild. Find the group page on Facebook for more

information.

The Emanuel Arts Council is located at 109 North Green Street next to Bangles II Salon and Stewart's Jewelers. Hours are Tuesday through Friday, from 12 to 3 p.m. For more information on programming, find Emanuel Arts Council on Facebook and Instagram.

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**Miranda Brooke Williamson, 18**  


Miranda Brooke Williamson, 18, of Oak Park, passed away Saturday, March 9, 2024, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Funeral services will be Wednesday, March 13, at 11 a.m. at Oak Park Church of God with Pastor Aaron Moncrief officiating. Interment will follow in Oak Park City Cemetery. The family received friends Tuesday, March 12, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Chapman Funeral Home.  
Pallbearers will be Jordan Powell, Terry Powell, Thomas Williamson, Blake Walker, Alvin Williamson, Jr. and Neal Rogers.  
Brooke was born March 19, 2005, to Billy Williamson and Kimberly Kay Rogers Williamson. She was a senior at Swainsboro High School and would have graduated with the class of 2024. Brooke was a member of Oak Park Church of God where she served doing many outreaches alongside her church family. She also sang on the Praise Team. To know Brooke was to love her. Her personality was hers alone. Brooke loved art and fishing with her brothers. She worked at The Stockyard in Swainsboro as a server and had

**Minister Bobby Lee Allen, Sr., 78**  
  
**ALLEN**  
Allen; sons, Bobby Allen, Jr.(Patricia)of Mansfield, CT, Alexander Allen (Cherie) and LeBron Allen (Deidre), both of Miami, FL; four stepchildren, Martha Cheeks, Darlene Fields (Willie), Alphonso Durden (Almeatta), all of Swainsboro and LaTonya Durden of Acworth; nine grandchildren; one great-grandchild; four siblings, Annie Franklin, Pastor James Allen (Melrose), Alvin Allen (Vivian) and Mary Allen; nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of friends.  
Mosley's Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

**Thank You**  
  
**We would like to thank our many friends and family for the overwhelming support during the loss of our loved one.**  
**The letters, cards, calls, food, flowers, visits and prayers during this time meant so much to us. May God bless each and every one of you.**  
*The family of Steve Akridge*

**Marion Elizabeth Shanks, 51**  
  
**SHANKS**  
true to the Bible verse, 2 Corinthians 5:7 "for we walk by faith, not by sight". Marion was an avid church member and loved the Lord and her church. She was a member of The Guiding Light Worship Center, "Sisters With A Purpose", "Nurse's Guild" and "Prayer Warriors". Ministry was Marion's passion. Ms. Shanks is preceded in death by her mother; foster mother, Christine Bell; and brother, Mannix Pullens.  
Ms. Shanks leaves to cherish her memories with her father, Raymond Shanks Sr. of Vidalia; children, Quantiana "Tee" Lovette (LaDarris) of Statesboro, Quantez "Tez" Gillis of Decatur, Vernincia "Boobie" Gillis, Wykebia "Kebie" McKinney and Wykeria "Kerie" McKinney, all of Vidalia; her most prized possessions, her grandchildren, Qua'Ny-la "Nyla" Gillis of Atlanta, De'Mari "D.J." Jenkins, Damian "2 J" Jones of Vidalia, Aubrianna "Aubri" Royal of Statesboro, Aliyah "Liah" Jones, Kamari "Mari" McKinney, Zaylee Hanson, Melonie "Lon-Lon" McKinney, Blossom Stokes, all of Vidalia and Malachi Lovette, of Statesboro; her soon to enter the world grandson, Major Edwards; four sisters, Teresa "Resa" Shanks of New Hampshire, Tonya Shanks of Atlanta, Tonya "Kim" Moorman of Swainsboro and Tracy (Arthur) Cubreth of Statesboro; five brothers, Raymond "Jr." (Torri) Shanks, Jr. of Alamo, Timothy "Timmy" (Jacquelyn) Shanks, Gerald Shanks of Swainsboro, Jimmy Shanks of Vidalia and Lashawn "Ray Paul" Shanks of Valdosta; many, many devoted and loyal friends, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.  
Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro was in charge of arrangements.

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5:30 PM - Bible Study  
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# Editorials Columns

## Our Best?

In a little over seven months, this country will select one candidate in the Presidential election to serve as the leader of this nation for the next four years. There are many questions to answer concerning platform and policy, world events, domestic issues and on and on. One question, however, stands out above all the others in the minds of many, and is perhaps the gravest and most consequential one of all. That simple question concerns the quality of the two leading candidates and bluntly asks, "Is this the very best our country has to offer?" The follow-up to that is another question that is just

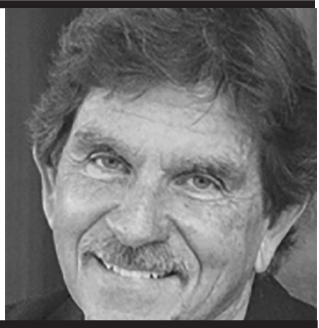
as curt and asks, "Why would anyone want to do this anyway?" You can reasonably say it's the toughest job in the world. The pressures are immense, as evidenced by the physical appearance of every occupant of the oval office after a year or two. It's also fair to say that the job becomes more and more difficult as the external forces of a chaotic world and the internal struggles of a diverse, burgeoning and sometimes chaotic country regularly collide. Even considering all of that, it must still be true that the nation with the most successful form of government in the world in the last two centuries as well

as the most able country in the world by any other standard still produce men and women who are able to shoulder the arduous demands of the most powerful position in the free world and still reflect the goodness, honor, fairness, and enlightenment that this great country is grounded in. But where are they?

The choice we are faced with in the coming Presidential election is uninspiring and alarming, but it hasn't crept up on us without warning. The dark horizon of extremism on the left and right has slowly but incessantly grown to the point that a wider and wider chasm in political thinking now

divides us. The result is a country with less and less room for what used to be referred to as the middle ground or silent majority. Most threatening is the fact that there is also less room for "the best" this country used to rely upon and look to for leadership. Time-honored principles like healthy compromise, negotiation, and the free exchange of ideas and energy in this country have been cancelled, reviled, and pointed to as signs of weakness instead of statesmanship. Whether you are Republican or Democrat, the more we retreat into party lockstep, the less we reflect the hope and the dreams

## Charles Schwabe



of the original founders of this country. When that happens, the "best among us" retreat as well. That is the greatest actual threat to democracy today, not the politically fabricated ones that one candidate repeatedly refers to. In the remaining months of this year, there will be two vigorous campaigns of misrepresentation, exaggeration, and unvarnished lies. That disappointing process has already begun. No mat-

ter what political camp makes you feel the most comfortable, listen to the other side just a little. You don't have to agree, but maybe if enough tolerance pervades the political scene, it will help restore an atmosphere where the "best" can once again be found among us and in us. At the very least it will give you a small spark of optimism and a ray of positivity in an otherwise cloudy forecast.

## Stating the state of this column can't be overstated

My fellow Americans! (Yea! Clap! Clap!) My fellow Georgians! (Yeah! Yeah!) And my loyal readers without whom I would have to go get a real job! (Laughter and applause!) I come before you today to submit to you my annual State of the Column address. It is with great pride that I state to you that the state of this column is in such a state that it cannot be overstated! (Thunderous roar!)

I am pleased to tell you that over the 52 weeks of 2023, I met the challenge of producing for you a weekly panoply of awe-inspiring, thought-provoking, jaw-dropping columns by stringing together more than 86,000 words, many of them nouns and verbs, as well as a lot of subordinate clauses, more than a few conjunctions and a

bunch of other grammar stuff. (Clap! Clap! Clap!)

As we move into 2024, let me be very clear. Unlike many of my colleagues in the column-writing business who put their own interests ahead of their readers, there will be no syntax applied to the grammar in my column again this year. Read my lips: No New Syntaxes! (Yea! Yea! Sustained standing ovation!)

Being a columnist takes teamwork. I am honored today to acknowledge several of my esteemed colleagues who play a vital role in helping me to turn out this column each week. First, I would like to recognize Junior E. Lee, general manager of the Yarbrough Worldwide Media and Pest Control Company, located in Greater Garfield, Georgia. (Clap! Clap! Clap!) Junior is not only one of this nation's most widely respected

media analysts, he is also a certified pest control professional. That is something neither the snoots at the New York Times nor Fox News can claim. (Booooo!!!)

I also want to express my gratitude to the Ryo Morning Coffee Club; their chair, Skeeter Skates, owner of Skeeter Skates Tree Stump Removal and Plow Repair Business; (Clap! Clap! Clap!) and his colleagues: Walleye who operates the only bait shop in Red Bud; (Clap! Clap! Clap!) Booger Bledsoe, who runs the local roadside vegetable stand over in Sugar Hill; (Clap! Clap! Clap!) and Uncle Coot, recently retired after a long and distinguished career in the porta potty transportation industry. (Clap! Clap! Clap!)

They don't hesitate to pose hard questions, such as why is our

country in the mess it's in and what can we as loyal Americans do to make it better? (Sustained Applause!) And is it true Hillary Clinton ran a pizza restaurant child-sex ring? (Sustained Booooo!)

I would be remiss also in not thanking the humor-impaired for their contributions. While time constraints prevent me from thanking them all individually, I do want to give a shoutout to the woke crowd trying to get rid of Aunt Jemima Syrup and Uncle Ben's Rice (Ha! Ha! Ha! Clap! Clap! Clap!) and to the RITNOs (Republicans in Trump's Name Only) who claim Aunt Jemima and Uncle Ben were two of the 200 mules who stuffed the ballot boxes in 2020. (Ha! Ha! Ha! Clap! Clap! Clap!)

Which reminds me that this November we will be selecting the leader of the

## Dick Yarbrough



free world between a candidate who says we have 54 states and another one who called Argentina "a great guy." (Uncomfortable silence.)

In closing, it is my hope we can one day put aside our differences and unite as one people. A day when broccoli is banned. (Loud cheers!) When banana pudding is declared a health food. (More loud cheers!) And a day when Georgians from one end of this state to the other will come together to worship Ray Charles Robinson, of Albany, Georgia, singing "Georgia on my Mind," the greatest state song in the history of the

world! (Standing ovation! Yelling! Stomping of feet!)

Let me say what a privilege it has been to once again serve as your modest and much-beloved columnist. (Applause!) God bless you. (Applause!) God bless the Great State of Georgia. (Applause!) God bless the oldest state-chartered university in the nation on which it stands. (Woof! Woof!) And thank God, I don't have to do this again until next year. (Sustained standing ovation!)

You can reach Dick Yarbrough at [dick@dickyarbrough.com](mailto:dick@dickyarbrough.com) or at P.O. Box 725373, Atlanta, Georgia 31139.

## Floppy hats, fans and today

My family were members of the First Methodist Church. My Grandfather frequently would be called onto pray and he would immediately drop to his knees and pray he did. It was a prayer from the heart

of a simple, hardworking blacksmith. Tom Scott was a fine man.

My mother and I would always go to Sunday school and morning worship service. I would sit and squirm beside her during the ser-

vice with one eye out for the bees that occasionally made their way through the tall stained-glass windows. I can see in my mind's eye, Ms. Nan bouncing on the piano bench with her big floppy hat, keeping the rhythm with

Onward Christian Soldiers as the children marched into the sanctuary holding the weekly flyers from our Sunday School Class.

During those years, in the summer the ladies dressed up in their very best voile dresses, white shoes, gloves and topped it off with a wide brimmed straw hat adorned with flowers or birds. The choir had no robes in those days, so they were fully dressed and on display for all to see. Of course, there was no air conditioning in those days and this little girl squirming beside her mother was in awe of it all. The local funeral home provided the congregation with cardboard fans with religious scenes for all to get some relief from the steamy heat. I remember that between fighting off bees, the sultry heat, and those floppy hats going up and down on lady's hats in the choir, I was kept busy enough and made it through every service in anticipation of a fried chicken pulley bone and some potato salad from the big round oak table. Sometimes I even got to the benediction without being pinched by mamma for wiggling.

Oh, for those simple days again when life was simple, and everyone loved everyone! Oh, for the days when people left their keys in their cars, their doors unlocked, and mothers looked after each other's

## La'Rose Tapley



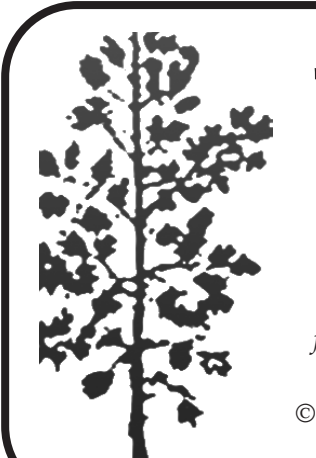
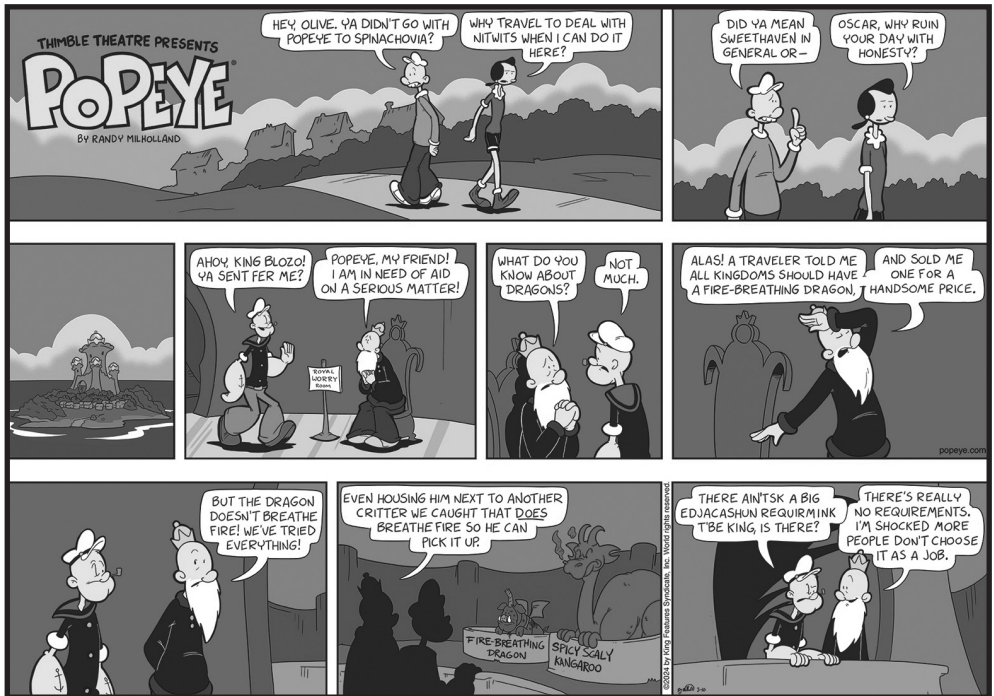
children while they played in the yard. Today, criminals are being caught, sent to court and then let go to repeat. Young women are having babies in order to get a state check or may have an abortion to not accept responsibility for their actions. (Do not take this comment as condemnation or recommendation. There are exceptions.) People are either taking drugs or selling them, or both. Gangs are ripping through stores taking everything in sight with bystanders watching and doing nothing. Homeless are everywhere, often destroying the neighborhood's property values. People are being accosted on our streets for no reason at all with others watching not even offering help or calling for help. In California recently, a woman was released after stabbing her boyfriend over 100 times without serving and jail time! Politicians are being elected over and over who have campaigned on fixing all these problems or have abused their power without being held accountable? Are we so used to this behavior that we turn a

blind eye?

Now, we have a whole new problem that has created a monster for every family, city and state with the influx of **undocumented** immigrants. I ask you, if we don't punish those who already break the laws, how in heaven's name will we handle the millions of people that our current administration is allowing in, without vetting their criminal records or their health background? I wonder if any of our current Congress or elected leaders are offering their home to a family. Who is providing the necessities for those who are sick, pregnant, or babies who come with no parents? Who and how will we make sure they are educated enough to keep up with our increasingly high-tech nation?

Somebody better pay attention when they vote. Every single person who runs for office needs to be asked the questions I just raised. By the way, why does a candidate running for a municipal position need to run as a Democrat or Republican? Does that change their job description?

## Editorial Cartoons



## 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.



# 2023-2024 Emanuel County Schools Young Georgia Authors district winners announced

Emanuel County Schools is proud to announce the district-level winners of the Young Georgia Authors Writing Competition. The Young Georgia Authors competition encourages students to develop enthusiasm for and expertise in their writing, provides a context to celebrate their writing successes, and recognizes student achievement in the arts and academics. This prestigious competition, sponsored by the Georgia Council of Teachers of English in cooperation with the Georgia Department of Education, has engaged Georgia students for over two decades. It is open to any student currently enrolled in Georgia public schools, grades K-12. Students can submit various types of writing, such as short stories, poetry, essays, research reports, and more.

The following students are the 2023-2024 Emanuel County Schools Young Georgia Author District Level Winners: Kindergarten: Rowyn Mendieta - SPS; 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Easton Stewart - TCE; 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Lauren Kersey - SPS; 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: Avery Frye - TCE; 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Benton Claxton - SES; 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Kayleigh Taylor - SES; 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Sean Trevor Bragg - SMS; 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Camden Hall - ECI; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Dayna Foster - SMS; 9<sup>th</sup> Grade: Grayson Brassell - SHS; 10<sup>th</sup> Grade: Lola Walden - ECI; 11<sup>th</sup> Grade: Abigail Phillips - SHS; 12<sup>th</sup> Grade: Gabrielle Collins - ECI.

These student entries have moved to the CSRA RESA region-level competition.

## Georgia Ag Week celebrates farmers as they prepare to harvest and plant

Spring is coming, which means Georgia farmers are gearing up to harvest strawberries, Vidalia onions, blueberries and wheat. In May and June, they will plant their summer crops of peanuts, cotton and soybeans.

That's why Georgia Farm Bureau and other ag organizations across the state will observe Georgia Ag Week March 18-23 and celebrate National Ag Day on March 19. National Ag Day, which has been celebrated for 51 years, is traditionally celebrated on the first day of spring.

"During Georgia Ag Week, I encourage everyone to take time to think what their life would be like if we didn't have farmers," said Robert Fountain, Jr., Emanuel County Farm Bureau president. "Farmers keep us fed, clothed and housed. They also provide habitat to wildlife on their farms while protecting soil and water resources using environmentally friendly methods to grow their crops and livestock."

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) statistics show that Georgia farmers play a big role in feeding us. They are the top peanut producers in the United States growing almost half the peanuts grown in our country, with most used to make peanut butter and snacks. Georgia farmers lead the nation in growing broilers, the chickens used to make our favorite chicken sandwiches, tenders and wings. In 2022, Georgia pecan growers led the U.S. in production of pecans.

Georgia ranked second in production of cantaloupes, watermelons and cotton. Georgia ranked third in the U.S. for production of peaches and bell peppers, and fourth for blueberry and cucumber production, according to USDA data.

We can also thank Georgia farmers for growing cotton to clothe us and timber to house us. Georgia cotton farmers placed second in the U.S. in 2021 for both the quantity and cash value of lint and seed produced. Georgia consistently ranks as

the top forestry state in the nation.

Most Georgians are multiple generations removed from the farm, so Georgia Farm Bureau (GFB) has prepared several videos that provide insight into Georgia agriculture. If you are interested in learning more about the crops and livestock grown in Georgia visit <https://gfb.ag/gaagvideo>. If you would like to meet a Georgia pecan farmer and hear him discuss how he maintains his pecan orchard year-round visit <https://gfb.ag/meetapecan-farmer>.

Visit <https://gfb.ag/pecanhistorytoharvest> to see True Food TV host Nicole Jolly explore America's only native tree nut and explain how the different pronunciations of pecan evolved from the Native Algonquin word for the nut – pakan – with the influence of French and English settlers. Learn about pecans' nutritional benefits and the many varieties. You'll also see how pecans are produced from planting seedlings to harvest and how they are cracked and sorted at the processing plant. Visit <https://gfb.ag/AgWeek2024> to download free activity sheets, no-cook pecan recipes, easy craft ideas and much more.

Not only does Georgia agriculture feed and clothe us, but it also benefits our state economy. Agriculture and related industries contributed \$83.6 billion to Georgia's economy in 2022, according to the University of Georgia's Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development (CAED).

Georgia's Top 10 commodities for 2022 were: broilers (\$6.7 billion); cotton (\$1.3 billion); eggs (\$960.2 million); peanuts (\$790.8 million); timber (\$780.8 million); beef (\$730 million); greenhouse nurseries (\$611.2 million); corn (\$522.7 million); blueberries (\$449.4 million) and pecans (\$400.8 million) according to UGA CAED reports.

Food and fiber production and the process of getting the raw materials to consumers con-

tributed 323,300 jobs for Georgians in 2022, the CAED reports. Agricultural careers include crop and livestock research, engineering, precision ag specialists, software and IT work, agribusiness management, marketing, food product development and safety, processing, retailing, ag teachers, banking, bioenergy, livestock veterinarians and others.

Besides providing our basic needs and driving Georgia's economy, farmers also protect the environment. Farmers prevent soil erosion and water runoff by planting cover crops and using minimum tillage methods like no-till or strip-till to plant their crops. These conservation tillage methods reduce the amount of fuel farmers use and sequester carbon in the soil, reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Farmers use about 50% less fertilizer to produce a bushel of corn, wheat or soybeans than they did in 1980, the USDA reports. They're able to do this by using GPS, sensors, field mapping software and tractors equipped with precision ag technology. These practices allow farmers to apply only the fertilizer and crop protectants that they absolutely need to grow a healthy crop.

*About Georgia Farm Bureau*

Georgia Farm Bureau is the largest general farm organization in the state. As a membership-driven, nongovernmental organization, GFB serves as the voice of Georgia farmers and rural Georgia by advocating for them on legislative issues, promoting Georgia commodities and connecting consumers with agriculture. GFB also offers its members a wide variety of benefits, including insurance, travel and auto discounts. Enrollment in any of the member benefits is optional and not a requirement for membership. For more information about agriculture please visit [www.gfb.org](http://www.gfb.org), like Georgia Farm Bureau on Facebook or follow GFB on Twitter.

## Hinman Scholars named in STC Dental Hygiene Program

On behalf of the Thomas P. Hinman Board of Trustees, Southeastern Technical College (STC) is pleased to announce that Dental Hygiene students Kelly Joseph and Aubree Swain have been selected as Hinman Scholars.

Kelly Joseph of Swainsboro and Aubree Swain of Baxley each received a \$500 scholarship.

The students were selected for the scholarships based on their scholastic performance, having the highest overall averages in their class.

Both students were Dual Enrollment students while in high school and both previously worked as dental assistants before their acceptance into the Dental Hygiene program at Southeastern Tech.

"Without Dual

Enrollment, we wouldn't have had the success we've had at this age," said Swain. "All the hard work, inside and outside of the classroom, is acknowledged by this prestigious honor and we are appreciative of what it means," said Swain.

Swain is a 2021 graduate from Emanuel County Institute. She said she chose dental hygiene as a career because she always noticed peoples' teeth and because dental hygienists generally have a nice work-life balance. "My dad worked out of town a lot and I didn't want to do that myself. I plan to work locally, so attending college locally made sense. I'm thankful STC has a Dental Hygiene program because I didn't have a backup plan. This was my first



JOSEPH

choice," said Swain. "I am very thankful for all the support we've had from peers, family, and instructors and appreciate the network and relationships I've built – another reason I plan to practice my profession close to home."

Joseph is a 2021 graduate of Appling County High School. Joseph said she chose STC because she wouldn't have been able to afford



SWAIN

moving off to attend college. "My mom isn't a hygienist, but her ability to make her own schedule showed me that I wanted a flexible work schedule. This avenue will also allow me to work alongside her and treasure days on the farm when I'm not working, just like I did during college," said Joseph.

"STC prepares us well for the workplace,

and in my case, debt free," said Joseph. "This scholarship will help with near-graduation expenses with our clinical board exam coming up in April and national written board exam in May."

The non-profit Thomas P. Hinman Society has been granting scholarships to dental students since 1986, adding Dental Hygiene students in 1989. Since 2006, the Hinman Dental Society has provided more than \$11 million in total giving in scholarships and financial support to universities and institutions associated with dental education.

The Hinman Dental Society sponsored its first Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting in 1912 with the motto: Devotion to detail is the secret of success.

Born in 1870, Thomas

Hinman graduated from Southern Dental College in Atlanta with his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in 1891. The following year, he joined the faculty of his alma mater and became Professor of Oral Surgery. Dr. Hinman held high offices in many professional organizations including the appointment by President Woodrow Wilson as the U.S. Delegate and Honorary Chairman of the Section VIII of the Fourth International Congress of Dentists in London.

Today, the focus is still on providing the best possible continuing dental education, not just for the dentists but also, the whole dental team. The Hinman Dental Society today is comprised of 800+ dentist members, primarily located in metropolitan Atlanta. The combination of outstanding education and hospitality ensures the position of the Hinman Dental Meeting as one of the top dental programs in the country. With the continued growth of meetings and exhibits, more than 13,000 dental professionals participated in the 2023 Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting.

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

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## Holton completes "1,000 Books before Kindergarten Challenge"

Amelia Holton, 5-year-old daughter of Josh and Amy Holton, recently completed the "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Challenge". She was the first child to reach this goal at Franklin Memorial Library. Amelia's parents read 1,000 different books with her to complete the challenge. Her favorite book is *A Fish Out of Water* by Helen Palmer.

Amelia is the granddaughter of Robert and Cathy Lee and Ben and Liz Holton.



HOLTON



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VETERANS SHOWING THEIR HONOR

## Veterans honor Mr. Flanders at Pinebrook Park

SAL Squadron 103 – Swainsboro, along with other Veterans, First Responders, Fire Chief Mike Strobridge, SPD Chief Randy Ellison, EGSC Chief Trey Drawdy and City Administrator Herman Middlebrooks, gathered at Pinebrook Park on Monday, February 26, to honor Mr. James Carlton Flanders, retired Fire Fighter. Speakers were Chief Strobridge and Chief Ellison.

Mr. Willie Bush, SAL 103 Commander, thanks everyone who attended to show their thanks and gratitude to Mr. Flanders.



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## PruittHealth Hospice Partner Spotlight



Chaplain  
Greg Ely

Chaplain Greg Ely was born and raised in Emanuel County and has worked with Pruitt Hospice and Palliative Care for over two and a half years. He is honored to serve the community and surroundings counties where he was raised.

Greg is a compassionate minister that loves people. He has been in pastoral ministries since 1998 and has 8 years of hospice experience. Greg earned a Master of Divinity from Pentecostal Theological Seminary in Cleveland, Tennessee and completed 3 units of his Clinical Pastoral Education at Saint Francis Hospital in Columbus, Georgia. In his free time Greg enjoys reading, watching classic movies, and repairing computers. He and his wife, Angie, live in Twin City. They have three grown children and one grandchild.



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*“The Human Spirit is never greater than when it provides comfort to those in need”.*

The Blade has teamed up with a few of our sponsors to help support some of our local organizations that are run by local folks to lend a hand to local people. Two charities's that quickly came to mind are Weekend Blessings and the Lazarus Project.

Weekend Blessings was started in November of 2012 at Twin City Elementary and now provides for students in every Emanuel County School. The program provides a backpack filled with a weekend supply of nutritious food for children commonly from low-income familes, to replace the school meals that children miss during their weekend or extended breaks from school.

The Lazarus Project was started in November of 2023, and quickly began extending assistance to children, families, and individuals who were experiencing hardships and difficulties providing food, shelter and the normal necessities of life.

The need is real and continues to grow.

During the next six months, you can be part of this project by expressing your appreciation to these local merchants. Through your support and that of our sponsors, we will present these two worthy organizations with meaningful contributions to help sustain their amazing work.



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# Bulldogs take two from Metter

by RON WEATHERFORD

The ECI baseball team hosted Metter in what was supposed to be a three-game series against the Tigers. The Bulldogs won both games in a double header at Joe Harvey Field last Tuesday. The third game, scheduled in Metter, was cancelled Thursday due to field conditions after the heavy rains.

Ten was the magic number for ECI defeating the Tigers in the first game Tuesday ,10-5 and shutting out Metter in the second game 10-0. Metter's ace and Vanderbilt commit, Rustan Rigdon, was unable to pitch due to off season surgery, but got Metter off to a good start in the first inning leading off the game with a solo shot to put the Tigers up 1-0. It would be the only hit Rigdon would get in the two-game series. Ab Marsh got the first two RBIs for the Bulldogs in the bottom of the first, scoring two runs after singles by lefties Charlie Rehberg and Jackson Kennedy for a 2-1 ECI lead. Metter tied it and went up on the Bulldogs in the top of the second to get back the lead 3-2. The Bulldogs got a gift in the fourth inning scoring three runs on an infield throwing error and added one more on another Marsh single to lead the Tigers 6-3. ECI added to their lead in the bottom of the fifth to make the score 9-3 Bulldogs. ECI scored their final run of the game in the sixth. Metter plated runs in the sixth and seventh to make the final score 10-5 with the Bulldogs taking the first game of the night. Gabe Lee, Aiden McQuaig, and Hudson Henry scattered 10 hits while striking out five Tiger batters. The Bulldogs collected 11 hits in the game. Ab



LEE BLOCKS THE PLATE FOR AN OUT AGAINST METTER



MCQUAIG GUNS TO FIRST FOR AN OUT AGAINST TIGERS

Marsh was 3-3, and Henry, Boddiford, and McQuaig had two hits each.

The second game of the night was a walk away with the Bulldogs taking the game 10-0. Rehberg was on his game on the mound, limiting the Tigers to just a lone first inning single during the game.

The Bulldogs scorched the five Tiger pitchers for 10 hits, two homeruns, one double and seven singles. Rehberg, finding power in his final year as a Bulldog hit his second homerun of the season and second in his career in the third inning. The Bulldogs broke the game open in the bottom on the sixth scoring six runs. Big hits in the game were Andrew Chalkley scoring three

runs on a double and a two-run homerun by Tuff Boddiford. With McQuaig and Lee on, Henry ended the game early on a single in the sixth to run rule the Tigers 10-0. Leading the Bulldogs at the plate were Chalkley with three hits, and Henry two hits. Rehberg allowed just one hit to the Tigers while striking out eight in five innings of work. Jackson Kennedy relieved in the sixth allowing no hits.

The Bulldogs begin region play this week. They were scheduled to travel to Darien yesterday to play McIntosh Co. and will host the Buccaneers in a double header at Joe Harvey Field on Friday. First game of the double header is scheduled for 4 p.m.



MARTIN AND GIAA ALL-STAR RED TEAM

## Senior Eagle Martin competes in GIAA All-Star Basketball tournament

David Emanuel Academy Senior Eagle Billy Martin competed in the GIAA All-Star Basketball Tournament held March 8 – 9, at Strafford Academy in Macon. He was chosen by league coaches throughout the state as one of the All-Star competitors for Team Red. Martin is the son of Will and Allison Martin of Kite.



MARTIN



COACH FLOWERS AND MARTIN

## Swainsboro Tigers ready for Region schedule

by TROUP BRINSON

The Swainsboro Tigers baseball team rolled through their non-region schedule with a solid 6-3 record, now get set to kick off their region slate. The Tigers will play Jefferson County for a three-game series this week, Tuesday and Thursday, at home, and Wednesday in Louisville. All games will begin at 5:30 p.m.

To close out the "preseason", Swainsboro had their way with Jenkins County to the tune of a 16-3 route. The Tigers tallied nine hits and eight walks on offense, with Brice Marchman leading the charge with a double and triple to plate six runners. DJ Stanford also drove in two runs on two hits. Brice Chapman scored four runs for Swainsboro.

On the hill, Lenox Lively started the game and went two innings, allowing zero runs. Marchman, Chapman, Peyton Mason, and Kason Edenfield pitched in relief.

Jefferson County, Bleckley County, East Laurens and Dublin make up the region and will battle all season for a shot at the state playoffs.

## Dr. Derden to conduct Historical Tour on the 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Sherman's March

Experience an immersive journey through one of the pivotal campaigns of the American Civil War in Georgia. Join Dr. John K. Derden, Professor Emeritus of History at East Georgia State College, on Saturday, March 16, as he guides a day tour through Emanuel, Jenkins, and Burke counties, retracing the historic route of General William Tecumseh Sherman's blue-coated soldiers from Atlanta to Savannah during their famed March to the Sea. Travel along well-preserved roads, witness camp sites used by the general, and visit antebellum plantation sites, all while gaining insight into the local anecdotes and encounters with Union soldiers, Confederate

forces, and citizens, both enslaved and free.

Dr. Derden, renowned for his comprehensive history of Camp Lawton, a Confederate prison located on the grounds of what is now Magnolia Springs State Park, will lead a tour of the site, accompanied by an illustrated talk about its intriguing history and ongoing archaeological discoveries. Celebrating the 35th anniversary of the tour and the 160th anniversary of the March and the operation of Camp Lawton, this event promises an enriching experience for anyone fascinated by Georgia history, the Civil War, or local heritage.

The tour begins at 9 a.m. at the Sudie A. Fulford Community Learning

Center at East Georgia State College. Participants will meet for a brief orientation before departing by bus. Lunch will be provided during the tour, with an anticipated return by 6 p.m. Registration is open until March 14, with fees set at \$85 per person and \$50 for EGSC students and employees. For registration and inquiries, visit [www.ega.edu/shermans-march](http://www.ega.edu/shermans-march) or contact Casey Fountain at 478-289-2193.

While the trip involves minimal walking, attire should prioritize comfort and preparedness for possible weather changes. Join us for a day of camaraderie, enlightenment, and reverence for the sacrifices of our ancestors, and the enduring heritage of our region.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

MOBILE HOME TAXES ARE DUE NOW!

A 10% penalty will be assessed on all unpaid mobile home taxes after April 1, 2024.

You can mail your payments to P.O. Box 763 Swainsboro Ga. 30401 or go to our website [emanuelcountytax.com](http://emanuelcountytax.com) to pay online.

Thank You,

Sandra S. Wright

EMANUEL COUNTY TAX COMMISSIONER • (478)237-3351



# SHS students participate in speech contest

Swainsboro High School hosted The Preston Johnson Annual Speech Contest on Wednesday, March 6. This contest is sponsored by Rotary of Georgia and the local Swainsboro Rotary Club. It is designed to help contestants learn why and how Rotary International works and what it has to offer communities worldwide. The theme choices for this year are "Create Hope in the World" or the "Rotary 4-Way Test."

Four students competed at this event. Dei'vion Davis,



RIOS, LONG, DAVIS AND WILLIAMS

Yasmin Rios, Caleb Long, and Quintus Williams were judged by a panel of three on appearance, content, presentation, and time. First place

was awarded to Caleb Long and second place to Quintus Williams. These two delivered their speech-

es at the Swainsboro Rotary Club meeting on Monday, March 11, where they competed against other local high school contest winners for first and second place, which are awarded cash prizes.

## GSU Nutrition graduate students present program to Kiwanis

The Kiwanis Club of Swainsboro held its weekly meeting Tuesday night, February 20, at 7 p.m. at the Rustic Grille. With President Cheryl Goodman presiding, 15 attendees were present, including four guests, Joelle Romanchik-Cerpovicz, Ava Willis, Avery Thompson and Trinity Nichols. The cake, donated by Edwin Canady, was won by Brenda Barber. The Domino's pizza, donated by Domino's, was won by Willis. Thompson and Nichols won the boxes of chocolates. The program for the evening was hosted by Paul Cerpovicz. He introduced his wife, Joelle Romanchik-Cerpovicz, who introduced Willis, Thompson and Nichols, first-year Graduate students in Nutrition at GSU. They gave a presentation on how to modify recipes and eating habits and choices to limit salt, sugar, and fat. While eliminating fat completely is not good, we should



GSU GRADUATES WITH P. CERPOVICZ, J. CERPOVICZ AND GOODMAN

find ways to limit our fat intake. Substituting more good fats is one way of moderating our fat intake, as well as finding butter substitutes (applesauce). We need to cut back on added sugar and find naturally occurring sugar substitutes like fruits and dairy products. People usually exceed the amount of sodium they need. Lots of salt is in preserved and canned foods. When using canned vegetables, give them a sodium rinse before use. The key to modifying recipes is not "all or nothing," but to start small and do what is best for you. President Goodman reported the donation to the Swainsboro Primary School Media Center. The donation was presented to Principal Sarah Tapley, Media Specialist Krista Hostilo and Media Center Clerk Princess Middleton. President Goodman noted that two of Kiwanis former members, Ginny Smith and Dr. John Black, had trees planted to honor them on Georgia Arbor Day. On February 9, the Seedling Garden

Club planted a Japanese Magnolia tree in front of Swainsboro Primary School to honor Smith, who taught there for 40 years. Dr. Black was honored by EGSC with the planting of a Black Gum Tupelo tree on the college campus. Dr. Black was the fourth president of the college and was also president of the Swainsboro Kiwanis Club from 2006-2007.

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TAPLEY, MIDDLETON, HOSTILO AND GOODMAN

## SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD

### 23RD ANNUAL FARM & CONSTRUCTION AUCTION

SURPLUS EQUIPMENT & VEHICLES FROM EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, CITY OF RICHMOND HILL, RINCON, BLOOMINGDALE, POOLER, PORT WENTWORTH, AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

### EFFINGHAM COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

### ZOLLER DRIVE SPRINGFIELD, GA 31329

CONSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED  
MARCH 18TH - MARCH 22ND  
8 AM - 5 PM

#### UPCOMING AUCTIONS

APRIL 13TH - RETIREMENT SALE FOR BOGGY BRANCH FARMS STATESBORO, GA

MAY 11TH- FARM & CONSTRUCTION SWAINSBORO, GA

**IF YOU HAVE ANY EQUIPMENT THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SELL, CONTACT ADAM LANE @ 1-888-237-9060, GREG BURNS @ 478-299-2028, OR JOHN PAUL JOHNSON @ 912-682-0231**

**for terms, conditions, listings, & detailed pictures visit us at**  
**[www.lanebrothersauctions.com](http://www.lanebrothersauctions.com)**

There will be a 10% Buyer's Fee per item. There will be a \$10 minimum/no sale fee on each tagged item. Equipment is sold as is, without warranty. There will be a \$75 title fee on all vehicles 1986 and newer. The TAVT tax of 7% of FMV is due at the time of purchase for all vehicles. ALL SALES ARE FINAL!!! Payment for purchases is required on auction day in the form of cash, cashier's check, or good personal or company check accompanied by bank letter of credit. Visa, MasterCard, and Discover are accepted with a 3% Processing Fee. Georgia Sales Tax will be added to your purchase price, unless you have a valid sales tax resale certificate number or 2024 GATE card. GAL #3169

## March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Have you scheduled your screening?

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**Dr. John Bishop, MD**

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- Hernia Repair • Appendectomy
- Porta Cath • Hemorrhoids
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- Evaluate and Treatment of Other Skin Conditions, Cysts, Mass, Lumps
- Excision Ingrown Toenail
- Diagnostic Colonoscopy
- Upper Endoscopy

## EMANUEL

MEDICAL CENTER



# Legals

## 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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

## 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

## 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

l

**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 53<sup>rd</sup> 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: North by Meadowlake Parkway; East 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, 53<sup>rd</sup> 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.

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**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF EMANUEL COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA**  
**IN RE: ESTATE OF HERBERT MOORMAN, DECEASED**  
**ESTATE NO. 24E0023**  
l  
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

## 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

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF EMANUEL COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

Civil Action File No. 24CV55  
JAMIE TRYON  
Plaintiff,

l  
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 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2024.  
Clerk of Superior Court, Emanuel County

## 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

## 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

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF EMANUEL COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: CHRISTOPHER FUTCH  
Civil Action No. 24CV61

## NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

GEORGIA, Emanuel County  
Notice is hereby given that **Christopher Futch**, the undersigned, files his petition to the Superior Court of Emanuel County, Georgia on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024, praying for a change in the name of petitioner from Christopher Issac Futch to Christopher Issac Johnson. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objections to such name change. Objections must be filed with said Court within 30 days of the filing of said petition. This 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.  
Christopher Futch  
Petitioner

l

The Emanuel County government proposes to construct a 110' monopole public safety communications tower at East Moring Street in Swainsboro, Emanuel County, Georgia. (32 35' 45.63" N, 82 19' 54.57" W). No tower lighting is anticipated. Interested persons may review the application for this project at [www.fcc.gov/asr/applications](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/applications) by entering Antenna Structure Registration (Form 854) File No. A1278771. Environmental concerns may be raised by filing a Request for Environmental Review with the FCC. The FCC strongly encourages interested parties to file Requests for Environmental Review online at [www.fcc.gov/asr/environmental-request](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/environmental-request), but they may be filed with a paper copy by mailing the Request to: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554.

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The Emanuel County government proposes to construct a 250 ft. self-support public safety communications tower at Highway 221 N, Adrian, Emanuel County, Georgia. (32 33' 44.15" N, 82 29' 19.98" W). The anticipated tower lighting application is medium-intensity dual red/white strobes. Interested persons may review the application for this project at [www.fcc.gov/asr/applications](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/applications) by entering Antenna Structure Registration (Form 854) File No. A1278774. Environmental concerns may be raised by filing a Request for Environmental Review with the FCC. The FCC strongly encourages interested parties to file Requests for Environmental Review online at [www.fcc.gov/asr/environmental-request](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/environmental-request), but they may be filed with a paper copy by mailing the Request to: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554.

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## STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL

IN RE: ESTATE OF MARTHA T. WILSON, DECEASED.

**All creditors of the estate of Martha T. Wilson, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to Richard M. McNeely, attorney for James Robert Wilson and Elizabeth E. Wilson, Executors of the Martha T. Wilson 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 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.**

**RICHARD M. MCNEELY,**  
**Attorney for James Robert Wilson and Elizabeth E. Wilson, Executors of the Martha T. Wilson Estate**  
**Richard M. McNeely, P.C.**  
P. O. Box 767  
Swainsboro, Georgia 30401  
(478) 237-4225



# Sheriff's Reports

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

**March 4**  
Deputy responded to Tiger Trl. in reference to a domestic dispute between a brother and sister that had already occurred. Contact was made with complainant who stated offender threw a soda can at her and hit her in the face with a closed fist. Scratches were observed on c/p's hand. Deputy attempted to make contact with offender at his residence and he first refused to speak to them without a warrant. Offender finally exited the residence and stated he did not hit his sister. He continued to yell profanities towards his sister and other residents of the house after being asked several times to calm down and speak at a normal tone. Offender refused to calm down and was placed under arrest for disorderly conduct for trying to start a fight with other residents and transported to EmCo Jail.  
Deputy responded to Wendy Ln. in referenced

to someone blocking the driveway of complainant. C/p stated her neighbor parked his big truck in front of her driveway making it difficult to get in and out of it and it has been broken down for about six months. Deputy made contact with the neighbor/wife of offender, who explained the truck has been broken down and they were gonna get batteries to fix it and get it moved. She then got her husband on the phone who explained he tried to get the truck fixed by jumping it off, but the neighbors would complain, and he would have to stop working on it. He explained he was obtaining new batteries and would get the truck moved but if the batteries did not fix the issue, he would have someone go fix or remove it. Deputy explained what he was told to c/p, and she agreed to wait until Friday.

**March 6**  
Complainant went to ECSO and stated offender contacted her via

Facebook messenger and stated she won \$200,000 but needed to send \$2,500 for the taxes. C/p advised she sent \$300 to offender with Apple cards and offender kept asking her to make more payments towards the \$2,500 and that's when c/p realized it was a scam.

**March 7**  
Deputies responded to Leman Rd. in reference to property damage. Complainant advised offender went by his residence and threw his clothing out of her vehicle onto the roadway and wants offender trespassed from returning to his property.

Deputy met with complainant at ECSO in reference to a criminal trespass incident. C/p stated someone crossed through the fence line behind his residence and removed two LED lights from the property and left a brick in the yard. C/p also stated his neighbor told him a suspicious vehicle had been seen out by the road in front of the residence the night prior.

Deputy met with com-

plainant at ECSO in reference to a theft incident concerning her brother/victim where several items were stolen from his truck, including his license plate.

**March 8**  
C/p came into ECSO and reported that the victim was at work at Walmart and the offender in which c/p has a TPO on came into Walmart and approached her register. Victim stated that offender has come to her job multiple times over the last month just to make a point.

**March 9**  
Deputy responded to Advantage Ln. in reference to a domestic dispute. Upon arrival, contact was made with a witness who stated that they were in the bedroom talking when her sister came in the room arguing with offender in which time his son was taken from him and was not given back. Both agreed to go stay with his brother and the child was returned to the two.

Deputy met with c/p

at ECSO for a stolen vehicle report. C/p stated that she allowed her brother, offender, who borrowed her vehicle in December of 2023 and approx. 2 weeks ago offender was arrested and is still incarcerated. C/p spoke to offender's girlfriend about getting the vehicle back. The girlfriend advised that it was in her yard in Vidalia, but when c/p went to get it, it was not there. Offender's girlfriend advised that the vehicle had been towed.

Deputies were dispatched to Falcon Tr. in reference to a dispute that was in progress over a dog being shot. Contact was made with the victim on arrival, and he stated that he let his dog out and soon heard two gunshots come from across the road. He observed that his dog had been shot and approached the neighbors to ask why they shot the dog. The neighbor told deputy that the dog attacked his small dog, so he got his gun and shot the bigger dog.

Deputy was dispatched to Highway 1

South in reference to a report of harassing communication, C/p stated that offenders had been harassing and threatening her via text messages, Facebook, and Snapchat. C/p advised that offenders had been threatening bodily harm to her, as well as threatening to burn her house down. C/p was advised of a TPO and the process.

**March 10**  
Deputies responded to Nunez Lexsy Rd. in reference to a dispute. Upon arrival deputies made contact with c/p who stated that he went to bed around 10:30 when the offender came home angry. Offender reportedly busted through the door and threatened to kill him and left the room and returned to pour cleaning chemicals on his back. Offender stated that she did not mean it and she was just mad and had no intention of harming him and would just go to bed.

The January 2024 term of the Emanuel County Grand Jury reconvened on Friday, January 26, 2024, with the Honorable Tommy J. Smith presiding. The grand jurors elected David Schecter to serve as foreperson, Patrick Andrews to serve as assistant foreperson, and Casey Woods to serve as clerk. The grand jurors and the bailiff, John Allen Bailey, were sworn by Judge Smith as to their duties.

The District Attorney's Office presented 16 bills of indictment to the Grand

Jury, and the Grand Jury returned 14 true bills and 2 no bill.

**True bills included:**  
**Rickie Wynn Morgan AKA Ricky Morgan:** Failure to register as sex offender

**Octavious Tuvache Jones:** Driving without license; Possession of marijuana less than ounce; Impeding traffic flow; Possession of firearm by convicted felon

**Dennishia Aaireyonna Pierce:** Aggravated assault; Battery

**Teddy Dimethius Hardaway:** Fleeing or

attempting to elude police officer; Obstruction of officer; Driving under the influence (less safe) (alcohol); Driving while license suspended; Improper headlights; Open container; Failure to wear seatbelt

**Gilbert Daughtery:** Fleeing or attempting to elude police officer; Driving under the influence (less safe) (alcohol); Operation of unregistered vehicle; Failure to maintain lane; Open container; Window tint violation

**Jimmy Tremaine Alston:** Fleeing or

attempting to elude police officer; Driving under the influence (less safe) (alcohol); Driving while license suspended; Obstruction of officer; Possession of marijuana less than ounce; Possession of drug related objects; Speeding

**Billy Joseph Barwick:** Aggravated battery – Family violence; Aggravated battery – Family violence; Aggravated assault; False imprisonment

**Jody Dewayne Gay:** Aggravated sodomy; Child molestation; Child

molestation; Child molestation

**Megan Deanna Jones:** Theft by shoplifting (Felony); Theft by taking (Felony); Burglary in the second degree (Felony)

**Jamie Dayon Boyd:** Fleeing or attempting to elude police officer; Habitual violator; Failure to maintain lane

**Laura Sue Williams:** Driving under the influence

**Marty Dale Alexander:** Failure to register as sex offender

**Miranda Kay Brantley and Carl Edward**

**McKinney:** Possession of meth; Possession of drug related objects

**Donald Aaron Potter:** Theft by shoplifting (Felony); Theft by taking (Felony); Burglary in the second degree (Felony)

**No true bills included:**

**Clevie Gerome Williams, Jr.:** Burglary in the first degree; Aggravated assault; Battery, family violence

**Brian Harold Youmans:** Aggravated assault; Battery, family violence

*The following occurred during the Emanuel County Superior Court January 2024 term:*

**Jacob Corbitt, repeat offender,** negotiated a guilty plea on one count sale of meth (reduced) possession with intent. He was fined \$50 with 15 years probation, 170-180 PDC suspended; nol pros on one count possession of schedule II; nol pros on one count weaving. Defendant is sentenced for a total of 15 years to be served on probation. The Court sentences the defendant as a recidivist under O.C.G.A. § 17-10-7(a).

**Horace Weathersby** negotiated a guilty plea on one count armed robbery (reduced) robbery. Defendant is sentenced for a total of 20 years, with the first 8 years to be served in confinement

and the remainder to be served on probation. Defendant is to receive credit for time served in custody as determined by the custodian. Upon service of 8 years, the remainder of the sentence may be served on probation; PROVIDED, that the defendant shall comply with the conditions of probation imposed by the Court as part of this sentence.

**Keshon Woods** negotiated a guilty plea on one count possession of firearm by a convicted felon. He was fined \$50 with 10 years, serve 2 years balance probated; one count fleeing with 12 months to serve; one count driving with suspended license with 12 months to serve; possession of marijuana with 12 months to serve; obstruction of officer with 12 months to serve.

Defendant is sentenced for a total of 10 years with the first 2 years to be served in confinement and the remainder to be served on probation. Defendant is to receive credit for time served in custody from 1/27/24. Upon service of 2 years, the remainder of the sentence may be served on probation; PROVIDED, that the defendant shall comply with the conditions of probation imposed by the Court as part of this sentence.

**Laura Walls** negotiated a guilty plea on one count possession of meth. She was fined \$250 with 3 years probation; one count possession of drug related objects with 12 months probation; one count forgery in the 4<sup>th</sup> degree with 12 months probation. Defendant is sentenced for a total

of 3 years to be served on probation. Defendant is to receive credit for time served in custody from 2/25/24 – 3/6/24. The above sentence may be served on probation provided the defendant shall comply with the conditions of probation imposed by the Court as part of this sentence.

**Valerie Kamille Oglesby** negotiated a guilty plea on one count theft by shoplifting. She was fined \$50 with 10 years, 1 year to serve, bal. prob. Defendant is sentenced for a total of 10 years with the first 1 year to be served in confinement and the remainder to be served on probation. Defendant is to receive credit for time served in custody as determined by the custodian. The above sentence may be served on probation provided

the defendant shall comply with the conditions of probation imposed by the Court as part of this sentence. Upon service of 1 year, the remainder of the sentence may be served on probation; PROVIDED, that the defendant shall comply with the conditions of probation imposed by the Court as part of this sentence.

**Anthony Antonio Washington** negotiated a guilty plea on one count unlawful acts of violence in a penal institution. He was fined \$50 with 10 years serve 3 years, bal. prob. Defendant is sentenced for a total of 10 years with the first 3 years to be served in confinement and the remainder to be served on probation. Defendant is to receive credit for time served in custody as determined

## Command Sergeant Major Cummings, (Incoming) CSM, 648<sup>th</sup> Maneuver Enhancement Brigade

Command Sergeant Major Starrenzo Cummings was born and raised in a small community near Swainsboro and enlisted into the Georgia Army National Guard in 1997. He started his military career as an Army Infantryman (11B) attending Basic Training in Fort Benning in 1997 and went on to Advanced Individual Training at Fort Lee, VA in 1998. CSM Cummings has served in numerous units throughout his 26-year military career. Assigned units include the 878<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion in Augusta where he served as a petroleum supply specialist for the first 17 years. He then served as Platoon Sergeant at Warrior Transition Battalion

(WTB) at Fort Gordon and WTB at Fort Stewart, First Sergeant at Echo CO 148<sup>th</sup> BSB in Metter and Fox CO 148<sup>th</sup> BSB in Savannah, Operations NCOIC for Warrior Transition Command in Arlington, VA (Pentagon) and Battalion Maintenance Supervisor at 78<sup>th</sup> Troop Command in Marietta. During his tenure with the 878<sup>th</sup> ENG BN, CSM Cummings deployed to Taji, Iraq in 2003 and Khandahar, Afghanistan in 2013. He most recently served as the Battalion Command Sergeant Major for the 148<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion.

CSM Cummings received his bachelor's degree in business management and is currently pursuing a master's

degree in human resources. His military education includes Sergeant Majors Academy, Equal Opportunity Course, Advanced Non-Commissioned Officer, Basic Non-Commissioned Officer, Primary Leadership Development Course with Honors, Senior Leadership Course with Honors, Warrior Transition Cadre Course, Master Driver Course, HAZMAT Certifying Official Course, the Master Resilience Training Course, Battalion Command Team Pre-Command Course, Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education II Courses and OSHA 30.

CSM Cummings awards and citations include the Bronze Star


Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (2), Army Commendation Medal (3), Army Achievement Medal (2), Army Good Conduct Medal with Medal Clasp, Army Reserve Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 10-year Device Bronze Hourglass, Army Service Ribbon, Over Seas Service Ribbon and NATO Medal.

CSM Cummings currently resides in Arlington, VA and works as an Action Officer (DOD Civilian) for the Army



**COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR CUMMINGS**  
Recovery Care Program. ARCP is a program mandated by Congress designed to manage the recovery of our wounded, ill and injured soldiers requiring complex care. CSM Cummings has one 18-year-old daughter, Destiny Cummings.

by the custodian. Upon service of 3 years, the remainder of the sentence may be served on probation; PROVIDED, that the defendant shall comply with the conditions of probation imposed by the Court as part of this sentence.



Not long ago I was stopped by a police officer who motioned to me to pull to the side of the street. When I looked up to see what was going on I saw two large trucks coming toward me with a home that had been cut in half and placed on two trailers. The two halves were slowly being moved to a new location where they would be joined together and the home would look the same as it had in the past.

It was almost unnerving as I waited patiently for them to pass by. For years it rested comfortably on a corner across from an elementary school. Soon it would have a new address in a new neighborhood and perhaps new owners.

How things have changed. Years ago people rarely moved from one home to another. There was a certain permanence in life that brought a sense of security to families. Now, moving from one place to another is a routine part of life that seems to go with the turmoil in the world.

Everywhere we look, we see signs of instability. We awaken each morning wondering what devastating news awaits us.


What once was a world that made sense is now a world that longs for the "good old days."

Psalms 93, however, gives comfort to the Christian. It begins with a burst of hope and assurance, a promise of peace and predictability. "The LORD reigns."

And it ends with a reminder of His faithfulness: "Your statues stand firm...for endless days!"

Visit us at: [SowerMinistries.org](http://SowerMinistries.org)

PS 234



**and the Redding Family**  
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**Swainsboro**  
**478.237-7811**  
[www.swainsborofordlincoln.com](http://www.swainsborofordlincoln.com)







# News from Under the Gold Dome

by REPRESENTATIVE BUTCH PARRISH  
STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 158

The House convened last week for the ninth week of the 2024 legislative session on Monday, March 4. Now that we are past Crossover Day, we are busy in committees to vet the bills that have crossed over from the Senate. This means we didn't pass as many bills on the House floor last week. As the committees do their jobs, the pace will pick up as we approach our final day of the Session, Sine Die. The Georgia General Assembly is tasked only one thing by the Georgia Constitution, to pass a budget. And, unlike the Federal Budget, our budget must be balanced. Also, according to the Georgia Constitution, all budget items must originate in the House. Last week the House passed HB 916, the FY 2025 House Budget. The budget will now go to the

Senate for their revisions. Once the Senate votes on their version the two documents will be referred to a conference committee comprised of three House and three Senate members. This committee will work out a compromise suitable to both chambers and then each chamber will vote to agree with the conference committee report. I have provided a detailed overview of the House budget in previous newsletters.

With the passing of the FY 2025 House budget now behind us, the House of Representatives will continue our busy schedule of committee hearings to perfect Senate bills and bring them to the House floor for votes. The House will return to session for Legislative Day 33 on Monday, March 11. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns regarding the budget or other legislation.

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](http://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

## MY COMMITTEES

- Special Committee on Healthcare – Chairman
- Rules – Chairman
- Banks & Banking



## REPRESENTATIVE PARRISH

- Economic Development & Tourism
  - Health
  - Human Relations & Aging
  - Public Health
  - Technology and Infrastructure Innovation
  - Appropriations
- Capitol Address**  
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

## HOUSE FOR RENT & SALE

**FOR RENT:** 5BDR/2B located in Lake Luck. Fenced yard. \$1,100.  
**FOR SALE:** 2 acre lot with single-wide mobile home and storage shed. Call 478.299.9074 for more information.

## FOR SALE

**LIKE NEW:** 1 carat white gold wedding band set. Came from Kay Jeweler's and has been inspected every 6-8 months. Just got inspected, cleaned and dipped in November. \$1,000 OBO. 478.299.2286.

## 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.

## Skunk Brigade attends KCBA banquet

The Kettle Creek Battlefield Association held its annual banquet Friday night, February 9, at 6:30 p.m. at the Washington Wilkes Country Club. With Chairman N. Walker Chewning presiding, they had over 100 in attendance. After the Presentation of Colors by the Georgia Society Award Winning SAR Color Guard, commanded by Scott Collins, the Pledge of Allegiance was given and then Greetings was brought by Darryl S. Addington, Secretary General, National Society Sons of the American Revolution and Betty Harrah, State Regent, Georgia State Society Daughters



DESS SMITH, LEE HERRON, ALTON MCCLOUD, STEVE BURKE, BENJAMIN MARTIN, BERNARD MARTIN II AND BERNARD MARTIN, SR.

of the American Revolution. After a great meal, Chairman Walker introduced the speaker for the evening, Dr. Jeffery Wells,

Professor of History at Georgia Military College. His topic was "The Importance of the Georgia Backcountry in the Southern

Campaign". Seven members of the Skunk Brigade from the East Fall Line Region and the East Region attended the annual meeting.

## U.S. Flag installed at the Brier Creek Battlefield

On Thursday February 22, BCRWBA, Inc. Chairman of the Board Tommy Christopher, Board member Steve Burke and two Planters Electric workers traveled to the Revolutionary War Brier Creek Battlefield to install the new Large 35' Piece Wind Speed 120 Mph Internal Halyard Winch Aluminum Flagpole at the memorial site. This has been an ongoing project of the Brier Creek Revolutionary War Battlefield Association, Inc. for two years. This flagpole has a 6' X 10' U.S. Flag flying from it. The flagpole was installed just in time for it to be dedicated as part of the 245th Anniversary of the Brier Creek Battlefield event on March 2. The event will begin at 11 a.m. and will honor the more than 150 Patriots that were killed and murdered on this battlefield on March 3, 1779. Besides the flagpole, the BCRWBA is constructing a very large sign



BURKE, PLANTERS ELECTRIC WORKERS AND CHRISTOPHER at the entrance to the battlefield off Brandons Bridge Road. Hopefully

the sign will be finished in a couple weeks. Thanks to the

hard work of several of the 24 Board members of the BCRWBA, Inc.

Now Taking Applications!

SWAINSBORO HOUSING AUTHORITY

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

Apartment for Family, Singles, Elderly  
and Disabled Persons

HUD Subsidized  
HUD Subsidized

HUD Subsidized  
Handicap Units  
Available

FOR SALE

LIKE NEW: 1 carat white gold wedding band set. Came from Kay Jeweler's and has been inspected every 6-8 months. Just got inspected, cleaned and dipped in November.  
\$1,000 OBO 478.299.2286

FOR RENT

Doogus Properties

is accepting applications for apartments and houses starting at \$865 per month.

Call 478.494.8213

Employment Opportunity

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.  
• Starting pay is \$20 per hour

If you are interested, send your name, contact information and work history to:  
Good Paying Job  
P.O. Box 1933  
Swainsboro, GA 30401

OGEECHEE STEEL INCORPORATED

Now hiring:

Quality Control Inspector  
Welders

Apply in person or contact Whitney Henry:  
wherry@ogeecheesteel.com  
133 Lindsey Rd.  
Swainsboro, GA 30401  
478.237.2770 Ext. 31

A Great Place For Seniors!

Swainsboro Presbyterian Apartments

310 Mary Ann Street • Swainsboro, Georgia

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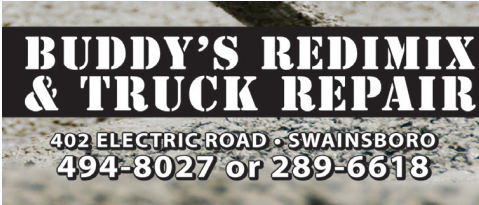
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Paul tells us in Colossians 3:2 to: "Set your affections on things above and not on things of the earth." So don't waste your limited time here searching and seeking for the things which are per-

ishable and will not last. Isaiah 55:6 directs us to, seek the Lord while he can be found. In our daily search, we should be seeking the Lord.

PS. 105:4 tells us to, "Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his face forever more. When you seek God, you have faith in him that he will supply all your need with his riches in glory. So Hebrews 11:6 says, "Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that comes to God must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." So continue to seek the

Lord. Daniel 9: 3 says that you seek him by prayer and supplications with fasting. Just know that it's time to seek the Lord with all your soul and all your mind and all your strength. Jesus said in Matthew 6:33, "But seek you first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you."

Seeking God's face will change the face of the world.( II Chronicles 7:14). So Who or what are you looking for. The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Seek the face of God and receive life eternal..

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RISING THE 13-STAR FLAG

## Battle at Kettle Creek Anniversary held

The 245th Anniversary Celebration of the Battle of Kettle Creek was held Saturday, February 10, on "War Hill" in Wilkes County and downtown Washington, GA from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. With the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution President Ed Rigel, Jr. presiding, they had over 60 members dressed in Continental and militia uniforms present. The morning started with the raising of the 13-star Flag in front of the Wilkes County courthouse at 9 a.m. and a three-

round volley from 35 flintlocks. Later, they participated in a parade two times around the Wilkes County Courthouse square. Then they formed up behind the courthouse in the lower field to participate in a reenactment, American Patriots vs the British Loyalists. They had the Brier Creek Artillery lined up at the top of the hill overlooking the lower field. The Skunk Brigade added a new Trist this year by bringing freshly purchased 11 British uniforms for anyone that wanted to borrow and dress out as the British, helping

Col. Boyd, commander of the British. After a 15-minute battle and over 24 cannon shots were fired, the Patriot forces won again. Everyone then formed at the courthouse to lower the 13-star flag and fire a three-round volley with the flintlocks and then ate lunch. At 2 p.m., the Battle of Kettle Creek event was held on top of War Hill in Wilkes County. Presentation of the Colors was led by the National SAR Color Guard Commander Scott Collins and then after the National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance, Secretary

General Darryl Addington presented his program. After his speech, the Wreath presentation was held representing 94 organizations and honoring those soldiers that fought at War Hill on February 14, 1779. The three-volley by the Col. Elijah Clarke Militia, Brier Creek Militia and the Brier Creek Artillery, was then fired. Taps was then played, and Mourn Muskets was presented. The Benediction was then said by Chaplain Anderson and closing remarks was given by President Rigel.

On Friday morning, February 10, members of the East Fall Line Region and the Little River Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution traveled to Elijah Clarke State Park to participate in their Annual Heroes of the Hornets' Nest event. They arrived at 9 a.m. and quickly set up three of their cannons, 2-6-pound field guns and 1-6-pound mortar. Beginning at 10 a.m., they fired a one round volley of all three cannons and another at 11 a.m. and 12 noon. Between the cannon fire, Compatriot Steve Burke and his assistant presented his traveling trunk to attendees. At 12 noon, approximately 150 participants were treated to a fantastic lunch at the park recreation center by the "Friends at the Park". The afternoon program consisted of an update on the Kettle Creek Battlefield by Compatriot David Noble and individual SAR, DAR Chapters and organizations presenting 96 wreaths to honor those Revolutionary War Soldiers who died during the War. At the end of the event a three round alternating volley was fired by the Elijah Clarke Militia using their flintlocks and the Brier Creek Artillery using their three cannons, then the Taps were played by the bugler.

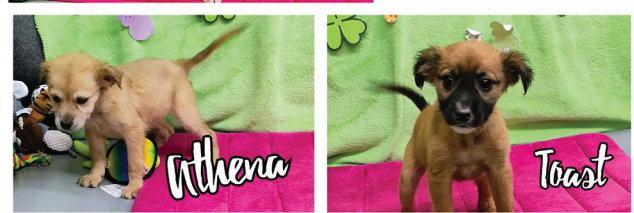
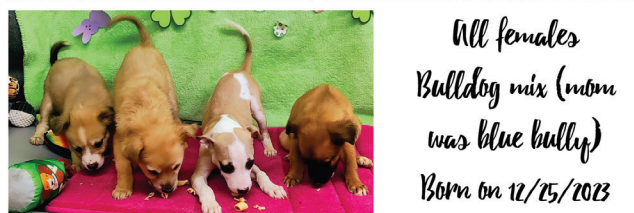


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## Elijah Clarke Heroes of the Hornets' Nest event held

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Female Terrier Mix



BUSTER  
18-20 yrs Old  
(according to prev. owners)  
Lab Mix



GROOT  
6 Months Old • Male  
Lab/Bully Mix



ROOSTER  
2 Years Old • Male Bulldog  
NO LIVESTOCK/CHICKENS



CARRIE, MARY & SARAH  
23 weeks old • Females • Black Lab Mixes

All of these are  
super sweet  
babies that love  
to play...Even  
Buster.

All Female  
Black lab mixes  
Roughly 5-6 months

## Congratulations!

### Quintus Williams: A Trailblazer's Journey from Swainsboro to Historic Achievement

In the small town of Swainsboro, a beacon of inspiration shines brightly in the form of Quintus Williams, the youngest recipient of the African American Trailblazer Award. Williams' journey is not just a story of triumph over adversity; it's a testament to resilience, dedication, and unwavering determination. Raised by his mother, Denise Williams, Williams faced numerous obstacles on his path to success. However, instead of succumbing to adversity, he embraced every challenge as an opportunity for growth. From a young age, Williams displayed exceptional leadership qualities and a thirst for knowledge that set him apart from his peers. Currently a senior at Swainsboro High School, Williams is deeply involved in various extracurricular activities, showcasing his diverse talents and passion for service. From serving as the President of the SHS 21st Century Leaders from 2021-2024 to being an active member of SHS Sr. Beta, FBLA, FFA, and Student Council, Williams' dedication to making a difference in his community knows no bounds. His impressive list of accolades and achievements speaks volumes about his commitment to excellence. From winning prestigious awards in events like Graphic Design and Client Service to being recognized as a National Society of High School Scholars member, Williams has left an indelible mark on every endeavor he pursues. However, Williams' impact extends far beyond the realm of academics and extracurriculars. As the first-ever Lady Tigers Student Public Relations Director, he uses his platform to inspire and uplift others. Williams' mantra, inspired by one of his mentors Monica Pace, echoes a message of empowerment and self-belief: "Make them know your name and handle business, make them remember your name." In the face of adversity, Williams remains a beacon of hope and resilience, encouraging others to persevere and stay true to their dreams. His unwavering determination and dedication to excellence serve as a powerful reminder that with hard work and perseverance, anything is possible. As Williams continues to pave the way for future generations, his legacy will undoubtedly inspire countless others to reach for the stars and make their mark on the world. Williams is not just a trailblazer; he's a shining example of what it means to defy expectations, overcome obstacles, and leave a lasting impact on the world.



IF INTERESTED IN ANY ANIMAL WE HAVE AT THE SHELTER AND YOU HAVE PETS, WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU TRY AND BRING YOUR ANIMALS FOR A MEET AND GREET IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, TO MAKE SURE THAT THE ANIMALS WILL GET ALONG BEFORE TAKING ONE HOME FROM THE SHELTER. IT IS BETTER TO BE AS SAFE AS POSSIBLE THAN HAVE ANY INCIDENTS WHEN GOING HOME WITH A NEW PET. AND IF YOU ARE MISSING A PET PLEASE EITHER STOP AND CHECK WITH US PHYSICALLY AT THE SHELTER OR SEND A MESSAGE THROUGH FACEBOOK OR CALL!  
Betty Gambrell Animal Shelter • Swainsboro/Emanuel Co Animal Control  
343 Market St • Swainsboro, GA 30401 • 478-237-4040  
<https://www.petfinder.com/member/us/ga/swainsboro/betty-gambrell-animal-shelter-ga1049/>