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# The Forest-Blade

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VOLUME 165, NO.12

Swainsboro, Georgia • March 20, 2024

ONE DOLLAR

## US Postal Service update

The postal service in Georgia is under a state of delay, which means the delivery of all letters and packages will be experiencing extended times of transit and arrival at destination. The problem is due to letters/packages not being scanned on the day of drop off. In many instances, outgoing mail processing will move hundreds of miles to a regional facility, outside reasonable commuting distance and, in some cases, to another state entirely.

The Swainsboro Post Office is no longer a hub, meaning when mail is dropped off at the Swainsboro Post Office, it is sent to Macon, then to Atlanta, then back to Macon and then sorted to be put on delivery trucks to be sent to the Post Office it originally

was supposed to go to, to be delivered.

Per Tyisha Fernandes, WSB-TV 2 Atlanta, on Wednesday, March 13, at 7:48 a.m., a new U.S. Postal Service facility that was built to make things more efficient is being blamed for causing major mail issues. NewsChopper 2 flew over the Regional Postal Distribution Center in Palmetto, GA on Tuesday, March 12. The facility is supposed to constantly have trucks moving in and out, but NewsChopper 2 and NewsDrone 2 both got a bird's eye view of just how many trucks were sitting still at the facility, and it was dozens. Each of those trucks is full of mail that is meant to be taken to your home. Fernandes spoke with a Postal Workers Union (Continued on page 3A)

## Commissioners get good news for paving projects

In its customary manner, the Emanuel County Board of Commissioners moved concisely through the agenda of its regular March 18, 2024, meeting this past Monday evening. Commission Chairman Hugh Foskey called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. In addition to the Chairman, Commissioners Oliver, Sherrod and Thompson were in attendance as well as Administrator Singletary. Halie Lamb was recognized and welcomed as the newly hired County Clerk. Following the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, a public hearing was convened to allow for comments regarding the final approval of an application for an alcohol license in the name of Swatiben Patel, Highway 1 North. Hearing no comments, the application was deemed complete and a motion to grant was passed. Motion for approval of minutes from the March 12, 2024, workshop meeting and the February 19 regular

meeting was called for and approved. There were no agenda items presented under old business. Moving to new business, the commission discussed the 2024 Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant which is annually provided by the state. Administrator Singletary announced the grant this year was in the amount of 1.3 million dollars and the low bidder for the contract was Scruggs Paving. Singletary also reported that the county received some good news in the return of excess TSPLOST funding to the county and excess budgetary transportation funds which were returned to Georgia counties by action of Governor Kemp. This is welcomed assistance that will be applied to paving needs in various areas of the county. This completed the evening's agenda and Chairman Foskey accepted motion for adjournment.



EGSC WOMENS BASKETBALL TEAM, MANAGERS, COACHES AND DR SCHECTER

## East Georgia State College Women's Basketball Team makes history; named GCAA State Champions

### Lady Bobcats move on to NJCAA Division 1 Tournament

The East Georgia State College (EGSC) Women's Basketball Team made history this weekend after being crowned the 2024 Region 17 Georgia Collegiate Athletic Association (GCAA) Women's Basketball Champions! This is the first women's

team in the College's history to win the GCAA Championship.

The Lady Bobcats will now travel to Wyoming for the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division 1 Women's Basketball Championship. The six-

day event comprising 24 teams will be held in Casper, Wyoming, from March 26 to April 1, 2024.

"This team has been a joy to coach this year. They work hard, compete relentlessly, believe in themselves and each other, and are active

listeners. They truly deserve to reap the benefits of their labor. I'm so proud of them," said Theo Howard, head women's basketball coach and EGSC Athletic Director.

EGSC hosted the GCAA Women's (Continued on page 2A)

## The U.S. Air Force Band of the West set to perform at East Georgia State College

The U.S. Air Force Band of the West will take the stage at the East Georgia State College (EGSC) Gambrell Building Auditorium to kick off the College's 2024 Vision Series on Sunday, March 24, at 3 p.m.

For nearly 40 years, March has been officially designated as the time to celebrate music education and its role in building a world class educational system for our great nation. The USAF Band of the West is celebrating "Music in our Schools Month" with the Music in Our Schools Tour across the



US AIR FORCE BAND OF THE WEST

State of Georgia. The performance will feature concert band classics, colorful storytelling as well as a debut performance of a new work by

Henry Jackman (Kong: Skull Island, X-Men: First Class, Captain Phillips). The USAF Band of the West will honor those who have

served and are serving, inspire the next generation of Americans and connect with audiences throughout Georgia!

(Continued on page 2A)

## May the forest be with you

How do you celebrate May 4<sup>th</sup>? Are you one of the "May The 4<sup>th</sup> Be With You" geek junkies who love all things Star Wars? It turns out *Star Wars Day* is an informal commemorative day observed annually on May 4<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the Star Wars franchise. Observance of

this day spread quickly through media since the franchise began in 1977. A pun, "May the 4<sup>th</sup> Be with You" is a variant of the Star Wars catchphrase "May the Force Be with You." Created by filmmaker George Lucas, the Star Wars franchise has embraced the pun and fans have chosen to

celebrate the holiday in true Star Wars fashion.

Although the celebratory day was not created or declared by Lucasfilm, the film company and the Walt Disney Company have taken on the date of May 4<sup>th</sup> as the annual celebration of Star Wars. The release date of the original Star Wars movie

was May 25, 1977, and is still celebrated by some as Geek Pride Day. It turns out the first use of the phrase, "May the 4<sup>th</sup> be with you" was back in 1979, the day after Margaret Thatcher was elected as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. Her political (Continued on page 2A)

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## May the forest...

(From front page)

party placed a congratulatory ad in the Evening News that read, "May the Fourth Be with You, Maggie. Congratulations.

The phrase has been used other times in the media and even in a defense debate on May 4, 1944. Still, the overwhelming majority of people consider May 4<sup>th</sup> as Star Wars Day and enjoy embracing the matching slogan, "May the 4<sup>th</sup> Be with You."

In 2008, the first social media groups appeared celebrating Luke Skywalker Day, using the same phrase. In 2011, the first organized Star Wars Day took place in Canada. The second annual event did not happen until 2012.

Fans have celebrated Star Wars in a variety of ways using social media and television to share the celebration. Even Major League Baseball, association football and college sports have participated in the May 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. Some have worn special uniforms as part of the promotions and on May 4, 2015, International Space Station astro-

nauts took time to watch Star Wars. In 2015, the bells inside the Peace Tower in Canada played "The Imperial March," theme from Star Wars. In June 2021, it was announced that Carrie Fisher (Princess Leia) would receive a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. She received that star on May 4, 2023, Star Wars Day.

So why this history lesson on Star Wars? Well actually, the lesson is on the date May 4<sup>th</sup>. You see, this year the annual Pine Tree Festival will be held May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> with the

main festivities happening on Saturday, May 4.

How could we, the Swainsboro-Emanuel County Festival Foundation, not give in to the coincidence of the date and celebrate our beloved timber industry with a little Star Wars twist? Join us for the 77<sup>th</sup> Pine Tree Festival in downtown Swainsboro for another enjoyable event and help us promote this year's slogan, "May the Forest Be with You." It is sure to be out of this world!

McClendon was named the GCAA Freshmen of the Year, and D'Mya Griffin was voted the GCAA Women's Player of the Year. Griffin was also named the 2024 All-Tournament Team MVP, and Aniyah Jones was named to the 2024 All-Tournament Team.

## East Georgia State...

(From front page)

Basketball Conference Tournament this past weekend in Swainsboro after securing the number one seed and going undefeated in conference play. On Saturday, March 16, EGSC defeated the Central Georgia Technical College Titans to claim the title. The final score was 76 to 44.

The Lady Bobcats ended the regular season ranked 22nd in the NJCAA national poll and received the 15th seed for the NJCAA Tournament. The team will play the 18th seed, Dodge City Community College, on March 26.

Anyone interested in watching the NJCAA Tournament can watch it on the NJCAA Network ([njcaa.org/network](http://njcaa.org/network)). The first round will be streamed live on ESPN+.

"This is a dynamite team to watch, and we are so proud of their accomplishments. EGSC is on the women's basketball map because of this group of student-athletes," said Dr. David Schecter, EGSC President.

Recently, EGSC's Head Women's Basketball Coach Theo Howard was voted the GCAA Women's Basketball Coach of the Year. Charlese "Tree"

made up of the large ensembles Concert Band, Ceremonial Marching Band, Dimensions in Blue, and three popular music groups, Warhawk, Top Flight, and Velocity. Small ensembles within the unit include Freedom Brass, Gateway Brass, Spectrum Winds, Nightwatch, Mission Winds, and protocol combos. This diversity enables the USAF Band of the West to perform practically any style of music from classical and country to marches and mambos.

The East Georgia State College Vision Series is an initiative that underwrites academic and cultural enrichment programs for East Georgia State College students and the surrounding community. Since its inception, the Vision Series has hosted outstanding personalities, authors, newsmakers, musical performances, dance companies, and theatrical productions. Past programs include President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter, Dr. Maya Angelou, the Atlanta Pops, Chancellor Sonny Perdue, and Ambassador Andrew Young.

About the NJCAA:

Since 1938, the NJCAA has served as the nation's premier governing body for two-year collegiate athletics, providing student-athletes opportunities to PREPARE, COMPETE, SUCCEED and ACHIEVE in their academic and athletic disciplines. The NJCAA is the second-largest national intercollegiate athletic organization in the United States, with over 500 member schools in 44 states. Each year over 3,400 teams compete in 28 different sports across multiple divisions in the NJCAA and the organization sponsors 52 national championship events and sanctioned football bowl games.

For more information, visit [NJCAA.org](http://NJCAA.org).

## The U.S. Air...

(From front page)

The concert will be at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 24, at the East Georgia State College Gambrell Building Auditorium at 131 College Circle, Swainsboro, Georgia, 30401. Although the event is free and open to the public, a ticket is required. For more information or to reserve your free ticket, visit [www.ega.edu/vision-series](http://www.ega.edu/vision-series). Those attendees not seated 15 minutes before the concert starts may forfeit their seats to the general public.

The USAF Band of the West, established in 1941, is a musical organization with an outstanding record of achievement. The Airmen assigned to the band are highly trained professional musicians who have dedicated themselves to serving their country through music. The band travels more than 125,000 miles annually and provides hundreds of performances to military and civilian audiences throughout Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and Puerto Rico.

The organization is

made up of the large ensembles Concert Band, Ceremonial Marching Band, Dimensions in Blue, and three popular music groups, Warhawk, Top Flight, and Velocity. Small ensembles within the unit include Freedom Brass, Gateway Brass, Spectrum Winds, Nightwatch, Mission Winds, and protocol combos. This diversity enables the USAF Band of the West to perform practically any style of music from classical and country to marches and mambos.

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The Forest-Blade

The Forest-Blade is published weekly by Emanuel County Newspapers Inc., 416 W. Moring Street, Swainsboro, GA. \$1.00 per copy, \$38 per year in-county and \$49 per year out-of-county. POSTMASTER: Send POD Form 3579 to Emanuel County Newspapers Inc., P.O. Box 938, Swainsboro, GA 30401. Telephone 478.237.9971. Periodical Postage paid at Swainsboro, GA 30401. (USPS 204-840)



# East Georgia State College Women's Basketball receives GCAA Coach of the Year, Player of the Year

The Georgia Collegiate Athletic Association (GCAA) Women's DI Basketball coaches recently selected the Player of the Year, Coach of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year, and Freshman of the Year for the 2023-2024 season. East Georgia State College is excited to have received three of the four awards!

East Georgia State College's (EGSC) Head Women's Basketball Coach Theo Howard was voted the GCAA Women's Basketball Coach of the Year, Women's Basketball player D'Mya Griffin was voted the GCAA Women's Player of



**COACH HOWARD** the Year and Charlese "Tree" McClendon was named the GCAA Freshmen of the Year.

This season the EGSC Women's Basketball Team has dominated the GCAA. The team



**GRIFFIN** is undefeated in conference play and is ranked in the USA Top 25 for the second consecutive season. Having clinched first place in the conference, EGSC will host the GCAA Conference



**MCCLENDON** Tournament at home in Swainsboro, and will play in the semifinals on Friday, March 15, at 6 p.m. with the championship game being on Saturday, March 16, at 2 p.m.

## US Postal Service...

(From front page) president who said he knows exactly what the problem is and what it will take to keep drivers moving. "They're supposed to stay there for 30 minutes and be gone, they're staying there for four hours. So when they go there, it pretty much ends their route," Mitchell Taylor, President of the American Postal Workers Union stated. He says all the major problems in metro Atlanta stem from the new facility that opened three weeks ago. "What they did was they moved machines and mail and a lot of operations down to the RPDC (Regional Processing and Distribution Centers)...it left a void where they're saying we don't need these people here, we need to move them elsewhere," he explained. "You would

think that would make it more efficient. The void that they left behind was so great, that they don't have enough people left behind to do the mail (sic) working the mail." He said supervisors had to step in, but they're not used to doing certain jobs and are slowing down operations. Taylor said the new facility has nearly 200 dock doors to get trucks in and out quickly, but it's still not enough. "We never thought that would be up to capacity, but every day all the dock doors are full and you still can't get trucks in or out," he said.

This is not only affecting our Forest-Blade subscribers - it's affecting everybody. Please bear with us and hopefully these issues will be cleared up soon! If you do not receive your Forest-Blade, please call us at 478.237.9971.

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## EAC gets ready for Block Party for the Arts

The Emanuel Arts Council will host a Block Party for the Arts on March 28, from 4 to 7 p.m. The 100 block of North Green Street will be closed to traffic during those hours. The event will feature art by Swainsboro High School, Emanuel County Institute and East Georgia State College.

Artwork by the students will be judged by

three local judges. Prizes will be awarded to winners from each school. A Sidewalk Chalk Contest will also be held in front of The Kalmanson Gallery and the Karrh Community Arts Center (theater). Entertainment and refreshments will be provided. The event is free and open to the public. The first block party was held in October 2022. This year, the

EAC board of directors decided on a Spring event.

The Emanuel Arts Council, Inc. (EAC) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization whose purpose is to empower and grow the community through cultural programs in all areas of the arts. For more information on programming at the EAC, find them on Facebook and Instagram.

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# East Georgia STATE COLLEGE

## lady bobcats

# MAKE HISTORY!

The East Georgia State College (EGSC) Women's Basketball Team made history this weekend after being crowned the **2024 Region 17 Georgia Collegiate Athletic Association (GCAA) Women's Basketball Champions!**

This is the first women's team in the College's history to win the GCAA Championship.

The Lady Bobcats will now travel to Wyoming for the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division 1 Women's Basketball Championship.



## Ray M. Hutcheson, 74

Mr. Ray M. Hutcheson, 74, of Adrian, passed away Saturday, March 16, 2024, at his residence following an extended illness. Funeral service was held Monday, March 18, at 1 p.m. in the chapel of Chapman Funeral Home with Reverend Mark Hardin officiating. Interment followed in Corinth Memorial Cemetery. The family received friends Sunday, March 17, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Chapman Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Lance Hutcheson, Mike Henry, Jamie Henry, Tal Henry, Mitchell Powell, Dion Hutcheson, Kevin Hutcheson, Jason Hutcheson, Matt Henry, Ches Flanders, Chance Flanders, Shannon Brantley, Wade Hutcheson, Dale Hutcheson and Stan Couey.

Mr. Hutcheson was born April 25, 1949, in Swainsboro, sixth of 10 children, to the late Buford Hutcheson and Melba Darley Hutcheson. He grew up on the family farm where he learned to drive the mule (four legged), tractor, and old pick-up truck. Ray helped work the farm with his brothers and sisters because he was always a hard worker. Being sort of the middle child, he helped look after his younger brother and sisters. Ray attended Adrian school and began working at a young age. He enjoyed childhood games, fishing, and swimming in the "Hoopee." As a teenager, Ray was always getting into mischief with his older brothers. He was raised by simple parents on a simple farm and grew into a very loving and simple man. Ray married at a young age and raised a wonderful family. His greatest love was his children and grandchildren. Ray was blessed with a large family and loved spending time with them. He was a big Atlanta Braves fan and was looking forward to the upcoming season. Ray enjoyed plant-



**HUTCHESON**

ing his gardens and giving away most of it to family and friends. He made his living by working in the cabinetry business for most of his adult life. Ray worked for several different cabinet shops and was part owner of one at one time. He retired from American Door and Drawer because of health problems at the age of 72. Ray was loved by so many and will be greatly missed. Mr. Hutcheson is preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Bobby D. Hutcheson, O.C. Hutcheson and David Hutcheson.

Mr. Hutcheson is survived by his wife, Shelby Hutcheson of Adrian; sons, Tony (Stephanie) Hutcheson and Cheney Hutcheson (Morgan White), both of Swainsboro; daughter, Sherri (Mike) Chance of Millen; brother, Billy (Maudell) Hutcheson of Dublin; sisters, Betty Henry Hudson of Adrian, Sue (Herman) Strange of Metter, Shirley Hudson of Swainsboro, Jan Brantley of Dublin and Faye (Chesley) Flanders of Summertown; grandchildren, Lance Hutcheson, Elaina Rae Hutcheson, Mariska Hutcheson and Blaze (Breanna) Chance; great-grandchildren, Bennett Chance and Anna Blais Chance; sisters-in-law, Bonnie Faye Hutcheson, Phyllis Hutcheson and Linda Hutcheson; special people in Ray's life, Marie Brown and Tiffany Lamar; several nieces, nephews and many friends.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro was in charge of arrangements.

## Gayle Page Strickland Elkes,

66

Gayle Page Strickland Elkes, age 66, passed away peacefully on March 12, 2024, at The Windsor of Ocala under the care of Hospice of Marion County after a heart-breaking journey with dementia. A memorial service was held Friday, March 15, at 2 p.m. at Ocala First United Methodist Church in Ocala, FL.

Gayle was born April 17, 1937, in Kite, to the late Burley and Annie Ruth Fortner Page. She was a loving mother, a caring friend to innumerable, and one of God's faithful servants. Gayle enjoyed the simple life of a country girl. She fondly remembered visiting extended family with her grandparents and often shared her recollections with interested family members. Gayle returned to Kite often for visits, but she always returned annually each Thanksgiving for the Page Family Reunion and to attend the Masters Golf Tournament during her visits in April.

A 1955 graduate of Swainsboro High School, Gayle attended the Barrett School of Nursing in Augusta where she received her degree in nursing. There, she met the love of her life, Edmond Thomas Strickland, Jr., who was a native of Calhoun. They were happily married for 26 years and had three children. Sadly, Dr. Strickland predeceased Gayle on July 10, 1986. In November 1994, Gayle married Frank Elkes with whom she shared 20 years until his death in 2015.

After Dr. Strickland returned to the United States from his Navy Deployment to Vietnam as a field surgeon in 1968, the couple moved from Georgia and made their home in Ocala, FL. Gayle enjoyed entertaining and was a gracious hostess. She was a member of the Marion County Medical Society Auxiliary, the Ocala Chapter, NSDAR, the J.J. Dickison Chapter No.



**ELKES**

56, UDC, HUGs Charity Board, PEO, Reviewer's Book Club, and her special bridge club for over 55 years. As an active member of Ocala First United Methodist Church, Gayle faithfully served on many committees and was active in The Open-Door Sunday School class as well as United Methodist Women.

Mrs. Elkes is survived by her children, Edmond Thomas Strickland, III (Jody) of Perry, Gayle Page Branson (Rusty) of Ocala, FL and Stuart Burley Strickland of Gainesville, FL; six grandchildren, Tyson Strickland (Anna) of Comer, Morgan Grizzle (Gordon) and Samantha Lineberger (Luke), all of Perry, Tucker Branson (Kaeley) and Sawyer Branson (Ashley), all of Ocala, FL and Bryson Strickland of Gainesville, FL; seven great-grandchildren, Harper Ann and Mary Elizabeth Strickland, Thomas, Evie, and Owen Grizzle, and Sam and Sutton Lineberger; two siblings, Burley Page, Jr. (Connie) and Annelle Norris of Kite.

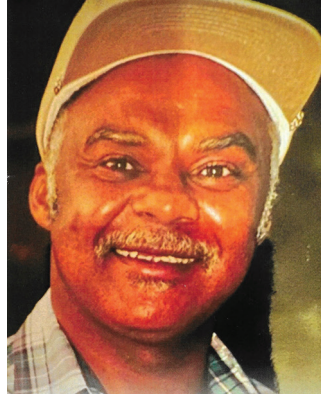
In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to HUGs Charities, PO Box 34, Ocala, FL 34478 or [hugscharities.info](mailto:hugscharities.info); Hospice of Marion County, PO Box 4860, Ocala, FL 34478 or [hospiceofmarion.org](mailto:hospiceofmarion.org); The Alzheimer's Association, [alz.org](http://alz.org); or Minton Chapel Cemetery Fund, c/o 732 Page Garrett Road, Kite, GA 31049.

Roberts Funeral Home and Crematory of Dunnellon was in charge of the arrangements.

## Lester Corley Jr., 71

Lester Corley Jr., age 71, departed this life and entered into eternal rest on Sunday, March 10, 2024. A Celebration of Life was held Saturday, March 16, at 12 pm. At St. Philip Baptist Church with Elder Christopher Stanford officiating and Pastor Larry Sherrod presiding. Interment followed in Willow Springs Cemetery.

Lester was born April 13, 1952, in Emanuel County, the youngest of his siblings, to the late Lester Sr. and Catherine Corley. He attended Emanuel County Schools and graduated in 1971. Lester dedicated over 30 years of his professional career to service Thompson. Gas Companies before retiring. He was a caring father, grandfather, uncle and friend. Mr. Corley is preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Fred Corley Sr., Henry Corley and Curtis Corley; sisters,



**CORLEY JR.**

Mary Scott and Mary Tillman; and nephew, Willie Scott.

Mr. Corley is survived by his six children, Lester Leshon Corley III, Arsheka Corley, Dexter Parrish Sr., all of Swainsboro, Asha Stanford of Newport News, VA, Christopher Stanford of Twin City and Justin Corley of Hampton; 13 grandchildren; three great-children; sister-in-law; special nieces and nephews; and a multitude of other family members and friends.

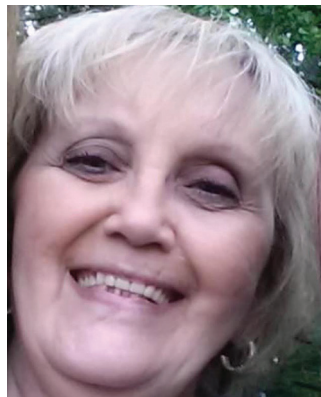
Mosley's Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## Terri J. Powell, 66

Ms. Terri J. Powell, age 66, of Normantown, died Monday, March 11, 2024, at Medical University of South Carolina Hospital in Charleston, South Carolina. The family received friends at Wilkes Funeral Home Wednesday, March 12, from 5 to 7 p.m. A private inurnment will be held at a later date.

Terri was a native of Soperton and lived most of her life in Vidalia. She worked for Southern Company for more than twenty years and loved her grandchildren and all of her animals. Ms. Powell is preceded in death by her parents, Lewis and Clyde Johnson.

Ms. Powell is survived by her children, Jesse Powell (Jessie) of Vidalia and Jamie Drew (Nathan) of Five Points



**POWELL**

Community; sister, Kay Alfonso of Vidalia; niece, Crystal Alfonso of Vidalia; nephew, Vince Alfonso of Swainsboro; and four grandchildren, Cassie, Ethan, Brandon and Izabell.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Vidalia Animal Shelter at 2811 Airport Road, Vidalia, GA 30474.

Wilkes Funeral Home of Vidalia is in charge of arrangements.

## Barbara Rowland, 67

Mrs. Barbara F. Rowland, 67, of Kite, passed away Thursday, March 14, 2024, at her residence following an extended illness. A memorial service was held Sunday, March 17, at 3 p.m. in the chapel at Chapman Funeral Home with Pastor Tom Akins officiating.

Honorary pallbearers were Sandra Edenfield, Jana Nunn, Mike Cowart, Sandy Cowart, Michael Cowart, Pam Williams Claxton, Gary Williams, Frances Chance, Christy Whittenburg and Jessica Williams.

Mrs. Rowland was born August 11, 1956, in St. Petersburg, FL, to the late Clarence Fleming and Claudia Mae Sanders. Barbara was the operator of B's Diner from 1995 - 1999. She was the co-owner of Rowland's Service Station for 20 plus years. Barbara enjoyed traveling to the beach and the mountains. She liked to play cards, spending time at the Moose Club, going to the lake and camping. Barbara attended Oaky Grove Baptist Church. Mrs. Rowland is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Walter Lee Rowland; sisters, Brenda Henry and Helen Lallemand; brother, Ronnie Stephens; and great-grandson, Baylor Colt Moore.



**ROWLAND**

Mrs. Rowland is survived by her daughter, April Purvis (Craig) of Kite; grandchildren, Savannah Bush of Swainsboro, Donald Wiliford of Kite and Dakota Kersey of Florida; 11 great-grandchildren; special nieces, Ashley King (CJ) and Brittany Wren (Wesley); special sister, Helen Bell (Tommy) of Kite; sisters, Sabrina Thomas (Travis) of Kite, Brenda Bolen (James) of Spring City, TN, Lisa Fleming of Tenmile, TN and Jackie Smith of Spring City, TN; brothers, John Fleming of Kite and Jim Lallemand of Arizona; step-mother, Louise McDonald of Spring City, TN; brother-in-law, Mike (Ellen) Rowland of Swainsboro; several nieces, nephews and many friends.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro was in charge of arrangements.

## Holy Zion Church to hold

### Fellowship/Youth Revival

Holy Zion Church of Metter will have their Fellowship/Youth Revival starting Thursday, March 21, at 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker for Thursday night will be Pastor Frank Bedford with guest churches Holy Zion Church of Statesboro, Jones Temple Pentecostal, Mt. Zion Living Way, St. Matthews, Triumph of Praise, Mt. Gilead, Temple of Grace and St. James Baptist Church of Swainsboro. Friday night, March 22, at 7:30 p.m., guest churches will be William Chapter House of Hope, House of God, Turning Point Tabernacle and St. John. Sunday, March 24, guest speaker will be Pastor Johnnie Branch with guest churches Holy Zion Church of Twin City and Mt. Zion. Sunday School will be at 10:30 a.m. and worship service at 11:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

## Perfected Love Holiness Church

Revelation 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Sunday School 9:45 am  
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## Board of Education holds March meeting

The Emanuel County Board of Education met on Tuesday, March 12, at 5:30 p.m. at Swainsboro Elementary School with the following members in attendance: Brandon Jones, Cherie Hooks, Del Brown, Tanya Lane, Sandra Swinney, John Allen Bailey and Johnny Parker. Chairman Del Brown welcomed everyone calling the meeting to order. Brandon Jones then delivered the invocation followed by John Allen Bailey leading the Pledge of Allegiance. John Allen Bailey made a motion to approve the agenda. Johnny Parker seconded the motion. Johnny Parker, Del Brown, Cherie Hooks, Brandon Jones, Tanya Lane, Sandra Swinney, and John Allen Bailey voted "yes". CARRIED.

### Superintendent's comments

March 11 - 15, 2024, is Board Appreciation Week. Thank you, Emanuel County Schools Board of Education Members, for your leadership, your support, and your commitment to the students and staff of Emanuel County Schools.

1. A Proclamation for School Board Appreciation Week by the Governor of Georgia - Scotty Hattaway  
2. GA DOE State Superintendent Letter-Georgia School Board Appreciation Week - Scotty Hattaway  
3. Whole Board Training Update April 16, 2024 - Scotty Hattaway

4. February Awards for F.A.M.I.L.Y., P.A.U.S.E. and S.A.S. - Mrs. Tammy Gray recognized the following recipients: F.A.M.I.L.Y. Betty Gomez -3rd Grade Teacher at SES; P.A.U.S.E. J'Meshia Allen - 11th Grader at SHS; S.A.S. Robertha Smith - Custodian at TCE

5. Recognition of SES (Jr Beta State Competition) - Dr. Denise Warnock  
Jr. Beta State Competition in Savannah November 29 - 30, 2023

Sponsors / Teachers: Whitney Claxton, Shanna Foskey, David Markwith, Rachel Burkhalter, Liz Bishop, Corey Chalker, Reagan Moxley, Delphine Bostic, Susan Stephenson, Whitney Wheeler and Kelly Logan; Club Project - Sponsors: Whitney Claxton and Whitney Wheeler - 1st Place Service Learning Board; Club Project - Sponsor: Whitney Claxton - 2nd Place Two Dimensional Design;

Ju'Siyah Bell 4th Place Performing Arts Large Group; Benton Bishop 4th Place Book Battle Robotics - National Qualifier; Ryan Brown Robotics - National Qualifier; Benton Claxton 4th Place Performing Arts Large Group and 5th Place Three Dimensional Design; Kynlie Claxton 2nd Place Engineering and 4th Place Creative Writing; Preston Claxton 3rd Place Social Studies 4th Grade, 4th Place Performing Arts Large Group, 5th Place Three Dimensional Design and Top 8 Finalist - Quiz Bowl; Drake Clements 4th Place Book Battle, 5th Place Language Arts and Robotics - National Qualifier; Edwin Cruz Simon 4th Place Performing Arts Large Group; Jase English 4th Place Performing Arts Large Group and Top 8 Finalist - Quiz Bowl; Jenna Farmer 4th Place Performing Arts Large Group; Blane Hutcheson Robotics - National Qualifier; Blake Johnson 4th Place Performing Arts Large Group; Nathan Kersey 5th Place Digital Portfolio; Charolette Lanier 2nd Place Engineering; Layton Lindsey 5th Place Digital Portfolio; Leilany Lopez-Acosta 2nd Place Engineering, 3rd Place Scrapbooking and 3rd Place Spanish 5th Grade; Kanin Love 5th Place Accessorized Design; Karlee Love 5th Place

Accessorized Design; Luna

Manjarres-Ibanez 1st Place Spanish 4th Grade; Drake Mason 5th Place Digital Portfolio; Jenavieve McRee 5th Place Performing Arts Solo Dance; Victor Middleton 5th Place Digital Portfolio and Robotics - National Qualifier; Jackson Milbee 4th Place Performing Arts Large Group and Top 8 Finalist - Musicology; Adamarie Moran-Esparza 4th Place Book Battle, 4th Place Performing Arts Large Group and Top 8 Finalist - Musicology; Tucker Morris

4th Place Performing Arts Large Group; Isabella Mulrooney 4th Place Performing Arts Large Group and Top 8 Finalist - Musicology; Herman Powell 2nd Place Engineering; Tristen Randall 4th Place Performing Arts Large Group; Lena Robins 4th Place Performing Arts Large Group and Top 8 Finalist - Musicology; A'Reice Robinson 3rd Place Scrapbooking; Barrington Slater 5th Place Digital Portfolio; Kenley Smith 3rd Place Scrapbooking; Marley Stewart 2nd Place Engineering; August Street 4th Place Performing Arts Large Group, 5th Place Digital Art and Top 8 Finalist - Quiz Bowl; Cayleigh Taylor Robotics - National Qualifier; Bailey Tharpe 3rd Place Scrapbooking; Elijah Vaughn

Robotics - National Qualifier; Ma'Karli Walker 3rd Place Scrapbooking; Kinsley Watson 3rd Place Scrapbooking; Brandtley Wheeler 4th Place Fiber Arts, 4th Place Performing Arts Large Group and Top 8 Finalist - Quiz Bowl

6. Recognition of Georgia Music Educators Association All-State Band and District 10 Honor Band SHS - Dr. Denise Warnock  
Georgia Music Educators Association All-State Band in Athens February 29 - March 2, 2024

Sponsors / Teachers: Lindy Sikes; Grayson Brassell 10th Chair, 9th - 10th Grade Band, James Seda, conductor

Georgia Music Educators Association District 10 Honor Band in Augusta February 8 - 10, 2024

Sponsors / Teachers: Lindy Sikes; Bo Brown 11th - 12th Grade Band and 2nd Chair Trumpet; Grayson Brassell 9th - 10th Grade Band and 4th Chair Trumpet; Kylee Farley 9th - 10th Grade Band and 3rd Chair Trombone

7. Recognition of Young Georgia Authors Writing Competition System - Level Winners - Dr. Denise Warnock

Congratulations to the Young Georgia Authors Writing Competition system-level winners: Kindergarten Rowyn Mendieta - SPS, 1st John Stewart - TCE, 2nd Lauren Kersey - SPS, 3rd Avery Frye - TCE, 4th Benton Claxton - SES, 5th Cayleigh Taylor - SES, 6th Sean Trevor Bragg - SMS, 7th Camden Hall - ECI, 8th Dayna Foster - SMS, 9th Grayson Brassell - SHS, 10th Lola Walden - ECI, 11th Abigail Phillips - SHS, 12th Gabrielle Collins - ECI. These are being submitted to CSRA RESA for the next level of competition.

8. Recognition of CSRA RESA Young Georgia Authors Winners-Dr. Denise Warnock  
Kindergarten - Royyn Mendieta - The Princess Bumblebee, Swainsboro Primary (2nd Grade) - Lauren Kersey - The Tale of Two Donkeys, Swainsboro Elementary School (4th Grade) - Benton Claxton - The Drummer

9. Recognition of 3rd Place Career Research State FBLA Competition - SMS - Dr. Denise Warnock  
3rd Place Career Research State FBLA Competition Feb 24 - 26  
Sponsors / Teachers: Kristy Wimberly; Myli

McCullough 3rd Place Career Research

10. SWSS Application Timeline - Dr. Denise Warnock

11. Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. proposed Called Meeting - Tentatively Schedule FY25 Budget Presentation - Scotty Hattaway

### Discussion of consent agenda

The Consent Agenda was presented and approved as follows:

1. Approval of Minutes of the February 2024 Regular and Called Board Meetings

2. Approval of Financial Reports - Mollie Smith

3. Approval of 2024 Blue Bird Vision BBCV 3303 Gasoline Bus Recommendation - Jansen Ware

4. Approval of 2024 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 4x4 Work Truck - Jansen Ware

5. Approval of Adrian Property Resolution

6. Approval of Certificate of the Board of Education-Swainsboro Middle School Renovations

7. Approval of SMS Fundraisers

Swainsboro Middle Girls and Boys Basketball & Track Teacher vs Student Basketball Game May 23, 2024 and Girls and Boys Basketball and Track School Dance April 1, 2024

### Public participation - None

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### Employments:

The Board approved the Renewal, employment, retired, retirement and resignations of the following certified and classified employees:

#### Recommendations, Certified

Aldrich, Kaci - Teacher - SPS - 7/25/2024 - NCIC Incomplete; Brewer, Tabatha - Teacher - SPS - 7/25/2024 - NCIC Complete; Gay, Abigail - Teacher - SES - 7/25/2024 - NCIC Incomplete; Handsom, Joniece - Teacher - SPS - 7/25/2024 - NCIC Incomplete; Hattaway, Scotty - Superintendent Advisor - Central Office - 4/1/2024 - NCIC Complete; Joyner, Angie - Literacy Coach/Interventionist - TCE - 7/17/2024 - NCIC Complete; Perkins, Keila - Literacy Coord. K-5 - Academic Coach - SPS - 7/17/2024 - NCIC Complete; Schwabe, Devin - 6 -12 ELA Academic Coach - SMS - 7/17/2024 - NCIC Complete; Sellers, Kelsey - Teacher - SES - 7/25/2024 - NCIC Incomplete; Smith, Evans - Teacher - SPS - 7/25/2024 - NCIC Incomplete

#### Resignations, Certified

Besier, Stacie - Teacher - TCE - 5/29/2024; Hattaway, Scotty - Superintendent - Central Office - 3/29/2024; Johnson, Tyler - Teacher - ECI - 5/29/2024; Pye, Christopher - Teacher - ECI - 5/29/2024; Sikes, Rachael - Teacher - SMS - 5/29/2024; Walker, Soukeyna - Teacher - SMS - 5/29/2024

#### Retirements, Certified

Daniels, Maria - Administration/Director - Pre-K - 6/21/2024; Greenway, Gail - Federal Programs Director - Central Office - 5/31/2024; Hattaway, Scotty - Superintendent - Central Office - 5/31/2024

#### Recommendations, Classified

Cuyler, Russell - Custodian - SHS - 3/12/2024 - NCIC Incomplete; Johnson, Jazmine - Bus Driver - Transportation - 3/18/2024 - NCIC Incomplete

#### Resignations, Classified

Crews, Jamie - Bus Driver Trainer - Transportation - 3/8/2024; Ferry, Lily - Custodian - SPS - 2/22/2024; Smith, Melody - Custodian - TCE - 1/26/2024; Woods, Perry Gale - SFS Worker - ECI - 2/23/2024



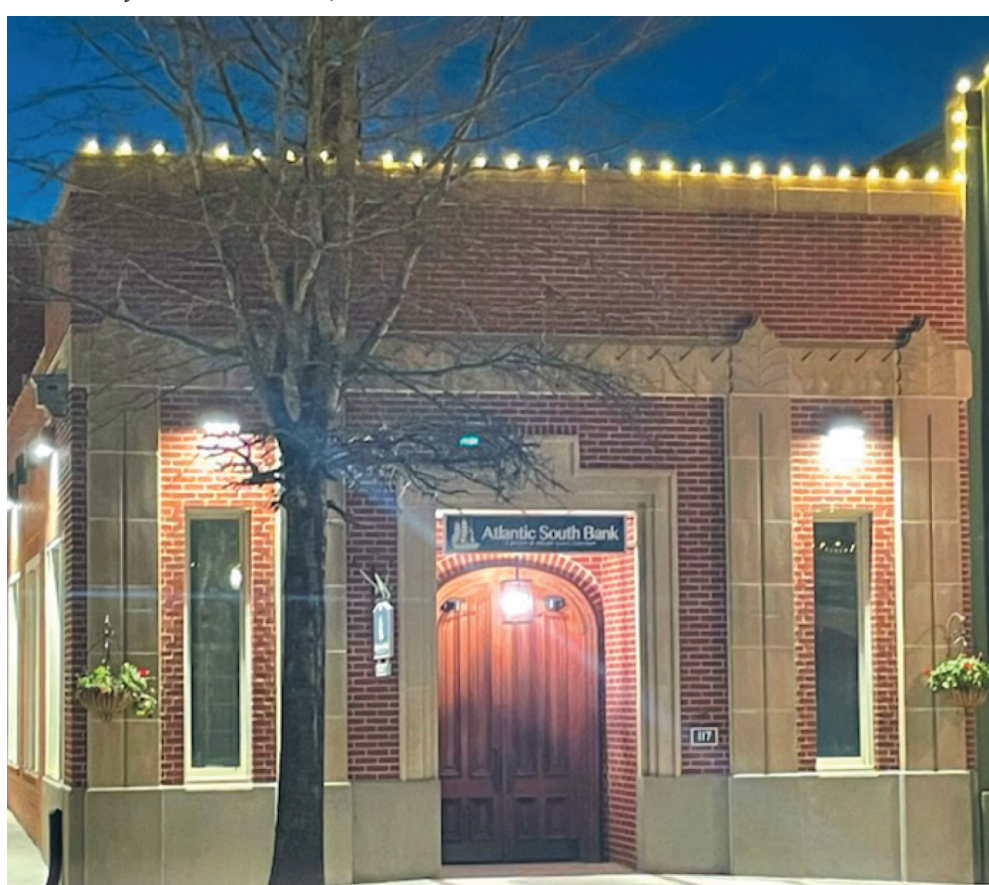
F.A.M.I.L.Y. - BOARD MEMBER SANDRA SWINNEY, F.A.M.I.L.Y. AWARD RECIPIENT BETTY GOMEZ, AND SES PRINCIPAL LARA NORTON



S.A.S. - TCE PRINCIPAL JESSICA COLLINS, S.A.S. AWARD RECIPIENT ROBERTHA SMITH, AND BOARD MEMBER BRANDON JONES



P.A.U.S.E. - BOARD MEMBER JOHN ALLEN BAILEY, P.A.U.S.E. AWARD RECIPIENT J'MESHIA ALLEN, AND SHS PRINCIPAL BRANDON ANDREWS



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# Death, taxes, and John William Turner

Mr. William Turner was recently inducted into the Lions Club District 18N Hall of Fame at the District Convention held at the Barron W. Godbee Activity Center in Vidalia. The Twin City Lions Club was founded on February 20, 1964. Mr. Turner is a charter member of the club and since that first meeting, he has never missed a meeting of the civic organization. Perfect attendance for over 60 years! Mr. Turner has held every position in the club and is still the club's Lion Tamer and is responsible for the upkeep of the clubhouse and is still active in renting the club out to the public. Mr. Turner's son, Ricky Turner, accompanied him to the event,



**CONVENTION CHAIRMEN MARK ANNERS, TURNER, PAST CONVENTION CHAIRMAN CATHY WILLIAMS AND PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR LEW WALDROP**

as well as club President and Secretary G.W. Brandon Jones, 1st Vice-Johnson. John William Turner is the first member of the Twin City Lions Club to be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

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

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

All persons must show picture identification when picking up records.

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

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

**GG Gifts Galore**  
When thinking of our hometown festivities, what does "HOME" mean to you?

Express in a drawing what comes to mind

*School-aged children*

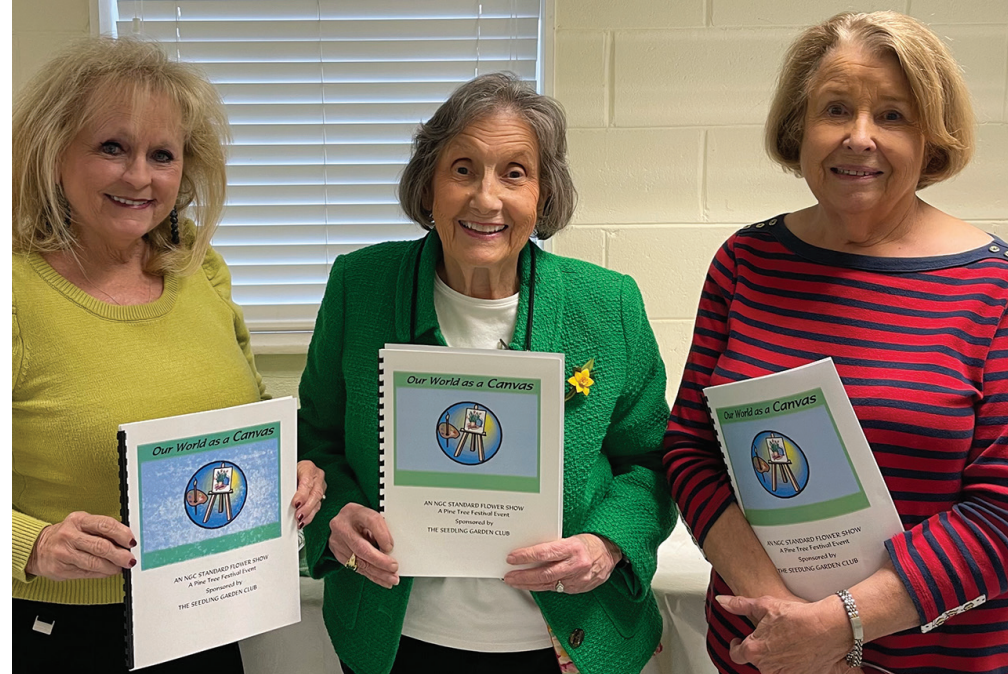
PLEASE DROP OFF COMPLETED DRAWINGS WITH NAME/AGE/SCHOOL/CONTACT NUMBER TO GIFTS GALORE -- PLEASE WRITE IT ON THE BACK OF DRAWING SO IT IS EASY TO IDENTIFY.

Winner will receive:

- A designed tshirt with their drawing sponsored by Gifts Galore (monetary gift to purchase the design as well)
- A free kid's meal from Berni's on West Main
- A free entry into the Ultimate Bullfighters Party in The Pines sponsored by Stephanie with Y96
- A slice of cheesecake of choice from Leanna's
- A kid friendly festival drink sponsored by New Generation Nutrition

Contact Shaye Davis for questions or more info:  
106 N Green Street Swainsboro, GA 30401  
478-419-1330

Carolyn Vautier  
2023 drawing winner



## SCARBORO, KARRH AND MCWHORTER Seedling Garden Club plans flower show

The Seedling Garden Club held its monthly meeting on Monday, March 11, at the First Methodist Church Social Hall. President Nancy Karrh, Horticulture Gardening chairperson, gave a very educational report on how to start getting ready for Spring. She stated that now is time to sow seeds for plants, fertilize day lilies and daffodils, clean Iris beds, prune camellias after they bloom. So much needed information in a short time. Everyone enjoys and benefits from Paula's Horticulture tips each month.

The main item on the agenda was "Planning the upcoming flower show." Martha Cobb and Diana Malone presented a wonderful power point describing each floral design that will be featured in the flower show. The Seedling Garden Club in cooperation with

Yonna Bailey, Yard of the Month Chairperson, reported the Yard of the Month selection will begin in April. Paula Karrh, Horticulture Gardening chairperson, gave a very educational report on how to start getting ready for Spring. She stated that now is time to sow seeds for plants, fertilize day lilies and daffodils, clean Iris beds, prune camellias after they bloom. So much needed information in a short time. Everyone enjoys and benefits from Paula's Horticulture tips each month.

The main item on the agenda was "Planning the upcoming flower show." Martha Cobb and Diana Malone presented a wonderful power point describing each floral design that will be featured in the flower show. The Seedling Garden Club in cooperation with

the Swainsboro Kiwanis Club will present "OUR WORLD as a CANVAS", a NGC Standard Flower Show on Saturday, April 27, from 3 to 5 p.m. and Sunday April 28, from 1 to 3 p.m. The show is free to the public. This is also a "Pine Tree Festival Event" that will be held at the Sudie Fulford Center located on the campus of East Georgia State College. Martha Cobb has written a wonderful, exciting flower show schedule. This includes Floral Designs, Horticulture, Youth Division, Educational Exhibits and Botanical Arts Exhibits. Something for everyone to enjoy viewing. Only garden club members are permitted to enter Floral Designs with all other opened to anyone wishing to enter. Be on the lookout for more information coming.

Using a St. Patrick's theme the hostesses served refreshments from a table covered with a white cloth with a green lace Shamrock runner. Shamrocks were placed throughout the table. Two cute Leprechauns were perched on table to invite guests to enjoy refreshments of cheese straws, green iced cupcakes and soda. The twenty members and two guests enjoyed the festive, green setting. Hostesses were Paula Karrh, Judy McWhorter and Wanda Scarboro.

Before adjourning, members were reminded and encouraged to attend The Garden Club of Georgia State Convention on April 15-16, in Peachtree City. Drawing for the raffle item was held and Martha Cobb was the lucky winner.

Seedling Garden Club is a member of Oleander District III, The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc., Deep South Region, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

# EASTER

— AT THE PARK —

## SATURDAY, MARCH 23

### 11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

EGG HUNTS FOR ALL (EVEN ADULTS), FREE FOOD, INFLATABLES

(NJCAA) Division 1 Women's Basketball Championship

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*Lady Bobcats*

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LAWRENCE, LEE, LONG, WILLIAMS, BELCHER AND BENNETT

## Swainsboro Rotary Club holds meeting

On Monday, March 11, the Swainsboro Rotary Club met at the Rustic Grill for the noon meeting. The club sponsored a speech competition that included students from all three high schools in the county. This competition was founded in 1997 by Dublin Rotarian and Past District Governor, Preston Johnson, and is an opportunity for the development of future

leaders. The object is that students will learn to prepare a speech and also gain valuable experience presenting in front of an audience. Speeches were limited to three to four minutes and students had points deducted if they were less than or over this time limit.

The winner was Caleb Long, and 2<sup>nd</sup> place was Quintus Williams, both from Swainsboro High

School. The club gave a cash prize of \$1,000 to the winner and \$500 to second place. Long and Williams will compete in the zone competition March 30, at the Baldwin County High School Theatre. Other students participating were Clay Lawrence, 9<sup>th</sup> grader at ECI; Nataleigh Belcher, 11<sup>th</sup> grader at ECI; Ben Bennett, Senior at DEA; and Peyton Michael Lee, Junior at DEA.

## Dr. Desai speaks to Swainsboro Rotary Club

On Monday March 4, Dr. Koosh Desai, Internal Medicine Physician at Phoebe Putney in Albany, spoke to the club about colon cancer and the importance of getting a colonoscopy. With him was Sable Fleming, RN who is responsible for developing programs to increase screenings in this region of the state. Dr. Desai informed that we have a higher percentage of colon cancer in this region, so it is extremely important to keep up with the testing to catch this early.

The Swainsboro Rotary Club has been extremely busy these last few weeks. Members are planning the Pine Tree Festival beauty pageant and also taking of other business that the club is responsible for.



PEYTON FRYE, FLEMING AND DR. DESAI

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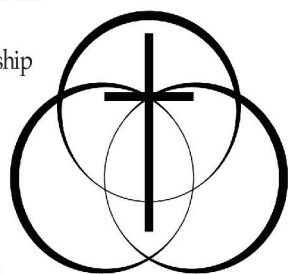
Sunday Morning Services Are Broadcast By  
WXRS 100.5 FM at 11:00 A.M.

#### Sunday

- 9:00 AM - Contemporary Service
- 10:00 AM - Sunday School
- 11:00 AM - Traditional Worship
- 5:00 PM - Jr. & Sr. MYF
- 6:00 PM - Evening Worship

#### Wednesday Night

- 5:30 PM - Bible Study
- 6:30 PM - Family Dinner
- 7:00 PM - Chancel Choir



PLEASE JOIN US!



# EASTER EGG HUNT!



Search through this edition of *The Forest-Blade* for 20 Easter Eggs. The eggs are placed in ads and news stories. Place the page number below. There may be more than one egg on the same page so look everywhere very closely! We wish you the best of luck!

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

ANSWER SHEET

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

**Contest Rules:**

Must be 18 years or older. One (1) entry per person. No photo copies. Must be the original edition of *The Forest-Blade*. Must have all twenty (20) Easter Egg placements correct to qualify. Staff members and immediate family of *The Forest-Blade* are not eligible to enter. There will only be one (1) winner.

Win \$100!

Win \$100!

Entry Deadline: Thursday March 28, 2024 by 3:00 PM EST

Please drop your entry off by *The Forest-Blade* office by deadline time. *The Forest Blade* will be closed on Friday March 29th.

Thanks to all of the following sponsors for making this possible!

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Jesse S. Brown, City Commissioner  
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# The Blade

Swainsboro, GA • March 20, 2024 • [www.EmanuelCountyLive.com](http://www.EmanuelCountyLive.com)

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## Bulldogs' region play begins with three shutouts

by RON WEATHERFORD

The ECI baseball team began their region schedule last Tuesday in Darien in the first game of a three-game series against McIntosh Co. The series ended Friday with a double header at Joe Harvey Field. The Bulldogs started region play with a bang, sweeping the Buccaneers, winning all three games. They blanked the Bucs in six innings on Tuesday 11-0. Then on Friday, ECI ended the game in five innings with a 13-0 shut out and sent the fans home early in the second game of the doubleheader with a 15-0 wipeout in four innings. The Bulldogs exploded for seven runs in the top of the first inning in the game on Tuesday and ended the series scoring seven runs in the fourth inning of the third game on Friday. The Bulldogs were teeing off against the Buccaneer pitching scoring 39 runs on 36



ANDREW CHALKLEY HELD MCINTOSH TO THREE HITS FOLLOWED BY A NO-HITTER BY CHARLIE REHBERG

staff yielded just five total hits to McIntosh batters, recording 26 strikeouts. The defense was also on target committing just one error

Gabe Lee started the game in Darien giving up just two hits, striking out seven. Hudson Henry relieved, skunking the Bucs with no

hits or walks. Andrew Chalkley started the first game on Friday allowing three hits while striking out 11 Buccaneer batters. Charlie Rehberg closed out the series with a no hitter in the second game of the double header and was just three walks away from a perfect game. Leading hitters during the three games were Hudson Henry with seven hits including a homerun, Gabe Lee with six hits, Tuff Boddiford and Jackson Kennedy with five hits each. Ab Marsh and Kanyon Thompson ended with three hits, and Andrew Chalkley had two hits.

The Bulldogs continue their region schedule this week with Jenkins County. Tuesday, they hosted the Eagles in the first game. Friday they will travel to Millen for a double header against Jenkins to complete the three-game series.

## Swainsboro Tigers sweep Jefferson County

by TROUP BRINSON

The Swainsboro Tigers baseball squad got off to a spectacular start to their region baseball slate, sweeping all three games against the Jefferson County Warriors. The 9-3 Tigers will match up with East Laurens this week. Game one on Tuesday on the road and then a double header back in Swainsboro on March 22.

Game one against Jefferson County was a nail-biter with Swainsboro winning in

their final at bat. Brice Marchman pitched for the Tigers and was superb. Marchman completed five innings, striking out 11 and allowing only one run on five hits. Tied 2-2 in the bottom of the seventh inning, Swainsboro loaded the bases and scored the winning run on an infield chopper. Brandon Chapman collected the win in relief. Marchman and Chapman each picked up two hits for the victorious Tigers.

Games two and three

were much less stressful for Swainsboro as the Tigers opened up their offense. Peyton Mason pitched game two for the Tigers, going four and 1/3 innings and allowing three runs. However, it was the offense that led the way and Swainsboro cruised to a 16-3 route. Chapman went 3-4 on the game and Mason drove in three runs. Swainsboro capitalized on seven walks and some shoddy fielding by the Warriors in the easy win.

Game three was more of the same as Swainsboro won 11-3. Lenox Lively pitched, striking out 11 and only allowing one hit. Gabe Conley slammed a three-run homer in the second inning and Mason doubled in two runs in the third to give the Tigers a 5-0 lead. DJ Stanford led the way with three of Swainsboro's 11 hits on the day.

The Tigers will look to continue their hot streak against the East Laurens Falcons this week.



MRS. MANDY MOORE, DIRECTOR OF ACADEMICS AND STUDENTS AND FORDHAM

## Fordham receives DEA Kindness Award

During All School Chapel on March 13, Matthew Fordham was awarded the monthly Kindness Award. Through the blessing of a generous anonymous donor who wishes to encourage kindness in our students, we are able to recognize a student each month. This month, Matthew was given this award after teachers noticed how consistently helpful he is and how quick he is to volunteer to help anytime the opportunity arises. Matthew was also recognized for standing out from the crowd even when it's not the easy thing to do. Matthew, your DEA family is proud of you!

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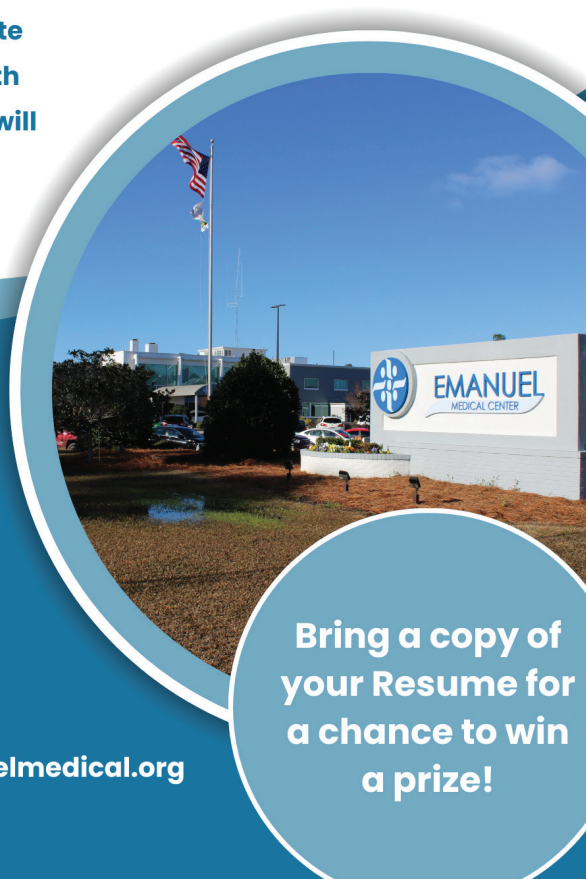
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# Swainsboro High School Tigers clinch back-to-back Region Championships: *Lady Tigers secure three-peat title*

by QUINTUS WILLIAMS, LADY TIGERS REPORTER

In a thrilling display of skill and determination, the Swainsboro High Tigers roared to victory, securing their spot in the region championship game by defeating Bleckley County with a final score of 66-58. Led by top scorers Carmelo Lewis with an impressive 26 points and Kavoyea Williams with 10 points, the Tigers showcased their prowess on the court.

Meanwhile, the SHS Lady Tigers also dominated the court, advancing to the championship game after a resounding victory over Dublin with a final score of 61-32. Tanya Williams led the charge

with an outstanding performance, scoring 20 points, followed by Hannah Howard with 14 points.

The excitement continued as the boys' team claimed their back-to-back region championship title by edging out East Laurens with a final score of 49-47. Carmelo Lewis once again proved to be a force to be reckoned with, scoring 12 points, supported by Kavoyea Williams with 10 points. The team's relentless determination and stellar performance on the court propelled them to this remarkable achievement. Led by a dynamic lineup of top scorers, the Tigers showcased their offensive firepower throughout the season.

From clutch three-pointers to dazzling drives to the basket, each player contributed to the team's success with precision and skill. Their cohesive teamwork and unwavering commitment to excellence were evident in every game they played.

On the other hand, the SHS Lady Tigers made history by securing their three-peat region championship title, overpowering the East Laurens Lady Falcons with a dominating final score of 54-27. Jayden Wynn led the charge with an impressive 15 points, closely followed by Tanya Williams with 13 points. With a stellar 9-1 record in the region, they dominated the competition and assert-

ed their dominance on the court. Led by standout performers, the Lady Tigers exhibited a combination of finesse, tenacity, and resilience that left their opponents in awe. Throughout the season, both teams captivated audiences with their electrifying performances, showcasing the true essence of high school basketball. From buzzer-beating shots to nail-biting finishes, every game was a testament to their unwavering dedication and passion for the sport.

Adding to the triumph, Swainsboro High School had the honor of hosting the region championship games back-to-back on their home court, a first in the program's histo-

ry. Reflecting on their journey, the program's motto, "One Program, One Dream, We All We Got," resonated throughout the season, inspiring both players and fans alike.

Behind the scenes, the coaching staff played a pivotal role in guiding their teams to success. Boys' head coach Brice Hobbs was recognized as the back-to-back Region Coach of the Year, while girls' head coach Mrs. Alexandria Walden received the esteemed title of three-peat Region Coach of the Year. Their remarkable achievements serve as a testament to the power of teamwork, determination, and sheer grit in the pursuit of excellence on the basketball court.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our remarkable SHS Basketball Cheer squad, led by Coach Monica Pace. Their unwavering support and enthusiasm uplifted our SHS Tigers throughout the season, demonstrating dedication and readiness for anything that came their way. Thank you for cheering our teams on faithfully and inspiring us all with your fierce spirit!

With their remarkable achievements and unwavering dedication, the Swainsboro High Tigers and Lady Tigers have etched their names in the annals of basketball history, leaving a legacy of excellence for future generations to aspire to.



## Empowering Excellence: *The inspiring leadership of Coach Alexandria Walden*

by ROOSEVELT YOUNG

In the heart of Swainsboro, Georgia, there's a basketball program that's not just about winning games but about nurturing young women into champions on and off the court. At the helm of this powerhouse is none other than Head Coach Alexandria Walden. A name that has become synonymous with excellence and inspiration.

Over the past decade, Coach Walden has etched her name among the premier coaches in the state of Georgia. Her dedication and passion for the game have earned her the respect of colleagues state-wide. With an impressive coaching record of 181 wins and 80 losses, Coach Walden's leadership speaks volumes.

The Swainsboro Lady Tigers have seen remarkable success under Coach Walden's guidance. The Lady Tigers have clinched five Region Titles, including an unprecedented three-peat from 2021 to 2024. This consistent dominance showcases not just

the team's skill but also Coach Walden's ability to cultivate a culture of excellence and perseverance.

But it's not just about the victories on the court. Coach Walden emphasizes the importance of academics and character development. Her players aren't just athletes; they're scholars and leaders. With Coach Walden's guidance, the team consistently boasts some of the highest GPAs among student-athletes at Swainsboro High School. Coach Walden also places a strong emphasis on community service. Walden actively encourages her players to give back to their community, organizing community service initiatives such as preparing meals for the elderly with the local church Brown Chapel. This is a testament to her belief that the power of sports can help instill values of empathy, compassion, and social responsibility.

One of Coach Walden's proudest moments came with the induction of four players into the prestigious Lady Tiger 1000 Point Club: Dynesha

Brown, Charley Kelly, Asia Brown, and Tanya Williams. Williams, in particular, made history under Coach Walden's mentorship by becoming the first Lady Tiger to achieve over 1000 points and 1000 rebounds in a single season, a testament to both her individual talent and the team's collective strength.

The Swainsboro basketball program has not only made history on the court but also within the community. Coach Walden was instrumental in ensuring that the last two region tournaments would be hosted at Swainsboro High School. During these tournaments, the Lady Tigers clinched back-to-back Region Championships. They elevated home-court advantage to a whole new level, setting the stage for success and inspiring future generations of players.

Coach Walden's influence extends far beyond the basketball court. It transcends the mere pursuit of victories. Coach Walden focuses on the holistic development of her players. She is ded-

icated to preparing her girls for life beyond the game. Imparting upon them the values of discipline, resilience, and integrity that will serve as pillars for success in any endeavor. Through her guidance, Coach Walden not only shapes skilled athletes but also

cultivates outstanding citizens poised to make meaningful contributions to their communities. As the Swainsboro Lady Tiger basketball program flourishes under her leadership, it is evident that Coach Walden's impact reaches beyond the scoreboard.

Shaping future leaders who embody the virtues of hard work, determination, and integrity. With her vision guiding the way, the future of Swainsboro Lady Tiger basketball is bright, promising, and filled with endless potential for greatness.





# Thank you, Lady Tigers: A season of triumph, resilience, and inspiration

by ROOSEVELT YOUNG

At Swainsboro High, a dynamic squad of young women has carved their legacy in the annals of basketball history. The Swainsboro Lady Tigers, this season, were fueled by a potent mix of determination, resilience, and unyielding spirit. They have woven their story into the fabric of the 2023-2024 season with style and flair.

Their journey wasn't merely about wins and losses. Their journey embodied the very essence of teamwork, perseverance, and sportsmanship. With a season record boasting 19 wins and seven losses, the Lady Tigers showcased a commitment to excellence that transcended mere statistics. Their path to greatness was illuminated by unforgettable victories and moments that resonated deeply with fans and adversaries alike.

A defining chapter in their season unfolded during the 2024 GHSA Single A Division 1 Region 2 Championship clash against East Laurens. Demonstrating sheer dominance, the Lady Tigers left an indelible mark on the court, clinching victory with a resounding 54-27

triumph and securing the Lady Tigers' third Region Championship in a row. It wasn't just a win; it was a testament to their unwavering dedication and relentless pursuit of greatness.

Challenges emerged along the journey, including a gripping encounter against higher classification opponents like the formidable Veterans (Kathleen). In a nail-biting showdown, the Lady Tigers emerged victorious with a narrow 51-50 win, leaving a profound impact that extended far beyond the confines of the court. They also faced a hard-fought battle against the 2024 GHSA 4A State Champions Baldwin (Milledgeville), ultimately losing 55-45 in the final minutes.

As the heat intensified in the state playoffs, the Lady Tigers faced off against the top-10 ranked Temple with unwavering confidence. Their performance was nothing short of dominance. Delivering a masterclass in basketball, they secured a commanding 64-43 victory, etching another win in the winners' column.

Yet, amidst their triumphs, moments of heartbreak punctuated their journey. In a fiercely contested battle

against Galloway in the Elite Eight, the Lady Tigers fought valiantly until the very end. They were ultimately falling short with a score of 70-61. However, even in defeat, their resilience and character shone brightly, earning the respect and admiration of all who bore witness to their extraordinary journey.

As the dust settles on the 2024 season, the Swainsboro Lady Tigers stand tall as a beacon of inspiration and hope. Though they may have fallen short of the ultimate prize. However, their journey was nothing short of extraordinary. Their legacy serves as a testament to the power of dedication, determination, and unwavering belief in oneself and one's teammates.

The spotlight shines brightly on six remarkable seniors who led the charge for the Lady Tigers, each leaving an indelible mark on the court and in the hearts of fans.

Sha'Mya Benjamin: Sha'Mya brought not only her skills as a post player but also her infectious positivity to every game. Her unwavering optimism served as a beacon of light for her teammates. Lifting their

spirits even in the face of adversity.

*Hannah Howard:* Lightning-fast and fiercely determined, Hannah's presence on the court was a force to be reckoned with. Her rapid movements and solid defense made her a standout player. While her athleticism shone brightly in every play. Whether driving to the basket or guarding the opposition with tenacity, Hannah's unwavering dedication inspired her teammates.

*De'zaria Jordan:* Towering over her opponents with her height and length, De'zaria dominated the court with her shot-blocking prowess and tenacity. Her ability to alter the trajectory of shots provided the Lady Tigers with a formidable defensive presence, often turning the tide of the game in their favor.

*Kiara Sherrod (Lil Bit):* Despite her diminutive stature, Kiara possessed a heart twice her size. Embodying the spirit of determination and resilience. Known affectionately as "Lil Bit," she left it all on the court. Sacrificing her body for the success of the team. Whether diving for loose balls or locking down opponents with her stellar defense,

Kiara's unwavering commitment to her teammates set her apart as a true leader on and off the court.

*Tanyia Williams:* A powerhouse on the court. Tanyia's dominance in both offense and defense was unparalleled. With a relentless work ethic and an insatiable drive for success, she showcased her skills in the low post and on the boards, outmuscled opponents with ease. Tanyia's pursuit of excellence extended beyond the game, as she set her sights on achieving the milestone of scoring 1,000 points and grabbing 1,000 rebounds, a testament to her determination and dedication.

Jayden Wynn: Despite facing adversity in the form of a knee injury in her junior year, Jayden's resilience and determination propelled her to new heights on the court. With grit and determination, she bounced back stronger than ever, attacking the paint with ferocity and unleashing a barrage of three-point shots with precision. Jayden's comeback story served as an inspiration to her teammates, reminding them that with perseverance and determination, anything is possi-

ble.

Together, these seniors formed the backbone of the Swainsboro Lady Tigers, steering their team to unprecedented success and leaving a legacy that will echo through the halls of Swainsboro for generations to come. With a career record of 66-29, three region titles, four consecutive State playoff appearances, two Elite Eight showings, and consistent top 10 finishes, this senior class has etched their names into the annals of history.

From Coach Walden to the senior class, "Your hard work, resilience, and teamwork have made this season unforgettable. You've inspired me and each other, and I'm proud to have coached such an incredible team."

As the final buzzer sounds and the curtain falls on this remarkable season, the Swainsboro community stands united in celebration of the Lady Tigers' achievements and in anticipation of the bright future that lies ahead. Congratulations to the Swainsboro Lady Tigers on a season of triumph, and may their legacy continue to inspire greatness for years to come.



**CONGRATULATIONS  
TIGERS!**



# ECI Middle School region play begins

by RON WEATHERFORD

The Bulldog Middle School baseball team got back on the field after a couple of rain outs the last couple of weeks. March 5 the team hosted Portal, defeating the Panthers in a comeback win 5-4. The Bulldogs trailed in the game until the bottom of the fifth. Hane Henry put the Bulldogs ahead with a double, scoring two runs to put ECI ahead for good in the game. Jacob Hughes started for ECI allowing three hits while striking out four. Judson Underwood relieved Hughes in fourth giving up no hits, striking out six Panthers. Leading hitters for the Bulldogs were Underwood 2-2 with HR, Henry 1-2, two RBI with a double and Lawson Frye 1-3. The Bulldogs had home and away games against Screven Co. last week. They lost both games to the Gamecocks with a 7-6 loss on Monday and a 7-4 loss on Wednesday.



**HUDSON HENRY LED THE OFFENSE WITH SEVEN HITS DURING THE SERIES**

seven. Hughes led at the plate going 2-3 with two RBI. Underwood smacked a two-run home run and John Rehberg and Jake Marsh had one hit each. Hughes started on the mound in the home game against Screven on Wednesday, giving up seven hits. Underwood pitched the final four 1/3 innings, allowing just one hit while striking out six Gamecocks. Underwood was hot at the plate with three hits including a double. Marsh and Frye both had hits and Lee ended the game with a single and two RBI.

Thursday the Bulldogs traveled to Statesboro to take on Bulloch Academy,

losing their third game of the week 11-6. Rehberg toed the rubber to begin the game for ECI going three 2/3 innings giving up five hits while striking out five. Lee pitched one inning allowing three hits. Frye closed out the final 1/3 inning allowing two hits and no runs. Hughes continued his hot streak going 3-3, two RBI, with a HR. Underwood was 2-2, three RBI, also with a HR. Lee was 2-3 including a double and TJ Weaver went 2-3.

The Bulldogs have home and away games against Metter this week. Monday, they hosted the Tigers and today will travel to Metter to close out the week.



**PEEBLES, LONG, WILLIAMS AND LANE**

# SHS Seniors win local speech contest

Seniors Caleb Long and Quintus Williams are the first and second-place district winners of the annual Preston Johnson Speech Contest sponsored by the Swainsboro Rotary Club. They were presented cash prizes by Rotary members Jessica Peebles and Tanya Lane. Long won \$1000 for first place and Williams won \$500 for second place. They won the preliminary round held at SHS on March 6, then completed against the top two speakers from the other county high schools on March 11. They will move on to the zone/regional competition to be held on March 30 in Milledgeville.



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**PRESIDENT GOODMAN, DAUGHTRY, JAMES NORRIS, TORI NORRIS, JAMIE NORRIS**



**EAST GEORGIA STATE COLLEGE BOOK CLUB AT THE DR. SEUSS CELEBRATION AT THE FRANKLIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

# Norris speaks to Kiwanis

The Kiwanis Club of Swainsboro held its weekly meeting Tuesday, March 5, at 7 p.m. at the Rustic Grill. President Cheryl Goodman presided at the gathering attended by 21 including five guests, Richard T. Smith II, Joelle Romanchik-Cerpovicz, James Norris, Tori Norris and Jamie Norris. The cake, donated by Travis Garrett, was won by Tim Goodman. The Domino's pizza, donated by Domino's, was won by Wanda Ellis, and President Cheryl and Deana Patrick won a jar of pepper jelly and a bottle of pepper dressing. Deana Patrick, Paul Cerpovicz, and Tammy Allen reported on the Dr. Seuss Celebration at the Franklin Memorial Library on February 26. Deana reported 62 children were present and Dr. Seuss stories were read to them by adults and members of the EGSC Book Club. Paul reported EGSC Circle K members and a member of the EGSC Bee Club made Oobleck (from Bartholomew and

the Oobleck by Dr. Seuss) with the children. Tammy reported the children received refreshments, including 1-fish cupcakes, 2-fish cupcakes, and popcorn. They also won prizes by playing Dr. Seuss Bingo. The program for the evening was hosted by Bobbi Daughtry. She introduced James Norris, a Georgia Master Forester and a Forest Resources Manager for Battle Lumber Company. Started in 1962 in Wadley, with eight employees, Battle currently has over 600 employees, with 143 from Emanuel County. James showed a video of the heavy logging and harvesting equipment they use for hardwood and pine harvesting. Included was an aerial view of the Battle operation. Producing mainly pallets, crossies, crane mats, and grade lumber, they now have a Grade Mill, a Timber Mill, a Pallet Shop, and a Dry Kiln on the 462-acre site in Wadley. They also have a sales office in China and export to

19 countries. Since their start with a sawmill, they now have four sawmills on site and have developed a Timber Harvesting Division, with 15 logging crews, and a fleet of 65 trucks in the Battle Logistics Division.

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## Elder speaks to Veterans

The Veterans at the Library held their weekly meeting Monday, February 26, at 9 a.m. at Franklin Memorial Library. Following an outstanding breakfast of grits, breakfast casserole, doughnuts, orange juice and coffee, Chairman John Tapley opened a busy meeting which was attended by 47 members and guests. Mr. George Elder of the Emanuel Historic Society gave a presentation on polling percentages and voting procedures. Historically, the percentage of people voting in Emanuel County is very low and hopefully with the



**ELDER**

upcoming presidential race and other local races, the voter participation will increase. Chairman Tapley brought the group up to date regarding the upcoming Veterans Golf Tournament to be held at the Swainsboro Country Club on Saturday, May

18. The project is building up interest, and the veteran's group is now out selling hole sponsorships. You or your organization or business can purchase one from any of our veterans or from the Franklin Memorial Library. Tapley said that tournament shirts, golf bag towels and the trophy itself have all been ordered. The trophy is shown in the accompanying photo. As always, the Veterans group expresses its thanks to Shari Watt for the wonderful breakfast and for the continuing support of the Franklin Memorial Library.



**SCENE OF PREVIOUS SUPPER**

## Don't miss the Twin City Lions Club Pancake Supper

The Twin City Lions Club Pancake Supper will be held this Thursday, March 21 at the Lions Club Clubhouse located on the Metter Highway from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Eat in or take out. The cost is \$6 per plate.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD 23RD ANNUAL FARM & CONSTRUCTION AUCTION

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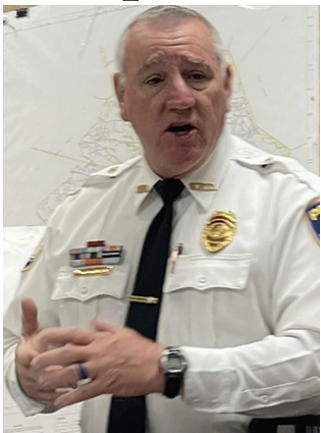
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**SCOTTY NASWORTHY, JOHN TAPLEY, SANDRA BAILES, WAYNE CANADY, DESS SMITH III**

## Chief Ellison speaks to Veterans

The Veterans at the Library held their weekly meeting at the Franklin Memorial Library Monday, March 4, at 9 a.m. The roll of attendees included 52 veterans including Chairman John Tapley who opened the meeting and introduced Swainsboro Police Chief Randy Ellison. The Chief spoke about the status of the Swainsboro Police Department and the everyday security that they provide to the citizens of Swainsboro. One item that he touched on was the level of illegal drugs, including fentanyl, that was available in Swainsboro and what



**CHIEF ELLISON**

they were doing to arrest those responsible. Chair Tapley reminded the group to Sell, Sell, Sell those Tournament hole sponsorships for the 1st Annual Veterans Golf Tournament to be held

on May 18th. The event will feature 18 four member teams competing. Its filling up fast so call John Tapley to reserve your team a spot at 478-494-2517 or Jane Durden at 478-494-4113. The group thanks the UDC for serving the weekly breakfast. Martha Cobb fed the vets sausage biscuits from McDonald's including orange juice, cranberry juice, grape juice, apple juice and coffee.



**MENDIETA, KERSEY AND CLAXTON**

## Three advance to the State Level of the Young Georgia Authors Writing Competition

Three students from Emanuel County Schools have been selected as the CSRA RESA's region winners for their grade levels and are advancing to the state level of the Young Georgia Authors Writing Competition. The Young Georgia Authors (YGA) writing competition is a prestigious event that has engaged Georgia students for over two decades and is open to any student currently enrolled in Georgia public schools, grades K-12. The purpose of the competition is to encourage students to develop enthusiasm for and expertise in writing, provide a context for celebrating their writing successes, and recognize student achievement in arts and academics. Rowyn Mendieta, a kindergarten student

at Swainsboro Primary School, is the region winner for her grade level with her work, "The Princess Bumblebee." Lauren Kersey, a second-grade student at Swainsboro Primary School, is the region winner for her grade level with her story, "The Tale of Two Donkeys." Benton Claxton, a third-grade student from Swainsboro Elementary School, is the region winner for his grade level with his work, "The Drummer."

To enter the state-level competition, students had to win at the school, district, and RESA District levels. The competition is sponsored by the Georgia Language Arts Supervisors (GLAS) and the Georgia RESA Network with support from the Georgia Department of Education.

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# Lawrence exhibits grand champion Hereford heifer at state livestock show

February 20-24, eight Emanuel County 4-H and FFA members exhibited their beef, sheep, and swine projects at the Georgia Junior National Livestock Show in Perry. The show, open to Georgia 4-H and FFA members from across the state, is the culmination of the two youth programs' livestock projects, which give students a chance to learn how to care for beef cattle, dairy heifers, hogs, goats and lambs for months, train them to be shown, and then compete for state honors as having the best species animal in various categories.

The Emanuel County Show team boasted many ribbons and placings at this year's state show. Three out of seven animals competing for Grand Champion Hereford Beef Heifer were raised and exhibit-

ed by Emanuel County youth. Listed below is each exhibitor and their respective placings, by species.

**Beef Cattle Participants:** Nataleigh Belcher, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade, ECI FFA – 3<sup>rd</sup> in Hereford steer class; Lexa Jukes, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade 4-H Member at DEA – 9<sup>th</sup> overall in 8<sup>th</sup> grade showmanship, 3<sup>rd</sup> in angus heifer class, and 1<sup>st</sup> place in Hereford heifer class where she then competed for Grand and Reserve Champion Hereford Heifer; Clay Lawrence, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, ECI FFA – 4<sup>th</sup> overall in 9<sup>th</sup> grade showmanship, 1<sup>st</sup> in Hereford class, and Grand Champion Hereford Heifer; Emma Lawrence, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade, ECI FFA – 5<sup>th</sup> in 11<sup>th</sup> grade showmanship, 1<sup>st</sup> in class with one of her Hereford heifers where she then competed for Grand and Reserve

Champion Hereford heifer, and 2<sup>nd</sup> in class with her other Hereford heifer; Hoyt Lawrence, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade 4-H Member at TCE – 6<sup>th</sup> overall in 5<sup>th</sup> grade showmanship and 4<sup>th</sup> in angus heifer class.

**Breeding Ewe Participants:** Pearl Meadows, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade ECI FFA – 9<sup>th</sup> overall in 6<sup>th</sup> grade showmanship and 13<sup>th</sup> with her breeding ewe; Amelia Meadows, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade ECI FFA – 6<sup>th</sup> overall in 8<sup>th</sup> grade showmanship and 9<sup>th</sup> with her breeding ewe.

**Market Swine Participants:** Clay Smith, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade ECI FFA – 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in class with his market barrows.

Youth livestock projects have played an active role in the success of local students for several years. The purpose of organizations like 4-H and FFA are to devel-

op leadership, life skills and citizenship for its members. Students who exhibit youth livestock projects also practice and acquire new knowledge

in the fields of animal science, business, time management and leadership.

For more information on youth livestock opportunities, contact Emanuel

County Extension and 4-H by calling (478) 237-1226 or visit the office located at 129 North Anderson Drive in Swainsboro.



C. LAWRENCE WITH HIS GRAND CHAMPION HEREFORD HEIFER, PARENTS SHANNON AND CAROL LAWRENCE, ZEKE, EMMA, HOYT LAWRENCE AND BRECK DEBNAM

## Tinley speaks to Patrick Carr

The Patrick Carr Rangers, Waynesboro, held their quarterly meeting Monday, March 11, at President David Hargrove's home in Waynesboro. With President David presiding, they had nine in attendance. After a great meal served by President David, Compatriot Henry Tinley presented his program on the possible location of Gov. David Emanuel's burial in Burke County. Emanuel County is named after Gov. Emanuel and both the Patrick Carr Chapter, and the Wiregrass Chapter (Swainsboro) are try-



TINLEY

ing to locate his burial site. The East Fall Line Region VP Dess Smith III then presented President David Hargrove with five Chapter Flag Streamers. Dual members of the Patrick Carr Chapter attended five different events and presented the Patrick Carr wreath to honor Patriot soldiers who fought there. Those events were Siege of Augusta, Fort Morris, Come and Take it, Elijah Clarke Heroes of the Hornets' Nest, Battle at Kettle Creek and the Battle at Brier Creek events.



C. LAWRENCE AND HIS HEREFORD HEIFER



E. LAWRENCE WITH HER HEREFORD HEIFER



L. JUKES WITH HER ANGUS HEIFER



A. MEADOWS AND HER BREEDING EWES



C. SMITH EXHIBITING HIS SWINE PROJECT



H. LAWRENCE AND ANGUS HEIFER



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# Editorials Columns

## Whatever happened to the thousand-dollar pickup truck?

I always heard that if you want to write, you should write about something you know. Sounds reasonable. As many would agree, I don't know a lot, but I did spend a lot of my time in the car business. I didn't plan it that way; it just happened. My father was a GM dealer in Swainsboro for nearly twenty years, and he welcomed me, or I should say he strongly encouraged me, to join him in that business. You can find all manner of "interesting" folks in the automobile business. There are all types of characters and personalities. One type you will not find, however, is the "shy and retiring" car salesman. I have known some of the best people you would ever want to meet while in the car business, but let's be honest, car salesmen can be a little pushy or a little impatient. Sometimes, they can be a little too helpful or a little too courteous, but

I never, ever knew one who lasted more than a month or so who was "shy and retiring". Car salesmen are entertainers, or at least part-time entertainers, and they have a personality and a special language to go with that. For example, if you have shaky credit, they might refer to you as "an upside downer", or "Aquaman" cause you are in so deep on your car loan you may never resurface, or a "dream-chaser". However, if you have a decent down payment and an average credit score, you are "puffy" or "strong as bear's breath". Your trade-in might also be described as a "puff" or "right outa the wrapper". If it's "knee-deep in rubber" that of course means, it's got good tires. If the a/c still works, then "it's colder than a mother-in-law's love", if the paint is still good, it's "so slick a fly couldn't land on it", and if the engine runs smoothly it's "like a cat

walking on cotton". You didn't realize car people were so poetic, did you? It's a strange language, but that's how car people talk, especially when your trade-in, which is now being appraised by the wholesale guy, (who looks like he has spent too many days on the road and too many nights at car auctions) is getting graded. Anyway, when the final number is totaled up, one last comment has the power to put your old car smack dab in the winner's circle. "She's got eyes". That's the magic phrase! If you hear that coming from the wholesale guy, you know you just hit the jackpot, and the old family car still has that intangible quality of that "special something" that means she's "still got it".

When I left the new car business, I spent 25 years on the used car side. That was the most enjoyable time to me because buying a good used car or truck gave my customers

another option to paying the ridiculous prices and yearly increases that GM, Ford, Chrysler and the United Auto Workers union forced on the car-buying public. In the mid-1980s, I sold a brand-new base model GMC pickup to a very "frugal" older farmer for a little over \$3,300.00. That sounds unbelievable today, because now that truck would cost more than TEN times that amount. In 2004, I sold that same farmer's grandson a used truck for \$1,000.00. It was far from perfect, but at age 16 he loved it. It represented real value, and back then you could find thousand-dollar pickups all the time. Obviously, that was a very different world. Now, our economy is still struggling to work its way back from a pandemic and the mismanaged Biden economic response to it. It is time to move on. There is no need to keep giving away "recovery money"

## Charles Schwabe



or "rescue money" or any other government supported programs to cities or corporations or anybody else in the name of "saving our economy". This economy can save itself, if it's just left alone by the Democrats. Yet, in spite of that, retailers and manufacturers in this country are still taking advantage and still coming up with artificial excuses to raise prices on everything we buy. Inflation brought on by Biden's 4 trillion-dollar covid relief program is again headed back up. So is gas and energy. The USA is the second largest producer of Liquefied Natural Gas in the world. Yet to satisfy the climate activists, Biden issued an executive order back in January stopping the

production and export of LNG to our allies in Europe which forces them to buy Russian gas and thereby bankrolls Putin's war on Ukraine. At some point, the old tin can that has been kicked and kicked will finally come to the end of the road, and the fiscal health and political conscience of this nation will have to have a reconciliation. When that time comes, I hope the spirit, discipline, and the backbone of the type demonstrated by that frugal old farmer of forty years ago is still around. I have a strong feeling we are going to need it. In the meantime, if you find a good thousand-dollar pickup around anywhere, let me know. I'm in the market.

## Do our politicians and bureaucrats really care about protecting Okefenokee?

Between the time I write this and you read this, conditions can change. Particularly in politics. But as of this writing, there seems to be little doubt that an Alabama mining company will get permission from Georgia's Environmental Protection Division (an oxymoron) to begin extractions

of minerals from the Okefenokee Swamp. Correction: It is not "the" Okefenokee Swamp. It is "our" Okefenokee Swamp. A 400,000-acre Georgia treasure, which is currently under consideration by the U.S. Department of the Interior to be nominated as a UNESCO World Heritage site,

which includes such sites the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone and the Everglades National Parks, Carlsbad Caverns and the Statue of Liberty. Tell that to Twin Pines Minerals. The company, which seems to have adopted William Henry Vanderbilt's "the public be damned" attitude, has applied for permits on

582 acres of wetlands it owns three miles from the swamp to strip mine zirconium and titanium dioxide, ingredients used in sunscreens, cosmetics, paints, foods and toothpaste whitener. Nice stuff to have but is there not any other place on earth available to mine the stuff than in the Okefenokee? Evidently not to Twin Pines. On their website, the company references studies that have been done to ensure that no harm comes to the Okefenokee (refuted by other studies) and the positive economic impact the project will have on Charlton County, where much of the swamp is located. Not surprisingly, the board of commissioners in Charlton County has endorsed the Twin Pines project. At this point, I can't help but think of Monkey gate, the ill-fated attempt to establish a monkey-breeding center in Decatur County, which would have housed 30,000 long tailed macaques and was endorsed by every governmental body in the county along with the local development authority and school board, but not the local citizens who raised such a fuss the idea was dropped. There is a lot of opposition to the Twin Pines project. A petition signed by more than 500 residents of four counties in the swamp's vicinity — Charlton, Glynn, Wayne and Ware — appeals to legislators and state officials to "take every possible measure to ensure the long-term protection of the Okefenokee Swamp." At a virtual public hear-

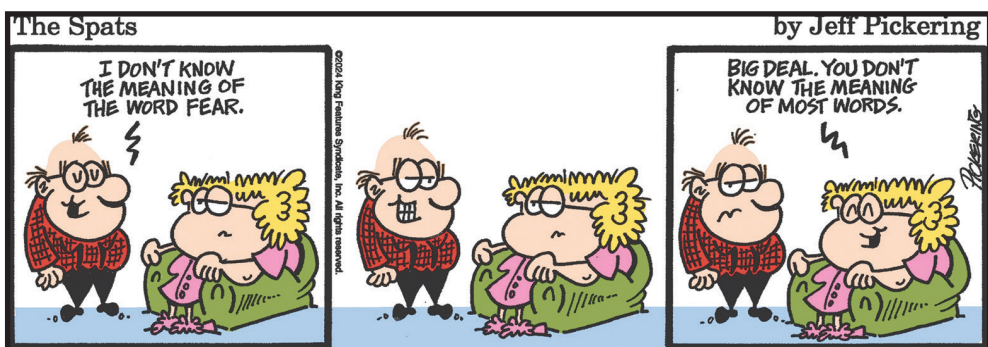
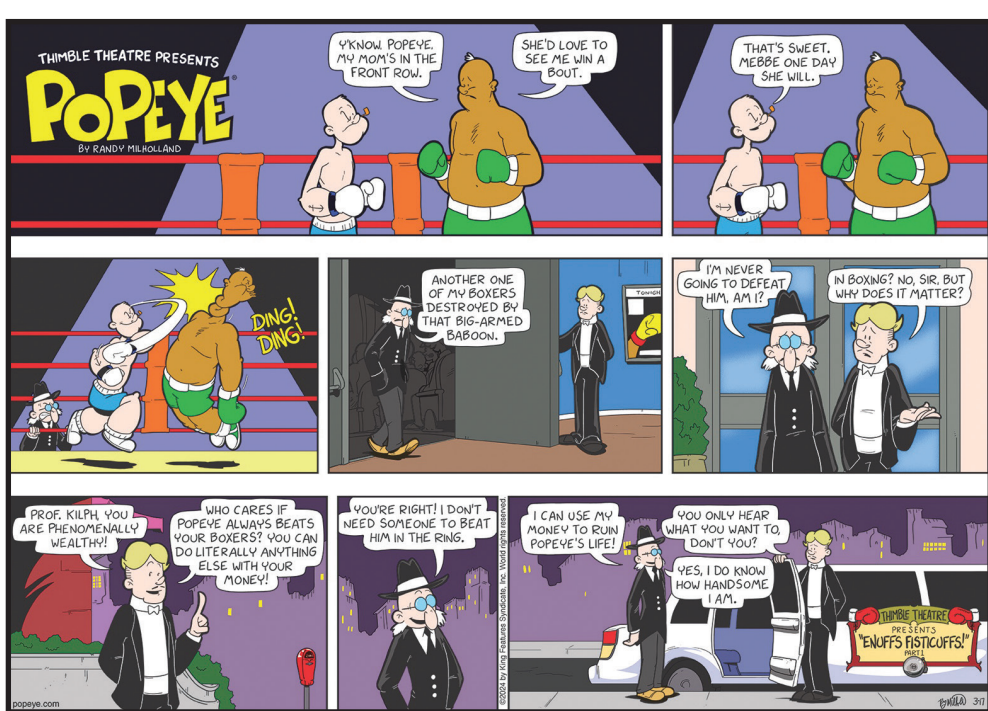
## Dick Yarbrough



ing a couple of weeks ago, nearly 100 participants spoke against the company's plan to strip mine at the wetland's edge. None spoke in favor of the project. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has weighed in, telling Georgia state regulators that any decision regarding the proposed mining permit must be made "with consideration of federal reserved water rights" and that disruption to the natural flow of groundwater in this interconnected system could have "far-reaching consequences for both the Refuge and surrounding areas." Georgia U.S. Sen. Jon Ossoff has pressed state officials to intervene. U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland sent a letter to Gov. Brian Kemp, urging the state to deny the permits. The response from the state has been underwhelming, leaving me to think the skids are greased to approve the deal, no matter what the opposition. The state Environmental Protection Division (there's that oxymoron, again) says their own analysis "concluded that water level in the swamp will be minimally impacted" and issued draft permits for the mining project Feb. 9, starting a 60-day period for public comments before regulators work up final permits for the agency's director, Jeff Cown, to approve. The Legislature seems inclined to do nothing. I guess making cornbread

our state bread has taken precedence. HB 1338 sponsored by Rep. John Corbett (R-Lake Park), whose district includes the Okefenokee, would give EPD more time to analyze impacts to the swamp. But the legislation included no specific requirements for data collection and never got out of committee. Opponents blasted the bill. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service expressed "significant concerns" about some of the provisions. According to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Corbett's campaign finance disclosures show he has received \$2,250 in donations from Twin Pines since October 2021 and \$3,750 from the company's president, Steve Ingle, since October 2022. Whether the public can derail this project as they did with Monkey gate is uncertain at this point. What is certain is that the ham-handed and tone-deaf Twin Pines crowd may win this battle, but they are going to lose in the court of public opinion (assuming they care, which I seriously doubt.) That renowned resident of Okefenokee, Pogo the Possum, once observed, "We have met the enemy, and he is us." Not this time, Pogo. It is them. Twin Pines Mining LLC. You can reach Dick Yarbrough at [dick@dick-yarbrough.com](mailto:dick@dick-yarbrough.com) or at P.O. Box 725373, Atlanta, Georgia 31139.

## Editorial Cartoons



# The Forest-Blade

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Gail Williamson,  
Editor/Publisher

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



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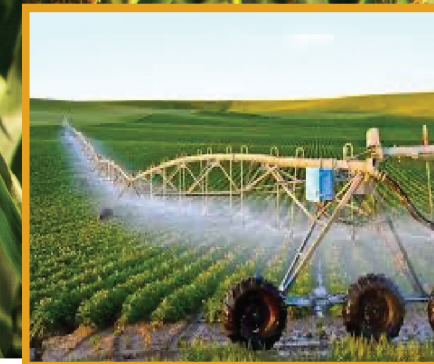
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# Jail Report

The following persons have been booked into Emanuel County Jail, according to Emanuel County Sheriff Jeffrey Brewer, on warrants obtained by one of several local law enforcement agencies, designated by each name: Drug Task Force (DTF); Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI); Georgia Department of Pardons and Parole (GAPP); Georgia State Patrol (GSP); Emanuel County Sheriff's Office (ECSSO); Swainsboro Police Dept. (SPD); Stillmore Police Dept. (SMPD); Twin City Police Department

(TCPD); Garfield Police Dept. (GPD); Adrian Police Dept. (APD); Child Support Recovery Unit (CSRU); Intensive Probation Service (IPS); Probation Office (PROB); or East Georgia State College (EGSC).  
Christina Ann Bowen, 53, arrested 3/17/24; Probation violation – felony  
Norman Ricky Braddy, 61, arrested 3/16/24; Possession of drug related objects/Possession of schedule I controlled substance/Tag light requirements  
Deborah Burrows,

70, arrested 3/16/24; Possession of drug related objects/Possession of schedule I controlled substance  
Nolan Isreal Cheers Campbell, 24, arrested 3/16/24; Driving while license suspended/revoked  
Emmanuel Kintrell Cannon, 19, arrested 3/12/24; Leaving scene of accident  
Quanterrious Lemond Cherry, 26, arrested 3/12/24; DUI less safe/Reckless driving  
Albert Lee Davis, 69, arrested 3/13/24; Failure to comply/Probation

violation – felony  
Victoria Hope Digiorgio, 32, arrested 3/16/24; Driving while license suspended/revoked  
Onaje Malik Easterling, 28, arrested 3/13/24; Disorderly conduct  
Tess Danielle Grumme, 34, arrested 3/15/24; Probation violation – felony  
Harvey Terell Jackson, 36, arrested 3/13/24; Parole hold  
Jamil Lekeith Jenkins, 40, arrested 3/11/24; Court  
Kathleen Susan King, 40, arrested 3/13/24;

Probation violation  
Lacuria Toshonia Lewis, 26, arrested 3/13/24; Disorderly conduct  
Felicia Montgomery Reynolds, 41, arrested 3/11/24; Court production order  
Charles Gregory Royal, 38, arrested 3/11/24; Bond revocation  
Moises Luis Ruiz, 41, arrested 3/12/24; Possession of cocaine/Possession of meth  
Matthew Zane Screws, 40, arrested 3/16/24; City probation violation  
Raymonie Quinderra Simmons, 36, arrested

3/15/24; Expired registration/Driving while license suspended/revoked  
Nakiya Charmaine Stephens, 28, arrested 3/11/24; False statements or writings – conceal facts or fraudulent documents in matters of government/Speeding  
Jeffery Jerome Washington, 63, arrested 3/14/24; Probation violation – felony  
Mikeyll Japori Williams, 22, arrested 3/17/24; Driving while license suspended/revoked/Poss of marijuana less than oz

# Sheriff's Reports

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

**March 11**  
Deputy took a report regarding a subject leaving the scene of an accident at Red Roof Inn. Complainant stated he was inside the store when a flatbed truck hit his vehicle causing damage to the bumper. C/p stated he did not know it happened until the next morning when the owner

of the store informed him of the incident that was captured on video footage and talked to offender and got his phone number. C/p tried to call offender but it went to voicemail.  
Deputy arrested offender at Enmarket for active felony warrants through Jefferson County. Offender was transported to Jefferson County line and turned over to JCSO.

**March 12**  
Deputies responded to Hwy 1 South in reference to a welfare check. The male subject was located with a bag filled with clothing and stated he had been walking for an unknown period of time from an unknown address and ended up following GPS on his cellphone to his location. He appeared to be extremely cold due to sleeping outside and

was offered to sit in the back of deputy's patrol unit while his information was run. Offender was patted down prior to getting in the patrol unit where crack cocaine, meth and a syringe was found. Offender was placed under arrest and transported to EmCo Jail.  
Deputy met with complainant in reference to identity theft concerning alleged suspect who is

identified as a Ga. Dept. of Insurance agent. C/p stated suspect obtained her personal information from a health insurance form and used her identity for personal gain.  
**March 13**  
Deputy took a report in reference to an animal collision. Complainant stated she hit a deer causing damage to her vehicle.  
**March 16**

Deputy met with complainant on Paradise Hills Dr. in reference to a theft. C/p stated two generators were stolen and alleged suspect is the only person who knew where both were at. Both generators are valued at \$2,400.  
**March 17**  
Complainant went to ECSSO and stated he lost his tag off his motorcycle.

# Swainsboro Police Reports

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

**March 8**  
Officer observed a vehicle traveling 50 MPH in a 35 MPH zone, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. The driver advised his license are suspended. Offender was arrested and transported to EmCo Jail.

tor met him at the door and said they were closed but were cleaning up. Several bottles of liquor were behind the counter and in the freezer. Since the establishment does not have liquor license, the manager was told to pour the liquor out and was cited for being open after 2 a.m. and the business license and beer license were pulled. Manager was advised not to open for business until she spoke with the Chief and got her license back.

on McMillan that the tree was leaning towards her property and it would fall soon and the complaint was ignored and refused to remove the tree. C/p stated she called offender when the tree fell and he refused to assist her with cleaning it up and fixing her fence. C/p also stated she fears offender's dog will go through the fence and harm her, and she would like reimbursement form offender for hiring someone to remove the tree and fix her fence.

Officer thought it was odd and ran the license plate. The driver pulled into WalMart parking lot and went inside. When he returned to the truck, he was identified and known to have active warrants and his license are suspended/revoked. Offender was transported to EmCo Jail.

that's what happened and she picked a fight with their dad. Offender stated she would leave for the night.  
**March 11**  
Complainant made a report about her firearm being stolen from her vehicle. C/p stated she allowed offender to use her vehicle to go to work and he stole her glock valued at \$411. C/p stated she approached offender and he was about to return it but fled on foot.

to an unwanted person. Officers spoke with both parties and a witness. Complainant stated offender went to the residence drunk and started yelling and pushed her. Witness stated both parties yell and push each other all the time. Offender was placed under arrest for failure to comply with officers because he was warned not to go back on the property.

Officer performed a traffic stop for window tint. Officer checked the tint where it was 16% and legal tint is 32%.

Officer observed a male subject matching the description of a wanted person on Calhoun St. When officer approached the male subject, he fled on a bicycle and was apprehended shortly after. The male subject was not the wanted person and when asked why he fled, he stated because he had some green on him.

Officer was dispatched to Gumlog Rd. in reference to an unwanted person. Complainant stated her sister's boyfriend continues to go to her house and he has been told not to return but he continues to. Officers observed a male push another male at another set of apartments so they walked down there and made contact with offender who was highly intoxicated and used vulgar language with children present. Offender was advised not to use the vulgar language and he continued to do so. Offender was arrested and transported to EmCo Jail.

Officers were dispatched to EMCER in reference to sexual assault. Officers were informed that the victim stated she had been raped by her father and uncle in Augusta and dropped off and left in Swainsboro on the side of the road by her uncle after the incident and she is being forced to do things with a male subject in Swainsboro.

Officer met with complainant who stated offender sent her a text saying she was going to slap her and advised her boss about it and no action was done. C/p stated she was walking her kids to the classroom when offender went up to her and started fussing.

Officers responded to King Circle Dr. in reference to a domestic. Complainant advised she wanted her boyfriend out of the house as he walked out and stated he lives at the residence and is on the lease. C/p stated her boyfriend punched her and she grabbed a box cutter and swung at him but didn't know she cut him. Primary aggressor could not be determined. Both suspects were arrested for disorderly conduct and transported to EmCo Jail.

Complainant went to SPD to file a complaint about offender using her debit card for \$200 without her consent.

Officers responded to Enmarket in reference to a shoplifter. Complainant advised two male subjects walked into the store and ordered two chicken tender dinners and walked out without paying, totaling \$17.26.

Officer observed the passenger of a vehicle repeatedly stick his head out the window while he was behind it and the driver constantly looking in the driver mirror.

Officers were dispatched to Allen St. in reference to a domestic. Offender stated she and her husband got into an argument and he hit her and pushed her but there were no visual signs of physical marks on her. Officer spoke with complainant who stated offender drank too much and gets irate and he confronted her about talking about him and she got physical with him so he pushed her back. Officer then spoke with the children who stated when their mom drinks she wants to show out and

Officer was dispatched to Norwood Ave. in reference to a damaged vehicle. 911 advised offender was still on scene and tried to hit victim with a hammer. Upon arrival, the two were arguing and were separated. Victim stated offender used a weapon to flatten his tire and a small cut was observed in the tire but offender denied doing it. Offender was asked to leave.

Officers responded to N. Green St. in reference to an assault. Victim was bleeding heavily from her mouth and the back of her hand and had a towel wrapped around her head. Victim stated offender was gone and refused medical attention. Victim would not give offender's name.

Officer ran a license plate to find the vehicle had not insurance or registration, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. The driver's license came back suspended. Offender was transported to EmCo Jail.

Officers were dispatched to Arden Dr. in reference to complainant stating a tree fell on her property causing damage. C/p stated she has complained to the neighbor

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Officer responded to Industrial Way in reference to offender passing in a no passing zone at a high rate of speed. The driver did not have her license on her and the vehicle was uninsured. Vehicle was towed.

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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

**Dnr- George L. Smith, Ii St. Pk. Main Park Water System Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Nitrates**

Our water system recently violated monitoring requirements for drinking water. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are in indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. **For the monitoring period of 1/1/2023-12/31/2023 we did not monitor or test for Nitrates and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.**

**What should I do?** There is nothing you need to do at this time.

**What happened? What is being done?[Describe corrective action.]** Annual Nitrate sampling was not done within the required time for calendar year 2023. However, samples submitted were negative for Nitrates. Future samples will be submitted within the required timeframe.

For more information, please contact Morgan Attaway at 478-763-2759 or [mailing address] 371 George L. Smith State Park Rd. Twin City, Ga. 30471.

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

This notice is provided by **Dnr George L Smith, Ii St. Pk. Main Water System State Water System ID# GA1070008**  
Date distributed: 3/12/24

# Guns

thekwikshop.com



# News from Under the Gold Dome: Week 10

by REPRESENTATIVE BUTCH PARRISH  
STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 158

The House of Representatives got back to work on Monday, March 11, for the tenth week of the 2024 legislative session. With Sine Die approaching on March 28, 2024, the time for vetting bills is quickly coming to a close.

We began the week by taking up a bipartisan effort to enhance public safety and impose stricter penalties for criminal offenses, particularly those associated with the act of "swatting" and gang activity. Senate Bill 421 would increase penalties for repeated unlawful emergency service requests, also known as "swatting." Swatting refers to an unlawful request for emergency service assistance that an individual knowingly and intentionally makes to a public safety agency when there is no reasonable ground for such a request to be made.

The House continued our commitment to protecting Georgia's children with the unanimous passage of Senate Bill 335, or the Safeguarding Adopted Children from Sexual Violence Act. This legislation would expand the crime of incest to include those whose familial relationships are created by adoption. Currently, state law defines the crime of incest to be amongst those who are related by blood or by marriage. This bill would update the definition of incest to include those who are related to the perpetrator by adoption. The House's passage of this bill represents final passage, sending the legislation to Governor Kemp to be signed into law.

We also passed legislation this week to aid in our fight against human trafficking in Georgia. Senate Bill 370, championed by First Lady Marty Kemp and the GRACE Commission, would expand education and create increased awareness on human trafficking. In 2013, the governor signed a law requiring certain Georgia businesses to post notices regarding human trafficking and how victims can obtain help. SB 370 would expand this current law to add convenience stores, body art studios, manufacturing facilities, and medical offices to the list of establishments that would be required to post notices containing the human trafficking hotline information. This legislation would expand our ongoing efforts to combat human trafficking in our state and provide resources and support to human trafficking victims.

The House gave unanimous, final passage to Senate Bill 483, which would enter Georgia into the updated



REPRESENTATIVE PARRISH, CAROL PARRISH, CEO OF EAST GEORGIA HEALTHCARE JENNIE WREN DENMARK AND SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE JON BURNS

version of the Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children Act (ICPC) to help ensure that children are placed in safe homes in a timely manner. The ICPC has been in existence for several decades, but this bill would allow our state to enter into an agreement under the updated version of the compact, which 16 other states have currently joined. The purpose of this revised ICPC would be to streamline communication from one state to another in regard to the placement of adopted and foster children across state lines.

On a similar note, my colleagues and I took up a bipartisan measure aimed at providing free state identification cards for eligible children between the ages of 14 and 17 who lack an address or are under the custody of the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS). Senate Bill 387 would enable these children to apply for an identification card independently, without requiring a parent, guardian, or adult to sign or verify the application. Additionally, SB 387 would prohibit the Department of Driver Services from charging a fee for an identification card for children in DFCS custody or children receiving extended care youth services from DFCS. Providing Georgia's youth in the DFCS program with the opportunity to obtain essential documentation, like identification cards, is crucial for these children to obtain jobs and integrate into our workforce. This legislation seeks to streamline this process, make it easier for these children

to obtain proper identification, and improve our state's foster care system overall. SB 387 received final passage and has been sent to the governor for his signature.

Now that the tenth week of the legislative session has come to a close, we only have five legislative days remaining in the 2024 session. The pace is expected to intensify under the Gold Dome as we work to address outstanding issues and finalize pending legislation before the clock runs out. Despite the significant progress we have made thus far, there is still much work that lies ahead before the session's conclusion.

In addition to voting on legislation this week, we also took time to commemorate the life and legacy of the late House Speaker David Ralston on what would have been his birthday. Speaker of the House Jon Burns and other leaders unveiled a portrait in his honor, which will be permanently displayed outside of the House Chamber in the Capitol. Accompanied by his family and esteemed guests, the House held a ceremony on the House floor to honor Speaker Ralston's enduring legacy and impact on our state. The unveiling event included remarks by former governors Sonny Perdue and Nathan Deal, as well as remarks from the current governor, Brian Kemp. The portrait will be positioned to the right of the center entrance, on the opposite side of former House Speaker Thomas Murphy's portrait. Speaker Ralston's legacy will live on for many generations, and the

permanent placement of his portrait outside of the House Chamber is an abundantly fitting tribute to our former colleague.

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
  - 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 both - same owner.

### 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.

**Now Taking Applications!**  
**SWAINSBORO HOUSING AUTHORITY**  
420 N. Racetrack Street  
Swainsboro, GA 30401  
Phone: 478-237-7381

**Apartments for Family, Singles, Elderly and Disabled Persons**  
HUD Subsidized  
HUD Subsidized



HUD Subsidized Handicap Units Available

## FOR RENT

### Doogus Properties

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

**Call 478.494.8213**

## OGEECHEE STEEL INCORPORATED

**Now hiring:**

## Crane Operator

Apply in person or contact  
**Whitney Henry:**  
[wheny@ogeecheesteel.com](mailto:wheny@ogeecheesteel.com)  
133 Lindsey Rd.  
Swainsboro, GA 30401  
478.237.2770 Ext. 31

## 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**



## 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

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Dnr- George L. Smith, II St. Pk. II Water System Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Nitrates

Our water system recently violated monitoring requirements for drinking water. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are in indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. **For the monitoring period of 1/1/2023-12/31/2023 we did not monitor or test for Nitrates and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.**

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For more information, please contact Morgan Attaway at 478-763-2759 or [mailing address] 371 George L. Smith State Park Rd. Twin City, Ga. 30471.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is provided by **Dnr George L Smith, II St. Pk. Main Water System**  
State Water System ID# **GA1070008**  
Date distributed: 3/12/24



# Legals

## 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

**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.

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

**IN RE: ESTATE OF HERBERT MOORMAN, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 24E0023**

### PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

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

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

Legal Notice  
Atlanta Gas Light Company ("AGL") files its 2025-2034 Integrated Capacity and Delivery Plan with the Georgia Public Service Commission ("Commission") on February 1, 2024, in Docket No. 43820. A copy of the Petition is on file with the Commission.

The Commission will hold public hearings on Tuesday, June 11, 2024. And Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. at the Georgia Public Service Commission Room 110, at 244 Washington Street S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30334-5701 for the purpose of hearing evidence.

In accordance with O.C.G.A. 46-2-59 © and Commission Utility Rule 515-2-1-06, persons wishing to intervene must file a petition to intervene with the Commission within thirty (30) days of the first publication of this notice. Petitions to intervene shall be filed at the office of the Executive Secretary, Georgia Public Service Commission, 244 Washington Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30334-5701, and copies shall be served on AGL and other parties that have petitioned to intervene.

If you have a disability and will need assistance or accommodations to participate or need further information, please contact the Executive Director's Office, Georgia Public Service Commission at (404) 656-4501 or 1 (800) 282-5813 (inside Georgia only).

This notice is published at the direction of the Georgia Public Service Commission.

Elizabeth Wade, Esq.  
Chief Counsel, Regulatory Affairs  
Atlanta Gas Light Company

**Notice to Debtors and Creditors**  
All creditors of the Estate of **Jerry Edwin Williamson**, late of Emanuel County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 12th day of March, 2024.

**Name: Jerry Mitchell Williams**  
**Title: Administrator**  
**Address: 110 Hebron Road Garfield, Georgia 30425**  
**Ayers Law Office, P.C. PO Box 720 Millen, GA 30442 (478) 401-0355**

Notice hereby given that articles of incorporation that will incorporate Waymaker Community Group Inc. have been delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Business Nonprofit Corporation Code. The initial registered office of the corporation is located at 37 Meeks Rd., Adrian, Georgia 31002 and its initial registered agent at such address is Karen N. Breedlove.

Watching children grow into adulthood can be a marvelous experience. From crawling to walking, from uttering sounds that make no sense to carrying on an intelligent conversation is almost breathtaking. Growth is a gift of God and can bring blessings and happiness - especially when we grow into the likeness of Christ and share His grace with those around us.

The Amplified Bible provides a rich translation of Psalm 92:14. "Growing in grace," writes the Psalmist, "they shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be full of spiritual vitality and rich in expressing trust, love and contentment."

Growth, for the Christian, is a lifelong journey. And those who grow in His grace and are filled with His mercy have much to live for and share with others. Imagine the satisfaction of having lived a life that honors God's Word, lives God's gospel and expresses His love.

Can there be anything more important for the Christian than becoming stronger in our faith, clearer in our convictions, warmer in our love, purer in our thoughts and kinder in our words and deeds as we grow older and more mature in Christ?

We live in a broken world. Everywhere we look, we see people who have been betrayed by those whom they dearly loved and trusted. We see people writhing in pain and anguish as they search for someone to offer them hope and encouragement. We dare not let them down.

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David Oliver, Min., 478-668-3589

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

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Elder Mike Gray

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231 Harmon Rd., 478-237-5387

**BITHYNIA PRIMITIVE BAPTIST**  
2270 Hwy. 1 North

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

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

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

**DELLWOOD BAPTIST**  
Hwy. 1 North  
Joe Bedgood, Min.

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

**EMANUEL COMMUNITY BAPTIST**  
Adrian

**EMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST**  
228 W Moring St., Swainsboro  
Billy Brinson, Min.

**FIRST BAPTIST**  
240 West Main St., 478-237-7564  
Casey Shaw, Min.

**FRIENDSHIP FREE WILL BAPTIST**  
Twin City, 912-585-4805

**GARFIELD BAPTIST**  
Hwy. 23, North, Garfield  
Thomas Simmons, Min.

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195 Nunez Lexsy Rd., 912-562-3825  
Mario D. Webb, Min.

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423 Hopkins St., 478-237-5873  
Melvin Adams, Jr., Min.

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939 W. Main St., 478-237-6461

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27 Hawhammock Church Rd., 478-237-3429  
Cail Pressey, Min.

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Old McLeod Bridge Rd., 478-237-6107  
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213 Carver St., 478-237-7828  
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478-589-7260

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192 Little Canoochee Creek Rd., Twin City  
Jerry Armstrong, Min., 478-237-2951

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J. Randy Graham, Min., 478-763-2411

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Rusty Moore, Min.

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Alfred Cason, Min.

**OHOPEE GROVE BAPTIST**  
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Allan Moss, Sr., Min., 912-562-3943

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Cross-Green, 478-589-7658  
Michael Thomas, Min.

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W.E. Johnson, Min., 478-763-3284

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Richard Lawrence, Jr., Min., 478-589-7953

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231 South Racetrack St., 478-237-9562  
James E. Love, Min.

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1473 Wes Lawson Rd., Kite  
Elder Sam Adkins, Min., 478-469-3084

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Larry Compton, Min.  
478-763-2202

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George E. Archer, Jr. Min., 912-562-3344

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tells us that Peter was kept in prison because Herod was intending to kill him after Easter. We all are happy to see spring, but don't forget the reason we remember the resurrection of Jesus. Jesus said as often as we take communion, we remember his death and suffering. Remember, "This is my body which was broken for you, and this is my blood which was shed for you." so don't let his death be in vain. Don't celebrate the new life in everything else without

celebrating the new life of Christ in you. Don't trade the cross for the bunnies, the chicks, and the eggs. Remember that God loved the world so much that he gave his Son, Jesus and Jesus loved us so much that he gave his life. Now we can have eternal life. If you have not accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, do it today so you too can celebrate new life. He bore our pains and carried our sorrows. So let us celebrate Jesus, the risen Savior of the World..



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478.237.7366  
Stacie W. Avery, CPA  
stacie@stacieaverycpa.com  
241 West Main Street  
P.O. Box 189  
Swainsboro, GA 30401



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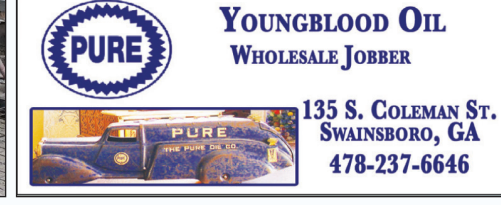
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NANCY LISENBY AND WILLIE BUSH WITH BLOOD DRIVE WORKERS

## Blood drive is a huge success

The blood drive held March 14, at First Baptist Church was a success with fifty units of plasma donated. Thank you to everyone that participated. Not pictured: Donald Hall, Richard Claxton, Malachi Lockett, Toni Terwilliger, Gail Johnson, Patti Way and Linda Bishop.

## Daughtry speaks to Fall Line

The Fall Line Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution, held its monthly meeting Tuesday, March 12, at 7 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce building. With President Sandy Mercer presiding, they had 12 in attendance including four guests. After the invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, and the Pledge to the SAR, President Sandy called on Vice President Dess Smith III to introduce the program for the evening. VP Dess



DAUGHTRY introduced Compatriot Hu Daughtry of the Mill Creek Chapter, Statesboro, to present his program on "Who

is Kemp Creech". Hu was accompanied by his wife Susan, from Metter. President Sandy then discussed with the Chapter how the Chapter can best help with the annual "Wreaths across American" being held this year on December 16. The Chapter is looking for any information on the burial sites of all Revolutionary War veterans buried in Washington County. There are over 80 buried there, but only a few with known burial sites.

## Smoyer graduates from the Officer Basic Course

Trent Smoyer of Twin City successfully completed The Officer Basic Course located at The Basic School on March 7, 2024. The Officer Basic Course is a 29-week course which prepares newly commissioned Marine Corps officers to be provisional rifle platoon commanders. The course consists of classroom, field, and practical application training on weapons, tactics, leadership and protocol. The course is split into three graded categories: Leadership, Academics, and Military Skills. Among the events that must be passed in order to graduate are the 3-, 6-, 9-, and 12-mile hikes, leadership billets in field exercises, and



SMOYER

Endurance Course, Final Day Land Navigation, Final Night Land Navigation, and Rifle and Pistol Qualification. Events that simply earn a grade of pass or fail are the 3-, 6-, 9-, and 12-mile hikes, leadership billets in field exercises, and

various decision-making exercises.

Classroom events include topic specific lectures, exams, tactical decision games (TDGs), sand table exercises (STEXs), decision-forcing cases, and small group discussions. There are various field events starting from fireteam and squad level and progressing to platoon-reinforced and company-sized events. These field events involve realistic blank-fire training and live fire ranges.

Just prior to graduation, Smoyer was assigned the Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) 0207, Air Intelligence, and will continue his training in Dam Neck, VA.



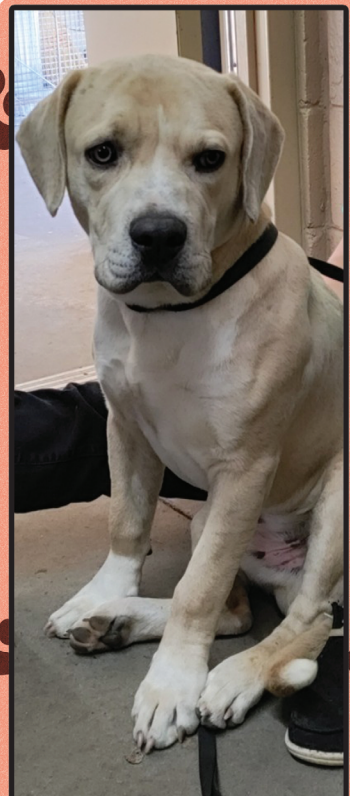
SMOYER WITH HIS FAMILY AFTER GRADUATION: KRISTIN SMOYER, JAKE SMOYER, RAYSSA SMOYER, TRENT SMOYER, JOHN SMOYER AND ALISON SMOYER

## Every donation helps to save a life!

The adoption fees for the dogs listed weekly are happily sponsored by the Emanuel County Humane Society. The fees paid by the Humane Society amount to approximately \$150.00 per dog. Your donations continue to make this possible. If you find it in your heart, please donate to the Emanuel County Humane Society P.O. Box 443 Swainsboro, Georgia 30401.



QUENTIN  
2 1/2 years old  
Male Chocolate Lab Mix



FINN  
2 years 3 months old  
Altered Male Bully Mix



BEAR "PEANUT"  
1 1/2 years old  
Altered Male Bully/Lab Mix

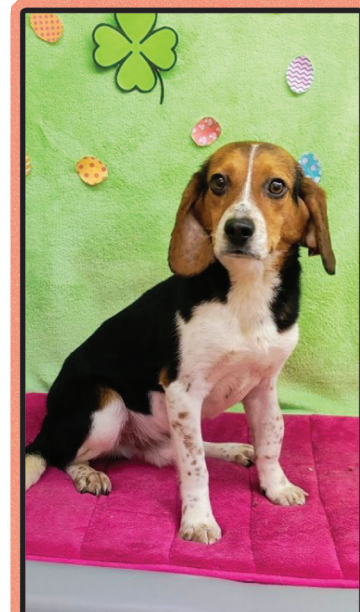


ONYX  
1 1/2 years old  
Female Dachshund Mix



STONE  
1 year old  
male beagle

All of these babies need a home and are super sweet and loving. Come meet them and see if they are the missing piece of your family!!



ROSS  
1 year old  
Male Beagle



DONALD  
24 weeks old  
Male Plott Hound Mix



BULL  
2 1/2 years old  
Male Hound/Heeler Mix

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!  
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<https://www.petfinder.com/member/us/ga/swainsboro/betty-gambrell-animal-shelter-ga1049/>

## Honor Flights Program presented to Vets

The Veterans at the Library held their weekly meeting Monday, March 11. With Chair Johnny Tapley presiding, they had 49 in attendance including two new Veterans. Willie Albert Fullard served in the U. S. Army from 1965 to 1967, serving in Vietnam and in Indiana. His highest rank received was Sergeant. Roger Lynn Jennings, who presented the program, served in the U.S. Air Force from October 1975 to June 1996, serving in Okinawa, Florida, Germany, South Carolina, Louisiana, Utah, Saudia Arabia and Iceland. His highest rank received was E-9. Jennings talked about Honor Flights being a nationwide network of 125 hubs. The mission of Honor Flight is to celebrate America's veterans by inviting them to share in a day of honor at our nation's memorials. Jennings is part of the "Middle Georgia Honor Flight". Each

quarter, they fly veterans to Washington DC for two nights and three days to visit our memorials. All meals, lodging and travel is free to veterans. Right now, they are concentrating on WWII and Korean veterans first. Chair Johnny reminded of the upcoming Military Appreciation Tailgate at East Georgia State College for veterans on March 23, at 12 p.m. It's Bobcat Baseball vs Gordon State in a double-header with food, games, prizes, and fun for the whole family. Bleacher seating is limited so take your chairs. Also on Sunday, March 24, at 3 p.m. at the East Georgia State College Luck Gambrell center will be the United States Air Force Band of the West. Get ready for a spectacular event with the USAF Band of the West, showcasing America's musical talent and excellence. Get your free ticket's at <http://www.ega.edu/vision.series>.



JENNINGS



FULLARD