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VOLUME 165, NO.20

Swainsboro, Georgia • May 15, 2024

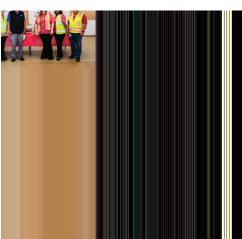
ONE DOLLAR

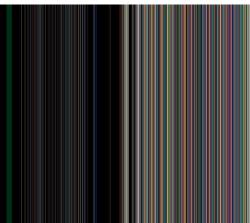
Remember Election Day, Tuesday, May 21

Next Tuesday, May 21, will be another chance to see your voice and your vote count in the exercise of representative government. General Primary elections will be held to select Democrat and Republican candidates for the November general election. Tuesday will also be the general election day for a variety of nonpartisan races, although many of these do not have opposition candidates and will assume office or a new term in January 2025. In the race for District

Emanuel County in a non-partisan con-Commission, there is no Democrat candidate. Consequently, if one of the four Republican candidates garners enough votes to avoid a run-off, they will be the declared winner on Tuesday. Candidates in that race are Vincent Nicky Alfonso, Chandra Hooks, John "Johnny" Moore, and Randy Youmans. The race for Emanuel County Board of Education, District 7 places Cathi Fredericksen against incumbent Dell Brown Republican ballot.

test. This race will be decided next Tuesday as well. The remainder of the May 21 ballot will deal with races to select Justices on the Supreme Court of Georgia and the Georgia Court of Appeals as well as poll questions from both Democrat and Republican parties. A sample ballot for Tuesday's election is available online at emanuelcountylive.com and provides full detail of the Democrat and





BRAYLIE HALL, CALEY HARRELSON, JENNIFER RICH, GARY HURLOCK, ALLISON JOHNSON, DEBORA THOMPSON AND JOHN CANNON

Crider Foods achieves Safety Milestone with more than 2 million safe work hours

Automation, equipment, and a focus on a culture of safety contribute to this lataccomplishment and come at a time of incredible growth for the company. Crider Foods, a leader in the food packing industry, proudly announces the significant achievement of surpassing two million hours of operation without a lost-time accident (LTA). This milestone reflects the com-

pany's unwavering commitment to safety, made possible through integrating advanced automation, new equipment, enhanced training methodologies, and a dedicated recommitment to a culture prioritizing safety at all levels.

Crider Foods' accomplishments indicate its unparalleled commitment to safety and excellence in performance. "Ensuring the safety of our workforce and the

community is a core principle of how we operate," stated Doug Sikes, Safety Director at Crider Foods. Mark Howell, President, further elaborated, "This significant achievement transcends mere statistics; it mirrors our collective dedication to safeguarding the health and safety of our team."

Crider Foods is hosting celebratory employee reward events to (Continued on page 2A)

ATTENTION: Swainsboro Healthcare Patients

The Swainsboro Healthcare Providers have been relocated to Emanuel Medical Center's other primary care offices. We have staff at Swainsboro Healthcare that will assist you in being seen by the provider of your choice. Please call (478- 237-2144) or come by so we can assist you. If you need a walk-in appointment, then the following clinics are working to accommodate you Monday through Friday. The following SHC providers will be seeing patients at the following loca-

> **Swainsboro Internal Medicine** Kimberly Withrow, NP (478) 237-8342

> > Ray Medical Jo Greenway, NP (478) 237-9928

> > **Porter Medical** Anna Mixon, NP

Twin City Family Medical Rhonda Oglesby, NP (478) 763-3036



DAMIEN SCOTT, CEO, JEAN HACKLE, CALEB BURTON, RN, CANDACE FOSKEY, MARY RADFORD, CNO

Fulford Center Total Wellness Session scheduled for May 28

The second session of the 2024 Total Wellness Series is scheduled for Tuesday, May 28, at noon, at the Sudie A. Community Fulford Learning Center on the campus of East Georgia State College (EGSC).

Pruitt Health Hospice and Palliative Care is the sponsor of the session and will provide the program. The session, "Hospice vs. Palliative Care," will be facilitated by Jessica Peebles and Morganne Moore.

The session is FREE and is made possible through partnerships with local organizations. There is no cost to participate, and enrollment is limited to 20 people. The session will feature lunch, a presen-



WELLNESS FLYER

handouts. Pre-registration is required and may be made by call-

tation, and information ing the Fulford Center at (478) 289-2464 or by email mpfreeman@ega.

Caleb Burton: Emanuel Medical Center DAISY Award Winner

Nurses Week is a great time to recognize Emanuel Medical Center DAI-SY award winner, Caleb Burton, RN. The DAISY Award® is a special honor given to extraordinary nurses for the compassionate contributions they make every day going above and beyond expectations in science and sensitivity.

Caleb graduated from STC with his degree in ASN in December 2015. He began working at **Emanuel Medical Center** in February 2016. Caleb said "Since my time at EMC, I have had the privilege to work with great coworkers, which have grown very close to my heart. My coworkers and I have experienced very highs and very lows, especially during our time with the dreaded disease of Covid. I am continually grateful for the ability to work at EMC and the care that we strive to give to each and every person that comes through the door."

Caleb was nominated

by Jean Hackle and Candace Foskey family of Jerome Foskey, who Caleb cared for during two of his stays at EMC.

"It is an honor to nominate Caleb Burton for the DAISY Award. He is a blessing to the nursing profession and is a (Continued on page 2A)

What's Inside...

Obituaries.....4A Church Page.....8B Editorial Columns.....5A Crime Blotter.....6B Classified Listings......7B Legal Notices.....7B



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way for others CONGRATULATIONS PINELAND FAMILY GRADUATES! **2A** The Forest-Blade • www.EmanuelCountyLive.com • Swainsboro, Georgia • May 15, 2024



Elect Randy youman:

County Commissioner District 3

A proud business owner in Emanuel County for over 40 years!

Don't forget to vote May 21

Early Voting through May 18

Your vote and support is appreciated!

Crider Foods achieves...

commemorate this outstanding achievement and express gratitude to its team members for upholding the highest safety standards. Scheduled for 11:30 a.m. EDT on April 11, 18, and 25, 2024, these gatherings will award 16 winners with various cash prizes totaling \$15,600. Eligibility for the drawings is exclu-

January 23, 2024. All employees will receive a catered meal at the April 25, 2024, event. About Crider Foods Crider Foods (Stillmore, GA) is the leading food packing partner for fully cooked

sive to active hourly

employees hired before

chicken, pork, beef, and other proteins. The company processes more than 150 million pounds

Caleb Burton: *Emanuel*...

(From front page) fine, Christian man. We first met Caleb and his beautiful smile and great personality in June 2019 when our daddy was admitted to Emanuel Medical Center. At that time, Caleb worked the night shift, and it was comforting to us to have him there because Daddy was strong. We felt Caleb could manage Daddy if he were to become disoriented. Caleb was very attentive and professional as well as compassionate and caring. Not only did he make sure Daddy was comfortable, but he made sure we were, too. Caleb took great care of us all. We were updated often as to Daddy's health, and our questions and concerns were answered. At the end of each shift, Caleb came by to let us know he was leaving and to let us know when he would be back. He also told us he would be praying for Daddy and for the family. When Daddy was well enough to leave the hospital, we were satisfied with the care Caleb had

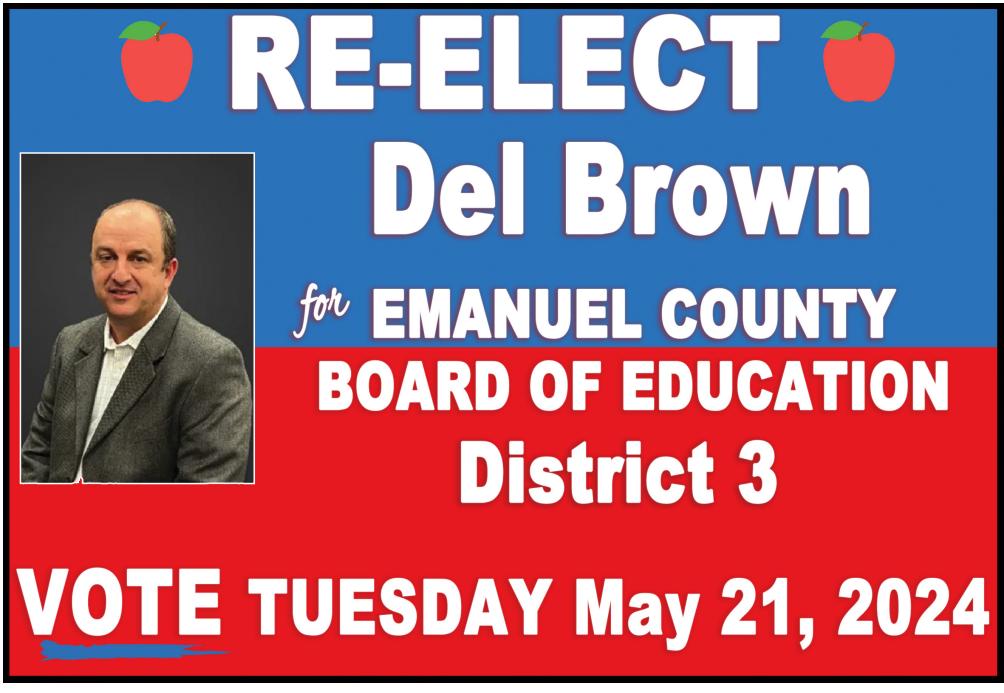
given him, and our family had made a new friend. In February 2022, Daddy was once again admitted to Emanuel Medical Center, and yes, Caleb was his night nurse. We were overjoyed to know that Daddy would have excellent care. Just as before, Caleb kept us updated as to Daddy's condition, and he made sure we were comfortable and had all we needed while we stayed at the hospital. Caleb was not working when Daddy passed away February 26, 2022, but he and his family sent flowers to the service and prayed for our family. We have kept in touch with him and feel blessed to call him a friend. We have told him on numerous occasions that we want him to take care of us if we are patients at Emanuel Medical Center. Friends have expressed to us their experiences with Caleb, and they have the same stories as to his dedication to the nursing profession and to his patients and their families."

Caleb reflected on his

of protein annually for delivery in canned, pouch, and fully cooked frozen packing formats throughout the global commercial and nonprofit/governmental sectors. For more information about Crider Foods, please visit criderfoods.com, media@criderfoods. com, or follow us @criderfoods on Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

time with Mr. Jerome and the family, "I am honored beyond measures to have been nominated and selected as the DAISY Award recipient. I cannot express enough the gratefulness that I have and the honor to be selected for this one-of-akind award. I would like to express my appreciation and much love to my friends, Ms. Jean Hackle, and Ms. Candace Foskey. It was an honor to take care of their Daddy and to take care of them during their hospital stays. To be there during their times at EMC and experience the highs and lows of them being there meant the world to me. Although their Daddy has passed and went to see Jesus, we have continued being friends. I am truly blessed to be able to call them friends and am thankful for what they do for me and my family. I am so grateful that I left an impression on their heart, for that they have

done the same to mine." Congratulations to all our DAISY Award Nom-





The Forest-Blade

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WE'RE NOT ONE OF THE COLLEGES YOU'RE SEEING ON TV...

There's a lot going on around the world right now. We get it. Some colleges and universities around America are experiencing things they haven't experienced for decades or more. We respect and appreciate what some of our colleagues in higher education and their students are going through – it's a tough time.

But we want you to know that not all campuses are like that — and there's one right here in your backyard in Southeast Georgia that is safe, friendly, and student-focused. East Georgia State College just celebrated its 50th Anniversary last year. We are stable and life is pretty predictable here. We value families and students that want to be part of a quieter atmosphere, conducive to learning, growth, dialogue, and self-reflection. Some would call those small town values, and that works for us.

Our main campus in Swainsboro is on 300+ acres of pine trees, trails and a quiet lake. We have over 400 dorm rooms available and, most importantly, we have the lowest tuition and fees of any school in the University System of Georgia. Ninety-eight percent of students receive some form of financial aid support. We also offer classes in Statesboro, Augusta, and online.

Our terrific faculty and staff work hard every day to help students succeed. We have an access mission and all students are welcome. We support hearing different voices, being tolerant of others, and inviting dialogue and debate. We value peace of mind and those seeking to better themselves, their families, and their communities.

So, if you're thinking about college right now, give us a chance. Maybe you're coming out of high school, or you're an adult learner giving college a try or you want to return to complete your degree - EGSC may be for you. We believe we are the right college at the right time.

Contact us today at 478-289-2017 to learn more or speak with our Admissions team. Follow us and check us out on social media on Facebook and Instagram @eastgeorgiastatecollege and on X @EastGaCollege, or send me a note at president@ega.edu. Let's talk.

Best,

David L. Schecter

President

East Georgia

STATE COLLEGE

SWAINSBORO | STATESBORO | AUGUSTA | ONLINE

www.ega.edu

Tommie Kay McCullough Johnson, 78

Tomlinson Home & Crematory announces the death of Mrs. Tommie Kay McCullough Johnson, age 78, of Swainsboro, Saturday, May 11, 2024, at her residence. Funeral vice was held Tuesday, May 14, at 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Swainsboro with Rev. Jim Harrell and Rev. Casey Shaw officiating. Interment followed in the Swainsboro City Cemetery. Family received friends Monday, May 13, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Tomlinson Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Matthew Anderson, Ben Jones, Gage Afflerback, Robert Johnson and Tracy Johnson. Honorary escorts were faculty and staff of East Georgia State College, Shannon Anderson and Patrick Afflerback.

Mrs. Johnson was born February 1, 1946, in Emanuel County, to T.A. (Mac) and Mildred Abney McCullough. She graduated from Swainsboro High School Class of 1964. Tommie married the love of her life, Mr. Billy E. Johnson, and they were together for 48 years. Through her many years in Swainsboro, she was employed with Delores & Woody's, First Federal Savings & Loan, and retired from East Georgia College. Tommie was instrumental in the success of the family business, Maryland Fried Chicken, with her hus-

On-site

Crematory

that we have always offered our families.

If you have any questions or would like to pre-plan please contact us for a consultation visit.

Pre-plan Funerals are Transferable

Chapman Funeral Home

"Committed To Serve Our Family And Friends"

427 N. Main St. • Swainsboro • 478-237-3800

You're Invited To Attend

Sunday

9:00 AM - Contemporary Service

11:00 AM - Traditional Worship

10:00 AM - Sunday School

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!

5:00 PM - Jr. & Sr. MYF

First Methodist

of Swainsboro

319 W. Main St.

237-7535

Rev. Davis Unkles, Pastor

Sunday Morning Services Are Broadcast By

WXRS 100.5 FM at 11:00 A.M.

ervices



band for 38 years. She was a member of the Swainsboro First Baptist Church. Mrs. Johnson is preceded in death by her parents; husband; sister, Carol Anderson; Trapnell, Jerry Bass and Kason Anderson; and Bird, Bill Mercer, Wallie

vived by her daughters, Hope Johnson in Waycross and lived in Misty Chalker, both of her life. She was a home-Swainsboro; children, Greenville, TN, Corey Mrs. Sybol enjoyed her Payton (Erin) of Swainsboro them. She was known for and Macy L. Fagler her pound cakes and car-(Dylan) of Swainsboro; amel cakes. Mrs. Sybol great-grandchildren, was the oldest living Reed Chalker and Jones member of Rosemary Chalker; special brotherin-law, Gary Anderson of Sandersville; beloved family. In addition to her niece, Windy Brantley parents and husband, (Ricky); beloved nephew, Shannon Anderson of TN; a number of special and loved relatives; companion, special Randy Carter; and her fur babies, Nick, Cody, Buddy Olliff; grandson, Snow and Tiger.

Tomlinson Funeral Home & Crematory was in charge of arrange-

Toole, age 100, of Metter, passed away late Friday, May 10, 2024, at Azalea Health and Rehabilitation in Metter. Funeral service was held Monday, May 13, at 3 p.m. at Rosemary Primitive Baptist Church with Elder Sam Bowen and Elder Craig Lanier officiating. The family received friends from **TOOLE** 1 to 2:45 p.m. at the daughters, Maggie and

Baptist Church Cemetery. Pallbearers were Andy Lanier, Stuart Roberts, Larry Roberts, Vinson Olliff, Morgan grandson, Christopher Joe Newton. Honorary Chalker; great-nephew, pallbearers were Bill niece, Aimee Anderson. Waters, Eric Wood and Mrs. Johnson is sur- Bill Thompson.

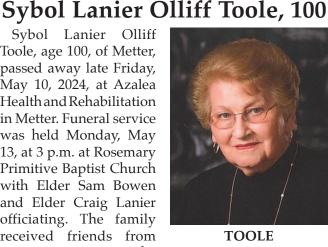
church prior to the ser-

vice. Interment followed

in Rosemary Primitive

Sybol Lanier Olliff

Mrs. Sybol was born (Mike) and Candler County most of grand- maker and a cosmetolo-Michael gist, having worked from Johnson of home for 40 plus years. Chalker family and cooking for Primitive Baptist Church, and she loved her church Lewis Olliff (father of her children), and Franklin Toole, Mrs. Toole is preceded in death by her siblings, Herman Lanier, Nell Roberts and Colleen Lanier; son, William Jim Farrow; great-grand-



Savannah Kersey. Surviving are her

daughter and son-inlaw, Martha and Don Farrow; daughter-in-law, Cheryl Olliff; grandchildren, Ashley Olliff (Lisa), Adam Olliff (Randi), Jodi Farrow Jarvis (Jim) and Lenny Pasquale (Jennifer Cannady); great-grandchildren, Jessica Pasquale (Howard Lane), Chase Sconyers (Bessie), Molly Fordham (Turner), Zach Olliff (Leanna), Zack Pasquale, Jackie Graham (Kaden), caregiver, Jackie Parker.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Rosemary Primitive Baptist Church, 60491 Georgia Highway 121 North, Metter, Georgia 30439.

Kennedy Funeral Homes, Hooks Chapel, of Metter was in charge of arrangements.

Dixon, **Sr.**, 68 James W. "JW"

James W. Dixon, SR., 68, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at the Washington County Medical Center Sandersville. Homecoming Celebration was held Tuesday, May 7, at 2 p.m. at Rest Haven Memorial Gardens in Sandersville with Rev. Corian Roberson officiat-

James was born June 26, 1955, in Swainsboro, to JD Dixon and Alneter Dixon. He was a Swainsboro High School graduate. JW worked as a sales manager at Pitts Toyota for 30+ years and later retired. He also owned his own business, D&H Snacks. JW truly lived life to the fullest through simple pleasures, chatting with friends and spending time with family. Mr. Dixon is preceded in death by his mother; wife, Charlye Dixon; and brother, Larry Easterling.

Mr. Dixon is lovingly survived by his father;



DIXON

sons, James (Pam) Dixon, JR. of Beaufort, SC and Jacob Dixon of Swainsboro; daughter, Ashley Dixon Swainsboro; 11 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild, Brielle Dixon; aunt, Juanita Worthen of Swainsboro; sisters, Kimbly Dixon and Tracy Kirkland, both of Swainsboro; sisters-inlaw, Deborah Easterling Jacksonville, Bernice Easterling and Tammy Hilson, both of Sandersville; and all his nieces and nephews.

L.M. Pierce Funeral Home was in charge of

9:45 am

6:00 pm

Smith Grove MBC to hold 109th Anniversary

Smith Grove Missionary Baptist Church will have their 109th Church Anniversary Sunday, May 19, at 10 a.m. at 50 Mixon Rd, Swainsboro, with Pastor Rev. Wilbert Kennedy. Everyone is invited to celebrate with them! Dinner will be served.

Perfected L®ve

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Holiness Church

Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 am **Sunday Night** Wednesday

Sunday School

7:00 pm (478) 237- 4598 Pastor Dean Martin II www.perfectedlove.com 1127 Hwy 80 East Swainsboro, GA 30401

NO ROOT NO FRUIT

Jerry Gene Morris, Sr., 77

Mr. Jerry Gene Morris, Sr., age 77, of the Nunez, passed away on Monday morning, May 6, 2024, at his home. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 8, at 2 p.m. at Poplar Springs Cemetery with Reverend Milton Thomas and Griffin officiating. Family received friends at the graveside and friends and family called at the home of Wayne and Wrena Morris.

were Hunter Whitaker, Danton Morris, Jordan Morris, Phillip Morris, Brad Spann, Jim Palmer and Ricky Meeks. Born in Laurens

Serving as pallbearers

County, Jerry was the youngest of two sons born to the late Thomas Ralph Morris and Dorothy Hazel Hall Morris. He grew up in Adrian and was a 1965 graduate of Adrian High School. In January of 1966, Jerry Angel Jarvis, Sarah Beth enlisted and served in Kersey, Wallee Kersey the United States Air and Tinsley Creek Olliff; Force. He worked in the great-great-grandchil- Construction Industry dren, Payton Sconyers, as a carpenter, work-AnnMarie Sconyers and ing his last fifteen years Janson Buddy "JB" Olliff; with Adrian Housing, brother, Lamar Lanier; until retiring in 2000. several nieces and neph- Jerry enjoyed the outews; and special at-home doors, especially fishing



MORRIS

and hunting squirrels. In addition to his parents, Mr. Morris is preceded in death by his wife of thirty-two years, Lorraine, who passed away in 2022.

Morris leaves Mr. behind his children, Jerry "Gene" Morris Jr. (Susie) of Charlotte, NC and Amy Morris Whitaker of Savannah; brother, Wayne Morris (Wrena) of Adrian; two grandchildren, Hunter Austin Whitaker and Hannah Nichole Whitaker; four great-grandchildren, Parker Reed Smith, River Whitaker, Sadie Claire Whitaker and Weston Milton Brown; nephew, Danton Wayne Morris; and two nieces, Jamie Allison Morris and Stefanie Jill Spann.

Sammons Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mary Pitts, 96

Mrs. Mary Pitts, 96, of Twin City, passed away Monday, May 6, 2024, at Treutlen County Nursing Home in Soperton following an extended illness. Funeral service was held Saturday, May 11, at 3 p.m. in the chapel of Chapman Funeral Home with Elder Willie Wood officiating. Interment followed in Old Canoochee Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery. Family received friends Friday, May 10, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Chapman Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Timothy Dobson, Darin Dobson, James Parker, Cordarius Lee, David Stapleton and Blake Wilkerson.

Mrs. Pitts was born March 22, 1928, in Jenkins County, to the late Virgil Johnson and Dicie Johnson. She loved family time and get-togethers and was a great cook. Mrs. Pitts supported her husband while he served in the military. She was a member of the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah Witness in Swainsboro, where she served for many years. Mrs. Pitts was always ready to lend a helping hand and was always there to lend you her shoulder to cry on. She was a loving mother, grandmother, and friend to many. Mrs. Pitts was a special lady who will be missed by so many people she touched in her



PITTS

lifetime. Even through all of life's trials and tribulations, she never failed in her faith. Mrs. Pitts had many hardships close to home. She was the strongest lady we knew, never met a stranger and was always the mother figure to others. Everyone called her "Nana". Mrs. Pitts is preceded in death by her parents; husband, William Pitts; son, Jim Pitts; daughters, Nell Dobson and Mary Pierce; granddaughter, Natasha Autry; two brothers; and

four sisters. Mrs. Pitts is survived by her granddaughters, Tabitha Dobson of Wrightsville and Kathy Leigh Dobson of Swainsboro; grandson, Kade Scarboro of Plant City, FL; stepson, Henry Pitts; great-grandchildren, Jayden Scarboro, Kylee Scarboro, Ansley Scarboro, Timothy Dobson and Taylor Sherrod; and many friends.

Chapman Funeral Home of Swainsboro was in charge of arrange-

Oglesby Family Reunion set for June 2

All descendants of James Madison Oglesby will have the Oglesby Family Reunion Sunday, June 2, at 1 p.m. at Magnolia Springs State Park in Millen under group shelter #1 next door to the visitors' center. BBQ pork and chicken will be prepared and provided by David Oglesby. Everyone is welcome and asked to bring a covered dish.

Swainsboro Food Pantry to hold food distribution

Swainsboro St. Philip Center of Hope Food Pantry will be open for distribution on Thursday, May 16, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Editorials Columns **_** Mother's Day, 2024

This country, the greatest country on earth, the United States of America, is the champion of named holidays and official observances. Now, you might say, "Nope, not correct. Nepal has the most religious holidays," and you would be right, (and how in the world would you happen to know that?), but the USA still holds the record for the total number of all categories of holidays; religious, secular, national, official, and unofficial. In all fairness, we must admit that some of our holidays might not seem quite "bona fide", but if you started a list of the ones that are real and

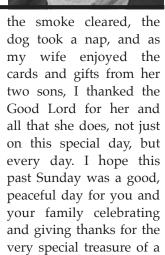
best loved and you failed to put Mother's Day right near the top, well, all I can say is you better have a deep hole to hide in. Mother's Day is the one day of the year when more telephone calls are made than any other. It is understandably and quite properly the day that honors the most important job in all humanity. This was in my mind last Sunday morning when I awoke and immediately panicked when realizing the trouble I was in. My wife had already gone downstairs, and my big plans were crumbling right from the start. My dog was waiting at the bottom

of the stairs with a look of disapproval and mild contempt as if to say, "you're already blowing it". He cocked his head toward the open porch door indicating that the honoree of the day was not in the kitchen. This was good. Maybe, the plan could still work. I casually walked out into the porch, "Oh good morning, Happy Mother's Day, I was just working on a few things in the kitchen." The dog looked down and shook his head. This was cutting things close, but I was able to get the pancake batter and sausage going before she came in to inspect. The plan was coming

together. "Why don't you just enjoy your coffee back out on the porch while I finish making breakfast?" I thoughtfully suggested. Yes, now I can do this, nothing to it. I moved on to the second phase. I left the pancakes browning on "flaming-crispy" with the sausage popping and bubbling like a volcano flow. Trying to remember how much homeowner's insurance I had, I raced outside to retrieve the Mother's Day gifts from my truck. This was high-level multi-tasking! Seeing me dash out of the kitchen, the dog fell back on his "Smokey the Rescue Dog" training

Charles Schwabe

and prepared to evacuate the building. Miracles do happen however and despite slightly overcooked sausage and a few missed-flipped pancakes, the Mother's Day breakfast was a success. As a matter of fact, it tasted especially good to me after just getting another kind of taste of what 20 minutes of reality kitchen-time in the life of actual Moms feels like. It was exhausting. Anyhow,



mother's love.



Blackberry cobbler, dance halls, and other great things

Here we are at the beginning of another summer where mosquitoes are big as buzzards waiting to bite me and snakes and other slithering creepy things are outside in the garden just waiting to "scare the hell of me" as my friend's little five-year-old grandson said of a mouse once.

I can remember the time when going barefoot in the sandy dirt roads of southeastern Georgia and picking blackberries for a cobbler didn't faze us kids. Heck, we probably scared more rattlesnakes than we even knew existed, and I'm here to tell

you, they grow 'em big along the banks of the "Hoopie" and cotton fields in that neck of the woods!

But "those were the days"! Coleman's Lake and McKinney's Pond were the local hot spots for good fresh fish and seafood. Everybody for miles around came to either place at one time or another and usually on the weekend. Each place had their own huge dance hall complete with the gigantic record player which played the popular tunes of the day, three for a quarter. On a weekend,

there was standing room only usually and things were hopping! Folks would eat till they nearly popped, then danced the night away.

Both places had swimming pools with water so cold your lips would turn blue. Both also had bowling alleys and skating rinks at one time or another. Great places for families to spend Sunday afternoons after church or have family reunions. How many kisses were stolen in the softly lighted dance floors? How many "I love you's" were spoken? How many cars got in the ditch

on the way home because they weren't exactly looking at the road? Ohhh yes, those were the days!

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we had that awesome kind of innocence and carefree lifestyle today? Wouldn't it be wonderful to go to Coleman's Lake or McKinney's Pond where you could leave your keys in the car and not worry that it would be stolen? Your little kids could go into the restaurant and play the pin ball machine and think they were cool while their mom and dad were in the next room doing the

La'Rose **Tapley**

"shag". Or the kids could all pile in the car and drive out for an afternoon of bowling or skating and swimming and be home by dark without their parents having a "hissy fit". Wouldn't it?

And how about that blackberry cobbler? Frozen blackberries just don't cut it. Those blackberries that come picked from the side of the road that your before you use them about! That's blackberry cobbler. With lots of sugar! And real whipped cream out of one of those squirt cans. Not cool whip! There's a difference, you know.

bloodied hands picked that had road dust and those little brown seed looking things on them that must be washed good now that what I'm talking

An open letter to Gov. Kemp regarding the future of our Okefenokee

Dear Governor: I know you have been busy signing or vetoing bills from the recent legislative session, so I have chosen not to disturb

Editorial Cartoons

you. But now that you have all that behind you, I wonder if I might have a word with you? And that word is:

I have been at this job for 26 years and some 2,000plus columns and I don't recall getting as much angry mail as I have gotten from

my readers — and your constituents — over the possibility of the Environmental Protection Division granting permits to Alabamabased Twin Pines to drag mine 582 acres atop Trail Ridge on the eastern edge of the Okefenokee - our Okefenokee. The readers want you to put a stop to it. Frankly, they are disappointed you haven't already done so. The opposition to the proposal is wide and it is deep, and it is bipartisan.

It is not like Twin Pines is proposing to mine uranium for our nuclear power plants, Hatch and Vogtle, or for radium for optical physics that will allow telescopes to more clearly examine distant stars and ponder the meaning of the universe. No, they want to dig 50 feet into the ground over 582 acres to extract titanium dioxide which is used in paint and toothpaste. Really? Paint? Toothpaste? Oh, and did I mention chewing gum? In the Okefenokee? Our

Okefenokee? I am sure you are aware that the Okefenokee refuge is being considered as a UNESCO World Heritage site like the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone Park, the Taj Mahal and the Great Wall in China. Hmm. A World Heritage site or a source for paint and toothpaste and chewing gum. Decisions. Decisions.

You have been a very good governor who has done great things for Georgia in your two terms. And your office is a powerful position. It is and always has been. The governor of Georgia can make things happen. That is why the citizens of our state are look-

Dick Yarbrough

ing to you to pull the plug on the Twin Pines mining request and send them back to Alabama where they belong. You can do it. Zell Miller did.

Back in the late '90s, DuPont was proposing to do the same thing in roughly the same place and facing the same kind of opposition. Finally, Gov. Miller put a stop to it. DuPont was and is a lot bigger than Twin Pines. And evidently more sensitive to public opinion than is this politically-tone deaf crowd.

My loyal readers, who are situated from the far northeast corner of our state to the far southwest and a lot of places in between are not a bunch of dumb bunnies, governor. I don't think it is an overstatement to say they are feeling disenfranchised. They know something is going on behind the scenes and they want some answers.

They aren't going to get them from Rep. Lynn Smith, R-Newnan, chair of the House Natural Resources Committee whose self-congratulatory website says she "champions sound environmental policies that also protect Georgia's economy," and who kept a bipartisan bill bottled up in her committee that would have put all of Trail Ridge off limits to future mining.

A bill that did pass this past session would prevent the Environmental Protection Division from considering new permits for dragline mining for three years but would not keep them from issuing the current permits to Twin Pines. Sleeves out of the vest.

The most condescending and infuriating statement to date came from Senate Majority Leader Steve Gooch, R-Dahlonega, who said of the Twin Pines effort to mine the area, "Those are decisions that shouldn't be made by political entities. We have to let our regulatory agencies do their jobs." Oh, please. We didn't elect bureaucrats to decide who gets to mine the Okefenokee. We elected you and your colleagues, senator. Don't insult our intelligence. And don't talk

I won't take time today to get into the political contributions Twin Pines and their friends have made or the high-powered lobbyists they have hired or the company's dubious track record. I will save that for future discussions in case this bad idea doesn't go

down to us.

Today, I am respectfully requesting that you tell my readers where you stand on this issue. Will you allow an Alabama-based company to drag mine Trail Ridge on the edge of the Okefenokee our Okefenokee — for materials to make paint and toothpaste? (Oh, and I forgot chewing gum.) Just give it to us straight, governor. Please.



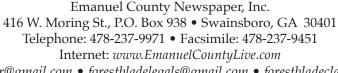




The Forest-Blade

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Gail Williamson, Editor/Publisher



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duction or dissemination without the express written consent of the publisher is strictly prohibited.

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

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



6A The Forest-Blade • *www.EmanuelCountyLive.com* • Swainsboro, Georgia • May 15, 2024

Invitation to Offer Quote

Emanuel County Board of Education is accepting quotes for the 2024-2025 school year for:

Custodial Vendor Management Program

Quotes will be accepted until, 2:00 pm, June 03, 2024 at Board of Education Office 201 N. Main St., Swainsboro, GA 30401.

For further information and specifications contact Jansen Ware, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services at 478-237-6674.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any and all quotes. Emanuel County Schools is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

NOTICE OF RATE INCREASE FOR RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL **GARBAGE PICKUP**

Notice is hereby given that the CITY OF SWAINSBORO, through its Mayor and City Council, beginning July 1, 2024, the residential poly cart rate will increase \$1/per month and the commercial rate will increase \$1/per cubic yard/per month.

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

Special Education records from August 2009 through May 2014 are scheduled for destruction on May 31, 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 May 31, 2024 will result in the destruction of all records.

English promoted to Queensborough Coastal Region President, Senior Lending Officer

tional Bank & Trust Company is pleased to announce the promotion of Mike English to the position of Coastal Region President and Senior Lending Officer. With 28 years of extensive experience in banking, including 17 years of dedicated service with Queensborough in Savannah, English brings a wealth of knowledge and leadership to his new role.

Prior to his promotion, English has served in various capacities within the banking sector across Additionally, Georgia. his tenure of 8 years in the United States Marine Corps Reserve reflects his dedication to service both in and out of the financial industry.

As a true community banker, English is an active member of his community. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of Senior Citizens Inc. and as a volunteer advocate with Chatham

Savannah Citizens Advocacy. His involvement extends to organizations such as the American Legion Post 135, where he is a proud member. Past roles include Board Member of the Savannah Small Business Assistance Center, Trustee of the Ossabaw Island Foundation and Historic Savannah Foundation, and Chairman of Ogeechee River-

Over the past 10 years, English has overseen the remarkable growth of Queensborough's presence in the coastal market, expanding from one small loan office to 10 branches and a commercial lending group.

In his new role, English will oversee a team of Regional Managers who will be responsible for leading the bank in the following markets: Savannah, Pooler, Rincon, Garden City, Hinesville, Statesboro, Sylvania, Metter, Midville and Swainsboro.

Of his promotion, En-

glish says "While our region faces unprecedented growth over the next few years, there has never been a stronger need for a true community bank Queensborough. Our locations and experienced team of bankers is perfectly suited to help area businesses and individuals prosper, and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to lead this group."

English and his wife Ashley have two college-aged daughters. His roots run deep in Jefferson County, where his family maintains a farm near Grange. He is a graduate of Swainsboro High School and Georgia Southern University and is the son of the late Lynn and Senator Bill English of Swainsboro.

Queensborough congratulates Mike English on his well-deserved promotion and looks forward to his continued leadership in the Coastal



ENGLISH

more informa-For tion, visit http://www. <u>qnbtrust.bank.</u>

Founded Queensborough National Bank & Trust Co. recently celebrated 120 years of community banking in Georgia. Queensborough was named Great Place to Work and Best of Georgia in 2023 and has locations throughout the state. For more information, viswww.QNBTRUST. and find Queensborough on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube and Insta-

Sen. Max Burns celebrates signing of Legislation to fortify Georgia's Election Integrity

Yesterday, Governor Brian P. Kemp signed Senate Bill 189 to strengthen election integrity in the state. The measure, sponsored by Chairman of the Senate Committee on Ethics Sen. Max Burns (R–Sylvania), restricts the use of QR codes to count ballots, reforms the process to challenge a voter's eligibility and expands ballot access for third-party candidates. Further, this legislation removes Georgia's Secretary of State from the State Election Board and establishes additional

conflict of interest provisions for statewide and local elections officers, officials and employees involving goods and services provided for voting equipment.

Sen. Burns commended the signing of this measure, stating, "SB 189 is a testament to our commitment to restoring faith in Georgia's elections. Building upon the solid foundation laid by Senate Bill 202 in 2021, we continue to prioritize integrity and accessibility. By championing transparency and accountability, we pave the way for fair elections that uphold the voice of every Georgia citizen. I am proud to have played a part in crafting this legislation, which reinforces our dedication to safeguarding the democratic process."

"I have not wavered on my priority to ensure that Georgians have trust and transparency in our elections process," said Lieutenant Governor Burt Jones. "Sen. Max Burns has been a champion on this issue, and I commend him for all of his work to get Senate Bill 189 signed

into law. With this legislation becoming law, we can help further ensure that Georgians trust their votes are properly count-

Sen. Max Burns serves as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Ethics. He represents the 23rd Senate District, which includes Burke, Emanuel, Glascock, Jefferson, Jenkins, McDuffie, Screven, Taliaferro, and Warren County as well as portions of Columbia and Richmond County. He may be reached at 404.463.1376 or by email at max.burns@ senate.ga.gov.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF WATER AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE CITY OF SWAINSBORO, GEORGIA

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Swainsboro, Georgia at City Hall, P.O. Box 600 or 101 West Main Street, (Shipping Address Only - No Mail Received at Street Address) Swainsboro, Georgia 30401 until 10:00 a.m. local time, Friday May 31, 2024 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read. No submitted bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for receipt of bids for a period of sixty (60) days.

All Bidders must have a State of Georgia Utility Contractor License and must employ a state "Utility Manager" certificate holder who will have oversight of all the work.

The work to be done consists of furnishing all materials, equipment and labor for the construction of:

Water System Improvements including installation of approximately 800 linear feet of 6-inch PVC water line, 6 fire hydrants, 6 resilient seated gate valves, reconnect 9 existing water customers. Sewerage system improvements including approximately 4,585 linear feet of sewer line video and 1,872 linear feet of 8-inch pipe bursting, reconnect existing services and all appurtenances.

Time allotted for construction is 150 consecutive calendar days for substantial completion and 180 days for final completion.

Proposals for the complete work in one general contract shall be made on the proposal form provided and shall contain prices in words and figures for the work bid on.

This is a Section 3 Covered Project under the HUD Act of 1968 and Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns are encouraged to apply. The OWNER is committed to providing all persons with equal access to its services, programs, activities, education, and employment regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability or age.

All proposals shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond drawn in favor of the City of Swainsboro, in the amount of at least 10% of the lump sum bid for the complete work; such Bid Bond representing that the Bidder, if awarded the contract, will promptly enter into a contract and furnish Performance Bond and Payment Bond as provided by law and approved by the Attorney for the City of Swainsboro. Each bond shall be equal to 100% of the contract amount. The Bid Bond shall be forfeited to the City of Swainsboro as liquidated damages if the Bidder fails to execute the contract and provide Performance and Payment Bonds within 10 days after being notified that he has been awarded the contract.

Drawings and Specifications are open to public inspection at the office of the City of Swainsbro and at the offices of Turnipseed Engineers in Augusta and Atlanta, Georgia.

Copies of the plans and specifications must be obtained from Turnipseed Engineers, 4210 Columbia Road, Building 3, Augusta, Georgia 30907, upon receipt of \$200 Additional reduced drawings are available for \$100.

Digital copies of the documents are not available.

Upon receipt of all documents in undamaged condition within 30 days after the date of opening of bids, half of the deposit will be refunded.

The difference between the deposit and the amount refunded represents the cost of reproduction. No refund will be made for documents received after 30 days or in damaged condition.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities.



CITY OF SWAINSBORO,

GREG BENNETT, MAYOR

Six Emanuel County students make Brewton-Parker Dean's List

Six students from Emanuel County qualified for the Dean's List at Brewton-Parker College of Mount Vernon for the Spring 2024 semester, announced Dr. Robert Brian, Vice President for Academic Services. Congratulations to Heather Bain from Swainsboro, Katlynn Marie Beaucaire from Swainsboro, Lindsey Forbes from Swainsboro, Taylor Radford from Swainsboro, Molly McBride from Twin City and Makayla Brooke Clifton from Adrian.

Qualifying students were enrolled in 12 or more hours and earned a grade point average of 3.6 or better.

Brewton-Parker College is the only accredited four-year Christian college south of Macon and north of Jacksonville, FL. The mission of Brewton-Parker College, a Georgia Baptist college, is to develop the whole student through the application of Biblically centered truth to a liberal arts curriculum in a community of shared Christian values. Visit Brewton-Parker College online at www.bpc.edu.

Emanuel County Schools

School Choice (HB 251)

Applications Accepted May 1, 2024 - May 15, 2024

The Emanuel County School System will accept applications for School Choice transfers. Parents may request to transfer their child to another public school in the district for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year if the school has available space after its assigned students have been enrolled. The Emanuel County School System considers factors such as projected enrollment and maximum class size when determining available space. The chart below indicates space availability by school and grade. Parents will be responsible for transportation for a student attending school outside his/her attendance

School	K	1st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9-12
Swainsboro Primary *	0	16	0							
Swainsboro Elementary *				4	7	5				
Twin City Elementary *	0	1	7	1	1	6				
ECI Middle *							1	1	4	
Swainsboro Middle *							15	13	5	
ECI High *										**
Swainsboro High *										**

* Transfers for Kindergarten students will not be considered until after the first 10 days of school. Only Kindergarten students who are enrolled and have completed a School Choice transfer form application during the HB 251 window will be

**Emanuel County Institute and Swainsboro High School will allow transfers if scheduling requirements can be met when enrolling with the counselor. Enrollment into certain courses (Honors, Electives, etc.) may not be accommodated due to the number of students already enrolled in those courses. Students transferring to another high school, within the district, may not be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities due to GHSA guidelines.

For more information visit the Emanuel County Schools website:

www.emanuel.k12.ga.us

School Choice transfer forms may be picked up from the Emanuel County Board of Education building at 201 N. Main Street, Swainsboro, Georgia between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. beginning Wednesday, May 1, 2024. All applications must be hand delivered to the office. No applications will be accepted after Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at the close of business.

Hattaway speaks to Kiwanis

The Kiwanis Club of Swainsboro held its weekly meeting Tuesday night, May 7, at the Rustic Grille at 7 p.m. With Cheryl President Goodman presiding, they had 18 in attendance including three guests, Holly Hattaway, Joelle Romanchik-Cerpovicz and John Cadle. The German chocolate poke cake, donated by Wanda Ellis, was won by Dess Smith. The Domino's donated by pizza, Domino's, was won by Dianna Wedincamp and Tim Goodman won the Mother's Day gift, a hummingbird feeder. The program was hosted by Gary Couse who introduced Scotty Hattaway, recently retired Superintendent Emanuel the County School system. Hattaway is a consultant to the ECS until his official retirement on May 31. He plans to take his 32.5 years of experience in public education and will be the Area Representative the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) for Emanuel County. Established in 1954, the FCA is an organization working to see the world transformed by Jesus Christ through the influence of coaches and athletes. Emanuel County is under the East

Georgia FCA, headquartered in Vidalia. FCA includes programs in the local school systems, camps for recruited coaches and staff training, and support for volunteers. Since FCA is a non-profit organization, they raise money for their programs. Only 12% of the money raised is sent to the national office and is used for administration to include training of staff. The remaining 88% stays in Emanuel County to support the local program. Dess Smith announced the Veterans' Golf Tournament on May 18 at the Swainsboro Country Club. The Swainsboro Kiwanis Club is sponsoring a hole. President Cheryl updated on what has happened since the last meeting. They made 400

bags of cotton candy on April 18 that was used during the April 19 Pre-K Fun Day where they cooked 400 hot dogs and provided the meal for 380 attendees of the Fun Day. They also made popcorn for the crowd. Thank you to the five Kiwanians who helped with the cotton candy and the seven Kiwanians who cooked and served the hotdogs, chips, drinks, and cookies and made popcorn. A special thanks to Pre-K staff and faculty, Swainsboro High School Beta Clubbers, EGSC Circle K'er Brian Priester who helped to cook popcorn, hand out drinks and stuff hot dogs in buns and to Citizens Bank for the use of their grill.



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GARY MASON, HARRISON AND MAY

Harrison speaks to Exchange Club

On Tuesday, May 7, 2024, club member Jimmy May had Jennifer Harrison, director of the Emanuel County Health Department, as the speaker at the meeting of the Swainsboro Exchange Club. She gave an update on the various services provided by the Health Department.



30 3CAT SUMMER

During the program you will:

- · Take 6 to 8 credit hours of classes,
- Attend workshops to assist in your transition to college,
- · Participate in leadership development activities and field trips,
- · Engage with campus resources,
- · Meet key faculty and staff, and
- · Experience residence life in the Bobcat Villas.

When: July 8 to August 2, 2024 Where:

East Georgia State College, Swainsboro Campus

\$1,250 + tuition.

Cost:

Application Deadline: June 1, 2024





www.ega.edu

The Senior Scholarship and Honors Night Program for Emanuel County Institute was held Monday, May 9, 2024, at 6 p.m. in the school auditorium. At that time, Seniors were recognized for their academic achievements, leadership, and scholarships awarded during the 2023-2024 school

year.

The program began with a welcome and recognition of special guests by Mrs. Elizabeth Kraus, and Dhahami Salgado and a rendition of the National Anthem by Emma Lawrence. The program began with special presentations given out by Mrs. Elizabeth Kraus, the school counselor, and guest presenters. Among the guest presenters were Taryn Jackson representing East Georgia State College, Daphne representing Southeastern Technical College, Betsy Johnson representing Adam Brinson Historical Society, Inc., Brandon Jones representing the Twin City Lions Club and the Cowart Family, Pam Carr representing Family Connection, Wanda Parrish with the Mary Edwards Jackson Scholarship from the Black Women Profession, Dr. Denise Warnock with Yeomans and the Missouri Dudley Canady families, Leslie Johnson representing ECIBETA, Wade Johnson with Durden Banking, Richard Claxton presenting the American Legion Award. Giving memorial scholarships were Randy and Robin Canady for the Candace Scholarship, Canady Mrs. Riner for the Taylor Hooks Scholarship, **Jeremy** and Angel Oliver for the Braxton Oliver Memorial Scholarship, Jessica Smith and Malaina's family for the Malaina Nasworthy Memorial Scholarship, and Dr. Shannon Lawrence with Young Farmers giving the Randall Tanner Scholarship.

Following the presentations of awards by special guests and ECI faculty, Anetria Edenfield, principal, Brooke Frye, assistant principal, Sondra Cowart, intervention specialist, and Mrs. Elizabeth Kraus, counselor, presented Academic E's and honor graduates with their honor stoles, certificates, and pins. Principal Anetria Edenfield congratulated the award and scholarship recipients and expressed thanks to all who attended the ceremony. Will Sasser gave closing remarks.

Awards and presentations were as follows:

Special Recognitions ECI Star Student

William Sasser

ECI Star Teacher Dorene Holmes Exchange Club Youth

of the Year Ansley Moxley

Exchange Club Youth of the Year William

DAR Good Citizen Nicholas Newkirt

American Legion School Award Jarei Oglesby

Coca-Cola Academic Achievement Award Dhahami Salgado and William Sasser

East Georgia Leadership Scholarship **Brailey Radford**

Adam Brinson Historical Society, Inc. Scholarship William

Lions Club Scholarship Oglesby Jarei **Hunter Spears**

Mary Edwards Jackson Scholarship Jarei Oglesby

Cowart Family Scholarship Cola Akridge and Ethan Cowart

Family Connection Scholarship Dhahami Salgado

Candace Canady Memorial Scholarship **Brailey Radford** Braxton Oliver

Memorial Scholarship Dhahami Salgado and **Ethan Cowart** Malaina Nasworthy

Memorial Scholarship Ansley Moxley Peter Marsh

Foundation Scholarship Wallee Kersey Taylor Hooks

Memorial Scholarship Ansley Moxley

Yeomans Family Scholarship Brailey Radford

Missouri Canady Scholarship Dudley Ansley Moxley

Family Connection Scholarship Dhahami Salgado

Johnson Coca-Cola Scholarship Cola Akridge, Jarei Oglesby and Brailey Radford



EGSC DUAL ENROLLMENT: ALAINA CONLEY, ASIA GIBBONS, JAREI OGLESBY, BRAILEY RADFORD, DHAHAMI SALGADO, ANSLEY MOXLEY, WILLIAM SASSER AND JASPER BAKER



PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE: DHAHAMI SALGADO, WILLIAM SASSER AND JAREI OGLESBY

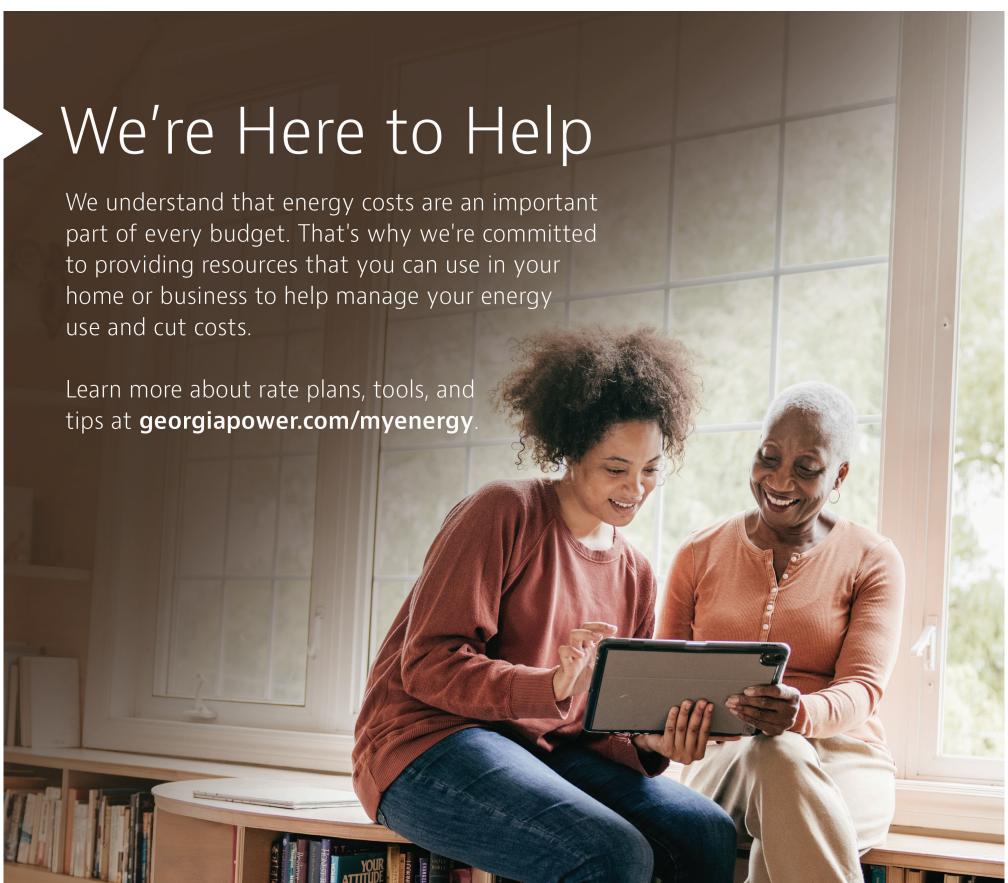


SENIOR BETA CORDS: ALYNNZA HUGHES, ASIA GIBBONS, JAREI OGLESBY, BRAILEY RADFORD, ANSLEY MOXLEY, COLA AKRIDGE, ELIZABETH ALLEN AND ANNA BETH RINER

Sigma Phi Beta Brailey Scholarship Radford

Zell Miller Scholarship Dhahami Salgado and William Sasser

REACH Scholarship Asia Gibbons (Continued on page 9A)



(From page 8A) **College Scholarships** Georgia Tech Val-Sal Scholarship William

Sasser Georgia Southern University Presidential Scholar Dhahami Salgado

Georgia Southern University Eagle Scholar Haley Patel

Georgia Southern Crider Engineering Scholarship Conner Merier

ECI Beta Scholarships Jarei Oglesby - Highest GPA and Cola Akridge -Most Beta Points Earned

Randall Tanner Memorial Scholarship presented by Young Farmers Ethan Cowart

Durden Banking Company Scholarship Dhahami Salgado

Georgia Future Educators Signing Day Recognition Cola Akridge, Allison Avilez, Malayshia R Daughtry, Brailey Radford and Alynnza Hughes

Citizens Bank Student Advisory Board Asia Gibbons, Wallee Kersey, Blake Librizzi, Ansley Moxley, Jarei Oglesby, Haley Patel, Brailey Charlie Radford, Rehberg, Dhahami Salgado, William Sasser and Jack Walden

Dual Enrollment Participants for East Georgia State College Jasper Baker, Alaina Conley, Asia Gibbons, James Kersey, Blake Librizzi, Conner Merrier, Ansley Moxley, Jarei Oglesby, Brycen Purvis, Brailey Radford, Charlie Rehberg, Dhahami Salgado, William Sasser and Jack Walden

Dual Enrollment Participants for Georgia Southern University **Hunter Spears**

Dual Enrollment Participants Southeastern Technical College Cola Akridge, Johnny Baird, Amber Harden, Jaida Harrell, Jackelyn Hebert, Aliva McCoy, Haley Patel, William Snellgrove, La'tyra Stone and Gage Wilcher

Young Georgia Authors Gabrielle Collins

Members Receiving Cords Cola Akridge, Elizabeth Allen, Asia Gibbons, Alynnza Hughes, Wallee Kersey,

and Zach Rowe United States Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award Cola Akridge

Ansley Moxley, Jarei

Oglesby, Brailey Radford

United States Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award Charlie and Jarei Rehberg Oglesby

Semper Fidelis Award for Musical Excellence Wallee Kersey

United States Army Reserve National Scholar Award Jack Walden and Asia Gibbons

Department Awards Visual Arts/ Comprehensive IV Sloan Murphy

Visual Arts Pathway Cords Allison Avilez, Nariah Carlyle, Shelia Carlyle, Logan Creamer, Nathaen Culbreth, Shaquila Evans-Ray, Malik Franklin, Gavin Gay, Selena Hamrick, Angel Guest, Alynnza Hughes, Sloan Murphy, Cameron Walker, Abby Wright and Jaden Handsom

High School Band IV Blake Librizzi

Band Pathway Cords Jackelyn Hebert, Conner Merier and O'Zion Reese **JROTC** Army

IV Asia Gibbons JROTC Cords Asia

Gibbons JROTC Stoles Asia

Gibbons and Nicholas Newkirt

Subject Area Awards British Literature Anna Hayslip

College Readiness Jasper Baker

Pre-Calculus Iaida Harrell

Economics Alynnza Hughes

Anatomy/Physiology: Jaida Harrell

Work-Based Learning Zachary Rowe

General Horticulture Elizabeth Allen

Pathway Cords

students All are strongly encouraged to complete a CTAE pathway (3 classes) in either business, family and culture, or engineering. This year, students that have completed a pathway and passed the credentialing examination are receiving honor cords for their efforts. These students have passed real-world industry-recognized exams to earn this distinction.

Elizabeth Allen, Logan Anderson, Jacin Baltazar-Zamora, Andrew Chalkley, Gabrielle Collins, Alaina Conley, Ethan Cowart, Charles Creamer, Malayshia Daughtry, Heath Davis, Evan Donaldson, Shaquila Evans-Ray, Malik Franklin, Michado Franklin, Gavin Gay, Angel Guest, Salena Hamrick, Anna Hayslip,

Alynnza Hughes, Wallee Kersey, Blake Librizzi, Addilyn Marsh, Aliya McCoy, Conner Merier, Sloane Murphy, Jarei Oglesby, O'Zion Reese, Zachary Rowe, Salgado, Dhahami Oliver Sherrod, Hunter Spears and Cameron Walker

21st Century Leaders Cords

Jarei Oglesby, Asia Gibbons, Cola Akridge, Dhahami Salgado, Elizabeth Allen and William Sasser

Academic E Award

Student must have been on Honor or Star Leadership Education Honor Roll for first three grading periods and must have an overall average of 93 or higher.

Elizabeth Allen, Jasper Baker, Jaida Harrell, Anna Hayslip, , Alynnza Hughes, Conner Merier, Charles Rehberg, Zachary Rowe, Dhahami Salgado, William Sasser and Jack Walden

President's Award for **Educational Excellence**

Dhahami Salgado, William Sasser and Jarei Oglesby

Honor Graduates

Cola Marie Akridge, Chevenne Elizabeth Baker, Andrew Gerard Chalkley, Alaina Madison Conley, Charles Logan Creamer, Asia Tamera Gibbons, Jaida McKenzie Harrell, Anna



CITIZENS BANK ADVISORY BOARD: BLAKE LIBRIZZI, ASIA GIBBONS, JAREI OGLESBY, BRAILEY RADFORD, HALEY PATEL, DHAHAMI SALGADO, ANSLEY MOXLEY AND WILLIAM SASSER



SENIOR PATHWAY CORDS: ANGEL GUEST, NICHOLAS NEWKIRT, HUNTER SPEARS, ALYNNZA HUGHES, JAREI OGLESBY, DHAHAMI SALGADO, GABRIELLE COLLINS, EVAN DONALDSON, ELIZABETH ALLEN, ALAINA CONLEY, ANNA HAYSLIP AND SALENA HAMRICK



SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS: JAREI OGLESBY, HUNTER SPEARS, BRAILEY RADFORD, COLA AKRIDGE, DHAHAMI SALGADO, ANSLEY MOXLEY, HALEY PATEL, ETHAN COWART AND WILLIAM SASSER



STC DUAL ENROLLMENT: COLA AKRIDGE, HALEY PATEL, JOHNNY Allen, Jasper Timothy BAIRD, GAGE WILCHER, WILLIAM SNELLGROVE AND LA'TYRA STONE

Victoria Hebert, Alynnza Ansley Ruth Moxley, Rowe, Leigh Hughes, James Wallace Lee Kersey, Blake Lee Librizzi, Aliya Paige McCoy, Aden Scott McQuaig,

STATE COLLEGE

Jarei Selina Oglesby, Haley Rupesh Patel, Brailey Hunter Radford, Charles William Rehberg, Anna Beth

Valedictorian Arachchige Dhahami Purna William Salutatorian Ronald Sasser, Hunter Rick Spears and

or visit us at

www.ega.edu



 $10\mathrm{A}$ The Forest-Blade ullet www.EmanuelCountyLive.com ullet Swainsboro, Georgia ullet May 15, 2024

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someone or something for one reason or another. Early in life we realize that we need help to survive and cannot make it on our own. Initially it is a parent or a parent-substitute that is there to help us. Then, as we get older and become more independent, we begin to realize that there are other sources to meet our needs.

We begin to look to them for what they can do for us or perhaps give to us in exchange for our allegiance or respect. We think that they will bring us something we need. It's only natural.

The question is not whether or not we worship - but what or whom we worship. It can be fame or fortune, power or prestige, a person or a philosophy someone or something that we believe is greater than our-selves and will bring us peace and happiness, joy and satisfaction. It is someone or something that we believe is superior to us and we are willing to surrender and submit ourselves to it. But, really, it only reveals our lostness and our need for Someone Who is above us, beyond us - yet cares

for us. The Psalmist invites us to, "Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker." He wants us to recognize the superiority and sufficiency of God our Creator. Once we acknowledged God as our Creator we immediately recognize Him as the source of all that we have or ever will have. Worship becomes God-centered and not man or thing centered. Worship results in turning our lives over to God and recognizing His grace and sovereignty as we bow before Him in awe.

Visit us at: SowerMinistries.org



KEB Southern Trash Bash: Creating a cleaner community

by DEANNA RYAN In Swainsboro, there's a

new billboard in town on the corner of Main Street and Tiger Trail. It's hard to miss. Uncle Birdie stands holding a trash bag beside the message, "Please stop littering."

As part of a beautification movement, Keep Emanuel Beautiful (KEB) invited local citizens to help clean up the county on Saturday, May 11th at the inaugural Southern Trash Bash. By noon, over 60 bags of trash were collected from Garfield and Canoochee to Oak Park and Swainsboro, along highways, city streets, parking lots and dirt roads.

Community members either cleaned their own stretch or received a map of streets in need from Justin Morris, Emanuel County Public Works Coordina-

Garfield residents led by KEB and city council member Latrail Sheffield got a head start and cleaned various roadsides during the week, while Canoochee residents George and Missy Elder along with County Commissioner Jim Sherrod collected over 16 bags of trash in their area on Saturday.

Oak Park KEB member Elease Turner joined Mayor Mickey Lindsey, County Commissioner Timmy Oliver and community members to pick up over 1800 lbs of trash along Highway 86 and several other roadways.

Veterans at the Library spring-cleaned the Veterans and First Responders Park by cutting limbs, raking leaves, and replacing the flag to prepare for their memorial day program.

In other areas of Swainsboro, Swainsboro Middle

School (SMS) picked up trash along the entrances to Walmart, while Moose Lodge 1930 members cleaned Lambs Bridge Road and areas around the fountain and Boneyard in Swainsboro. East Georgia State College (EGSC) and Swainsboro High School (SHS) Spanish club received maps from Morris to hit the messiest roads. Their willingness paid off.

The largest group making the biggest impact award went to the SHS Spanish club. They received the honorary KEB Trash Trophy and bragging rights for a year.

The craziest find award went to EGSC biology professor Dr. Breana "B" Simmons' box painted with Egyptians doing a line dance. Other crazy finds included a dramatic conversation written on a styrofoam plate and a bedazzled stick found by the Spanish club and a shopping cart found by the Morris family. The painted box won, but Simmons donated the cash prize to the Spanish club.

In 2025, KEB plans to coordinate the event with the Twin City cleanup. There may even be a city award for the most elected officials participating. So get your gloves and pick up sticks ready, Mayors!

Tony Hutcheson, KEB chair, thanks "each and every one that came out to help clean our communities" and asks that "you share your passion for beautification with others. We are already working on plans for next year's

A special thanks goes out to Emanuel County for drinks, Swainsboro City for pizza, and Tractor Supply for bags.



LARGEST GROUP AWARD: SHS SPANISH CLUB LR LEYLA YEPE. YOVANA HERNANDEZ, YADIRA HERNANDEZ, R'REYANA WILLIAMS, LUNA MANJARRES, SILVARIS IBANEZ, SAMUEL MANJARES AND (NOT PICTURED) JUAN YEPE



OAK PARK CREW (KEB ELEASE TURNER, OAK PARK MAYOR MICKEY LINDSEY AND COUNTY COMMISSIONER TIMMY OLIVER AND MANY OTHER OAK PARK RESIDENTS)



SWAINSBORO - MOOSE LODGE 1930, KEB, VETERANS AT THE LIBRARY, SHS SPANISH CLUB, EMANUEL COUNTY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

4 Pine Tree Festival & Southeast Timber Expo





























The Forest-Blade







































On behalf of the Pine Tree Festival Committee and the Swainsboro-Emanuel County Festivals Foundation. I want to say THANK YOU to all that participated in the 77th Annual Pine Tree Festival. In spite of a little rain, the festival was one of the best ever. Also. THANK YOU to all the sponsors listed for providing funding so the Pine Tree Festival was still free to all that came to enjoy. Remember to say thank you as you see the companies and individuals listed on this page.

May The Forest Be With You. Ken Warnock, Chairman.



Glad Garden Club Interfor US Inc.
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Social
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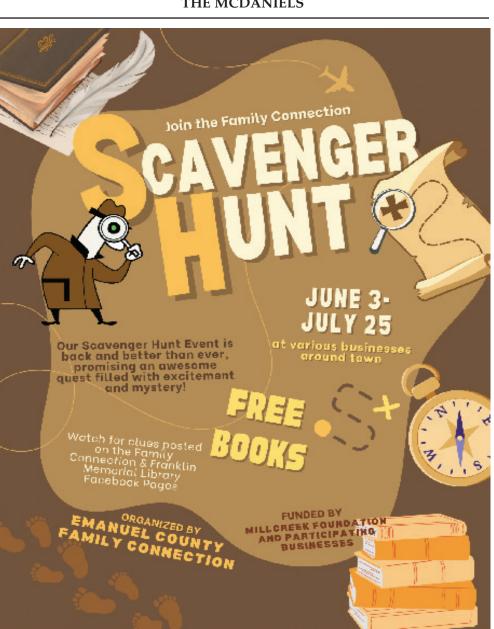
B

McDaniels home named Seedling Garden Club 'Yard of the Month'

The Seedling Garden Club proudly announces that the May 2024, Yard of the Month is the home of Darlene and Kevin McDaniel, located at Badger Road in Kite. Darlene and Kevin enjoy working in their yard, especially in the spring, to help Emanuel County stay beautiful. Nominations for Yard of the Month are welcomed for each month. The Seedling Garden Club wants to honor homeowners and organizations that personally work so diligently with pride and love to maintain their yards. Please call in your nominations to 478-494-6754 or 478-494-2752.



THE MCDANIELS



SCAVENGER HUNT FLYER

Don't miss the scavenger hunt

with the help of eight local businesses, will be sponsoring their Sum-

Connection, mer Scavenger Hunt for Franklin Memorial li-Books again this year braryFacebook pages for beginning June 3. See details of the clues start-Family Connection and





SANDRA AVANT, REGENT KAY LEWIS, VICE REGENT MARY ELIZABETH WOODS, CHAPLAIN MARTHA COBB, RECORDING SECRETARY LYNN TORRANCE, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY TONI TERWILLIGER, TREASURER JANE DURDEN, REGISTRAR CONNIE PAGE, HISTORIAN JILL BRIERCHECK AND LIBRARIAN TERESA MASON

Governor David Emanuel - Adam Brinson Chapter of DAR installs new officers

Governor David Emanuel Adam Brinson DAR Chapter held a luncheon at the Edenfield House Inn to install new officers for the 2024-2026 term. Outgoing Regent Martha Cobb expressed her appreciation to the chapter for their dedication and support during her tenure. She introduced Sandra Avant of the Governor Jared Irwin DAR Chapter of Sandersville, who conducted the installation of new officers for the 2024-2026 term.

At its May meeting, the the Governor David Emanuel - Adam Brinson Chapter DAR are Regent Kay Lewis, Vice Regent Mary Elizabeth Woods, Treasurer Jane Durden, Registrar Connie Page, Historian Jill Briercheck, Recording Secretary Lynn Torrance, Librarian Teresa Mason, Corresponding Secretary Toni Terwilliger and Chaplain Martha

After administering the oath of office, the new Regent, Kay Lewis, presented the outgoing regent with a gift and The new officers for expressed her appreciation for her service to the chapter. After the presentation, she spoke to the chapter about her focus

for the upcoming term. The Daughters of the American Revolution is an organization with a deeply rich history while also being truly relevant in today's world. More than 1,000,000 women have joined the organization since it was founded over 125 years ago. They became members to honor their heritage as well as make a difference in their communities across the country and the world.



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David Emanuel Academy holds Athletic Banquet

DEA held their Spring Athletic Awards Banquet on Tuesday, May 7. Awards presented included: Tennis - Most Outstanding Female Tennis Player, Emma Proctor and Kyli Bell; Most Outstanding Male Tennis Player, Peyton Lee and Paxton Dixon; Girls Basketball - Most Outstanding Player, Emma Proctor; Most Improved Player, Bailey McNure and Coach's Award, Kyli Bell; Boys Basketball - Most Outstanding Player, Randon Williams and Billy Martin; Most Improved Player, Braydon Lawson; Coach's Award, Peyton Lee; Golf - Athlete of the Year, Cooper Riner; Track - Female Track Athlete of the Year, Maddie Perkins; and Male Athlete of the Year, Billy Martin.



Photos by Allison Hoo GIRLS TENNIS: ADDIE BROWN, EMMA PROCTOR, KYLI BELL, MADDIE PERKINS, ELLA CLAIRE CLAXTON AND BAILEY WARE



GIRLS TRACK: KYLI BELL, EMMA PROCTOR, ELLA CLAIRE CLAXTON AND MADDIE PERKINS



SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD: EMMA PROCTOR, MADDIE PERKINS, HOPE GOODMAN, ELLA CLAIRE CLAXTON, PAYTON PEEBLES, BAILEY MCNURE, ADDALYN TERWILLIGER, ADDIE BROWN, AUBREY WILLIAMS, BILLY MARTIN, BEN FLANDERS, RANDON WILLIAMS, PEYTON LEE, CLAYTON HOOD, ETHAN FIELDS, MASON WILLIAMS, CASON SAPP, AJ EDENFIELD, BRAYDON LAWSON, TUCKER FREE AND JOHN-NATHAN MARTIN



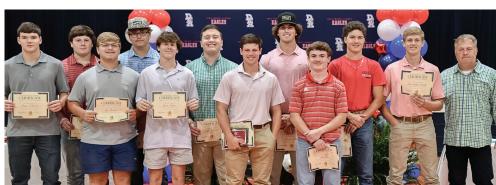
BOYS BASKETBALL: BILLY MARTIN, BRODY FLEMING, TONY SUTTON, RANDON WILLIAMS, RICHARD BRADDY, JAY CARTER, JOHN-NATHAN MARTIN, PEYTON LEE, ETHAN FIELDS, REVAN FORTNER, AJ EDENFIELD, BRAYDON LAWSON AND HEAD COACH DANIEL FLOWERS



GOLF: JOSHUA TANNER, PEYTON LEE, BRAYDON LAWSON, CLAYTON HOOD, SETH WILLIAMSON, JAY CARTER, COOPER RINER, ETHAN FIELDS, RICHARD BRADDY, PAXTON DIXON, LAYTON TERWILLIGER AND REVAN FORTNER



BOYS TENNIS: AJ EDENFIELD, REVAN FORTNER, PAXTON DIXON AND PEYTON LEE



BOYS TRACK: MASON WILLIAMS, CASON SAPP, BEN FLANDERS, JAY CARTER, REVAN FORTNER, JONAH BOATRIGHT, BILLY MARTIN, CLAYTON HOOD, TONY SUTTON, BRYAN BEASLEY AND JOHN-NATHAN MARTIN



GIRLS BASKETBALL: EMMA PROCTOR, MADDIE PERKINS, KYLI BELL, BAILEY MCNURE, PAYTON PEEBLES, BRYLIE BEASLEY, AUBREY WILLIAMS, JAYDEN SLATER AND ADDALYN TERWILLIGER



BASEBALL: JAY CARTER, BILLY MARTIN, RANDON WILLIAMS, BRODY FLEMING, PAXTON DIXON, RICHARD BRADDY, SAILOR POWELL, CLAYTON HOOD, DAVID VAUTIER, JOSHUA TANNER, JACE FARMER, LAYTON TERWILLIGER, HAYDEN POWELL, ASSISTANT COACH DANIEL FLOWERS, COOPER RINER AND TUCKER FREE



CHEER: BAILEY WARE, BAILEY MCNURE, BRYLIE BEASLEY, EMMA PROCTOR, MADDIE PERKINS, ELLA CLAIRE CLAXTON, HEAD COACH MALIA ELY, ASSISTANT COACH MISSY MILLS, ADDIE BROWN, KYLI BELL, ADDALYN TERWILLIGER, JAYDEN SLATER, PAYTON PEEBLES, BROOK FLEMING AND ABIGAIL HOPE GOODMAN



GOLF: COACH INMAN AND COOPER RINER



COACH ELY AND COACH INMAN



BILLY MARTIN, ALLISON MARTIN AND JOHN-NATHAN MARTIN

The Sunshine House Child Abuse Prevention door decorating contest winners

National Child Abuse Prevention Month recognizes the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect. In honor of helping stand with us to build hopeful futures, some of the classrooms of Emanuel County Early Head Start and Swainsboro Primary School participated in a door decorating contest for Child Abuse Prevention

was taken, and the winner was announced on April 30, 2024. All classrooms who participated received a visit from Shine, The Sunshine House mascot. Winners of the contest from Early Head Start were the classrooms of Jack Cross and Teresa Akridge and Keona Rogers and Nicole Kersey. First grade winners were Mia King and

month in April. A vote Melissa Hampton and Almeatta Durden and Melissa Hampton. Kindergarten winner was Nickole Braswell and Lakeisha Sherrod. An ice cream party was provided for the winning classrooms. The Sunshine House would like to thank SPS and EHS for participating in this fun contest!!

Presenting to all the winners is Brandi Hood from The Sunshine House.



"MISS" KEONA AND "MISS" NICOLE WITH SHINE AND HOOD



"MISS" JACK AND "MISS" TERESA WITH SHINE AND HOOD



ABBY EDENFIELD, INSTRUCTIONAL COACH WITH "MISS" MIA, SHINE AND HOOD



HOOD AND SHINE WITH "MISS" ALMEATTA, "MISS" MELISSA AND ABBY EDENFIELD



SHINE AND HOOD WITH "MISS" NICKOLE, "MISS" LAKEISHA AND ABBY EDENFIELD

EREA holds 64th Annual Convention

Emanuel Retired Educators Association (EREA) held its 64th Annual Georgia Retired Educators Association (GREA) Convention May 7-9, 2024, at the Classic Center in Athens. Elease Turner, Huddie Culbreth and Verdell Brinson, Incoming EREA President attended the meeting.



Submitted Photo

TURNER, CULBRETH AND BRINSON







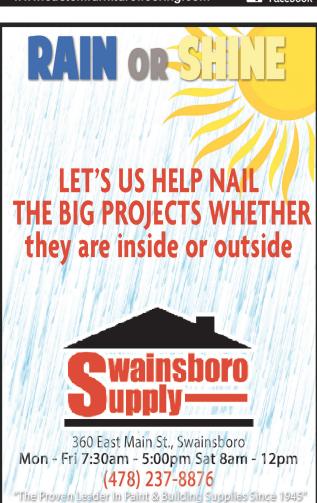
CITIZENS BANK

 ${f 4B}$ The Forest-Blade ullet www.EmanuelCountyLive.com ullet Swainsboro, Georgia ullet May 15, 2024

Class of 2024 Congratulations!

"We generate the results in life we believe we deserve." -Dr.Phil











• Drive-thru closed Saturday, May 25 •Monday, May 27, 2024



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FDIC

Alumni Awards presented during East Georgia State College Spring Commencement East Georgia State

College (EGSC) held its Spring Commencement Ceremony Friday, May 3, 2024, at 2:30 p.m. The ceremony was in the gymnasium on the EGSC Swainsboro campus. Family and friends of the graduates and community members were all invited to attend the event. During the ceremony, the Distinguished Alumni Award and the Rising Star Alumni Award were presented to outstanding EGSC alumni who have made a difference in their community.

At the beginning of the ceremony, Dr. Catherine Whelan, Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, welcomed the guests to the ceremony. She then welcomed Marlie Motes, 18-year-old daughter of Travis and Mandy Motes of Portal, to present the Reflection. Motes graduated during the ceremony with a degree in liberal arts. After graduation, she hopes to get accepted into the Dental Hygiene Program at Augusta University.

Following Reflection, Lisa Bertoch, the Vice Chair of the EGSC Alumni Association, was introduced to present the alumni awards. This year two alumni awards were presented to outstanding alumni. The Rising Star Award celebrates the achievements of alumni who have graduated in the past 10 years and who have notable recognition in their chosen field with a promise for continued success. The Distinguished Alumni Award is presented to someone who has excelled in their chosen field and has had a positive effect on the local, regional, state, or nation-

al level. The EGSC Rising Star Alumni Award was presented to Caitlan Nail. Coleman graduated from East Georgia State College with an Associate of Arts in Political Science in 2016 and from the University of Georgia with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 2018. Nail has been working with the Office of Governor Brian P. Kemp since 2021 and currently serves as Deputy Director of Policy. She previously served as House Legislative Liaison and Senior Policy Advisor in the Governor's Office where her policy focuses were in Public Safety, Human Trafficking, and Local Government. Prior to joining the Governor's Office, she worked Communications Manager and Political Director for the Georgia Republican House Caucus. Nail has deep roots in both Johnson and Emanuel County. She was born in Swainsboro and was reared by her

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Dustin Lewis, Owner 16 yrs Experience

parents in Meeks. She attended Swainsboro High School and graduated in 2014. Today, she resides in Atlanta with her husband, Gordon Nail, Jr.

The Distinguished Alumni Award was presented to Mark Williams. Williams and his wife of almost 40 years met during the first days of their freshman year in the fall of 1980 at what was then Emanuel County Junior College. Two weeks after graduation from ECJC in June of 1984, he and Andrea married. They have three daughters and eight grandchildren. All three of their daughters were also graduates of East Georgia State College. Together they continue to carry on Mark Williams Studio, a family business that began in February of 1985 from a sincere love of photography. The Forest Blade newspaper has named the studio "best photography studio" since the inception of the award. Opportunities did arise to return to William's hometown of Charlotte, North Carolina, and work with one of the most awarded studios, however, Williams had grown to love the slower paced life in South Georgia. He was grateful for the opportunity a small town like Swainsboro afforded him in starting his business. Williams has been active in the community for many years including serving as President of the Exchange Club twice and being named the "Josh Hunnicutt Exchangite of the year." He has also served on the Board of Directors for the Exchange Club and The Sunshine House.

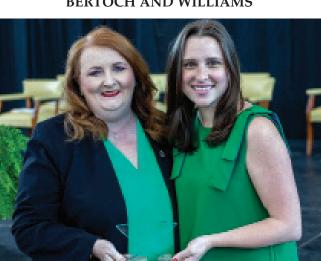
Following the alumni awards, EGSC Professor Johnna Eaton gave the commencement address. She is a Swainsboro native and an honor graduate of Swainsboro High School. She attended Georgia Southern University, majoring in Kinesiology with an emphasis in exercise science. Eaton earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from Georgia Southern University making her a "Double Eagle." Eaton is currently serving as professor of wellness at East Georgia State College. She began her career at the college as an intern while finishing graduate school at Georgia Southern University. She was hired in 2003 as the Physical Education Complex Coordinator and Fitness Director. Eaton developed the Community Fitness Program through EGSC's Continuing Education Department and has been involved in many aspects of campus development including the challenge course, the original disc golf course, and the cross-country



DR. SCHECTER AND COLTON DANIELS



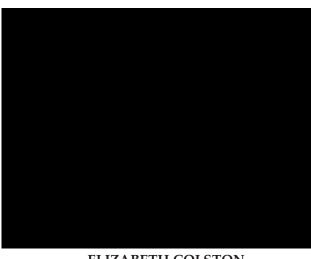
BERTOCH AND WILLIAMS



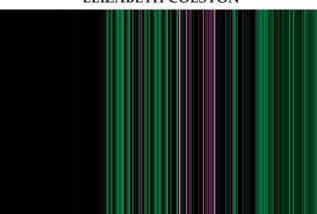
BERTOCH AND NAIL



DR. SCHECTER AND MIRIAM MARLIN



ELIZABETH COLSTON



courses. In 2007, she began teaching part-time to meet the need of the institution, and within a year, she had converted to full time faculty. Johnna has progressed through the faculty ranks and taught health, aerobics, outdoor recreation, weight training, student

success, wellness, first aid, fitness walking, and health promotion within the recreation and kinesiology pathways.

East Georgia State College would like to congratulate the class of 2024! A full list of graduates will be published

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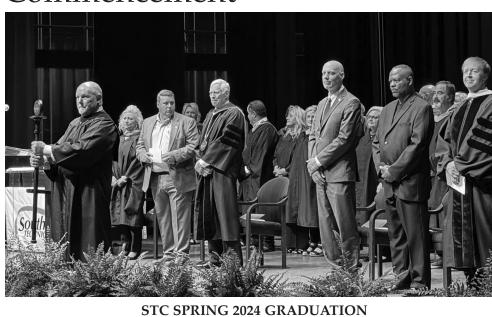
STC Spring 2024 Commencement

Southeastern Technical College (STC) held its 2024 commencement ceremonies on May 7, in Vidalia. Degree, diploma, technical certificate of credit, and high school equivalency graduates were honored. "Receiving a credential from STC is a major life milestone and significantly enhances the futures of our graduates and their families. We are proud of the work we do at STC, and we share that pride with our graduates who have worked so hard to earn their credentials. Career opportunities for our graduates have never been brighter, and they are all to be congratulated and celebrated," said President Larry Calhoun.

President Calhoun welcomed the graduating class and guests on behalf of the Southeastern Tech faculty, staff, and the Technical College System of Georgia. "Congratulations on your hard work and dedication that led you here tonight," said Mr. Calhoun. "As you begin the next chapter of your life, I encourage each of you to find your passion in what you do, love those around you, believe in a higher purpose, and work to positively impact the greater good of your communities." Of the 887 graduates from the academic year 2023-2024, 155 graduates chose to participate Tuesday evening, with some students obtaining more than one certificate. One thousand one hundred thirty-four awards were conferred.

STC Board of Directors Chair Chris Hopkins introduced Mike Hagan as the keynote speaker. Hagan is the Vice President of Operations at Memorial Health Meadow's Hospital, where he has been an integral part of the executive team since 2017. His journey began with the hospital in 2011. Mike is an alumnus of the University of Georgia with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He has extensive prior experience in operations and technology leadership in the financial services industry with both Wachovia Bank and Capital One Bank. Mike is an active member of the community and serves as the Immediate Past Chairman of the Board of the Greater Vidalia Chamber of Commerce.

Hagan's address to the graduates began with a challenge, "Opportunities abound for the one who seizes it. Job demand is still outpacing supply. Though the unemployment rate is low, the number of open positions still outweighs the number of workers. You are our future. Let me share with you some of the more important pearls of wisdom that I am confident will make a profound difference in your life. Be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger. Seek first to serve rather than to be served. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. And most importantly, love your neighbors as you love yourself. As you can see, these are easy to say but hard to do. Let me encourage you to put forth the effort. The journey of life is not just about the destination but about all the amazing experiences that are yours along the way." Hagan attributed Abraham Lincoln as having said, "Whatever you are, be a good one." He encouraged the graduates to be mindful of more doors opening as a result of hard work. "Do your best, and



it will serve you well."

The presentation of diplomas was carried out by President Calhoun, assisted by Hagan and Hopkins. Honor graduates, students enrolled in a degree or diploma program and have an overall grade point average of at least 3.75, were distinguished in gold honor cords. Members of the National Society of Leadership and Success, SkillsUSA, and Student Government Association were recognizable by stoles and pins. "Graduation day at STC is always a joyous and memorable occasion, and it holds a special place in my heart for several reasons. First and foremost, it's an opportunity to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our students as they embark on new career paths, ready to make their mark on the world. Moreover, we are privileged to hear inspiring words of wisdom from our exceptional guest speakers, who never fail to leave a lasting impact on our graduates and the entire STC community. This year's graduation ceremony was no exception, as we were honored to have Mike Hagan deliver a powerful and thought-provoking address," said Dr. Barry Dotson, Vice President for Student Affairs

STC offers more than 90 programs of study. Automotive, business, childcare, criminal justice, cybersecurity, healthcare, industrial maintenance, and machine tool technology are among the programs offered to prepare students for numerous careers. For more information on educational opportunities at Southeastern Technical College, visit *www.southeasterntech.edu* or call (912) 538-3100 or (478) 289-2200.

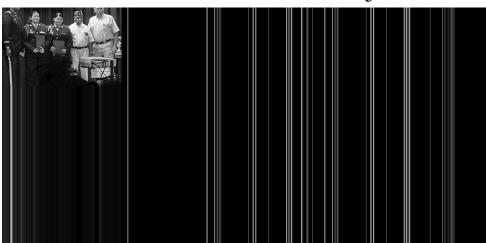
ECI Bulldog Battalion holds 31st Annual Award Ceremony

On April 25, the ECI Bulldog Battalion had its 31st Annual Award Ceremony, where they celebrated and honored all cadets who participated and contributed to the ECI JROTC Program. Starting with Cadet Sergeant Diana Blanco and Cadet Command Sergeant Major Samantha Reyes, who earned their first JROTC National Award for Scholastic Excellence, Cadet Sergeant Diana Blanco also earned Cadet

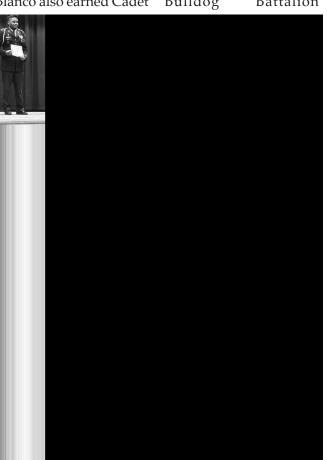
of the Year. Following behind her was Cadet Major Jayden Henry who received her second National Award from the Military Officer Association of America, Cadet Captain Erin Stanford received the Military Order of World Wars award. Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Alana Canady received her third National Award. She was also given the honor of becoming the next ECI Battalion Bulldog

Commander, where she highlighted one of SFC John Nelson's favorite quotes: "Never let anyone turn your light switch on and off."

The ECI JROTC battalion finished its program by celebrating its seniors, Asia Gibbons and Nicholas Newkirt. Congratulations to both of them as they embark on their new journeys in life. We hope they both do great things and become very successful in this world.



COLONEL ROBERT YARBROUGH, REYES, BLANCO, AMERICAN LEGIONS WILLIE BUSH AND RICHARD CLAXTON, JR.



GIBBONS AND NEWKIRT



BLANCO AND AMERICAN LEGION WILLIE BUSH



CANADY AND HENRY



HENRY AND DONALD STEPHENS



STANFORD AND DONALD STEPHENS

The City of Swainsboro is Soliciting Bids

The City of Swainsboro is soliciting bids for the audio, visual, and theatrical lighting systems for The Karrh Center Renovation Project. The project will consist of sound systems, video projection, stage lighting, stage draperies and stage rigging. Project Drawings and Specifications will be provided by The City of Swainsboro. Interested bidders should provide project RFI's 10 days before bid date.

Sealed Bids will be accepted at the Swainsboro City Hall, 101 W. Main Street, Swainsboro, Georgia until June 3, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. Bids shall be opened on June 3, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. Lasean

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 (ECSO); 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). Alissa Eileen

Ackerson, 35, arrested 5/6/24; Probation violation – felony; ECSO

Armstrong, 33, arrested 5/8/24; Probation violation - felony; SPD Cawanna Tiawan Carlyle, 45, arrested 5/8/24; Trafficking cocaine, illegal drugs, marijuana or meth/ Possession and use of drug related objects/ Purchase, possession, manufacture, distribution or sale of marijuana – felony/Possession with intent of schedule I or II controlled substance/Possession of firearm or knife during commission of or attempt to commit certain felonies; SPD Evelyn Ruth Colon, 53, arrested 5/11/24; Simple battery; SPD

Jeremy

5/7/24; Probation violation; SPD Steven Tyrone Davis, 32, arrested 5/8/24; Simple battery – family violence/Obstructing or hindering persons making emergency tele-

Maridelia

39,

Cruz,

Fuentes

arrested

phone call/Obstruction of law enforcement officers/Interference with government property/ Probation violation – felony; SPD 34, Felicia Deal, arrested 5/7/24; Hold

for Statesboro PD; SPD Zachery Adam Devaney, 28, arrested 5/7/24; Probation violation – felony; ECSO Victoria Hope Digiorgio, 32, arrested 5/13/24; Possession of

schedule I controlled substance; SPD Cevyn Mikaael-Arnez Franklin, 21, arrested 5/9/24; Failure to maintain lane/DUI less safe; GSP

Richard Earl Freckleton, 29, arrested 5/10/24; DUI refusal/ Possess of marijuana less than oz; SPD **Jacolby**

Lavonte Gibbons, 23, arrested 5/9/24; Possess of marijuana less than oz/Interference with officer/Failure to comply/Seatbelt violation/

Affixing materials that reduce or increase light transmission/reflectance of windows/ windshields; SPD Grantley George

Griffiths, 20, arrested 5/7/24; Speeding/DUI less safe/Expired registration/Seatbelt violation; ECSO Pamela Beckworth Johnson, 53, arrested 5/11/24; Trafficking cocaine, illegal drugs, marijuana or meth;

Joshua Deshawn arrested Kelly, 21, 5/12/24; DUI safe/Terroristic threats and acts to police officer; ECSO

ECSO

Tyus Tavor Kirkland, 26, arrested 5/11/24; DUI less safe/Open container/Driving while license suspended/revoked; SPD

Kimberly Ann Long,

54, arrested 5/13/24; Possession of schedule I controlled substance/ Possession and use of drug related objects;

Escotavious Triston Martin, 20, arrested 5/7/24; Driving without license/DUI less safe; ECSO

William A. Mason, 71, arrested 5/7/24; Possession and use of drug related objects/ Littering; SPD Philip Edwards

Phillips, 40, arrested

Bench warrant; ECSO Thomas Paul Reinberg, 47, arrested 5/9/24; Bench warrant - felony; ECSO Erik Manuel Rodriguez, 36, arrested 5/8/24; Driving while

license

suspended/

violation/City court bench warrant; SPD Denny Albert Scott, 51, arrested 5/13/24; Possession of schedule I controlled substance;

revoked/Possession

and use of drug related

objects/City probation

Emilee Raegan Thompson, 18, arrested 5/12/24; DUI less

safe/Open container/ Too fast for conditions; SPD Josie Elizabeth

Williams, 20, arrested 5/9/24; Interference with officer/Public drunk; SPD Tanessa Lisha Williams, 32, arrested 5/8/24; Trafficking cocaine, illegal drugs, marijuana or meth/ Possession with intent schedule I or II controlled substance/ Purchase, possession, manufacture, distribution or sale of marijuana – felony/Possession of firearm or knife during commission of or attempt to com-

Donald Dewayne Williford, 23, arrested 5/8/24; Possession of meth; ECSO

mit certain felonies/

Possession and use of

drug related objects;

Adam Lee Woods. 25, arrested 5/11/24; Aggravated assault;

ed his emergency lights

and ran the plate to find

it had suspended reg-

istration and the own-

er's license are revoked.

Swainsboro Police Reports

with Officers thePoliceSwainsboro Department (SPD) report-

May 3

Officers were made aware of an intoxicated person attempting to buy alcohol at Enmarket. Officers observed offender fall over multiple times and was transported to EmCo Jail.

Officers responded to WalMart to take a report from complainant who stated offender tried to run her over in the parking lot but was arrested for false report of a crime due to officers watching video footage.

Officer spoke with complainant who stated she hit a pothole and it busted her tire.

Officer met with complainant who stated there was damage to her

Officer responded to Enmarket in reference to a theft.

Officer was dispatched to Crump St. in refer-

ence to complainant's neighbor's dog attacking another dog.

Officer was dispatched to Modoc Rd. in reference to a male walking in the roadway stumbling and appeared to under the influence.

Officer responded to

Aye Way in reference to loud music after hours. Officer was dispatched

to Calhoun St. in refer-

ence to a vehicle hitting a pothole, causing disabling damage to the vehicle. Officer responded to

Crump ST. in reference to a welfare check. Officer was dispatched

to W. Pine St. in reference to a phone being

Officer met with complainant who stated a dog bit her. May 5

Officer responded to Electric Dr. in reference to a male subject refusing to leave a party and was trying to hit a female with his vehicle. Officers were dispatched to Murphy's in reference to a criminal trespass report of an unwanted person at the location.

Officer's tag reader alerted that a vehicle did not have valid insurance and an expired tag, at which time he initiated a traffic stop.

Officer was dispatched to Liberty St. in reference to complainant stating offender was in her yard and wasn't supposed to

May 6

Officer responded to Harvey's in reference to a vehicle being hit by another vehicle.

Officer was dispatched to Howard St. in reference to a report of stolen property.

Officer responded to erence to a disturbance.

May 7

Officer observed offender litter, at which time he initiated a traf-

fic stop. The driver was arrested for possession of drug related objects.

Officer responded to Roger Shaw St. in reference to a hit and run.

May 8

Officers observed an unfamiliar vehicle parked at a residence known as a place to buy illegal drugs. The vehicle left the location and was stopped by another officer and a quantity of crack cocaine was locat-

Officers responded to E. Pine St. in reference to a theft.

Officer responded to Oaklawn Dr. in reference to complainant stating offender cutting the pad lock on a water meter to turn it b ack on.

Officer met with complainant who advised an unknown individual N. Anderson Dr. in ref-damaged the trunk of his vehicle.

Officer ran the tag on a vehicle to find the owner had suspended license, at which time he

initiated a traffic stop. A firearm, crack pipe and grinder were collected and offender was transported to EmCo Jail.

dis-

Officer was

patched to Lucky St. in reference to complainant stating someone entered her brother's residence through a window and stole a stove and offender went out the back door with it.

to Roadway Inn in reference to a stolen wallet. Officers were dispatched to Southern Laundry for damage to

Officer was dispatched

property. Officer responded to N. Green St. in reference to battery. Offender was transported to EmCo Jail.

May 9

Officers were dispatched to W. Main St. in reference to items being stolen.

Officers noticed a vehicle parked in the fire lane at Harvey's, at which time he activat-

erty was damaged from

Deputy was called

to ECSO due to com-

plainant needing a

report regarding his

landlord. C/p explained

his landlord was taking

control of his water,

Offender stated she was waiting on her husband to get off work. Officer responded to Enmarket in reference to a shoplifting.

Officer responded to Moreland Ave. in reference to an unwanted

person. Officers were

patched to S. Main St. in reference to an active domestic occurring. Officer observed a female beating her fists and kicking on the door and ordered her to stop and step away. Offender admitted she had been drinking and her boyfriend locked her out. Officer spoke with the victim who advised offender was intoxicated and accusing him of other females so he locker her out. Offender was transported to EmCo

Sheriff's Reports.

Emanuel County Sheriff's Office...

Victim stated items

May 5

were stolen from the backseat of his truck on Womack St.

May 6

Complainant stated

According to the his wife's tag was lost in the mail.

May 7

Complainant works at Community Hospice in Vidalia and stated victim/patient called and said he needed Fentanyl patches. C/p stated they called in five patches to

Metter Pharmacy then called the pharmacy and was told victim's daughter picked them up. C/p sent a nurse to check on victim who had two patches on but said they were old and the nurse didn't see any other patches. Suspect stated she never went to the pharmacy to pick up

Deputy met with complainant who stated offender took a stainless-steel fish cooker and diesel battery. May 8

the patches.

Deputy met with complainant who stated his company was contacted by offender for the installation of a pool kit. C/p stated offender paid him with a check for the labor/installation and it was returned for NSF. C/p advised this is the second time this has happened, but offender paid the amount he owed the first time. C/p stated offender agreed to settle the current debt by the end of April but has

failed to do so. C/p was

referred to Magistrate

May 9

Victim filed a report of financial account fraud for \$8,000.

May 10

Deputies responded be offenders.

Deputies responded to Lewis Rd. in reference to a domestic dispute. Complainant and victim were actively arguing and separated and c/p advised victim left two days prior and she was out cheating and c/p threw her clothes and belongings in the yard. Victim advised they have been living together for a few months and she has a key to the residence. C/p then stated he changed the locks and victim forced her way inside. Victim was upset

and was told multiple

times to stop arguing

with c/p. Victim continued to be irate and

the rain.

advised she owned all furniture inside and that her children's prop-

to Dellwood Main ST. in reference to stolen property. Complainant stated his security cameras were turned and the brackets had need changed and discovered tools missing from inside his residence. C/p advised he believes his renters may

power, internet and lights, and c/p has been trying to get mail at his residence but has been denied due to the conditions of the home. C/p also stated offender has been entering the home and taking things from boxes that were taped and sealed. May 11

Deputies responded to a motor vehicle wreck on Hwy 23 South. While enroute, 911 informed the driver threatened a TCPD officer on scene. Deputy spoke with the driver who had slurred speech and stumbled while walking so a PBT was performed. Offender was arrested for DUI and transported to EmCo Jail.

May 12

Deputy made con-

tact with SPD and met with four parties in reference to an incident that occurred on Oak Grove Church Rd. Three offenders took \$500 cash from victim's wallet and was given to witness for the purpose of bonding someone out of jail. Deputy received conflicting stories from both sides. Upon further investigation, victim stated the incident occurred appx. one hour prior to the report and upon discovering the money that was missing, she contacted one offender about the money and was told to go to her residence and it would be returned. Victim stated she went to the residence and was confronted and assaulted by two offenders and threatened with a knife by offender she spoke

with prior to going over

there. Victim did show

signs of physical abuse.

It was further stated

that witness has video

of the altercation from

a home security system.



4-H Poultry Judging Team competes at area contest

Nine 4-H'ers from Emanuel County tested their poultry knowledge on April 16, 2024, at the Area 4-H Poultry Judging Competition held in Lyons. All contestants judged two classes of live birds for egg production and gave oral reasons for their selections on one class. In addition, they judged carcasses and ready to cook products for meat quality, candled eggs to determine freshness and grade, and judged eggs for exterior and broken-out quality.

The Senior team (9th-12th grades) received third place in the 14-county competition. Team members were Nataleigh Belcher, Lawrence, Spencer Lauren Sapp, and Sam Williams. The Junior team (4th-8th grades) made up of Nathaniel Harry, Sam Lawrence, Loralee Scarboro, Benton Harry, and Singletary Lyndon placed 8th out of 14 teams. Additionally, 4-H'ers were recognized for their individual scores. Lauren Sapp was the seventh highest individual score out of 45 senior competitors.

Team members prepared for the event by attending classes and workshops instructed by Jakyn Tyson, Emanuel County 4-H Agent. Crider Foods



THE EMANUEL COUNTY 4-H POULTRY JUDGING TEAM (LEFT TO RIGHT): SPENCER LAWRENCE, SAM WILLIAMS, LORALEE SCARBORO, SAM LAWRENCE, NATHANIEL HARRY, LAUREN SAPP, NATALEIGH BELCHER, LAUREN SAPP, AND LYNDON SINGLETARY

generously served as the donor for the Emanuel County 4-H Poultry Judging Team. This evaluation competition is a major event for the Georgia 4-H Poultry Program, a culmination of many months, sometimes years, of hard work. This event provides the opportunity for youth to learn and understand the standards used in poultry and egg production. In addition, they learn the importance of marketing to the public and how to apply those learned skills in a realistic decision-making process. This program is dedicated to teaching Georgia youth animal husbandry as well as life skills such as critical



SPENCER LAWRENCE ASSESSES THE QUALITY OF READY-TO-COOK POULTRY

nication skills.

For more information on Emanuel County 4-H and how you can get in Swainsboro.

thinking skills, team- involved as a student or volunteer, contact them at (478) 237-1226 or visit the office located at 129 North Anderson Drive

work and oral commu-

Legals

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND GEORGIA, **CREDITORS EMANUEL COUNTY**

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

This 17th day of April, 2024. Peggy E. Key, Executrix of the Estate of W. Denny Key, decedent

Jerry N. Cadle, P.C. P.O. Box 68 Swainsboro, GA 30401

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND **CREDITORS**

GEORGIA, **EMANUEL COUNTY**

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

This 17th day of April, 2024. Tonya K. Moorman, Executrix of the Estate of Herbert Moorman, decedent Jerry N. Cadle, P.C.

PO Box 68 Swainsboro, GA 30401

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY

OF EMANUEL IN RE: ESTATE OF STEVEN **NEIL MUNS, DECEASED.**

All creditors of the estate of

Steven Neil Muns, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to Richard M. McNeely, attorney for Patricia Muns, Administrator of the Steven Neil Muns Estate, at P. O. Box 767. Swainsboro. Georgia 30401, according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment of any indebtedness due the

estate. This 16th day of April, 2024. RICHARD M. MCNEELY, Attorney for Patricia Muns, Administrator of the Steven **Neil Muns Estate** Richard M. McNeely, P.C. P. O. Box 767 Swainsboro, Georgia 30401

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL

(478) 237-4225

IN RE: ESTATE OF BARBARA ROWLAND, DECEASED. All creditors of the estate of Barbara Rowland, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to Richard M.

McNeely, attorney for Helen Bell, Executor of the Barbara Rowland Estate, at P. O. Box 767, Swainsboro, Georgia 30401, according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment of any indebtedness due the estate. This 16th day of April, 2024. RICHARD M. MCNEELY, Attorney for Helen Bell,

Executor of the Barbara **Rowland Estate** Richard M. McNeely, P.C. P O Box 767 Swainsboro, Georgia 30401

(478) 237-4225

CREDITORS

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND

GEORGIA.

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

payment. This 1st day of May, 2024. Ashley Yvonne P. Hood, Executrix of the Estate of Ruth Yvonne Price, decedent Jerry N. Cadle, P.C. P.O. Box 68

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

IN RE: A.O.P.E CIVIL ACTION NO.23-MO-03

Swainsboro, GA 30401

a female child, born January 2016. **NOTICE OF SUMMONS**

TO: Krista Marie Eustace, biological mother of a minor child born in 2016 at Northern Hospital of Surry County, Mount Airy,

You are hereby notified that the above-styled action has been brought by James and Glenda Sutton seeking to terminate your parental rights and adopt the aforementioned minor child; that said action has been filed in the Superior Court of Emanuel County, Georgia; and that by operation of law, as set out in O.C.G.A. § 19-8-10(c)(1), you are hereby notified that you may obtain a copy of the petition from the Clerk of Superior Court of Emanuel County and may file filed with the Court on or before with the clerk of said court, and serve upon petitioner's attorney, Courtney Joiner Anderson, whose mailing address is P.O. Box 1488, Lyons, GA, 30436, an answer to the petition at any time prior to the Final Hearing. You are hereby commanded

and required to appear before

this court on the 12th day of June

2024, at the Emanuel County

Courthouse in Swainsboro, GA,

at 10:00 a.m. and show cause.

if any, you have, why the relief requested in the petition should not be granted.

If you fail to appear, the court can terminate your parental rights in vour absence and allow the minor child to be adopted.

If the court at the trial finds that the facts set out in the petition for adoption are true and that termination of your rights will serve the best interests of your child. the court can enter a judgment ending your rights to your child. If the judge grants the adoption, you will no longer have any rights to your child. This means that you will not have the right to visit, contact, or have custody of your child or make any decisions affecting your child or your

child's earnings or property. A copy of this petition may be obtained at no charge from the Office of the Clerk of Court between the hours of 8:30 am and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. If you have any questions concerning this notice, you may call the Clerk's office. The telephone number is (478) 237-

8911. This 2nd day of May, 2024. Courtney Joiner Anderson, Attorney for Petitioner courtney@cjoinerandersonlaw.

P.O. Box 1488 Lyons, GA 30436 IN THE PROBATE COURT OF

GEORGIA IN RE: ESTATE OF **GEORGE** BOYD. DECEASED **ESTATE NO. 24E0056** PETITION FOR LETTERS OF **ADMINISTRATION NOTICE**

TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

and to whom it may concern:

EMANUEL COUNTY STATE OF

TRISTEN BOYD has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of GEORGE H. BOYD 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

JUNE 3, 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

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL IN RE: ESTATE OF RAY MOYE

HUTCHESON, DECEASED. All creditors of the estate of Ray Moye Hutcheson, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to Richard M. McNeely, attorney for Shelby J. Hutcheson, Executor of the Ray Moye Hutcheson Estate, at P.O. Box 767, Swainsboro, Georgia 30401, according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment of any indebtedness due the estate.

This 6th day of May, 2024. RICHARD M. MCNEELY. Attorney for Shelby Hutcheson Executor of the Ray Moye **Hutcheson Estate** Richard M. McNeely, P.C. P. O. Box 767

Swainsboro, Georgia 30401 (478) 237-4225

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND GEORGIA, CREDITORS **EMANUEL COUNTY**

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

This 7th day of May, 2024. Martha s. Parrish, Administrator of the Estate of Tom Parrish, decedent Jerry N. Cadle, P.C. P.O. Box 68 Swainsboro, GA 30401

NOTICE 0 F INCORPORATION Notice is given that articles of incorporation which incorporate Middle Circuit Blue Fund Foundation. Inc. have been delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code. The initial registered office of the corporation is located at 114 S. Jefferson Street Swainsboro, GA 30401 and its initial registered agent at such address John A Fitzner III.

Classifieds

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

Call Melva at 478-237-9971 to help sell your unwanted items!

Homes for sale or rent • Apartments for rent • Land for sale • Yard and estate sales • Miscellaneous for sale • Pets/animals • Help wanted • Services offered

ESTATE TAG SALE

pleased to have the opportunity to liquidate the and Wiley. As treasured citizens of this small community, this couple resided in the historical home of Wiley's grandparents. Many treasures of the past lives of the Evans family as in the home. The family has now decided to sell much of what remains. We, as estate liquidators, have the opportunity to sell family treasures that have stood the test of time that remain in the home. If Animal you would enjoy a glimpse We have lots of into the past please come family dogs as by and purchase items from this wonderful old homeplace that sits in the middle of Bartow, Georgia. For sell will be original furentry hall tree, camelback sofa, many occasional tables, marble topped tables, piano with needle point covered bench, lamps, secretary, sideboards, original art, Old Paris glassware, needlepoint art, tilt-topped table, heirloom rugs, magnificent tiger oak bed, matching dresser and chest, upholstered chairs room table and needlepoint covered chairs, china cabinet, corner china cabinet, tea cart, hand painted china, beautiful, large picture frames, large brass center piece, books, large ceramic frog collection, ornamental glassware of all kinds, rockers, Lazy boy chair, enamelware, crystal including a large amount of Fostoria and cutglass, pottery, many kitchen items, old school desks, wicker, trunks, wooden swing

MISC NOTICES

WE DO not knowingly Thursday, May 23-Sunday, accept advertisements that May 26, from 9am to 5pm discriminate, or intend to each day at the home of the discriminate, on any illegal late Wiley Clark Evans III basis, nor do we knowingly and Elaine Brinson Evans accept employment adver-7341 Church Street, Bar- tisements that are not botow. We are extremely na-fide job offers. All real estate advertisements are subject to the Fair Housing Act. We do not accept adverancestral home of Elaine tising 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 well as the Brinson family can do the job for you in min-(Elaine's family) remain utes with its fax machine. We can also receive copies of documents. For more information come by our office on West Moring Street.

PETS/ANIMALS FOR FREE/MISSING

shelter great guard dogs. The shelter is always in need of donations of canned and bagged dog food. We appreciate any every and niture to the home such as If you are missing a dog or have found a dog, please call the shelter at 478-237-4040 to report it. Visit us on Facebook at www. facebook.com/Emanuel CountyShelter or visit our visitor website, www.petstablished. com/organization/1760/, view our adoptable dogs. Adoption fee is \$35. This goes to pay for part of the spaying/neutering cost. The other \$30 must be paid to the vet, by the owner after and sofas, old sheet music, it has been spayed or neusilver, wonderful linens, tered. Please call the shelter exercise machine, dining for details. Come visit our adoptable dogs at 343 Market St. in Swainsboro. We are open Monday through Friday, 8-4, and Saturday, 8-12.

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 ncludes 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

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set, and so-o much more.

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Now hiring:

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OAK GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST

629 Oak Grove Church Rd.,

Alfred Cason, Min.



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

<u>BAPTIST</u> ADRIAN BAPTIST

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

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

BAPTIST REST Twin City

Elder Mike Gray

231 Harmon Rd., 478-237-5387

BETHEL PRIMITIVE BAPTIST

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BLUNDALE BAPTIST

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

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

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DELLWOOD BAPTIST Hwy. 1 North

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EMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST

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Casey Shaw, Min.

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Thomas Simmons, Min.

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GREATER ST. JAMES MISSIONARY BAPTIST

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HARVESTER BAPTIST MISSION

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 Ervin Stapleton, Min.

HEBRON PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Hebron Road, Garfield Will Martin, Pastor

HILLCREST BAPTIST

990 Hwy. 1 North, 478-237-6477 Josh Black, Pastor

HINES BAPTIST

Old Savanah Rd., Midville

KITE FIRST BAPTIST

Hwy. 57, Kite, 478-469-5241 Burton Dixon, Min.

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First Methodist Church of Swainsboro 319 W. Main Street 237-7535 Davis Unkles

MORNINGSIDE BAPTIST Rt. 1, Soperton

Victor W. Fordham, Jr, Min.

MOUNT GILEAD MBC OF CANOOCHEE

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

MOUNT OLIVET BAPTIST

1593 Mt. Olivet Church Rd., Garfield J. Randy Graham, Min., 478-763-2411

MOUNT SHADY BAPTIST

Hwy 57 E., Mount Shady Rd., 912-682-1787 Rusty Moore, Min.

MOUNT ZION PRIMITIVE BAPTIST

106 Mt. Zion Church Rd., Elder Steve McNure, Min.

NEW HOPE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST

Lexsy

NORRISTOWN BAPTIST

731 Hwy. 221 South, Norristown Adam Butler, Min.

NUNEZ BAPTIST Hwy. 297, Nunez

Jim Harrell, Min., 912-562-3249

OAK CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Oak Chapel Rd., Kite Bro. Tommy Henry, pastor 478-494-1488

OAK GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST

629 Oak Grove Church Rd., Alfred Cason, Min.

OHOOPEE GROVE BAPTIST

Hwy. 297, Nunez Allan Moss, Sr., Min., 912-562-3943

OLNEY PRIMITIVE BAPTIST

202 Thomson St., Oak Park W.H. (Bill) Durrence, Min.

PENDLETON SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST

649 Pendleton Springs Rd., Vidalia Mark Sweat, Min., 912-578-5606

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Michael Thomas, Min.

ROUNTREE CHAPEL

722 North Railroad Ave., Twin City

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

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SAINT GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST

Saint Galilee Church Rd., Summertown Michael Thomas, Min.

SAINT PHILIP BAPTIST

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

478-237-2265



1473 Wes Lawson Rd., Kite

Elder Sam Adkins, Min., 478-469-3084

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50 Mixon Rd., 478-237-9920

336 Lambs Bridge Rd., 478-237-6057 Chad Kennison, Min.

SPRING HILL INDEPENDENT BAPTIST 901 Lambs Bridge Rd., 478-237-5269

Bert Flanders, Min. SPRINGFIELD MISSIONARY BAPTIST

Hwy. 86, Oak Park Willie Jackson, Jr. Min.

STILLMORE MISSIONARY BAPTIST 203 E. 3rd Ave., Stillmore George E. Archer, Jr. Min., 912-562-3344

SUMMERTOWN BAPTIST

Church St., Summertown John Durden, Min.

TRINITY MISSIONARY BAPTIST 311 McLendon St., 478-237-2038

Dr. Charles Wiggins, Jr., Min.

TWIN CITY FIRST BAPTIST 22 Railroad St., 478-763-2654

Stewart Moody, Min.

UNION CHAPEL BAPTIST Garfield, 478-763-3755

UNITED FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST 114 NE Railroad Ave, Oak Park Larry Perkins, Min.

UNITED PRIMITIVE BAPTIST

242 W. Main St., 229-424-6486 Elder Paul Thomas, Min.

WILLOW SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST 1950 Hwy. 80 East., 478-237-5004

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928 West Main St., 478-237-6783 Fr. Christopher Orlega

CHRISTIAN

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653 Turner Dr., 941-960-4747 Darnell Brown, Min.

CHURCH OF GOD BEACON OF HOPE CHURCH OF GOD

560 East Pine St., 478-237-8509 John Hancock, III, Min.

BLACKVILLE CHURCH OF GOD

12106 Hwy. 15 S., Adrian, 912-529-4959 Kip Boswell, Min.

EASTWOOD CHURCH OF GOD 512 Thigpen Dr., 478-237-5522 Andrew Flowers, Min.

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180 GA Hwy. 86 E., Lyons 912-578-5901

478-289-9008

Swainsboro



ARLIE STEVENS, FNP-BC NURSE PRACTITIONER (478)307-0880 355 S. COLEMAN ST. SWAINSBORO, GA



yeoassoc@bellsouth.net Hours: Monday - Friday 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.





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sist the devil, and he

will flee from you.

Draw near to God and

he will draw near to

Psalm 73:28 says, "It

is good for me to draw

near to God. I have put

my trust in the Lord

God. " So today, put

your trust in God and

get closer to him. The storms in life are sure

to come but remember

that God is our anchor.

He holds us secure. So

for your security, get

closer to God and ge

will get closer to you.

vou.



colleytractor@yahoo.com While those questions may not seem important now, at some point in your life you wil need help beyond Office: 478-469-3346 478-469-3612 Fax: 478-469-3137 P.O. Box 220 8450 Pinetucky Road Kite, Georgia 31049 your control. You will need help to reason, understand and nav-

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Get Closer

lufe storms ahead.

As life is continually

changing, how close

are you to God? Who

is your closest source

ofsupport? Who do

you trust today with

every aspect of your

igate your life. Get

prepared or equipped

now to weather the

life?

While our lives were in shambles, God sent his son, Jesus to rescue us. So today I am suggesting that you draw near to God. He is the provider of everything we will ever need. For Philippians 4:7 reminds us, " and my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory ". That is why this is my

James 4:7-8 tells us to," Submit yourselves therefore to God. Re-

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Annual Honors Night Ceremony held at East Georgia State College

On Thursday, April 18, East Georgia State College (EGSC) hosted their Annual Honors Night Ceremony in the Luck F. Gambrell Building Auditorium. Faculty, staff, students, and their families were invited to attend the celebration and recognize the hard work of EGSC students.

Dr. David Schecter, president of EGSC, welcomed the award winners and their families to campus followed by Dr. Catherine Whelan, Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, who began recognizing students.

The first student recognized was Anthony De Leon-Lopez. He was awarded the University System of Georgia Outstanding Scholar Award.

The next set of awards were the Emily Pestana-Mason Memorial Poetry Contest Award winners. Billy Martin received first place, Talia Abdul-Rahim was awarded second place, and Alex McDonald received third place in the competition.

The Outstanding Graduate Awards were presented to students who graduated in Fall of 2023 or who are graduating in May who excelled in their subject area of study. The following students received the awards:

- Associate of Arts in Elementary Education: Adalee Conway
- Associate of Arts in

Social Sciences: Jeslyn Alora Jackson Olson

- Associate of Arts Liberal Arts - General Track: Salma Cueva Santana & Brandon Laughlin
- Associate Science in Business Administration: Anthony De Leon-Lopez
- Associate of Science in Natural Sciences: Samantha Moore
- Associate of Arts Liberal Arts – Computer Ministries Award: Evan Science Track: Hannah
- Associate Arts Liberal Arts -Nursing Track: Karmen Thompson

The Subject Area Awards were presented to students for their Award: Brian Priester performance in the subject area. The recipients were selected by faculty members. The following awards were presented:

- Art Award: William **Bennett**
- Biology Award: Samantha Moore
- Business Administration Award: Anthony De Leon-Lopez
- Chemistry Award: Samantha Moore
- Criminal Justice Lane Award: Shannon Dayton Elementary
- Award: Education Hannah Rickerson
- English Award: Jessiel Dart and Daniella
- History Award: Aiden Purvis
- Mathematics Award:
- Garrett Peebles • Physics Award:
- D'Mya Griffin • Political Science
- Award: Raegan Cupp

Ray Medical Clinic

The Leadership and Service in Campus

Activities Awards were presented to students who are involved on campus and have a passion for serving others. The following Leadership and Service Awards were presented:

- African American Male Initiative (AAMI) Award: Jalen Gallman
- Baptist Collegiate Rogers
- The Book Club
- Award: Brian Priester • Circle K Club Award:
- Ashlie Lacue • Hoopee Bird Award: Levi Carpenter
- **STEMM** Club
- Student Government Association Award:
- Unity Club Award: Akcire Robertson

Kayla Stone

The Student Athletics Awards were presented to students who excelled on the field or court and also in the classroom. The following student athletes received awards for their performance:

- Baseball: Robert
- Men's Basketball: Ialen Gallman
- Softball: Jayda
- Treaster • Women's Basketball:
- Aniyah Jones

The following students were inducted in Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society: Christina Castro, Shannon Dayton, Anthony De Leon-Lopez, Grace Gordon, Skylar Herman, Phoenix Hill, Samantha Moore, Sociology Award: Peyton Rich, and Kayla



ANNUAL DEAN'S LIST STUDENTS

The Annual President's List and Dean's List recipients were recognized on stage and given a certificate for their achievement. The following students were presented with Annual President's List certificates: Ethan Breslin, Salma Cueva

Stone.

Santana, Colton Daniels, Anthony De Leon-Lopez, Tanner Elizondo, Ashton Kehren, Sydney Land, and Brandon Laughlin. The following students were named on

the Annual Dean's List: Rebecca Akridge, Joseph Amaya, William Arnold, Ke'Vion Badie, Micahlan Boney, Logan Brazell, Edie Bryant, Coby Cardell, Jason Carter, Christina Castro, Ansley College, Mikiyah Coney, Adalee Conway, Matthew Corbett, Caroline Cox, Jasmyn Hall, Gary Handsom,



PRESIDENT SCHECTER AND LEON-LOPEZ

Gianie Hernandez, Kenisha Johnson, Jameson Karp, Robert Lane, Yasmine Leon, Mallory Lewis, Taneshia Lewis, Brian Long, Tanslei Lupton, Gabriel Majors, Kieran Manville, Tanaya Mathis, Karle McDonald, Abigail McKelvain, Constance Mincey, Cade Milligan, Britney Nguyen, Jeslyn Olson, Tmyra Peterson,

McKinley Ravenell, Ryan Rogers, Evan Sabol, Thomas Saxon, Kayla Stone, Karmen Thompson, Joshua Tillman, and Mary Grace Winfrey.

East Georgia State College would like to congratulate all award recipients on their hard work and dedication to their education!



VETERANS AT THE FOUNTAIN

Veterans meet at The Cakery The Veterans at the Georgia State College stu- Commander Steve Burke,

on the Square Monday, May 13, at 9:15 a.m. With Chair John Tapley presiding, they had 43 in attendance. Breakfast was served by the Cakery, consisting of sausage biscuits, donuts, cookies, cranberry juice, grape juice, orange juice and coffee. The program for

Library held their week- dent, Jayson Brown, who President of the Wiregrass ly meeting at The Cakery entertained with his saxo- Chapter Georgia Society phone. Chair Johnny then talked about the upcoming 1st Annual Veterans Cup Golf Tournament set for Saturday, May 18, starting at 6:30 a.m. with breakfast at the Swainsboro Country Club and then tee time at all 18 holes will be started at 8 a.m. by a six-pounder

Sons of the American Revolution. Chair John talked about the Veterans Appreciation Day on Memorial Day, May 27, starting with a breakfast at the Emanuel County Medical Center at 9 a.m. and a ceremony at the Veterans and 1st Responders Memorial



James L. Ray, M.D.



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