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VOLUME 165, NO.50 Swainsboro, Georgia • December 11, 2024 ONE DOLLAR



VETERANS AND GUESTS AT THE DOWNTOWN FOUNTAIN

A Pledge to honor

This Saturday, December 14, marks a special day for the "Veterans at the Library" organization here in Swainsboro. On this day, the group will once again participate in the placing of Christmas wreaths on the grave markers of Emanuel County veterans from nearly every conflict that this country has witnessed. Primarily, that is what makes this day special. But a look back to 2021 provides another reason that Saturday's observance is notable. Three years ago, (Continued on page 2A)



ONE MOORE - 1ST PLACE

One Moore Tree Service wins Christmas Parade Float Contest

by MELISSA KIRBY, DDA DIRECTOR

The highly anticipated visit from Santa occurred on December 7 and was a highlight of the 17th Annual Downtown Swainsboro Christmas Parade. The community came together to create a stunning lighted parade that attracted people from nearby areas to our charming downtown. After the parade, Santa took time to hear the children's Christmas wishes, while parents captured precious moments with photos of their little ones. This year's festivities (Continued on page 2A)



CHU LIN, NICK ROBERTSON, KEN WARNOCK, MICHAEL BRIGHT, JUDY BRIGHT, CINDY GRAY, MELISSA KIRBY AND BRITTANY WILLIAMS

Main Street Market voted 'Best Antique Store' four years in a row

Main Street Market Antique Mall was recently voted 'Best Antique Store' in the State of Georgia by The Georgia Business Journal for the 4th year straight. Main Street Market has over 60 dealer booths filled with Antiques, Collectibles, Furniture, Home De-

cor, Arts & Crafts and Unique Gifts. MSM is also home of the Music Memories Museum that showcases authentic items once owned by over 250 of the biggest names in the music industry. It is the largest private collection of its kind in the US. Their guest book has been signed by all 50 states and over 20 countries. They have 150- 200 new visitors sign their guest book every month. They are located downtown Swainsboro, GA. 215 West Main St. Open 10am-5pm Monday-Saturday. More info at [facebook/mainstreetmarket-swainsboro](https://facebook.com/mainstreetmarket-swainsboro)

Hello to Chief Mims

On Monday of last week, the official transfer of leadership for the City of Swainsboro Fire Department took place with the swearing in of Chief Alima Mims. The new department head had earlier assumed duties on September 11, 2024, and on Monday of this week, he sat down with the Forest Blade for a "get to know you" conversation. The new Chief was quick to acknowledge the warm welcome he had received since arriving in Swainsboro and the close-knit spirit of the community here. The journey that (Continued on page 2A)



CHIEF MIMS

Get ready to shine: The Sunshine House CAC Give-A-Thon is here!

Mark your calendars and set your reminders because The Sunshine House CAC Give-A-Thon is coming to town! This annual fundraiser is set to light up your screens on Facebook Live on Thursday, December 12, at 7 p.m., and we need YOU to help make it a smashing success!

SIMPLY SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA TO GIVE!

Call on December 12th from 7 P.M. - 9 P.M. or scan the QR Codes to donate prior to the 12th or evening of the event.

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Sunshine House CAC GIVE-A-THON

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12TH • 7PM

FLYER

What's the buzz all about? The Give-A-Thon is our biggest event of the year, bringing together our incredible community to support The Sunshine House CAC and the vital work we do for children and families in need. We're calling on everyone to join in, donate, and challenge their friends and family to do the same.

Expect an evening filled with heartwarming stories, special performances, and lots of holiday cheer. It's the perfect way to get into the festive spirit while making a real difference. Every dollar you donate goes directly to helping those in need, so let's come together and show what our community is made of!

Don't miss out on this chance to spread joy and make a positive impact. Tune in, donate generously, and let's make this the brightest Give-A-Thon yet! See you there!

County building plan progresses

The first project of the Emanuel County Commissioner's current building program will soon wrap up and prepare for its unveiling. It's not clear if the impressive and imposing building situated right next door to the post office has been named yet, but generically and functionally, it will deal with the taxing operations of the county. Along with the office of the Tax Commissioner, it will also house the Board of Elections and Board of Accessors and Appeals Board. This building will also be the place you visit for your car tags and titles, as well as paying county property taxes. In short, this new building will handle all the government activities that are now handled in the Mitchell Building on the corner of Main and Main downtown, it will

just be much easier to get to. It will also serve as the location for voting in Swainsboro. Perhaps the most anticipated feature by the employees who will work there is the ample designated storage area that will be available for various operations, but without a doubt, the most anticipated feature for customers who visit the building will be the drive-through service window and the large parking areas surrounding the building. County Administrator Guy Singletary told *The Forest-Blade* he is expecting a move-in date in mid-February. Across town, another facilities project is now underway. The renovation of the John C. Coleman building has begun with removal of interior walls and spaces and the demolition (Continued on page 2A)

What's Inside...

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- Crime Blotter.....5B
- Classified Listings.....7B
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A Pledge to...

(From front page) at the first wreath laying ceremony, the group supported the effort by placing 18 wreaths. On this Saturday, three years later, the group will place 2,196 wreaths on veterans' graves throughout Emanuel County. That is a remarkable story of dedication and perseverance. In 2021, the group was little more than a casual Monday morning coffee club with a customary attendance of around a dozen retired veterans. Today, the normal attendance on a Monday morning at the Franklin Memorial Library is between 40 to 50 former men and women service-members. Every veteran of the United States military is welcome to attend. In a time when participation in civic clubs, service groups and even church congregations is down, this organi-

zation continues to thrive. In the past three years, this group has initiated its own Golf Tournament, hosted memorials for fallen active-duty military, honored a 100-year-old D Day veteran, held 911 memorial ceremonies, adopted and greatly improved a City Park, and spearheaded the construction of a 40-foot flagpole to fly Old Glory high above Harmon Park. In the Fall of this year, the group's self-styled and dedicated leader, John Tapley, was even featured on an area television program. You might wonder how a group with no funding, no public relations budget, no Facebook presence and no special interest political power does what they have done. Well, full disclosure, they do get treated to a great breakfast every Monday, but it is much stronger than

that. What drives these seasoned soldiers is inspiration. They still feel what it feels like to love the place you put on a uniform to protect. You can't buy that, and you can't fake it. The other thing that drives this organization is the pledge that started their participation in Wreaths Across America in the first place. That pledge is to honor the oath that no veteran shall be forgotten and that his service and his marker never fades from memory. At 11 a.m. this Saturday, the "Veterans at the Library" will again honor the memory of every veteran in Emanuel County whose grave has been reported or discovered by surveys of the group. There will be a ceremony at the Swainsboro City Cemetery, and the public is invited.



JESUS SAVES – 2ND PLACE

County building plan...

(From front page) tion of the former 1935 hotel floor plan. Officials involved in the excavation describe the structural integrity of the building as exceptional which will make design and construction phases simpler and less costly. Building plans and anecdotal comments from the original construction of the building indicate foundational footings at depths of more than 20 feet. When complete, the Coleman building will once again provide office space for the Board of Commissioners central operations, as well as meeting areas and administrative areas for the county and various other government agencies.



JOHN C COLEMAN BUILDING BEING RENOVATED



FUTURE HOME OF COUNTY OFFICES



EAST GEORGIA STATE COLLEGE – 3RD PLACE

One Moore Tree ...

(From front page) included a brand-new addition: a live puppet show performed by the Franklin Memorial Library. The community also enjoyed musical performances by the Hillcrest Baptist Praise Team, Sadie Boulineau, Dellwood Baptist Youth Band, Christ United Community Youth

Choir, Allstar Dance Academy, and the ECI Marching Band & Dance Line. Meanwhile, attendees shopped with arts and crafts vendors and indulged in delicious food from the food trucks.

The top three floats of the parade were awarded as follows: 1st place to One Moore, 2nd place to Jesus Saves, and

3rd place to East Georgia State College. The Downtown Development Authority would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Christmas festivities. For updates on future events in Downtown Swainsboro, please visit the City of Swainsboro website or Facebook page.

Hello to Chief...

(From front page) ended up bringing Mims to Swainsboro actually originated in his hometown of Detroit. A family trip South to Screven County resulted in the permanent move to Georgia years ago and he has been here ever since. Mims found his interest in fire protection at an early age and steadily moved up as opportunities came along amassing an impressive resume and professional background. "I have always enjoyed the challenge of improving my abilities and helping others around me to do the same through education and organization." Chief Mims makes no secret of his reliance and emphasis on training. He recently worked with Swainsboro city council to provide new specialized physical exams for Swainsboro fire fighters to verify their capabilities for

occupational readiness as well as physical testing for advanced training. When questioned about his impression of the readiness of the department's equipment on hand, the new Chief commented that he was satisfied that the department had what it needed, but emphasized that constant monitoring of vehicles, life safety equipment and other mandatory standards must always be maintained. In general, Chief Mims feels that Swainsboro Fire Department is 100% focused on getting the job done and that means adapting and adjusting from time to time. "I have been very impressed with the support we have received so far." When asked if he was handed down any words of wisdom from retiring Chief Mike Strobridge, Chief Mims smiled,

"Take your time. That's what he told me, and I believe that it is always wise to look around and be sure of where you are before making too many changes." Mims confided that his approach to the Swainsboro Fire Chief position was not driven by ambition. "I considered this job as a possible opportunity that had been put before me, and something told me to pursue it. If I was not selected, I was perfectly content to continue where I was." The new Chief likes to get out of the office and learn what the community is all about, so if you see him on the street don't hesitate to stop and speak. Chief Mims and Swainsboro may have both found new opportunity here, and we wish that partnership the best of luck in the future ahead.

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Merry Christmas




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Thank You!



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The Forest-Blade

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How a community and a local hospital came together to save a life

by SARAH BAILEY TAPLEY, DAUGHTER OF TEDDY BAILEY

While our community is still cleaning up and recovering from the havoc that Hurricane Helene brought when she graced us with her presence, our family is rejoicing and celebrating the recovery of a loved one who was injured in the aftermath. After a frightening night as Helene passed over Emanuel County, like many others, we woke up the next morning to investigate the damage that she left in her path and to get ready to begin our storm clean-up. Our day took a tragic turn when we got word that my dad, Teddy Bailey, was seriously injured in an accident.

When we arrived on the scene of the accident, we were met with First Responders who were already on the scene, as well as some community members who happened upon the accident and they began helping immediately. Reality began to set in when we saw how serious Daddy's injuries were and realized that there was no possible way that an ambulance would be able to get to us because so many roadways were blocked due to fallen trees.

Because of the quick thinking of one particular First Responder, Mr. Charles Headrick, who was attempting to slow the bleeding of an arterial bleed, the decision was made to transport Daddy in the rescue truck to meet the ambulance. The ambulance was able to meet the First Responders and Daddy about 3 miles away and Daddy was transferred to the ambulance and rushed to Emanuel Medical Center Emergency Room.

Upon arrival, we discovered that the hospital was running off of a generator, as the power had been knocked out due to the storm. They were also limited on staff because many were unable to make it to work due to downed trees and blocked roadways. As we waited in the makeshift waiting room, due to the ER being under construction, our family began praying, desperately wanting Daddy to be okay. When Dr. A came out to speak with us, we knew that the news was not good. We were told that Daddy had suffered a severe injury to his head and he needed to get to Augusta, however, he could not be flown due to weather conditions and they could not drive him due to blocked roadways. At this time, his condition was very critical and they were working on him in an attempt to stabilize him. We felt scared, trapped, and desperate because we knew that his injuries were just too severe for the resources available at Emanuel Medical Center.

However, during this time that we had to wait to be transferred, the Emergency Room



TEDDY AND WIFE, VICKI BAILEY AT HIS WELCOME HOME CELEBRATION



MR. CHARLES HEADRICK WITH MR. BAILEY. HE CONTROLLED THE BLEEDING AT THE ACCIDENT SCENE AND WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN GETTING MR. BAILEY TO THE AMBULANCE THAT MORNING.



TERI MOORE (CENTER), ONE OF THE ER NURSES AT EMC WHO WORKED WITH MR. BAILEY FOR A LONG TIME IN ORDER TO STABILIZE HIM WHILE WE WAITED FOR THE ALL CLEAR TO TRANSPORT

personnel worked tirelessly to stabilize Daddy so that he could be prepared for transport to Augusta as soon as conditions were safe enough to travel. They recognized immediately that his injuries were critical and that they needed to get him to a hospital that would be able to provide what he needed for his specific injuries. Their team worked diligently to get the arterial bleeding under control and to get Daddy to a point where he could be transported as soon as the green light was given. Because of the valiant efforts of the Emergency Department team at Emanuel Medical Center, they saved my Daddy's life. If it were not for the knowledge, skill, determination, and dedication of this staff, our lives would be much different today.

Our community is blessed to have Emanuel Medical Center as

our local hospital. Being able to see familiar faces when it feels as if your world is falling apart around you brings a sense of comfort in a very traumatic time. Our family is thankful for everyone who played a part in taking care of Daddy on the morning of September 27, 2024. We are eternally grateful for what you all did. God used each of you as a vessel to bring healing to one of His own, and for that, we thank you!

After 61 days of hospital stays and rehabilitation, we were able to bring Daddy home the day before Thanksgiving! We are so thankful for Emanuel Medical Center and the part that they played in saving our loved one. Because of Emanuel Medical Center, we did not have an empty seat at our table this Thanksgiving Day!

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Peggy Ann Ware, 77

Peggy Ann Ware, 77, of Swainsboro, passed away Monday, December 2, 2024, at Candler County Hospital in Metter. Graveside service was held Thursday, December 5, at 11 a.m. in the Ware Cemetery in Dudley with Reverend Leon Guest officiating. Family received friends Wednesday, December 4, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Tomlinson Funeral Home.

Leroy Headrick and Mary Elizabeth Hunter Headrick. Ms. Ware is preceded in death by her husband, John Floyd Ware.

Survivors include her son, John Ware; daughter, Susan Dekle (Robert); sisters, Valerie Hall (Scotty) and Rosie Amerson; brothers, Charles Headrick, Leonard Headrick and Michael Headrick; nine grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Peggy was born in Tomlinson Funeral Home in Summerville, Georgia, to the late Luther

Ware. Home was in charge of arrangements.

Era McNure Stewart, 88

Mrs. Era McNure Stewart, age 88, of Garfield, passed away Monday, December 2, 2024, at the Thrive at Green Island in Columbus, Georgia. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 6, at 2 p.m. in the Twin City Methodist Church with Rev. Ronald Smith officiating, assisted by Rev. Jim Harrell. Family received friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment followed in the Noonday Cemetery.

Era's grandsons served as her pallbearers, Charles William "Chase" Stewart, III of Waycross, Patrick Stewart (Mary Rose) of Atlanta, Joseph Calhoun Stewart of Garfield, Jason Michael DiSimone, Jr., Charles Stewart DiSimone, Lennox Reed Rambo and Charles Norris Rambo, Jr., all of Columbus.

Mrs. Stewart was born October 31, 1936, in Pensacola, Florida, to the late Moses McNure and Rosalyn Grierson McNure. She enjoyed growing up in coastal areas as her father served his country in the United States Coast Guard. Era's teenage years were spent in Corpus Cristi, Texas, where she attended W.B. Ray Highschool and Del Mar College. She then moved with her family closer to her father's hometown of Garfield.

Era was introduced to a young farmer, Charles Stewart, who was born and raised in Garfield. The two began dating and were soon married. The young couple moved to Savannah, where four years later they welcomed their first child Charlie, and three years later their daughter Rosemary. The growing family moved to Guyton where they built a home and were blessed with their third child, Laura Kate. Era and Charles moved back to Garfield in 1970 to be near both their parents. They built a home on the farm where Charles was born and raised. Era embraced the life of a country home maker. She and Charles became members of the Twin City Methodist



STEWART

Church and enjoyed years of the small-town life that embraced the couple and helped them to raise their children in a loving and Christian environment. Era called herself a "collector of collectables" and was self-taught to recognize the value of antiques, particularly signed costume jewelry. This hobby brought her joy throughout her life.

Era lost her husband of 63 years in 2021, but remained in her Garfield home for three more years, maintaining her independence and enjoying visits from family, neighbors and friends. When it became clear that she needed care, she moved to Columbus to be near her daughters. Mrs. Stewart was preceded in death by her parents; and brother, Joseph David McNure.

Mrs. Stewart is survived by her children, Charles William "Charlie" Stewart, Jr. of Garfield, Rosemary Stewart DiSimone of Columbus and Laura Kate Rambo (Norris) of Columbus; granddaughters, Cordelia Rose DiSimone of Columbus and Carlin Era Stewart of Garfield; great-granddaughter, Addison Aurora Stewart of Waycross; sister, Mamie Cordie Flynn of Birmingham, Alabama; brother, Moses McNure, Jr. (Faye) of Chincoteague Island, Virginia; and many beloved nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to "St. Jude, American Cancer Society or Twin City Methodist Church.

Chapman Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Pennie Riner, 64

Mrs. Pennie Bennett Riner, 64, of Nunez, passed away Wednesday, December 4, 2024, at Augusta University. Funeral services were Saturday, December 7, at 11 a.m. at Peebles-Curry Memorial Chapel with Elder Sam Bowen officiating, assisted by Elder Will Martin and Elder Craig Lanier.



RINER

Interment followed at Union Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery. Family received friends from Friday, December 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Durden Hudson Funeral Directors.

Pallbearers were Mrs. Riner's nephews, Robert Riner, Beau Pritchard and Brock Pritchard; cousins, William Roberson and Cecil Roberson; and family friend, Wayne St. Cyr ("Tic").

Mrs. Riner was born on December 30, 1959, to the late Dan Bennett and Martha Douglas Bennett.

She was a member of New Hope Primitive Baptist Church. Pennie was a part-time instructor at Southeastern Technical College when it was Swainsboro Technical College. She was self-employed, owning her own hair salon before retiring in 2022. Pennie married the love of her life, Charles

Riner, and they had been together for 48 years. She enjoyed doing hair, spending time in her yard, and planting flowers. Pennie enjoyed sewing and crafts and loved cooking Thanksgiving dinners. Mrs. Riner is preceded in death by her parents.

Mrs. Riner is survived by her husband of 48 years, Charles Riner of Nunez; son, Corey Bennett Riner of Nunez; daughter, Lisa Michele Riner of Nunez; brother, Doug Bennett (Teah) of Nunez; sisters, Dana Kirby (Bruce) of Swainsboro and Pam Jones (Johnny) of Louisville; grandson, Caleb Rhett Brown (Miranda) of Valdosta; great-grandson, David Rhett Brown; several nieces, nephews and many friends.

Durden-Hudson Funeral Directors was in charge of arrangements.

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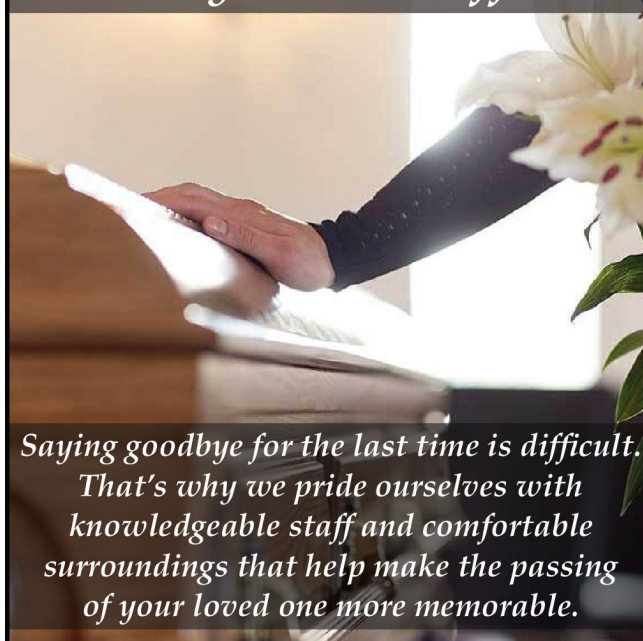


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CHAIR TAPLEY

Tapley speaks to the Veterans

The Veterans at the Library held their weekly meeting at the Franklin Memorial Library Monday, December 9, at 9 a.m. With Chair Johnny Tapley presiding, they had 42 in attendance. The Beta Sigma Phi organization furnished breakfast consisting of sausage biscuits and candy and Shari Watt provided orange juice, grape juice, apple juice, cranberry juice and coffee. The library will have deposit boxes at the library this week for Veterans at the Veteran's Hospital. If you would like to, please take items to the

library. After the prayer by Veteran Rev. James Mason, they enjoyed a great breakfast. Chair Johnny then talked about the "Wreaths Across America" event that will take place this Saturday, December 14, at 11 a.m. at the Swainsboro City Cemetery. The Wreaths will be coming into Swainsboro on Wednesday morning, December 11, around 8 a.m. If you would like to purchase a wreath for your veteran in any cemetery, please call the library and ask for Shari Watt. Veteran Willie Bush closed out with a prayer.



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The Sunshine House

The Governor David Emanuel-Adam Brinson Chapter of the DAR donates children's books and toiletries to The Sunshine House, which provides an important service to our community. The items will be used for children and families being served. Chapter Vice Regent Mary Elizabeth Woods presented the donation to Brandi Hood, Sunshine House Program Director.

December 14th, National Wreaths Across America Day

Saturday, December 14, is National Wreaths Across America Day. Appreciation is extended to all those who ordered wreaths and those who made donations for wreaths. For the families and volunteers placing the wreaths, there are some items we would like to highlight to make your experience even better.

- Each wreath you'll be placing is handmade and unique. They are made of balsam fir grown in the Downeast region of Maine, USA, with pride.

- Some of the needles do become detached during the making, packing, and transportation of the wreaths. Please keep in mind that every wreath has tens of thousands of needles, and it is normal for this to happen.

- Because the wreaths are packed tightly in

boxes, it will take 2-3 hours for them to fully relax to their natural circular shape.

- Before placing a wreath on a headstone, take a minute to re-fluff the greens and rearrange the bow. Then the wreath is finally laid at the headstone, please make sure the bow is at the 12:00 position.

It is important to have the intimate moment with the hero you are honoring, but please remember to take a step back and look at the complete picture of what all of us have accomplished through the mission to REMEMBER, HONOR, and TEACH.

Again, thank you for your patriotism. Without you, National Wreaths Across America Day would not be so nice. God Bless our Veterans and God Bless America!

Editorials Columns

The rise of the agendas

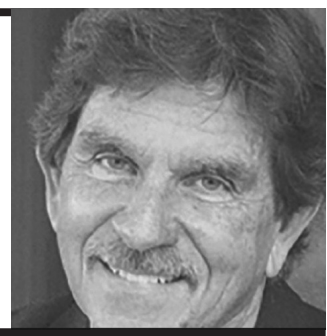
Sounds like a science fiction movie from the 70s, right? Well, don't worry, it's only my second installment on pre-emptive preparation for your upcoming holiday season. Having just said that, however, you shouldn't get all that relaxed, because the days between Thanksgiving and December 25 can be like a month in the squirrel cage if not managed carefully. There is probably no other time of the year when emotions, responsibilities and the general pressures of life all combine to work their effect on us. Thanks to a visit from Helene, it's not enough that you are still dragging trees to the curb, patching the roof, and having weekly meetings with your insurance adjuster. Nope, because now, the Christmas holidays are sledding toward you packed with all the things that must hap-

pen in the next couple of weeks to make this holiday another memorable one for all. With that, comes the effort to control the chaos, and that means one thing. Making Lists! Everybody in the house has their list, and as the days grow shorter, the lists get longer. Naturally, every list is the most important one, and everyone thinks their list should be first. Lists are like the little soft-spoken baby sister who sends notes or suggestions to headquarters of things that should get attention. They are whispered, sweetly phrased requests, until they are ignored, and then lists can quickly turn into the older big brother who is known as, "agendas". Agendas are loud and sort of "Grinchful", and this is where the chaos of Christmas can really get cranked up. Agendas should not

necessarily be thought of as mean and disruptive, but we all know how the banjo string of patience can only stretch so far even in the most serene and patient homes, and when was the last time you were in a serene home around Christmas? But let's stop right here and remember we are talking after all, about the season of hope and kindness and understanding when we anxiously welcome the warmth of goodwill and tradition which can also get us completely in over our heads with all the commitments and obligations, we wrap ourselves up in like duct tape. Recently, two airline flight attendants got in over their heads and ended up being escorted from their flight for being FUI (flying under the influence). I'm sure it was just eggnog that they chose to celebrate the season with, but if

you had to put up all day with stressed out people crammed into tiny little seats with all their agendas, I imagine you too might understand how these young ladies felt the need for a little holiday cheer. Well, back to our discussion of the demands of lists. The lists of lists can be staggering. There are lists for the outdoor Christmas decorations, lists of cooking that must be done, lists of Christmas cards to write, lists of social events to attend, lists of gifts to be given, lists of relatives on the way, lists of lists, and the list of the List Superintendent. I also think there should be a Czar of Christmas Lists and Agendas. This person should have power to control and modify all lists as well as the power to seize all cell phones, computer passwords, TV remotes, plastic credit or debit cards, checkbooks,

Charles Schwabe



PlayStation, X box and any other electronic gizmos. This would make her power supreme and complete (you noticed I said 'HER'), and then She could settle any list of controversies that might erupt in this season of peace.

I hope this gives you some assistance in preparing for the coming holidays. If it doesn't, don't blame me. Talk to the Big Guy with the white beard in the red outfit. He started all this list business a long time ago, checking it twice and all that. I will close with an offering a reader sent to me of the top 5 common sense things NOT to do during Christmas: 1. Don't get

sick 2. Don't write a big 'ol alligator check on your little hummingbird bank account. 3. Don't talk politics, period. 4. Don't ask how Uncle Clarence is doing unless you know he's still alive and out of jail. 5. Don't wear that 'GOT PARDON?' t-shirt at your divorce hearing. I would add two more suggestions. Send your insurance adjuster a really, really nice Christmas card, and make sure the first and most important thing on your list is to celebrate Christmas as the birthday of the Infant Christ in Bethlehem. If you do that, most everything else will take care of itself.

Pearl Harbor Day

When I woke up on the morning of December 7, I had a feeling this was a date to remember, but what? "Yes" I realized this is the date that President Roosevelt told us would be in infamy forever. The Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor, a US island in Hawaii. Our country was plunged into World War II. I was a six-year-old first grad-

er. I was told the news in the usual way. My father read news items from the Atlanta Journal as we ate our breakfast. At that time the Journal was an evening paper and arrived in Swainsboro on the early morning Greyhound Bus. Of course I did not comprehend the news, but when my father spoke, I listened. All grammar

school students went to chapel in an auditorium building on the campus. We sat in pull-down seats in rows lowered down to the stage according to grades. AS a small six-year-old, I was not heavy enough to hold the seat down. I learned patriotism of my country as I continually pushed my seat down. We felt our love of country through

singing, *God Bless America, My country Tis of thee, America the Beautiful and Let's Remember Pearl Harbor and Go On to Victory.* General Douglas MacArthur was in charge of US forces in South Pacific and our hero. We added *Let's Remember MacArthur and Go On to Victory.* We thought his first name was Mac and last name to be Arthur.

Shirley Proctor Twiss



We loudly sang Let's Remember Mac Arthur and Go on To Victory.

Eighty-three years ago in 1945, our country did go on to victory against Japan. Other wars have come and gone, but

Pearl Harbor Day always touches my patriotism. I am proud to be an American and know I'm free and thank the folks who gave this right to me. Write to Shirley at sptwiss@gmail.com.

Daddy's baby girl

Growing up, I was known as "Daddy's baby." My father made no bones about it. I was his "baby" until the day he died. He was my go-to person as is usually the case with little girls and their daddy. Don't get me wrong, my Momma was everything a Momma is supposed to be, and more. But you know. It's a "woman thing" with Mommas and little girls.

Sometimes, they just flat out don't like each other. Especially when it comes to prissy clothes, hairdo's, makeup, and being perfect. I wasn't into any of those things like she wanted me to be. I marched to my own drum being slouchy, tacky, stringy headed, etc. But Daddy was my hero. Only once did he ever punish me with a spanking after I jumped up and grabbed a

sturdy looking limb on the small pecan tree which was just perfect to swing on, between our house and Big Momma's. Although I'd been warned about it, I just couldn't resist. The limb cracked and broke smack off the tree trunk. Uncle Aubrey wasn't pleased. Neither was Daddy.

Daddy and I connected. He didn't scold me. He didn't judge me. He loved

me unconditionally and I knew it. Through the years, he and I would take road trips together to visit Aunt Mattie Mae in Wrightsville every time they had a family reunion or homecoming, at the little country church near her house. We'd have "dinner on the ground" with fried chicken, potato salad, cakes, pies, and of course home cooked fresh vegetables and jugs of tea. Sweet, of course. There was no such thing as unsweetened tea when I grew up.

About once a month, we'd travel to Atlanta to visit Granny Elkins who had moved there after Granddaddy passed away. Daddy loved his mother and made a point to visit her as often as possible. Momma seldom went with us. Just Daddy and me. I looked forward to that time with him. He stopped in Eatonton once and showed me the Uncle Remus House and we talked about Brer Rabbit and the briar patch stories. We walked around the square and found a café to have lunch. Most every time, we would have lunch upstairs in Ding Ho's restaurant in downtown Atlanta. It was Daddy's favorite restaurant, and I felt so grown up as we dined in the dark atmosphere and oriental décor with white tablecloths and napkins. I remember how I loved the Blue Willow plates! The bowls would be brought to the table full of rice and our favorite dish, Chop Suey. And the silver teapots with steaming tea was quite a novelty for a

La'Rose Tapley



country girl. But Daddy knew just how to fit in. He ordered like it was an everyday occasion to dine there with his "baby" girl. The trip home wouldn't be complete without stopping in Jackson for some of the delicious barbecue and Brunswick Stew. I treasured those special outings with my Daddy.

Daddy loved to tease me about my sweetheart when I was a little girl. Yes, that sweetheart was the one who became my husband of 60 years. But the truth was, that Daddy didn't want to lose his "baby girl." Many years later, he wrote the sweetest poem which is part of a large collection of treasured poems of his, Granny Elkins, Momma, and even my own. I guess we were just all able to express our thoughts better in writing than in person. Especially Daddy. He was a man of few words, but some of his writings were hauntingly beautiful. He didn't talk about himself much and they gave insight into a man most people didn't know.

My Little Baby Girl
By HERBERT ELKINS
Quite a long time ago, back in '38
Something wonderful was about to happen
And I could hardly wait.
Then an angel came down from another world,

And brought to our home a precious little baby girl.

I strutted around and bragged with joy.

To tell the truth, I was glad it wasn't a boy.

I remember the cute things she would do and say,

Winding herself around your heart, growing tighter every day.

But all too soon time flew by,

Then one day I noticed a twinkle in her eye.

"Not my Baby!" I said, "Good heavens above"

When she said, "Daddy, I need your blessings - I'm deeply in love!"

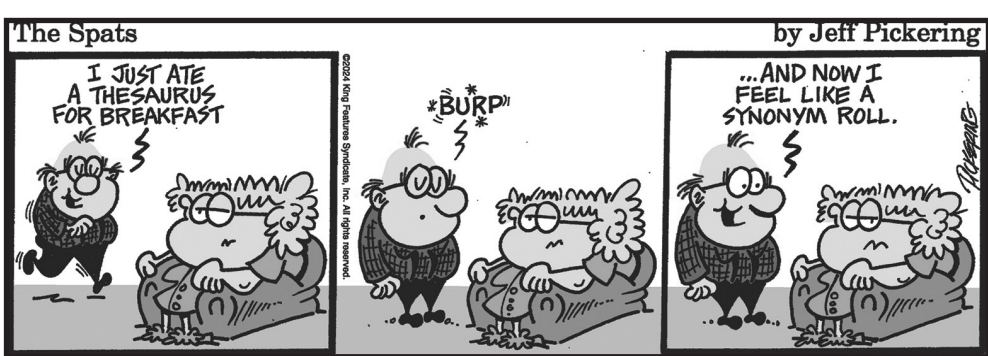
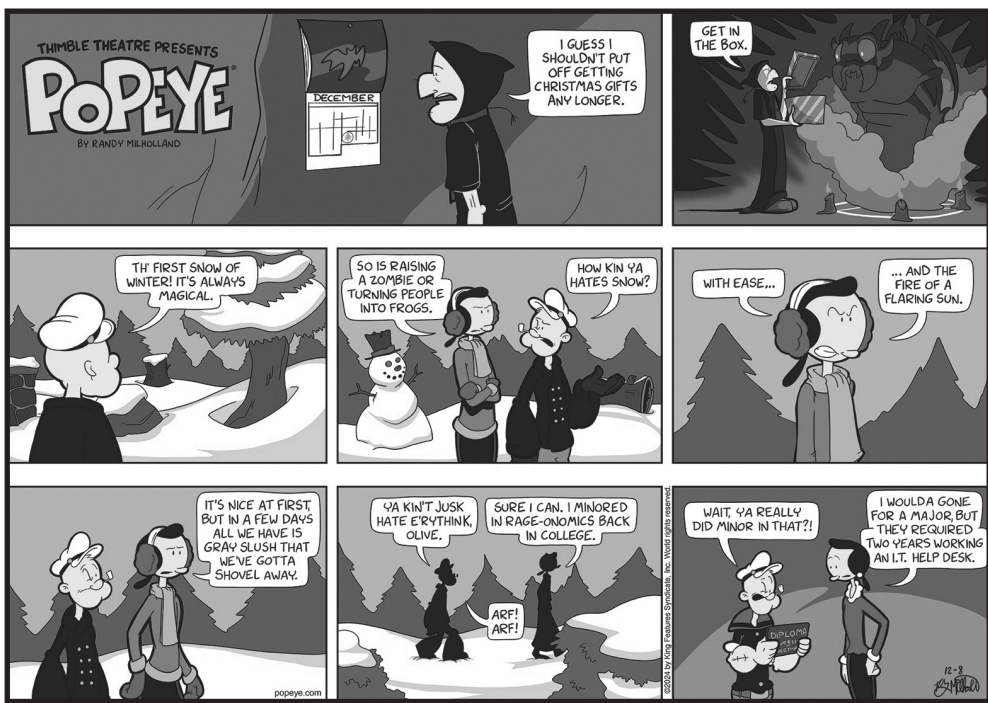
"Leave our home? Get married? Change your name?"

True, you never caused us any worry or brought us any shame.

But if you're really in love and your lover is true, go with my blessings my Baby, and good luck to you".....

The Daddy I knew and loved is the only one I remember. Time and events have a way of changing us as we grow older and the Daddy I remember became a different person later in his life. His life ended way too soon. I can only hope that he made peace with himself before his death. Comments can be made to LaRose at Eibbbo72@gmail.com.

Editorial Cartoons



The Forest-Blade

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416 W. Moring St., P.O. Box 938 • Swainsboro, GA, 30401
Telephone: 478-237-9971 • Facsimile: 478-237-9451
Internet: www.EmanuelCountyLive.com
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Gail Williamson,
Editor/Publisher

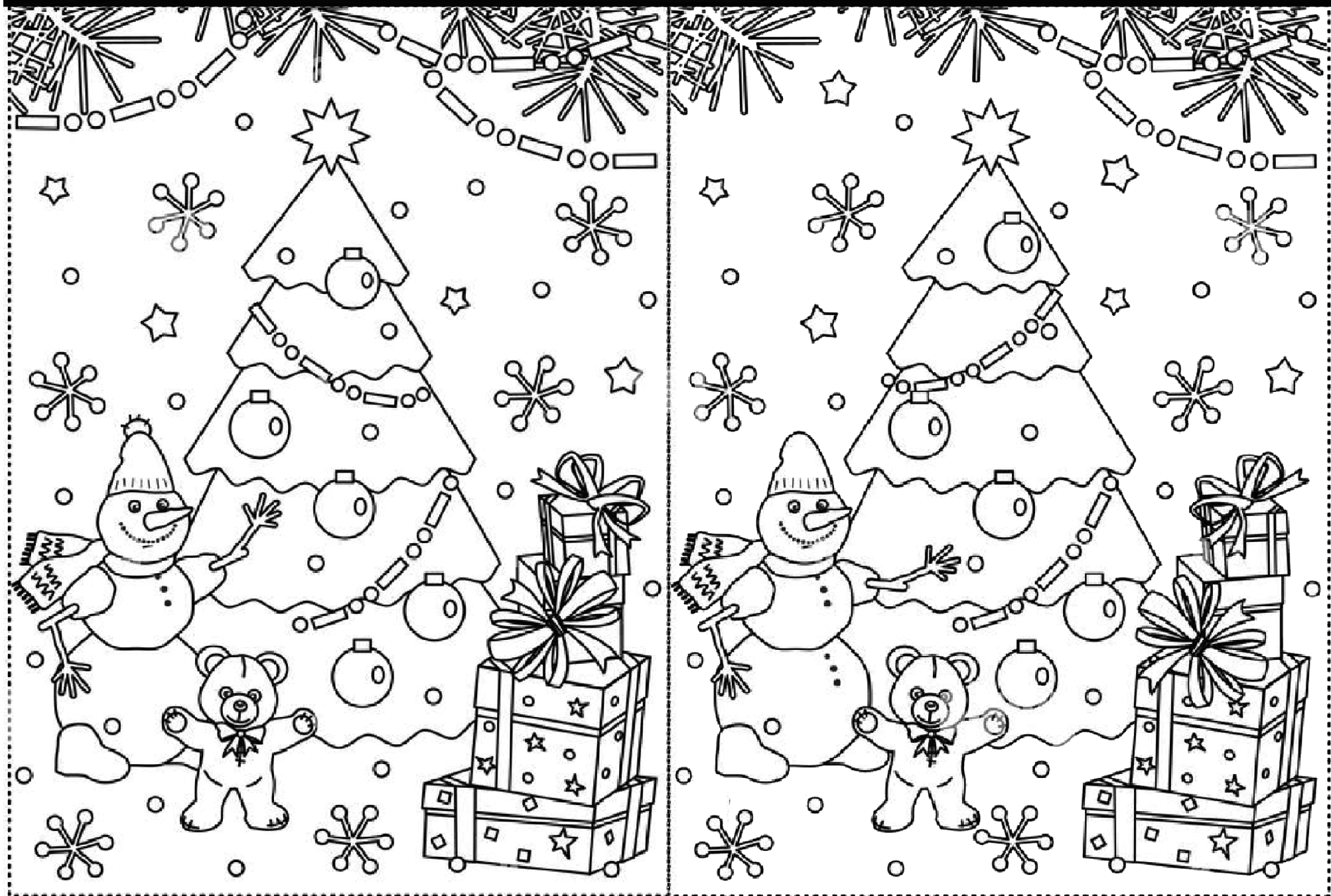
We welcome Letters to the Editor from our readers. However, due to increasing production costs, we must request that letters be kept to approximately 350 words. All letters must be signed by at least one person. Address and telephone number of the writer should also be given.

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

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TCE Jr. BETA Club shines at State Convention

The TCE Jr. Beta Club showcased exceptional talent and dedication at the state convention held in Savannah on December 4 and 5. Competing against schools across the state, the students achieved remarkable success in multiple categories, demonstrating their creativity, skill, and teamwork.

Among the highlights, the Jr. Beta Club earned first place in Songfest and Living Literature, securing the top spots with impressive performances.

Individual honors included:

- Izzy May: 2nd place in

Solo Dance Performance (earning a Golden Ticket to perform in the opening ceremonies at the National Convention) and 2nd place in Mixed Media.

- Caleb Telgen: 2nd place in Woodworking.
 - Raylon Cumbee: 5th place in Hand-Drawn Anime.
 - Nora Johnson: 4th place in Fiber Arts.
- Group projects also stood out:
- Robotics Showcase: 4th place.
 - Service-Learning Project: 5th place.
 - Performing Arts (Large Group): 4th place.
- With these outstanding

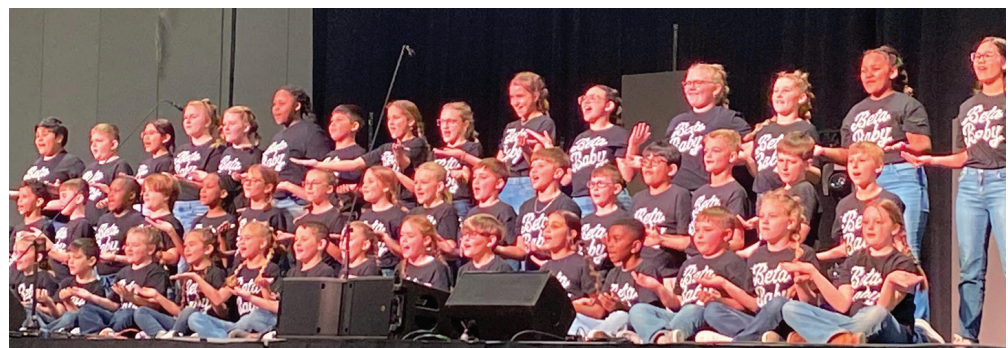
ing results, the TCE Jr. Beta Club has earned the honor of competing at the national convention in Summer 2025, set to take place in Orlando, Florida.

The school community extends its heartfelt congratulations to these talented students, along with gratitude to the teachers, parents, and supporters who contributed to their success. TCE looks forward to cheering on their Jr. Beta Club as they take the national stage!

For more information and to view performance highlights, visit TCE's website or social media pages.



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A lasting impression: Meet inspiring teacher, Silvana Ibanez

Mrs. Ibanez was chosen as 2024-25 Swainsboro High School Teacher of the Year. She has been teaching for 15 years, with 13 of those years spent in the United States. Mrs. Ibanez began her career teaching English as a Second Language in Colombia, and upon moving to the U.S., she transitioned to teaching Spanish. Throughout her career, she has had the honor of being recognized as Principal Teacher of the Month (SC) and is currently serving as the SHS Teacher of the Year.

"My name is Silvana Ibanez, and I am a teacher originally from Barranquilla, Colombia. I am married to Edgardo Manjarres, and we have two wonderful children, Luna and Samuel, who both attend Swainsboro Elementary School. We also have the sweetest dog, Draco. We moved to Swainsboro in December 2017 and have called it home ever since. I graduated from Universidad del Atlántico in 2011 with a bachelor's degree in foreign Languages. I am fluent in English, French, and Spanish, and I am currently working on improving my German and Italian. I have always had a passion for languages," stated Ibanez.

Her journey into education had an unconventional start. After graduating from high school, Ibanez was not sure what to major in—she just knew she wanted to be an actor. However, her mother was not too keen on that idea and suggested she explore foreign language courses instead, since she loved learning English. This led her to a career in teaching languages, and she discovered she was meant to be a teacher on her very first day of college.

When Mrs. Ibanez first moved to the United States, she began teaching at Colleton County High School in Walterboro, South Carolina. It was her first experience teaching Spanish, as in Colombia she had taught English as a second language. It was also when she earned the title

"Señora Ibañez." After five years in South Carolina, Ibanez relocated to Swainsboro to continue her journey as a Spanish teacher.

"As I mentioned earlier, I did not always know I wanted to be a teacher. However, during high school, I struggled in my English class and was not doing well at all. It was not until my teacher told my dad that I was going to fail that I decided to take matters into my own hands. I began listening to music in English, looking up the lyrics to songs I enjoyed, and translating them. Through this, I developed a love for the language and seized every opportunity to improve. One day, my mother suggested that I learn more languages and consider studying them in college. That was when I decided to make it my mission to ensure that my future students had a better experience learning a foreign language. What sets me apart is that I have been in their shoes—I know what it is like to struggle with learning a new language. Because of that, I am passionate about showing my students that it is possible to succeed, and I want to inspire them to develop a love for languages, for the culture of those who speak it, and the world out there. My chemistry teacher had a unique teaching style. He was not overly warm or affectionate, but you could tell he genuinely cared and valued building relationships with his students. He was funny, sarcastic, and often shared stories from his own life, making both himself and the class feel more relatable. In many ways, I think I resemble him as a teacher." Ibanez commented.

Mrs. Ibanez loves dancing; in fact, she used to have a dance team back in South Carolina. She also loves baking new recipes, watching T.V. with her family, working out, traveling and singing.

"All I can say is how grateful I am to my school. They have always made me feel welcomed and included. Being selected



IBANEZ

Teacher of the Year is a reflection of the recognition and support from my coworkers. It means a lot to know that they appreciate the work I do. I truly love my school and the people who have been there every step of the way, helping me grow and become the teacher I am today." added Ibanez.

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

What have you found most rewarding in your career?

Ibanez: *It is when my students' faces light up after they finally grasp something I have taught them. It is when I see them after they leave my class, and they can still speak Spanish to me. But most of all, it is the lasting relationships I've built with them that mean the most.*

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

Ibanez: *Each student has taught me something valuable. Every class brings a unique group of individuals, each with their own needs, and it is my job to help shape them in a way that prepares them for the future.*

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

Ibanez: *Don't get discouraged by the daily challenges; instead, focus on the bigger picture. In the end, what we do has an impact that extends*

far beyond what we can fully understand.

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

Ibanez: *I am not exaggerating when I say it sometimes brings me to tears to see the amazing adults they have become. When I see their beautiful families, successful careers, and the exciting lives they are living, I feel incredibly proud. Especially, when they say they used something they learned from me.*

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

Ibanez: *Just try. You would never know what you missed if you just let fear or laziness get in the way of your future.*

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

Ibanez: *The first time I taught Spanish 3 at SHS, we recreated a famous event from Colombia called the Carnaval de Barranquilla. It was incredibly fulfilling to see each student contribute to the project in his or her own way. Some worked backstage, others decorated, made costumes, or created signs. Some learned a dance or a song, while others researched the Carnaval to deepen their understanding and even wrote amazing lyrics in Spanish. Everyone played a part. This all happened just a few days before COVID hit, and we were sent home.*

DAR donates books to Toy Drive

The Governor David Emanuel-Adam Brinson Chapter of the DAR donates books to the local toy drive to help make a child's Christmas a little brighter. Chapter Vice Regent Mary Elizabeth Woods presented the donation to Lieutenant Allen Farley of the Swainsboro Fire Department.



MARK WIGGINS, LIEUTENANT FARLEY, WOODS, FAITH JONES AND JUSTIN WILLIAMS



VETERANS AT THE LIBRARY RAISE FLAG

Veterans raise new U.S. Flag at Harmon Park

On November 11, 2024, at 10 a.m., 45 members of the Veterans at the Library group traveled to Harmon Park on Hwy 1 South to raise the first U.S. Flag on the newly erected 40' Flagpole with a very large 8' X 12' flag. Thank you to the City of Swainsboro and the Emanuel County Commissioners for the new flagpole. Also in attendance was WJBF news crew out of Augusta that just happened to be in Swainsboro interviewing Veteran John Tapley. Businesses and citizens of Swainsboro, please pay attention to the condition of your flag and always fly it correctly.



WATERS TALKS TO GUESTS

Waters exhibition draws crowd

An opening reception for artist Raven Waters was held on Thursday, November 21, at The Kalmanson Gallery of Emanuel Arts Council. A large crowd gathered to view his paintings and also enjoy refreshments provided by Miranda Mikell Events by Design. The event was free and open to the public. The EAC is located in The Karrh Arts Center at 109 N. Green Street in Swainsboro.

Waters took questions from the assembled guests, who wanted to know more about his painting style. He also told everyone that he paints every day and has done so for several years in a row. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday, 12 to 3 p.m. or by appointment. There are six art exhibitions every year. The Emanuel Arts Council, Inc. (EAC) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit orga-

nization whose purpose is to empower and grow the community through cultural programs in all areas of the arts for the general betterment and benefit of the people of Emanuel County and surrounding areas. The EAC is supported by the City of Swainsboro and Swainsboro-Emanuel County Chamber of Commerce, and operates through membership, donations, fundraisers, and grants.



MARK WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR ANTHONY MCCASTLE AND CLUB PRESIDENT GARY MASON

McCastle speaks to Exchange

On Tuesday, December 3, 2024 Exchange member Mark Williams had Anthony McCastle, Director of the Georgia Sheriff's Youth Home at Herrington Homestead, visit Swainsboro Exchange Club. Director McCastle gave an update on the operation of the Home which included the placement process for youth and staffing, among other topics. A donation was presented by the Club to Herrington Homestead at the conclusion of the program.

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ANN LAWSON AND PATRICIA RAGSDALE PREPARING CARDS

DAR prepares Christmas cards for our troops

Governor David Emanuel – Adam Brinson Chapter of the DAR participated this year in the USASOA Christmas Cards for Our Troops Program. Not everyone can be home for Christmas, so for those men and women in the military, receiving a card at Christmas is a thoughtful act of kindness during the holidays to let them know they are appreciated.

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Social Sports Legals/Classifieds **B**

Emanuel Medical Center earns national recognition for promoting organ, eye and tissue donation

Emanuel Medical Center earned national recognition for its efforts to increase organ, eye and tissue donor registrations across the state of Georgia through the DoNation Campaign. DoNation engages workplaces of all sizes and industries to highlight the importance in the lifesaving and life-giving mission of organ and tissue donation and transplantation.

Emanuel Medical Center, in partnership with LifeLink® of Georgia, the local organ and tissue recovery program, and Donate Life Georgia, the state's organ and tissue donor registry, earned Platinum recognition for conducting organ donation education and donor registration activities between October 1, 2023 and September 30, 2024.

During the 2023-2024 campaign cycle, EMC was one of 87 participating hospital partners within the LifeLink® service area. Through flag raisings, ceremonial honor walks, donor registra-

tion tabling events, social media, Donate Life spirit week activities, community events, media and more, new donor registrations were added to the Donate Life Georgia state donor registry.

Nationally, over 103,000 individuals are waiting for a lifesaving transplant and more than 3,000 of those individuals live in Georgia. Unfortunately, every day in the United States 17 people pass away because an organ was not available in time to save their lives, and every nine minutes, another person is added to the national organ transplant waiting list. This ongoing need reaffirms the critical and growing need for more registered organ, eye, and tissue donors. Anyone, regardless of their age or health can make their decision to become a registered organ and tissue donor when obtaining a driver license through the Department of Driver Services, when purchasing a hunting or fishing license online



MARTHA ANDERS, DIRECTOR OF ACCREDITATION, QUALITY & RISK AND MARY RADFORD, CNO

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DEA SENIORS WITH RESIDENTS

DEA seniors entertain EMC Nursing Home residents

On Thursday, December 5, David Emanuel Academy seniors, Addie Brown, Kyli Bell, Aarlyn Grimes, Maggie Black, Cavan Calhoun, Clayton Hood, Brogan Hall, Ethan Akridge, Seth Williamson and Peyton Lee brought and built gingerbread houses with the residents at Emanuel Medical Center Nursing Home.

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SHS BETA MEMBERS

Swainsboro High Beta Club excels at State Convention

The Swainsboro High School Beta Club brought home a remarkable collection of awards from the State Beta Convention held in Savannah, Georgia, from December 2, to December 4, 2024. Under the dedicated guidance of sponsors Cindy Riner, Selena Reynolds, and Erica Johnson, the students showcased their talents by competing in various categories; these talented students shone brightly, earning numerous accolades and representing their

school with distinction. Among the exceptional achievements, Tate Torpy won third place in 9th Grade Agriscience and first place in Division I Woodworking. Terralynn Brinson earned second place in 11th Grade Biomedical. D'Andre Smith secured fifth place in Division II Color Photography and had the honor of leading the Pledge of Allegiance at the first general session. Dakota Bravo achieved fifth place in Division II Digitally Enhanced

Photography, while Raleigh Andrews earned first place in Division I Mixed Media. Maliyah Jones placed fourth in Division I Drawing, and Kylee Farley received fourth place in Division II Poetry. TJ McCullough took third place in 10th Grade Science, and Dei'Vion Davis earned second place in Division I Speech, with Yasmin Rios following with fourth place in Division II Speech. Emma Sconyers achieved fourth place in Three-

Dimensional Design, while Lillian Mason earned first place in Division I Sculpture. Abby Phillips won first place in Division II Sculpture, and the team of Tykerria Phillips, Kimberly Vazquez, and Jakayla Coleman received fourth place in the Service-Learning Showcase. Cari Phillips was a standout competitor, winning first place in Division II Woodworking and earning "Best in Show" for Division II Visual Arts. The team of Grayson Brassell, Bo

Brown, Lillian Mason, and Gi'Zyria Kirkland claimed first place in Musicology. Alexis Mercer excelled in writing, winning first place in the Service Impact Essay competition. Yi'Zhariah Bell secured first place in the Solo, Duo, and Trio Dancer categories and was selected as a Premier Performer, earning a golden ticket to perform at nationals in June. Special recognition was given to Bryson Tarver, who received the prestigious Georgia Council Convention

Scholarship for his outstanding resume and leadership. The accomplishments of the Swainsboro High Beta Club reflect their hard work, dedication, and immense talent. Their remarkable success at the State Beta Convention is a testament to their commitment to excellence and the unwavering support of their sponsors. These achievements highlight the spirit of Swainsboro High School and Tiger Pride and inspire the entire community.



JROTC CADETS

ECI and Swainsboro JROTC visit Georgia Southern University

On November 21, the Emanuel County Institute JROTC cadets traveled to Georgia Southern University to discover the benefits of participating in GSU's ROTC program. The JROTC lesson of the week focused on the post-secondary action plans, which informed cadets about their career, college, and scholarship opportunities after high school. Current participants in GSU's ROTC program shared their positive experiences with the cadets. The highlight of the day was a tour of the Georgia Southern campus showcasing student life. The cadets learned that participation in the ROTC program does not prevent them from participating in other college activities such as sports and clubs. It allows them to have the full college experience. The trip was a success for these juniors and seniors as they learned about post-secondary career and college opportunities.



SAR HUGHES, JR, PRINCIPAL WHITE, BRIER CREEK PRESIDENT HOWARD, FLAG DETAIL SHEPPARD AND CLARE

Brier Creek Chapter presents U.S. Flag Certificate

President Wayne Howard of the Brier Creek Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution, presented the Chapters 8th U.S. Flag Certificate to the Principal of the Screven County Middle School on November 8, 2024. The U.S. Flag

"Certificate of Commendation" is given in recognition of exemplary Patriotism in the display of the Flag of the United States of America in the correct way. Recognizing people, businesses, organizations and the government with a U.S. Flag Certificate is a project of

the Sons of the American Revolution. The Brier Creek Chapter began presenting these certificates in 2017 and this project is an ongoing project of the Brier Creek Chapter, the GASSAR, and the NSSAR and will be honoring others with this certificate.

Emanuel Medical Center Nursing Home residents make Christmas ornaments

Residents are getting in the Christmas spirit with all the visitors stopping by to see them. This past week, they had Ann with University Home Health stop by to decorate ornaments, Nunez Women's group stopped by with a Christmas container of yummy goodies, then the Uncommon Cru stopped by with a bag full of goods and a sweet smile. Thank you for always making our residents feel special, especially this time of year.



RESIDENTS MAKING ORNAMENTS

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Stillmore Christmas Car Show

The Stillmore Christmas Parade Car Show held on Sunday, December 8, was a success with more cars entered than ever before. The crowd enjoyed touring the lot and checking the interi-

ors and engines with the proud owners. Mayor Regan Slater presented the awards in the afternoon. Best of Show went to Billy Harville displaying his 1972 Dodge Challenger. Other Top 10 winners were George

Brinson with his 1963 Falcon, Sherrie Harville with her 1972 Chevy Nova, Joe Wilson with his 1957 Ford, Chris Johnson with his 1966 Chevy Pick-up, Tyler Bates with his 1980 Chevy Malibu, Robert Turner with his

1985 Chevy C-10 pick-up, Ricky Way with his 1980 Chevy Corvette, Thomas Renew with his 2019 Ford F-250 pick-up and Jason Bragg with his 1939 Ford pick-up (hot rod). Planning for 2025 has already begun!



BATES WITH MAYOR SLATER



B. HARVILLE WITH MAYOR SLATER



BRAGG WITH MAYOR SLATER



TURNER WITH MAYOR SLATER



BRINSON WITH MAYOR SLATER



S. HARVILLE WITH MAYOR SLATER



WAY WITH MAYOR SLATER



JOHNSONS WITH MAYOR SLATER



WILSON WITH MAYOR SLATER



RENEW WITH MAYOR SLATER

Animal shelter blessed with donation for a family of dogs

by SHARI WATT
Della and her 5 puppies are going to have a very Merry Christmas this season, thanks to a generous donation made by a family to the Emanuel County Humane Society. This donation was used to provide Della and her pups with vaccines, dewormers, heartworm tests, food and veterinarian care before they leave on December 10 heading to Florida to find new homes. The Emanuel County Humane Society supports our local animal shelter by purchasing vaccines, wormers, sponsoring adoptions by paying the adoption fees and cost of spaying/neutering of dogs adopted from the shelter. We work with rescues by fostering dogs until rescues can transport them to find new homes in other states. This one



FRANKLIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY STAFF MEMBERS AND YOUTH WITH THE PUPS

donation made a difference in the lives of 6 dogs. ECHS members work tirelessly to save the lives of the dogs in our shelter. We can't do this without your help.

If you would like to make a difference in the lives of homeless animals in our community, consider making a donation to the Emanuel County Humane Society. Con-

tributions can be mailed to Emanuel County Humane Society, P.O. Box 443, Swainsboro, GA. 30401. Every dollar given will help to change the life of a stray.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

2024 PROPERTY TAXES DUE DECEMBER 20, 2024

A 5% PENALTY WILL BE ASSESSED ON ALL UNPAID TAXES AFTER April 20, 2025, IN ADDITION TO THE INTEREST ADDED PER MONTH.

Sandra S. Wright
EMANUEL COUNTY TAX COMMISSIONER
OFFICE HOURS 8:00a.m.-4:30p.m. M-F
478-237-3351

2024 Ferst Readers Book Character contest winners

Emanuel County Ferst Readers sponsored a virtual fundraiser to get books into the homes of children under five living in Emanuel County. Local "celebrities" asked for you to donate to Ferst Readers by casting a vote for them. Every \$4 vote you make will provide another book for a child, so vote as many times as you like and for as many characters as you like.

Fourteen Book Characters raised money for Emanuel County Ferst Readers. The books

get mailed to the homes along with an activity page for parents to teach their child literacy and vocabulary skills. This "come in mail" program gets children excited about books and supports the love of reading.

There are children in Emanuel County who do not have age-appropriate books in the home and many who do not attend preschool. This is a setback for those little ones when they start kindergarten. Family Connection wanted to play a part in preventing

that by getting children enrolled in Ferst Readers and raising the money for this program that is free to the families.

The 2024 Ferst Readers Book Character winners are 1st Place Cayla Scarboro as Scooby-Doo with 1,236 votes, 2nd Place Ann Rogers as the Genie from Aladdin with 401 votes and 3rd Place Petite Garrett as Snow White with 390 votes. The grand total for donations collected was \$10,336. Thank you to all Characters and Donors!



GARRETT, ROGERS AND SCARBORO



SCOOBY-DOO



GENIE



SNOW WHITE

Apply now for the 2025 FRS Youth Tour

Since 1995, FRS has hosted the Youth Tour to thousands of high school students from across rural America to visit our nation's capital, see our government in action, and learn about rural telecommunications. The tour provides a forum for teens to meet and interact with their peers from other rural communities, as well as key legislative, regulatory, and government figures.

Pineland Telephone Cooperative, Inc., will once again be sponsoring two students from its service area for this unique opportunity. High school students attending school in the Pineland Telephone service areas are eligible to apply. Students residing in a home with Pineland service will receive bonus points during the scoring process. Each student applicant will be expected to demonstrate leadership in organizations and community through volunteer activities, write an essay on the topic of

Economic Development in Rural America; How Broadband Affects Daily Life in My Rural America, and obtain a letter of recommendation from his/her high school counselor. Students must be 15,16, or 17 years old at the time of the trip.

The 2025 Youth Tour is scheduled for Monday, June 2 – Friday, June 6. During the tour, students will tour Washington D.C. and the surrounding area, including a trip to Mount Vernon, Home of George Washington; visit the Smithsonian Museums; tour multiple Memorials; attend a play at The Kennedy Center; meet with Federal Communications Commission and Congressional staff; and build relationships with their peers.

The application deadline for the Youth Tour is Monday, March 17, 2025. For more information on the FRS Youth Tour, please contact Amy Harrison at (912) 685-2121, (800) 247-1266, or via email at info@pinelandtelco.com. The

application form can be found on the Pineland website – www.pineland.net under "News" and "Apply Now for the 2025 FRS Youth Tour".

Pineland Telephone Cooperative, Inc. serves over 2,000 square miles with its Phone, Internet, and Technology services in all or parts of ten counties in South Georgia. Entering its 74th year, 100% of Pineland's Phone and Internet customers receive their services via a Fiber-to-the-Home network offering Gigabit enabled broadband connections. Pineland's mission is to offer an outstanding customer experience through the efficient delivery of progressive technology solutions in the markets served. We will achieve this mission by applying our Core Values of Excellence, Integrity, Innovation, and a Servant's Heart in everything we do.

The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS), the philanthropic arm of NTCA—The Rural Broadband Association and its members, seeks to sustain and enhance the quality of life in rural America by advancing an understanding of rural issues. Through scholarships, grants, and a variety of educational programs, FRS focuses on educating rural youth, encouraging community development, and introducing policymakers to challenges unique to rural communities. Visit us at www.frs.org.

NTCA—The Rural Broadband Association is the premier association representing nearly 850 independent, community-based telecommunications companies that are leading innovation in rural and small-town America. In an era of transformative technological advancements, regulatory challenges, and marketplace competition, NTCA members are leading the technological evolution for rural consumers, delivering robust and high-quality services over future-proof networks that make rural communities vibrant places in which to live and do business. Because of their efforts, rural America is fertile ground for innovation in economic development, e-commerce, health care, agriculture, and education, and it contributes billions of dollars to the U.S. economy each year. Visit us at www.ntca.org.



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

TCE recognizes November Students of the Month

The November Students of the Month were recognized on Thursday, November 21, in the TCE Media Center by the counselor, Ms. Nikki Green. Their teachers chose them for exemplifying the character trait of forgiveness. They received a certificate, a prize, and a token from the school's

book vending machine. Afterward, they enjoyed a donut with their families. November Students of the Month include Brycen Handsom, Baylor Jordan, Jeremiah King, Eli Sweet, Emmie Beach, Christian Carter, Tripp Marsh, Brinslee Brown, Kelsey Bell, Kennedy Kirkland, Zeke Lawrence,

Angela Kerlegrand, Ryan Hebert, Melody Havens, Bryson Lanier, Harper Pye, Kayla Hampton, Kameron Dixon, Paisley Snyder, Jason Griner, Marania Parker, Dalaysia Stokes, Brooklyn Collins, Christian Bynum, Brooks Hall, Devon Locklear, & Gunner Bedgood.



PARKER FREDERICK, WENDALL COLEMAN, CHARLEY MITCHELL, AMELIA MEADOWS, JACKSON CAVANNAH, MASON COLLINS, DAWSON GOODMAN, LAWSON FRYE, JAYNA KEARSON, HADLEIGH HENRY AND ETHAN GOODMAN

ECI Beta members attend State Convention

National Beta members from Emanuel County Institute are celebrating their recent participation in the Georgia Senior Beta State Convention. They were announced as winners of the following competitions: Charley Mitchell placed 2nd in the Science academic test and 3rd in Black and White Photography. Lawson Frye placed 3rd in the Language Arts academic test, 3rd in Digital Portfolio, and 3rd in Speech - Division 1.

National Beta State Convention allows students the opportunity to compete in various individual and team competitions and opportunities to run for several leadership positions. These victories

at the state level provide an opportunity to compete nationally. The National Convention will be held at the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center in Orlando, Florida, during the Summer of 2025.

Other students that competed and attended the convention were Hadleigh Henry, Amelia Meadows, Mason Collins, Jackson Cavannah, Dawson Goodman, Jayna Kearson, Parker Wendell and Ethan Goodman. These students competed in Color Photography, Quilling, Mathematics, Creative Writing, Social Studies, Black and White Photography, Engineering, and Social Studies, respectively.

Sponsors attending were Jessica Smith and Sondra Cowart.

With more than 500,000 active members and 14,000 clubs nationally and internationally, National Beta has become the nation's largest independent, non-profit, educational youth organization. National Beta promotes the ideals of academic achievement, character, service, and leadership among elementary and secondary school students. National Elementary Beta includes grades 4-5, National Junior Beta includes grades 6-8 and National Senior Beta includes grades 9-12. Visit betaclub.org for more information.

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Public Notice

The Mayor and City Commission of the City of Twin City, Georgia will have a special called meeting on Thursday, December 19, 2024 at 5PM. This meeting will be held at the Police Department in the City Commission Chambers. The purpose of the called meeting is to approve the 2024 Budget amendments, approve final 2024 expenditures, and approve the 2025 Budget.

Eugenia A. Ducker, City Clerk

Swainsboro Police Reports

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

November 30

Officer was dispatched to Alice Cir. in reference to someone breaking into the front door. Complainant stated she was sleeping and heard a boom and got up to find an unknown subject running from her residence. C/p advised she believes it was a male subject she got into a dispute with over a dog.

Officer was dispatched to Queensborough Bank in reference to fraudulent checks. Complainant stated two individuals deposited fraud checks from Community National Bank.

Officer responded to Mavis Tire in reference to a dispute between employees. Complainant states she is the manager and was called about offender working on his personal vehicle instead of working on customer vehicles. C/p stated she spoke with offender about working on his vehicle while on the clock and he became agitated and started fussing with her then with other employees. Officer spoke with other employees who advised offender was angry because someone called the manager on him and was fussing and yelling at them.

Officer observed a vehicle traveling 59 MPH in a 35 MPH zone, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. Officer asked the driver for her license, and she informed him that she was issued a temporary driver's license two months ago due to a DUI and they may be suspended. After confirming the driver's license are suspended. The driver was transported to EmCo Jail.

Officer observed a driver leaning against the steering wheel and not wearing a seat belt, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. Officer asked the driver for her license, and she stated she did not have it. It was determined that the driver's license is suspended.

Officer observed a vehicle over the center line into oncoming traffic, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. The driver pulled into driveway on West St. and the passenger got out and was headed towards the house when officer advised him to stop. The male subject stepped up on the porch, raised his arms in the air then took off running into the residence where there was a couple of people in the residence. Officer made contact with the driver and asked for her license and asked who the passenger was, and she stated she did not know him, that she just gave him a ride. She advised that the passenger stated

he was on parole and told her to speed up or he was going to hit her in the head, so she sped up and pulled into the residence. Officer asked the driver for her name and DOB. The driver also advised that her pouch was missing that included her driver's license, SS card, debit card and two CashApp cards and stated the male subject told her his story of his past starting he was shot in the left chest and had a tattoo on his left chest and that he just got busted for drugs. Other units arrived and searched the area for the male subject. Officer then spoke with a male subject who was standing at the steps of the porch where offender ran by him into the house, and he identified the male subject and stated he ran into the house and lifted the window and went out the back of the residence and ran into the woods.

December 1

Officers were dispatched to Center St. in reference to complainant's son trying to take a TV from her house. Officers spoke with the male subject who was speaking loudly and cussing and would not calm down. He then went into the bathroom and came out shortly after and was again speaking loudly and cussing. Officers advised him to calm down and stop cussing in front of the small child that was following him around and seemed upset. Offender went into his bedroom and started disconnecting a TV and gaming set and officer asked complainant if offender could take the TV, and she stated no. Officer then told offender he could not take the TV, so he left the room with the gaming system. When offender got outside, he started talking loudly again and kept cussing over and over with a 4-year-old female child right there, so he was placed under arrest and transported to EmCo Jail.

Officer met with complainant who stated he dropped his wallet, and an unknown subject picked it up. C/p advised it had his license, SS card, Medicaid card, debit card and \$60-80 cash in it.

Officer was dispatched to WalMart in reference to a male subject following women around in the store. Officers located the male subject and was escorted out of the store.

Officer was dispatched to Thompson's Mini Mart in reference to an unruly juvenile. Victim stated that after picking her grandson up, he threw a blizzard in her vehicle and got out and began walking.

Officer responded to N. Main St. in reference to a 911 hang-up call.

911 advised they heard a male and female arguing and the caller would not answer when 911 tried to call back. Officers made contact with an unknown male subject standing beside a car in the yard and asked him what was going on and he stated he did not know and that his girlfriend was inside with her niece. While speaking with the male subject, officers heard a male and female arguing inside the residence. Officer knocked on the door and made contact with a male subject and asked who else was in the house and was asked to step outside. Offender stated he would not step outside because it was his house and told officers to go inside. As officers entered the house, they heard a female in the back of the residence, and she walked into the kitchen where officer was standing with the male subject, and she started arguing with the male subject. Officer asked another officer to step to the back with the female and get her version of what happened while he continued talking with the male subject. The male subject stated he went through the female's phone and found what he believed to be evidence that she was cheating while he had been at work, and they got into an argument. Officer asked if there had been a physical altercation and he stated no, just verbal. The male subject stated he wanted the female out of his house. Another female walked into the kitchen and officer asked her what happened, and she stated that the female subject called her and asked her to pick up her juvenile children because of the argument that was taking place. While officer was speaking with the male subject, he heard two females arguing. Officer then heard another officer yell out to him and as he walked outside, officers were on the ground detaining a male and female. Officer stated that the two arrived and tried to walk past officers into the house and the female subject and her mother got into an argument and the female pushed her mother and when officer attempted to detain the female subject, a male subject tried to push officer away from the female and they went to the ground.

Officer was dispatched to Price St. in reference to a caller needing to make a report of terroristic threats. Complainant stated a female subject threatened to cause serious bodily harm to her and her sister. A text was

sent from offender stating she would happily put a bullet to c/p's head just like she was gonna do her sister. C/p stated she believes offender is upset/jealous that her ex-boyfriend accompanied c/p to Athens to attend the GA football game.

December 2

Officers were dispatched to W. Main St. in reference to a juvenile pushing her grandmother out of the house causing her to fall can closed the door and would not let her back in. Victim stated the juvenile had aggressively pushed chairs and knocked down the Christmas tree, then pushed her out the door. Juvenile was detained and transported to EmCo Jail until her grandmother could get there from Statesboro.

Officer took a walk-in report where complainant stated she was driving down Mable Ave. and hit a pothole that busted a hole in the sidewall of her tire and needed a report for her insurance.

December 3

Officer took a walk-in report where complainant stated DHR told him to make a report about his Snap benefits being stolen from his card.

Officer took a walk-in report where complainant stated her Snap benefits had been stolen from her card.

Officer took a walk-in report where complainant stated her Snap benefits had been stolen from her card.

Officer was dispatched to Norwood Ave. in reference to complainant stating she sent out an encouraging message to several people that she knows, and one female went to her residence and started yelling and cussing at her.

December 4

Officers responded to WalMart in reference to an employee theft. Complainant advised an employee had been taking items from the claims department, one being an iphone and one being an ipad. Offender was also observed on camera selecting an iphone 14 plus and attempting to turn the phone in at the machine for cash. The machine did not accept the phone and offender walked out with the phone.

Officer took a walk-in report where complainant stated someone stolen benefits from her EBT card.

Officer observed a vehicle with a Daniels Chevrolet driver out tag on it without a date, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. Officer asked for the driver's license, and she stated

she did not have a license, but she had an ID card. Offender stated she works at Daniels detailing cars, and she had to run home due to a female problem she drove the vehicle. Officer ran the driver's info to find she is unlicensed. Office made contact with an employee who stated they would pick the vehicle up and that she was not supposed to leave in it. When officer returned to the vehicle, he could smell an odor of marijuana. Officer asked the driver and passenger to step out of the vehicle and called for back-up. While waiting for another unit, the driver stated she had a blunt in her jacket pocket.

Officer was dispatched to Robin Blvd. in reference to damage to a vehicle. Complainant stated he noticed scratches on the driver and passenger side of his vehicle and officer observed the damages.

Officer observed a vehicle fail to use a turn signal when making two quick turns, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. Office made contact with the driver who has been convicted of felony crime and officer observed a double barrel shotgun on the passenger side of the vehicle. Offender was detained and was hand searched where officers found a one-dollar bill with a crystal-like substance on it that tested positive for meth. During a search of the vehicle, a full loaded pistol was also found. Offender was transported to EmCo Jail.

Officer observed a vehicle with very dark window tint, at which time he initiated a traffic stop. Officer asked the driver for his license, and he stated he did not have them on him. Officer tested the window tint which came back 10% and ran the driver's license to find they are suspended.

December 5

Officers were dispatched to Bobcat Cir. in reference to a male and female subject on someone's property. Officer made contact with the subjects and advised them not to return to the property without the owner's permission. Not long after, they received another call that the subjects were back on the property. Officer made contact with them again

and advised they were spotted on the property again and the male subject stated he was looking for his wallet. Both were issued a criminal trespass notice.

Officer took a report from a male subject who stated he was in Advance Auto Parts parking lot speaking with the manager and a vehicle began to back out of the parking spot and backed into his person.

Officer was dispatched to Lakewood Dr. in reference to damage to a vehicle. Complainant stated she hit a pothole causing major damage to her tire and wheel. Officer observed the tire being completely destroyed. Officer went to the area and observed a large pothole in the southbound lane of Arden Dr.

Officer observed a vehicle without any headlights on, at which time he conducted a traffic stop. Officer immediately noticed a strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle and asked the driver for her information and inquired about the smell. Driver stated her father had smoked in the vehicle earlier. During the search of the vehicle, several items related to drug use were found.

Officers were dispatched to Grady St. in reference to a complaint. Complainant stated her niece borrowed her vehicle and failed to return it and was not answering her calls. Officer located the vehicle on McLeod Bridge Rd. and activated his emergency lights and exited his unit. Two male subjects exited the rear of the vehicle and fled on foot. Officer observed c/p's niece in the passenger seat and smelled an odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. Both were detained and during a search of the vehicle, a handgun containing seven rounds with one in the chamber was located. A phone was found in the driver seat and the wallpaper displayed a photograph of the firearm found in the vehicle. 911 confirmed that the male subject was a convicted felon and was transported to EmCo Jail.

December 6

Officers responded to W. Main St. in reference to assisting deputies with a vehicle vs. pedestrian accident.

No jail reports or ECSO reports this week

Due to IT issues with the County computers, there will not be any Emanuel County Sheriff's Reports or Jail Activity this week. Hopefully things will be back up and running by next week. Sorry for any inconvenience!

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Legals

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF EMANUEL COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF MATTIE MAE PARKER, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 24E0136
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES and to whom it may concern:
MICHAEL EDWARD PARKER has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **MATTIE MAE PARKER**, deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before **DECEMBER 23, 2024**.

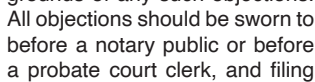
BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent 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
Swainsboro, Ga. 30401
Address
(478) 237-7091
Telephone Number

EDSEL W. HODGES, JR. NOTICE TERMINATION OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION

TO: Shane David and any heir at law of the said Shane David; and any person or entity having any right, title, or interest in or lien upon the following described property.
Take notice that:
The right to redeem the following described property, to wit:
All that certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in the City of Oak Park, in the 58th G.M. Distance of Emanuel County, Georgia, containing 1.00 acre, more or less, and being bounded as follows: on the North a distance of 215 feet by Fowler Road; on the East a distance of 218 feet by Lot 33; on the South a distance of 215 feet by Lot 4 and on the West a distance of 218 feet by Lot 31, said property can be more particularly described as Lot 32 of Sandy Lake Subdivision, East on that Plat of Survey prepared by A. G. Wells G.R.L.S. Number; 1656 dated June 25, 2000 and recorded in the Deed records if the Emanuel County Clerk

Albert came home from school with bruises, a torn shirt and tears. "Fighting again?" sighed his mother. "I thought it was clear that you were to be a good Christian, not get angry and to stop getting into fights. Did you count to a hundred like I told you to?" she asked. "Well, I tried," he said with resentment in his voice. "But John's mother told him to only count to fifty and that's when he knocked me to the ground and jumped on me." Many of us get angry quickly. But not the Lord. In Psalm 103:8 we read that "The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love."
Imagine what life would be like with an angry God - one who was quick to punish us for any and every sin. As soon as we broke one of His laws "He hammers" us. And if He were not compassionate and merciful, there would be no provision or pardon for our wrong doings. Or again, if we were suffering and brokenhearted and filled with grief and guilt for betraying Him we would never hear Him say, "My grace is sufficient." In the Lord we find mercy for our sins and comfort for our sorrows.
If God were not gracious there would be no grace - no matter how wonderful and needed it is. But it only has significance when we understand that it means God, at no cost to us, will unconditionally and willingly forgive us of all our sins. The Lord erases the ugliness of the past and provides us with clean, blank pages to fill with the potential of a new life committed to Him.
Amazing grace!

Visit us at SowerMinistries.org
PS 281



and the Redding Family
122 Kite Road • Swainsboro
478-237-7811

www.swainsborofordlincoln.com

of Superior Court, said plat having been recorded in June 30, 2000 in Plat Book 19, Page 260. Said plat of survey is by reference incorporated herein for a more complete and accurate description.

As described in Deed Book 436, Page 409. Further described as Map & Parcel 101021A.

Will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 27th of December, 2024.
The tax deed to which this notice related is dated November 7, 2023, and is recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Emanuel County, Georgia, in Deed Book 563, pages 624-626.
The property may be redeemed at any time before the 27th day of December, 2024, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: Edsel W. Hodges Jr., 5067 Paynes Chapel Road, Millen, Georgia 30442.
If you have questions or would like to know the redemption amount, please contact my attorney, Morgan Morris Boulineau, at P.O. Box 68, Swainsboro, GA 30401, 478-237-2271.
Please be governed accordingly. This 18th day of November, 2024.
Edsel W. Hodges Jr.
5067 Paynes Chapel Road
Millen, Georgia 30442
Morgan Morris Boulineau
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 68
Swainsboro, GA 30401
478-237-2271

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL
IN RE: ESTATE OF LESLIE ERIN HUTCHINSON, DECEASED.
All creditors of the estate of Leslie Erin Hutchinson, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to Richard M. McNeely, attorney for Larry S. Hutchinson, Administrator of the Leslie Erin Hutchinson 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 18th day of November, 2024.
RICHARD M. MCNEELY,
Attorney for Larry S. Hutchinson, Administrator of the Leslie Erin Hutchinson Estate
Richard M. McNeely, P.C.
P. O. Box 767
Swainsboro, Georgia 30401
(478) 237-4225

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL
IN RE: ESTATE OF BILLY C. BRINSON, SR., DECEASED.
All creditors of the estate of Billy C. Brinson, Sr., deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to Richard M. McNeely, attorney for Carolyn Amerson Brinson, Administrator of the Billy C. Brinson, Sr., 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 18th day of November, 2024.
RICHARD M. MCNEELY,
Attorney for Carolyn Amerson Brinson, Administrator of the Billy C. Brinson, Sr., Estate
Richard M. McNeely, P.C.
P. O. Box 767
Swainsboro, Georgia 30401
(478) 237-4225

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL
IN RE: ESTATE OF GARY ALEXANDER MOSELEY
All creditors of the estate of GARY ALEXANDER MOSELEY, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to James Malcolm Moseley, care of J. Kendall Gross, J. KENDALL GROSS, P.C., P.O. Box 695, Metter, Georgia 30439.
This November 21st, 2024.
James Malcolm Moseley
Administrator of the Estate of Gary Alexander Moseley, Deceased

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL
IN RE: ESTATE OF SUSAN MAE FLEMING BRYANT
All creditors of the estate of SUSAN MAE FLEMING BRYANT, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to Linda B. Hairr, care of Cindy C. Delgado, J. KENDALL GROSS, P.C., P.O. Box 695, Metter, Georgia 30439.
This November 21st, 2024.
Linda B. Hairr
Executer of the Estate of Susan Mae Fleming Bryant, Deceased

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF EMANUEL COUNTY STATE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE INTEREST OF: E.L. SEX: M

DOB: 9/11/2008

CASE #24JV98

CHILD UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE.

NOTICE OF SUMMONS TO: AMANDA BURGESS

You are hereby notified that the above-styled action has been brought by the Emanuel County Department of Family and Children Services, and the Georgia Department of Human Services, seeking custody of the above named child pursuant to its Petition for Dependency; that said action has been filed in the Juvenile Court of Emanuel County, Georgia; and that by reason of an Order for Service of Summons by Publication dated November 20, 2024, you are hereby notified that you may obtain a copy of the petition from the Clerk of the Juvenile Court of Emanuel County, Georgia and may file with the Clerk of said Court and serve upon Marnique Oliver, Petitioner's Attorney, whose mailing address is P.O. Box 308, 115 S. Racetrack Street, Swainsboro, Georgia, 30401, 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 9th day of JANUARY, 2025 at the EMANUEL County Courthouse in Swainsboro, Georgia at 10:00 a.m., for a FINAL HEARING on this issue and show cause, if any you have, why the relief requested in the petition should not be granted. You are hereby commanded and required to appear before this Court at said final hearing or the findings of the Court will be made the permanent order of this Court in the above case. You must attend the final hearing in order to preserve your rights. At the final hearing you will be given an opportunity to show cause, if any you have, why the relief requested in the petition should not be granted. The parties notified hereby are entitled to legal counsel in the proceedings, and the Court will appoint legal counsel if any party should be unable, without undue hardship, to employ counsel. The Findings of Fact and Order of Disposition made at the Hearing will become final at the Final Hearing unless the party served by publication appears at the Final Hearing. If the party served by publication fails to appear at the Final Hearing on the petition, the Findings of Fact and Interlocutory Orders made will become final without further evidence and will be governed by the Juvenile Court Code as if made at the Final Hearing. If the party served by publication appears at the Final Hearing, the Interlocutory findings and Orders shall be vacated and disregarded, and the hearing shall proceed upon the allegations of the motion. A copy of this petition may be obtained at no charge from the Office of the Clerk of Court between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
WITNESS, the Honorable Sherri McDonald, Judge of said Juvenile Court.
This _____ day of _____, 2024.
Clerk, Emanuel County Juvenile Court

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS GEORGIA, EMANUEL COUNTY
All creditors of the estate of Eva Estelle Collins, 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 21st day of November, 2024.
Richard Gregory Bush, Executor of the Estate of Eva Estelle Collins, 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 Billy Dawson, 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 21st day of November, 2024.
Willie J. Dawson, Jr., Administrator of the Estate of Billy Dawson, decedent
Jerry N. Cadle, P.C.
P.O. Box 68
Swainsboro, GA 30401

SONYA BOWENS GAMBLE NOTICE TERMINATION OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION
TO: James B. Daniels and any heir at law of the said James B. Daniels; and any person or entity having any right, title, or interest in or lien upon the following described property.
Take notice that:
The right to redeem the following described property, to wit:
One certain tract or parcel of land situate, lying, and being in the City of Swainsboro, 53rd G.M. District, Emanuel County, Georgia, as shown on a plat prepared by Billy Flanders, surveyor, dated June 5, 1974, and recorded in Plat Book 8, Page 206, said plat is hereby incorporated herein for a more full, complete, and accurate description hereof. Said property being bounded as shown on said plat, as follows: Northwest by Stevens Street; Northeast by property of Bobby Ricks; Southeast by other property of Adrian Housing Corporation; and Southwest by land now or formerly owned by Frank Flanders.
Said property is the same as described in a Quitclaim Deed from the United States of America, acting by and through Farmers Home Administration to Lola Mar Habersham dated August 2, 1983, and recorded in Deed Book 1G, Pages 35-36, of Emanuel County Clerk's Records.
As described in Deed Book 257, Page 420. Further described as Map & Parcel 095C020.
Will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 27th of December, 2024.
The tax deed to which this notice related is dated November 7, 2023, and is recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Emanuel County, Georgia, in Deed Book 563, pages 621-623.
The property may be redeemed at any time before the 27th day of December, 2024, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: Sonya Bowens Gamble, 3550 Hamlin Square SW, Atlanta, GA 30331.
If you have questions or would like to know the redemption amount, please contact my attorney, Morgan Morris Boulineau, at P.O. Box 68, Swainsboro, GA 30401, 478-237-2271.
Please be governed accordingly. This 21st day of November, 2024.
Sonya Bowens Gamble
3550 Hamlin Square SW
Atlanta, GA 30331
Morgan Morris Boulineau
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 68
Swainsboro, GA 30401
478-237-2271

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF TOOMBS
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
IN RE: The Estate of Gary Eugene Waters, deceased.
All debtors or creditors of the Estate of Gary Eugene Waters, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are to make immediate payment to me.
This 25th day of November, 2024.
HILLARY D. EARLS
Attorney for Executor, Gail Waters
BRYANT & O'CONNOR LAW FIRM
P.O. Box 28
Vadalia, GA 30475

TO: GARY N. WILSON, EAGLE NECK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., GLOBAL PARTS INTERNATIONAL, INC., MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC, ELLINGTON INSURANCE, INC., and anyone claiming an interest in the property described below.
Take Notice That:
The right to redeem the following described property, to wit:
All that tract or parcel of land lying, situate and being in the City of Swainsboro, 53rd G.M. District of Emanuel County, Georgia, fronting 90 feet on Richard Street, and extending back between parallel lines a distance of 258 feet, and being designated as Lot No. 6 on a plat prepared by Frank J. For, Surveyor, dated April 21, 1961, and recorded in Emanuel County Clerk's Office in Plat Book 1, page 401, and plat made by Walter K. Maupin, Surveyor, dated May 1, 1969, and recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 96, aforesaid records, and to which plat reference is hereby made for descriptive and all other legal purposes. Said Lot No. 6 being more minutely described as follows: Beginning at an iron stake located on the northern edge of Richard Street which is located 707.63 feet North 88 degrees 56 minutes West from the northwest corner of the intersection of U.S. Highway No. 1 and Richard Street; thence running North88 degrees 56 minutes West along the northern edge of Richard Street 90 feet; thence turning and running North 01 degrees 04 minutes East a distance of 258 feet; thence turning and running South 01 degrees 04

minutes West a distance of 258 feet to the point of beginning.
Said plat is hereby incorporated by specific reference for descriptive and all other legal purposes.
Said tract of land is known as 214 Harmon Road, Swainsboro, Emanuel County, Georgia and further known as Map/Parcel S28047 in the Tax Assessor's Office of Emanuel County, Georgia.
will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 30th day of **DECEMBER, 2024**. The tax deed to which this notice relates is dated the 7th day of November, 2023, and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Emanuel County, Georgia, in Deed Book 563, at page 609-611.
The property may be redeemed at any time before the 30th day of **DECEMBER, 2024**, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: 12 Siebald Street, Statesboro, Georgia 30458.
ROBERT K. BELL, JR. INVESTMENTS, INC.
Stephen T. Rushing, Esq.
Taulbee, Rushing, Snipes, Marsh & Hodgins, LLC
12 Siebald Street, Statesboro, Georgia 30458
912/764-9055

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL
IN RE: ESTATE OF ROBERT WAYNE GULLEDGE, DECEASED.
All creditors of the estate of Robert Wayne Gullede, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to Richard M. McNeely, attorney for Melissa Gullede, Administrator of the Robert Wayne Gullede 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 26th day of November, 2024.
RICHARD M. MCNEELY,
Attorney for **Melissa Gullede, Administrator of the Robert Wayne Gullede Estate**
Richard M. McNeely, P.C.
P. O. Box 767
Swainsboro, Georgia 30401
(478) 237-4225

Grant Notice
The Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) will launch its adult education grant competition on January 16, 2025. These grants, funded through Title II of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), support eligible local providers in delivering adult education and literacy services. Eligible participants include individuals aged 16 and older who lack a high school diploma, have basic skills deficiencies, or are English language learners.
TCSG will host a Technical Assistance Day for all interested applicants on January 16, 2025, at Central Georgia Technical College. Additional information is available at <https://www.tcsg.edu/adult-education/grant-opportunities/>.
TCSG is an equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS GEORGIA, EMANUEL COUNTY
All creditors of the estate of Wilber Mincey, decedent, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render in their demands to Attorney Morgan M. Boulineau at 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 3rd day of December, 2024.
Keith Mincey, Executor of the Estate of Wilber Mincey, decedent
Morgan M. Boulineau, Attorney
Jerry N. Cadle, P.C.
P.O. Box 68
Swainsboro, GA 30401

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF EMANUEL COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF DOUGLAS PETERSON, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 24E0143
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
[Strike the sentence in parenthesis below if not applicable.]
TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES and to whom it may concern:
JEROME RENO PETERSON has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **DOUGLAS PETERSON**, deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before **JANUARY 6, 2025**.
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: **ALYSON ABELL**
Clerk of the Probate Court
125 S. Main Street Swainsboro, GA 30401
Address
478-237-7091
Telephone Number

PROBATE COURT GEORGIA, EMANUEL COUNTY
Re: Estate of Cecil Strong
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
All creditors of the Estate of **CECIL STRONG**, deceased, late of Emanuel County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 4th day of December, 2024.
ROBERTA B. STRONG,
Executor
1757 GA Highway 56 North
Swainsboro, GA 30401
Huey W. Spearman
Attorney for Executor
701 Carswell Avenue
Waycross, GA 31501
(912) 284-9030

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, EMANUEL COUNTY
Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a Deed to Secure Debt from Cynthia D. Pena to O.F.A. Investments, Inc., A Georgia Corporation, dated March 4, 2013, recorded in Deed Book 382, Pages 38-43, Emanuel County, Georgia records. Said Deed to Secure Debt having been given to secure a note dated March 4, 2013, in the original principal sum of Eleven Thousand Three Hundred and 00/100 (\$11,300.00) Dollars with interest from date at the rate stated in said note on the unpaid balance until paid, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door at Emanuel County, Georgia within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in January, 2025, the property described in said Deed to Secure Debt, to wit:
ALL that lot or parcel of land, with improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in the State of Georgia, County of Emanuel, and being known and designated as Lot 1, containing 0.76 acres, more or less, and Lot 2, containing 0.72 acres more or less, and fronting on Princess Street, as more particularly shown on a plat thereof recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court for Emanuel County, Georgia in Plat Book 20, Page 42A; reference being made to said plat for a more complete and accurate description as to the metes, bounds and location of said property. Said property is commonly known as 221 Durden Road, Twin City, Georgia 30471.
The debt secured by said Deed to Secure Debt has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, the non-payment of the monthly installments on said loan. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, including legal fees.
This sale will be held subject to all unpaid taxes, assessments, and restrictions of record, if any, transfer tax and all state and county taxes.
Said property will be sold as the property of Cynthia D. Pena, the property to the best information, knowledge, and belief of the undersigned, being presently in the possession Cynthia D. Pena, and the proceeds of said sale will be applied to the payment of said indebtedness and all the expenses of said sale, including attorney's fees, all as provided in said deed, and the balance, if any, will be distributed as provided by law.
Terms of the sale are to be cash, purchaser paying for papers, revenue stamps, and all state and county taxes.
This 20th day of November, 2024.
Cynthia D. Pena
By and through her attorney-in-fact
Franklin Properties of Georgia, Inc.
O. Franklin Askin, Jr., P.C.
Attorney at law
2913 Professional Parkway
Augusta, GA 30907
(706) 860-9266

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL
IN RE: ESTATE OF ROBERT WAYNE GULLEDGE, DECEASED.
All creditors of the estate of Robert Wayne Gullede, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to Richard M. McNeely, attorney for Larry S. Hutchinson, Administrator of the Leslie Erin Hutchinson 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 18th day of November, 2024.
RICHARD M. MCNEELY,
Attorney for Larry S. Hutchinson, Administrator of the Leslie Erin Hutchinson Estate
Richard M. McNeely, P.C.
P. O. Box 767
Swainsboro, Georgia 30401
(478) 237-4225

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL
IN RE: ESTATE OF BILLY C. BRINSON, SR., DECEASED.
All creditors of the estate of Billy C. Brinson, Sr., deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to Richard M. McNeely, attorney for Carolyn Amerson Brinson, Administrator of the Billy C. Brinson, Sr., 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 18th day of November, 2024.
RICHARD M. MCNEELY,
Attorney for Carolyn Amerson Brinson, Administrator of the Billy C. Brinson, Sr., Estate
Richard M. McNeely, P.C.
P. O. Box 767
Swainsboro, Georgia 30401
(478) 237-4225

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL
IN RE: ESTATE OF GARY ALEXANDER MOSELEY
All creditors of the estate of GARY ALEXANDER MOSELEY, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to James Malcolm Moseley, care of J. Kendall Gross, J. KENDALL GROSS, P.C., P.O. Box 695, Metter, Georgia 30439.
This November 21st, 2024.
James Malcolm Moseley
Administrator of the Estate of Gary Alexander Moseley, Deceased

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF EMANUEL
IN RE: ESTATE OF SUSAN MAE FLEMING BRYANT
All creditors of the estate of SUSAN MAE FLEMING BRYANT, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to Linda B. Hairr, care of Cindy C. Delgado, J. KENDALL GROSS, P.C., P.O. Box 695, Metter, Georgia 30439.
This November 21st, 2024.
Linda B. Hairr
Executer of the Estate of Susan Mae Fleming Bryant, Deceased

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF EMANUEL COUNTY STATE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE INTEREST OF: E.L. SEX: M

DOB: 9/11/2008

CASE #24JV98

CHILD UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE.

NOTICE OF SUMMONS TO: AMANDA BURGESS

You are hereby notified that the above-styled action has been brought by the Emanuel County Department of Family and Children Services, and the Georgia Department of Human Services, seeking custody of the above named child pursuant to its Petition for Dependency; that said action has been filed in the Juvenile Court of Emanuel County, Georgia; and that by reason of an Order for Service of Summons by Publication dated November 20, 2024, you are hereby notified that you may obtain a copy of the petition from the Clerk of the Juvenile Court of Emanuel County, Georgia and may file with the Clerk of said Court and serve upon Marnique Oliver, Petitioner's Attorney, whose mailing address is P.O. Box 308, 115 S. Racetrack Street, Swainsboro, Georgia, 30401, 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 9th day of JANUARY, 2025 at the EMANUEL County Courthouse in Swainsboro, Georgia at 10:00 a.m., for a FINAL HEARING on this issue and show cause, if any you have, why the relief requested in the petition should not be granted. You are hereby commanded and required to appear before this Court at said final hearing or the findings of the Court will be made the permanent order of this Court in the above case. You must attend the final hearing in order to preserve your rights. At the final hearing you will be given an opportunity to show cause, if any you have, why the relief requested in the petition should not be granted. The parties notified hereby are entitled to legal counsel in the proceedings, and the Court will appoint legal counsel if any party should be unable, without undue hardship, to employ counsel. The Findings of Fact and Order of Disposition made at the Hearing will become final at the Final Hearing unless the party served by publication appears at the Final Hearing. If the party served by publication fails to appear at the Final Hearing on the petition, the Findings of Fact and Interlocutory Orders made will become final without further evidence and will be governed by the Juvenile Court Code as if made at the Final Hearing. If the party served by publication appears at the Final Hearing, the Interlocutory findings and Orders shall be vacated and disregarded, and the hearing shall proceed upon the allegations of the motion. A copy of this petition may be obtained at no charge from the Office of the Clerk of Court between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
WITNESS, the Honorable Sherri McDonald, Judge of said Juvenile Court.
This _____ day of _____, 2024.
Clerk, Emanuel County Juvenile Court

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS GEORGIA, EMANUEL COUNTY
All creditors of the estate of Eva Estelle Collins, 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 21st day of November, 2024.
Richard Gregory Bush, Executor of the Estate of Eva Estelle Collins, 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 Billy Dawson, 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 21st day of November, 2024.
Willie J. Dawson, Jr., Administrator of the Estate of Billy Dawson, decedent
Jerry N. Cadle, P.C.
P.O. Box 68
Swainsboro, GA 30401

SONYA BOWENS GAMBLE NOTICE TERMINATION OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION
TO: James B. Daniels and any heir at law of the said James B. Daniels; and any person or entity having any right, title, or interest in or lien upon the following described property.
Take notice that:
The right to redeem the following described property, to wit:
One certain tract or parcel of land situate, lying, and being in the City of Swainsboro, 53rd G.M. District, Emanuel County, Georgia, as shown on a plat prepared by Billy Flanders, surveyor, dated June 5, 1974, and recorded in Plat Book 8, Page 206, said plat is hereby incorporated herein for a more full, complete, and accurate description hereof. Said property being bounded as shown on said plat, as follows: Northwest by Stevens Street; Northeast by property of Bobby Ricks; Southeast by other property of Adrian Housing Corporation; and Southwest by land now or formerly owned by Frank Flanders.
Said property is the same as described in a Quitclaim Deed from the United States of America, acting by and through Farmers Home Administration to Lola Mar Habersham dated August 2, 1983, and recorded in Deed Book 1G, Pages 35-36, of Emanuel County Clerk's Records.
As described in Deed Book 257, Page 420. Further described as Map & Parcel 095C020.
Will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 27th of December, 2024.
The tax deed to which this notice related is dated November 7, 2023, and is recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Emanuel County, Georgia, in Deed Book 563, pages 621-623.
The property may be redeemed at any time before the 27th day of December, 2024, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: Sonya Bowens Gamble, 3550 Hamlin Square SW, Atlanta, GA 30331.
If you have questions or would like to know the redemption amount, please contact my attorney, Morgan Morris Boulineau, at P.O. Box 68, Swainsboro, GA 30401, 478-237-2271.
Please be governed accordingly. This 21st day of November, 2024.
Sonya Bowens Gamble
3550 Hamlin Square SW
Atlanta, GA 30331
Morgan Morris Boulineau
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 68
Swainsboro, GA 30401
478-237-2271

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF TOOMBS
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
IN RE: The Estate of Gary Eugene Waters, deceased.
All debtors or creditors of the Estate of Gary Eugene Waters, deceased, late of Emanuel County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are to make immediate payment to me.
This 25th day of November, 2024.
HILLARY D. EARLS
Attorney for Executor, Gail Waters
BRYANT & O'CONNOR LAW FIRM
P.O. Box 28
Vadalia, GA 30475

TO: GARY N. WILSON, EAGLE NECK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., GLOBAL PARTS INTERNATIONAL, INC., MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC, ELLINGTON INSURANCE, INC., and anyone claiming an interest in the property described below.
Take Notice That:
The right to redeem the following described property, to wit:
All that tract or parcel of land lying, situate and being in the City of Swainsboro, 53rd G.M. District of Emanuel County, Georgia, fronting 90 feet on Richard Street, and extending back between parallel lines a distance of 258 feet, and being designated as Lot No. 6 on a plat prepared by Frank J. For, Surveyor, dated April 21, 1961, and recorded in Emanuel County Clerk's Office in Plat Book 1, page 401, and plat made by Walter K. Maupin, Surveyor, dated May 1, 1969, and recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 96, aforesaid records, and to which plat reference is hereby made for descriptive and all other legal



LEE HERRON'S SIX-POUNDER LEADING THE CANNON VOLLEY



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Brier Creek Artillery participates in the Fort Morris event

The Brier Creek Artillery traveled to Revolutionary War Fort Morris, "Come and Take It" event on Saturday, November 23, at 10 a.m. The Artillery group is made up of members of the Brier Creek Chapter and the Wiregrass Chapter. The event was the 246th Anniversary Commemoration of the Siege of Fort Morris that happened on November 25, 1778. When the British demanded surrender to which the Patriots defiantly replied, "Come and take It". After the presentation of the colors, the National Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance, a program was presented of the 15 Historic Flags. After the speakers, the wreath presentations were held. There was a total of over 50 wreaths presented. This was followed by the three-round Musket and Canon volley Salute and then taps was played.



WREATHS AND MARBLE MARKERS



HERRON, SMITH III, BURKE, MCCLOUD AND BAZEMORE

Brier Creek Artillery attends four Patriot Grave Marking event

The Brier Creek Artillery traveled to Contentment Bluff Plantation Cemetery at Shellman Bluff to participate in the four Patriot Grave Marking on Friday, November 22, at 3 p.m. Those members were Commander Steve Burke, Lee Herron, Dess Smith III, Don Bazemore and Alton McCloud. They represent the Little River Chapter, Brier Creek Chapter and the Wiregrass Chapter of the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution. The four patriot's graves that were marked are: Patriot John Calder, Patriot James Gilligiant, Sr., Capt. James Nephew and Lt. Col. John Cooper. In attendance were 45 people and more that 40 wreaths were presented. At the end of the event and right before taps were played, the Brier Creek Artillery fired a three-round volley with their six-pounder cannons.

Classifieds

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The Lights of Christmas

BY BISHOP BERTHA JONES -- As we enter the yuletide season, lights are our reminder that Christmas is in the air. Excitement for the celebration of Jesus's birthday brings joy. It's exciting to see lights everywhere. They are hung around doors, roof tops, trees, scrubs, poles, fireplaces, mailboxes and I know you can name many more places where you see lights. Lights are more obvious when it is dark. Lights illuminate dark and dreary places. The lights of Christmas are what we need everyday. There is someone who needs to see the light of Jesus in their dark and dreary life. So how can we keep the light of Christmas shining everyday? John chapter one tells us that Jesus is life and in him is the light of men. And the light shines in darkness and the darkness cannot overtake the light. In John 8:12 Jesus says that as long as he is in the world, he is the light of the world, and he that follows him shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life. Now that Jesus is no longer in the world (because he is seated at the right hand of the Father interceding for us. Ro. 8:34 & Col. 3:1) he said in Matthew 5:14, "You are the light of the world." Now since we are the light of the world, let us keep the world lite. The scripture I John 1:5 tells us that in God there is no darkness at all. So the word of God encourages us to let your light shine before men so that they may see your good works and glorify our Father which is in heaven." (Mt.5:16) So challenge yourself to be the Light of Christmas every day. See every light as a reminder of how we should shine in love, peace, and joy in the world.

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