GORD()

Weekend, November 14, 2020

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Volume 3, No.11

Calhoun-Gordon County's #1 Source for News

CPD investigating burglary at North Wall BP

Brandi Owczarz staff@gordongazettega.com

Calhoun.

The Calhoun Police dispatched to the gas around the building. Department has released station around 12:41 Wall BP, located at 312 officers

door had been broken. \$1,000 in damages. According to the Officers were unable

morning at the North alarm. Upon arrival, that at the time, around discovered \$150 worth of items were North Wall Street in the glass in the front stolen and approximately

CPD continues to statement, officers were to locate anyone in or investigate the incident at this time. Anyone with The business owner, information is asked a statement concerning a.m. Friday, Nov. 13, in Rohit Patel arrived on to contact Det. Adam a burglary early this reference to a burglary scene and determined Kilgore at 706-629-1234.



Weekly COVID-19 update at local schools, community

Brandi Owczarz staff@gordongazettega.com

COVID-19 remained flat this week distancing is with active cases of the in a statement to the

"By remaining Schools number of when possible, wear members not cases they had last week. we can continue to ensure High School, 1 student This week, however, the in-person instruction for system had no students in all of our students," said their elementary schools Gordon County Schools

Gordon Gazette.

At GCS, there are diligent in our efforts 5 students within the County to socially distance system and 5 staff cases face coverings when considered as actively having COVID-19. with 10 total active possible, wash our hands There are 2 students at cases system-wide, the frequently and stay home Red Bud Middle School, same number of active when we don't feel well, 1 student at Sonoraville

> See COVID, page 7A



Victim in Wednesday's fatal accident identified

Brandi Owczarz

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can confirm that the the northbound lanes of victim of Wednesday I-75 before leaving the morning's fatal crash on right side of the roadway, a rest in the gore area of I-75 North around mile traveled marker 307 has been embankment near the rest area exit, facing north. identified as 25-year- area, struck a concrete The Kia came to rest old Shaniqwa Duckett drainage culvert with its adjacent to the right rear according to Gordon then began to overturn County Deputy Coroner until it struck the rear of the Kia Forte were Christy Nicholson.

preliminary incident side of the rest area on in Chattanooga, Tenn. or report provided by the was traveling north on The report states that I-75 around 7:45 a.m. the tractor trailer was Wednesday morning, parked in a gore area of Nov. 11, when it left the I-75 and the rest area

and traveled into the The Gordon Gazette then traveled back into Columbus, Ga., front and undercarriage, of the trailer.

left side of I-75 north that was posted with "No Parking" signs on grass median. The car the right side of the exit ramp, but no signs were posted in the gore area.

Both vehicles came to down an I-75 north and the rest

All six occupants of a tractor trailer that transported to either According to the was parked on the left Erlanger Medical Center a gravel surface, driven Floyd Medical Center Georgia State Patrol, a by Ljubo Sisljagic, 53, in Rome with serious 2018 Kia Forte LX S of Jacksonville, Fla. injuries. The occupants

> See WRECK, page 7A



The wreckage from Wednesday's fatal accident on I-75 North around the rest area at mile marker 307. (Photo: Gordon Gazette reader CHRIS L. JOHNSON)

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Inside this issue: **SECOND FRONT 2A**



Calhoun Rotary tours new Urgent Health Care Clinic at Calhoun High School.

HEALTH

States rapid test results add to alarming rise in COVID-



Escobar named Calhoun College Academy Student of the

Officers arrest Calhoun man on drug, traffic charges after caught speeding on Curtis Parkway

Brandi Owczarz staff@gordongazettega.com

Calhoun Police

on Curtis Parkway.

and traffic charges, after Dews Pond Road. After he was caught speeding the Mustang traveled about 150 feet from the According to the intersection, the driver incident report, around revved the engine of 10 a.m. on Tuesday, the car and accelerated Nov. 10, an officer was rabidly over a hillcrest,

right-of-way to turn right Parkway and could still traffic. The report states onto Curtis Parkway. The visually see and hear the Mustang decelerated officer observed a silver the Mustang driving at to a very slow pace, Ford Mustang, with loud a high rate of speed. pulled onto Laura Creek arrested a Calhoun man exhaust, turn left onto The officer activated his and then into a doctor's Tuesday morning on drug Curtis Parkway from emergency equipment, office. and attempted to catch up to the Mustang before contact with the driver, he got to Laurel Creek, identified as 21-year-old ways to Calhoun Primary and Calhoun Elementary schools. The officer man's driver's license and stopped at the traffic and continued to pick caught up to the Mustang light on Dews Pond up speed. The officer around Firehouse Gym Road, waiting on the turned onto Curtis because there was heavy

The officer made which is one of the entry Adrian Brito Alfaro, of Stendall Road, Calhoun. The officer asked for the





ADRIAN BRITO ALFARO

Georgia shatters previous record, earns Top Business ranking for eighth consecutive year

OFFICE OF GEORGIA **GOVERNOR BRIAN KEMP**

Atlanta, GA – As the world's greatest golfers teed off today at the Masters Tournament in Augusta to compete for the prized Green Jacket, Governor Brian P. Kemp announced that the State of Georgia has shattered its own record by being named No. 1 for business climate for the eighth consecutive year by Site Selection magazine.

to earn this distinction occasion. seven consecutive times and it is now the only state to receive the honor eight times in a row. The announcement presentation followed a tour of Bridgestone Golf's headquarters research and development facility in Covington, Georgia, where the Governor was also presented with golf balls stamped with the In 2019, Georgia "No. 1 State" artwork

became the only state to commemorate the

"I'm so proud that in the history of Site Georgia has earned this Selection's rankings, top business distinction for a record-setting eight years, and it is an honor to accept this award from Site Selection magazine," said Governor Kemp. "Our top-notch workforce development programs and probusiness environment, along with our strong

> See STATE, page 7A



Second Front

Pulliam joins AdventHealth Medical Group

AdventHealth Medical Group is pleased to announce that Cayla Pulliam, FNP-C, has joined AdventHealth Medical Group Family Medicine at Owasa.

Pulliam joins Robert Lester, MD; Chris Yamamoto, MD; Charlotte Brooks, FNP-BC; Rhonda Gilbert, FNP-C; and Tiffany Kelley, FNP-C, at AdventHealth Medical Group Family Medicine at Owasa, which offers a wide range of medical services for the entire family. Serving the Calhoun and Gordon County community since 1980, the clinicians carefully listen to patients and provide thorough exams and offer solutions to make sure you stay at your best. The practice also helps patients prevent or manage medical issues, including diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and many other conditions that need close monitoring.

Pulliam earned her Bachelor of

University and her Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She is certified through the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. Outside of work, Pulliam enjoys spending time with friends and family, being outdoors, being involved in the community and traveling.

To schedule an appointment, please call 706-625-0333.

About AdventHealth Gordon

Founded in 1935, AdventHealth Gordon is proud to be a member of AdventHealth. With a sacred mission of Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ, AdventHealth is a connected system of care for every stage of life and health. More than 80,000 skilled and compassionate caregivers in physician practices, hospitals, outpatient clinics, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies and hospice centers provide individualized, wholistic care. A shared vision, common values, focus on whole-person health and commitment to Science in Nursing from Kennesaw State making communities healthier unify the



system's nearly 50 hospital campuses and more information about AdventHealth, hundreds of care sites in diverse markets visit AdventHealth.com or Facebook. throughout almost a dozen states. For com/AdventHealth.

Calhoun Rotary Club tours new **Urgent Health Care Clinic at Calhoun High School** AdventHealth helped the students and staff of

As one of the first charter systems in the state, Calhoun City Schools has always looked for ways to improve and innovate while best serving students and the community. The Board of Education is proud to share its newest initiative with the official opening of the AdventHealth Urgent Care Clinic at Calhoun City Schools. Aligning with Georgia's Vision Project to develop partnerships with businesses, industries, public agencies and the community to promote shared use of services and facilities, CCS is leading the way for other school

type of initiative.

The Calhoun College The addition of the Urgent Care Clinic is a prime example of how an innovative thought, partnered with support from local businesses, industry and foundations, can move from idea to reality in a short period of time. The health clinic is a state-of-the art facility that mirrors that of the most current urgent care clinics you walk into today. They provide a full slate of services catering to students and staff, in addition to the surrounding community. Originally slated to be an acute care clinic, CCS and AdventHealth recognized the opportunity to expand services, by adding an x-ray room in order to meet the qualifications of a state approved urgent

urgent care Calhoun Rotary Club who owned the building adjacent to the Calhoun Engineering and Online Learning Academy school system to house year to complete from start to finish, including a complete remodel of the pre-existing building. and CEO Michael Murrell and Director of Marketing Communications and President of the student athletes AdventHealth Gordon Foundation, building was transformed following

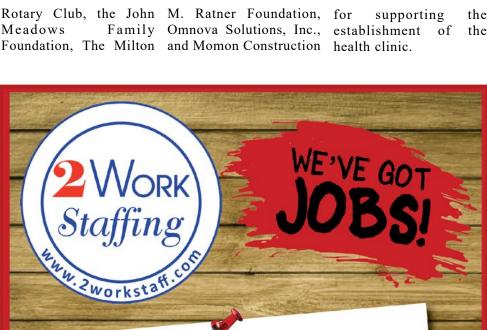
Calhoun City Schools is extremely thankful the community partnerships that helped launch of the urgent care. It allows students in the College and Career Academy's healthcare pathway to work in the clinic while earning their CNA license and provides hands-on opportunities for our students to learn valuable skills that will hopefully enable them to pursue a career in medicine. The clinic has also provided direct access to high quality medical care for our students and staff, immediate priority. The clinic serves not only

plan, design, build and Calhoun City Schools, implement a successful but also is used as an clinic outreach to the western and partnership. The half of our county, which lacks any direct access to a healthcare facility.

Teachers who would once leave campus to offered the facility to the seek medical care, can now receive that same the Clinic. The project care on-site. This keeps took approximately one teachers and staff from missing time away from their students and it maximizes students' instructional time. AdventHealth's President The clinic has been seeing successfully patients and performed free physicals for all Calhoun City Schools Garrett and neighboring districts, Nudd shared about the serving more than 600 districts to replicate this hospital's commitment students. The recent to this endeavor at the pandemic has highlighted Calhoun Rotary Club just how important this and Career Academy was meeting on Thursday, partnership really is. We established in 2013 on November 12, 2020. relied heavily on their the campus of Calhoun Following the program, support and expertise Middle and High School. Rotary Club members to ensure that we safely took time to tour the reopened our schools facility to see how their to in-person instruction extended into an urgent care clinic. school closures in the The ability spring. to offer high quality healthcare services, such as COVID testing, on-site at the clinic has been a tremendous asset in combating the virus as we maintain a safe and secure learning environment. Because of the success of this innovative project, Calhoun City will continue to seek collaborative partnerships that will benefit both the students and the community. The clinic is one example where we saw the need and set out to meet that need. Again, the school where they are given system is extremely grateful to AdventHealth Gordon, the Calhoun



supporting



POSITIONS AVAILABLE

GENERAL LABOR: \$10/hr, 12 hour shifts 7am to 7p and 7p to 7a, 7 days a week right now, lots of over time, bilingual

TEACHER: \$8.25, must pass background check, experience in planning, teaching, following up, needs to have certificate in field or Associates Degree

TIRE HANDLER: \$11 & UP BASED ON JOB/SHIFT-12hr swing shift days—7am-7:30pm, 2nd & 3rd—Tire Handlers 3pm-11:30pm/ 11:00pm-7:30am

CREELING: Experience -7p - 7a starting pay is \$14 hour and up

MACHINE OPERATOR: -5p - 3a starting pay is \$14 hour and up

A1 Molding department: \$10.00 for 1st shift 15 temps -\$10.50 for 2nd shift 15 temps weekends required-lots of overtime

INDUSTRIAL BINDING: (sewing machine) candidates that have sewing machine experience we will pay them \$14.25 per hour







Obituaries November 14, 2020

Rosa Lee McAbee

Rosa Lee Mrs. Davidson McAbee, 81, of Resaca, died Wednesday evening at Erlanger Medical Center.

Mrs. McAbee was born in Chattanooga, Tenn. on March 2, 1939, daughter of the late Arvil and Lavada Sparks Davidson. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by



three sisters, Mildred Davidson Stephens, Betty Davidson Curtis and Virginia Jo Davidson Cagle; and by one brother, Lyndell L. Davidson.

Mrs. McAbee graduated from Kirkman High School in Chattanooga, and was a teacher at Harvest Christian Academy prior to retirement. She was a Proverbs 31 woman, prayer warrior, devoted wife, mother and grandmother, a caring teacher and a faithful example. She was a member of Whitfield Baptist Church in Dalton.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-inlaw, Janet (Robert) Oglesby and Jennifer (Matt) Steed; two sons, Felton Ray McAbee Jr. and Steven McAbee; grandchildren, Amanda Long, Renee Davis, Kimberly McAbee, Austin McAbee, Amy McAbee, Joel McAbee, Amber McAbee, Ashley McAbee, Cody Oglesby, Kaitlyn Oglesby, Leah Steed and Christopher Steed; thirteen great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Services to celebrate the life of Rosa Lee McAbee will be held Saturday, Nov. 14, 2020 at 1 p.m. from Whitfield Baptist Church with Pastor Wayne Cofield officiating. Interment will follow in Tennessee-Georgia Memorial Park Cemetery. Pallbearers serving include; Joel McAbee, Cody Oglesby, Christopher Steed, Austin McAbee, Andrew Kitchens, and David Curtis.

The family received friends Friday, Nov. 13, 2020 at Max Brannon & Sons Funeral Home between the hours of 5 - 8 p.m. On Saturday, Mrs. McAbee's body will be placed in state at Whitfield Baptist Church in Dalton from 11 a.m. until the funeral hour.

Due to the National health crisis and the COVID-19 virus, the mask must be worn properly at all times and social distancing guidelines must be observed when visiting the funeral home.

Online condolences may be express and the guest book signed at www.maxbrannonandsons.com.

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the McAbee family.



Vance Remele

Vance Howard Remele, age 74, of Calhoun, passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2020 at Haralson Nursing & Rehabilitation Center of Bremen.

Vance was born on Dec. 18, 1945 in Norwalk, Conn., son of Tomasa Perez. In addition to his mother, Vance was also preceded in death by: a brother, Paul Remele; and sister, Edith Lane.

Vance spent his childhood in Stamford, Conn., later moving to Florida, and then Georgia, where he has resided since 1990. Vance earned his Real Estate license in 1994 and worked as a self-employed Realtor until his retirement. He was of the Catholic faith. Vance loved life, people, conversating with others, and would give you the shirt off his back. He was a loving husband of 40 years and was happiest when he was around the people he cared most for.

Vance is survived by: his wife of 40 years, Lynne Remele of Calhoun; three brothers, James Remele, Stewart Remele, and Chuck Remele all of Connecticut; and sister, Helene Lahaie of Connecticut.

A private memorial service will be held at a later

You may leave the family online condolences at concluded. www.thomasfuneralhomecalhoun.com

Thomas Funeral Home has proudly been entrusted with the care of Vance Howard Remele.



Rachel Souther

Rachel Jackson Souther, age 81 of Calhoun, GA, passed away on Wednesday, November 11, 2020 at her residence.

Rachel was born on December 20, 1938 in Gordon County, GA, daughter of the late Andrew Martin Jackson and Edna Irene Thomas Jackson. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by: her daughter, Lydia Southern; and son, Howard Arnold Souther. She was a lifetime resident of Gordon County, GA and was of the Baptist faith.

Rachel is survived by: her grandson, Jason Souther; and granddaughter, Samantha Lara. A private memorial service will be held at a later

You may leave the family online condolences at www.thomasfuneralhomecalhoun.com

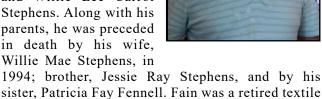
Thomas Funeral Home has proudly been entrusted with the care of Rachel Jackson Southern.



Fain Stephens

Fain Junior Stephens, 85, of the Nance Springs Community, died at his home on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020. Fain was born in Gordon County on Aug. 25, 1935; he was the son of the late Jessie and Willie Lee Carrol Stephens. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Willie Mae Stephens, in

worker.



Survivors are his wife, Brenda Lynn Stephens; his children and their spouses, Donnie and Kim Stephens, Nida Frazier, Rachel Strickland, Lisa and Darrell Bagley, Jade Lin and Mark Summers, Tina Renee Wildes and Gavin Foster, Dona Belle Smith and Dr. Rod Rodriguez; his brother, Mark and Retha Stephens; his brother-in-law, Jimmy Fennell; eighteen grandchildren, twenty-eight greatgrandchildren, nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, Nov. 14, 2020 from 12 p.m. until 3 p.m. at Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home. The funeral service will follow the visitation on Saturday, Nov. 14 at 3 p.m. from the funeral home chapel. Burial will follow at Bethlehem Baptist Church Cemetery. Rev. Bruce Beach will officiate. Pallbearers are Stoney Stephens, Jason Morgan, Jamie Nelson, Cody Hooper, Patrick Holden, Brandon Hawkins, and Jeff Stephens.

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of Fain Junior Stephens.

Due to the National health crisis and the COVID-19 virus, mask must be worn at all times and social distancing guidelines must be observed when visiting the funeral home.

There will be a live stream at the time of the service on Max Brannon and Son's Facebook page. The service will also be posted to www. maxbrannonandsons.com once the service has



Minnie Wilmath

Minnie Eva Wilmath, age 76, of Calhoun, passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2020 at AdventHealth

Minnie was born on June 23, 1944 in Rockcastle

County, K., daughter of the late Dennie and Ola Bowman. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by: son, Randall Damrell; and daughter, Donna Morgan. She formerly attended Hall Memorial Baptist Church. Minnie is survived by: her husband, John Wilmath;

three daughters, Lisa Beck of Calhoun, Rhonda Blair of Dalton, and Teresa Massingill of Alabama; two sons, Dennis Ray Bowman of Dalton and Ricky Damrell of Woodstock; and numerous, brothers, sisters, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

A private memorial service will be held at a later

You may leave the family online condolences at www.thomasfuneralhomecalhoun.com

Thomas Funeral Home has proudly been entrusted with the care of Minnie Eva Wilmath.



Dixie Yancey

Mrs. Dixie Hayes Yancey, age 91, of Adairsville, passed away Friday morning, Nov. 13, 2020, at Morning Pointe Assisted Living in Calhoun.

She was born in Floyd County on Dec. 2, 1928, to the late Robert Beavers Hayes and Lucille Gore Hayes. She was a member of the Adairsville First Christian Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, Glenn Thomas Yancey and sister and brother-in-law, Doris and Albert Mitchell.

Survivors include her son, Robert Thomas Yancey; nephews, Billy Mitchell and Danny Mitchell; and special cousin, Carol and Robert Davis.

Funeral services will be held Monday, Nov. 16, 2020, at 2 p.m. from the chapel of Barton Funeral Home with Rev. Gary Garland officiating. Interment will follow in Eastview Cemetery, Adairsville. Pallbearers include Danny Mitchell, Jake Mitchell, BJ Mitchell, Terry Dempsey, Rickey Dempsey, and Will Garland. Honorary pallbearers will be Billy Mitchell, Robert Davis, John D. Hooker, Ray Hayes, Doug Hayes, William Jackson, Jr., Ronald Jackson, Sam Fortenberry, and Jimmy Griffith.

The family will receive friends Monday from 12:00 Noon until 2 p.m. at Barton Funeral Home.

Family and friends attending services will be required to wear face mask and observe social distancing.

R. Dudley Barton & Son Funeral Home, Adairsville, is in charge of funeral arrangements for Mrs. Dixie Hayes Yancey.

Barton Funeral Home

www.gordongazettega.com

Help for the Hurting

-The Life Choice Hospice Bereavement Support Group will be meeting the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The support group is open to anyone in the community who would like to attend. The office and support group are located at 189 Professional Court, Suite 300, Calhoun. For Information, contact Jennifer at 706-602-9001.

-The Northwest Georgia Parkinson Disease Association, Inc., is offering a monthly support group for persons living with Parkinson Disease, their caregivers, family and friends. The support group will meet at Gordon Hospital; Conference Room A. For any questions about the support group and future meetings, call James Trussell at 706-235-3164 or 706-346-5678.

-Families Anonymous is a 12-step program, for those concerned about drug abuse and behavior problems of a relative or friend. Completely anonymous, non professional, and non religious. No dues, no fees. Not connected with any hospital or agency. Located on Red Bud Road in plaza below Fitness First, next to Calhoun Closet was created to help offset the high cost Counseling Center (Dr. Bledsoe's office). Meeting every Thursday 7 - 8 p.m. Call 770-548-7849 for more information.

-Bondage Breakers- Breaking the **chains of addiction** one soul at a time. Every Thursday night at 7 p.m. at Crane Eater Community Church, located at 3168 Red Bud Rd Calhoun, GA 30701.

Alzheimer's Association is sponsoring a mission is to promote comfort and dignity

Assisted Living, 660 Jolly Road, on the third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. For more information or directions, call Mary Braden at 770-548-4683 or Karen Parrott at 706-346-5220. For more information about dementia and Alzheimer's disease, call 800-272-3900 or visit www.alz.org/georgia.

-Special Care Plus, a free one-on-one consultation program, offers education and information to primary caregivers of persons with dementia. Any primary caregiver who is caring for a loved one with dementia in the home is eligible to receive this program. To learn more about the Special Care Plus program, call 800-272-3900.

-Want to make a difference in the community? Tapestry Hospice is seeking volunteers to provide companionship to our patients, read books, make crafts, garden, light house cleaning, administrative work, etc. If you're interested contact Megan at megan.guthrie@tapestryhospice.com

-The Alzheimer's Association's Caring of incontinent products and give the families support they often desperately need. If you would like to visit the nearest Closet, call the chapter office to receive a flier with locations and hours. Morning Pointe in Calhoun has a Caring Closet; call Mary Braden at 706-629-

-Community volunteers are needed -The Georgia Chapter of the at Countryside Hospice Care, where the

monthly support group at Morning Pointe at the end of life. The agency covers 26 Northwest Georgia counties between three offices in LaFayette, Rome, and Newnan. If you would like to participate in this rewarding program, call 706-638-7651 or 1-800-660-

> -Discovering Hope, an autism support group for Northwest Georgia, meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Friendship Baptist Church, Rocky Face. For more information, call Connie Post at 706-673-7765 or www.discoveringhope.us.

-Caring Connection is a telephone support group especially for caregivers of loved ones with Alzheimer's who cannot leave their homes because of care responsibilities. This support group is as close as the phone. Call 706-275-0819 or 1-800-272-3900 and ask to be enrolled in Caring Connection.

-Grief Recovery Group for those who have lost loved ones and friends, receive support and guidance with the Four Tasks of Grieving. Cost is Free. Second Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. at Harris Radiation Therapy Center at Gordon Hospital. For more information or to RSVP, please call 706.879.5850.

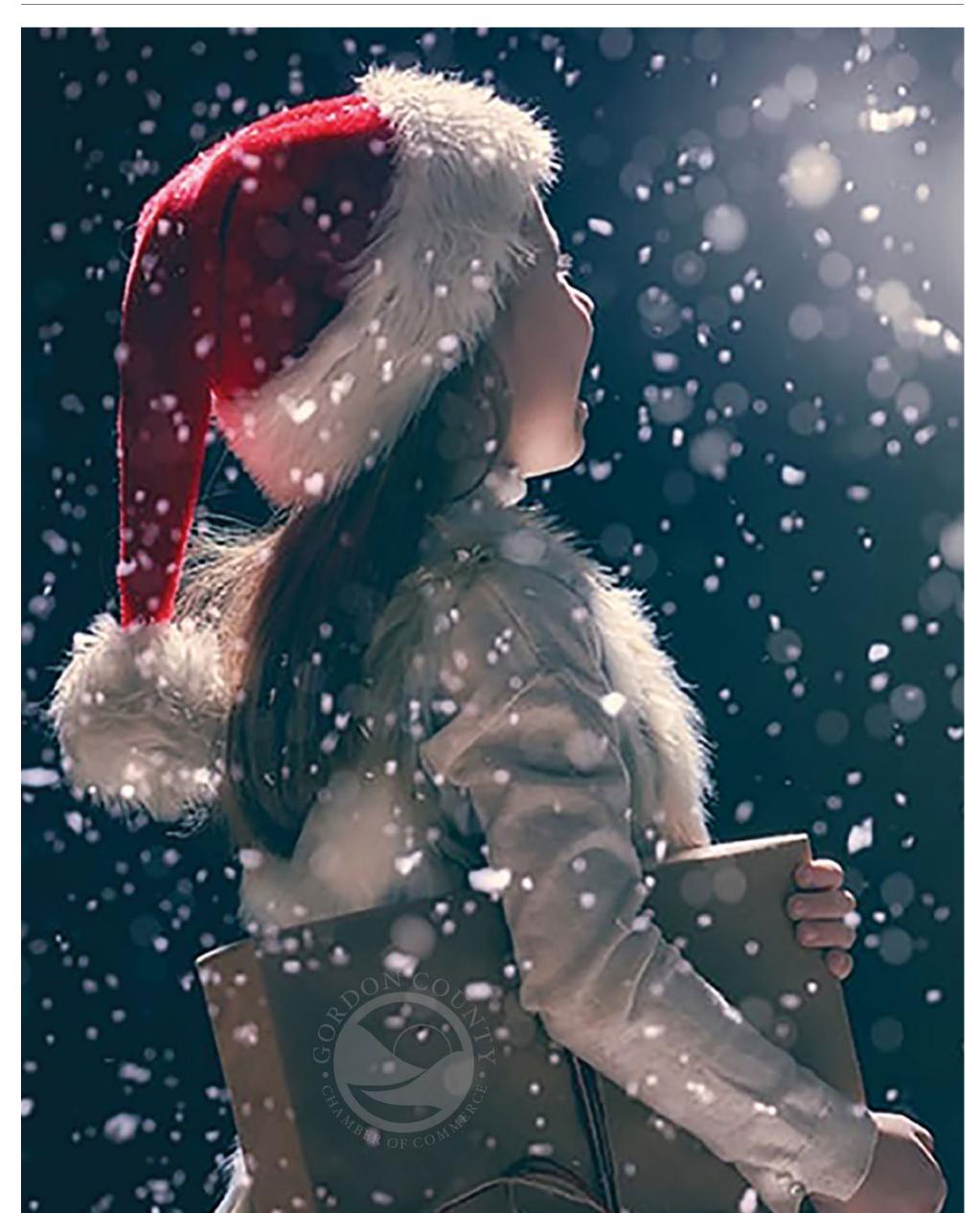
-The Compassionate Friends of Dalton and N.W. Georgia is part of a worldwide effort that has helped many families cope with the loss of a child and to honor our children's memory. The Compassionate Friends meets on the third Thursday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at Evangelical Methodist Church here are every Monday and Thursday at 7 (in the "Gathering Place" building), 1035

Abutment Road, Dalton (on the hill behind the old Lowe's off Walnut Avenue). For more information, call Dawn at 706-277-3312 or 706-264-4458 or e-mail dawnsisson@msn.

-SING (Surviving Infidelity Necessary to your Growth) has formed here. If you are experiencing difficulty in marriage and are looking for ways to survive, then you should come and be part of these meetings designed to help, encourage, and solve issues in a marriage that can lead to a promising future ahead for the entire family. For more information, call Iroka Moore at 706-629-

-United Hospice is seeking volunteers who can help others through companionship, reading, sharing, and other small tasks. Give the gift of caring and enjoy the privilege of sharing in your local area. Call Dan Hogan at 706-602-9546 or 800-867-7976.

-Looking for a 12-step meeting for men and women? At "Road to Recovery," recognizing Jesus Christ as our higher power, they take the 12 steps and compare how they are taken from scripture and how to apply them to our lives to experience true freedom from the bondages of addiction. The meetings are free and open to the public at World Harvest Church locations in Cherokee and Gordon counties. For more information, call 706-602-1919. The Calhoun church is located at 2335 Red Bud Road. The meetings



Christmas Open House 2020 Sunday | November 22 | 1:00-5:00

Retailers Across Calhoun-Gordon County

The Gordon County Chamber of Commerce encourages you to spend locally as you shop for goods and services this holiday season--and all year long.



Keep It In The County

GEORGIA HEALTH NEWS: State's rapid test results add to alarming rise in COVID cases here

ANDY MILLER, CEO Georgia Health News

4,500 on Tuesday, the highest daily increase reported in months.

came from rapid antigen Nancy Nydam, a Public tests. About 1,000 of those Health spokeswoman. Those positives, though, were part fluctuations will smooth out of a "data dump" of cases more as medical facilities from October, state officials

How the rapid antigen tests are counted has considered as accurate as generated questions and PCR tests. But because they confusion in Georgia. The antigen test results are now posted separately on the tests may be more practical Georgia Department of Public to use for large numbers Health's daily COVID report, of people, experts say. but those positives aren't They're frequently used at included in data the state universities, long-term care sends to external agencies as facilities and medical offices. confirmed cases.

"We're really said Wednesday.

Other Southeastern states infection totals, she said.

She called the Tuesday infection increase in Georgia increased, she said.

numbers reported by the state experts say. declined from the Tuesday New COVID-19 cases in total to 2,350, but with a high Georgia jumped by more than number of confirmed deaths

The antigen testing numbers "fluctuate widely Most of the new cases one day to the next," said get used to reporting these results, she added.

> Rapid tests are not are faster and less expensive than PCR tests, antigen

There's an increased not chance of a false negative painting an accurate picture result with an antigen test, of what's going on," Amber meaning it's possible to be Schmidtke, a microbiologist infected with the virus even who tracks COVID in though the test indicates Georgia in the Daily Digest, you are not. But a positive result on an antigen test — indicating that you are report the rapid test results infected — is considered as part of their cumulative accurate when instructions are carefully followed, the Mayo Clinic says.

If a person has COVID "a little frightening." The test symptoms and gets a negative positivity rate here has also antigen test, they may want to

Wednesday's COVID follow it with a PCR test, of the disease. It joined 42 know a mask mandate works, approach, raising the potential

National figures are troubling

The overall rise in new infections in Georgia coincides with an alarming national increase in COVID

The stunning numbers were somewhat overshadowed this week when Pfizer announced Monday that early clinical trial data suggested its coronavirus vaccine was more than 90 percent effective.

Still, at least 1,448 new coronavirus deaths and 139,855 new cases were reported Tuesday in the United States. And COVID-19 hospitalizations hit a record high of 61,964 the same day. The number of Americans hospitalized due to COVID-19 has risen almost 50 percent in the last two weeks.

Georgia is categorized as a state with "uncontrollable spread" by covidexitstrategy. com. The website reports that the state is meeting just 41 percent of its testing target.

And the recently released White House Coronavirus Task Force report said Georgia was in the "red zone" for major community spread

other states in this category.

The report said hard-hit counties in the state must take a proactive approach, testing all people in the 18-to-40 age group whether or not there are any other risk factors. "Georgia must expand the mitigation efforts statewide as test positivity and cases are increasing," the task force

week of Oct 26 - Nov 1, 10 percent of nursing homes in Georgia had at least one new resident infected with the virus; 19 percent had at at least one new resident COVID-19 death.

"We have experiencing a significant surge for the past five weeks, as reflected in rising case counts and positivity rates and are now also seeing increases in both hospitalizations and deaths," said Dr. Harry Heiman, a public health expert at Georgia State University. "Tragically, this is in line with what is happening all over the country and in

there has been a failure of political and public health leaders to take meaningful action," Heiman said. "We

we know that allowing large in-person gatherings, including political events, adds to transmission."

State public health the disproportionate impact of COVID on communities of color, Heiman added.

"I am hopeful that a new [presidential] administration will provide not only It added that during the a coordinated national framework and plan, but also provide states with the resources they need to be successful."

19 case, and 4 percent had DeKalb counties have shut reported. down classrooms this week.

Stronger guidance on masks

The CDC, in a major update to its guidance, said Tuesday that a mask protects the person who wears it, and not just people near the wearer. The Atlantabased agency also noted that numerous studies have demonstrated the benefits of "universal masking policies."

Meanwhile, the supply "Like many other places, of personal protective equipment - a big concern early in the pandemic – is again leading to worry about shortages as colder months

for big caseloads of COVID and flu patients.

The Strategic National Stockpile, the nation's emergency reserve, has only officials should also focus on 115 million N95 masks, far short of the 300 million the federal government had hoped to amass by winter, Rear Adm. John Polowczyk, who retired on Monday as the national supply chain commander, said in a recent interview, according to the New York Times.

Governors are once again competing with one another Outbreaks at schools and with big hospital chains least one new staff COVID- in Richmond, Peach and for scarce gear, the Times

> WABE noted that as Thanksgiving approaches, the U.S. is regularly breaking records for new COVID-19 diagnoses.

"Now you have a holiday where it's colder, people are more likely to be inside celebrating with family, likely to have more travel as well as case counts are much higher," said Cria Perrine, an epidemiologist with the CDC, the WABE article reported. "This has got the potential to be sort of the perfect storm."

Andy Miller is the Editor and CEO of Georgia Health

ADVENTHEALTH GORDON: Keys to Early Cancer Detection

ADVENTHEALTH GORDON

Sure, mammograms and colonoscopies aren't comfortable, but making these high on your priority list can go a long way to protect your whole health. After all, your best odds of beating cancer begin with proactive screenings, which can detect cancer even before symptoms surface.

"Screenings are the most efficient way a doctor can detect cancer in its earliest, most treatable stage," said Mridula Vinjamuri, MD, of AdventHealth Medical Group Hematology Oncology at Calhoun. "It's important to know what screenings to get at what age to protect your whole health during every phase of life."

For Detecting Breast Cancer

Self-Exams: Every woman should perform a breast self-exam monthly to check for lumps or changes. Notify your primary care provider or OB/GYN right away with any concerns. Pick the same time of the month, each month, so it becomes part of your regular routine. It's also important to note that men can also get breast cancer, so they should also be concerned should they find any changes to their breast tissue.

Mammograms: Α screening mammogram is an annual preventative measure for women age 40 and older who haven't experienced abnormal breast symptoms. Women younger than 40 may also be advised to have a mammogram depending on family history and other risk factors.

breast cancer may need a breast MRI. This technology uses magnets and radio waves to take pictures of the breasts that are more detailed than the images produced with a mammogram.

For Detecting Cervical Cancer

Pap Test: Also commonly referred to a pap smear, this test can help detect cervical cancer. During the test, cells are collected from the cervix and vagina and viewed under a microscope for any abnormalities. Regular screening of women between the ages of 21 and 65 years with the pap test decreases the chance of dying from cervical cancer, according to the American Cancer Society. It's important to talk to your doctor about a personalized pap test schedule for you.

HPV Screening: Α human size of a pencil eraser) papillomavirus (HPV) screening can also detect cervical cancer. Cells are collected from the cervix to check for an infection caused by a type of HPV linked to cervical cancer.

For Detecting Colorectal Cancer

Colonoscopy: Doctors recommend getting a colonoscopy beginning at age 50 for most patients, but sooner for patients with certain risk factors. A colonoscopy can detect polyps or growths in the colon

but a particular type of polyp is more likely to indicate colon cancer. Your risk factors and the results of past colonoscopies will determine how often you should get them.

Fecal Occult Blood Test: In addition to a colonoscopy, several other screening tests can detect colon cancer, including a fecal occult blood test that checks for blood in stool.

Stool DNA Test: Testing a sample of your stool can help doctors look for blood and biomarkers found in colon cancer.

For Detecting Head, Neck and Oral Cancer

Some screenings are much less invasive than a colonoscopy. To check for head neck and oral cancer your primary care provider will feel your lymph nodes, check for lumps on your neck and lumps or sores in your nose, mouth and throat.

Your dentist will also check for signs of head, neck and oral cancer. That's another reason why a regular dental exam is important for your overall health.

For Detecting Lung Cancer

Low-dose CT scans: Typically, patients don't notice lung cancer symptoms until the cancer has spread and is difficult to treat. For that reason, doctors recommended lung CTs for people between the ages of 55 and 80 who have a history of heavy smoking. Your doctor can discuss more specific guidelines as they relate to your whole-health plan.

For Detecting Prostate Cancer

DRE Exam: A digital rectal exam MRI: Women at a higher risk for (DRE) can be used to detect an abnormal prostate.

> PSA Test: Depending on a man's risk factors, doctors may order a PSA test. This blood test looks at the level of prostate specific antigen (PSA), which is made by the prostate. Higher than normal PSA levels can signal prostate cancer.

For Detecting Skin Cancer

Self-Exam: You're the first person who may notice if a mole on the skin has changed. Use the ABCDE test to determine if you should see a dermatologist about a questionable mole:

A - Asymmetry (one half of the mole isn't the same as the other)

B - Border irregularity

C - Color that isn't uniform D - Diameter greater than 6mm (the

E - Evolving size, shape or color A lesion on the skin that doesn't seem

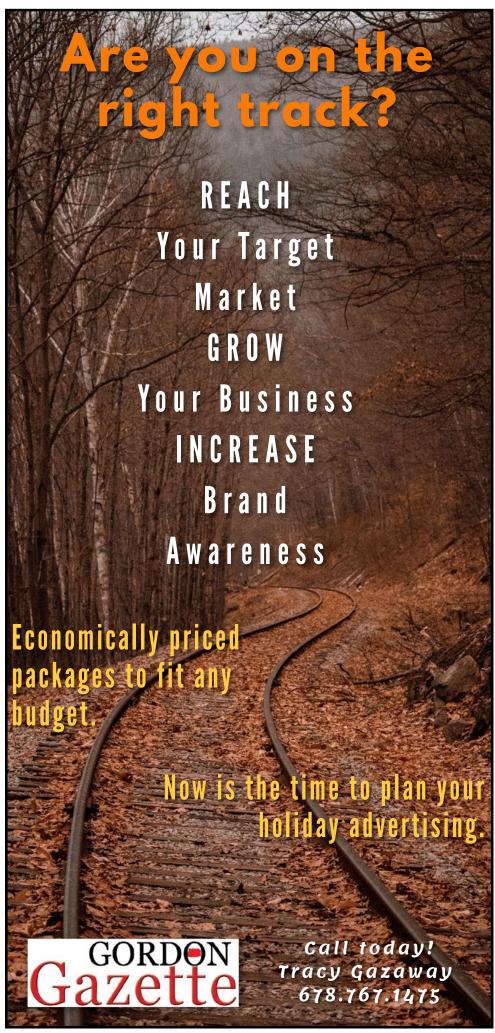
to heal also can be a sign of skin cancer. Physical Exam: Your dermatologist will also perform a full body skin exam to look for moles, birthmarks or other pigmented areas that look abnormal in

color, size, shape or texture. Your risk factors will determine how often the dermatologist will want to see you back for another exam.

or rectum. Not all polyps are malignant, Do Your Part to Stay Ahead of Cancer

"Talk to your primary care provider to see if you're on track with your screenings based on your age and risk factors," said

on your recommended screenings can help doctors catch cancer early and offer the best possible treatments to offer the most hope for a cure."



Dr. Vinjamuri. "Staying ahead of your cancer risk factors by following through

Escobar named Calhoun College and Career Academy Student of the Week

CONTRIBUTED

Calhoun Middle School 8th grader Christopher Escobar is the Calhoun College and Career Academy (CCCA) Student of the Week for November 9-13, 2020. His STEM (Science, Technology. Engineering and Mathematics) teacher, Missy Hathcox nominated Christopher.

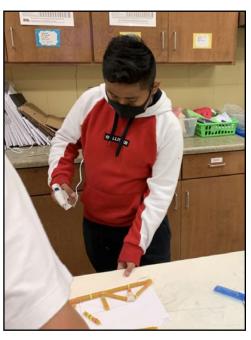
Hathcox stated, "Chris is a positive influence in the STEM and respectful to everyone and looks for ways to contribute to

the class. Chris has a strong work ethic and strives to be a great overall student."

Although Escobar is only an 8th grader, he is looking forward to the future! He plans to attend Kennesaw State University to study Electrical Engineering. Escobar is very interested in engineeringrelated activities in STEM and Construction. He enjoys building and designing various projects.

Congratulations to Chris lab. He is very conscientious Escobar, CCCA Student of the Week for November 9-13,





Davis named Calhoun Woman's Club Student of the **Month for CHS**



Congratulations to Calhoun High School senior Lyndi Rae Davis, who was named Calhoun Woman's Club Youth of the Month for October for CHS.

Lyndi Rae is a student athlete at Calhoun High School. She works hard to balance both school and sports making sure to excel on and off the field. Lyndi Rae is currently working with Dr. Mitch Frix through the CHS Work Based Learning program. She is a fierce competitor with a heart of gold and plans to attend The University of Georgia in the fall.

CCS would like to thank the Calhoun Woman's Club for their continued support of the outstanding students in our community.



Fraire named Calhoun Women's Club Student of the **Month for GCHS**

CONTRIBUTED

Congratulations to Gordon Central's Emily Fraire, named The Calhoun Women's Club Youth of the Month representative from her school for the month of October.

Fraire was nominated by Lt. Col. Mike Mansi of Gordon Central's JROTC, who said Fraire is "An outstanding JROTC student."

Bramlett named Calhoun Woman's Club Student of the **Month for SHS**



CONTRIBUTED

Congratulations to Sonoraville High School senior Whitney Bramlett, who was recognized at a virtual meeting as the Calhoun Woman's Club SHS's October Youth of the Month. Whitney was nominated by teacher, Hannah Nelson.

"Whitney is a talented young lady with a bright future! I am proud that she has been a member of the SHS Choral and Theatre programs since 8th grade. Whitney is a wonderful example of hard work, talent, and a special willingness to help in any capacity. She is a joy to teach and I have enjoyed every moment!" said Nelson

Monday, November 16, 2020

Giving Thanks in Gordon County

HOMETOWN



A Special, Free E-Edition Celebrating the Upcoming Holiday Season



- Holiday Recipes
- Holiday Shopping
- Christmas Open House
- Retail Features
- Community Events
- •We Are Thankful...







COVID From page 1A

at Gordon Central High School and 1 student at Ashworth Middle School. There are 5 staff members within the county school system with active cases of the virus: 3 at Tolbert Elementary School, 1 at Red Bud Elementary School and 1 at Ashworth Middle School.

"We appreciate all of the hard work our staff, students and families have put into helping us mitigate the spread of the virus in our facilities and throughout our community," said the

The numbers remain low after additional measures to fight the spread of the virus were implemented last month, including switching both county high schools to a hybrid attendance schedule.

Students at both Gordon Central and Sonoraville High School whose last names begin with the letters A-K attend school in person one week, and then change over the next week to online instruction via Schoology. Students with a last name beginning L-Z are on the opposite schedule of the previous group, completing online learning at home when the other group is receiving in-school instruction. This has reduced the amount of people in the schools at any particular time. The hybrid schedule will continue through the end of November.

"Gordon County Schools has found it necessary to move to hybrid instructional model, as outlined in the district's Back to School guidance in August, for both Gordon Central High School and Sonoraville High School beginning Monday, October 19. The tentative return date to full-time, in-person instruction will be Monday, November 30, 2020," said the system in a statement. "The decision to temporarily move to a hybrid schedule for both Gordon County high schools is a precautionary measure and comes following an increase in active COVID cases, resulting in a higher number of precautionary quarantines."

According to GCS, extracurricular activities will continue, unless otherwise notified by the school. This closure does not impact any other Gordon County school, and all elementary and middle schools will operate as normal.

Gordon County Schools' reporting is slightly different than the City school system. Gordon County Schools' weekly numbers, reported each Friday afternoon, show the new cases of COVID-19 for the week, plus any previous cases that are still active. You can find those numbers on their website at https://www.gcbe.org/domain/5112

Calhoun City Schools' new cases of COVID-19 this week decreased to 8 cases system-wide, down from 11 cases last week. There were 3 new cases among students (1 at Calhoun

Shaniqwa Duckett, 25, of Columbus, Ga., who was

Quaniqwa Duckett, 25, of Columbus, Ga., who

the front seat passenger and was pronounced dead by medical personnel at 11:18 a.m. on Wednesday.

Primary, 1 at Calhoun Middle and 1 at Calhoun High School), and 5 new cases among staff members (2 at Calhoun Middle, 1 at Calhoun Primary, 1 at Calhoun Elementary and 1 at Calhoun High School).

Calhoun City Schools post the new case numbers each Friday afternoon, and includes the previous week's numbers separately on their website at https://www.calhounschools.org/ summer-resources/ccsd-covid-19-case-status-reportnew-page

Both school systems have adopted strict cleaning procedures and are following the health and safety guidelines set forth by the CDC concerning social distancing.

Students and staff who have tested positive for COVID-19 or who have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 at either school system cannot return to school until they meet the Department of Public Health's Return to School Guidance After COVID-19 Illness or Exposure.

Numbers of new positive cases jumped again in Gordon County this past week. At press time Saturday morning, Nov. 14, Gordon County has had 2,720 confirmed cases of COVID-19 since the pandemic began – that's up 162 cases since the same time last week. COVID-19 related deaths now stand at 54, up 6 deaths from last week, but DPH also reports 4 additional probable deaths from COVID. There have been 154 hospitalizations in Gordon County due to COVID-19 since March, up 11 hospitalizations since last week.

both of Columbus, Ga., were also listed as passengers

According to the GSP, charges are pending against the driver of the Kia Forte.

The next of kin for the deceased has not been Byron Rhodes, 26, of Columus, Ga., who was the notified at this time. GSP SCRT continues to investigate the incident at press time.

WRECK From page 1A

of the Kia Forte included:

Robert Duckett, 26, of Hopkinsville, Ky., who driver-side back seat passenger. was the driver of the vehicle.

CRIME

insurance information. The officer noted he

was the passenger-side back seat passenger.

Prince Duckett, age 2, and infant Kye Duckett,

From page 1A

smelled a strong odor of marijuana coming from Brito Alfaro's vehicle. The officer requested another unit on the scene to assist, and then asked Brito Alfaro how much marijuana he had in the vehicle. The man told the officer that there was "only a

little," and that it was located in a bag he had in his passenger seat.

The officer had Brito Alfaro step out of the vehicle and patted him down for weapons. Another officer arrived on scene to assist. The officers looked for the marijuana but it was not where Brito Alfaro claimed it would be. The officer asked the man again where the marijuana was, and Brito Alfaro told the officer that he and a friend had smoked the marijuana.

The officers then searched the vehicle and found

In a survey published with the rankings,

a bag behind a piece of removable plastic that snaps to the center console; the suspected marijuana weighed approximately 1.53 oz. Brito Alfaro's license was then processed through dispatch, and it came back as a suspended license.

Brito Alfaro was placed in handcuffs and transported to Gordon County Jail, where he has been charged with Felony Possession of Marijuana, Racing/Rapid Acceleration; Driving Too Fast for Conditions/Basic Speed; and Driving While License Suspended.

mind they need to know that they will have a longterm partner in the state. I want to thank Governor Kemp, Speaker David Ralston, Lieutenant Governor Geoff Duncan, and our General Assembly for the consistent leadership that gives us a competitive edge and the support that helps our entire state find

Site Selection magazine joins Area Development President and CEO of Bridgestone Golf Dan magazine in naming Georgia the top state for business for 2020 – the eighth and seventh consecutive year, respectively, that both publications have awarded Georgia the top ranking. Earlier this week, Governor Kemp also shared that Georgia remains on a record

About GDEcD The Georgia Department of Economic Woods and Bryson DeChambeau to long-term Development (GDEcD) is the state's sales and contract extensions, which includes DeChambeau marketing arm, the lead agency for attracting new significantly increasing his involvement in business investment, encouraging the expansion of Bridgestone's R&D processes for developing new existing industry and small businesses, locating new markets for Georgia products, attracting tourists to "Georgia's success is thanks to a long, proven Georgia, and promoting the state as a destination for arts and location for film, music and digital entertainment projects, as well as planning and

STATE From page 1A

logistics infrastructure, have further solidified the Peach State as the best place in the nation to live, work, raise a family, and start or grow a business. I thank our partners in both the public and private sectors, our world-class economic development team, and the hardworking Georgians throughout the state who helped us beat our own record with this unprecedented achievement."

Site Selection magazine is an internationally circulated business publication covering corporate real estate and economic development. The publication's rankings are 50% based on an index of seven criteria and 50% on the input received from a survey of independent site location experts who are asked to rank states based on their recent project experiences. This year, Georgia shares this top ranking with North Carolina.

"Our readers are keenly interested in our annual state business climate ranking, because they seek locations with the greatest prospects for success," said Site Selection Editor in Chief Mark Arend. "Georgia's eighth consecutive Top State Business Climate win reminds them that a Georgia location will contribute to their productivity and profitability long term."

workforce skills were the most important criteria to site selectors for the fifth consecutive year, with workforce development programs coming in second place. Transportation infrastructure, ease of permitting and regulatory procedures, along with state and local taxes completed the top five issues of importance to the process.

Murphy hosted Governor Kemp, alongside First Lady Marty Kemp, and members from both the Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) and Site Selection magazine, as they safely celebrated these accolades. The event also pace for economic development investments and highlighted Bridgestone Golf's continued success in job creation in the state during fiscal year 2021, the state as they celebrate their 30th anniversary in increasing investments by 56% and jobs by 45% Covington. The Georgia MadeTM company employs compared to the same timeframe last year. nearly 160 Georgians and has continued to make new investments in research and development. Earlier this week, Bridgestone re-signed Tiger golf ball technology.

track record of our state doing things the right way," said GDEcD Commissioner Pat Wilson. "Whether entering or expanding in Georgia, it's our goal to mobilizing state resources for economic development. give every company we work with the peace of Visit www.georgia.org for more information.

Church Calendar

ONGOING

- Philadelphia Christian School is located off Highway between Calhoun and Adairsville. The school offers 4-year-old kindergarten through 12th grade, using the A-Beka curriculum. To find out more about the school, call the office at 706-625-3233.

-Faith Deliverance Ministry and Outreach will be taking donations of clothes, shoes, also all house hold items to help needy families. Call Minister Evelyn Adams at 706-671-7988.

-Celebrate Recovery, faith based 12-step program, meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Relevate Church in Ranger off 411. Call Nicole for information: 706-979-4713/706-290-8028.

-East Calhoun Church of God, at 401 Peters **Street**, gives out groceries and clothing through the "Feed the Needy" ministry each Saturday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The church hosts a miracle healing service every first Friday at 7 p.m. For more information, contact "Feed the Needy" ministry director Florence Jones

pastor is Keith Reid.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

-Fairmount Church of Christ, located at 265 South Avenue in Fairmount, Ga. Minister Bobby Gayton. Everyone is invited to visit and worship with us. Sunday morning Services at 11 a.m.; Bible study at 10 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study at 6 p.m.

-Fairmount United Methodist Church-**Loving One Another To** Christ. Sunday School at 10 a.m.; Worship Service at 11 a.m. Children's Church provided. New Minister now Leading. New programs and community outreach coming soon.

-Pastor Terry Reisner invites everyone to the Vision **Pentecostal** Ministry located at 401 South Wall Street in Calhoun. Come hear the truth of God's Word Sundays at 11 a.m.

-Faith Deliverance Church & Outreach Ministry Welcomes Everyone to an Anointed Church Service at 1320

at 706-409-1981. Senior Dawnville Road in Dalton every Sunday at 6 p.m. and Thursday at 7 p.m. Pastor and Evangelist Evelyn Adams, also an Anointed Gospel Singing. Come expecting Jesus to move for you. Miracles, Healing, Deliverance, Salvation. For more information or directions, call Minister Evelyn Adams (706) 671-

> -Pine Chapel United Methodist Church, located at 2232 Pine Chapel Road in Resaca, "A place to begin, belong and become." Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m. Pastor Louise W. Elmore.



Tàflátoona

Tallatoona Community Action Partnership LIHEAP Heating Assistance

Beginning November 2, 2020 at 8:30am, Tallatoona will begin accepting appointments for the LIHEAP Heating Assistance Program for senior households 65 years of age and older.

Beginning December 1, 2020 at 8:30am, the general public may begin scheduling appointments.

Appointments are provided on a first-come, first-serve basis. To receive assistance applicants must qualify based on the FY 2021 annual income guidelines. For more information visit www.tallatoonacap.org.

SCHEDULE ONLINE: WWW.TALLATOONACAP.ORG

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Due to health and safety concerns related to COVID-19, all Tallatoona offices are closed to the public. Appointments will be completed remotely by telephone. All required documents will be accepted via fax, mail, or quick drop off at local county offices. Please DO NOT send documents prior to your appointment.

SCHEDULE BY PHONE: 770-817-4666, Option 2 or 770-773-7730, Option 2 (toll free for 706 area codes)

