

GORDON Gazette

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Calhoun-Gordon County's #1 Source for News

PHOENIX COMMUNITY MOURNS LOSS OF AGEE

Beloved Red Bud Middle School assistant basketball coach died unexpectedly Monday

Brandi Owczarz
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The Phoenix community at both Red Bud and Sonorville are mourning this week the loss of beloved assistant basketball coach Sanquetta Agee. Agee, 40, died unexpectedly Monday night at her home.

Agee, originally from Alabama, began coaching at Red Bud Middle School during the 2011-2012 season.

"(Red Bud Middle School) is heartbroken to learn about the recent passing of girls' assistant basketball coach, Sanquetta Agee. Coach Agee poured her heart and soul into our girls and loved them like her very own. While her loss leaves a void in our lives, her legacy with our students and players will remain forever. Thank you Coach Agee for everything! You will never be forgotten!" said Red Bud Middle School in a social media statement.

"One of the first conversations that

I had with Sanquetta when I came from the high school to the middle school was how much all the girls still talked about her once they came up (to high school)," said Red Bud Middle School assistant basketball coach Jennifer Angel. "I told her she had to be amazing to have such an impact on them. I wish my own daughters got more time with her than they had. I only hope that I can be half the person she was."

Gordon Gazette photographer Larry Greeson fondly remembered Agee.

"You won't find any better than San Agee," said Greeson. "I'm going to miss (her) sweet smile."

Agee's friend Monica Hiles, along with Keri Garland, are having special t-shirts and warm-ups made for the girls basketball players that will honor Agee, and the public can purchase them as well.

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Red Bud Middle School girls basetball assistant coach Sanquetta Agee.

Moonlight Madness set for Friday, Dec. 18

Brandi Owczarz
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Moonlight Madness, the popular nighttime shopping event from the 70's and 80's that was brought back last year by business owners Andy Baxter and Hanna Dean, returns this year on Friday, Dec. 18, 2020. Downtown businesses will be open from 6-10 p.m. that night for all of the public's last minute Christmas shopping needs.

Baxter said last year that he was looking for an event to showcase how beautiful downtown

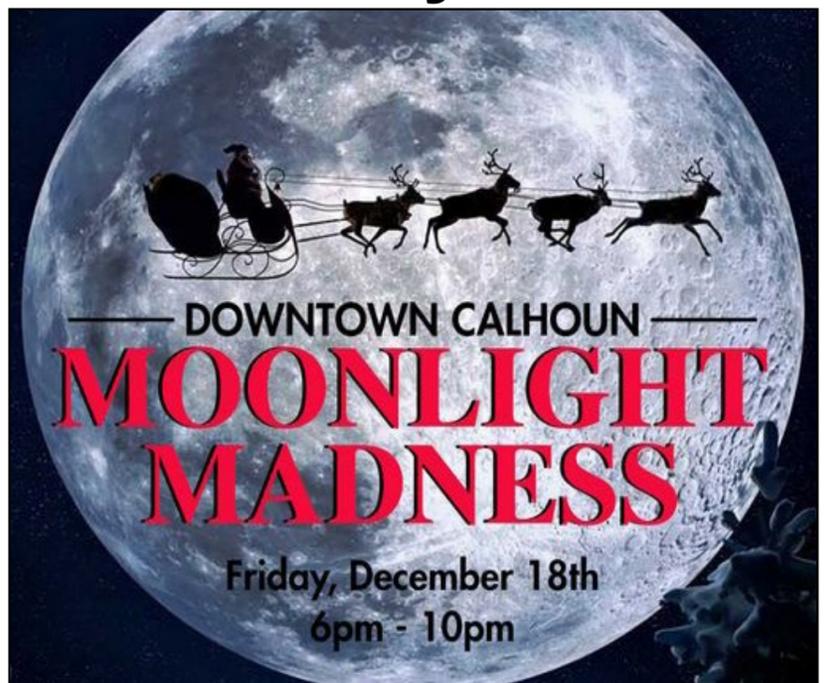
Calhoun is at night, especially during the Christmas season. H remembered that when he was a young child, his mom would always shop each year during Moonlight Madness, and he suggested getting some downtown retailers to join in and bring it back to Calhoun.

"There will be 14 downtown businesses participating with various sales and discounts, live music and more," said Suzanne Roberts, director of Downtown Development Authority. "We hope to see everyone downtown

shopping local to get the last minute deals before Christmas."

Participating retailers this year include: Amavi Collective, Andy Baxter Photography, Calhoun Design Co., Coble Sports, Cheyenne's Boutique, Cotton & Twine Boutique, Freeman's Antiques, Front Row Boutique, Gift of Seasons, Hanna Dean Makeup, Healing Hands, The Rusty Zipper, Tot Roost & Teens and Thurston's Café.

"The event will be perfect to pick up last-minute Christmas gifts," said Baxter.



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SECOND FRONT 2A



GNTC holds drive-in commencement ceremony in Dalton; all campuses, including Gordon, participated.

EDUCATION 10A



CHS 11th grader, Hunter Harkins, was the CCCA Student of the Week for November 30 - December 4, 2020.

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Man arrested on assault, family violence charges after stand-off in Long Pointe Subdivision

STAFF REPORTS

According to the Gordon County Sheriff's Office, around 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 8, deputy sheriffs responded to a private residence in Long Pointe Subdivision in response to a 911 report of a man having threatened his family

with a firearm.

When deputies arrived, a woman and her children had fled from the residence. She told the deputies that her husband had threatened them with a shotgun. Deputies surrounded the house and attempted to make contact with the man inside by telephone. After a brief stand-off, a

deputy trained in crisis intervention negotiated by telephone with the man, convincing him to surrender to the officers. This man, subsequently identified as one Carter Dudley Sills, pictured, age 60, of 150 Long Pointe Road, was taken into custody without further incident. The firearm involved

was recovered by investigating deputies. No one was injured in the course of these events, and Sills is lodged in the county jail facing charges of Aggravated Assault, Cruelty To Children, and Pointing a Firearm at Others.

PHOTO: Gordon County Sheriff's Office.



Calhoun City Schools Recognized with Leading Edge Award by Georgia School Boards Association

CALHOUN CITY SCHOOLS

Calhoun City Schools was recently selected by the Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA) as a recipient of the Leading Edge Award for their innovative partnership with AdventHealth and the establishment of a Health Clinic as a part of College and Career Academy at Calhoun High School. The Leading Edge Award highlights school districts that are leading the way in ensuring students

are competitive in an ever-changing global market. Calhoun City Schools was recognized for innovative Teaching and Learning initiatives and honored during the Georgia School Boards Association / Georgia School Superintendents Association Virtual Annual Conference on December 4, 2020.

As one of the first charter systems in

See CCS, page 11A



Pictured left to right: Dr. Peter Coombe, CHS Principal; Cari Craig, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent; Eddie Reeves, Chairman of the Board; Dr. Michele Taylor, Superintendent; Dee Wrisley, Chief Finance Officer; Dr. Michelle Palmer, Chief Human Resources Officer; Kelli Kendrick, Chief Academic Officer.

Second Front

Curbside Service at Calhoun-Gordon County Library

STAFF REPORTS

Effective Monday, December 7, Curbside

Service is back on at the Calhoun-Gordon County Public Library!

"We have NEW hardback and paperback books for adults and children. We have the latest in YA fiction. We have movies- old and new. We have audiobooks. We have cookbooks. We have the classics. Odds are, if there is a book you want to read or a movie you want to watch we can get it for you," said Brian Latour, Branch Services coordinator for the Calhoun-Gordon County Public Library.

Latour explained the process for those new to the Curbside Service offering:

**To sign-up, library card holders should visit www.gapines.org. Patrons can put on hold up to five items per day (books/movies/audiobooks). Once

the items are on hold, visit www.ngrl.org/curbside, complete the form, and a member of the library staff will contact you to arrange pick-up.

**If YOU: have misplaced your library card, forgot your library card PIN, don't have a library card, are struggling with putting books on hold, need recommendations, and/or want to hear a friendly voice- please call the library at 762.219.9064 or 706.624.1456 OR drop us an email at edwardsn@ngrl.org. A member of staff is willing and able to assist you.

**Also, there are staff members available who can provide notary services, can print and make copies for the public, and can provide a laptop computer for your use during Curbside hours.

Curbside Service is offered Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. -Noon and 3 p.m.-5 p.m. The service begins again on Monday, Dec. 7, 2020.

Library card patrons also have access



to thousands of downloadable eBooks, eAudiobooks, and digital magazines at www.ngrl.org/downloads.

For the latest library updates and to see our Virtual Programming via Social Media please visit www.facebook.com/CalhounGordonCountyLibrary.

We'll be sharing virtual readings of Dickens' A Christmas Carol and we'll showcase online crafts/readings/activities for children all throughout the month of December.

GNTC holds Drive-Thru Commencement Ceremony in Dalton

GEORGIA NORTHWESTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Approximately 80 Georgia Northwestern Technical College (GNTC) graduates lined up in their cars outside the Whitfield Murray Campus (WMC) in Dalton on Thursday, December 3, to participate in the second Drive-Thru Commencement Ceremony of 2020.

Students from all six GNTC campuses were invited to attend the ceremony.

GNTC's Campus Police led the procession of vehicles that were routed through the WMC parking lot. The fall semester graduates then exited their cars in their cap and gowns and walked GNTC's blue carpet to GNTC President Dr. Heidi Popham to receive their award. All along the route, GNTC faculty and staff cheered them on with signs and noisemakers.

Graduates were encouraged to decorate their vehicles for the ceremony. Kristen Hosbach, a Diagnostic Medical Sonography major from Paulding County, took first place for best in show.

GNTC would like to offer special thanks to Shaw Industries Group, Inc. for donating the blue carpet and Allcove Industries, Inc. for cutting and binding the carpet.

Listed are graduates who participated in GNTC's 2020 Fall Drive-Thru Commencement Ceremony showing (from left to right) the graduate's name, program of study and county of residence. This list does not include students that have graduated, but did not participate in the ceremony, or students that registered for the ceremony after the commencement program was printed:

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Autumn Michelle Jones, Early Childhood Care and Education, Bartow
Benat Gonzalez Murguia, Aviation Maintenance Technology, Carroll
Jessica Nicole Hughes, Criminal Justice Technology, Catoosa
Rachel Stone, Business Technology, Catoosa
Crystal Dawn Brady, Accounting, Chattooga
Katlan Bullard, Business Management, Chattooga
Kaitlyn Jeanette Conner, Surgical Technology, Chattooga
Melba Njeri, Logistics

and Supply Chain Management, Cherokee
Samantha Taylor, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Cherokee
Mayela Alsina-Guerrero, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Cobb
Casey Hipps, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Cobb
Emily Hopkins, Business Management, Cobb
Alayna Suzanne Moss, Surgical Technology, Cobb
Jeffery Olen Bennett, Industrial Systems Technology, Floyd
William Burton III, Computer Support Specialist, Floyd
Esmeralda Guzman Cisneros, Adult Echocardiography, Floyd
Shelby Cordle, Radiologic Technology, Floyd
Alexis Cordova, Medical Assisting, Floyd
Aubrie Edwards, Surgical Technology, Floyd
Casey McGee, Business Management, Floyd
Mariana Reyes, Criminal Justice Technology, Floyd
Dawson Waits, Business Management, Floyd
Joy Brown, Adult Echocardiography, Gordon
Christina Bullock, Adult Echocardiography, Gordon
Corrina Goldsberry, Business Healthcare Technology, Gordon
Lexa Hendrix, Construction Management, Gordon
Maria Lopez, Medical Assisting, Gordon
Linzee Brown, Surgical Technology, Murray
Meredith Cleghorn, Early Childhood Care and Education, Murray
Kaitlyn Brinn Gaston, Business Management, Murray
Madison Kailie Gaston, Early Childhood Care and Education, Murray
Nicole Danielle Hatcher, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Paulding
Kristen Hosbach, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Paulding
Madalyn Pittman, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Paulding
Dana Shenice Bunch, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Pickens
Marissa Isabel Deems, Accounting, Polk
Juan Escutia, Criminal Justice Technology, Polk
Kaley Gay, Radiologic Technology, Polk
Cheyenne Nicole Ramsey, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Union
Mistina Franklin, Business Management,

Walker
Skyler Dewayne Miller, Cybersecurity, Walker
Candace Brittney Williams, Early Childhood Care and Education, Walker
Alicia Diaz, Criminal Justice Technology, Whitfield
Joel Fraire, Computer Support Specialist, Whitfield
Samuel Garrett McClure, Automotive Technology, Whitfield
Esmeralda Monterrubio, Accounting, Whitfield
Atanacio Perez, Criminal Justice Technology, Whitfield
Maria Pineda, Early Childhood Care and Education, Whitfield
Adam Rodriguez, Jr., Accounting, Whitfield

Diploma

Samantha Hope Powell, Cosmetology, Catoosa
Sophie Roberts, Cosmetology, Catoosa
Rachel Whiteside, Accounting, Catoosa
Ashelyn Watson, Cosmetology, Chattooga
Hilbeen Akrayee, Practical Nursing, Floyd
Valentin Jimenez, Welding and Joining Technology, Floyd
Daniela Reyes, Cosmetology, Floyd
Andghy Tatiana Rivera Reyes, Lactation Consultant, Floyd
Harley Chastain, Lactation Consultant, Gordon
Shandi Warnix, Cosmetology, Murray
Tori Bennett, Practical Nursing, Paulding
Morgan Kylee Motes, Practical Nursing, Paulding
Haley Arp, Practical Nursing, Polk
Asrealla Masha Lee, Cosmetology, Polk
Raeann Marie Watkins, Cosmetology, Polk
Trystan Mckayla Leeanne Smith, Cosmetology, Walker
Magali Herrera, Business Management, Whitfield
Shelby Ann-Marie Morrison, Cosmetology, Whitfield

Technical Certificate of Credit

Ashley Jones, Cosmetology for Licensure, Floyd
Tina Nguyen, Cosmetology for Licensure, Floyd
Lorren Elizabeth Waters, Cosmetology for Licensure, Floyd
Kiya McDaniels, Central Sterile Supply Processing Technician, Gordon
Meggan Lynn Elder, Supervisor/Management

Specialist, Murray
Harmony Rheagan Shaw, Cosmetology for Licensure, Polk
Brenda Serrano, Healthcare Assistant, Santaquin, Utah
Marion Lay, Central Sterile Supply Processing Technician, Walker
Mark Antonio Trail, Drafter's Assistant, Walker
Blanca Espinoza, Healthcare Office Assistant, Whitfield
Tina Marie Martinez, Medical Front Office Assistant, Whitfield
Denisse Sarmiento, Central Sterile Supply Processing Technician, Whitfield

Georgia Northwestern Technical College provides quality workforce education to the citizens of Northwest Georgia. Students have the opportunity to earn an associate degree, diploma, or a certificate in business, health, industrial, or public service career paths. This



Kiya McDaniels, a Central Sterile Supply Processing Technician major from Gordon County, walks the blue carpet to pick up her Technical Certificate of Credit during GNTC's Fall Drive-Thru Commencement Ceremony. (CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

past year, 12,454 people benefited from GNTC's credit and noncredit programs. With an annual credit enrollment of 7,730 students, GNTC is the largest college in Northwest Georgia. GNTC has an additional enrollment of 4,724 people through adult education, continuing education, business and industry training, and Georgia Quick Start. For more information about GNTC, visit us at www.GNTC.edu. GNTC is a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia and an Equal Opportunity Institution.

2 Work Staffing
www.2workstaff.com

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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/Spanish is a must! for cutting, sealing boxes, packing, and able to work fast paced

INDUSTRIAL BINDING: (sewing machine) candidates that have sewing machine experience we will pay them \$14.25 per hour. They must have previous sewing experience. 2nd shift-and work Monday - Thursday 5pm to 3:30am

ADMIN ASSIST: \$12/hr, accounts payable, and receivable, computer skills, good solid work history, some receptionist skills needed-must have resume showing all computer/accounting skills.

Flocking - Interviews required -7p-5:30am Monday - Friday some Saturdays-\$11

Packaging- No Interviews needed -5pm-5am Monday - Friday \$11

SHOP WORKER: \$11-12/hr, day shift, will work wrapping/cleaning up cabinets for shipping, clean in shop, work as needed to assist in shop for making commercial grade cabinets

COATER: 1st shift M-T 7am to 5pm and F 7am to 3pm - coater operator and asst. operator. Pay is \$11 No exp. \$14 exp.-will send profiles to client-8 openings-will bring in slowly as training

SERGER: \$9/hr, 1st shift, must have skills on sewer/serger

Front End Loader - rotating days \$14/hr pft required. FEL experience required

Sand Prep- PFT required, forklift experience required, rotating days, \$15/hr-1 opening

TEACHER: \$8.25, must pass background check, experience in planning, teaching, following up, needs to have certificate in field or Associates Degree, must show work history on resume to submit to client

HALL MONITOR: \$8.25/hr, must have clean background, will be cleaning, assisting with students and taking care of facilities. Must show work history on resume to be submitted to client.

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Obituaries

December 9, 2020

Sanquetta Agee

Sanquetta Lavonne Hall Agee, age 40, of Calhoun, and formerly of Tuscaloosa, Ala., passed away Monday, Dec. 7, 2020.



Sanquetta was a member of Weeping Mary Missionary Baptist Church in Tuscaloosa, Ala. She had many hobbies and talents but she enjoyed coaching basketball at Redbud Middle School.

She is preceded by her grandmother, Blanch Hall; great-grandmother, Azzie Hall; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Sammy and Diann Agee; and uncle, Donald Hall.

She is survived by her loving husband, Samuel Agee; son, Sherrod Agee; mother, Jackie Hall; aunt, Patricia Hall; uncles, DeAnthony (Stephanie) Hall and Bobby (Sarah) Hall; sisters-in-law, Tressalyn Agee and Katina Agee; brother-in-law, Bernard Agee; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends.

Family will receive friends Saturday, Dec. 12, 2020 from 12 – 3 p.m. at Sugar Valley First Baptist Church, 3742 Sugar Valley Rd NW, Sugar Valley, GA 30746. Funeral Service will be announced at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to Willis Funeral Home, Inc.



Nathen Anderson

Nathen Earl Anderson, 59, of Calhoun, died Sunday, Dec. 6, 2020. He was born on July 10, 1961 in Marietta to William Earl Anderson and Barbara Jean Ray.

He is survived by his wife, Pamela Marie Anderson; sons, Leon Michael Weeks and Jonathan Earl Anderson; daughters, Natasha Faye Greeson and Bonnie Marie Anderson; 16 grandchildren; several friends and other family also survive.

To honor his wishes his body was cremated.

To leave condolences and sign the online guest book please go to, www.maxbrannonandsons.com

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of Nathan Earl Anderson.



Billy Chumley

Billy E. Chumley, 37, of Sugar Valley, died suddenly on Friday, Dec. 4, 2020. Billy was born in Marietta on Nov. 27, 1983; he was the son of the late Billy and Candace Sparks Chumley. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Sammy Chumley.



Billy was the weekend disc jockey for WJTH Radio; he was known on air as “Billy Bob.” He also covered all aspects of car racing.

Billy is survived by his wife, Bethany; his children, Gavin Chumley, Josie Carnes, Ayden Chumley, Tristen Chumley, Jaxin Chumley, Raylen Chumley, and Harlen Chumley; his brother, Marcus Wood; Raylen and Harlen’s mom, Starla; Josie’s mom, Beth; many other relatives and close friends.

Billy’s family is asking that donations be made to help cover the expenses related to his cremation. Friends and family may donate directly at www.maxbrannonandsons.com.

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of Billy E. Chumley.



Lon Curtis

Mr. Lon Curtis, 63, of the Nicklesville community, Resaca, departed this life on Monday, Dec., 7, 2020, following a heart attack at his residence.

Lon was born in Adairsville on Sept. 2, 1957, son of the late Felton and Ruby Barrett Curtis. He was a graduate of Adairsville High School, employed by Mohawk Industries as a commercial truck driver for over 40 years, a loyal fan of the San Francisco 49ers, faithful member of Bethesda Baptist Church near Red Bud where he served as head usher and he and his wife Dena taught Children’s Sunday School for many years.

Lon loved his family and friends fiercely, he was an agitator and loved every minute of it, loved to hunt but his family all said that he was not really good at it, but one thing he was good at was making people laugh and feel they were important, especially children. Being the unselfish person that he was and always wanting to help others, he was an organ donor.

Lon is survived by his wife, Dena Brookshire Curtis, to whom he was married for 31 years; daughters, Ashley Curtis, Katie Parker, Camille Dixon; son, Leon Curtis; grandchildren, Raleigh Emma Parker, Coreontae Dixon, Amelia Harris, Ankeelan Harris, Kenya Atkins, ZaQuan Curtis,

Latoria Curtis, Logan Curtis, Raelyn Curtis and Zakeely Tanner; brothers and sisters, Mary Ann Bryant, Robert Curtis, Willie Curtis, Felton Curtis, Ruby Mae Curtis and Brenda Curtis; father-in-law, Adel Brookshire; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Donna and Hal Smith, Steve and Teresa Brookshire, Kenny and Debbie Brookshire, Jason and Charlotte Brookshire and Denise Brookshire; nieces, nephews and other relatives also survive.

A service to celebrate the life of Lon Curtis will be conducted Friday, Dec. 11, 2020, at 1 p.m. from Bethesda Baptist Church near Red Bud with Pastor Wesley Hunt officiating; eulogist are Hal Smith and Kevin Walraven. Burial will follow in Bethesda Baptist Church Cemetery. Pallbearers serving will include Willie Curtis, Hal Smith, Kenny Brookshire, Steve Brookshire, Jason Brookshire and Kevin Walraven. These gentlemen are asked to assemble at the church Friday at 12:30 p.m. Honorary pallbearers serving will include Adel Brookshire, Glenn Legg, Jonathan Parker, Cody McCormick, Josh Brookshire and his grandchildren.

The family will receive friends Thursday, Dec. 10, 2020, at Bethesda Baptist Church near Red Bud between the hours of 5 – 9 p.m. It is requested that masks be worn and social distancing guidelines be followed.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that contributions be made in Lon’s memory to the Bethesda Baptist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 2445, Calhoun, Georgia 30703.

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of Lon Curtis.



Clara Dover

Clara Sue Parker Dover, age 88, of Calhoun, passed away on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020 at AdventHealth Gordon.

Clara was born on June 26, 1932 in Alabama to the late Charlie Parker and Buna Allen Parker. She was a resident of Gordon County most of her life and attended a non-denominational Church. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, French Stanlaw “Buck” Dover; brothers, Duell Parker, Roland Parker, and Charlie “JR” Parker; son-in-laws, Denis Prater, and Charles Kenneth Farmer.



She is survived by two daughters, Christa Mitchell and her husband Bruce, and Cherrie Farmer; two sisters, Jeanne Hobgood and her husband James, and Faye Langston; three grandchildren, Tommy Prater and his wife Abby, David Prater and his wife Ashley, and Cheri Mitchell; six great-grandchildren, Charlie Prater, Conner Prater, Casen Prater, Maverick Prater, Isabella Prater and Lily Prater.

Funeral Services were conducted on Tuesday, Dec. 8 at 2 p.m. from the chapel of Thomas Funeral Home with Reverend Denis Prater, and Reverend Gary Hibberts officiating. Burial followed in Chandler Cemetery.

Pallbearers serving were Jason Jarrett, Josh Nix, Eric Bailey, Nick Payne, Matthews Ruddell, and Charlie Prater. Honorary Pallbearers were David Prater and James Hobgood.

The family received friends on Monday, Dec. 7 from 6 – 8 p.m. and Tuesday, Dec. 8 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Thomas Funeral Home.

Due to the ongoing national health crisis, face coverings must be properly worn by all those who plan to attend. Social distancing guidelines must be followed at all times while attending the visitation and service.

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

Thomas Funeral Home has proudly been entrusted with the care of Clara Sue Parker Dover.



Angela ‘Ann’ Eller

Mrs. Angela “Ann” Cox Eller, age 74, of Adairsville, passed away Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020.

She was born in Atlanta on Oct. 12, 1946, daughter of the late Tom C. Cox and Lenah Adams Cox. She was a devout Christian and had attended New Antioch Baptist Church, Adairsville Church of God, and Grey’s Chapel AME. Mrs. Eller was preceded in death by her parents.

Survivors include her husband, Joseph Eller; brother, Thomas Cox of Tunnel Hill; sisters, Susan Kirby of Dallas, Linda Kirby of Adairsville, Barbara Cox of Calhoun, Margie Parham of Acworth, and Nina Cox-Kiser of Adairsville; several nieces and nephews whom she loved dearly.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2020, at 1 p.m. from the chapel of Barton Funeral Home with Rev. Jim Parham officiating. Interment followed in Pleasant Arbor Baptist Church Cemetery, Waleska. The family received friends Tuesday from



11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Barton Funeral Home. Pallbearers were her nephews Tyler Parham, Charlie Kirby, Rodney Kirby, Lukas Kirby, Eric Browning, and Dale McDougle. Honorary pallbearers were Gordon Kirby and Greg Parham.

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. Angela “Ann” “Pumpkin” Cox Eller.

Barton Funeral Home

Marty Hightower

Mr. Marty Hightower, age 39, of Fairmount, departed this life on Sunday, Dec. 6, 2020 at Piedmont Newnan Hospital. Marty was born Jan. 1, 1981 in Cartersville. Marty enjoyed playing the guitar, fixing cars and he mostly loved pulling pranks on family and friends.



Marty is survived by his wife, Kerry Hightower of Canton; daughter, Ruthann Hightower of Canton; father, Sammy Hightower of Chatsworth; mother, Patsy Mullinax of Fairmount; sisters, Stacie (Sabac) Rodriguez of Fairmount, Kristy Harris of Fairmount, Cassie Pinion of Canton; brother, Dakota Hightower of Ellijay; several nieces and nephews and friends.

Service to celebrate the life of Marty will be held Saturday, Dec. 12, 2020 at 2 p.m. from Ponders Fairmount Chapel with Pastor Harold Hightower officiating.

The family will receive friends Friday, Dec. 11, 2020 from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. until the service hour.

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

Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.pondersfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements will be announced by, Ponders Fairmount Chapel 2566 Hwy 411 Fairmount, GA 30139, 706-337-3784



Lee Ledford

Lee Ledford, 67, of Calhoun, passed away Thursday, Dec. 3, 2020. Lee was born in Dalton on Sept. 9, 1953 to the late Delmar Ledford Sr. and Toney Schrivner. He was also preceded in death by his son, Richard Lee Ledford.



Lee was a rock-worker for many years.

Lee is survived by his companion of 26 years, Wilma Caylor; children, Loyd Richard Ledford, Kevin Ledford, Kelly Kirby (Tony), Kimberly Eller; his mother, Toney Schrivner; his brothers and sisters; grandchildren, Jordan Lee Ledford, Brooke Ledford, Loyd Richard Ledford Jr., Raiden Ledford, Alyssa Ann Ledford, Dustin Bates, Jaden Tate, Addison Tate, Haven Tate, Luke Kirby, Haley Ledford, Gage Ledford; great-grandchildren, Makennly Delyn Ledford, Paisley Jolene Ledford, Athens Bates and Riya King.

To honor his wishes, Lee was cremated. A service will be held at Evangelistic Outreach Ministries at a later date.

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of Lee Ledford.



Angie McDonald

Angie McDonald, 72, of Calhoun, died Thursday, Dec. 3, 2020 after a two-year illness. She was born on June 13, 1948 in Gordon County to the late Bill and Beatrice William Smith. She was preceded in death by her first husband Ronald Cook and her second husband Mr. Allen McDonald; son, Everett James Cook; grandson, Matthew Bailey.

She is survived by her daughters and son-in-law, Brenda and Steve Angel, and Anita Cook; grandchildren, Randall Bailey, Summer Bailey, Cody Whitfield, Chris Whitfield, and Brittany Thomas; 10 great grandchildren; several friends and other family members also survive.

The family received friends on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020 from 5 – 8 p.m. at Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home.

The funeral was conducted on Sunday, Dec. 6, 2020 at 3 p.m. from the Chapel of Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home, with Pastor Michael Jarrett. Burial followed in Haven of Rest Memorial Park. Pallbearers were Chris Whitfield, Randall Bailey,

Hometown Holidays



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RELIGION

GIVE EVERYONE A TELESCOPE THIS CHRISTMAS



Randy Muse
Antioch Baptist Church
Youth Minister
rmuse1@yahoo.com

Christmas certainly is a season of giving. We see this more clearly as

we come into adulthood. From an early age, we have all been given the expectation of receiving gifts.

There's certainly nothing wrong with receiving gifts. The first gift that I remember receiving as a child was a stuffed skunk. If you wound it up, it would play music. To this day I don't know why my parents decided on a skunk, but it was the perfect gift. I played and slept with that thing up until time to move into the dorms at college. Just kidding about that part, however, it was a gift that

I was very fond of. Over the years our interest, and expectations, grew just like we did. We moved up to Big Wheels, Bicycles, Video Games; and whatever else we could pick out from the Sears Catalog.

Of course the greatest gift was the gift of Christ. "For God so loved the world, that he GAVE his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Eternal life is a gift that only God himself can give. Anything else compared to the gift of

Salvation is pointless.

One gift that I don't remember making onto my list to Santa was that of a telescope. That's probably because I never took much interest in science. Telescopes are impressive instruments that date back as far as 1608, in the Netherlands. Galileo became the first person to point a telescope upward into the sky to observe the moon, stars and such. The uses became widely spread. I myself think of ships on the sea using them to see and identify other objects ahead of, or behind, them.

The purpose of telescopes is simply about this, to bring objects of a faraway distance into view.

In Philippians 1:21, Paul wrote the words "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." The Apostle was making it clear that, at least for him, this life is not about stuff. The part, "to die is gain," is pretty simple to understand. After all, who honestly doesn't want an eternity in Heaven? But what about, "to live is Christ?"

Warren Weirsbe writes some of my favorite biblical commentary. In talking about this verse, Warren asked the question, "What is bigger, a star or a telescope?" The answer is obvious. I read in a devotion recently that to many people, Jesus is like a star. He's pretty much a distant figure of history. "To live is Christ" means that Christians are to be a telescope, bringing God closer to people who have only considered Him from a distance. This, my friends is the point of seeing Jesus in us. Do they? Give everyone a telescope this Christmas.

Be Blessed.

The Basement to host Eric Gilmour Jan. 15-16

STAFF REPORTS

Get ready family for Friday, Jan. 15, 2021 and Saturday, Jan. 16, 2021 as The Basement hosts guest speaker and musical artist Eric Gilmour.

Gilmour is an author, itinerant minister and musician, seeking to bring the Church into a deeper experience of Jesus. He believes that experiencing God at all times is the very source of the authentic Christian life. Gilmour has written

multiple dozens of books, released countless songs and shared hundreds of videos on YouTube which have challenged innumerable believers to seek and find Jesus through continual rest in His presence.

Doors will open

at 6 p.m. and ALL are welcome. The Basement is located at 903D South Wall Street Calhoun. Make sure you invite family and friends and pack the house for an amazing night of worship and Gods presence.



Church Calendar

ONGOING

-Philadelphia Christian School is located off Highway 41 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, a 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 at 706-409-1981. Senior pastor is Keith Reid.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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.

--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.

-Resaca Assembly of God, located at 904 Resaca Lafayette Rd NW, would like to welcome everyone to please come and join in worship and meet our Pastor Steve Burns and his lovely wife Cathy. Sunday school at 10 a.m., worship service on Sunday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.. Everyone is invited.

-Calhoun First United Methodist Church Sunday Worship times: 9:00 a.m., traditional worship; 10 a.m., Sunday school; 11 a.m., contemporary service (in the CAC). Calhoun First UMC is located at 205 East Line Street in downtown Calhoun.

-First Presbyterian Church, located at 829 Red Bud Road N.E. in Calhoun. Pastor David McDonald invites you to join us on Sunday for Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., Worship Service at 11 a.m., and Bible Study Class Tuesday 10 a.m.

-Oakman Baptist Church located at 397 Oakman Rd. Oakman, Georgia, has Sunday school at 10 a.m. Covered dish dinner every third Sunday following worship. Everyone is invited!

-Damascus Baptist Church, located on North Highway 41 in Calhoun, Sunday School at 10 a.m. Sunday worship at 11 a.m. and Sunday night at 6 p.m.

-Old Sugar Valley United Methodist Church located at 2659 Old Rome Dalton

Road in Calhoun has Breakfast Social at 9:30 am every Sunday. The church history is colorful, dating back to the Civil War, small cozy country church nothing fancy! Come join us!

-Faith Deliverance Ministry and Outreach with Evelyn M. Adams, Minister has been ordained as a Minister of the Gospel since 1972. Call anytime to come minister to your church of place or event at 706-337-3241. 24-hour prayer line at 706-671-7988. Send all prayer requests to P.O Box 394, Fairmount GA, 30139.

-Pleasant Valley Baptist Church is a Bible believing & teaching church located in the Red Bud Community. Pastor Keith Gibson and the congregation invite you to come and worship with us at 3882 Red Bud Rd., Calhoun. Opportunities for worship: Bible Study for all ages 10 a.m., Children's Church up to 5th grade 11a.m., Worship service 11 a.m. Wednesday night service times Prayer Bible Study and Student Ministries 7 p.m. 706-624-0198, Find us on Facebook or email pvbccalhoun@gmail.com

-Maranatha Baptist Church on Hwy 225 across from paradise Drag Strip, Calhoun would like to invite you to attend our services for Sunday School starting at 10 a.m., Worship Service at 10:45 a.m. Wednesday Night Services are at 7 p.m. Everyone is Welcome. Pastor Richard Webster.

-Evangelistic Outreach Ministries on 1590 Dewes Pond Road. Pastor Mark Kirby invites everyone to Fellowship and Worship with us. Children's Church on Sunday Services starts at 11:00am Childrens Church starts at 11:30am. Wednesday nights Bible Study 7:00pm-8:00pm. Come out and see what the Lord is doing!

-The College Street Church of God, 731 College St., Calhoun, 706-483-3666, pastor Dewayne Smith, holds weekly services: Sunday school at 10 a.m., Sunday; morning worship at 11 a.m., Sunday; Sunday night service at 6 p.m.; and Bible study on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

-Victory Fellowship Center, 925 Oothcalooga St., invites you to weekly worship services held at 11 a.m. every Sunday morning. Pastor Joe Stewart and the VFC family also invite everyone to join each Wednesday at noon and 7:30 p.m. for anointed and enlightening Bible studies. If you are looking to grow in your understanding of God's plan for your life and gain greater insight of the life changing power of His word, come and join us as we study the word.

-Boone Ford Baptist Church invites you to attend its services for Sunday School starting at 10 a.m. and Worship services at 11 a.m. every Sunday. Sunday night services are at 6 p.m. on the first and third Sunday night of each month. Wednesday night services start at 7:30 p.m. Everyone welcome. Gary Quarles, pastor.

-Pleasant Hill Baptist Church and Pastor David Peeler invite everyone to attend weekly services. Sunday School begins at 10 a.m. and worship at 11 a.m. Sunday evening activities and discipleship training begin at 6 p.m., and children's and youth programs at 7 p.m. Wednesday service begins at 7 p.m., along with Bible study programs for children and youth.

-Pastor Steve Corbin invites everyone to regular services at New Zion Baptist Church. Sunday School is at 10 a.m., worship service at 11 a.m. and Sunday night service at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday night Bible study is at 7:15 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

-Greater Mt. Tabor Baptist Church, 259 Herring Road, NW, Armuchee, invites you to come worship and fellowship with us on Sunday morning at 11 a.m. Pastor Reginald McDaniel and Church Family also welcome you to attend Mid-Week Bible Study, Wednesday evening at 6 p.m. and Sunday School at 10 a.m.. We are a church on the move for Christ, come share with us as we grow in the Word of God.

-Resaca First Baptist Church and Pastor Rev. Harold Blackstock would like to invite you to attend our Sunday School at 10 a.m. and worship at 11 a.m. Sunday night service is at 6 p.m. Wednesday night service at 6 p.m. for children and youth.

-Liberty Baptist Church Pastor Gene Ratcliff invites everyone to church services in Ranger; service times are 10 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m. Sunday worship and 7 p.m. Wednesday worship.

-Brother Joe Hall and the congregation of Ranger Baptist invite everyone to its regular services on Sunday morning. Sunday School begins at 10 a.m. Worship is Wednesday night with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and Bible study at 7 p.m. For more information, call 706-629-3425.

-Oak Grove Baptist Church of Adairsville is located at 997 Brownlee Mountain Road S.W. Service times are Sunday school 9:45 a.m., with worship at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Sunday and 7 p.m. on Wednesday. Pastor: Roger Fisher.

-Fellowship Baptist Church of Plainville will hold a Brotherhood Breakfast on the second Sunday of each month at 8 a.m.

-Hope in Christ Ministries, 306 Peters St., is holding services every Sunday morning. Adult Bible Study starts at 10 a.m. with praise/worship service at 11 a.m. Bishop W. S. (Billy) Weems is the pastor. Rev. Earnest Diamond Jr. is assistant pastor. For more

information, call the church at 706-602-2433.

-Talking Rock Creek Chapel has a new pastor, the Pastor Donald Broachurst and family. Service times are 9 a.m. for Sunday school and Children's Church and 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Wednesday. For more information, call 706-669-0854.

-Rev. Israel and Bishop Rita Partin Spaulding will host a Gathering of Eagles Revival Service each Saturday night at 6:30. These meetings are designed for those individuals who have a desire to go higher in God. Come expecting your breakthrough. The location is 799 Pine Street in the Church of God in Christ building. Rev. Israel and Bishop Rita are International Speakers with a Life Changing Word. For more information please call 423-883-3138.

-Philadelphia Baptist Church operates North Georgia Baptist College and is registering students. It is a local church ministry designed to prepare men and women for serving the Lord. It will provide basic training for preachers, Sunday school teachers, Christian schoolteachers, evangelists and missionaries. For more information call the church office at 706-625-3233 or visit the college's web site at www.northgabaptistcollege.com.

-Calhoun Church of Jesus Christ, located at the corner of Damascus Road and Pine Drive, invites everyone to attend their weekly services. Sunday services take place at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday's service is at 7 p.m. The church's pastor is Joshua Maddox and assistant pastor is Hunter Quarles.

-Big Springs Baptist Church, 3326 Dewes Pond Road SE, Calhoun, invites families and individuals from all walks of life to attend their services (casual dress). The worship service includes contemporary music along with traditional hymns and Southern Gospel. Children's Church is provided for ages K-3rd grade and nursery for babies - pre-k. Service times: Sunday mornings: fellowship breakfast, 9:15-9:30 a.m.; Bible study (all ages) 9:45 a.m., worship 10:45 a.m. Evening worship 6:30 p.m. Wednesday evenings 6:30 p.m. For more information on the church you may contact rev. Tommy Phillips at 678-986-7404.

Looking to buy or sell a home? I'm here to help!

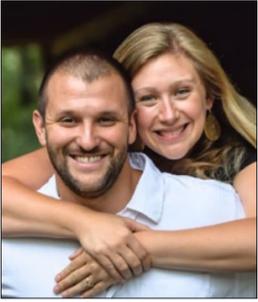
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Ronald Amyx 678.848.3031

508 S. WALL STREET, CALHOUN, GA 706.629.2747

FINANCE

Cash Flow with Joe: Deeds tell a story



Joe & Ashley English
Owners of Focus Property Solutions, LLC
focuspropertysolutionsllc@gmail.com

in the middle of buying a subject-to deal. And with that type of deal structure it's important to know that the warranty deed conveys ownership to a property while a security deed discloses the presence of a mortgage, or other lien, that is attached to the property.

If you are unfamiliar with what deeds look like and what they say, the best place to learn about them is to visit the deed room at your local courthouse.

Now as you walk into a deed room, it can feel a little scary because you're literally in a vault in the depths of your court house that has a thick steel door similar to something you would see on the safe from a 1930's bank heist movie. And even though it may smell a little musty because you are on the bottom floor where it is not well-ventilated, don't

let those things deter you. The deed rooms are usually nice places, filled with great people, and tons of information to sift through on properties you're interested in.

So, what's in the deed room?

Books... Lots of them. Which are filled with different kinds of deeds and other paperwork that tell the story of the property you're researching.

Deeds tell you who bought the property from whom, if the buyer was married or single, approximately how much they bought it for, if they paid cash or financed it and if there are any liens on the property. Deeds also give you a description of the land, and the surrounding tracts, plus a lot more information if you are willing to delve into it.

Trying to digest all of this when you're just starting to look at deeds

can feel overwhelming. But you've probably been reading books with deeds in them since you were a kid.

Don't believe me? Flip your Scriptures open to Genesis Chapter 23.

Here we see one of the oldest deeds ever recorded. Abraham had just lost Sarah. Far from home and family, he finds himself in need of a burial plot for Sarah. So, he goes to the Children of Heth and offers to buy a field and a cave from a fellow named Ephron. Ephron agrees to sell to Abraham for 400 pieces of silver.

Verses 16-20 say, "And Abraham listened to Ephron, and Abraham weighed out the silver for Ephron which he had named in the hearing of the sons of Heth, four hundred sheqels of silver, currency of the merchants. Thus the field of Ephron which was in Maḳpēlah, which was

before Mamrē, the field and the cave which was in it, and all the trees that were in the field, which were within all the surrounding borders, were deeded to Abraham as a possession in the presence of the sons of Hēth, before all who went in at the gate of his city. And after this Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Maḳpēlah, before Mamrē, that is Hēbron, in the land of Kena'an. Thus the field and the cave that is in it were deeded to Abraham by the sons of Hēth as property for a burial site."

As we read this story, it has similar information like we see in the deed books in the courthouse.

For instance, Gen. 23 tells us that Abraham was widowed and that he paid cash for the property. It tells us who was the buyer and who was the seller. Then it tell us the

legal boundaries of the property that was sold and the city, state and county the property is located in: "Maḳpēlah, before Mamrē, that is Hēbron, in the land of Kena'an."

That's the same type information that we see in legal descriptions on deeds we read today.

So, as you explore the deed room, realize that the pages of deed books hold the information that tell the story of the property you're investigating just like this story from the bible. And looking at it from a story standpoint can really help you to not get confused.

Joe and Ashley English buy houses and mobile homes in Northwest Georgia. For more information or to ask a question, go to www.cashflowwithjoe.com or call Joe at 678-986-6813.

I was talking to an investor recently that was having a hard time telling the difference between a warranty deed and a security deed. This confusion is not uncommon for investors that mainly buy houses using cash or traditional financing because the attorneys handle all the deed and paperwork.

But this investor was

FINANCIAL FOCUS: Consider these year-end financial moves



Dewayne Bowen
Financial Advisor at Edward Jones
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your 401(k) or similar retirement plan. And if your salary goes up next year, increase your regular contributions.

•See your tax advisor. It's possible that you could improve your tax situation by making some investment-related moves. For example, if you sold some investments whose value has increased, you could incur capital gains taxes. To offset these gains, you could sell other investments that have lost value, assuming these investments are no longer essential to your financial strategy. Your tax advisor can evaluate this type of move, along with others, to determine those that may be appropriate for your situation.

•Review your investment mix. As you consider your portfolio, think about the events of these past 12 months and how you responded to them. When COVID-19 hit early in the year, and the financial markets plunged, did you find yourself worrying constantly about the losses you were taking, even though they were just on "paper" at that point? Did you even sell investments to "cut your losses" without waiting for a market recovery? If so, you might want to consult with a financial professional to determine if your investment mix is still appropriate for your goals and risk tolerance, or if you need to make some changes.

•Evaluate your need for retirement plan withdrawals. If you are 72 or older, you must start taking withdrawals – technically called required minimum distributions, or RMDs – from your traditional IRA and your 401(k) or similar retirement plan. Typically, you must take these RMDs by December 31 every year. However, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Stimulus (CARES) Act suspended, or waived, all RMDs due in 2020. If you're in this age group, but you don't need the money, you can let your retirement accounts continue growing on a tax-deferred basis.

• Think about the future. Are you saving enough for your children's college education? Are you still on track toward the retirement lifestyle you've envisioned? Or have your retirement plans changed as a result of the pandemic? All of these issues can affect your investment strategies, so you'll want to think carefully about what decisions you may need to make.

Looking back – and ahead – can help you make the moves to end 2020 on a positive note and start 2021 on the right foot.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones. Member SIPC.

We're nearing the end of 2020 – and for many of us, it will be a relief to turn the calendar page on this challenging year. However, we've still got a few weeks left, which means you have time to make some year-end financial moves that may work in your favor.

Here are a few suggestions:

• Add to your IRA. For the 2020 tax year, you can put in up to \$6,000 to your

traditional or Roth IRA, or \$7,000 if you're 50 or older. If you haven't reached this limit, consider adding some money. You actually have until April 15, 2021, to contribute to your IRA for 2020, but the sooner you put the money in, the quicker it can go to work for you. Plus, if you have to pay taxes in April, you'll be less likely to contribute to your IRA then.

•Make an extra 401(k) payment. If it's allowed by your employer, put in a little extra to

CONSUMER ALERT: Carr Issues Scam Warning to Seniors

ATLANTA, GA – Attorney General Chris Carr is urging seniors, and those that care for them, to stay informed on how to recognize and avoid some common scams. While these schemes can and do happen to people of all ages, the perpetrators often target older adults. Our Consumer Protection Division is offering the following information about several popular scams and how to avoid them:

Fake COVID-19 Vaccine Trials

Scam artists are creating fake websites and promotional messages in which they offer to pay you \$1,000 or more for participating in a COVID-19 vaccine trial. They may ask you for your Social Security number, bank account information or credit card information. The message they send may contain a link that downloads malware, enabling them to steal the account numbers and passwords stored on your device.

Remember, real clinical trials will never ask you to pay them. If you receive a message about participating in a trial, do not click on any links, give out your Social Security number or provide financial information. If you are asked to provide your bank account information so you can receive payment for your participation, ask the company to mail you a check instead.

Economic Income Payment Scam

Criminals are also using a similar phishing tactic in which they send a text message purporting to come from the IRS encouraging people to claim their \$1,200 Economic Impact Payment. The text contains a link to a fake website that asks for bank account



information so the payment can allegedly be directly deposited to your account. Scammers then use the information to steal money from your bank account.

Gift Card Scams

Gift cards have become a preferred method of payment for scammers because it's almost impossible to get your money back or trace them to the scammer. Popular gift cards that scammers request include iTunes, GooglePlay and Amazon. Many types of scams may insist that you pay via gift card, including utility scams, IRS scams, Social Security scams, tech support scams and more. It's easy to avoid these scams if you remember that legitimate entities will never ask you to pay via gift cards, prepaid cards or wire transfer.

Grandparent and Virtual Kidnapping Scams

In these scams, fraudsters use scare tactics to try to get you to pay a large sum of money – typically via wire transfer or gift cards – to rescue a loved one who is in a dire situation. They may pose as your grandchild, a friend of his/hers or a police officer. They tell you that your grandchild is badly hurt or in jail and that you must send money immediately to help him/her. In a similar

scam, con artists claim to have kidnapped your loved one and insist that he or she will be harmed unless you pay a ransom immediately.

Medicare Enrollment Scams

In this imposter scam, con artists try to steal your Medicare account number in order to commit fraud. They will call you, purporting to be a Medicare advisor and ask you to provide your Medicare account number for verification purposes. Do not give out your account number. Real Medicare representatives already have this information.

To keep seniors informed about scams and other important topics, the Consumer Protection Division created the Georgia Consumer Protection Guide for Older Adults, which is available in English and Spanish. The guide covers scams, identity theft, credit and debt issues, reverse mortgages, charitable giving, home repairs, funerals, advance directives, long-term care, elder abuse and more. Consumers can download a copy from the Consumer Protection Division's website. To request hard copies of the guide, please contact the Consumer Protection Division at 404-651-8600.

GORDON Gazette

To stay up to date on the latest community news, follow the Gordon Gazette on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!

GORDON GROWN

4-H Youth Development through Livestock Projects



Greg Bowman
Gordon County
Extension Agent

gbowman@uga.edu

Most know I am a product of the Gordon County 4-H Club. My 4-H experience started when my dad took me to my first cattle show at the NW Georgia Livestock Pavilion in 1980. I had seen photos of him with his show steers from his high school days. Visiting the show was to help get an idea if showing cattle was something we wanted to take on as a family. After the show, we selected a Simmental crossed steer from my mom's uncle, Mr. Dallas Sutherland. We named the steer, Buck by way of the UGA QB Buck Belue. Since that first show steer, my family would be unable to count up the number of steers, heifers, show lambs and meat goats that have been shown by my siblings,

my children, nephew and I over the years. Along the way, the road was full of hard work, but the positives outweighed the negatives by a long shot.

Today, I would like to give an up-date on the Gordon County 4-H Livestock Exhibitor Program and the positive youth development aspects of the program.

Showing livestock in Gordon County has changed over the years. Back when I showed livestock in the 1980s, 4-H'er here mainly showed steers, a good number of heifers and the market lamb project was just gaining steam. There would actually be 20-30 steers shown annually in this county. The last show of the season concluded with a live auction of the steers after the show. Many local banks, stores and individuals would come to bid on those steers. Today, we have more variety in the types of livestock being shown. We have approximately 25 4-H youth annually show steers, heifers, market hogs, breeding gilts, market lambs, breeding ewes, meat goats and breeding does.

There are many times at the state events that Gordon County youth

will exhibit well over 125 head of livestock. In fact, we may be one of the largest 4-H show teams in the state of Georgia.

One thing I miss from our showing days is the family time when selecting the show animals for the next show season. This can be when we raised some of our show animals on the farm or when we visited other farms to evaluate their stock. Even though it is the young person going into the ring with the animal, showing livestock is definitely a family project. It can take a family team effort to get the animals to a show, get stalls ready for the animals to rest, washing and feeding the livestock and making preparations on the actual show day. The family time at home before ever attending an actual show can be as rewarding as winning that trophy or blue ribbon at the actual competitive event.

Why do we show livestock? I have stated many times that I am a competitive person by nature. I grew up either playing sports, showing livestock or competing in livestock judging. I have always thought you should try to do your

absolute best no matter the activity. I am still competitive, but over the years I have begun to see the larger picture especially with showing livestock. At our place, there is no telling how many banners, plaques, trophies, ribbons and prizes we have on display or stored away from showing livestock. Those awards will fade over time, but the life skills obtained or enhanced by exhibiting livestock will last a lifetime.

Today, I will mention a few of those life skills.

The word responsibility may mean work to many people. Yes, when you are responsible, it can mean that you are taking on more jobs or someone is dependent on you to full fill a role. When you show livestock that animal is dependent on the exhibitor for basic animal husbandry needs. There are the basics of food, water and shelter. It can also means giving daily care and exercise. There is also the responsibility of training the animal for what is required in the show ring. Remember, the exhibitor and the animal has to work as a team.

Speaking of being a team, you learn teamwork

in the livestock project. Teamwork can be the show family working as a cohesive group at the show and at home. It can also mean being a positive member of the entire county show team while at events. It can mean being an encourager and educator to younger less experienced show team members. I will add that you have to be a good sport if you want to show livestock. In athletics, most of the time over the course of a competitive game the better team will defeat the competition. In showing livestock, you will compete against other people, but you are being evaluated by a skilled judge. A judge will have their personal opinion on which animal or youth should win. That opinion may differ from yours. I have seen livestock that win top honors at major state events turn around and get beat at county fairs. My point, is you will have the chance to be a gracious winner and then be even more gracious in defeat. Showing good sportsmanship may include giving congrats to someone else even when you feel you should have won.

The skills of time and money management

should not be forgotten. 2020 with the COVID limitations may have offered more at home time, but youth still learn to balance time between taking care of the livestock, school work and other activities. I can still remember us being at the barn after ball practices in my showing days. If you really want to participate, you will learn to balance your time wisely. Youth can also learn the value of a dollar by showing livestock. Showing animals is not a cheap project. You have purchasing the animal, feed costs, supply costs and entry fees just to name a few. A young person may learn about saving money to assist with their project. One final life skill is the decision making. This is a skill we all use daily. You have to decide on which animals to show, what feed program choose, which shows to attend and even be able to decide the best and worst show qualities of your animals.

If you would like more information on showing livestock through Gordon County 4-H, contact UGA Extension- Gordon County at 706-629-8685 or email gbowman@uga.edu.

Georgia DNR: Give them a license to get a little wild

This holiday season, give the outdoors enthusiast on your list a "license" to get a little wild.

A hunting and/or fishing license is the perfect gift, with the added bonus of benefitting wildlife and the wild places they enjoy, according to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Resources Division.

A youth license, a lifetime license or an annual hunting or fishing license are all great examples of how to give access to the great outdoors, and provide support for Georgia wildlife and state-managed lands. Youth and lifetime licenses come with a plastic card, and, putting annual licenses on a beautiful

"collector's hard card" (credit card style license) gives you the perfect stocking stuffer!

Youth License

The Youth Sportsman's License for \$15 makes a great gift for resident youth under age 16, and allows you to give a gift valued at \$70! This license provides for both hunting and fishing privileges, and is good through age 17, giving them a full year sportsman's license once they reach age 16 (when they are required to have a license).

Resident Lifetime Licenses

With a lifetime license, the Georgia resident hunter or angler on your gift list will not need to pay for another state hunting or

fishing license...ever! From hunting trophy whitetails to casting for lunker largemouths, their cherished recreation in Georgia is covered. Applications and document details are at www.georgiawildlife.com/LifetimeLicense.

Annual or Other Licenses

Can't purchase a lifetime license? How about giving an annual or 2-year license for that hunter or angler? This purchase provides your sportsman or woman access to the Georgia outdoors, and even if they already have a current license, the license you purchase will "stack" onto their existing one.

Licenses are Gifts that Keeps on Giving...

The Wildlife



Resources Division uses Wildlife and Sport Fish hunting and fishing license sales to fulfill its Restoration funding. license sales to fulfill its mission. The sale of paid licenses is a key measure through which states receive federal Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration funding. Uses of this funding in Georgia vary from operating public fishing areas to managing the state's 1 million-strong deer herd. More information on licenses at www.georgiawildlife.com/licenses-permits-passes, and purchase a

Georgia Pesticide Recertification Course & Meal

The Gordon, Floyd, and Chattooga County Young Farmer Associations are hosting a meeting for anyone in the area to earn *one hour* to apply towards a Private (10) or Commercial Pesticide (24) Applicator License.

SPEAKER: Joshua Baker, *Southeast Agriseeds, LLC*
"Optimizing Forage Growth Using Annuals"

- Using the proper fertilization and herbicide applications to help increase overall production

WHEN: Tuesday, January 19, 2021
Dinner will start at 6:30 p.m.; program to follow at 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Gordon County Farm Bureau
487 W. Belmont Dr.
Calhoun, GA 30701

COST: \$10 Young Farmer member
\$30 non-Young Farmer member

*Due to Covid restrictions, seating will be limited. Payment must be received by Wednesday, January 13. All attendees will be asked to sign a Covid waiver and wear a mask when unable to maintain social distance guidelines.

To register, contact:
Gordon County Young Farmers
Annemarie Carr: 770-519-3619 acarr@gcbe.org

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HEALTH NEWS

GEORGIA HEALTH NEWS: Hospitals, nursing homes first in line as COVID vaccine coming soon

ANDY MILLER
Georgia Health News

Georgia expects to receive several hundred thousand doses of COVID vaccines this month for its initial distribution, the state Public Health commissioner said Tuesday.

The first groups to get shots will be health care workers and residents and staff of long-term care facilities, said the commissioner, Dr. Kathleen Toomey, at a news conference at the state Capitol.

The first deliveries of vaccines, though, will not be enough to vaccinate everyone in those two groups, Toomey acknowledged.

With Public Health guidance, hospitals, nursing homes and other facilities will make decisions on which staff will get vaccinated in the early distribution.

Toomey cited priority for people such as respiratory therapists and ICU personnel, who often treat COVID patients, versus workers not involved in direct patient care. "Some individuals within hospitals are more at risk than others," she said.

Hospitals are ordering vaccines, Toomey said. "We hope by certainly early January, I would think, we will have all health care workers covered."

The Public Health system will be the

backbone of the distribution effort, Toomey said.

Though it will take time, the U.S. vaccination program will be the key to bringing COVID-19 under control. Britain on Tuesday became the first Western nation to start its coronavirus vaccinations. (Russia and China have developed their own vaccines and have begun administering them.)

Georgia officials say the state expects to receive some combination of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.

Each will require a person to get two doses, three to four weeks apart.

The state will follow guidelines approved last week by a panel advising the CDC, Toomey said.

The Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended that health care workers and long-term care facility residents to be first in line. Those people are "exceptionally high risk," said Dr. Jose Romero, who chairs ACIP.

About one-third of COVID deaths in Georgia have been among residents of nursing homes, assisted living facilities and large personal care homes.

The Pfizer vaccine requires freezers that are extremely cold: minus 70 degrees Celsius (minus 94 degrees Fahrenheit).

"We have those freezers available all over the

state," Toomey said, with special carriers provided by Pfizer.

The Moderna vaccine doesn't require those deep freezers, and "that will be easier to transport," she added.

People in rural areas will get similar access to people in metro Atlanta and other urban centers.

"Our public health directors are in charge, and they're looking out for their rural areas," Toomey said.

Communication about vaccines will be vital for African-American and hard-to-reach communities, state officials say.

Toomey addresses press conference Tuesday. Photo by the Georgia Recorder

"It's going to be a big undertaking," Kemp said. "The limited amount of vaccine doses we will receive in the coming days will be going to the most vulnerable and those on the front lines of fighting COVID 19. The general public will not be able to be vaccinated for months."

That's why Georgians must continue to follow safety guidelines, he said, including wearing masks, practicing social distancing and washing hands.

President-elect Joe Biden vowed Tuesday to get 100 million doses of a coronavirus vaccine distributed to Americans in the first 100 days of his administration.



Biden said getting vaccines to most Americans would be a costly challenge and called on Congress to designate funds for getting vaccine to the people who need it.

"This will be one of the hardest and most costly operational challenges in our nation's history," he said at an event to introduce his health team.

Don't fear the shot, experts say

Some vaccine recipients may experience side effects, such as mild fever, arm pain or flu-like symptoms, Toomey said. "It's to be expected."

A major challenge will be communicating the safety of COVID vaccines, because many people are hesitant about taking the shots.

(Skepticism about vaccines in general has been an alarming public health problem in recent years.)

Sixty percent of people questioned in November said they would "definitely or probably" take the coronavirus vaccine if it were available today,

up from 51 percent in September, according to a study published by the Pew Research Center.

Pew said 39 percent of people polled said they definitely or probably would not take the vaccine, though almost half that group said they might change their minds if more information became available.

While an exact threshold is not known, Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said

recently that 75 percent to 85 percent of the population will need to get the vaccine to stop the spread of the virus, WebMD reported.

Kemp said he and Toomey will get the shots themselves as a way to reassure and encourage people in Georgia.

The governor acknowledged the rising number of COVID-19 infections in the state. "All our metrics are going up," Kemp said, though he contended that Georgia is doing better than many other states.

The state Public Health website reported 5,700 new infections Tuesday, continuing a spurt of high numbers of daily cases.

Andy Miller is the CEO and Editor of Georgia Health News.

Support Groups

-Calhoun AA Group meetings. Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 7 - 8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday from 12 - 1 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Located at 318 North River Street, Calhoun, GA, 30701.

-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 Counseling Center (Dr. Bledsoe's office). Meeting every Thursday 7 - 8 p.m. Call 770-548-7849 for more information.

-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.

-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.

-The Georgia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association is sponsoring a monthly support group at Morning Pointe 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.

-The Georgia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program seeks to improve the quality of life for residents of long-term care facilities. For more

information, call Linda Ann Daniel at 1-866-565-8213 or 706-272-2158.

-The Alzheimer's Association's Caring Closet was created to help offset the high cost 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 706-629-0777.

-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.

-Are you interested in losing pounds and inches? Join TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) for support and how-to information. Meetings are on Monday nights. Weigh-ins begin at 6 p.m., and group support and information starts at 7 p.m. at the Gordon County Senior Citizens Center, 150 Cambridge Court,

Calhoun. For more information, call 706-847-3306.

-Community volunteers are needed at Countryside Hospice Care, where the mission is to promote comfort and dignity 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 1-800-660-7381.

-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 (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.com.

-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 706-629-2880.



Anna Shaw Children's Institute

Southern Magnolia room on the lower level
1201 Burleyson Road | Dalton, Georgia

Parent Support Group

The Parent Support Group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm.

All parents, grandparents, guardians, and other family members of children with special needs are invited to take part in a new parent-led Parent Support Group.

Anna Shaw Children's Institute follows social distancing and CDC safety guidelines.

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Education

CCCA Student of the Week Spotlight Nov.30 - Dec. 4, 2020

CONTRIBUTED

Calhoun High School 11th grader, Hunter Harkins, was the Calhoun College and Career Academy (CCCA) Student of the Week for November 30 - December 4, 2020. Hunter is an excellent student in the STEM-Engineering and Technology Pathway. Hunter's STEM Teacher, Mrs. Kimberly Jones, nominated Hunter, stating, "Hunter always goes above and beyond. He takes on new tasks without being asked. He is an active member of our student organization, TSA, for which he serves

as treasurer. Hunter has worked hard this year to help our organization become more successful through fundraising and promoting TSA projects. He is a leader among his peers and serves as an example for others with his dedication, motivation, and positivity."

Hunter chose the STEM-Engineering and Technology Pathway at Calhoun High School because it aligns with his plans to pursue a degree in Software Engineering or Computer Science at Georgia Tech. After taking graphic design and video production through CCCA, Hunter

would also like to minor in graphic design or video production. His goal is to become a software developer.

When asked about his thoughts on the STEM-Engineering and Technology Pathway, Hunter states, "It is difficult at first, learning how to combine creativity and logic together. It takes time, just as any other skill does. Don't let the first day of learning something stop you from a decade of it."

Congratulations to Hunter, CCCA Student of the Week for November 30- December 4, 2020!



CCCA Business & Industry Partner of the Month Spotlight for November

CONTRIBUTED

Halstead New England was the Calhoun College and Career Academy Business and Industry Partner of the Month for November 2020. We appreciate their commitment to serving local schools and the Calhoun/Gordon County community in impactful ways. Halstead graciously supported Calhoun City Schools this year with their philanthropic efforts. When schools were preparing to re-open with students, Halstead was one of the first local businesses that reached out to see how they could assist with PPE and other supplies. Halstead donated N95 masks, disposable masks, face shields, and lab gowns. All of these supplies helped schools' efforts to prepare and keep facilities as safe as possible. Halstead continues to reach out to see what other supplies

and resources are needed. Mr. Jonathan Stone, the Vice President of Operations for Halstead New England has served on the advisory council for the Calhoun High School Career, Technical, and Agriculture Department for several years and recently agreed to join the Board of Directors for Calhoun College and Career Academy (CCCA). Additionally, Halstead has been a site for manufacturing facility student tours, with lunch always provided. Stone has spoken often to Youth Leadership participants from Calhoun High and other schools about the importance of economic and workforce development to encourage business growth, while also working to ensure that the community has individuals with the education, skills, and training necessary to obtain jobs.

Halstead is a proud member of HMTX

Industries, a global flooring manufacturer whose brands service a diverse cross-section of the construction marketplace. Halstead has two green-certified buildings in Calhoun and is a leading supplier of luxury vinyl tile, vinyl plank flooring and special order LVT to the home center market in the US and Canada. In more than 30 years serving the home center market, Halstead has won numerous awards from key partners including Flooring Vendor of the Year, Innovation Award and Global Supply Partner of the Year.

Calhoun City Schools appreciates Halstead for showing support and donating essential supplies to schools, as well as their efforts to assist teachers and students in the enhancement of programs and opportunities to prepare students for college and career success. They are an exemplary partner in



education! students about economic Halstead New England
 Pictured: John Stone and workforce needs green buildings in
 speaks to a group of on a tour of one of the Calhoun, Georgia.

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AGEE

From page 1A

“Everyone loved and cared for San,” said Hiles. “Anyone that knew her knew how much she loved and adored all her girls throughout the years. She rarely ever missed a basketball game. She enjoyed watching her girls play and grow with the game. One thing I loved about her is she always put others first no matter what was going on in her life. If you were down she would find a way to brighten your day. Whether it was a simple text telling you she was thinking about you to going out of her way to make you something special just from her. We will all miss her infectious laugh and her beautiful smile.”

Short sleeve shirts are \$15 and long sleeve are \$20. They are red in color, with a white basketball-inspired heart and “I play for Agee” in white

lettering (pictured right). Orders have to be placed by this Friday, Dec. 11 at noon. Shirts will arrive the second week of January. Anyone interested in purchasing can reach out to Keri Miller Garland or Ant N Monica Hiles on Facebook.

Money raised through the sale will go to Agee’s son, Sherrod.

Agee is survived by her husband, Samuel Agee; son, Sherrod Agee; mother, Jackie Hall; aunt, Patricia Hall; uncles, DeAnthony (Stephanie) Hall and Bobby (Sarah) Hall; sisters-in-law, Tressalyn Agee and Katina Agee; brother-in-law, Bernard Agee; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends.

Family will receive friends this Saturday, Dec. 12, 2020 from 12 – 3 p.m. at Sugar Valley First Baptist Church, 3742 Sugar Valley Rd NW, Sugar Valley, GA 30746. Funeral Service will be announced at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to Willis Funeral Home, Inc.



CCS

From page 1A

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 districts to replicate this type of initiative.

With the innovative schedule and partnering with school governance teams who believe in the mission of Calhoun City Schools, the clinic is

providing 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, where they are given immediate priority. The clinic serves not only the students and staff of Calhoun City Schools, but also is used as an outreach to the western half of our county, which lacks any direct access to a healthcare facility.

Teachers who would once leave campus to seek medical care, can now receive that same care on-site. This keeps our teachers and staff from missing time away from their students and it maximizes students’ instructional time. The clinic has been successfully seeing patients and performing free physicals for all student athletes in Calhoun City Schools and neighboring districts, serving more than

600 students. The recent pandemic has highlighted just how important this partnership really is. We relied heavily on their support and expertise to ensure that we safely reopened our schools to in-person instruction following extended school closures in the spring. The ability 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 Schools will continue to seek collaborative partnerships that will benefit both the students and the community. The clinic is one example where CCS saw the need and set out to meet that need. It’s leading edge and providing great things for our schools and community.

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.

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Meeting every Thursday 7 - 8 p.m. Call 770-548-7849 for more information.

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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 Closet was created to help offset the high cost 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 706-629-0777.

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GORDON Gazette

OBITUARIES

From page 3A

Steve Angel, Doug Cook, Michael Garland, and Harry Evans.

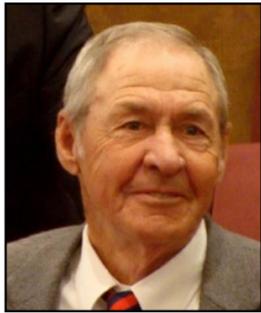
To leave condolences and sign the online guest book please go to, www.maxbrannonandsons.com

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of Angie McDonald.



Claude Miller

Claude J. Miller, 87, of Fairmount, died Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2020 after a three-month illness. He was born on Nov. 29, 1933 in Cartersville to the late Lewis and Dawn Ledford Miller. He was preceded in death by his son, Claude Ricky Miller; brothers, Clarence Miller, Virgil Miller, and JB Miller; sisters, Estelle Mullins, Dot Harris, and Ada Miller; grandson, Allen Christopher Hall.



He was a member of Concord Missionary Baptist Church.

He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Irene G. Miller; children, Beth (Dale) Hall, Lewis (Rachel) Miller, and Patricia (Scott) Huskins; brother, Herbert (Lois) Miller; grandchildren, Andrea (Dena) Gravitt, Sherry Green, Christine (Paul) Bunch, Susanna Tomlinson, Crystal Hall, David Miller, Madison Miller, and Kaydee Huskins; great grandchildren, Easton, Tanner, Skyler, Linden, Brayden, and Jaxon; several friends and other family members also survive.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, Dec. 12, 2020 from 1 p.m. until the service hour of 3 p.m. at Concord Baptist Church with Bro. Randy Sutherland officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. Pallbearers are Easton Ray, Tanner Ray, Doug Bramblett, David Miller, Zack Hardy, and Scott Harkins. Honorary pallbearers are, Bobby Arnold, Ronnie Mullins, Lee Mullins, Cecil Bentley, and James Pruitt.

To leave condolences and sign the online guest book please go to, www.maxbrannonandsons.com

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of Claude J. Miller.



Yvonne Painter

Yvonne Hall Painter, 60, of Calhoun, died Sunday morning, Dec. 6, 2020 at AdventHealth-Gordon following complications from a heart attack. She was born on May 29, 1960 in Gordon County to the late William Hall and Nettie Jo Logan. She was preceded in death by her husband in 2015, Marvin Paul Painter and daughter, Sherren Jo Painter.



She is survived by her son, William Paul Jr. (Faith Tincher); several friends and other relatives also survive.

All services are private.

To leave condolences and sign the online guestbook please go to, www.maxbrannonandsons.com

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of Yvonne Hall Painter.



Bettye Rome

Bettye (Bagley) Rome, 91, of Calhoun, died Monday, Dec. 7, 2020. She was born on Jan. 9, 1929 in Calhoun to the late Henry Grady Bagley and Nancy Elizabeth Dillard. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Robert Rome; sister and brother-in-law, Maxine and William Harvey Walker; brother and sister-in-law, William Ralph and Ophelia Lewis Bagley.



She is survived by her son, Kim Muse; grandchildren, Brad Brown and Nick Muse; several nieces and nephews also survive.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2020 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home, followed by a graveside at 1 p.m. at Fain Cemetery with Rev. Bert Vaughn officiating.

To leave condolences and sign the online guest book please go to, www.maxbrannonandsons.com

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of Bettye (Muse) Rome.



Jo Taylor

Jo Ruth Taylor, age 80, of Ranger, passed away on Friday, Dec. 4, 2020 at Assured Hospice Care in Cartersville.

Jo was born on March 9, 1940 in Gadsden, Ala., daughter of the late Curtis Marker and Vera Edwards Marker. In addition to her parents, Jo was also preceded in death by: her husband, Charles Taylor; and a son, Donald Taylor. She was of the Baptist faith.

Jo is survived by: her sons, David Taylor of Mobile, Ala., Danny Taylor of Alabama; two sisters, Mary Brown of Chatsworth and Glenda Warren of Marietta; sister-in-law, Shelba Marker of Ranger; special nieces, Tammy Zontek of Ranger, Melody Wallace of Ranger, Randy Marker of Mississippi; several grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was held on Sunday, Dec. 6, 2020 at 2 p.m. at Mount Carmel Cemetery in Ranger with Chaplain Tim Baird in charge of graveside rites.

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

Thomas Funeral Home has proudly been entrusted with the care of Jo Ruth Taylor.



John Wilson

John Eli Wilson, age 74, of Ranger, passed away on Thursday, Dec. 3, 2020 at his residence.

John was born on Feb. 27, 1946 in Gordon County, son of the late John Henry Wilson and Gladys Pippin Wilson. In addition to his parents, he is also preceded in death by his wife, Vickie Camilla Smith. John was a member of East Calhoun Church of God and prior to retirement worked as a mechanic for Collins & Aikman.

John is survived by: his son, Keith Wilson and his wife Mary S. Wilson of Ranger; two sisters, Shirley Norrell and her husband Jimmy of Ranger and Joann Howard of Doraville; and two granddaughters, Bailey Wilson and Taylor Nix Ruggiero and her husband Samuel.

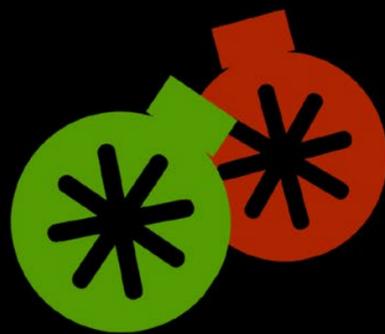
A graveside service was held on Monday, Dec. 7, 2020 at 3 p.m. at Haven of Rest Memorial Park with Reverend Tim Reid in charge of graveside rites.

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

Thomas Funeral Home has proudly been entrusted with the care of John Eli Wilson.



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Law & Order

Calhoun man arrested after high-speed chase Monday afternoon

STAFF REPORTS

According to Gordon County Sheriff Mitch Ralston, on Monday afternoon, Dec. 7, 2020, a deputy sheriff attempted to stop a suspicious vehicle on I-75 in southern Gordon County. The vehicle immediately fled and a pursuit involving a number of deputies as well as the State Patrol ensued.

According to scanner traffic, speeds in excess of 130 mph were reached during the chase on I-75. The driver of the suspicious vehicle, later

identified as Fabian Capistran (pictured), age 22, of 201 Larkspur Drive, Calhoun, then exited the Interstate at the 310 and led officers over a number of secondary roads and eventually onto Hopkins Drive in northern Bartow County.

Although Capistran abandoned his car and fled on foot into a wooded area, he was quickly apprehended by deputies who had K9s. Capistran was taken into custody without incident and lodged in the county jail, charged with Felony Fleeing/Attempting to Elude Peace Officers as well as a number of



FABIAN CAPISTRAN (Photo: Gordon County Sheriff's Office.)

traffic-related charges and misdemeanor drug possession.

CPD arrests two women following high speed chase in town Sunday

STAFF REPORTS

Two women were arrested after a high speed chase and fleeing on foot after an officer with the Calhoun Police Department attempted to pull a vehicle over after observing the driver not wearing a seatbelt. A third passenger, a man, also fled the vehicle on foot and has not been identified or apprehended.

According to the incident report, just after 9 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 6, an officer was traveling north on South Wall Street around East May Street and observed a gold Honda Civic traveling south on South Wall. The officer saw that the driver, later identified as Mary Chaffin, 39, of Evergreen Road, Resaca, was not wearing a seatbelt. The officer turned around and attempted to catch up to the vehicle, which had turned onto East May Street. The officer noticed the vehicle fail to maintain its lane while traveling down the street at a high rate of speed; the officer stated he was traveling 60 mph to try to catch up to the vehicle (the speed limit on East May is 25 mph). The Honda traveled through the roundabout at East May and Peters Street and failed to maintain lane again. One of the driver's side doors opened as the vehicle was traveling down East May, according to the officer. The vehicle continued at a high rate of speed down East May and turned left onto Sandy Street, not activating their turn signal. The officer turned left onto Sandy Street and activated lights and sirens, continuing at speeds of 60 mph on Sandy Street, where the Honda refused to slow down or stop.

The Honda then turned left onto Ellen Street and did not stop for the stop sign or use a turn signal. At this point, the officer advised dispatch he was attempting to stop a vehicle that was not yielding. The Honda then



FROM LEFT: MARY CHAFFIN AND CRYSTAL BURRAGE (Photo: Gordon County Sheriff's Office.)

came to an abrupt stop in the middle of Ellen Street at Sandy Street. Chaffin got out of the driver's seat and began running toward East May Street behind some houses into a wooded area. An unknown male got out of the back seat and began running towards the same direction. A female in the front passenger seat, identified as Crystal Burrage, 37, of Colony Drive, Calhoun, got out and began walking away from the car. The woman walked into someone's yard on Ellen Street and began running towards Wildwood Circle. The officer then advised dispatch he was in a foot pursuit.

The officer began chasing Chaffin on foot, into the wood line and giving her verbal commands to get on the ground. Chaffin ignored the commands and continued to run. The officer caught up to Chaffin and drew his Glock 17 and pointed it at her. He continued giving commands to get on the ground; Chaffin stopped running and complied with the officer's commands.

Chaffin was placed in handcuffs and was asked why she was running. She told the officer she didn't have a driver's license.

Other officers had arrived on scene to assist; Chaffin identified her female passenger as Burrage. She also told officers that the reason she ran was because the male passenger told her to run and that he had "a warrant and a gun." A

short time later, a deputy with the Gordon County Sheriff's Office made contact with Crystal Burrage on Wildwood Circle, who told the deputy "I'm not with those people." The deputy asked her what people she was referencing and she advised "the ones that were stopped by the police." The deputy detained Burrage and an officer went to Wildwood Circle to take custody of the woman.

Officers then questioned Burrage and asked why she ran. She told the officers she was scared.

Both Chaffin and Burrage were transported to Gordon County Jail without incident. Both Burrage and Chaffin told authorities they did not know who the man was that fled the car they were traveling in. Dispatch advised officers that Chaffin had active warrants for her arrest through Dalton Police Department and Whitfield County Sheriff's Office.

Chaffin faces charges of Driving While License Suspended or Revoked; Fleeing or Attempting to Elude a Police Officer; Reckless Driving; No Seatbelt, Failure to Maintain Lane, Failure to Stop for Stop Sign, Failure to Use Turn Signal and Willful Obstruction of LEO.

Burrage faces a charge of Willful Obstruction of LEO and Loitering and Prowling.

Officers do not know the identity of the male occupant of the car at press time.

Calhoun teen arrested on DUI, variety of other charges

STAFF REPORTS

A Calhoun teen was arrested over the weekend on a variety of drug and other charges related to fleeing a traffic stop.

According to the incident report, just before 11 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 6, an officer was patrolling the area of Red Bud Road and College Street when a dark Jeep Compass was observed traveling east at a high rate of speed. The officer, who was traveling west, turned around and attempted to catch up to the SUV to make a traffic stop. Another officer saw the Jeep turn onto Newtown Road and then onto Jones Road at a very high rate of speed, almost wrecking. The Jeep continued on towards Highway 41 at the high rate of speed.

Other officers joined in to locate the vehicle. It was located abandoned in the roadway of Jarrett Drive, causing a traffic hazard. The hood of the Jeep was still very warm. The officer heard the lawful orders of "Get on the Ground" being yelled by one of his colleagues, and found the officer with the driver of the vehicle, identified as 18-year-old Bryan Majors of Newtown Church Road, Calhoun, being detained, and another male, identified as Gary James

Alan Adams, walking out of the woods who was also detained. The report states that Majors refused to put his hands up despite loud verbal commands to get on the ground; when the officer tried to detain Majors, the man initially tried to pull away from the officer. Majors told officers that he was not driving his car that his friend (Adams) was. Majors then asked the officer to go back and pick up the key to his car, because he had dropped it.

Adams told officers they were going to Peters Street when they saw a police car, and that Majors sped up, driving faster. He said that when they turned onto Jarrett Drive, Majors told him "let's ditch the car."

Before he could be read his Maranda rights, Majors said that he was "going to take everything," and admitted he was driving. After being read his Maranda rights, Majors told officers that he was going too fast and he had a little bit of weed on him. Officers asked the man how much weed he had smoked that night, and Majors said he'd smoked a joint and it made him feel weird. The report said that Majors then started "talking out of his head."

When searching the woods where the men were located, officers



BRYAN MAJORS (Photo: Gordon County Sheriff's Office.)

found a Swisher Sweet Cigar pack with a hand rolled cigar that had suspected marijuana rolled into it. Majors claimed ownership of the pack, according to the report.

Adams then gave a statement in writing to the police and was released. Because Majors claimed responsibility for all charges, Adams was not charged.

Majors was transported to Gordon County Jail without incident. He was charged with DUI drugs; Reckless Driving; Too Fast for Conditions; Obstruction of an Officer; Possession of Marijuana less than 1 oz.; Abandonment of Dangerous Drugs and Fleeing/Attempting to Elude. He remains in Gordon County Jail at press time.

Fugitive apprehended by CPD after found loitering on vacant Peters Street property

STAFF REPORTS

Calhoun police arrested a man over the weekend after he was found to be loitering on a vacant property on Peters Street.

On Saturday, Dec. 5, officers were dispatched to 308 Peters Street in reference to a man entering a building area of a vacant house. While enroute to the scene, dispatch advised the officers the man was

leaving on a bicycle towards Curtis Parkway on Peters Street. Contact was made with the man in the area of Peters Street and Kenmoreland Circle. The man, identified as Dimitrios Kriaris, 47, told officers he had just left a friend's house on Jeep Street. After further speaking with the officers, Kriaris admitted he had been at the vacant house on Peters Street. He told the officers he had been keeping some of his belongings in the

garage area of the house. He told officers he did not know who owned the home, but that he was keeping his things there because his friend did not have room for it at his house.

Dispatch advised the officers that Kriaris had an active warrant for his arrest through Florida.

Kriaris was asked if he had anything illegal on his person; he was informed if he crossed the guard lines at the jail with anything on

his person that it would be a felony. Kriaris told officers he had a bag of marijuana, a pipe and a bag of methamphetamine. A search was performed and officers located a clear plastic container that contained a baggie with suspected marijuana, a blue baggie with suspected methamphetamine and a clear glass smoking device. In his backpack, Kriaris had two hypodermic needles. Once at the

jail, staff located a third hypodermic needle with a clear substance in it in Kriaris' sock.

Kriaris was charged with felony Possession of Methamphetamine; felony Contraband Across the Guard Line; misdemeanor Possession of Drug Related Objects; misdemeanor Fugitive From Justice and misdemeanor Loitering or Prowling. He remains in Gordon County Jail at press time.



BRYAN MAJORS (Photo: Gordon County Sheriff's Office.)

Daily Jail Records can be found online for FREE viewing at www.gordongazettega.com/jail-records