

GORDON Gazette

Wednesday, July 8, 2020

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Volume 2, No. 78

Calhoun-Gordon County's #1 Source for News



Gordon County Chamber of Commerce

STATE OF INDUSTRY VIRTUAL ZOOM WEBINAR

Presented by AdventHealth Gordon

Friday, July 24 • 1:00 - 2:00 PM

Guest Speaker: RUSSELL GRIZZLE
CEO of Mannington Mills



GORDON COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



AdventHealth

County approves Leash Law ordinance amendment; plans to officially open Splash Pad on July 18



BRANDI OWCZARZ

Brandi Owczarz
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Gordon County Administrator Jim Ledbetter announced at Tuesday's meeting of the Gordon County Board of Commissioners that he hopes the new splash pad, located at the Sonorville Recreation Center on Fairmount Highway in Calhoun, will be operational and

open for the public to enjoy on July 18.

Ledbetter said that while the pad is complete and operational, the sod that has been placed around the area is not seeded in yet, and that will take about three weeks. He said the plan is to officially open the pad on July 18, and announced that Keep Calhoun Gordon Beautiful will be helping

with some landscaping.

"Keep Calhoun Gordon Beautiful has offered to help us with the splash pad," said Ledbetter, noting that the volunteer group wants to beautify the area around the pad. "They've met with us and talked to us about a landscape plan

See **COUNTY**,
page 10A

'Mohawk Presents Dancing with the Stars Gets Schooled!' introduces third team: Young, Crump

CONTRIBUTED

"Mohawk Presents Calhoun's Dancing with the Stars Gets Schooled!" will put eighteen local high school students onstage for back-to-back shows at 1:30 and 7:00 on Saturday, August 8 at the Calhoun Performing Arts Center. Nine dance teams will vie for trophies, bragging rights and college scholarships as they compete to raise funds for United Way of Gordon County.

"Planning an event like Dancing with the Stars truly takes a village. We have a planning committee that consists of Andy Baxter with Andy Baxter Photography, Jennie Coker with Calhoun City Schools, Kristy Brown with Greater Community Bank, retired educator Michelle Frix Ward, and Dr. Amy Parker with Gordon County Schools that has been working to put the 2020 show together. This committee is a hands-on group of



PHOTO: ANDY BAXTER

Meghan Young and Ethan Crump

local professionals who are fully committed to the success of the event and United Way," said Jennifer Latour, Executive Director of United Way of Gordon County.

"Several of our committee members

– Andy Baxter, Kristy Brown and Michelle Frix Ward – have competed in previous shows. Joni Harbin will return as event emcee along with

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Keep Calhoun Gordon Beautiful to hold fundraiser off tournament.

MOVIES 11A



Gordon Gazette Film Critic Cooper Hunt gives a glowing review of "Hamilton."

Facebook: @gordongazette
Instagram: @gordongazette
Twitter: @gazettegordon

CPD finishes investigation into near drowning of toddler Monday afternoon



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gordongazettega@gmail.com

The Calhoun Police Department has finished their investigation into a near drowning incident of a toddler Monday afternoon at the community pool at Riverside Subdivision in Calhoun.

CPD, along with Calhoun Fire and EMS officials responded to a report of a child's near drowning July 6.

According to Calhoun Police Chief Tony Pyle, when officers arrived

on scene, the child was having difficulty breathing and the child's lips had turned blue. Calhoun Fire personnel rendered first aid on the child, stabilizing the child for transport by EMS to AdventHealth Gordon, where the child, who is under the age of three, is in stable condition at this time.

Pyle said the investigation is complete, and that the incident was an accident. He said the child is home and doing fine.

Calhoun Fire commissions new fire truck with Push-In Ceremony Monday morning



BRANDI OWCZARZ

Pictured, left to right: Mike Chavez, Chuck Poarch, Chief Lenny Nesbitt, Ricky Daniel, B.J. McMahon, Jim Chance, Brian Holt, Mason Wade, Chad Greeson, Marcus Pratt, Malik Lawrence, Deputy Chief Terry Mills, Keith Puckett and Clete Hawkins.

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gordongazettega@gmail.com

Calhoun Fire held a Push-In Ceremony for their newest fire engine on Monday morning, July 6, at Calhoun Fire Station No. 1, located on South Wall Street in downtown Calhoun. Firefighters from A-Shift, representing all three stations of the Calhoun Fire Department, were on hand for the ceremony.

A Push-In is a traditional ceremony that pays homage to the time before motorized fire trucks, when firefighters

had to physically push their "fire carts" or horse-drawn engines into the firehouse/station.

The new 2020 Pierce Saber Pumper was placed into service on Tuesday, June 30. The truck is equipped with a 1500 GPM with 700 gallon water tank and has a 30 gallon foam capacity. The new engine is replacing a 2008 Sutphen Pumper that was in service for 12 years. The fire engine was purchased from Ten-8 Equipment, the same company that the CFD purchased their last engine

from in early 2019. Both engines replaced older engines that were aged and needing frequent repairs; by replacing the engines, the overall fleet maintenance costs have been reduced.

The truck cost the department \$452,000, which was provided by leftover funds from the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year budget. The new engine now gives Calhoun Fire Department five engines, one tower, one squad and one command vehicle in their fleet.

Second Front

Keep Calhoun Gordon Beautiful to hold second-annual Love the Earth Golf Tournament Aug. 26

Group has goals to become an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful later this summer

Brandi Owczarz
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Keep Calhoun Gordon Beautiful, a group of like-minded citizens committed to promoting a healthier, safer, more livable and greener place to live, work and play in Gordon County, is holding their second-annual Love the Earth Golf Tournament on Wednesday, Aug. 26, at Fields Ferry, located at 581 Fields Ferry Drive in Calhoun. The shotgun start tournament will begin at 1 p.m., with lunch and check-in beginning at 12 p.m. Awards will be handed out at 4 p.m.

A major fundraiser for Keep Calhoun Gordon Beautiful, individuals can register to play in the tournament for \$125; registration for a team is \$500.

Mohawk Industries is the Platinum Sponsor for the event. Chick-fil-A of Calhoun sponsors lunch for the golfers at the tournament, with Food City of Calhoun providing gift bags for all participants.

Various sponsorships are still available for the tournament. Hole Sponsorships are \$150.

Hole sponsorships include the sponsor's name and logo prominently displayed at one

of the 18 holes and a free ticket for the hole-in-one competition.

There are also three sponsorship packages available:

Gold Level sponsorships (\$2,000) include registration for one team, four free mulligans, corporate logo on banner and brochure, and recognition on social media and on the day of the tournament.

Silver Level sponsorships (\$1,000) include corporate logo on brochure, one free player per team, four free mulligans and recognition in social media, website, news media and on the day of the tournament.

Bronze Level sponsorships (\$500) include corporate recognition on brochure, social media, news media and on the day of the tournament, along with four free mulligans.

"We are also accepting monetary donations for the tournament," said Judy Peterson, a founding member of Keep Calhoun Gordon Beautiful. "We have two county high school and the city high school golf teams that



BRANDI OWCZARZ/Staff

Officers and members of Keep Calhoun Gordon Beautiful that are pictured include, left to right: Jordan Stone, vice-president; Beth Vaughn, Nancy Watkins; Donny Robertson, president and Judy Peterson. Not pictured: Amanda Tate, secretary; Katherine Naymick, treasurer.

See **KCGB**, page **10A**

GCF&R responds to traumatic injury due to fireworks on Fourth of July



STAFF REPORTS

According to an incident report provided by Gordon County Fire & Rescue, fire personnel responded to a call to provide first aid for a traumatic injury incident involving fireworks on Saturday night, July 4.

Engine 6 responded to 307 Knight Road around 9 p.m. Saturday night, in response to a 39-year-old male who had a firework explode in his hand.

Fire personnel arrived on scene, following a long driveway where several male subjects were standing in the driveway. The 39-year-old

was standing and holding his right hand, which was wrapped in a towel. Fire personnel helped the patient remove the towel to assess the injury. The patient also had a smaller cloth wrapped around his wrist, acting as a tourniquet. The bleeding on the injury had stopped; the wound was a large open separation of the muscle tissue, which was exposing the insides of the hand at the base of the right thumb. The avulsion covered around a 3-inch by 3-inch area.

Fire personnel irrigated the wound with sterile water. EMS arrived on scene and took over patient care. The

patient's shirt was cut off by EMS, exposing smaller injuries to the lower right abdomen. According to the report, the patient walked into the ambulance and sat on a stretcher. EMS applied additional sterile dressing to the wound.

Due to HIPAA laws, the patient has not been identified, and his condition is unknown at press time.

According to the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission, on average, 180 people go to the emergency room every day with fireworks-related injuries in the month around the July Fourth holiday.



GCF&R has busy week, responds to two structure fires

STAFF REPORTS

Fire personnel with Gordon County Fire & Rescue responded to two structure fires late last week.

On Thursday, July 2, firefighters were dispatched to 463 Mt. Zion Road in Resaca in response to a semi-trailer on fire; according to the report, the trailer had been used for storage.

Firefighters arrived on scene and discovered the semi-trailer fully engulfed. A defensive fire attack began; once under control fire units overhauled the structure.

The homeowner told fire personnel that the semi-trailer was full of items as it was used for storage and also had a small work area. The homeowner said that someone could have been smoking inside, and also that smoldering equipment had been used earlier that day in the building.

The semi-trailer was a complete loss, with \$6,000 in damage reported. The cause of the fire was undetermined after the investigation.

On Friday, July 3, firefighters were dispatched to a structure

fire at the garage area of 216 Sage Trail SE in Calhoun. Upon arrival, firefighters found light smoke showing from a corner eave of the home. A hose line was placed and firefighters wet down the siding of the home; the fire had not breached the garage. The fire was extinguished; according to the report, there was no damage to utility services. Once debris was pulled away from the house, it was turned back over to the tenants.

The fire caused \$3,250 in damage. The report states the cause of ignition was unintentional.

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

Republican Runoff Election set for Tuesday, Aug. 11

Early voting for the runoff runs July 20 - Aug. 7

STAFF REPORTS

The Republican Party Primary Election Runoff will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2020.

The election is for the runoff in the 14th district Congressional race between Republican's John Cowan and Marjorie Taylor Greene.

A few reminders for runoff includes:

The last day to register to vote or to change your name or address on your voter registration is Monday, July 13, 2020. You can register to vote in person at the Gordon County Board of Elections and Voter Registration Office located in the Gordon County Annex Building at 101 S Piedmont Street,

Calhoun or you can register to vote online at www.mvp.sos.ga.gov or <https://registertovote.sos.ga.gov>

Early Voting for the Republican Party Primary Election Runoff will begin on July 20th and will end on August 7, 2020. To cast your ballot Early you will go to the Gordon County Board of Elections and Voter Registration Office, office hours are from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday - Friday.

All Voting Precincts will be open on Election Day on August 11, 2020, from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

If you voted a Democratic Ballot in the General Primary Election on June 9, 2020, you will not be eligible to vote in the Republican Party

Primary Election Runoff.

If you cast a Republican Ballot in the General Primary Election on June 9, 2020, then you will be eligible to vote in the Republican Party Primary Election Runoff.

If you did not vote in the General Primary Election, you will be eligible to vote in the Republican Party Primary Election Runoff.

If you voted a Nonpartisan ballot in the June 9, 2020 Nonpartisan Election, you will be eligible to vote in the Republican Party Primary Election Runoff.

The sample ballot is pictured right.

Anyone with questions can call the Gordon County Board of Elections Office at 706-629-7781.

GORDON COUNTY 108-Sonoraville, 109-Sonoraville							
OFFICIAL ABSENTEE/PROVISIONAL/EMERGENCY BALLOT							
OFFICIAL REPUBLICAN PARTY PRIMARY ELECTION RUNOFF BALLOT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA AUGUST 11, 2020							
<small>To vote, blacken the Oval (●) next to the candidate of your choice. To vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot, manually WRITE his or her name in the write-in section and blacken the Oval (●) next to the write-in section. If you desire to vote YES or NO for a PROPOSED QUESTION, blacken the corresponding Oval (●). Use only blue or black pen or pencil.</small>							
<small>Do not vote for more candidates than the number allowed for each specific office. Do not cross out or erase. If you erase or make other marks on the ballot or tear the ballot, your vote may not count.</small>							
<small>If you change your mind or make a mistake, you may return the ballot by writing "Spoiled" across the face of the ballot and return envelope. You may then mail the spoiled ballot back to your county board of registrars, and you will be issued another official absentee ballot. Alternatively, you may surrender the ballot to the poll manager of an early voting site within your county or the precinct to which you are assigned. You will then be permitted to vote a regular ballot.</small>							
<small>*I understand that the offer or acceptance of money or any other object of value to vote for any particular candidate, list of candidates, issue, or list of issues included in this election constitutes an act of voter fraud and is a felony under Georgia law. (O.C.G.A. 21-2-294(e) and 21-2-383(a))</small>							
<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">For U.S. Representative in 117th Congress From the 14th Congressional District of Georgia (Vote for One)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/></td> <td>John Cowan</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/></td> <td>Marjorie Taylor Greene</td> </tr> </table>		For U.S. Representative in 117th Congress From the 14th Congressional District of Georgia (Vote for One)		<input type="radio"/>	John Cowan	<input type="radio"/>	Marjorie Taylor Greene
For U.S. Representative in 117th Congress From the 14th Congressional District of Georgia (Vote for One)							
<input type="radio"/>	John Cowan						
<input type="radio"/>	Marjorie Taylor Greene						

Obituaries

July 8, 2020

Ella Cox

Ella Vee Cox, age 83, of Ranger, passed away on Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at Gordon Health & Rehabilitation.

Ella was born on March 26, 1937 in Ranger to the late Noah Webb Ralston and Jessie Williams Ralston. In addition to her parents, Ella, was also preceded in death by: her husband, Doyle Mack Cox; brother, J.R. "Junior" Ralston; and two sisters, Lois Coggins and Martha Parker.

Ella is survived by: two sisters, Brenda Cornwell and Mary McGhee.

Funeral Services will be conducted on Thursday, July 9 at 1 p.m. from the Chapel of Thomas Funeral Home with Reverend Garson Cornwell and Reverend Jeff Cronon officiating. Interment will follow in Mount Carmel Church of Jesus Christ Cemetery.

Pallbearers serving are: Justus McGhee, Shane McGhee, Scottie Cornwell, Tyler McGhee, Jerome McGhee, and L.C. McGhee.

The family will receive friends on Thursday from 11:30 a.m. until the funeral hour at 1 p.m. at Thomas Funeral Home.

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

Thomas Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements for Ella Vee Cox.



Harriett Grady

Harriett Craig Grady, age 91, of Calhoun, passed away on Monday, July 6, 2020 at her residence.

Harriett was born on Aug. 7, 1928 in Macon to the late Charles Carter Tompkins and Georgia Lou Tribble Tompkins. In addition to her parents, Harriett was also preceded in death by: her first husband, United States Air Force, (retired) Master Sargent James A. "Robert" Craig; second husband, Henry Fredrick Grady; sister, Louise T. Wilson Fogle; daughter-in-law, Debbye Craig; and grandson, Sean Craig.

Harriett worked as a Registered Nurse.

Harriett is survived by: two sons, Charles Craig and his wife, Becky of Roswell and Andy Craig of Jackson, Ga.; daughter, Catherine Craig Hood of Calhoun; three grandchildren, Joshua Craig of Jackson, Corwin Craig of Roswell, and James W. Hood of Ranger; and a special friend, Jackie Roberson.

Funeral Services will be conducted on Friday, July 10 at 2 p.m. from the Chapel of Thomas Funeral Home with Reverend Stacy Hensley officiating.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, July 9 from 5 until 7 p.m. at Thomas Funeral Home.

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

Thomas Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements for Harriett Craig Grady.



Ray Silvers

Robert Ray Silvers, 77, of Calhoun, died Friday, July 3, 2020. He was born on April 23, 1943, in Calhoun to the late Floyd and Geneva Parker Silvers. He was preceded in death by his siblings, Bill Silvers, Dorothy Higdon, Shirley



Hall and Patsy Suggs.

Prior to his retirement, he was employed by Silvers Transportation and he was a member of Crane Eater Community Church.

He is survived by his children, Michael and Angela Silvers, Brian and Jennifer Silvers, Kim and Justin Hawkins, Tim Silvers, Michelle Johnson, and Angela Payne; grandchildren, Haley Silvers, Dalyn Silvers, Jaxson Silvers, Will Hawkins, Luke Hawkins, Dallas Rutledge, and Daleigh Higgins; great-grandchild, Syllas Jones; two sisters; Dymple Brown and Charlotte Miller; mother of his children, Jean Silvers; a host of nieces, nephews, and other relatives also survive.

A service to celebrate his life will be held Saturday, July 18, 2020, at 1 p.m. from the sanctuary of Crane Eater Community Church. The family will receive friends prior to the service from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

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 Robert Ray Silvers.



Jordan Tatum

Jordan Eli Tatum, age 82, of the Ranger community, died peacefully at 9:22 a.m. on Thursday, July 2 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

Jordan was born in Gordon County on April 10, 1938, a son of the late Ralph Tatum and Annie Hardy Tatum. Also, he was preceded in death by his wife, Elizabeth Silvers Tatum on Dec. 8, 2019; son, Marshal Jordan Tatum; a sister, Syble Reece and two infant siblings.

He was a former employee of Lockheed Aircraft and loved working on his pride and joy, his farm. He was a devoted Christian and loved the Lord, and a loving husband and father.

Jordan is survived by his two loving daughters, Donna Hales of Chatsworth, Carol Mattos and her husband Clifford of Calhoun; a brother, Ralph Tatum, Jr., and his wife Betty; five grandchildren, Daniel Nesbit, Megan Brandon, Brandi Wilson, Chandler Quinn, and Jessica Tucker; two great grandchildren, Kynlee Quinn and Maggie Brandon.

Funeral services were conducted at the graveside of Haven of Rest Memorial Park Cemetery with Reverend Billy Tatum officiating. Pallbearers are Wes Wilson, Chandler Quinn, Tracy Tatum, Chuck Taylor, Clifford Mattos, and Alex Hinojosa.

Thomas Funeral Home has charge of arrangements for the services of Jordan Eli Tatum of the Ranger Community.



son of the late James "Jim" and Lille Mae Owens Terry. He was also preceded in death by his brother, James "Boots" Terry; sister, Frances "Nell" Roberts.

He is survived by his wife, Kathy F. Terry of the residence; son and daughter-in-law, Trampus Dewayne and Breanna Terry of Rydal; grandchildren, Trampus Dylan Terry of Rydal, GA, Jacob Toole of Rome, Toni O'Neal of Cartersville, Destiny O'Neal of Dacula; Goddaughter, Jerica Ingram of Cedartown.

Service to celebrate the life of Robert Ernest Terry was held Tuesday July 7, 2020 at 11 a.m. from the Faith Tabernacle Full Gospel Church with Pastor Randy Harris officiating. Interment followed in the church cemetery with Matt Nicholson, David Ward, Alan Roberts, Eric Stanley, Mike Stanley and Jim Ingram serving as pallbearers. The family received friends at the church from 10 - 11 a.m. on Tuesday.

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

Arrangements by locally owned and operated Ponders Fairmount Chapel, 2566 Hwy 411, Fairmount, Georgia.



Sala Weaver

Sala N. Weaver, age 95, of Calhoun, passed away on July 5, 2020 at Gordon Health & Rehabilitation.

Sala was born on Aug. 21, 1924 in Gilmer County to the late Mr. and Mrs. Ashel LaFayette Weaver. In addition to his parents, Sala was also preceded in death by eleven siblings.

Sala was a lifetime resident of Gordon County and worked as a mechanic for Smith Equipment. He served in the United States Army and was a veteran of WWII. He was awarded a Purple Heart for injuries sustained during his service in the final few months of the European campaign. He was a member of Calhoun Church of Christ.

Sala is survived by: his wife, Lela Mae Weaver; son, Larry Weaver and his wife, Debbie; two daughters, Brenda Weaver and Lorraine Smith and her husband, Steve; brother, C.L. Weaver; five grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Weaver family has chosen to have a private graveside service to celebrate the life of Sala Weaver.

Pallbearers serving include: Michael Smith, Patrick Goble, Brian Weaver, Justin Weaver, Steve Smith, and Richard Weaver.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in memory of, Sala Weaver, may be made to the Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort at P.O. Box 111180, Nashville, TN 37222-1180.

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

Thomas Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements for Sala N. Weaver.



Robert Terry

Mr. Robert Ernest Terry, age 77, of Rydal, departed this life Saturday morning, July 4, 2020 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

He was born June 12, 1943 in Cave Springs, a




Serving Calhoun and Gordon County for more than 40 years

706-629-9139

Help for the Hurting

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

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

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

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

-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.

-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.

-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.

-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.

-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.

-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 dawnsson@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.

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

-Looking for a 12-step meeting for men and women? At "Road to Recovery," recognizing Jesus Christ as our higher power, they take the 12 steps and compare how they are taken from scripture and how to apply them to our lives to experience true freedom from the bondages of addiction. The meetings are free and open to the public at World Harvest Church locations in Cherokee and Gordon counties. For more information, call 706-602-1919. The Calhoun church is located at 2335 Red Bud Road. The meetings here are every Monday and Thursday at 7 p.m.

NOW OPEN

ONE VISION.
ONE INSTITUTE.
ONE COMMUNITY.
ONE FOCUS: *you*



RELIGION

Don't Give Up!



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

Many times in this life we are faced with trials that knock us down spiritually. Vince Lombardi said, "It's not whether you get knocked down, it's whether you get back up." The only way that we can remain strong in the most difficult times of our lives is God's way.

When trials come, we have two options...

The first option is we can run away from God. Running away from God

is often a reaction out of arrogance. Though we would most likely never admit it, what we're saying is, "I know a better way." This is a sign of spiritual weakness.

The other option is to run to God. This is a sign of spiritual strength. By choosing this option, we are admitting our dependence on God.

Two of my students sing a song titled, "Better than a Hallelujah." It says; we pour out our

miseries, God just hears a melody. God loves to hear our cries for help, and he is always near when we call on Him.

Are you struggling today? Maybe you've blown an opportunity. Maybe you've fallen victim to someone or something. Maybe there has been a void left in your life by loss. It's time for you to cry out to God and run to Him, instead of away from Him.

Jesus said, "In this world you will have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

Remember, all of our help comes from the Lord. Reach out for Him and change your direction. Don't give up in tough times. The one who holds the universe together is holding you too!

Make sure you don't separate yourself from God's plan, or His

people...Read God's Word!!! The Bible is the sword of the Spirit, and you need it to fight against oppression and depression.

And lastly, when God has delivered you, don't forget where he has brought you from. Offer thanks to Him and testimonies of His faithfulness. Someone near you needs to hear your verse of "Victory in Jesus" today.

Be Blessed.

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.

-Faith Deliverance Church & Outreach Ministry Welcomes Everyone to an Anointed Church Service at 1320 Dawnville Road in Dalton every Sunday at 6 p.m. and Thursday at 7 p.m. Pastor and Evangelist Evelyn Adams, also an Anointed Gospel Singing. Come expecting Jesus to move for you. Miracles, Healing, Deliverance, Salvation. For more information or directions, call Minister Evelyn Adams (706) 671-7988

-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 Dews 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.

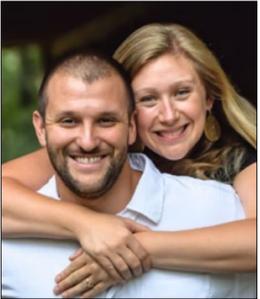
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Cash Flow With Joe: Atypical Day



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

I'm often asked what my typical day looks like as a real estate investor. And I am often at a loss on how to answer that question because, well... let me tell you about a recent day.

I started out at 5:30 a.m. at Calhoun Spine and Wellness doing my workout. That morning was a partner exercise, and

I got to work out with my good friend Kate Derrick. For 40 minutes, she and I traded off reps between four different exercises that included deadlifts.

When I was in high school, I hurt my lower back doing deadlifts. So, I'm always wary of them. That morning, I was feeling strong. But on the first set, I felt that familiar twinge in my lower back and I thought, "Not again."

Katie picked up on it quickly and got one of our awesome trainers, Heather, involved. As it turns out, it was not a strength issue that has been causing me problems with this exercise. It was a form issue. Heather showed me how to rectify my form, and I continued with the workout.

After the cooldown and stretch, I jumped in my truck to go pick up a

Home Depot order that we needed at a new project. But when I got there, I could tell by the feeling in my back that my lifting for the day was done. That's when I called one of my guys and had him come pick up the order for me.

We have a team huddle at 9:10 a.m. every morning. The purpose of this call is to check in with the team, assign any daily tasks and see if anyone needs help with anything. At 9:18 a.m. I realized I'd put my phone down in another room and lost track of time feeding the baby.

When I realized my error, I thought, "It's not cool for the leader of the team to not show up for practice." This situation had given the group some worry that something may be wrong since I never miss the huddle. I took

care of that issue with a phone call, but that was not how I wanted to start my team's workday.

My next stop was at a flip house we had just finished and were trying to get on market. We had some tools left that needed to be moved out and some final punchout stuff to be completed like painting the mailbox post.

Normally, the guys would have done these things already, but the rain had been so sporadic that they couldn't. As I pulled up, my weather app said we had two hours before the next rain shower. That meant I had just enough time to get the post painted and it dry beforehand.

There was one problem though. The paint was there, but I couldn't find a single paint brush, which was very odd. Thankfully, the cleaner showed up. She happened to have a

brush I could borrow. I got the post painted, and it dried before the rain started back up.

Next, I went to go meet with a seller down in Cartersville. He was a landlord who was thinking about selling his paid-for 3/2/2 rental in good condition in a great neighborhood. He needed to raise some cash for a property purchase for personal use.

As we talked, I told him my job was not necessarily to buy houses, but to solve real estate problems. After a few minutes, I realized his problem did not reside in the house we were standing in front of. The answer to his problem, however, did.

I talked him out of selling me his rental. (When have you ever heard of an investor talking someone out of a sale? Crazy right?) His

real estate problem didn't involve the house or being a landlord. He just needed some funds, which he could easily get by taking out a loan on his paid-for rental. He could then retain that house as part of his retirement portfolio all while maintaining a positive cashflow.

I felt good about that outcome, and I think the seller did, too.

So, I hurt my back, missed my huddle call and talked a seller out of selling their house. I wouldn't say that was a typical day — it was more of an atypical day in the life of a real estate investor.

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.

Managing Withdrawals Carefully Can Protect Retirement Income



Dewayne Bowen
Financial Advisor
at Edward Jones
dewayne.bowen@edwardjones.com

Throughout much of your working life, you contribute to your 401(k), IRA and other investment accounts to help ensure a comfortable retirement. However, once you do retire, you'll need to shift

your focus somewhat from building these investments to using them — in other words, you'll have to start withdrawing from your portfolio to meet the costs of living. How can you be sure you're not taking out so much that you risk outliving your resources?

First of all, you need to establish a proper withdrawal rate — the percentage of your portfolio's value needed for one year's worth of retirement expenses. Ideally, if you were to stick with this rate, your portfolio would last as long as you do. Your withdrawal rate should be based on a number of factors, including your age, amount of assets, portfolio mix

and retirement lifestyle. A financial professional can help you determine the rate that's right for you, but it's important to understand that this rate is a starting point since you will want to review your withdrawals each year to ensure they are still appropriate.

If the financial markets performed smoothly and predictably, year in and year out, any adjustments you make would likely be more modest. But, as you know, and as we've all been reminded the last several months, the markets are neither smooth nor predictable. Rather than constantly trying to change your withdrawal rate and spending in

response to movements in the markets — which may be challenging if you have grown accustomed to a certain standard of living — you might be better off adopting a more conservative rate at the beginning of your retirement. For example, if you are in your mid-60s, you could start at a withdrawal rate of about 4%, which also assumes an increase in withdrawals (a "raise") of approximately 3% each year to incorporate inflation. By starting at a more modest withdrawal rate, you would have some flexibility for those years in which the market drops significantly. And you could increase your chances of extending the

lifetime of your portfolio.

But even if you started out with a conservative rate, you may need to review it during periods of extreme market movements. If, for instance, your portfolio were to fall 20% in one year, the 4% you had planned to withdraw would actually become 5% because you're taking out the amount you had planned, but now it's from a smaller pool of money. If this happens, should you consider making an adjustment?

There's no easy answer. The amount you withdraw from your portfolio has a major impact on how long your money lasts. You'll improve your likelihood of success if you are able to

be flexible and make some spending adjustments — spending less on some of your discretionary items, for example, or not taking a "raise" until your portfolio recovers. Importantly, your financial advisor can help run different scenarios to determine if adjustments need to be made to ensure you remain on track.

In any case, think carefully about your withdrawal rate. By managing it carefully, and reviewing it over time, you can take greater control over your retirement income.

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

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GORDON GROWN

Growing Bigleaf Hydrangea



Greg Bowman
Gordon County
Extension Agent
gbowman@uga.edu

Gary Wade, retired UGA Extension Horticulturist.

For starters, I would like to give some background on bigleaf hydrangea cultivars. Actually, there are more than 500 cultivars of bigleaf hydrangea. These cultivars are divided into two main groups.

There are the hortensias, which will have the large snowball-like flower clusters and then the lacecapes which will demonstrate more flat-top flowers which will have more fertile, non-showy flowers in the center and more showing sterile flowers on the outside. I would venture to say that more folks are more accustomed to cultivars with the snowball-like flowers in our area.

The bigleaf hydrangea needs a growing spot that provides moist, but well-draining soil. I will add the area needs to provide morning sun and afternoon shade. Keep in mind to stay away from hot and dry exposed sites for bigleaf hydrangea.

Our information states that you can get

cold damage to bigleaf hydrangea on the buds in winter or late spring so you must be prepared to protect them. You can do this by covering the plant with an old sheet, blanket or even a cardboard box when temperatures go below freezing.

Our info adds that you can make a chicken wire cylinder and place around the plant and then fill with leaves to provide cold protection too.

Another note is that bigleaf hydrangea can be a container plant so if you go that route, you can bring the plant indoors when the night temps are cold.

If you are going to plant in the ground, we suggest you prepare the soil in a wide area. You should apply 50 pounds of composted organic matter per 10 square feet and then incorporate this material into the top 8 to 12 inches of soil. You can do this with either a shovel or a tiller. The organic material added will help in several ways. The organic matter will help with the water

holding capacity of the spot and also help hold nutrients.

When you plant make sure the top of the root ball is level with the soil surface.

You will want to water completely after you transplant the hydrangea into the spot. You also need to apply 3 to 5 inches of organic mulch such as pine straw, pine park or fallen leaves to the surface to help control weeds and conserve moisture.

Keep in mind to not fertilize until the plant is established. This establishment will normally take 4 to 8 weeks after transplanting.

Note that we live in an area will most of our soils are acidic or lower on soil pH so more flowers will be blue.

Bigleaf hydrangea will need multiple light applications of fertilizer in the growing season. You can use a general fertilizer such as 8-8-8 or 10-10-10. The rate will be 1 pound (2 cups) per 100 square feet in the months of March, May and July. You do not

have to remove or pull back the mulch when you fertilize. You will, though, need to water soon after the fertilizer application to dissolve the fertilizer and get the fertilizer to the roots.

I will add that the bigleaf hydrangea is called a water demanding plant that works better in a moderate water use landscape zone. You need to water when the plant starts to wilt in the absence of rainfall.

Our information states that it is important to avoid stress to the plants in the spring when flower formation is taking place.

On flower color, our research shows that the actual issue of color variation in the bloom is based on the presence or lack of aluminum in the flowers.

If aluminum is present in the plant, the flower color is blue.

If aluminum is in small amounts, the color can be called "in between" and if aluminum is absent, the flower color will be pink. The soil pH will indirectly affect color by

affecting the availability of the aluminum in the soil. When pH is 5.5 or lower, aluminum is more available to plant roots.

When the soil pH is 7.0 or higher, aluminum available to roots is decreased so the color will be more pink.

To slowly change flower color from pink to blue, simply broadcast ½ cup of wettable sulfur per 10 square feet and water in.

To make flower color pink, you broadcast one cup of dolomitic lime per 10 square feet and water into soil.

It can take approximately a year to see a big change in the color this way. There is a quicker way to change the flower color that I will discuss in a future article.

For more information, contact UGA Extension-Gordon County at 706-629-8685 or email gbowman@uga.edu.

Finally, do not forget to follow us on Facebook at Gordon County Extension/ Agriculture and Natural Resources.

DNR Announces \$1,000 Grant for Top Conservation Teacher

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources is offering a \$1,000 grant to a third-, fourth- or fifth-grade public or private school teacher in the state who demonstrates exceptional energy and innovation in teaching life sciences. Science specialists covering those grade levels can also apply.

The Conservation Teacher of the Year grant is coordinated by the Wildlife Conservation Section of DNR's Wildlife Resources Division. Funding is provided by the section's friends group, The Environmental Resources Network, better known as TERN.

Through education, research and management, the Wildlife Conservation Section works to safeguard Georgia's native diversity of wild animals, plants and their habitats, while also striving to increase public enjoyment of the outdoors. The purpose of the grant is to recognize and help an outstanding teacher

who uses Georgia's native wildlife and habitats as the context for learning, explained Linda May, DNR outreach coordinator.

"Georgia is home to an amazing diversity of wildlife," May said. "We want to support a talented teacher who highlights these natural wonders with his or her students in creative ways."

Previous recipients covered state curriculum standards through innovative lessons, outdoor investigations and community outreach. For example, 2018 recipient Dr. Kimberlie Harris taught students at Samuel L. Hubbard Elementary in Forsyth about Georgia's endangered animals. After researching rare species and learning about threats to their survival, Harris' third graders created a bat habitat at the school, complete with bat houses and native plants that attract insects bats eat. The project was reported by Macon media and the Georgia Farm Bureau, raising awareness about bats in the community.

Last year, Bulloch County STEM Lab teacher

Stephanie Hodges used grant funds to buy supplies for a "pollinator paradise" at Portal Elementary. Students learned about the importance of bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinators in healthy ecosystems, as well as the role of pollinators in fruit and seed production. The monarch butterfly, an iconic species threatened by habitat loss, pesticides and a changing climate, particularly stirred their interest. Therefore, students grew and planted milkweed, the only plant on which monarchs lay eggs, to help populations. Native nectar-producing plants were added to attract other pollinators, too.

This fall, another talented teacher will be selected to receive funding based on project design, evaluated through applicant answers to grant proposal questions. Projects that are especially creative and teach about Georgia's rare or endangered species, as well as solid projects that have no other means of funding, will earn bonus points. Details



at georgiawildlife.com/TeachingConservationGrant.

The deadline to apply is Aug. 20, 2020. DNR will notify the grant winner by Sept. 10, 2020.

For more information about the Conservation Teacher of the Year grant, please contact Linda May (linda.may@dnr.ga.gov, 706-319-0211) or Anna Yellin (anna.yellin@dnr.ga.gov, 706-557-3283).

Grant at a Glance

\$1,000 grant to a Georgia third-, fourth- or fifth-grade public or private school teacher (including science specialists)

who demonstrates exceptional energy and innovation in teaching life sciences.

Provided by the Georgia DNR Wildlife Conservation Section and friends group The Environmental Resource Network, or TERN.

Deadline to apply: Aug. 20. Recipient announced by Sept. 10.

For more: georgiawildlife.com/TeachingConservationGrant or contact Linda May (linda.may@dnr.ga.gov, 706-319-0211) or Anna Yellin (anna.yellin@dnr.ga.gov, 706-557-3283).

GORDON Gazette

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HEALTH NEWS

GEORGIA HEALTH NEWS: Rapid rise in COVID-19 hospitalizations worries health care leaders

ANDY MILLER
Georgia Health News

Hospitalizations for COVID-19 are soaring across Georgia, with more than 300 additional patients reported in hospitals statewide between Thursday and Monday.

Officials representing hospitals in major metropolitan areas, as well as rural counties, told GHN on Tuesday that the surge in inpatients has come over the past week or two.

Many of the newly hospitalized patients are in their 40s or younger, unlike the first wave of coronavirus patients earlier this year.

"Recently we have seen a sharp rise, including ICU patients and hospital patients, across all the hospitals," said Dr. Joe Funk, chief of staff for Northside Hospital System, which operates hospitals in Atlanta, Lawrenceville, Cumming, Duluth and Canton.

The inpatient increase coincides with an overall rise in new infections reported daily. Georgia Public Health officials reported Tuesday that the number of infections in the state has now topped 100,000. It's the ninth state to record that total of cases.

State figures show that the number of people hospitalized has jumped from a record high of 1,649 on Thursday to 1,962 on Monday. The Macon Telegraph on Tuesday reported a new hospitalization figure:

2,096.

Funk and other hospital officials linked the spike to many people not wearing masks or not social distancing, and the officials are emphasizing the importance of following safety guidelines.

"It is imperative that Georgians continue to practice social distancing, proper masking, and proper hand hygiene to protect themselves and others as the number of positive cases in our state continue to increase," said Megan Allen, spokeswoman for Navicent Health in Macon, which has a slight increase in COVID hospitalizations.

Hundreds of health care workers sent a letter urging Gov. Brian Kemp to require people to wear masks in public, and to close bars and nightclubs, to stem the spread of the disease. Kemp has not replied to the letter, said Dr. Melanie Thompson, an Atlanta physician who helped create it.

"It is a shame that the voices of Georgia health care workers are simply ignored," she said. "Our hospitals are filling up. By the time we reach capacity, it will be too late. The tragedy is that we know how to slow transmission, but our governor simply refuses to take action. He could, at a minimum, free the mayors and county officials to manage their local epidemics."

Emory Healthcare, which operates 11 hospitals, said Tuesday that it's seeing "a

dramatic increase in hospitalized patients with COVID-19. In fact, our confirmed COVID-19 hospitalized patients have more than tripled in the past 14 days. As of this week, we have surpassed our April records in COVID-19 patients needing ICU care and regular inpatient care.

"We are carefully monitoring our personal protective equipment, supplies and staffing needs during this surge to ensure we can continue to care for all patients safely."

Pressure on resources

The hospital capacity situation in Georgia does not appear as critical as in Texas, where the mayors of Houston and Austin have warned that their hospitals will soon be in crisis if the coronavirus outbreak is not brought under control. And more than 40 hospitals in hard-hit Florida reported having no more beds available in their adult intensive care units.

Nationally, the number of people hospitalized with COVID-19 grew by 5 percent or more Sunday in 23 states, based on a seven-day moving average, according to data compiled by the Covid Tracking Project.

That may put a squeeze on critical supplies.

The Associated Press reported Tuesday that personal protective equipment (PPE), which

was in dangerously short supply during the early weeks of the crisis in the U.S., is running low again as the virus resumes its rapid spread and the number of hospitalized patients climbs.

"We have an adequate amount of PPE," Northside's Funk said. "We don't have a surplus."

Atlanta's Grady Memorial Hospital is seeing a "significant increase in admissions" for COVID-19, said Dr. Robert Jansen, chief medical officer for Grady Health System.

"That's across the city and across the state," he said.

"I'm very concerned," Jansen said. "It would be foolish not to be. We have never had the huge crisis that [occurred] in New York City or Albany [in southwest Georgia]. If we're not careful, we could see this exceed [hospitals'] capacity. I could see every hospital in Atlanta being full."

Grady is also still dealing with diminished bed capacity due to the lingering effects of flooding from burst pipes late last year. And in June, with the increase in violence locally, the Atlanta safety-net hospital saw its highest total of trauma patients ever.

Concerns about staff levels

Some Georgia hospital officials are worried about staffing levels being able to meet patient demand, especially since



thousands of health care workers have been infected in the state since the pandemic began.

Infections among staffers can be a particular problem at a smaller facility, where one medical worker testing positive for the virus can force several others into quarantine, said Jimmy Lewis, CEO of HomeTown Health, an association of rural hospitals in the state.

Hospitalizations and outpatient visits for COVID-19 have recently increased at several rural hospitals in Georgia, said Lewis. He added that CEOs of rural hospitals are reporting that many residents in their communities "are in denial" about the virus. "They don't want to wear masks," Lewis said.

For COVID in general, rural hospital CEOs are saying that "we have to be prepared to live with this indefinitely," Lewis said.

Dr. Harry Heiman, a health policy expert at Georgia State University, said that based on a state report Monday, there are only four critical care beds available in the 15-county Region H (in Middle Georgia) and 16 or less critical care beds available in four other regions across the state.

"In the absence of aggressive state public health policy leadership today, this situation will continue to go from bad to worse," Heiman said.

Andy Miller is editor and CEO of Georgia Health News. For the latest health news in the state, visit www.georgiahealthnews.com.

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 dawnsson@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.

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

-Looking for a 12-step meeting for men and women? At "Road to Recovery," recognizing Jesus Christ as our higher power, they take the 12 steps and compare how they are taken from scripture and how to apply them to our lives to experience true freedom from the bondages of addiction. The meetings are free and open to the public at World Harvest Church locations in Cherokee and Gordon counties. For more information, call 706-602-1919. The Calhoun church is located at 2335 Red Bud Road. The meetings here are every Monday and Thursday at 7 p.m.

- A 12-step-meeting for Overeaters Anonymous is held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 901 W. Emory St, Dalton on Thursdays at 6 p.m. Call Nan at 706-695-9008 or Stephanie at 706-847-8125 for more information.

-Caring for a loved one who is suffering from late-stage cancer is certainly one of life's hardest experiences. But you do not have to go through this alone. The Harris Radiation Therapy Center at Gordon Hospital provides a place for you to meet each month with others who understand what you are going through during this difficult time. Strength for Caring, a support group for caregivers of patients with advanced stages of cancer meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 2-3 p.m. at the Harris Radiation Therapy Center at Gordon Hospital, 1035 Red Bud Road. For more information, please call 706-879-5853.

- Dealing with a cancer diagnosis is difficult for everyone involved – the patient and their loved ones. But you are not alone. The Harris Radiation Therapy Center at Gordon Hospital, 1035 Red Bud Road, hosts a Support Group for cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers on the third Wednesday of each month from noon until 1 p.m. Lunch is served. For more information and to RSVP, please call 706-879-5853. We offer a hand to hold and an ear to listen as you go through this difficult time.

-The Alzheimer's Auxiliary of North Georgia is seeking new members. Members of this auxiliary are a vital part in the work of the Alzheimer's Association. Currently, two auxiliaries, one in North Georgia and one in Atlanta, provide support and financial assistance to people affected by Alzheimer's disease. There are many volunteer opportunities to work with the regional offices in supporting those living with the disease, as well as caregivers. Some events auxiliary members participate in are an annual bake sale, the annual gala, Memory Walk, and health fairs. For annual membership, yearly dues of \$35 per person are requested. For more information about joining the Alzheimer's Auxiliary, contact the Alzheimer's Association at 706-275-0819.

GNTC's Commencement will be held as drive-thru ceremony

GEORGIA NORTHWESTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Georgia Northwestern Technical College's (GNTC) 2020 Spring and Summer Commencement Ceremony will now be held at the Floyd County Campus as a drive-thru ceremony on Tuesday, August 11, at 7:00 p.m.

Both spring and summer semester GNTC graduates are invited to attend the ceremony.

"We want to recognize and celebrate our students' successes; however, during these extraordinary times, we believe it is best to hold a drive-thru graduation on August 11," stated GNTC President Dr. Heidi Popham. "The safety and well-being

of our students, faculty and staff remains our top priority."

GNTC graduates will be receiving email instructions on how to participate in the ceremony. Students should follow the instructions in the email to ensure a smooth graduation process. For any questions about GNTC's Spring Commencement Ceremony, please contact us at graduation@gntc.edu.

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 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. GNTC is a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia and an Equal Opportunity Institution.

Hamilton Health Care System holds White Coat Ceremony for residents

HAMILTON HEALTH CARE

With 18 residents starting their internal medicine residency program on July 1, Hamilton Health Care System has added academic institution to its resume.

Hamilton recently hosted its inaugural White Coat Ceremony, a rite of passage for resident physicians to emphasize the importance of compassionate patient care at the very start of training.

"We're excited to start our internal medicine residency program," said Deidre Pierce, MD, program director. "We had more than 2,700 applications to go through to make selections. We could not have wished for a better group of physicians to start our residency program."

Eighteen resident physicians came forward during the ceremony to be "cloaked" before family and friends in the iconic white coat that signifies their status as healthcare professionals. Rodovaldo Rodriguez, MD, of Hamilton Physician Group – General Surgery, was the keynote speaker.

Post-graduate year (PGY)-2 resident physicians for the class of 2022 include: Laith Al Dahabreh, MD; Hisham Abu Farsak, MD; Dusty Johnston, DO; Leeja Joseph, MD; Obaid Rehman, MD; and Yousef Sweidan, MD. PGY-1 resident physicians for the class of 2023 include: Katelyn Boykin, DO; Omar Dominguez, MD; Victoria Gilbert, DO; Eily Hayes, DO; Tomislav Jagatic, MD; Purnima Kabir, MD; John Lelli, MD; David Nwasike, MD; Brad Sackfield, MD; Daniella Sankovic, MD;



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pictured are the new Hamilton Health Care System resident physicians at the recent White Coat ceremony.

Kiranjit Singh, MD; and Kenette St-Gourdin, MD.

Coat Ceremony was initiated in 1993 at Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians & Surgeons by Arnold P. Gold, MD, who was a professor and pediatric neurologist. Gold, a passionate advocate for humanistic healthcare, believed that the oath taken by new physicians at the end of medical school came too late. Through the nonprofit organization that he and his wife, Dr. Sandra Gold, started, The Arnold P. Gold Foundation has expanded the White Coat Ceremony around the globe.

Today, nearly every medical school in the United States, many residency

programs, hundreds of nursing schools, and many other health profession schools around the globe participate in this tradition of humanistic care.

Hamilton's initial institutional accreditation was obtained from the Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) in July 2018. The Internal Medicine Program received ACGME accreditation in April 2019.

Hamilton has been partnering with medical schools and has had almost twenty medical students rotating in the system during the past year. Medical school partnerships include Medical College of Georgia/Augusta University, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic

Medicine and various other medical schools.

The focus for Hamilton's resident training is on providing unsurpassed service, with an emphasis on safety and quality outcomes. Residents will have opportunities to care for patients of diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds with an emphasis on caring for those who are medically underserved. Hamilton's training program features a learning environment that fosters leadership, ingenuity and creative solutions to complex health problems.

Residency program administrators and staff include Pierce, Nimrat Bains, MD, associate program director; Taylor Wilkey,

graduate medical education (GME) coordinator; Lisa Rue, internal medicine coordinator; and Sarah Russell, medical education librarian/specialist. Bryan Cheever, MD, has taken on the role of program director for Hamilton's planned Family Medicine Residency to start in 2021. Jonathan Thompson, MD, will assist Cheever as the associate program director.

According to Pierce, there is a higher job satisfaction among teaching physicians. "The Satisfaction of the teaching physician can have a substantial effect on the learner and on patients," she said. "There is a personal reward through shaping the next generation of physicians."

Dalton State Requires Masks Inside Campus Buildings

DALTON STATE COLLEGE

The University System of Georgia (USG), which includes Dalton State College, has updated plans for the return to face-to-face instruction, requiring face masks when indoors with few exceptions.

Dalton State's plans already called for masks in areas where social distancing would not be feasible, but the new guidelines will broaden the areas where masks will be required to include classrooms, labs, hallways, restrooms and more. Exceptions include private offices and study rooms

where a person is alone and in rooms/suites inside Mashburn Hall where students living on campus as roommates are considered a family unit.

Masks will also be required outside when social distancing is not possible. The new guidelines go into effect July 15.

The new mask requirement applies to students, employees and visitors. Anyone not wearing a mask will be asked to put one on or to leave. Accommodations will be made for people who are unable to wear a mask due to documented health reasons.

Dalton State is providing one reusable cloth mask to each

student and employee. The mask will be made available to students upon their return to campus for classes.

The college also recently adjusted its fall schedule so the semester will end before the Thanksgiving holiday break. Fall classes will begin on Aug. 10 and end on Nov. 25 so students will not need to return to campus after that date until classes resume in January. The adjustment removes the Labor Day holiday and fall break.

Dalton State will continue to follow guidelines from the USG, Governor's Task Force, Georgia Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control



and Prevention. Updates to those guidelines will be posted on the "Coronavirus Update" webpage found at daltonstate.edu, as well as on social media.

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

COUNTY

From page 1A

around the building and some other areas.”

Ledbetter also gave an update on SPLOST and LOST revenues.

“We are hanging in there economically on SPLOST and LOST,” said Ledbetter. “We are actually up about 1.92 percent and 1.8 percent respectively, with collections of SPLOST at \$819,919.17 and LOST collections were \$519,395.71. That’s up about \$15,000 for SPLOST and \$9,000 for LOST for the month of May, which was right in the height and end of the quarantine.”

Ledbetter also told the Board the County has received

notification of Gordon County’s allotment of money from the CARES Act funding. According to Ledbetter, Gordon County will receive just over \$2 million dollars, and will receive a first phase allotment of 30 percent, or about \$607,000. Ledbetter said the county will have to receive further guidance concerning what the CARES Act funding will apply towards.

In other news from the meeting:

The Board approved the Ordinance Amendment to the Gordon County Animal Control Ordinance for the Leash Law Section.

The move will address dogs and cats that are running loose and unattended. Animals that are considered not under control would be in violation of the ordinance; animals under control are considered to be on a leash, heeled, or with a person and obedient to their commands. The ordinance reads that anyone violating the ordinance could receive a fine not to exceed

\$1,000 or imprisonment not to exceed 60 days in jail.

The Board approved the 2020/2021 Paving List for Gordon County. The full list can be found at <https://gordoncounty.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/PavingList.pdf>.

The Board renewed the agreement with North Georgia Community Action, Inc. for the Section 5311 Transportation Service.

The Board approved the Service Agreements with Outside Agencies, including Calhoun City School nurse, Gordon County School nurse, Arts Council, VAC, Prevent Child Abuse and Winner’s Club.

The next meeting of the Gordon County Board of Commissioners will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, July 21, at the Administration Building on North Wall Street in downtown Calhoun.

DWTS

From page 1A

her daughter Olivia Harbin – Their duo-gig is sure to be a blast! Michelle Frix Ward is volunteering her time and talents by providing the choreography for the group dance while Andy Baxter Photography is donating his time to offer free photography for all the dancers and for digital content promotion,” Latour continued. “I would like to thank Mohawk Industries for being the Premier Sponsor of Dancing with the Stars! If you are sponsoring a couple or are an event sponsor, you are directly helping United Way make a difference in our community.”

The planning committee is central to the success of the show, but the group that really matters consists of the 18 students who will hit the stage to compete in August. The dancers, listed alphabetically by last name, are Ben Bingham, Isaac Brackett, Hayes Carpenter, Ethan Crump, Jayce Derryberry, Aubrey Dorsey, Madeline Erwin, Caitlyn Glaze, Catherine Govignon, Will Holden, Marlee Jackson, Mariah Key, Aavyn Lee, Jackson Murray, Sierra Scott, Cameron West, Megan Wright, and Meghan Young.

Two of Calhoun High School’s most accomplished students will hit the stage as the third dancing duo. Both very active and talented students, Meghan Young and

Ethan Crump are partnering in the contest.

Meghan Young is a student at Calhoun High School, where she will soon begin her senior year. She is a varsity football competition cheerleader, a member of the National Honor Society, the National Arts Honor Society, and Family Career and Community Leaders of America. She also is a member of the French Honors Society.

An active member of Rock Bridge Community Church and its student ministry, Meghan is the daughter of Mickey and DeShea Young. She has an older brother, Parker. In her free time, she likes to draw and relax at home. She says she enjoys watching Netflix and Mexican food, joking that she could eat it every day.

Young will dance with Ethan Crump, who finished his high school career at Calhoun and will celebrate with his classmates in the August 1 commencement. He will attend Berry College, continuing his studies and playing baseball. Crump was a member of the National Honor Society, was on the Academic Honor Roll, was named Senior of the Month in December 2019 and Student of the Month (January) by the Woman’s Club of Calhoun. Crump is the son of Greg Crump and Joy Goble. His stepparents are Allison Crump and Chap Goble. He has a sister, Maggie Crump and two stepsiblings, Reilly Fain and Owen Goble. He is a member of Rock Bridge Community Church.

Crump is a student athlete and was on both the football and baseball teams. While at Calhoun, he started a program called “Shop with the Stingers” to provide Christmas presents to children in need during the holiday season. He is very proud that the program volunteers were able to provide gifts to forty-two children and open the eyes of many high school students about needs in the community.

This year, only the winners and runners-up of the People’s Choice and Judges’ Choice will receive scholarships. The first-place team will receive \$1,000 per student; the second-place team will receive \$750 per student and the third-place team will receive \$500 per student.

This will be the fourth student show, which spun off the adult version that ran for five years at the historic GEM Theatre. The dancers are learning more about United Way, its agencies and programs. As details unfold and plans are finalized, additional information will be made available through social media and the United Way website.

The mission of United Way of Gordon County is to accurately assess the needs of Gordon County and to mobilize available resources to meet those needs. It serves eighteen local agencies in Gordon County, as well as serving as a referral source for the community.

KCGB

From page 1A

want to play, and it’s hard for teenagers to come up with the total \$500 to play in the tournament, so anyone interested could sponsor a high school team.”

Cash prizes for the winners include:

- \$500 – First Place
- \$300 – Second Place
- \$150 – Third Place

Other prizes will also be awarded.

Those interested in participating can register online at www.keepcalhoungordonbeautiful.org or call Fields Ferry at 706-625-9001.

At the inaugural tournament in 2019, 18 teams competed and \$10,000 was raised for the organization.

Some of the money raised during the 2020 tournament will go towards different affiliation fees, including their upcoming affiliation with Keep America Beautiful.

“There are a lot of things we are held accountable for,

as committees, and we have our committees (in place); we will form a Board and everything should happen in early September,” said Peterson.

Keep America Beautiful formed in 1953 when a group of corporate and civic leaders met in New York City to bring the public and private sectors together to develop and promote a national cleanliness ethic. KAB promotes various programs throughout the year, including The Great American Cleanup and America Recycles Day.

The goals of becoming an affiliate with Keep America Beautiful are to help implement sustainable, positive changes; gain a national network and credibility; training; access to tools and programs along with grants.

“We’re thrilled to be a part of this,” said Peterson.

Keep Calhoun Gordon Beautiful focuses on helping individuals in the community become engaged stewards of the environment; Education and awareness and encouraging positive behaviors toward community improvement; Forming broad-based community alliances including public, private and civic sectors which are essential to achieve sustainable community improvement; and engaging

volunteers who will extend the reach and multiply the impact of local initiatives that change individual behavior and improve the community environment.

Keep Calhoun Gordon Beautiful partners with local schools, church groups and the Gordon County Sheriff’s Office for quarterly community litter pick-up & recycling events; Prepares and distributes free trees for annual Arbor Day, which is funded by the City of Calhoun; Participates in the annual Rivers Alive cleanup; and plants a wildflower area and over 1,000 daffodils at the Black & Gold Park at the City of Calhoun Recreation Department on McDaniel Station Road.

In addition to becoming an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, Keep Calhoun Gordon Beautiful has other goals including helping with plantings for the Rivers to Ridge project, assisting with Lynn Creek Watershed improvement, and building friends and collaborative relationships.

For more information on the golf tournament or how you can help Keep Calhoun Gordon Beautiful, call 770-881-2710, or visit their website at www.keepcalhoungordonbeautiful.org



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THE HUNT FOR FILM: Hamilton (2020)



COOPER HUNT

Movie Reviews at The Hunt For Film

The life of one of America's founding fathers and first Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton.

THE MUSICAL

This was the first time I'd seen Hamilton in any capacity, filmed or otherwise, and all of my expectations from the hype surrounding this phenomenon were met. The characterizations of Hamilton and his lifelong rival Aaron Burr are captivating from the opening scene, not painting either one as completely morally upright or bankrupt. The framing device of Burr's consistent narration is always engaging, and I loved the utilization of the same core set of actors as different key players separated by the two acts. The supporting ensemble of Chris Jackson, Daveed Diggs, Anthony Ramos, and Okieriete Onaodowan are impressively dynamic, and my personal favorite part of the show would be anytime that Jonathan Groff takes the stage as King George III. The Schuyler sister actresses were all amazing as well with powerful vocals, but Burr is the star of the show, proven by the outstanding

Leslie Odom Jr's 2016 Tony Award win for Best Actor in a Musical.

The musical orchestrations and vocal pieces by Lin-Manuel Miranda are all incredible without even one disappointment, and the best of them showcase diverse genres of music and the talents of the artists on stage (namely You'll Be Back, Guns and Ships, The Room Where It Happens, and the genius adaptation of Cabinet debates into multiple rap battles). All the technical aspects, especially lighting and set design, are pitch-perfect, elevating this to a virtually flawless stage musical.

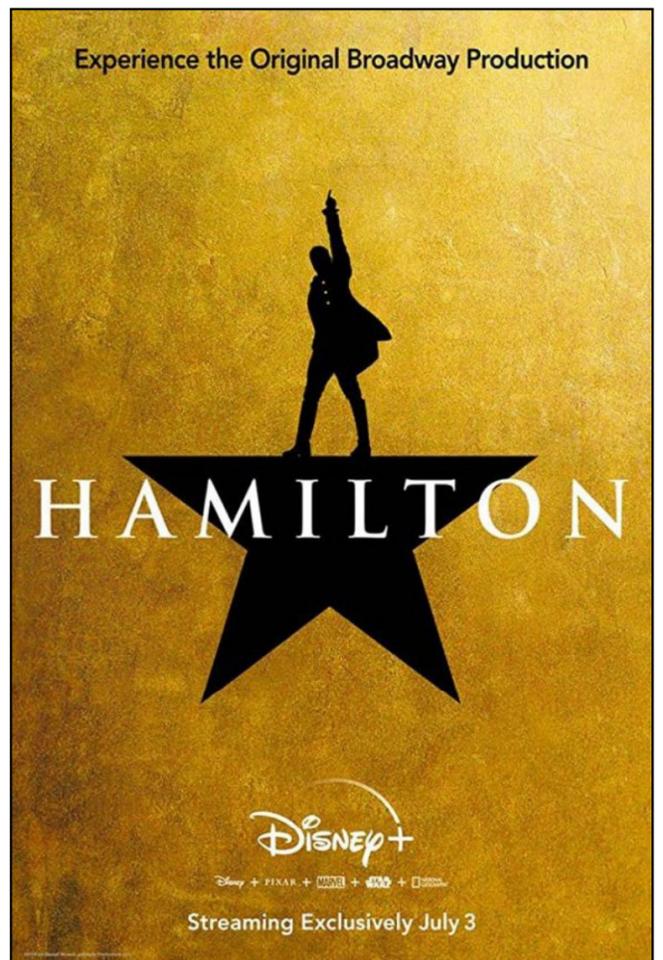
THE FILM

Thomas Kail, of Grease Live! and Fosse/Verdon fame, does a commendable job capturing the majestic aspects of the stage production on the screen. There are a few edits following shifts in the actors' focus to their subject which were amazingly executed and brought a verbal reaction from me, and I was particularly a fan of the overhead aerial camera angles to capture the action from above and lend a more artistic, unique point of view to the story as opposed to the traditional proscenium view of the audience looking straight onto the stage. These cinematic filmmaking decisions were well-done and served as true highlights of the viewing experience for me. There were only a small handful of moments where the camera angle didn't strongly support the action on stage, whether it was lingering a few seconds too long on an actor once they'd finished a song or simply not capturing everything of importance within the four sides of the frame.

CONCLUSION

I can't imagine someone not enjoying this masterful piece of musical theatre that's already become an instant modern classic in the past five years. The question here, however, isn't entirely based on Lin-Manuel Miranda's Hamilton (an undisputed gem), but on Thomas Kail's Hamilton. The difficult thing here is that Kail is tasked to assemble a puzzle and create the image of a film, yet all the pieces belong to the image of a stage musical. Therefore, no matter how beautiful of a picture it is, the filmed version of this production will never quite be as impactful as experiencing the show live in a theatre yourself. This is no discredit to anyone involved, I firmly believe that Kail and Disney have reached the greatest outcome possible for filming a live performance, bringing Miranda's inspiring music and unique sense of storytelling to millions of audiences worldwide. Yet the fact remains that it simply isn't quite the same as sitting in the live audience. I'm surprised that critics have reacted as adoringly to Kail's version as they have given that it seems like a likely subject for controversy, prompting the question among passionate cinephiles: "What truly constitutes a film?"

Once one navigates these rough water of principle and accepts what it is that they're sitting down to watch, it truly is an extraordinary experience of home entertainment, one that everyone should take part in now as an opportune tool for both important historical education and timely patriotic celebration. One of Miranda's most poignant written pieces in the musical comes from



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

General George Washington to Hamilton himself, reminding him that "Dying is easy, living is harder" and later, an echo of the same verse, "Winning is easy, governing is harder." In such tumultuous national times, it becomes key that we remember the vital importance of standing for ideals and not submitting to personal grievances or angered separations when faced with adversity from our fellow countrymen. Hamilton, which is easily the best "film" I've seen thus far in 2020, reminds us all that we must work together with honor

to achieve our goals and tell the story of all our Founding Fathers.

Personal: A

Critical: 90%

Cooper Hunt is a Gordon Central High School graduate. A movie buff, Hunt runs "The Hunt for Film," where he reviews recent releases from Hollywood. You can check out his reviews at thehuntforfilm-wordpress.com.wordpress.com

Adam Dortch

PHOTOGRAPHY

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