

GORDON Gazette

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

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Calhoun-Gordon County's #1 Source for News

Annual Christmas Open House shopping event set for this Sunday, Nov. 22

Brandi Owczarz
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It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas in Calhoun-Gordon County.

The annual shopping event Christmas Open House is being held this year with measures in place to address COVID-19 social distancing this Sunday, Nov. 22, from 1 – 5 p.m. Hosted by the Gordon County Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Development Authority, the event showcases local

retail establishments throughout downtown Calhoun that will hold special sales that day.

"This year, with the social distancing, each store is promoting their own way and holding their own sales their own way," said Downtown Development Director Roberts. "There are at least 20 businesses that will be open on Sunday; Cotton and Twine, Baxter Dean, Velo Vineyard, Cheyenne's Boutique, Rusty Zipper...all of the downtown retail will be

open." Singer Ben Honeycutt will also be on hand performing throughout the day.

"Downtown is having Ben Honeycutt to sing. He'll be on the corner of Court Street and Wall Street," said Roberts.

Also a change this year is that there will be no visit with Santa at the end of the event, but Santa will be on hand throughout the day.

See **COH**, page 12A



Huddle House passes recent inspection after failing grade earlier this month

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Huddle House of Calhoun, located at 566 Highway 53, had another restaurant inspection by the Department of Public Health on Thursday, Nov. 12 after failing an inspection on Thursday, Nov. 5, 2020.

The restaurant scored an 80/B on Nov. 12, bringing their score up to passing after previously scoring a 48/U. The score prior to the failing score was also an 80, which was on June 24, 2020.

While passing the most recent inspection, Huddle House was still found to be in non-compliance of several codes including: no paper towels available at hand washing sink; improper cold holding of TCS food items; container of chili and green beans in the reach-in cooler with discard date of Oct. 23;



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

most recent inspection report not posted for public view; inside of microwave having food build-up; and some of the previous repair work needing to be completed.

Other restaurants inspected this week included:

A m e e r ' s Mediterranean Grill at 802 North Wall Street: 75/C

Subway Love's Travel Stop at 1081 Belwood Road, Suite 2: 100/A

Burger King at 1081 Belwood Road, Suite 3: 91/A

Sunset Jacks at 145 Kelly Court, Suite 3: 100/A

Estela's Taqueria at

Calhoun Police arrest Resaca man after he flees scene of accident in downtown Calhoun

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A Resaca man was arrested on a variety of charges, including DUI and Open Container, after fleeing a wreck on South Wall Street in downtown Calhoun on Tuesday afternoon.

Around 3:15 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 17, an officer with the Calhoun Police Department responded to a wreck on South Wall Street in front of Calhoun City Hall. Dispatch had advised the officer that one of the vehicles involved, a red Ford F-150 with a brush guard, had left the scene of the accident, heading north on South Wall.



ADAM MEDLIN
(Gordon County Sheriff's Office)

Once on scene, the officer spoke with the driver of the vehicle that had stayed on scene. The driver told the officer

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EDUCATION 10A



Calhoun Police Department recognized by Calhoun City Schools' Board of Education.

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Virtual Unity Run 5k begins this Monday; Registration still available online

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Registration is still available online for this year's United Way of Gordon County Virtual Unity Run 5k, the first time the annual kick-off fundraiser for the local United Way has been held virtually.

"The UNITY RUN 5K will look a little different this year. With COVID-19 affecting how we plan

our day-to-day, we have decided to hold the 27th race virtually this year, which will take place November 23 - December 7, 2020," said United Way of Gordon County Director Jennifer Latour.

Latour explained that a virtual race is a lot like a traditional 5K. Participants can run, jog, walk on the

See **UNITY RUN**, page 12A



Calhoun Police Chief Pyle urges everyone to buckle up before busy Thanksgiving holiday

CALHOUN POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Calhoun Police Department is joining the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety to remind drivers and passengers before the start of the Thanksgiving holiday travel period to not risk a ticket by always remembering it to click it with their seat belt.

Calhoun Police officers are joining sheriff's offices, police departments and the Georgia State Patrol to enforce seat belt, speeding, DUI, distracted driving and all traffic laws during the extended holiday weekend with the goal of reducing traffic crashes, deaths and injuries.

The National Highway Traffic Safety

Administration estimates that seat belts saved 15,000 lives in the United States last year and another 2,500 lives could have been saved had those who were killed as the result of a traffic crash been wearing a seat belt.

Research shows that persons who are riding in the front seat and wearing a seat belt reduce their risk of a

fatal injury in a traffic crash by 45 percent and those who buckle up in a light truck reduce their risk of a fatal injury in the event of a crash by 60 percent.

While Georgia's observed daytime seat belt use rate is among the highest at the country at over 95 percent, more than half the people killed in passenger vehicle crashes in the

state last year were not buckled up according to preliminary data from the Georgia Department of Transportation.

"No one wants to be in a wreck, but wearing a seat belt does give you the best chance of surviving a traffic crash because vehicle safety

See **CPD**, page 12A

Second Front

Tuttolomondos recognized for setting the example for homeless students in Gordon County

GORDON COUNTY SCHOOLS

November is National Youth Homeless Awareness Month, and it highlights a very important issue in our community. Homelessness comes in various forms, and oftentimes families turn to the school system for assistance during difficult times. The residency forms families submit to their schools at the beginning of the school year give a glimpse into needs of children within the school system. However, school personnel help to identify needs of students throughout the year and work to eliminate any negative stigmas that may be associated with homelessness to ensure these families get the help they need.

who are identified as homeless, and more than double that number are anticipated by the end of the school year. As much as school personnel are able to assist with identifying needs of students, some families remain unaware of help that schools can provide and may hide the fact they are homeless. Knowing the facts about homelessness can help ensure families get the assistance they need.

What is homelessness?

Families that share housing or doubled up due economic hardship or various reasons are sheltered in a motel, hotel, and campgrounds. Families who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping



accommodation. Families children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings

Migratory Families that fall under the first four categories listed above. Gordon County Schools continuously works with local churches and community partners in

an effort to ensure that no family in Gordon County goes without, especially during the holiday season. Much of this assistance would not be possible without the generosity

of community partners like Joe and Elaine Tuttolomondo. Mr.

See GCS, page 12A

AdventHealth Gordon to host virtual Living Well class

ADVENTHEALTH GORDON

AdventHealth Gordon is hosting a virtual Living Well class featuring Julia Danforth, MD, on Tuesday, December 8 at 6:30 pm online via a Zoom meeting. During this class, participants will learn some healthy cooking tips for the upcoming holiday season. Cheryl Shaw, owner and chef at Nita's Kitchen and Vive Wellness Cafe in Calhoun, will lead the virtual class alongside Dr. Danforth and will demonstrate how to make a plant-based "neat loaf" and discuss

plant-based alternatives for holiday dishes. Dr. Danforth is a board-certified family physician. She believes that health is more than just the physical body, but mental and spiritual wellness as well. Dr. Danforth earned her medical degree from the Loma Linda University School of Medicine in California followed by a residency in family practice at Florida Hospital in Orlando. She is a member of the American Academy of Family Practice and the American College of Lifestyle Medicine. Dr. Danforth

was board-certified in Lifestyle Medicine in 2017 and is blessed to be able to formally pursue her lifelong career passion. To join this virtual Living Well class, email georgialivingwell@gmail.com to request a Zoom meeting invitation. Participants can use Zoom on their smartphone, computer or tablet. Participants can also dial in with their phone to join the meeting. For more information, please call 770-773-9201 and press 1 to speak with or leave a message for Dr. Danforth's nurse.



GCB names Angela Hammond vice president and Commercial Lending officer

CONTRIBUTED

The Board of Directors of Greater Community Bank is pleased to welcome Angela Hammond as Vice President and Commercial Lending Officer representing the Bank's Gordon and Bartow County markets. "Angela brings a breadth of lending expertise to the Bank, especially within our growing Calhoun and Cartersville markets. Her strong community involvement and spirit of unparalleled service will aid in our mission to enhance the customer experience," said David J. Lance, President & CEO. Hammond will be responsible for expanding the Bank's footprint throughout the community by introducing both new and existing customers to the Greater Community Bank experience. Angela is passionate about meeting the needs of her clients so they can reach their dreams, all while staying connected during these unprecedented times. "As a lifelong resident of Gordon County, I am thrilled to be joining Greater Community Bank in their commitment to superb customer service. It is amazing to work for a company that is dedicated to the support of the community," remarked Hammond. Prior to joining GCB, Hammond served as a Vice President and Commercial Lender with Century Bank of Georgia, a Business Banker at Regions Bank, and as an Assistant Vice President and Consumer Lender with Wachovia Bank. "I am so happy to have Angela join us at Greater Community. We have known each other since grade school, and it will be fun to work together and continue to focus on the needs of our customers in and around Gordon



ANGELA HAMMOND (Contributed Photo)

County. Banking continues to evolve, specifically in the COVID world we are living in. The partnership the Banker and the customer share is more important than ever. Angela has been dedicated to this community her entire 40-year career and her passion for her customers is inspiring. To have the ability to remain in Gordon County for them was so important to her. GCB is very fortunate to have her," stated Donna McEntyre, Chief Operating Officer and Calhoun City President. Hammond currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission and the New Echota River Alliance. She has dedicated years of service to the Gordon County community by serving on the boards of the Gordon County Chamber of Commerce, American Red Cross and Kiwanis Club. She and her husband, Paul, have three children and enjoy kayaking, traveling and spending time outdoors.



WE'VE GOT JOBS!

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Obituaries

November 18, 2020

Donald Clements, Sr.

Donald (Don) Lamar Clements Sr., 70, of Gordon County died Friday, November 13, 2020.



He was born on August 29, 1950 in McRae and grew up in Warner Robins Georgia.

Don attended and graduated from Northside high school in Warner Robins. He then went on to graduate from Georgia College in Milledgeville.

Don loved his dogs "Leon", "Blossom", "Buck", and "Peaches". He also his loved his cats "Swiper" and "Sweetie". He enjoyed hunting, target shooting, playing his guitar, country music, and never missed an episode of the Marty Stewart Show. Don loved telling jokes, especially to his granddaughters, no matter how many times he had told them before. He never met a stranger and he never stopped talking.

In Don's younger years, he worked as a policeman and a fire fighter in Warner Robins. He later worked in the brewery industry, starting at Pabst Blue Ribbon in Perry and then moving on to Budweiser in Cartersville. He's finally at peace after many years of fighting a brave battle against multiple illnesses that few others could have endured.

Don is survived by his loving wife, Peggy Loraine Clements; children, Chrissie Guenther (Joe) and Donnie Clements Jr.; siblings, Gary Clements and Cheryl Goodwin; grandchildren, Jolie Guenther and Zoe Clements.

The family will receive friends Monday, November 16, 2020 at Max Brannon & Sons Funeral Home between the hours of 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM. The funeral service will follow the visitation at 1:00 PM in the Chapel of Max Brannon & Sons Funeral Home.

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

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the Family of Don Clements Sr.



three months later on June 23, 1980. She said Gary was full of life and loved to laugh and that she has literally laughed for forty years. He would make her laugh so hard she had to carry an inhaler because she laughed so hard it would trigger an asthma attack.

He is survived by his loving wife of forty-years, Annette Simmons Pedigo of the residence; son, Samuel Neal Pedigo and his companion, Sandra Bourque and her sons, Sean and Drew all of Cartersville, GA; daughter Sarah Marie Pedigo of Fairmount, GA; grandchildren, Kiera A. Pedigo, Drake O. Pedigo and Jaden R. Pedigo; brother and sister-in-law, Joseph "Joe" S. and Carolyn Pedigo and their children, Elizabeth, Jadea and Josie all of Chickamauga, GA; former daughter-in-law and her husband, Jennifer D. and Brandon Skelton and their children, Maddie and Emma; special friends who were also part of the family, Colin D. Martin and Miranda Anderson; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Nadine and Bill Batton of Fairmount, GA; several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Services to celebrate the life of Mr. Gary Ray Pedigo will be held Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. at Ponders Fairmount Chapel with Brother Bobby House, Brother Troy Lawson officiating and eulogy given by his son, Sam Pedigo. He will be laid to rest at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday November 24, 2020 at the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton, Georgia, with Colin Martin, Shawn Moore, Shannon Moore, Stanley Hardin will be honored to serve as pallbearers.

The family will receive friends at Ponders Fairmount Chapel, 2566 Hwy. 411, Fairmount, GA, from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 17, 2020 and on Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. Noon until the service hour.

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

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

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

www.selectedindependentfuneralhomes.org and www.ogr.org



manageable parts.

He was voted best looking in his senior class. He'd humbly admit it was a small class, but he certainly delighted in this acknowledgement. Anyone who's met him would agree – he had a way about him. A calming smile and sincere eyes. When on the golf course or around town, you could spot him in a crowd sporting one of his many signature ivy caps or fedoras. Later in life he developed the wrinkles we strive for – laugh lines – the truest indicator of a life well-lived.

He had sadness, too. He and his two brothers lost their mother and two sisters when he was only 8. Later, he had to bury his son who was his best friend and greatest golf partner.

He often exclaimed to his beautiful wife, "how did two Georgia crackers have such great kids and grandchildren?" It's an easy answer: They learned from you.

Max was patriotic and loved his country - with his daughter's assistance he received a mail in ballot and pledged his final vote in this historic 2020 election. He was so thrilled when it was validated as received and counted.

His life was simple, full and very good.

He is preceded in death by his wife of 69 years, Dorothy Gazaway Reese and his son Randy Reese.

He is survived by his daughter, Laura Gwen Reese and Chuck Chambers, of Dalton; grandchildren, Rochelle and Eric Beckstine, of Charleston, S.C.; April and Bucky Sorrow, of Athens; and Randy and Heather Reese, of Oakman. And, seven great-grandchildren: Piper, Annika, Max, Reese, Fisher, Ada and Donovan. He spent his final time with an amazing caregiver, Angie Thomas.

A visitation will be held for family and friends at Thomas Funeral Home, Calhoun, on Thursday, November 19, from 3 to 4 p.m. A private graveside service will follow with Dr. Bert Vaughn officiating.

To honor his love for animals, donations in his honor can be made to the Humane Society of Northwest Georgia.

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

Thomas Funeral Home has proudly been entrusted with the care of Maxwell Dexter Reese.



Jimmy Lee

Mr. Jimmy Edwin Lee, of Adairsville Georgia, passed away at home on November 13, 2020 after a long battle with brain cancer and other complications. He has been on hospice care at home since July 2020. His wife Joan, was his caretaker.

He was preceded in death his parents, Willie and Rose Lee of Citra Florida and a sister, Jean Wilson of Alton Missouri.

He is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Joan Lee; his sons, Roger (Galina) Lee and Michael (Kerith) Lee; and granddaughter Annabel Lee; he is also survived by his brother, George Lee, Harold (Patsy) Lee, Donald (Lilli) Lee, and Stanley (Jill) Lee; and his sisters, Sandra Smith and Edith (Stephen) Smith; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He served in the U. S. Army at the USMA, West Point, NY, from 1966-1968. after his discharge from the Army, he worked at Lockheed Martin, Sears, and The Home Depot, and he retired from The Home Depot in April 2018. He had a very strong work ethic, having worked on his family farm in Citra, Florida until he left home to attend Southern Technical Institute in Marietta, Georgia, from which he graduated in 1965.

He had a strong faith in God, and he was a kind and loving husband, father, and grandfather (Papa), and a friend to many. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Due to the CoVid-19 pandemic and the risks involved, and concern for the safety of others, he is being cremated, and a memorial service will be planned at a later date.

Sign the guestbook and leave online condolences at www.BartonFuneralHome.net

R. Dudley Barton & Son Funeral Home, Adairsville, is in charge of arrangements for Mr. Jimmy Edwin Lee.

Barton Funeral Home

Gary Pedigo

Mr. Gary Ray Pedigo, age 65, of Fairmount, Georgia, departed this life Friday, November 13, 2020, at Home Surrounded by his loving family. Gary was born December 9, 1954 in Chattanooga, Tennessee, a son of the late Joseph Neal and Mildred Josephine Wrinkle Pedigo. He was also



preceded in death by his sister, Pamela R. Anderson. Gary proudly served his county in the U.S. Army having received the rank of SGT, E5. He was the co-owner along with his wife of "Your Designs Drapery Work Room, etc." He was a Christian and attended the Holiness Church. He loved working on their farm raising free range chickens and a host of rescue animals including, horses, dogs, cats, turkeys, ducks, guineas and anyone needing a home.

He met his wife on a blind date and married

Maxwell Reese

Maxwell Dexter Reese, 91, finished his final watch Sunday, November 15, 2020.

He was born to the late Lonnie Dempsey and Laura Walker Reese.

After a military life trekking the globe, he and his family returned to his native Gordon County, Georgia.

He enjoyed fine things – good food, good drinks, good friends, golf and Georgia football. Max was old salt. He was proud to serve our Navy for more than 22 years. He crossed the pond many times and he shared his memories with all who'd listen. His sea stories were often humorous and vivid, with wistful undertones of life at sea.

He served in the Pineapple Fleet, fought in the Korean War aboard a tin can (destroyer) and protected American interests in the Mediterranean. His final shore duty assignment landed Max and his family in Kaohsiung, Taiwan where he ran the Naval exchange and acey-deucey recreational clubs for men on liberty.

He had a second career after he swallowed the anchor with Regent Mills as HR Director, and then with ConAgra, where he represented the Northwest District poultry growers. Max was first-rate. He worked hard at everything and took care of what he had. The home he built on his mountain is full of modest treasures gifted to his wife and children collected from exotic ports of call from around the world. The Volvo he drove proudly sports a 300,000 high mileage club emblem. A kitchen table he built still serves family dinners after 60 years.

He was the life of the party – entertaining, gregarious and just plain fun. He was proud of his children, grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. He kept nearly every drawing and letter they sent him, lovingly stored in numerous scrapbooks. He could fashion the best cane pole for taking to the creek and dream the biggest make-believe stories with his grandchildren down the yellow-brick road he made for them. He was the best fan you could ever have.

He was altruistic. Moving his family every two to three years meant relocating family pets as well, which was not always easy or inexpensive. But pets were family, so they always followed along. A handwritten ledger from the 1960's shows a splurge for a subscription to Time magazine and National Geographic. These are things he cared about – the natural world and the human forces working within it. His worldly knowledge made him the king of crossword puzzles. His dictionary is well worn. His vocabulary and locution would rival an English professor and he could recite poetry from memory. He credited his love of words to a one room schoolteacher he had from the first through fifth grades. He loved watching the seasons change from atop his hill and making his autumnal trips down the road to gather apples for his wife's famous fried apple pies. He enjoyed music – everything from Chuck Berry to Eric Clapton to his grandson's concerts.

Max invested in things that mattered and didn't waste time on what didn't. He was steady and certain - even when things weren't. You could count on him in any crisis for sage and comforting advice; he would assess and break down the situation into

Barbara Roland

Barbara Ann Roland, age 81 of Calhoun, GA, passed away peacefully of natural causes at home surrounded by family on Tuesday, November 17, 2020.



Barbara was born on December 18, 1938 in Dalton, GA, daughter of the late Teola Davis. In addition to her mother, she was also preceded in death by a sister, Donna Adams. Barbara was a graduate of Calhoun High School, where she played defense for the Lady Jackets Basketball team. She loved the Golden State Warriors and enjoyed watching Tiger Woods. She was renowned for her cooking and always made each of her family members' favorite dish for the holidays. Barbara was a loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She was a fierce supporter of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Barbara is survived by: her husband of 61 years, Travis Roland; son, John Herrington; two daughters, Tammy Elrod and her husband Danny and Dana Curtis; grandchildren, Dr. Dustin French, Annie Foreman and her husband Cliff, Landon Curtis, and Carly Curtis; two great-grandchildren, Ethan Foreman and Winston Foreman; and sister, Glenda Lusk.

Funeral Services will be conducted on Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 1 PM from the Chapel of Thomas Funeral Home with Reverend Lamar Curtis, Dr. Bert Vaughn, Diane Smith, Carly Curtis/Annie Foreman, and Genia Kirby officiating. Interment will follow in Gordon Memorial Gardens.

Pallbearers serving include: Chuck Kirby, Seth Roland, Marvin Nix, Cliff Foreman, Bobby Lofty, and Rodney Curtis.

Honorary Pallbearers in addition to nephews are: Dr. James Thomas Palmer, James Thomas Palmer, Jr., Ron Curtis, Chris Callahan, Derrick Curtis, Chase Kirby, Larry House, and Da'Rick Rogers.

The family will receive friends on Thursday from 10 AM until the funeral hour at 1 PM at Thomas Funeral Home.

A special thanks to Compassus Hospice and Linda Church (Care at Home) for all of their love and support.

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

Thomas Funeral Home has proudly been entrusted with the care of Barbara Ann Roland.





Christmas Open House 2020
Sunday | November 22 | 1:00-5:00
Retailers Across Calhoun-Gordon County

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



Keep It In The County

RELIGION

NOTHING ABOUT HIM IS DISCOUNTED



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

thing in that it helps keep our economy strong.

There are several different types of buyers, hereinafter referred to as spenders. There are "frugal spenders," who spends as little money as possible. There are "impulse spenders," who may aim to be frugal, but can rarely pass-up a good deal. There are "indulgent spenders;" while these folks may be careful about how much they spend on necessities, they love to buy things that they don't really need.

There's the "balanced spender" that buys mostly cheap things with a few luxury items

thrown in from time to time. And then there's the "continuous over spender," the one who is always in the red, and surmounts great levels of debt.

At the end of the day we are all spenders, be it for pleasure or necessity. Not only are we all spenders, but we all have a love for one thing that isn't just reserved for Christmas time... A DISCOUNT!

I mean who doesn't want a discount, especially this time of year. Consider Black Friday sales at Walmart... They're like real life WWE arenas, and people

will come very close to choke slamming you over a discounted item.

From the very beginning of printed papers, businesses have offered printed discounts on their products or services. They do this to get you in the door, and build a customer relationship with you. It's brilliant from a business point of view. Everyone loves discounted products and services. The biggest drawback over time might be if the customer service/relationship is lacking. If it is lacking, there's no loyalty.

I'm so thankful that even in the beginning; God's love for us was

not discounted. Not even at the birth of Christ was there an easy part. Imagine a pregnant Mary having to ride into town on a donkey. Imagine delivering the baby without any medical attention, or even a clean place.

Then even into His earthly adult ministry, Jesus didn't even have a place to lay his head. He was paying the full price for our redemption.

Philippians 2:5-8 reads, "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no

reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross."

Even today, those of us who have a relationship with Him know that it is not discounted. He is graceful to give us everything, though we deserve nothing. The greatest gift, of course is His presence in our lives.

The name "Emanuel" was given on purpose, and as a promise, to ensure His continuous presence in our lives.

Be Blessed.

In the United States (still the greatest nation on the planet), the majority of us live consumer driven lives. In a way that's a good

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 pvcocalhoun@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 Dwayne 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 Broaehurst and family. Service times are 9 a.m. for Sunday school and Children's Church and 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Wednesday. For more information, call 706-669-0854.

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

please call 423-883-3138.

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

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

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

-Oakman Baptist Church and Pastor Jason Pace invite everyone to attend their weekly services. Sunday School is at 10 a.m. and morning worship is at 11. Sunday evening activities, which include worship and children and youth programs, begin at 6 p.m. Wednesday services begin at 7 p.m., which include Bible study and programs for youth and children.

House of Prayer Baptist Church, 3840 Dews Pond Road, has Sunday School at 10 a.m.; worship services on Sunday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. except the third and fifth Sunday night when there is no service; and Wednesday night service at 7 p.m.

-Nellie Peters United Methodist Church, 1122 S. Wall Street, Across from Advance Auto Parts would like to invite everyone to our services. Sunday School at 9:30, Worship at 11. Wednesday night Bible Study at 6:30. We're a small, friendly church and we love our community. Children are welcome in our services and we have a special "grace space" for them to color, draw and listen right in the sanctuary. Our pastor is Marvin Batcher as we welcome you!

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

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Finance

Cash Flow with Joe: There is no such thing as failure



Joe & Ashley English

Owners of Focus Property Solutions, LLC
focuspropertysolutionsllc@gmail.com

I recently watched a video presentation by world-renowned motivator and educator Brian Tracy. He spoke of a study performed by the Harvard Business Review that included interviews of Fortune 500 CEOs. One of the questions asked was, "What was your biggest failure and how did you react to it?"

This question stumped the CEOs. They would often look perplexed and ask what the interviewer meant by failure. The interviewer would then bring up products that had cost these executives' companies hundreds of millions of dollars — offshore ventures that had to be closed because they weren't profitable... things of that nature. The CEO being interviewed would then say, "Oh, you're talking about learning experiences."

The interviewers were astonished to learn that these great leaders wouldn't use the word failure. Instead, the CEOs viewed these failed attempts as what they really were — learning opportunities.

Now, the CEOs were the first to admit that these events were costly and sometimes

even painful learning experiences. But in the end, they viewed them as education.

In real estate, every deal you do is a seminar. The cool part is that most of them pay you to learn. That being said, some of the best and most memorable "classes" you take are the bad deals you do.

Ashley and I have done our share of those. After watching Brian's video, we reminisced about some of the deals that had taught us the best lessons. There was the house we bought next to a railroad track. Even though the appraised value was great, the location made it hard to sell; everybody knows the old adage, "location, location, location." Sometimes you have to learn this the hard way — we barely broke even

on that house.

Then there was the house with green tile throughout. I made the executive decision to keep the tile because it was in good shape. After putting in granite counter tops, a travertine back splash, and stacked stone on the fire place, I realized that ugly tile had to go. We were almost done with the rehab, however, and demoing that tile made the new install more costly, and it left a thin layer of concrete dust on everything. Lesson here: don't be cheap. It's more expensive in the long run.

But the deal that taught us the most was the burnout we bought when we first started investing. The first thing we did wrong was get excited about doing a deal, and over paid for

the property. You should never get emotional about a deal. Not only did we pay too much, but our excitement led us to buy it too far away from our house. It was almost lunch time when we arrived at the house each day. This posed a hardship because we had made the decision to rehab the house ourselves, necessitating daily trips to the property. This particular rehab took us forever.

But the biggest lesson we learned here came when someone offer us more than we paid for the property before we started rehabbing it. We declined their offer. The main reason was, in our minds, we had already spent the potential profit. This deal taught us the meaning of "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush."

During the course of this deal, I cut my finger on a table saw, I got sick and tired of driving to kingdom come to work on the property, so we sold it to break even. We never saw our potential profit — I guess that's why they call it potential. Lesson learned was we should've taken the money and run.

When a bad deal happens, you need to have the fundamental belief that you didn't fail; you simply had the opportunity to learn. The education you get from these deals will make you a great 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.

FINANCIAL FOCUS: Ideas for Thanking Your Family



Dewayne Bowen

Financial Advisor
 at Edward Jones

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It's almost Thanksgiving. And although 2020 may have been a difficult year for you, as it has been for many people, you can probably still find things for which you can be

thankful — such as your family. How can you show your appreciation for your loved ones?

Here are a few suggestions:

- Invest in your children's future. If you have young children — or even grandchildren — one of the greatest gifts you can give them is the gift of education. You may want to consider contributing to a higher education funding vehicle.

- Be generous. Do you have older children, just starting out in life? If so, they could well use a financial gift to help pay off student loans, buy a car or even make a down payment on a home. You can give up to \$15,000

per year, per recipient, without incurring gift taxes. Of course, you don't have to give cash — you might want to consider presenting your children with shares of stock in companies they like.

- Review your insurance coverage. If you weren't around, it would leave some gaping holes — financial and otherwise — in the lives of your family members. That's why it's essential you maintain adequate life insurance. Your employer might offer a group plan, but it may not be sufficient to meet your needs. There's no magic formula for determining the right

amount of coverage, so you'll have to consider a variety of factors: your age, spouse's income, number of children and so on. Also, you may want to consider disability insurance — if you were unable to work for a while, it could cause a real problem for your family's finances.

- Preserve your financial independence. When your children are young, you take care of them. But you certainly don't want them to have to do the same for you — so it's essential you maintain your financial independence throughout your life. You can do this in at least a couple of ways. First, consider

investing regularly in your 401(k), IRA and other retirement accounts. The greater your resources during your retirement years, the less you may ever need to count on your family. And second, you may want to protect yourself from the devastating costs of long-term care, such as an extended nursing home stay. A financial professional can suggest a strategy to help you cope with these expenses.

- Create an estate plan. To leave a legacy to your family, you don't have to be wealthy — but you do need a comprehensive estate plan. You'll have to think through a lot of

questions, such as: Have I named beneficiaries for all my assets? How much do I want to leave to each person? Do I need to go beyond a simple will to establish an arrangement such as a living trust? For help in answering all these issues, you'll want to work with an attorney.

By making these moves, you can show your loved ones, in a tangible way, how much you value them — and that can help you keep the spirit of Thanksgiving alive all year long.

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

Selection and Care of Christmas Trees



Greg Bowman
Gordon County
Extension Agent
gbowman@uga.edu

Choosing a real tree to go in the home for the holidays can be a fun and traditional family experience.

I have so many memories of selecting just the right tree for the holidays. I can remember from my childhood selecting a cedar tree on the family farm. More recently, my wife, daughters and I have made a family outing to go to a tree farm to make the selection. We now have started a new tradition of finding a tree that we call more a "family secret" that I may share in a future article. Plus, if you know us, our daughters over the years have kept us in

a basketball gym in the fall and winter months so many times finding a time to make a big ordeal over picking a tree has been difficult.

Today, I will share information from a variety of sources. I will be using information from former UGA Professor of Silviculture, Dr. Dave Moorehead and from a UGA Center for Urban Agriculture article by retired UGA County Agent, Gary Peiffer.

For starters, just like I don't tell people which tomatoes to plant, I don't tell them the tree species to buy either. What tomatoes you plant in the family garden is almost like what species of tree you choose for the holiday season. It can be a family tradition on the species. Many people may like a pine, but there are Scotch, White and Sand pines that will have different characteristics. Fir trees are popular with Balsam, Fraser and Douglas being high on the list. You can even have people like cedars and cypress trees with Leyland cypress being one popular with families. Do your

homework on tree options near you. Many times, a tree farm or store may have numerous options available.

When selecting a Christmas tree, here are a few tips to keep in mind. First, before you go tree shopping you need to check the height of the ceiling in the room that will be home to the tree. You need to select a tree that is at least one foot shorter than the ceiling height. You should also run your fingers over the branches along the needles. Needles should be pliable per Moorhead and adhere to the branches. The needles should bend, but they should not break or fall off. You should also shake or bounce the tree to make sure tree needles are firmly attached. A fresh tree will have few needles fall off. It should be noted that some loss of needles inside the tree is common.

Stay away from trees that appear wilted.

It is important to select a tree where the handle is straight. The handle should be 6 to 8 inches long to allow for easier placement in the

tree stand. You should also checkout the tree for insects and dead needles inside the tree crowd. Remove dead needles before bringing inside the home.

Once you get the tree home, there are some steps to follow with tree care. If you buy a tree, it may better if you put the tree up when you get home. If you do not plan on putting the tree up right away, it is suggested to cut one inch off the base of the tree, put the tree in a bucket of water and stand the tree in a shady spot.

When you do bring the tree indoors, you need to cut 1/2 to 1 inch off the base of the trunk and place in a tree stand that will hold at least one gallon of water. Do not put the tree near a fireplace, heater vents or other heat sources.

Always, make sure the tree is well supplied with water in the stand. This tends to be my job at the house to water the tree. You should check the water in the stand several times each day.

Keep in mind a tree can use several quarts of water a day. It is

important to not let the water level drop below the base of the tree in the stand. If you allow the water level to drop below the base, the base can seal over. This will stop water up-take. The only way you can fix the problem is to take down the tree and then make a fresh cut to allow water up-take. I would say that no one in the house would be happy if that happened.

I remember as a young agent people talking about adding aspirin, soda water, bleach or sugar to the water in the tree stand to keep the tree fresh. DO NOT DO THIS. Use only plain water when you are adding water to the tree stand.

Finally, some people like to purchase an uncut tree to use for Christmas and then plant outdoors after the holidays. Live trees take more care than cut trees. A rule-of-thumb is that live trees should be kept inside no more than two weeks.

Keep in mind that live fir or spruce trees can have trouble with the summer heat in Georgia. You may be happy with

a white pine, Leyland cypress or Virginia pine for example. You should leave a live tree outdoors in a shady spot till mid-December. You can spray with a anti-transpirant per our information. Bring the tree indoors about December 15th. You should water the tree root ball daily with at least two quarts of water each time. Water the top of the root ball slowly to help the water soak in. Keep heater vents closed around the tree and try to keep the room cool for most of the day.

Move the tree back outdoors for planting by December 28th. You should dig a hole that is five feet wide and 12 inches deep. Then place the root ball in the center, refill soil and apply water. You should mulch with a 3 inches layer of pine straw. The tree should be watered weekly until spring. You can fertilize with liquid plant food in mid-summer.

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

Gordon County Young Farmers selling Smoked Boston Butts and Turkeys for Thanksgiving

STAFF REPORTS

Gordon County Young Farmers are selling Smoked Boston Butts and Turkeys for Thanksgiving.

The meats are prepared by Gordon County Young Farmers.

All proceeds to benefit the GCYF youth fund.

Orders will be available for pickup on: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 from 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at Payne Farm & Produce, located at 204 Salem Rd SW, Calhoun.

Boston Butts are \$35.00 whole 7-9 lbs. or \$40 pulled 7-9 pounds.

Turkeys are \$55 whole, 10-plus pounds.

Deadline to order: Tuesday, November 17, 2020

To place your order, please contact: a youth livestock exhibitor or Annemarie Carr- Gordon County Young Farmers by emailing acarr@gcbe.org or calling 770-519-3619

Payment due at pick-up via cash, PayPal, Venmo, or check payable to GCYF.

Georgia Foundation for Agriculture offers \$65,000 in scholarships

GEORGIA FARM BUREAU

The Georgia Foundation for Agriculture is committed to investing in students pursuing careers in agriculture or a related field. For 2021, the foundation is offering scholarships for graduating high school seniors, rising college juniors and seniors, technical college students and UGA College of Veterinary Medicine students specializing in large/food animals.

Visit www.GaFoundationAg.org/scholarships.html for a list of eligible majors/schools, application instructions and to apply. Applications must be submitted online only by March 1, 2021. Transcripts and letters of recommendation must be submitted online with the application.

The four scholarship categories the Georgia Foundation for Agriculture is offering are:

• Scholarship for Agriculture – Ten scholarships of \$3,000 are available for graduating high school seniors. The top three ranking applicants will be eligible for an additional \$1,000 bonus. Applicants must: Be a Georgia resident; Be enrolled in a unit of The University System of Georgia, Berry College, Emmanuel College or any Georgia accredited college/university with an ag program for the 2021-22 academic year; Be pursuing an undergraduate degree in agricultural & environmental sciences, family &

consumer sciences or a related ag field; Have a minimum 3.0 GPA; Be engaged in high school leadership activities

• Technical College Scholarship for Agriculture – Four scholarships of \$1,500 are available. Applicants must: Be a Georgia resident; Be enrolled in a Georgia accredited technical college during the 2021-22 academic year; Have a minimum 2.8 GPA; Major in an area of study related to agriculture. Examples of eligible majors at www.GaFoundationAg.org/techschoolmajors.pdf.

• Rising College Jr./Sr. Scholarship for Agriculture – Eight scholarships of \$2,000 are available. Applicants must: Be a Georgia resident majoring in agricultural & environmental sciences, family & consumer sciences or a related ag field; Be a sophomore or junior with at least two semesters remaining to receive undergraduate degree at a unit of The University System of Georgia, Berry College, Emmanuel College or any Georgia accredited college/university with an ag program; Be engaged in college leadership activities; Have a minimum 3.0 GPA.

• UGA College of Veterinary Medicine Scholarship - This scholarship is for students currently enrolled in the UGA Veterinary Medicine program specializing in large animal/food animal practice. The GFA will award two \$5,000 scholarships. Applicants must be a Georgia resident; be a current

University of Georgia veterinary medicine student specializing in large animal/food animal practice and have a minimum 3.0 GPA.

The GFA is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to preparing the next generation of leaders for success in Georgia agriculture. The GFA works with Georgia Farm Bureau and other Georgia agricultural and educational organizations to achieve its mission. The foundation offers scholarships to students pursuing agricultural

careers, funds leadership development programs and projects that increase the public's understanding of agriculture. It will soon launch the Georgia Ag Experience, a mobile classroom that introduces third through fifth graders to Georgia's top crops. To make a tax-deductible donation, learn more about the foundation or the scholarships, visit www.gafoundationag.org or contact Lily Baucom at info@gafoundation.org or 478-405-3461.

www.gordongazettega.com

HEALTH NEWS

GEORGIA HEALTH NEWS: Georgia 'in a dangerous position' as holidays near — and virus cases rise

ANDY MILLER
Georgia Health News

Georgia reported more than 4,500 new COVID-19 infections Tuesday, roughly matching the large increase reported a week ago that was the highest in months.

More than 900 of newly reported cases came from rapid antigen tests, which state officials don't consider "confirmed" cases. The state's Department of Public Health also said about 1,000 of Tuesday's cases stemmed from a lag in reporting Monday due to a technical issue.

"Georgia is, however, seeing increased case numbers and COVID-19 transmission that isn't attributed to processing delays or reporting backlogs," said Nancy Nydam, spokeswoman for Public Health. "It reinforces the need for all Georgians to wear a mask, practice social distancing, wash their hands frequently and follow the guidelines in [Governor Brian Kemp's] Executive Order and all Public Health recommendations."

A Harvard University graphic shows 21 of Georgia's counties are in a "tipping point" status (25 or more cases per 100,000 population), and several of those are in the northwest corner of the state. Another is Chattahoochee County in west Georgia, which includes part of the Army's Fort Benning and is a constant COVID hot spot.

Dr. Melanie Thompson, an Atlanta

physician and a critic of the state's COVID policies, said Tuesday that Georgia "is in a dangerous position" in terms of virus trends.

The Georgia COVID spread comes as the pandemic is worsening across the nation, with the Thanksgiving holidays only a few days away. With colder weather and holiday festivities, experts say, COVID cases may continue to surge.

The latest report from the White House coronavirus task force says that "there is now aggressive, unrelenting, expanding broad community spread across the country, reaching most counties, without evidence of improvement but rather, further deterioration. Current mitigation efforts are inadequate and must be increased to flatten the curve to sustain the health system for both COVID and non-COVID emergencies," according to CNN.

Some states are halting phased reopening plans or creating new virus-related restrictions. Several are putting limits on social gatherings, adding states to travel quarantine lists, mandating face masks and encouraging residents to stay home, as many did in the spring, USA Today reported. Others are restricting businesses' hours of operation and tightening rules on how many people can be in restaurants.

The newspaper reported that 36 states — plus the District of



Columbia and Puerto Rico — now require everyone within their borders to wear face coverings in public, according to a list maintained by AARP. Iowa, Utah and North Dakota joined the list in recent days, and Maine, Ohio and West Virginia strengthened their mandates last week.

Gov. Kemp, while encouraging mask use, has not issued such a mandate for Georgia.

'A new wave'

The state's COVID-19 report still lists people who test positive for the coronavirus through PCR tests separately from people who test positive through rapid antigen tests.

But because antigen tests are faster and cheaper, they may be more practical for large numbers of people than PCR tests, experts say. Other Southeastern states report the rapid test results as part of their cumulative infection totals.

Georgia Public Health reported Tuesday that from Nov. 9-16, the seven-day average of new cases reported increased 22.7%. The statewide percent positivity (7-day moving average) for PCR tests increased from 6.9% on Nov. 9 to 8.3% on Nov. 16.

Daily hospitalizations for COVID-19 have increased 10.6% to 1,697 on Nov. 16, but are far lower than the daily high of 3,200 reached July 30.

Thompson said Tuesday that Georgia has "a rising curve of people currently hospitalized with COVID-19. Our hospitals, especially in rural areas, will soon be stressed."

"It is time for our governor and our Department of Public Health to follow the lead of other Republican states like North Dakota and Iowa, and call for a mask mandate and additional restrictions on social distancing in this perilous time leading up to Thanksgiving," she



said. "We want Georgians to share thanks, not COVID-19."

Grady Health System CEO John Hauptert told WABE that "we actually in the Atlanta metro and at Grady have begun to see the beginnings of a new wave."

The steady increase in COVID-19 hospitalizations, Hauptert said, has been happening more slowly in Georgia than in most of the country.

But Hauptert worries that cooler weather and the coming holiday

season will fuel the pandemic, especially if people don't take the advice of public health experts on how to celebrate safely.

"Everyone wants to hug each other. Everyone wants to be together, but you just can't do that," he told WABE. "There is the potential, to me, for Thanksgiving and Christmas to create greater spread if people don't follow the rules."

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

Support Groups

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

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

548-7849 for more information.

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

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

-The Georgia Chapter of the

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

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

-The Georgia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program seeks to improve the quality of life for residents of long-term care facilities. For more information, call Linda Ann Daniel at 1-866-565-8213 or 706-272-2158.

-The Alzheimer's Association's Caring Closet was created to help offset the high cost of incontinent products and give the families support they often desperately need. If you would like to visit the nearest Closet, call the chapter office to receive a flier with locations and hours. Morning Pointe in Calhoun has a Caring Closet; call Mary Braden at 706-629-0777.

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

-Are you interested in losing pounds and inches? Join TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) for support and how-to information. Meetings are on Monday nights. Weigh-ins begin at 6 p.m., and group support and information starts at 7 p.m. at the Gordon County Senior Citizens Center, 150 Cambridge Court, Calhoun. For more information, call 706-847-3306.

-Community volunteers are needed at Countryside Hospice Care, where the

mission is to promote comfort and dignity at the end of life. The agency covers 26 Northwest Georgia counties between three offices in LaFayette, Rome, and Newnan. If you would like to participate in this rewarding program, call 706-638-7651 or 1-800-660-7381.

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

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

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

-The Compassionate Friends of Dalton and N.W. Georgia is part of a worldwide effort that has helped many families cope with the loss of a child and to honor our children's memory. The Compassionate Friends meets on the third Thursday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at Evangelical Methodist Church (in the "Gathering Place" building), 1035 Abutment Road, Dalton (on the hill behind the old Lowe's off Walnut Avenue). For more information, call Dawn at 706-277-3312 or 706-264-4458 or e-mail dawnsisson@msn.com.

-SING (Surviving Infidelity Necessary to your Growth) has formed here. If you are experiencing difficulty in marriage and are looking for ways to survive, then you should come and be part of these meetings designed to help, encourage, and solve issues in a marriage that can lead to a promising future ahead for the entire family. For more information, call Iroka Moore at 706-629-2880.

Anna Shaw Children's Institute offering 'Coping with COVID-19 Webinar Series' on Thursday

Coping with COVID-19 Webinar Series

Staying Healthy During a Viral Pandemic: Tips for Mind and Body

Thursday, November 19 1-2pm



HAMILTON MEDICAL

The Anna Shaw Children's Institute (ASCI) will host a free webinar titled "Staying Healthy During a Viral Pandemic: Tips for Mind and Body" on

Thursday, Nov. 19 from 1 to 2 p.m. The presenters will be Nancy Carnevale, MD, and Emily Brandt, MD, both developmental pediatricians for ASCI. To register, visit HamiltonHealth.com/asciwebinar or HamiltonHealth.com/asciwebinar.

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ONE FOCUS: *you*



Education

Calhoun City Schools' Board of Education recognizes Calhoun Police Department

CONTRIBUTED

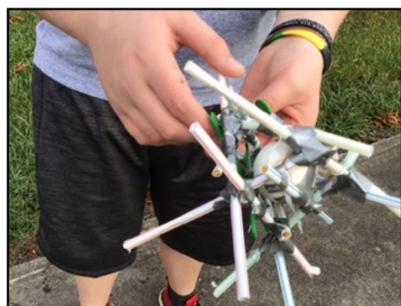
The Calhoun City Schools' Board of Education met Monday, November 16th at the Board Offices on North Wall Street. Maddie Beth and Nora Kate Gullede, both students at Calhoun Primary and Elementary Schools offered the Pledge of Allegiance and thanked all Veterans for their service to our country. Superintendent Dr. Michele Taylor commended Calhoun Police Chief Tony Pyle and Commander Ken Carson for their phenomenal support of the schools. Facilities Director Tom Griffith gave an update on the construction progress of the Early Learning Academy on Barrett Road, scheduled to be completed in the fall of

2022. Chief Finance Officer Dee Wrisley shared the financial report and highlighted the Education SPLOST projects and needs. A School Calendar Survey was sent to all parents last month and a review of survey feedback was shared. Dr. Taylor shared that a calendar committee will be formed with representation from school governance teams. The committee will meet in December to review survey data and draft optional calendars for the Board to review. School and departmental reports were shared. Dr. Coombe, Calhoun High School principal, highlighted the Class of 2020, who is the first class to have all of their students graduate with a 4 year cohort graduation rate of 100%. The only new business brought before the



Board of Education was the approval of a metal building at the complex to house a large school nutrition backup freezer Board of Education will resolution with Gordon that will be used in the be Monday, December County Schools for the Early Learning Academy. 14th and will include upcoming Education The next meeting of the the approval of a joint SPLOST.

Ashworth students participate in egg drop



CONTRIBUTED

Ashworth Middle School students in Mr. Langston's class recently competed in an egg drop competition. Students

were asked to design a structure that would protect an egg from impact shock using limited resources. Using STEM skills, all the students were able to create a

device that saved the egg from a 6ft drop. The winners, Myriam Perez and Michelle Cardoza, designed a device that saved the egg from a 12 foot drop.

Calhoun students prepare for the future

CONTRIBUTED

On Tuesday, November 10th, sixty students from Calhoun Middle and High School had the opportunity to participate in a seminar about overcoming obstacles in life, personal leadership development and preparing for college and career success. The morning session was targeted towards younger students in 8th and 9th grades, with an afternoon session for 10th-12th grade students. Mr. Joseph Goble, Human Resources Director at Advanced Digital Cable, Inc. in Blairsville, Georgia, was the speaker. He also serves as a leadership guru on John C. Maxwell's "Five Levels

of Leadership". Mr. Goble used anecdotes and other true stories from his life to relate to students, encouraging them to think about their futures and the successes they want to have, and the steps required to reach their goals. Mr. Goble was invited and sponsored by a Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education mini-grant received by Calhoun High School and the Gordon County Chamber of Commerce. Senior Cecilia Banda and junior Carmen Massie attended the event and summed up the seminar by stating that they learned, "Every action has a consequence, but hard work pays off eventually."



Pictured, 10th-12th grade students enjoyed hearing about overcoming obstacles and strategies for being successful in life. (CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

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

GEORGIA NORTHWESTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Georgia Northwestern Technical College's (GNTC) Fall Commencement Ceremony will be held in Dalton at the Whitfield Murray Campus as a drive-thru ceremony on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 5 p.m.

Fall semester GNTC graduates from all six campuses 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 once again hold a drive-thru graduation on December 3," said GNTC

President Dr. Heidi Popham. "The safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff remains our top priority."

GNTC graduates will receive 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 Fall 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. For more information about GNTC, visit us at www.GNTC.edu. GNTC is a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia and an Equal Opportunity Institution.



Dalton State graduation climbs despite pandemic

DALTON STATE COLLEGE

Dalton State's graduation rate continues to climb, up 8.4%, even through the pandemic and a slight dip in enrollment. And the college is on track to award more degrees than ever this year compared to previous years.

"We knew this would be a tough year because of the disruption caused by the coronavirus," said Dr. Margaret Venable, president of the college. "But our increase in the graduation rate and the total number of degrees we are awarding show the hard work and dedication of our students, as well as our faculty and staff. The number of graduates has increased steadily over the last decade, and the number of baccalaureate degrees has increased during that time by 128%."

The increases in the graduation rate and number of degrees awarded are expected to continue as the college focuses efforts on student retention and completion. A \$2.16 million Title V grant awarded to the college last year has been used to improve areas directly impacting student success, such as tutoring and advising.

Also, the college offers a variety of degrees to fulfill workforce needs, such as in health care, chemistry, engineering

technology, sustainability, logistics and supply chain management and education.

"The success we're seeing is due to these efforts," said Dr. Jodi Johnson, vice president for Student Affairs and Enrollment Services. "We want our students to do well and find employment in their field following graduation. More than half of our students are among the first in their families to attend college; they need a little extra support to succeed. We engage them early and encourage them to participate in high impact practices that help make meaningful connections and keep them on track for graduation."

Dalton State saw a decline of 3.4% in enrollment this fall, which follows a trend among state colleges in the University System of Georgia (USG), according to numbers released by the USG this week.

"We anticipated the dip in enrollment," Johnson said. "A lot of students have delayed entering college due to the pandemic. Plus, college enrollment was already trending downward nationwide before the pandemic hit. It is a hard time for many right now. Our students have other commitments, such as caring for family members, that have impacted their decision to attend college."

"We are getting creative with our efforts to reach current and potential students and



help them connect with the college," she said. "For example, we recently hosted a drive-through tour and drive-in movie night. We have started hosting in-person tours again. And all 26 institutions in the USG, which includes Dalton State, have waived the ACT/SAT test requirements through at least the end of 2021."

Even with the dip in enrollment, Dalton State's Hispanic student population continues to rise, up 2% from last year to 33%. Dalton State is Georgia's first and

only Hispanic-Serving Institution, a federal designation achieved when the Hispanic student population at the college reached 25% in 2018.

The dual enrollment population also remains steady. The dual enrollment program allows high school students to take college courses that count toward college credit and a high school diploma at no cost to them. This means students can graduate college earlier and spend less money doing so.

How two of GHC's more popular programs make classes safe and effective for in-person instruction

GEORGIA HIGHLANDS

College classes look a lot different than a year ago due to COVID-19, but thanks to attentive, caring faculty members at Georgia Highlands College, students remain on-track toward graduation. Two of GHC's more popular programs, nursing and dental hygiene, continue to take a multi-pronged approach.

Faculty and staff in health sciences have expanded elements of instruction virtually while also creating a safer in-person classroom experience.

From the implementation of increased personal protective equipment (PPE) to online clinical simulation programs, GHC is ensuring nursing and dental hygiene students will have the skills and experience necessary to begin successful careers in healthcare upon graduation.

Extra Protection

GHC's overall campus guidelines include wearing a mask, remaining six feet apart, and cleaning work surfaces regularly. More on that can be found at chargeahead.highlands.edu

Even so, sometimes classes may require "close contact" scenarios to ensure students are able to practice and learn the skills component or hands-on portion of a particular course, like certain labs taken by dental hygiene students.

"The nature of skills courses requires close contact, so students and faculty are required to wear a level 2 surgical mask at all times," Director of Dental Hygiene Regina Gupta said.

Additionally, added personal protective equipment is always worn in labs and clinical settings; students are assigned to one workstation for the entire semester in lab activities; and increased sanitizing of the work area occurs at each session.

"Our program has always strictly implemented guidelines for infection control, and added PPE is the biggest change," Gupta said. "This is the first time we have mandated the use of N95 masks for aerosol-producing activities."

Both the dental hygiene and nursing programs abide by all CDC guidelines, including the use of personal protective equipment and the sanitization of workstations, working to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The dental hygiene program also continues to provide patient services and has also purchased additional personal protective equipment, including N95 masks and full-face shields. In addition, the program follows all Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Occupational Health and Safety Act and Georgia Board of Dentistry guidelines, which includes screening all students, faculty, staff and patients who enter the Heritage Hall building.

Gupta added that additional technology and online methods created by faculty have also played a big part in teaching students during the pandemic.

New Technology

On top of utilizing some remote instruction measures for teaching courses like Nursing Theory through video conferencing programs, new online clinical simulation programs have set the standard for moving forward at GHC and allows students to simulate real-world interactions with patients.

"These simulation programs have been a huge success and we are going to continue to use them," Dean of Health Sciences Michelle Boyce said. "Faculty have also created some online methods to evaluate clinical scenarios."

The nursing program utilizes several different modalities for simulation. For the highest level of simulation, known as High Fidelity Simulation, the program incorporates a computer-aided mannequin to mimic a variety of real-life patient scenarios.

"These mannequins have pulses, lung sounds and voice responses," Assistant Director of Nursing Shea Walker said. "They can be adjusted to react to the different responses the students make based on the clinical scenario."

The program has also incorporated the use of simulated charting and case study software, allowing students to answer questions and document in a client chart based on a specific patient scenario. Students then assess the



patient, examine and listen to heart and lung sounds, and perform a full assessment in the virtual world.

"The use of virtual simulation provides students the opportunity to use clinical judgment and apply knowledge they have gained in the classroom to a clinical situation," Walker said. "This virtual simulation allows the opportunity to mimic face-to-face clinical situations, and students can perfect the skill of making appropriate decisions and obtaining pertinent clinical data through the use of these products."

Walker said students benefit from virtual simulation training in many ways, with high fidelity simulation filling in the gaps of hands-on tasks and allowing the student to complete skills such as IV insertion while utilizing clinical judgment.

"In this new COVID environment, students still have the opportunity to practice their skills and hone the art of making clinical decisions in a safe environment," Walker said. "Key clinical skills are still practiced and perfected in these virtual worlds and the students are prepared to care for clients once in the hospital setting."

Career Atmosphere

The strict implementation of guidelines

for infection control and the use of new technology is all part of the job when you graduate and begin working in the field, GHC's health sciences faculty explained. And many of the changes faced by working health sciences careers today may become the new standard of operation.

Gupta explained that just in the dentistry field it appears "many of these PPE changes are here to stay."

"So, whatever we are doing in our students' professional training should continue to match what will be needed in the practice of dental hygiene when they are employed as hygienists," Gupta added.

Gearing students for careers after graduation remains a chief mission among all programs at GHC, which means faculty have continued to adapt curriculum to be safer for in-person instruction; include the use of new technology; and to reflect what students are expected to know when they enter the workforce.

Visit chargeahead.highlands.edu for more information about classes, campus guidelines and how GHC is continuing to make classes safe and effective for in-person instruction.

The deadline to apply for spring semester is December 15. Classes begin in January. Apply at highlands.edu

OBITUARIES

From page 3A

Ashley Sanders

Ashley Louise Sanders, 23, of Rockmart, Georgia formerly of Adairsville, Georgia passed away Sunday, November 15, 2020, at Floyd Medical Center. She was born in Cartersville, Georgia, May 20, 1997.



Survived by her parents, Timmy and Gloria Sanders; sisters, Megan and Jacin Gray, and Kasey and Mike Brown; brother, Aaron and Kim Epps; grandmothers, Louise W. Sanders and Robbie Hilliard; biological mother, Traci Hilliard. As well as nieces, nephews, and numerous family and friends who she loved dearly.

She was preceded in death by her Aunt Carla Lanier and grandfathers, Harold Sanders and Charles Hilliard.

Ashley was a 2015 graduate of Rockmart High School. She never met a stranger and loved to sing. She was always willing to help others and had a very giving heart. She was a loving daughter, sister, granddaughter, aunt, and niece. Her loving and caring personality will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

A celebration of Ashley's Life will be held

Tuesday, November 17, 2020, at 3:00 PM from the chapel of Barton Funeral Home with Rev. Andrew Hight officiating. Interment will follow in Towes Chapel Cemetery, Adairsville. Pallbearers include Timmy Sanders, Aaron Epps, David Lanier, Brad Lanier, Cody Ellis, and Sam Parker.

The family will receive friends Tuesday from 2:00 PM until 3:00 PM at Barton Funeral Home.

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

R. Dudley Barton & Son Funeral Home, Adairsville, is in charge of funeral arrangements for Ashley Louise Sanders.

Barton Funeral Home

Danny Thomas

Danny Paul Thomas, 49, of Calhoun died Saturday, November 14, 2020. Danny was born in Atlanta on March 13, 1971. His mother, Dorothy Kyle Thomas, preceded him in death. Danny was a 1990 graduate of Red Bud High School. He worked as a foreman for the Georgia Department of Transportation. He was a member of Riverview Baptist Church. He had been



a member of the Pine Chapel Lodge F&AM.

Danny is survived by his loving wife of thirty-one years, Carol Thomas; his father, Paul "Shorty" Thomas; his children, Brianna Thomas and her fiancée, Jeremy Tidwell, and Bryan Thomas; grandchildren, Ellie, Atticus, Leon, and Flynn; his siblings, Brenda (Robert) Watkins, John (Lisa) Thomas, Lee (Donna) Thomas, Tawanna (Terry) Collins, Andy (Natalie) Thomas; his father-in-law, James C. Whitfield; his sister-in-law, Brandy Whitfield; several nieces, nephews, and other family members.

The family will receive friends Monday, November 16, 2020 at Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home between the hours of 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM. The funeral service will follow the visitation at 6:00 PM in the Chapel of Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home.

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

The family suggests that memorials be made to Danny's wife, Carol, to help with the many unexpected expenses that have been incurred throughout his illness.

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of Danny P. Thomas.



ARREST

From page 1A

that the vehicle that hit her was a red F-150 and the driver was a white male with a beard. By that time, another officer had located the truck and initiated a traffic stop on Curtis Parkway.

The officer reviewed footage from a surveillance camera at a local business, which showed the collision. According to the report, the officer observed a white male get out of the red Ford F-150 and approach the other vehicle involved in the wreck. The other vehicle then pulled forward to get out of the roadway. The man, later identified as Adam Jason Medlin, 44, of Greeson Road, Resaca, got back into the driver seat of the truck and left the scene.

About 10 minutes after fleeing the scene, Medlin was pulled over on Curtis Parkway near the area

of Professional Court. According to the report, the officer who pulled him over after noticing the truck had a brake light out. The officer approached Medlin and asked him if he was in the area of Calhoun City Hall just prior to being pulled over, and Medlin told him "no." Medlin told the officer he had just got off from work in Rome. The officer asked Medlin where he worked, and Medlin paused, then began apologizing and told the officer he was the driver involved in the hit-and-run, saying he panicked after striking the other vehicle and left the scene. The officer asked him why he left, and Medlin told him he was scared. The officer ran Medlin's information through dispatch, which came back as having an outstanding warrant out of Gordon County for probation violation (possession of methamphetamine). When the officer advised Medlin he had an outstanding warrant, Medlin said that was the reason he left the scene. The officer noticed Medlin had blood-shot eyes and he had an

odor of alcohol coming from his person. When asked if he'd had any alcoholic drinks, Medlin told the officer he'd had nothing since the night before.

Medlin then agreed to perform a Standardized Field Sobriety Test to determine if he was under the influence of alcohol or drugs. The report notes Medlin lacked smooth pursuit in both eyes, could not balance during instructions, and swayed two inches front to back during particular instructions, among others. The report also notes that Medlin had constricted pupils at all times during all exams.

Medlin was then handcuffed and read the Georgia Implied Consent, which he refused. Medlin's truck was then searched for drugs or alcohol, and a bottle of Vodka was found, just under half-full. Medlin was booked into Gordon County Jail without incident, and charged with: Hit and Run, Following Too Closely, DUI, Open Container, Driver to Exercise Due Care and Warrant Served. He remained in Gordon County Jail at press time Wednesday morning.

GCS

From page 2A

and Mrs. Tuttolomondo were recognized by the Gordon County Board of Education during its November meeting for their partnership as the recipients of the district's Community Connections Award. Presenting the award were members of the district's student services team who work most closely in identifying homeless students- Mr. Mike Evelt, executive director of student services, and social workers Georgette Hunt and Jesse Calderon. "Even in the midst of these unprecedented times, we can always find reasons to be thankful. In student services, opportunities abound to make a difference in the lives of our most at-risk students and families. We are grateful for the partnership we share with Joe and Elaine Tuttolomondo," said Evelt. Mr. and Mrs. Tuttolomondo graciously accepted the award with the hope that their efforts would be replicated by others in the community. If you or someone you know is interested in following the example of the Tuttolomondos, please contact the Gordon County Schools' homeless liaison, Jesse Calderon, at 706-879-5081.

COH

From page 1A

"Since we're not able to have Santa during Christmas Open House as we normally do, we will have Santa and Mrs. Claus riding around on a golf cart. There will be letters available to write letters to Santa at a station near the entertainment on Court Street and Wall Street. There will be a mailbox for the children to put their letters to Santa in," said Roberts.

This year, the City has put up additional décor to add a more festive touch to the season with garland and bows on the light poles around the area, which feature Christmas-themed banners that feature photos from landmarks around the city. There are around 70 light poles that have the décor, which was planned last year and is being implemented this year. Also, the beautiful Christmas tree in front of the Calhoun Police Department will have lights as well, and the BB&T Park tree will also have lights.

We've all heard the term "buy local." It is promoted throughout the small business landscape and celebrated by consumers on social media platforms around the nation. Small business directly represents our community, and the health of small business is a direct reflection of the overall well-being of a community. These small businesses are the ones who support little league teams, buy chocolates and wrapping paper from student's and give money to a fundraiser for a community member fighting cancer. It's important to support local business,

especially in a year where so many have lost revenues due to the COVID pandemic.

Roberts said that it's important for the public to remember the local, community-based retail shops this year now more than ever.

"It's very important for people to shop local this year because there is small businesses that need the support, having lost business due to the pandemic this year," said Roberts.

Roberts said that the local retail establishments participating in Christmas Open House have been encouraged to take extra safety precautions on Sunday, including encouraging people to wear masks indoors in small spaces and to sanitize properly.

Beginning on Saturday, Nov. 21, the GEM will host three free screenings of the popular Christmas movie "The Polar Express," which will carry over to Sunday's Open House. The movie is FREE ADMISSION, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a ticket is required as there will be limited seating due to the social distancing measures implementing. Only 35 percent of the GEM can be occupied, which is 160 tickets per event. People are placed every other row, with seats between groups. Show times are Saturday, Sept. 21, at 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and again on Sunday, Sept. 22, at 7 p.m.

The Gordon County Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Development Authority encourages the community to spend locally as you shop for goods and services this holiday season, and there's no better way to do that than to be downtown this Sunday, Nov. 22 for Christmas Open House.

UNITY RUN

From page 1A

road, on the trail, on the treadmill or at the gym, and can run their own race, at you're their own pace and when it is convenient for them within the time frame of Nov. 23 - Dec. 7.

The United Way of Gordon County will also have two routes mapped out at the Gordon County Recreation Department and the Calhoun City Recreation Department for the participant's convenience.

Also new is that Unity Run organizers are not timing or submitting race times this year - it will be more of a fun-run instead of a competitive race. There will be awards, and categories will be announced soon.

Engineered Floors completed the design for this year's

Unity Run.

The following categories will be awarded this year:

- Farthest participant from Calhoun
- Most unique race route
- Most creative outfit when running!

To be entered for the awards, use the hashtag #UnityRun2020 during the race.

Register to participate in this year's Unity Run online at gordoncountyunitedway.org/unity-run.

The Unity Run, held each fall, is the kick-off for the Gordon County United Way's fundraising campaign.

This year's sponsors of the Virtual Unity Run include: Platinum Level: Advent Health, Engineered Floors, Shaw Industries Inc.,

Gold Level: Chick-Fil-A, Hamilton Health Care System, Nourison Industries, Synovus Bank

Silver Level: Kent Chapman State Farm Agency and

Mannington Commercial

Bronze Level: Georgia Northwestern Technical College, Moman Construction, Gordon County Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Development, Hayes Plumbing and Electrical

This year's United Way of Gordon County fundraising goal is \$750,000, and at this time, the agency is at 43 percent of the goal

United Way of Gordon County fights for every person in the Calhoun-Gordon County, focusing on education, financial stability and health, the building blocks for a good life and a strong community. United Way improves the lives of over 60,000 individuals and families in Gordon County each year. Learn more about United Way of Gordon County online at www.gordoncountyunitedway.org.

CPD

From page 1A

systems are designed with all occupants being buckled," Governor's Office of Highway Safety Director Allen Poole said. "With the increase in speeding we have seen on our roads during the pandemic this year, it is important to make sure that

everyone in your vehicle, especially children, are properly buckled."

While many families may be staying at home during this holiday season due to the pandemic, (agency name) and the Governor's Office of Highway Safety offer these safety reminders:

1. Make sure your tires are safe for the road and have vehicle serviced if needed.
2. Be patient and allow extra time for your trip.

3. Do not try to make up time by speeding.

4. Make sure everyone is wearing a seat belt before getting on the road.

5. Avoid distractions like phones, conversations, eating and grooming.

6. Take breaks when tired and alternate driving on long trips

7. Never get behind the wheel when under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.



Michelle Little, DO
Family Medicine

Jennifer Smith, FNP-C
Family Medicine

Justin Hare, DO
Neurosurgery and Spine

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