



Area seniors take part in Make-A-Wish All-Star Game

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USA WEEK

THINKSMART: Spring dining bargains. These green cars are red-hot.

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Inside

Top 25 kitchen fixes of all time

THE SUNDAY CITIZEN

Sunday, March 15, 2009 • Dalton, Georgia • www.daltondailycitizen.com • \$1.25

3 THINGS TO CHECK OUT ON THE INSIDE

Readers fondly remember places that have disappeared from the Dalton landscape

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The coaching staff at the new North Murray High School is complete.

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If you're wanting to take a low-cost vacation and not have to travel far, try Nashville.

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FROM TODAY'S FORUM

"I go the Tunnel Hill Barber Shop a lot and we just love those boys who hang around there. It's one of the last places you can go and hear all the little secrets."

"C'mon people, there's a yield sign before you get on and before you get off the Bypass. Please yield."

Call 707-272-7748

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WEATHER

Forecast: Showers
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Homeless in Dalton

Population on the rise



MISTY WATSON/The Daily Citizen

Wilbert Waller is hoping benefits checks from the Veterans Administration will help him get the therapy he needs after he suffered a stroke recently while he was homeless. He is staying at a local ministry now.

BY MARK MILLICAN
markmillican@daltoncitizen.com

When Wilbert Waller had an appointment at the Department of Family and Children Services on North Thornton Avenue, he walked from his "home" — a homeless encampment on the northeast side of town — no matter the weather.

But a stroke stopped his treks for food stamps and other visits five weeks ago.

"I wouldn't accept a ride," the Army veteran said. "Not when I could walk. I had to do it myself. I'm used to doing stuff for myself — I don't want to depend on nobody."

Susan Landon, a case worker at DFACS who helps determine a clients' eligibility for food stamps and Medicaid, con-



MATT HAMILTON/The Daily Citizen

Several tents comprise this community south of downtown Dalton off Elk Street.

firmed that Waller, 61, would not accept a taxi ride even if the weather was raw.

"He's very proud and independent," she said of the Vietnam-era vet.

But one morning Waller woke up inside his tent and couldn't move his left leg. He asked his fellow campers to call 911 and get him to the hospital.

"I don't know how he ended up at Gordon Hospital," Landon said, "but the doctor there said he needed therapy, and that there was a six- to eight-week window (after the stroke) that he needed to get that

therapy to retain mobility in his legs. But I've called and called, and no rehab facility will take him without insurance or income. There's just so much red tape — that's my beef."

Although Waller's release papers say he got out of the military in the early 1970s, he had never known he could get veterans benefits. That's why Landon felt she finally found a ray of hope for Waller when she contacted the local Veterans Administration office.

"Hopefully, he'll be able to start drawing benefits, and we can get that therapy for him before it's too late," she said.

Judy Johnson, manager of the VA office in Whitfield County, confirmed that a medical benefits check for Waller should be on the way "very soon."

Waller has found temporary housing, and it's a lot better than living in the woods, he said.

"During cold weather if we built a fire during the day, the people in the houses called the fire department and said the woods were on fire," he said. "We had to wait until night to build a fire in the burn barrel so they couldn't see the smoke."

For others among Dalton's homeless population, the future is not as bright. Just south of downtown at another "tent city," several inhabitants spoke of the lack of work in town. "Pappy" Perry is one of the "elders" at the homeless site.

"I pretty much don't have anywhere else to stay," he said. "I can't afford rent and I'm disabled. I'm trying to get an ID together so I can get some (disability) checks started. I've been living on the streets for almost 20 years."

There is no electricity or running water at the bivouac site,



MATT HAMILTON/The Daily Citizen

A "tent city" south of downtown Dalton is filled with unemployed and disabled residents who wait for Friday's rain to move in.

> Please see HOMELESS, 3A

'Resign or be terminated'

Records trace Dobson's exit from public works

BY JAMIE JONES
jamiejones@daltoncitizen.com

Doyle Dobson wrote in a self-performance review he hoped to be a part of the Whitfield County public works department for the next 12 years.

"I will not reach retirement age until then, and I am concerned, and dedicated to this community, and this County and I hope that my participation will help ensure a safe and attractive place to live and work within these county borders," Dobson, then public

> Please see DOBSON, 3A

Marines form bonding league

BY RACHEL BROWN
rachelbrown@daltoncitizen.com

Matt Farrell still has the Marine-issue combat boots he wore in Vietnam in 1966-67.

"I just keep them," he said. "It's just a reminder."

The "Once a Marine, always a Marine" mentality is one reason the Dalton Marine Corps League formed, he said. Farrell is the detachment's commandant.

The group formed in June as a way for former and active Marines to bond with each other and serve the community, members said. They served more than 500 area families with a

> Please see LEAGUE, 7A



MATT HAMILTON/The Daily Citizen

Junior vice commandant Kelly Johnson presents a flag that flew over the Capitol to detachment commandant Matt Farrell at Dalton State College Saturday morning.



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2A Sunday, March 15, 2009

TODAY'S FORUM

Editor's note: Please keep your comments as brief as possible. Get to the point! Longer comments should be submitted as letters to the editor. If you include a name, please spell it. Call (706) 272-7748 to reach Today's Forum.

"I'm sure the roundabout will be nice, but what's happened to the traffic light at Cleveland Highway and Black Oak Drive that we were to get from the 2007 SPLOST?"

"There is no disciplining your kids anymore because teachers are sticking their nose in your business. They need to worry about teaching and not discipline."

"Can someone explain how a full-time teacher who teaches three classes and gets one planning period can save the system money over having two part-time teachers who each would teach two full classes."

"We are mourning the loss of a beloved old friend who recently passed away. His name was common sense."

"Brian Anderson, our Chamber of Commerce president, had to go all the way to Washington to remind our representatives that Dalton was still on the map."

"I would rather dodge the potholes on Airport Road than bounce across the lily pads the road department put down."

"Are we losing teachers because of budget cutbacks. This is a disgrace. Our children are our future. Cut elected officials' salaries. Their pay is too high anyway."

"Bill Shipp's column is a waste of space. He's like a foaming, rabid dog, spewing off at the mouth."

"Whoever picks out our comments for the forum doesn't like to put any negative comments about our president. I think we have the biggest bunch of liars, tax cheaters and known associates of terrorist groups in the White House that I've ever seen."

"Only one of five dollars in the lottery goes to the schools. And that can only be spent for certain things like computers and fencing and surveillance cameras, things that Georgia businesses who support the lottery can benefit from. How about printing some of these truths?"

Editor: Wrong. The Georgia Lottery for Education Act and the state constitution direct lottery revenues be spent on tuition grants, scholarships or

loans to undergraduate college students and teachers who seek advanced degrees in critical areas of need; and to voluntary prekindergarten programs. The capital outlay spending (fencing, cameras) ended in 2003.

"Amen to the Realtors' signs at the intersection of Westbrook Road and Cleveland Highway. It is very dangerous."

"The school system should just not have school at all on the days they now have early checkout. It's a complete waste."

"People, please e-mail the city council and mayor to pass an ordinance that takes the license away from businesses who hire illegals. That would get jobs back for Americans."

"I just heard Obama talk about the economy. Unfortunately, it was very long on rhetoric and short on substance."

"With all of today's concerns about public education, people should read articles by John Taylor Gatto. It's informative, but frightening."

"Congratulations to Northwest's Baleigh Coley for being Athlete of the Week."

"Thanks to whoever mailed me the papers I left in the copying machine at the post office."

"The Dalton State College Police Department needs to be more proactive and write some tickets on College Drive."

"I read the forum every day and I agree with Jimmy Espy's ideas on U.S. policy on illegal aliens. He's a very reasonable man."

Editor: And so are you.

"Deadline for filing for a 70 or over tax exception is April 1."

"The Hispanics, legal and illegal, would not have all of the entry level jobs had the school board put Spanish in the classrooms years ago."

"Everybody with a court-appointed lawyer is not necessarily a low life and they are not necessarily guilty."

"C'mon people, there's a yield sign before you get on and before you get off the Bypass. Please yield."

"The Whitfield County Board of Education might want to reduce the number of assistant superintendents."

"North Georgia Electric

LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS — FOR MARCH 14
Georgia: Midday Cash 3: 9-0-0, Cash 4: 3-1-2-2, Evening Cash 3: 0-7-3, Win for Life: 5-8-9-29-40-42 Free Ball: 16
Tennessee: Midday Cash 3: 3-9-6, Lucky Sum: 18; Cash 4: 2-4-8-0 Lucky Sum: 14; Evening Cash 3: 1-9-9, Cash 4: 4-6-8-0

County expected to vote on gas tank zoning Monday

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Members of the Whitfield County Board of Commissioners are expected to vote on a controversial rezoning on North Tibbs Road during their meeting Monday at 6 p.m..

Stan Watkins, owner of U.S.A. Gas, wants the county to rezone 3.65 acres at 815 N. Tibbs Road from general commercial to light manufacturing. Last month, the Dalton-Whitfield Planning Commission voted 4-0 not to recommend that the board of commissioners approve the rezoning. Whitfield County zoning staff does not support

the rezoning.

At the center of the dispute is U.S.A. Gas' 30,000-gallon liquid propane storage tank. The land's current zoning classification does not allow for storage tanks of that size. About 50 residents of nearby Rocky Face Estates attended a public hearing last month. Ten people spoke against the rezoning request, while Watkins and his attorney Greg Kinnamon spoke in favor of it.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be at Administrative Building No. 2 at the corner of King and Selvidge streets.

TODAY'S CITIZEN

NAME: Alicia Mabel
AGE: 32
HOME: Chatsworth
FAMILY: Husband, Chad; son, Jacob; daughter, Savannah
PLAY: Taking children to and from ball practice; riding horses.
SHE SAID: "John 3:16"



Rare Superman comic sells for \$317,200

NEW YORK (AP) — A rare copy of the first comic book featuring Superman has sold for \$317,200 in an Internet auction. The previous owner had bought it for less than a buck.

It's one of the highest prices ever paid for a comic book, a likely testament to the volume's rarity and its excellent condition, said Stephen Fishler, co-owner of the auction site ComicConnect.com and its sister dealership, Metropolis Collectibles.

The winning bid for the 1938 edition of Action Comics No. 1, which features Superman lifting a car on its cover, was submitted Friday evening by John Dolmayan, drummer for the rock band System of a Down, according to managers at ComicConnect.com.

Dolmayan, who is also a dealer of rare comic books, said he acquired the

Superman comic on behalf of a client he declined to identify.

"This is one of the premier books you could collect," he said in a telephone interview. "It's considered the Holy Grail of comic books. I talked to my client, and we made the move."

Dolmayan said the client has "a small collection, but everything he has is incredible."

Only about 100 copies of Action Comics No. 1 are known to exist and they seldom come up for sale.

"Maybe in a booming economy, it would have done a hundred grand more, but in this economy, I think the price is great," Fishler said.

The man who had previously owned the book purchased it in a secondhand store in the early 1950s when he was nine years old. He paid 35 cents.

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REWARD

Brett Andrew Thomason has been missing since Feb. 19, 2009. Last seen on the Conasauga River around 8:30 p.m. There is going to be a reward offered for the recovery of Brett Thomason.
Contact Sheriff's Office 706-278-1233 or 911

Westwood Elementary

Who: Parents interested in learning more about Westwood Elementary

What: Parent's Peek 2009 informational meeting and campus tour

Where: Westwood Elementary (708 Trammell Street)

When: Thursday, March 19, 2009 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

"Home of the Greatest Kids on Earth!"

For more information on Parent's Peek call 706-278-2809

Homeless: Help from public

> Continued from page 1A

which is supplied by a private property owner who has told the residents to keep it clean or move out. A shed has been erected with a wood-burning stove, and there is also a burn barrel. Two local citizens pay for the upkeep of a portable toilet behind the shed. A ministry nearby offers showers once a week and breakfast on Sunday.

"People drop off food to us sometimes," said Perry, 59. "How they find out we're down here I'll never know."

Eric Hudson, an inhabi-

HOMELESS — THE NUMBERS

The Homeless Point in Time count shows 145 homeless people in Whitfield County as of Jan. 25, 2007. The same time period showed 79 homeless people in Murray. In 2008, the number in Whitfield County had jumped to 1,704 people, but also included residents at several different ministries, mental health facilities, the jail and Department of Family and Children Services. The report cited 210 homeless school age children in the Dalton Public Schools system, and 526 school-age children in Whitfield County Schools. Belle Anne Butler of the Dalton-Whitfield Community Development Corp., which amasses the count, said a child could be considered homeless if he or she didn't spend two straight nights together in the same home. A 2008 count for Murray County was not provided.

tant in his 30s used a cane and shared that he had sciati-

ca and a ruptured disc in his back, said the men "hit restaurants" sometimes and asked for food, and the managers would give it to them. They also depend on various local ministries for meals.

"There's nothing here in Dalton to help anyone who's homeless," Hudson said.

Joseph King — whose wife and daughter live with him at the site — said he could work if given the chance.

"No one would hire me," he complained. "I can drive a Hyster and work on coaters (in carpet mills), but I have seizures and they're afraid I'll hurt myself or somebody else."

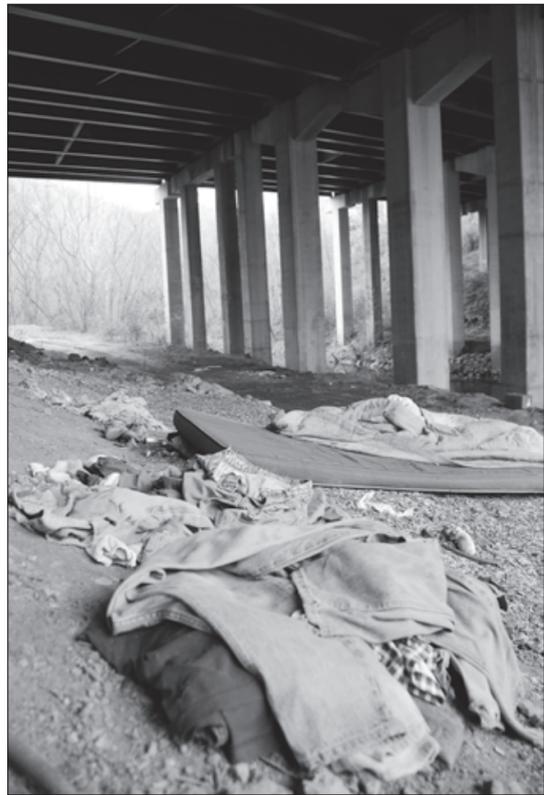
When asked how they handled winter temperatures that dipped into the teens, Hudson replied, "We throw on more cover."

There is a sense of family in the close-knit group.

"People invite me to come stay with them for awhile, but I always have to come back here," said Perry.

"I made a promise to (Perry's) wife before she died (of cirrhosis of the liver)," said King, "that I would take care of him."

King's wife, Charlotte, said she had stayed at the site for "three to four years." She was asked if she would prefer better living conditions



MATT HAMILTON/The Daily Citizen

A bivouac site for homeless people near Rocky Face includes sleeping bags, blankets, clothing, fire rags — and an overhead bridge for cover from the rain.



MISTY WATSON/The Daily Citizen

Martha Funk said she's had two tumors, a third of her intestine and an ovary removed during recent surgery, and has no place to stay except her car while she cannot work for six weeks.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR 'MEDICALLY INDIGENT'

Sheila Reed at Harvest Outreach Ministries puts her heart and soul into feeding the hungry — but she wants to do more. "We've got to let people know we need a facility in Dalton to house these (homeless) people," she said. "There's nowhere for them to go, and they're not going away." Reed said there is also a need for volunteers to be trained to work with "medically indigent" people in the community and help them find resources. She asked that willing volunteers call her at (706) 280-0883 or Carolyn Marcus at (706) 463-6134.

with access to running water and other domestic amenities.

"I can't really answer that," she said. "I haven't given that any thought."

She noted there was no homeless shelter for women in Dalton, but even if there was she would have a "yes and no" dilemma about staying there.

"Yes, I would like to get cleaned up and get out of the cold somewhat," she began, "but no, because I want to be here where my family is.

And I consider these other people my family even though we're not related."

"Just because we're homeless doesn't mean we're bad people," Perry said. "We're trying to exist just like everyone else. The hardest part is to have to ask for things."

Carolyn Marcus, a volunteer at Harvest Mission Outreach, was scouring a phone book on Wednesday morning looking for a place to stay for Martha Funk, a homeless woman who just

had surgery and can't work for six weeks. Funk had been staying in her car, parked on East Morris Street and crammed with clothes.

"I don't think anyone realizes how bad it is," Marcus said. "There needs to be a homeless facility in Dalton, especially for women."

Harvest provides meals but is not set up as a residential ministry, although they try to help homeless people find resources.

At Providence Ministries on South Hamilton Street, the doors are open to those in "immediate" situations.

"There's no charge for that," said program coordinator Brian Croft, "but it's for men only. If someone is trying to use us as a launching pad to get another place, it's \$75 a week."

Director Roy Johnson said the shelter's "been running pretty full, but Calhoun (ministry site) is not running as full as Dalton."

Dobson: Airport Road repairs figure into job dismissal

> Continued from page 1A

works director, wrote on the self-evaluation dated May 29, 2008.

He wouldn't last another year.

After more than 18 years with the department, Dobson resigned under pressure from county officials on March 3, just weeks after he received a written reprimand because he "knowingly made inaccurate or false statements to commissioner (Harold Brooker) and supervisor (county engineer Kent Benson)."

The Daily Citizen obtained the reprimand along with other papers from Dobson's personnel folder through an open records request this week. Dobson has not returned repeated phones from The Daily Citizen. County administrator Bob McLeod has declined to talk about Dobson's resignation because it involves personnel, he said.

The papers in Dobson's personnel file, however, tell part of the story.

On March 3, McLeod sent an e-mail to commissioners and three county officials regarding Dobson's employment. The e-mail subject: "Doyle's situation." Importance: "High."

That morning, McLeod and Benson had finished a meeting with Dobson

asked him to resign. In the e-mail, McLeod wrote that Dobson said he would resign and was to meet with human resources director Jackie Carlo to write a resignation letter.

"He was very upset, didn't write the letter and left the office and was taken home," McLeod wrote. "Jackie will contact him tomorrow and he will be given an opportunity to resign or be terminated. The termination has been signed and is ready if needed."

The termination letter wasn't needed. In a letter from Dobson dated March 6, he resigned effective March 3.

"Thank you for the opportunity to serve Whitfield County," Dobson wrote.

That termination letter remains in Dobson's personnel file. It outlines the reasons McLeod and Benson had for firing the longtime public works employee, including "failure to properly perform duties" and "insubordination."

The written reprimand stemmed from a disputed conversation between Brooker and Dobson about repair work on Airport Road.

On Jan. 16 — the day an article appeared in The Daily Citizen about numerous potholes on the road — Brooker went to the public works department and told Dobson

to begin patching the potholes with a hot mix asphalt instead of the cold patch the paving crew previously used. Dobson told Brooker he could not buy the hot mix asphalt because commissioners had not approved the annual bids for it and other materials. Brooker asked Dobson who told him he could not buy asphalt, and Dobson replied it was county finance director Ron Hale. Brooker then called McLeod in Dobson's presence to verify that statement. McLeod checked with Benson, Hale and accounting supervisor Melva Smith, who all said public works employees could buy any material as long as a quote was obtained. McLeod then sent an e-mail to commissioners summarizing the situation.

Work on Airport Road was completed Jan. 21. That morning, Dobson came to Benson's office "very upset" and said McLeod's e-mail was "untrue" and "in effect, it was making him out to be a liar," Benson wrote in the reprimand. Dobson told Benson a different version of his conversation with Brooker. Dobson said he told Brooker he could buy asphalt without quotes.

Benson spoke to Brooker that afternoon to discuss another project, and during the conversation the Airport Road work came up. Brooker told Benson about

his conversation with Dobson on Jan. 16 "exactly as Mr. McLeod did" to Benson.

Benson determined Dobson had "knowingly made inaccurate or false statements to a Commissioner and to me, his direct supervisor."

"Any further instance of Doyle making inaccurate or inappropriate statements to anyone regarding County business will result in his termination," Benson wrote.

On Feb. 19, Benson and Dobson met for a "verbal coaching" session. Benson outlined several instances that concerned him, including how Dobson handled a disciplinary problem with a public works department worker, Dobson's failure to quickly demolish a county-owned building on Glenwood Avenue and discussing his written reprimand with other employees.

Dobson's past work had been praised by his boss.

According to a perform-

ance evaluation dated Aug. 7, 2008, McLeod appeared to be pleased with Dobson. McLeod gave Dobson a 3.937 rating — with a 3 being "successful," a 5 being "exceptional," a 4 being "highly successful," a 2 being "inconsistent" and a 1 being "unsatisfactory." The evaluation covered Dobson's work from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. In the evaluation covering 66 categories, McLeod gave Dobson 20 exceptional ratings. McLeod lauded Dobson for his dependability, initiative, attitude, decision making and attendance, prompting McLeod to write, "Doyle doesn't take enough time off!"

McLeod gave Dobson two inconsistent ratings and zero unsatisfactory ratings. The inconsistent ratings were for relationships with customers/public and work place environment.

In summarizing his performance, McLeod acknowledged many of the obstacles his department faced.

"Doyle has one of the

most challenging jobs in the county government," McLeod wrote. "He has to deal with past sins and errors in putting together a management style fitting the situation."

Former county administrator Bradley Arnold completed Dobson's previous review in July 2005. In the evaluation, Arnold used terms such as "self-starter," "exceptionally dependable," "honest" and "reliable" in coming to a "meet expectations" review of Dobson's work from July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005. Arnold gave Dobson a 3.158 rating, with a 3 being a "meet expectations," a 1 being "substantially below expectations" and a 5 being "substantially exceeds expectations."

The county will not hire a new public works department director. McLeod said the duties and title of the position will be changed. Dobson's last salary was \$63,992. The public works department has more than 90 employees.

Career Academy career fair March 25

Area businesses will promote career opportunities to students building plans for their future during a career fair coming soon to the Whitfield County Career Academy.

The goal of the fair is to help students gather information about their career pathways as they plan for their future occupations, said Wendy Hanson, a counselor at the Career Academy.

"This activity will help our students make more informed career decisions as well as meet successful individuals in our community," Hanson said.

Presenters are encouraged to provide demonstrations

and hands-on activities for visitors to the fair, she said. They will answer questions about their career areas.

Hanson is inviting local employers who would like to participate in the career fair to register by calling the

Career Academy counseling office at (706) 876-3608 or by e-mailing her at wendy_hanson@whitfield.k12.ga.us. The registration deadline is Wednesday.

The fair is scheduled for March 25, from 9-11 a.m.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Daley did corruption the right way

To the editor:

I often read the comments about Illinois/Chicago politics in the forum and the various columnists on the editorial page and have come to the conclusion that most of these folks don't know what they're spouting off about.

Illinois/Chicago politics is no worse than the Southern "good ole boy" political system where the politicians tend to: ■ Forget where they came from once they get a taste of the money and the power and

■ Want to hog everything for themselves once the "good ole boy" degree has been conferred upon them.

In my opinion, former U.S. Sen. Trent Lott of Mississippi is a classic example of that type of politics. This man comes from the poorest state in the Union and thinks everybody in the working class has a "Beemer" parked in the driveway. He once commented that he would never vote to raise the national minimum wage because nobody works for that kind of money in the first place. He even retired from the Senate early to become a lobbyist the same year — thus avoiding the new regulation that stipulates a waiting period for retired Congresspersons wanting to do that now.

Many years ago there was a man in Illinois more powerful than the governor and the vice president of the United States. His name was Richard J. Daley Sr., mayor of Chicago.

The reason Daley was so popular and so powerful is because he never forgot that he came from "blue collar," and when he made a buck, everybody made a buck. The Daley political machine was good for Chicago and its people. I know, I lived it.

Don't kid yourself. The wheels get greased in politics all the time whether it's in Illinois, Atlanta or Washington, D.C. The grease is the same; it's only the methods of application that differ ever so slightly.

Richard A. Shanken
Rocky Face

Why celebrate Ag Days?

To the editor:

Where did your last meal come from? No, the answer is not the grocery store — it's just from where the food is distributed. Too many of us are unaware of the role of American agriculture and what it takes to have food on the dinner table.

Let's go to school for a few important facts about agriculture. Georgia farmers continue to supply safe and abundant food and agriculture is the largest industry in our state. Yes, agriculture is responsible for providing the necessities of life — food, fiber, clothing and shelter.

The American farmer is working harder than ever and it shows. Today, each American farmer feeds more than 144 people, and the need for food production is dramatic. Agriculture is this nation's No. 1 export and vitally important in sustaining a healthy economy.

Frankly, it's easy to take agriculture for granted in Georgia. Our food is readily accessible and safe. For this we're unbelievably fortunate, but that doesn't mean we don't have an obligation to recognize how it's made possible.

March 20, 2009 is National Ag Day, hosted by the Agriculture Council of America.

Ag Day is a good time to reflect — and be grateful for — American agriculture. Your local Whitfield County Farm Bureau recognizes and honors our local farmers and supporters.

Larry W. Thomas, director
Whitfield County Farm Bureau

Support for the arts appreciated

To the editor:

The Creative Arts Guild offers Art in Education programs to all schools in Whitfield County, Dalton, Murray County, Phoenix High School and the Youth Detention Center through the Jonas Foundation. It consists of all types of art from music to painting. To help fund this important program for the students, for six years a Spring for the Arts luncheon, fashion show and raffle have been held.

As co-chairmen, we want to thank all the volunteers, the sponsors, the raffle item donors, the clothing stores and models, the media and the emcees, Lori McDaniel and Joey Parrott, and of course, the record crowd that attended.

Thank you all so very much.

Janet Goodroe and Jane Harrell
Dalton

If you have a Bible verse or "thought for today" to submit, call (706) 272-7735

WORDS OF WISDOM

Thought for Today: "Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other."

Abraham Lincoln
American statesman (1809-1865)

Bible verse: "Fools mock at making amends for sin, but goodwill is found among the upright."

Proverbs 14:9

Back in time

I never ate a cookie from the Davis Bake Shop or munched on a Chow Burger from Chow Time. According to readers, my life is poorer for it.

Last week's column about "places we miss" brought a great response.

Let's reminisce ... Numerous callers spoke glowingly of that "little corner of heaven" in Bry-Man's Plaza called the Davis Bake Shop. Susan lauded the "wonderful brownies." Other callers/writers bragged about the cakes, the cookies and the aroma.

The U.S. Cafe had a lot of happy customers. It was fondly remembered by many callers.

David Chance misses "the old Cream-O" and the hamburger steaks at the Chat and Chow.

I'm really sorry I never got to board The Shrimp Boat on Emery, across from the Green Spot. My caller said the seafood was excellent and the restaurant was built in the shape of a boat, which you entered by gang plank. When my co-worker Wes Chance didn't remember this one, I thought maybe someone was pulling my lariat. But other locals verified its existence.

David called in to lament the too-early demise of a Miami-based chain called Lum's. "Hot dogs steamed in beer and and beer served in chilled mugs." As Grandpa Jones used to get 'em to say, "Yum, yum!"

Several callers sang the praises of the old Cherokee Drive-In Theater. It was "a good place for courting your husband-to-be," one said.

The chow burger at Chow Time also seems to have been a favorite. Apparently it was also "a good place to see everybody's car."

Rodney McConkey, who I assume is a fellow Summerville transplant, scolded me for not mentioning Troy's



Jimmy Espy

Drive-In and Toles Drive-In in our hometown. At 47, I may be just under the age to have enjoyed those establishments, but my older and bulkier family members still speak fondly of them. I do feel bad about not mentioning the A&W Drive-In at Trion, where I ate the best chili dogs ever made.

A little closer to home, my mom worked at a fine restaurant in Pennville (between Trion and Summerville) called The Round Table. The owner was a good guy and ran a super restaurant. He would drive to South Georgia to buy fresh seafood and his fried shrimp was as good as any you overpaid for on the coast.

The A&W in Dalton also had its fans. That root beer is hard to forget.

Restaurants weren't the only businesses to be missed. The C&M Grocery in Dawnville was one caller's favorite spot.

"My kids loved that store," she said. "The owners were James and Louise Jones and they had the best hand-dipped ice cream."

Fraker's Hardware and McLellan's 5 & 10 were cited by Dr. Ellen Thompson, who also put in a good word for the Davis Bake Shop (that name again!).

Jane Harrell (and Superman) wants to know what happened to all the pay telephone booths.

Several folks, including Brian Jones, mentioned Jimmy's, the popular restaurant and bar, that closed a few years ago.

Richard Edwards had his favorites, including the Star Cafe ("just across the tracks"), Bob's Waffle Shop (for breakfast) and Owens' Pharmacy for the "cherry Cokes and slaw dogs." Richard also saluted Camp and Duffy's Sausage, which he says discriminating Daltonians insisted on.

The Mitchells said Papa John's Seafood on Glenwood had "the best fried shrimp in town." They also liked Chow Time and the Davis Bakery.

Ron and Judy Parker stumped me with Harold's Taco Hacienda, which they say served "the best deep-fried chocolate burrito" ever. Rudolph's Pizza got their thumbs up, as did Chow Time.

Teresa Hambright seconded that plug for Rudolph's Pizza, as did several other callers.

James Busie was a fan of Kenny Rogers Roasters and joined me in my admiration for Po Folks, particularly the all-you-can-eat country fried steak and gravy. He also spoke well of the old Yellow Deli on Selvidge Street. The hippie-dippy ennui charmed him and the banana milk was outstanding. Another caller stood the high marks for the Yellow Deli.

One other thing I miss from back in the day was that big, old green house that used to be across the street from *The Daily Citizen* office on Thornton. When I was a poor sports writer here in the 1980s, I told myself I would come back one day, that I would be rich and that I would buy that house. Well, 20 years later I'm definitely not rich and a bank bought that cool crib and tore it down. But the part about coming back came true, and for that I am glad.

Jimmy Espy is executive editor of The Daily Citizen. He blogs at Espysoutpost.blogspot.com



An Obama-nation plan

If you look deeply into the 1,100 page Obama/Pelosi Spend-dulus bill, (apparently not even our Congressman has) there is something for everybody. Except those of us who are hard working, live within our means and played by the rules. The spending bill to the Obama administration is much like a tax form, something that they need read, but others are to comply with.

I defy you to come up with a worse economic plan than the Obama administration just presented. Not a single real business person has been involved in this big-government plan. In a time when we need business to expand and create jobs, his bill raises taxes, empowers the shiftless unions, gives plaintiffs' attorneys more power to shake down companies and moves more power to the least efficient part of society, government.

Confiscating money from successful business to give to failing ones makes no sense. Under the Bush and Obama plans, the more regulated you are and the more you mess up, the more you get. No bad deed goes unrewarded. Why not let the free-market system weed out, as it has for years, the good businesses and people from the bad?

The people in trouble today, who helped bring the economy down, are the ones who three years ago confused "I need" with "I want."

Although Bush was hardly the free-market ideal, for the Democrats to continue to blame this on him is unfair. They have controlled Congress for three years. Since it became clear that Obama was going to win in late 2008, the stock market has dropped 50 percent. People vote with their money, and those votes are in. We do not like what you are doing to our country. Like many, I have been heading toward Galt's Gulch, the place where over-regulated and taxed entrepreneurs went when burdened by the likes of an Obama administration in the timely book "Atlas Shrugged." And if you think Osama bin Laden is hard to find in the mountains of Pakistan, try finding the economic engines of our once proud



Ron Hart

free-market system when they hide in Galt's Gulch.

The average person has no idea that the top 5 percent of taxpayers pay about half the taxes in America. Some blue collar workers that won the recent \$260 million lottery will soon find out about the Obama-Pelosi tax plan when they end up owing \$265 million in taxes on their win.

The Democratic Party has bad ideas and the Republican Party does not even know who their leader is. The White House implied with a snide tone that the GOP is now headed by Rush Limbaugh. Democrats are now going after talk radio in some form or fashion under the notion that free speech is good as long as it echoes the president's feelings. So what we have now is the mainstream media, monopoly newspapers and TV news channels in the tank for Obama. The dissenting view can only be heard on talk radio. No wonder Obama wants to monitor how much we drive our car and raise gas taxes (supposedly for environmental reasons).

Why is it that citizens get letters from the IRS threatening garnishment or worse if we owe \$100 in taxes yet Obama can fill his cabinet with tax-cheats?

Welfare checks are called tax cuts in the Obama plan. With 49 percent of the nation supporting the other indignant 51 percent, those folks that play by the rules have less say so in government than ever before. As one of the 49 percent supporting the other 51 percent I would like to at least get a letter thanking me.

There are two distinct ways you can tell that neither the rich nor the poor think the Obama socialization scheme will work. With the "rich;" it is that the stock market is down 50 percent. And if you do not think their opinion matters and want to see what the opposite end of the economic spectrum is thinking, try buying 38 caliber bullets at a Wal-Mart. As the clerk told me, "we are out of them and have been since the first of the year."

Ron Hart is a Southern libertarian who writes a weekly column about politics and culture. His e-mail address is RevRon10@aol.com.

Steak & Stake Dinner to honor 3 founders

SUBMITTED BY BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF GORDON, MURRAY AND WHITFIELD COUNTIES

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Gordon, Murray & Whitfield Counties will be hosting their annual Steak & Stake Dinner on April 28 at the club's new facility at 1013 Underwood Street in Dalton.

This year's event will be a special time of celebration in which three of the club's founders will be recognized and honored; Jim Hazel, Gordon Morehouse and Carl Rollins.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. for facility tours and the dinner will be at 7 p.m.

Jim Hazel has been an active board member of the local Boys & Girls Clubs since 2002. He is the administrator of the Murray Medical Center and has been with

the Hamilton Health Care System for 35 years. Hazel was first introduced to Boys & Girls Clubs in 2000 by Carl Rollins and John Campbell as he and his wife were working to create a structured program for local teens. For his distinguished service with the clubs and other community agencies, Hazel was recognized with the Healthcare Georgia Foundation's Community Service Award in 2003.

Hazel said his passion is keeping young people from engaging in negative behaviors.

Gordon Morehouse is a founding board member of the clubs and past chairman of the Dalton/Whitfield Clubs. He is the proprietor of Morehouse Group, a local business that just celebrated 40 years of service in Dalton.

Morehouse is a Rotarian and has served as chairman of the Dalton-Whitfield Chamber of Commerce.

He received the chamber's "Outstanding Professional of the Year" Award in 1994. Morehouse was introduced to the clubs by Carl Rollins while serving as president of Rotary. While he was president, Rotary generously provided seed money used to plant the very first club site.

Carl Rollins was one of the leading visionaries involved in establishing the local Boys & Girls Clubs. He was a founding board member and continues to be a strong supporter of the Whitfield County Clubs. Rollins is the former vice president of administration for Shaw Industries and oversaw all charitable contributions for the company. He was first introduced to the Boys & Girls Clubs of America in the 1990s when many clubs were soliciting carpet donations from Shaw. Rollins said that the concept of a local club moved

him to visit the Boys & Girls Clubs in Cartersville. After his visit, Rollins met with the Boys & Girls Clubs of America to initiate the formation of a chartered club.

Honorees will be formally inducted as the inaugural class of the Circle of Champions for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Gordon, Murray & Whitfield Counties. These individuals are community investors, youth advocates, and club supporters. Their combined efforts which established the first local club in 2002 was a feat that has since sparked more than six other club sites that served more than 1,200 members in 2008.

As in years past, the proceeds from this year's Steak & Stake Dinner will help support the growth and expansion of the clubs' services. Since 2007, the organization has renovated a new Whitfield County facility, acquired a new Gordon

County facility, opened a new unit in Murray County and launched the first campus-based extension in north Whitfield County. Club membership has more than doubled and daily attendance is growing.

Sponsorship tables for Steak & Stake are on sale and can be reserved by calling the club at 706-529-5032, or by logging on to www.bgcgmw.org. The organization is asking that those who are unable to attend this year but would still like to invest in the work of the local Boys & Girls Clubs, please consider making a donation of 75 percent of their past contribution.

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Gordon, Murray, and Whitfield Counties offer after school programming at five sites for school-aged children. Such programs include tutoring, character development, healthy living, leadership, drug awareness and creative arts.

Dalton Arts Project presents 'Dance Off!' Slated for March 27-29

SUBMITTED BY DALTON ARTS PROJECT

Always keeping up with the latest in performing arts, Dalton Arts Project (DAP) presents Dalton Dance Company in "Dance Off!" — a local version of the hit reality show "America's Best Dance Crew."

This high-energy production will open on Friday, March 27, at 7:30 p.m. with an additional performance at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 28, and a 2 p.m. performance on Sunday, March 29.

All performances will be at the Dalton High Theatre at 1500 Manly St. in Dalton.

Performers will showcase their abilities in ballet, jazz, modern and tap dance

techniques. The dance numbers, featuring a variety of classical and contemporary music as well as technical special effects, are woven into a choreographed "contest" to determine Dalton's Best Dance Crew.

Dustin Phillips, a dancer and choreographer hailing from California, set some of the hip-hop pieces for the show as did dance/choreographer Vince Gulley of Atlanta.

In addition to their work with Phillips and Gulley, members of Dalton Dance Company worked with choreographers Jo Beth Thompson, Ryanne Payne, Lori Beth Edgeman, Marcus Alford, Jaime Robtison, Terrell Paulk and director Berrien Long.

Tickets will be available



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

So who is Dalton's Best Dance Crew? To find out, join these members of Dalton Dance Company I as they perform in Dalton Arts Project's "Dance Off!"

at the door and are \$5 for students and \$10 for adults.

As in past years, ticket proceeds from the opening

night performance on Friday will be donated to a worthy cause. This year,

production opening on Friday, March 27, and continuing March 28-29 at the Dalton High School Theatre.

the dancers have selected the Make a Wish Foundation as their danc-

ing-for-a-cause recipient. For more information, call 706-529-ARTS (2787).

Obama: Food safety system a health 'hazard'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's food safety system is a "hazard to public health" and overdue for an overhaul, President Barack Obama said Saturday as he filled the top job at the Food and Drug Administration.

Obama used his weekly radio and video address to announce the nomination of former New York City Health Commissioner Margaret Hamburg as agency commissioner and the selection of Baltimore's health commissioner, Joshua Sharfstein as her deputy. Consumer groups applauded the picks.

The president also is creating a special advisory group to coordinate food

safety laws and recommend how to update them. Many of these laws have not changed since they were written early in the last century, he said.

Obama said too many agencies are responsible for food safety, making it difficult to share information and stop problems from falling through the cracks.

The FDA does not have enough money or workers to conduct annual inspections at more than a fraction of the 150,000 food processing plants and warehouses in the country, Obama said.

"That is a hazard to public health. It is unacceptable. And it will change under the

leadership of Dr. Margaret Hamburg," he pledged.

Hamburg, 53, is a bioterrorism expert. She was an assistant health secretary under President Bill Clinton and helped lay the groundwork for the government's bioterrorism and flu pandemic preparations.

As New York City's top health official in the early 1990s, she created a program that cut high rates of drug-resistant tuberculosis. She is the daughter of two doctors. Her mother was the first black woman to earn a medical degree from Yale University, and she credits her father for instilling in her a passion for public health.

AREA ARRESTS

- Timothy Ray Vanmeter, 46, 556 Shields Road, Crandall, was charged on March 9 by the Murray County Sheriff's Office with aggravated assault family violence.

- Aubrey Blake Williams, 17, 651 Cherokee Drive, Chatsworth, was charged Friday by the Chatsworth Police Department with possession of less than an ounce of marijuana.

- Jacob Anthony Buttram, 26, 1055 Erwin Church Hill Road, Calhoun, was charged Friday by the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office with computer pornography child exploitation, criminal attempt aggravated child molestation, possession of methamphetamine, and possession of methamphetamine crossing the jail guard line.

- Brandon Omar Weaver, 22, 1100 Foster St., Dalton, was charged Friday by the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office with parole violation and giving false information.

- Johnny Blair Caldwell, 39, 2449 North Briar Circle,

Chattanooga, was charged Saturday by the Dalton Police Department with possession of marijuana and driving while license was withdrawn.

- Tamara Lashun Passley, 31, 219 Landon Court Apt. 12B, Calhoun, was charged Saturday by the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office with forgery in the first degree.

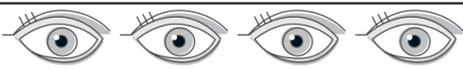
- Jeffrey Scott Bigham, 43, 421 Hooven Ave., Hamilton, Ohio, was charged Saturday by the Georgia State Patrol with driving a truck in the left lane of a multi-lane highway, DUI and expired tag.

- Rigoberto Lemus

Posada, 31, 401 Water St., Dalton was charged Saturday by the Dalton Police Department with DUI, failure to yield right of way, failure to drive within a single lane, and driving the wrong way on a one-way street.

- Larry Craig Reece, 29, 1775 Lower Kings Bridge Road, Dalton, was charged Saturday by the Dalton Police Department with DUI and failure to drive within a single lane.

- Lisa Louise Taylor, 39, 203 Shady Drive, Dalton, was charged Saturday by the Dalton Police Department with DUI.



FREE GLASSES
With Purchase of Another Pair*

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Walnut Square Mall, Dalton, GA

*See store for details.

(706) 226-2722

Dalton Public Schools
Pre-K Registration, March 23-24
Kindergarten Registration, March 25-26

Attn: Parents of Rising Kindergarteners

If you are a resident of the City of Dalton and intend to enroll your rising-kindergarten student in a school within your zone, outside your zone, or if you live outside the city and will be applying to kindergarten as an out-of-district (tuition) student, you may attend this K registration on March 25-26.

If unable to attend, you may register your rising-kindergarten student (or students new to DPS in grades 1-12) anytime after this registration event.

Please note that the March registration event for both Pre-K and Kindergarten will be held at the Whitfield County Health Dept this year.

For more information, call **706/876-4065**.

Pre-K Registration

(4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2009)

Whitfield County Health Dept. Bldg.
808 Professional Blvd.
March 23, 7:30am-4:30pm
March 24, 7:30am-6:00pm

Kindergarten Registration

Whitfield County Health Dept. Bldg.
808 Professional Blvd.
105 N. Thornton Ave.
March 25, 8:00am-4:00pm
March 26, 8:00am-5:30pm



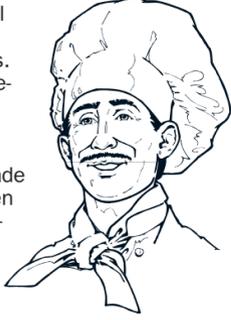
Dalton Public Schools
Educating students to become
contributing citizens of the world

Please bring the following items with you: GA proof of immunization form # 3231; GA Eye/Ear/Dental certificate - form # 3300; proof of residence in parent's name; child's social security card and birth certificate.

If registering for kindergarten, please bring your child for a simple readiness assessment.

Restaurant report card

Whitfield County Environmental Health conducts inspections of restaurants every three months. The inspectors may require a re-inspection. Restaurants are required by law to post their most recent inspection permit. The state now uses a letter grade for evaluations. The Daily Citizen lists areas where the establishments are out of compliance with the regulations.



Ridgewood Manor, 1110 Burleyson Drive

Current score: 96
Current grade: A
Previous score: 96
Previous grade: A
Comments: Sanitizer for wiping cloths too strong; must be 200 to 400 ppm.

Taco Bell, 2914 E. Walnut Ave.

Current score: 95
Current grade: A
Previous score: 87
Previous grade: B
Comments: Do not stack up containers wet; must air dry first. Invert single-serve containers once unwrapped. Seal gap at drive-through window and under back door. Protect outer openings. Flies.

Quinton Memorial, 1114 Burleyson Drive

Current score: 92
Current grade: A
Previous score: 95
Previous grade: A
Comments: Need paper towels at hand sink. Sanitizer for silverware washing should be 200 to 400 ppm.

Starbucks/Kroger, 1365 W. Walnut Ave.

Current score: 90
Current grade: A
Previous score: 91
Previous grade: A
Comments: Need certified food safety manager on staff within 90 days. Person in charge not aware of any employee health policy. Do not store food service equipment under exposed plumbing under hand wash sink. Food permit, inspection report, choking poster and handwashing sign must be posted.

Fuji Japanese Steak and Sushi, 1321 W. Walnut Ave., Suite 1

Current score: 84
Current grade: B
Previous score: 96
Previous grade: A
Comments: Chicken and beef out of temperature; must hold cold at 41 degrees or below. When using time as a control, mark container with times. Label all food containers properly. Cover foods when not in use. Store food, wine, etc. 6 inches off floor. Ice used for consumption may not be used for storage. Store wiping cloths in sanitizer when not in hand. Do not use magnetic knife strips or homestyle wooden blocks. Discard gloves after use.

Fortune Cookie, 100 W.

Walnut Ave.

Current score: 84
Current grade: B
Previous score: 86
Previous grade: B
Comments: Potentially hazardous food not held at proper temperature; cold holding must be at 41 degrees or below. All prepared potentially hazardous food held more 24 hours must be date marked. Thoroughly clean shelving in walk-in cooler to remove significant buildup. Clean vents over wok area. Do not soak in-use utensils in water unless it is a running dipper well or water temperature is 135 degrees or above.

Papa John's, 100 W. Walnut Ave.

Current score: 82
Current grade: B
Previous score: 78
Previous grade: C
Comments: No certified food safety manager. Employee drinks must be in disposable cup with lid and straw. Vacuum breaker required on hose bibb for mop sink. Three-compartment sink and vegetable sink must have air gap. Need lid on trash can in ladies' room. Replace missing light shield in walk-in. Seal gaps under exterior doors. Install sweep. Ceiling tiles must be smooth and non-absorbent.

Los Amigos, 600 M.L. King Blvd.

Current score: 61
Current grade: U
Previous score: Not available
Previous grade: Not available
Comments: Establishment required to have person in charge present. Observed employee wash hands in three-compartment sink; wash hands in hand sink only. Keep paper towels at both hand sinks. Cut tomato and shredded cheese out of temperature; must hold cold at 41 degrees or below. Date mark all potentially hazardous foods with prep date or open date. Segregate bent cans from good. Label all food items with content. All food and drink must be stored 6 inches off floor. Keep current inspection sheet posted for public view. Do not store scoop in ice machine. Wash, rinse and sanitize in three-compartment sink, not two-compartment sink. Wrap or invert single-service items. Dumpster must be on sealed concrete pad. Replace lights in kitchen.

Deadline nears for nominations

SUBMITTED BY THE DALTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Deadline nears for educator of the year nominations

Dalton Education Foundation continues to accept nominations for the 2009 Tom Jones Educator of the Year award. The nomination process is open to anyone in the community. Deadline for receipt of all nominations is March 30 at 5 p.m. Nomination forms are available at all city schools, Dalton Public School central office, and Dalton Education Foundation.

Twenty-three years have passed since Tom Jones retired as chairman of the Dalton Board of Education. In that time, 22 Dalton educators have received the award that bears his name, Tom Jones Educator of the Year.

Jones personally presented the first two awards in 1987 and 1988 to Dalton High School Counselor James Stephens

JUST THE FACTS

What: Tom Jones Educator of the Year Award.

Who: Anyone may nominate a Dalton Public Schools educator (teacher, counselor, media specialist or administrator) who is currently employed and has been with the city system at least three years.

Why: To recognize educators who have made significant contributions to the children of Dalton.

Where: Nomination forms are available from all city schools and the Dalton Education Foundation which sponsors the award.

When: Deadline for nominations is March 30.

and Assistant Superintendent Sheila Evans, respectively. The carpet industri-

alist died in September 1988, but family members have continued to announce the winner of the award, which is granted each year by the Dalton Education Foundation.

"The purpose of the award is to recognize educators in the Dalton Public Schools system who have made significant contributions to the education of children in Dalton," according to Jean Lowrey, foundation executive director.

Nominees must be active educators, currently employed by the Dalton Public Schools, who have a minimum of three years' experience with the city schools.

Criteria include the educator's relationships with students, parents and the community as well as the educator's professional accomplishments.

For more information, interested persons may contact the foundation at 706-278-5427 or by e-mail at def@dalton.k12.ga.us.

Guild features Irish tunes at Noon Arts

SUBMITTED BY THE CREATIVE ARTS GUILD

"Songs Of Erin" is the title of the next Creative Arts Guild Noon Arts Program on Thursday. Featured performers will be Guild instructor Beth Blackburn on harp, Guild music director and instructor Lisa Elders on flute and Nancy Mize Johnston with vocals.

The idea for the Noon Arts program came from Blackburn, who has a love of Celtic music. She also plays with a Celtic ensemble known as Ceilidh, and a harp ensemble at Cadek Conservatory in Chattanooga. Blackburn is mostly self-taught on the harp and has a wide variety of repertoire, including healing music, Celtic, Scottish, Norwegian, Spanish, popular, classical, and contemporary. She received her bachelor of music degree from Georgia Southern in flute performance and has been a piano and flute instructor with the Guild since 2003.

Lisa Elders has been with the Creative Arts Guild since 2000 as an instructor of flute, saxophone and piano. She became music director at the Guild in 2004.

The Dalton native is a graduate of Southeast High School and earned her bachelor of science in music education and bachelor of arts in music degrees from Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Ala. Ms. Elders earned her associate of music business and master of music in flute performance from Georgia State University in Atlanta. She is principal flutist with the Northwest Georgia Winds in Rome and has performed with the Rome Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Players of the South and is a member of the Rome Area Flute



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lisa Elders, from left, Beth Blackburn and Nancy Mize Johnston will perform "Songs of Erin" Thursday in the Noon Arts Series program at the Creative Arts Guild.

Ensemble.

Nancy Mize Johnston is a recent graduate of Shorter College in Rome. Johnston received her bachelor of arts in music with first honors. She loves singing, songwriting, piano, reading, writing, the great outdoors and things of Celtic inspiration.

In the near future, Johnston hopes to attend law school, write novels and work with her Celtic-themed band, Unicorn Road.

Blackburn and Elders perform together for a number of special occasions including weddings and all types of parties. Blackburn recently met Johnston during a Robert Burns Night in

Rome where they discovered they shared a love for Celtic music prompting a Celtic music session between them.

"Nancy has a unique 'Celtic-style' voice that is very suited for this type music. We are working on some unique and unusual sounds that we hope will resonate with our listeners," said Blackburn.

"Songs in the program include: "The Water Is Wide", "Danny Boy," "Down by the Sally Gardens," "Tis The Last Rose of Summer," and "Carrickfergus."

The Noon Arts Program is Thursday beginning at noon and concluding by 1 p.m. Admission is free;

however, donations will be accepted. Those attending may bring a lunch, or order one from the Guild for \$8 by calling 706-278-0168 a day prior to the event. For more information, contact Music Director Lisa Elders at 706-259-1822 or email music@creativeartsguild.org.

The Creative Arts Guild is the oldest multidisciplinary community arts organization in the state of Georgia. The Guild is supported in part by the Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA) through appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly. GCA receives support from its partner agency, the National Endowment for the Arts.

FTC says don't fall for ad's claims

The Federal Trade Commission is advising consumers not to fall for the musical "freecreditreport.com" commercials featuring, among others, a band's singer dressed like a pirate, lamenting that, because he was an identity-fraud victim, he's relegated to singing in a cheesy restaurant to tourists eating chowder and iced tea.

The consumer-protection agency says that firms offering such "free" credit reports often require users to pay hidden fees or agree to additional services, such as regular monitoring of a person's file. And, if you don't cancel such a service during a short trial period, you'll see charges for monthly "membership" fees on your credit card, the FTC says.

Instead, the agency says, request a free, no-strings-attached report at AnnualCreditReport.com, a program created by Congress that entitles everyone to one copy gratis every 12 months (www.ftc.gov/freereports).

To spread the word, the FTC has put together its own musical messages, including one featuring a singer in an

Irish bar — complete with Riverdance-like dancers in the background — touting the totally free program.

Check it out at www.YouTube.com/FTCVideos.

Scripts Howard News

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BRIEFS

G-20 officials vow to fix economy

HORSHAM, England — Finance officials from rich and developing countries pledged Saturday to do "whatever is necessary" to fix the global economy, including supervision of freewheeling hedge funds and restoring bank lending by dealing with the shaky securities clogging their finances. But officials remained cool to a U.S. push for more coordinated government spending to stimulate economies. They called instead on the International Monetary Fund to assess the individual government actions already taken and what more might be required, rather than laying out definite plans to ramp up spending. Finance ministers and central bankers from the Group of 20, which accounts for more than 80 percent of the world economy, agreed there was an "urgent need" for a big boost to the lending resources of the IMF to help struggling governments in the developing world.

Obama: Be confident of U.S.

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Saturday downplayed divisions between the U.S. and Europe over how to tackle the world's financial crisis and said China should have "absolute confidence" that its sizable investments in the United States are safe. In a conversation focused heavily on the economy, Obama met in the Oval Office with Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. It was the latest in a series of talks the president has had with his counterparts around the world before a pair of international meetings where the economic crisis will dominate.

Justice at home in Washington

WASHINGTON — For a guy who often can't wait to leave town and is said to be considering retirement, Supreme Court Justice David Souter gives the impression he's staying put for a while. The 69-year-old Souter has not said a word about his plans, though he is widely considered to be among the justices who are more likely to retire soon. In a rare public appearance in Washington this past week, Souter seemed at ease in front of his audience, including a bank of television cameras, and at home in the city he loves to hate. He offered advice about lobbying Congress and even oblique criticism of the Bush administration.

7 bodies found as drug violence rages

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico — Police acting on a tip have found seven bodies partially buried in the desert on the outskirts of the Mexican border city of Ciudad Juarez. Investigators are searching the desert site south of the city to see whether there are any more bodies. A policeman's badge was found at the site. Ciudad Juarez has been hit by a wave of drug-fueled violence that led federal authorities to dispatch thousands of army troops to patrol the city.

Oil spill could be worse than thought

BRISBANE, Australia — Ten times more oil than originally thought leaked from a ship to blacken miles of white sand beaches along Australia's northeast coast, a government official said Saturday. Authorities declared a disaster zone along 37 miles of some of Australia's most popular beaches in Queensland state after they were covered in a blanket of heavy fuel oil that spilled from a ship hit by rough seas on Wednesday. Officials originally thought between 5,300 and 7,900 gallons of oil had leaked from the ship. It is "now apparent" that the amount of oil spilled was around 60,700 gallons.

Traffic-light cameras questioned

By NIGEL DUARA
Associated Press Writer

CLIVE, Iowa — Minutes after Neel Manglik illegally turned right on a red light in the Des Moines suburb of Clive, a video popped up on a computer at an office park outside Scottsdale, Ariz.

The \$75 citation arrived in the mail weeks later, making Manglik one of the millions of Americans ticketed as part of a growing industry that is making handsome profits for companies that operate video cameras at busy intersections throughout the nation.

As more cities sign up and others invest their profits into more cameras, those companies expect increased revenue for years to come.

What's less clear is whether the cameras improve safety. While studies show fewer T-bone crashes at lights with cameras and fewer drivers running red lights, the number of rear-end crashes increases.

Aaron Quinn, spokesman for the Wisconsin-based National Motorists Association, said there are cheaper safety alternatives to red-light cameras, including lengthening yellow-light times.

"We say, the red-light camera wouldn't have stopped anyone from getting hit," Quinn said. "Once (a city) sees one city getting it miles away, and that first city makes a bunch of money, they want to do it, too. It's like a virus."

Albany, Ore., population 48,000, issued 1,119 traffic camera tickets for \$77,200 in 2008. By comparison, in 2006 only 4,000 tickets were issued for all traffic infractions.

In St. Peters, Mo., a city of 55,000, red-light cameras resulted in 3,203 tickets issued from January 2007 to September 2008, and drew a total of \$235,973. The city issued 14,836 traffic tickets in fiscal year 2006, but that jumped to 21,745 in 2008, the first full fiscal year with the cameras.

Clive Police Chief Robert



A traffic light camera is seen at an intersection in Clive, Iowa. As more cities sign up and others invest their profits into more cameras, the companies that operate the cameras expect increased revenue for years to come.

AP PHOTO

2 cameras in Dalton

Dalton has two traffic light cameras in operation, at Shugart Road and U.S. Highway 41 and at Waugh Street and Thornton Avenue.

Cox said there's no doubt the cameras are a cheaper option than having an officer on the street.

"With the number of calls for service our city generates, we can't devote that much time to red-light enforcement," Cox said. "We were missing a lot of violations."

But not all cities make money off of the tickets. Contracts between companies and cities can affect how much money the cities get.

In Clive, for instance, the red-light camera program generated \$39,548.65 between July 2006 and March 2007, but all of that money went to the camera company because Clive didn't ticket enough drivers in any single month to make money. Clive has since changed its contract and now gets a percentage of each ticket.

The largest red-light camera company, Redflex Traffic

Systems of Scottsdale, operates red-light or speed cameras in 22 states, and added 79 cities last year. It signed a \$32 million maintenance contract with Chicago last fall, and in just the last three weeks of last year, Redflex added five new cities.

Redflex saw net, after-tax profits of \$10.6 million in fiscal year 2008, up from \$7.3 million the year before.

That ticket in Clive shows why: More than half of the \$75 fine went to Redflex.

"That's ridiculous," said Ashok Manglik, a physician who paid his wife's ticket. "Why should it go to the camera company? At least 90 percent should go to the city."

Some cities, such as Orlando and Atlanta, put all the money back into the program so they don't profit from issuing tickets.

"It was a concern," said Mike Rhodes, manager of the Orlando's Code Enforcement Division. "Without casting aspersions on vendors, we didn't want to be seen as having any incentive to issue these tickets."

Plenty of people have been getting tickets in Orlando.

The city issued 785 "failure to obey a traffic signal" tickets — their equivalent of a red-light violation — between Sept. 1, 2007, and

5 Gwinnett cities to stop using cameras

LAWRENCEVILLE (AP) — Five cities in Gwinnett County are stopping the use of red light cameras at busy intersections, saying they are too costly even though they have reduced accidents.

Norcross and Suwanee have removed the cameras, Snellville and Lilburn have suspended their programs for study and Duluth says it won't renew its lease when it expires in May.

The cameras monitor and record red light viola-

tions. By summer only one government in Gwinnett will still be using the cameras — the county government.

Officials say the cameras are working, with violations, accidents and injuries all down. But the program can cost cities \$400,000 a year and the number of citations have dwindled since a state law mandates a one-second addition to the yellow phase at all camera intersections.

Dec. 31, 2007. But after the cameras were installed in September 2008, Orlando issued 8,250 tickets through its red-light camera program during that four-month period.

The Clive ticket demonstrates how the system works:

A Redflex camera spotted the violation by Manglik, then sent a video to an employee in Arizona who trained for a week to recognize violations. The employee checked municipal laws and approved the initial violation, and the video was then passed to another Redflex worker, who checked the vehicle against a motor-vehicle database to see if the car and tags match. A third employee approved the final evaluation and alerted an officer in Clive, who made the ticket official.

Clive police approve more than 90 percent of violations passed on by Redflex, excluding obvious mistakes such as ambulances and funeral processions. Redflex encourages cities to use signs and provides them to its customers.

"There's very few rejected because it's reviewed three or four times by Redflex," Clive police Lt. Gary Walker said.

The camera companies, participating cities and non-

profit Insurance Institute of Highway Safety, a group funded by auto insurers, argue that the cameras save lives and ultimately cut costs. They estimate the cameras save about \$14 billion annually, largely by reducing emergency-room trips, lowering insurance rates and cutting medical bills.

"I say if you sell fire extinguishers or smoke detectors or bulletproof vests that save police officers' lives and you can make a buck off this, God bless you," said Richard A. Retting, a former senior transportation engineer and lead researcher who left the Insurance Institute of Highway Safety in September. "How communities work out the details of those finances is up to them."

A 2005 study by the Federal Highway Safety Administration found that after installation of red-light cameras, right-angle or T-bone crashes dropped 28 percent, while rear-end crashes climbed 8 percent.

The researchers found that with property damage included, each site saw a \$40,000 per year drop in damage.

Retting said there's no debate that the cameras cut down on red-light running but that their effect on crash severity is less certain.

League: For Marines Corps

➤ Continued from page 1A

Toys for Tots drive near Christmas and recently received a flag from Congressman Nathan Deal that flew over the U.S. Capitol on Feb. 13. Now they're looking to expand their membership.

Ancil Garvin of Dalton, who retired as a lieutenant colonel after 31 years, said the effort began when he spotted a Toys for Tots drive at a local car dealership a few years ago. Toys for Tots is a Marine project, he said, but there was no Marine representation at the drive. Already a member of a Marine Corps League detachment in Rome, Garvin decided to see what it would take to start one closer to home.

The answer was 22 signatures. Garvin began recruiting.

Junior vice commandant Kelly Johnson of Ringgold, who served 1996-2000, said he was sitting in his car — which sported a Marine bumper sticker — at a local store when Garvin tapped on his door. Johnson cautiously cracked the window while the retired Marine introduced himself and explained his mission.

"I went ahead and rolled the window down the whole way and shook his hand," Johnson said.

Most of the members didn't know each other before they joined the detachment, he said, but they all have a

common bond and enjoy swapping war stories.

"Truth be told," Garvin added, "my wife, my family, they don't want to hear any more about the Marine Corps and what we used to do."

That's why the detachment is important, he said.

Farrell was stationed in Chu Lai, Vietnam with about 165 other Marines in the A battery, second light anti-aircraft missiles battalion. The unit was isolated from other military units, he said, and provided for its own security, food and other needs. Its mission was to deter the North Vietnamese from flying south, and to secure the nearby Chu Lai airfield.

Farrell still collects Marine paraphernalia and he's one of many former service members who do.

"It reminds me of NASCAR followers," he said. "A lot of the stuff that I have is stuff that I actually kept from Vietnam."

At the detachment's monthly meeting on Saturday, the group discussed ways to increase membership. Dee Davis from Murray County is the only female Marine in the detachment. While Davis said she takes some teasing, she also said the Marines

have a camaraderie that transcends gender.

Her husband, Tim Davis, is also a member of the detachment. The two met while serving in Okinawa, Japan, and have been married 28 years. Tim Davis is the senior vice commandant of the Dalton detachment, and Dee Davis is over the group's future Web site.

"(The Marine Corps League) was something for us to do together," she said.

The detachment is designed primarily to serve Whitfield, Murray, Walker, Catoosa and Chattooga counties although no one is turned away, officials said. Former members of other branches of military service can join as auxiliary members, who participate in the detachment's activities but don't vote or hold office.

Whitfield rec committee to meet in Varnell Tuesday

The Whitfield Parks and Recreation Steering Committee will hold its monthly meeting Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Varnell Gym on Prater's Mill Road. The public is welcome to attend.

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OBITUARIES

- **Ruby I. Burnette, Dalton**
- **Myrtis McKinney Deck, Dalton**
- **Christopher Lee Henry, Cohutta**
- **Edith McLaurin Owens, Rocky Face**
- **Jane Wimpey Smith, Dalton**

Obituary notices are posted online at www.daltondailycitizen.com

Ruby I. Burnette

Ruby I. Burnette, 90, of Dalton, passed away Friday, March 13, 2009, at Ridgewood Manor Nursing Home.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Earl Burnette; son, Carl Burnette; son-in-law, J.C. Cook; parents, Oscar and Estelle Williams; sisters, Emma Jean Williams, Katherine Coker, Earlene Cooper, Susie Burnette; brothers, Fred and Clint Williams and great-grandson, Brian Duckett Jr.

She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

She is survived by daughters and son-in-law, Sandra Cook of Tunnel Hill, Elizabeth Higgins of Cohutta, Glenda and Charlie White of Cohutta; sons and daughters-in-law, Billy and

Betsy Burnette of Varnell, Earl "Bear" and Becky Burnette of Cohutta; daughter-in-law, Judy Burnette of Dalton; sisters and brother-in-law, Olav Burns of Cohutta, Wanda and Clyde Dunn of Cleveland, Willie Mae (Bill) Whaley of Cohutta; brother-in-law, Gordon Burnette of Cleveland and sister-in-law, Lois Williams of Cohutta; 17 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren, 23 great-great-grandchildren; one special niece, Lisa Sane of Cohutta and numerous other nieces and nephews.

The funeral is Monday at 2 p.m. at the Pleasant Grove Chapel of Julian Peeples Funeral Home with the Rev. Cecil Williams officiating.

Burial will be in Hopewell Cemetery. Pallbearers will be William, Timmy, Eric, Mitchell and Michael Burnette, Ken Phillips, Jamie Cook, Doug, Tony and Scottie Higgins.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home today from 4 until 9 p.m. Messages of comfort may be sent and the guestbook signed at www.julian-peeples.com.

Julian Peeples Funeral Home, Pleasant Grove Chapel, 2801 Cleveland Road, Dalton, is in charge of funeral arrangements. For more information, call 706-259-7455.

Myrtis McKinney Deck

Myrtis McKinney Deck, 85, of Dalton, passed away Thursday, Feb. 19, 2009, at Regency Park Assisted

Living. She was preceded in death by her parents, Charley and Myrtis Deck and a brother, Charley Deck Jr.

She was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Dalton and was retired from Whitfield County Health Department as a district nursing director.

Survivors include a sister-in-law, Jane Deck; cousins, Ann Deck, Donald Deck, John Black; special friends, Gail Self and Kathy Bagley.

A memorial service is today at 2 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Dalton.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the First Presbyterian Church or any charity, in her memory.

Julian Peeples Funeral Home, Westside Chapel, Rocky Face, Georgia is in charge of arrangements. www.legacy.com

Christopher Lee Henry

Christopher Lee Henry, infant son of Wendy Sapp and Anthony Henry of Cohutta, passed away, Friday, March 13, 2009, at T.C. Thompson's Children Hospital.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Leroy and Judy Henry; and an aunt, Delania Henry.

Survivors include a sister, Victoria Henry of Cohutta; grandparents, Phil and Kay



Deck

Sapp of Cohutta; aunts, Selina Swaim of Dalton and Amy Sapp of Clemmons, N.C.; cousins, Justin Henry of Dalton and Megan Henry of LaFayette and Caden Parry of Clemmons, N.C.

The funeral is today at 2 p.m. at the Pleasant Grove Chapel of Julian Peeples Funeral Home with the Rev. Cecil Johnson officiating.

Burial will be in Dawn Rest Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home today from 1 p.m. until the funeral hour.

Messages of comfort may be sent to the family at www.julianpeeples.com

Arrangements are by Julian Peeples Funeral Home, Pleasant Grove Chapel, 2801 Cleveland Road, Dalton. Call 706-259-7455 for further information. www.legacy.com

Edith McLaurin Owens

Mrs. Edith McLaurin Owens, 76, of Rocky Face and formerly of North Carolina, passed away Friday, March 13, 2009, at Hamilton Medical Center in Dalton.

She was the daughter of the late Baxter and Garphelia Stubbs.

McLaurin and was preceded in death by her three brothers.

Edith was an active member of the Dug Gap Baptist Church.

She is survived by her loving husband of 57 years, William Owens of Dalton; children and their spouses, Lynn (Randy) Owens Cochran of Kernersville,

N.C.; Hugh (Melanie) Owens of Rossville and Kenneth Owens of Ringgold; sisters, Betty Axson, Dee Caudle and Barbara Owens all of North Carolina; brother, J.R. McLaurin of North Carolina; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Services will be Monday at 11 a.m. from Dug Gap Baptist Church in Dalton with the Rev. Bob Bagley officiating.

Burial will be in Pinecrest Cemetery in Gibson, N.C.

The family will receive friends at Love Funeral Home today from 5 to 8 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, 300 W. Emery St., Suite 106, Dalton, GA 30720 or to the Dug Gap Baptist Church, 2301 Dug Gap Road, Dalton, GA 30720.

Words of comfort may be sent to the family at www.lovefuneralhome.com.

Love Funeral Home, 1402 N. Thornton Ave., Dalton (across from Hamilton Medical Center) is in charge of arrangements. www.legacy.com

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Jane Wimpey Smith

Mrs. Jane Wimpey Smith, 43, of Dalton, passed away Friday, March 13, 2009, at her residence.

She was preceded in death by her father, J.C. Wimpey.

Jane is survived by her husband, William Smith of Dalton; mother, Delia Wimpey, of Dalton; stepchildren, Savannah and Jason Webb, Mary Smith and life partner Amanda Davis all of Dalton; brothers and sister-in-law, Calvin and Fostene Wimpey of Chatsworth, David Duckworth and Ronnie Duckworth, both of Dalton; sister and brother-in-law, Nancy and Cecil Pierce of Dalton; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Billy and Pat Smith of Dalton; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Ricky and Donna Smith of Dalton, Renee Joyce of Cohutta and Cindy Smith of Dalton; nieces and nephews.

Services are today at 3 p.m. in the chapel of Love Funeral Home with the Rev. Scott Parson officiating.

Burial will be in United Memorial Gardens.

The family will receive friends at Love Funeral Home today from 2 to 3 p.m.

Words of comfort may be sent to the family at www.lovefuneralhome.com.

Love Funeral Home, 1402 N. Thornton Ave., Dalton (across from Hamilton Medical Center) is in charge of arrangements. www.legacy.com

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



CANDY GRAMS

Students at Spring Place Elementary sent "Candy Grams" to their friends and teachers for Valentine's Day. Above, Jarrett Hughes, Ashlan Curtis and Esperanza Salazar, fourth-graders in Amy Childers' homeroom class, prepare the Candy Grams for delivery. At left, on the first row are Michael Todd, left, and Miguel Pardo; second row, Sandra Sanchez-Soto, Vanessa Torres, fourth-grade teacher Christy Kelly and parapro Miachelle Fox.

Bedlam breaks out at 'Top Model' auditions

NEW YORK (AP) — Three people were arrested and six others hurt Saturday after bedlam broke out while they waited to audition for "America's Next Top Model," police said.

Police didn't know what prompted the chaos involving hundreds of people outside the Park Central New York hotel in Manhattan. The panic left the street outside the hotel littered with shoes and clothing, according to news reports.

Three people were arrested on disorderly conduct charges, police said. Authorities also shut down the audition, saying it wasn't properly organized.

Four injured people declined treatment, while two others were taken to a hospital, the fire department said. Their conditions weren't immediately avail-

able. The phone rang unanswered at the hotel, and representatives for The CW Network, which airs the reality show, didn't immediately return calls.

The model competition is hosted by supermodel Tyra Banks, who also serves as its executive producer. The current season began March 4.

Her agent and publicist didn't immediately return telephone calls.

Banks has said she created the show to counter stereotypes about beauty, and Saturday's auditions were open only to women no taller than 5-foot-7, which is shorter than the industry's conventions.

Tryouts also were being held this month around the country, including in Dallas, Chicago and Los Angeles.

Board fires superintendent

JONESBORO (AP) — The man hired to help Clayton County regain its accreditation has been fired.

The county school board met on Saturday and unanimously voted to oust Superintendent John Thompson and then appointed Valya Lee, the assistant superintendent of support services, as interim superintendent of the 47,000-student district. The board voted to pay Thompson the remainder of his annual \$285,000 salary and benefits until his contract expires on June 30.

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DERBY TIME



MATT HAMILTON/The Daily Citizen

Above, Kenny Johnson, 8, focuses as he places his car on the track during the annual Pinewood Derby at First Presbyterian Church of Dalton Saturday. At left, Andrew Rogers, left, and Conner Barnette, both 8, place their cars on the track to race.

PROM ROYALTY



MATT HAMILTON/The Daily Citizen

Brian McMillan, 18, and Esther Figueroa, 17, dance together after being crowned the King and Queen of the Murray High School prom Saturday night at the Northwest Georgia Trade and Convention Center.

Hood not so good? Ancient Brits questioned outlaw

LONDON (AP) — A British academic says he's found proof that Britain's legendary outlaw Robin Hood wasn't as popular with the poor as folklore suggests.

Julian Luxford says a newly found note in the margins of an ancient history book contains rare criticism of the supposedly benevolent bandit.

According to legend, Hood roamed 13th-century Britain from a base in central England's Sherwood Forest, plundering from the rich to give to the poor.

But Luxford, an art history lecturer at the University of St. Andrews, in Fife, Scotland, says a 23-word inscription in a history book, written in Latin by a medieval monk around 1460, casts the outlaw as a persistent thief.

"Around this time, according to popular opinion, a certain outlaw named Robin Hood, with his accomplices, infested Sherwood and other law-abiding areas of England with continuous robberies," the note read when translated into English, Luxford said.

Luxford said he found the entry while searching through the library of England's prestigious Eton College, which was founded in 1440 by King Henry VI.

"The new find contains a uniquely negative assessment of the outlaw, and provides rare evidence for monastic

attitudes towards him," Luxford said in a statement about his find issued on Friday.

He said the note about Hood — uncovered in the margin of the "Polychronicon," a history book which dates from the late 1340s — may be the earliest written reference to the outlaw.

First mentions of Hood, depicted in Hollywood movies by both Kevin Costner and Errol Flynn, are commonly believed to have been in late 13th-century ballads. Some academics claim the stories refer to several different medieval outlaws, while others believe the tales are pure fantasy.

Luxford said his discovery may put to rest debates in England about exactly where Hood may have lived.

The northern England county of Yorkshire has long claimed Hood was based there, rather than neighboring Nottinghamshire — even naming a local transport hub Robin Hood Airport in tribute.

But folklore has most commonly placed Hood in Sherwood Forest — where he is reputed to have hidden from his nemesis, the Sheriff of Nottingham. The forest once spanned 100,000 acres across Nottinghamshire, but has shrunk in modern time to about 450 acres.



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Weekend Meteorologist

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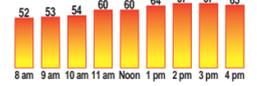
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Scat'd Showers	Cloudy Milder	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Few Showers	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny
S 5-10 mph	W 4-8 mph	NE 3-6 mph	SE 3-6 mph	NW 5-10 mph	N 4-8 mph	NW 5-10 mph
59	65	69	68	63	62	63
45	47	42	43	46	39	41

Almanac

Chattanooga through 3 p.m. yest.
Temperature:
 High/low 47°/44°
Precipitation:
 24 hrs. to 3 p.m. yest. . . 1.24"

RealFeel Temperature®

The patented AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature is an exclusive index of effective temperature based on eight weather factors. Shown is the highest values of the day.



Sun and Moon

Sunrise today 7:50 a.m.
 Sunset tonight 7:47 p.m.



Mar 18 Mar 26 Apr 2 Apr 9

Weather History

It was no "Midsummer Night's Dream" on March 15, 1843, in North Carolina, where 15 inches of snow accumulated. Beware the Ides of March.

Weather Trivia™

Q: What is the exact length of winter?

A: Eighty-nine days and seven minutes.

Georgia Weather

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Dalton	60/49
Gainesville	60/49
Athens	62/47
Atlanta	60/50
Augusta	64/50
Macon	66/53
Dublin	69/50
Savannah	73/57
Columbus	65/54
Cordele	71/52
Albany	70/58
Valdosta	75/58
Brunswick	74/57

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

City	Today	Mon.	Tue.	City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W		Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Albany	70/58/r	67/50/r	72/48/pc	La Grange	63/49/r	61/43/r	68/43/pc
Atlanta	60/50/r	62/47/r	65/47/pc	Macon	66/53/r	65/48/r	70/43/pc
Athens	62/47/r	65/45/r	66/43/pc	Marietta	64/45/r	63/44/r	68/42/pc
Augusta	64/50/r	64/47/r	66/43/pc	Newton	72/55/sh	68/50/r	72/49/pc
Brunswick	74/57/c	69/54/t	63/53/pc	Rome	66/49/r	68/44/pc	71/42/pc
College Park	60/50/r	62/47/r	65/47/pc	Savannah	73/57/sh	65/50/t	65/50/pc
Columbus	65/54/r	63/48/r	70/48/pc	Sparta	65/47/r	62/46/r	68/43/pc
Gainesville	60/49/r	62/47/r	64/44/pc	Valdosta	75/58/sh	69/53/t	71/52/pc

National Weather for March 15, 2009

Key: W-weather, s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

City	Today	Mon.	Tue.	City	Today	Mon.	Tue.	City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W		Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W		Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Albany	54/28/pc	46/27/pc	49/35/pc	Denver	63/32/pc	71/37/pc	67/34/pc	Okla. City	69/47/pc	78/50/s	76/50/s
Anchorage	19/5/s	18/10/pc	29/17/pc	Detroit	54/34/pc	57/37/pc	62/42/s	Orlando	87/62/pc	85/63/s	77/58/c
Baltimore	48/36/r	45/36/r	56/40/r	Indianapolis	58/40/pc	62/44/s	69/45/s	Philadelphia	49/36/r	50/38/r	55/40/r
Billings	53/32/c	44/27/r	46/26/c	Kansas City	62/45/pc	72/51/s	69/44/s	Phoenix	78/55/pc	81/56/s	85/58/s
Boise	54/42/r	54/35/r	54/33/c	Las Vegas	73/49/s	77/53/s	78/54/s	Pittsburgh	52/35/c	46/36/r	65/41/s
Buffalo	52/29/pc	44/32/c	54/39/pc	Los Angeles	66/52/pc	70/54/pc	74/54/s	Portland, OR	49/40/r	49/38/r	51/40/r
Charlotte	53/44/r	60/42/r	64/44/pc	Memphis	60/48/pc	70/49/s	74/49/pc	St. Louis	62/45/pc	68/50/s	73/51/s
Cheyenne	58/34/pc	64/36/pc	60/30/pc	Miami	83/69/s	84/68/s	81/66/pc	S.L. City	57/39/c	59/38/c	59/36/pc
Chicago	55/36/pc	61/43/pc	65/42/s	Milwaukee	52/34/pc	58/44/pc	59/39/s	San Fran.	61/52/r	63/50/pc	63/48/pc
Cincinnati	56/37/c	63/41/pc	70/45/s	Minneapolis	53/38/c	58/39/pc	55/31/s	San Diego	65/54/pc	67/56/pc	66/57/s
Cleveland	52/35/pc	52/35/r	61/40/s	New Orleans	65/58/t	69/54/r	73/58/pc	Seattle	46/37/r	47/38/sh	48/41/r
Dallas	62/48/pc	78/52/s	75/55/s	New York	53/40/pc	48/37/c	49/40/r	Wash., DC	47/39/r	48/36/r	56/40/r

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 - Persistent Bad Breath or Bad Taste
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PREP SPORTS: NORTH MURRAY

Mountaineers move to next phase

BY MARTY KIRKLAND

martykirkland@daltoncitizen.com

North Murray High School's trophy case may be empty, but its coaching cabinet is already full.

A little more than two months after Maria Bradley was named the school's principal and Josh Lowe its athletic director, each of the 15 varsity sports the school will offer has someone in place to lead the team.

"Sometimes it feels like it's been a quick process," Lowe said, "but every day we put a lot of effort into putting things into place."

North Murray assistant principal Keith Swilling was also part of the three-person selection committee for coaches. All of the coaches hired already held jobs with Murray County Schools.

"It's a very rewarding thing to know



Lowe

we've got folks in place," Lowe said. "But now is when the work really begins on getting things off the ground and getting up and running so we can have a successful start."

Classes are set to start next school year in the building currently housing Murray County's Ninth Grade Academy, while students will move to the new school for the 2010-11 academic calendar. The school will have only freshman and sophomore classes next year, while Bagley Middle will act as its feeder school for the future.

While recently speaking to a group of future North Murray student-athletes recent-

INSIDE SPORTS

- ▶ CA Championship gets interesting, **3B**
- ▶ Kawakami has rough day on mound, **4B**
- ▶ SEC, ACC tourney finals set for today, **5B**
- ▶ What's ahead in local sports happenings, **6B**

ly, Lowe said he told them that the trophy cases will be empty when the school eventually opens — but that they should simply see that as an opportunity to fill them.

"I think the people we have in place (as coaches) are outstanding candidates to get that done," Lowe said.

Among that group is Lestine Hensley, who will begin building the Lady Mountaineers softball program with players she already knows well.

Hensley said she's coached softball in

some capacity for "about 20 years," making the transition from slow-pitch to fast-pitch, and has led Bagley for the past five seasons. Hensley also coached Murray County High's team in 2001, leading them to their only state appearance, she said.

She's also coached at the Murray County Recreation Department and knows many of her future players away from school because of travel softball with her daughter, Hannah.

"I'm excited about it," Hensley said. "I think I'm going to have a head start because I know the girls, where they can play, what to expect from them and how to get them to perform to the best of their ability."

Hensley's excitement and her potential to

➤ Please see **NEXT, 2B**

PREP BASKETBALL: ALL-STAR GAMES

Charity shot

Area players team up to help Make-A-Wish

BY ADAM KROHN

adamkrohn@daltoncitizen.com

The seniors of Northwest Georgia may have played in basketball games with bigger implications during their high school careers, but they probably never played a game that impacted lives to the degree they did on Saturday.

Local athletes were among those who participated in the 12th edition of the Make-A-Wish All-Star Games at Christian Heritage School. The charity event raises money for the nationally-based Make-A-Wish Foundation, which works to make the dreams of children with life-threatening health conditions a reality.

The games, founded by cancer survivor Heidi McKinney-Ingle — a Southeast graduate — raised approximately \$3,000 last year, volunteer Susan Loney said.

She expects that amount to be more this year, though an exact figure was not known immediately.

This year's event was the first time organizers sold Make-A-Wish's blue paper stars for \$1 each. It was announced at the event that Southeast, Northwest Whitfield and the Whitfield County Career Academy combined to raise \$1,368 from paper stars alone, with Southeast leading the way by selling \$836 worth.

"This is really exciting," McKinney-Ingle said.

"So far, the kids in our area have always had to go to the Atlanta chapter to get funds for the kids, but we've opened a chapter in North Georgia recently, and events like this one helps to make sure we

can take care of our own kids and their needs."

Ingle was originally diagnosed with leukemia while in high school, but beat the disease and was cancer-free until July 2007, when she relapsed. After a bone-marrow transplant from her younger sister in October 2007, she is cancer-free again.

"I'm doing much better now," said Ingle, who had hip-replacement surgery in February. "There's some small, minor problems with my hip, but other than that I'm doing really good, so I'm able to be here today for the games and that's what matters most."

Before the game, players were introduced and given a plaque for participating, and Georgia High School Association referee Terry Phelps was awarded with the James Taylor Humanitarian Award for his long-time involvement with the event.

Phelps has officiated at the games since they began.

"I didn't know Mr. Taylor personally but I've heard a great deal about him," Phelps said.

"Any kind of honor that you get that is really an honor for the person in whose name it is, you just kind of humble yourself to think that people think enough about you to honor that person through me. And that's the way I feel, I feel humbled."

In the girls game, a number of players from different schools backed out of the event to the

➤ Please see **CHARITY, 2B**



MATT HAMILTON/The Daily Citizen

Dalton High's Caz Cole, playing for the South All-Stars, blocks Ridgeland's Devaugh Buchanan's drive to the basket during the Make-A-Wish All-Star boys basketball game on Saturday at Christian Heritage School in Dalton. The North won, 94-65.

PREP BASKETBALL

McDonald steps down from post

BY ADAM KROHN

adamkrohn@daltoncitizen.com

Because of a heart condition, Southeast girls basketball coach Jeff McDonald has resigned as head coach of the Lady Raiders.

McDonald was with Southeast for four years — two as an assistant — and compiled a 21-29 overall record.

He made his decision known to school officials two weeks ago.



McDonald

"I've always been able to do whatever I wanted to do," McDonald said. "If it's a challenge, that doesn't matter, I'll do it. In fact, a challenge makes we want to try harder."

"But this is the first time in my life that I've had to really stop doing something I love because of health and that's depressing. But I have to accept it and move on."

McDonald suffered a heart attack last August and it was discovered by doctors that he had 50 and 30 percent arterial blockages. Following surgery, he got clearance from his doctor to resume coaching.

But two weeks ago while teaching at Southeast, he became dizzy early in the school day and was rushed to the emergency room. Doctors found an additional blockage at 10 percent and McDonald

➤ Please see **COACH, 2B**

BOARD EXCITEMENT



MATT HAMILTON/The Daily Citizen

Kevin Kowalksi, on skateboard, drops in as local fans look on Saturday at North Georgia Skateboard Center in Dalton. Kowalksi, a member of the Bacon Skateboard team from Portland, Ore., was among eight professionals who met fans, signed autographs and performed a skate demonstration at the event.

AREA ROUNDUP

Dalton golf scores two good finishes

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Rain washed out much of the prep action for Northwest Georgia teams on Saturday, but with somewhat better conditions on the other side of the state, Dalton High's boys golf team was able to claim a top 10 finish in the Burke County Invitational at Waynesboro Country Club.

Dalton's girls also played, finishing second at White County High's Lady Warrior Spring Swing in Cleveland.

The Catamounts shot a 325, led by Zac Coquerille's 78. Will Morrow shot a 79, Dylan Coffey an 83 and Chase Miller an 85.

"The guys fought hard today," coach Chad Jordan said. "It was a little cooler than we expected in comparison to what we're used to, the way the weather has been."

"The greens were tough to figure out and that's where we had most of our problems. There was

a little bit of a difference in the greens, they were real quick and wouldn't hold the ball."

Behind champion Woodward Academy, the Lady Cats shot a 185 as a team, with Brendie Rockholt, Kaitlin Sims and Hannah Duffie — who finished second among individuals — playing the tourney.

Dalton coaches could not provide individual scores.

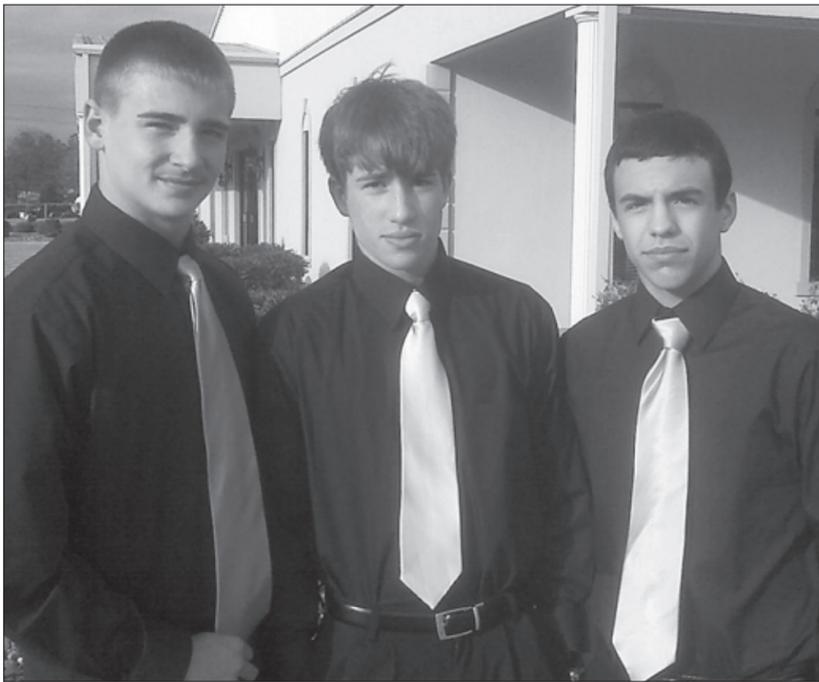
Varsity soccer

■ **Christian Heritage girls 2, Oak Mountain Academy 0:** In Carrollton, the Lady Lions made their debut as a varsity soccer program on the happy end of the scoreboard.

Rachel Gray, a freshman midfielder, scored two second-half goals — the first in the 51st

➤ Please see **AREA, 2B**

MOUNTAINEERS VOLUNTEER



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Future North Murray High School Mountaineer student-athletes Austin Carter, from left, Jeremy Smith and Seth Stainton volunteered as servers at the recent Fellowship of Christian Athletes coaches dinner at Ryman Hall in Dalton. North Murray will begin classes and sports at the start of the 2009-10 school year.

Next: Uniforms on the way

> Continued from page 1B

pass that energy on to the Lady Mountaineers are among the factors that impressed Lowe.

"I believe she'll lay the foundation for us to be successful in softball for a very long time," he said.

One of the ways Hensley is building excitement is by reminding her future players they'll be among the earliest teams to compete for North Murray because of their season starting in the late summer; that also means they may have a chance to earn the first win for the school in any sport.

But Hensley acknowledged the earliest years she'll focus most on working for the future, both for the program and her athletes.

"Probably the first two seasons, we'll just start out building the program and making it go in the direction we want," she said. "But I also think my mission for the players is to help them improve every aspect of their game and get them where (colleges) will look at them, scholarship-wise."

Joining Hensley on the

North Murray coaches roster are Sheree McEntire (cheerleading), Keith Robinette (cross country, golf), Ron Budden (boys soccer), Beth Hubbard (girls soccer), Lindsay Miller (boys tennis) and Amanda Bynum (girls tennis).

McEntire has coached Murray County's cheerleading squad in the past, while Keith Robinette is currently an assistant in boys basketball and golf for the Indians. Bynum leads Murray County's girls tennis team and Miller is an assistant to her.

Budden and Hubbard currently lead the boys and girls soccer programs, respectively, at Bagley.

Previously announced as coaches were Larry Cornelius (football, wrestling), Eric Bishop (boys basketball, track and field), Angela Campbell (girls basketball, volleyball) and Steve Granger (baseball).

But the legwork for building the program continues for Lowe, who said coaches are continuing to build their schedules — a task that hasn't been easy with next year the second of a two-year

classification/region alignment cycle for the Georgia High School Association. He also made orders on Friday for the uniforms for all the teams, which will be aligned with Region 6-3A.

The football team will have the most visible activity yet for North Murray athletics when it holds its 10-practice spring session from May 4-15 at Bagley and its first Black and Gold scrimmage game on May 15 at Murray Field. Future North Murray student-athletes are already working out at Bagley and the Ninth Grade Academy, Lowe said.

And, though perhaps less visibly, the financial foundation for athletics is also being laid. Lowe said 40 people attended the Mountaineer Athletic Booster Club's first meeting and another meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday at Bagley.

"An enormous fundraising effort has already started," Lowe said. "But we have a long way to go there, and anyone in the community who's interested in being part of the booster club or sponsorship opportunities can contact me."

Coach: Team made progress

> Continued from page 1B

decided to step down from coaching after talking with his wife, Paige.

"My wife said, 'You've spent your entire life serving others,'" said McDonald, who served for 14 years in the Marines, including in Desert Storm, and has taught in Whitfield County for 24 years. "She said it's time I have some time for myself."

McDonald leaves in the midst of helping turn the Lady Raiders' program around.

In his first season, Southeast finished with a 5-8 region record as a member

of Region 7-4A. But this season in the newly-revamped Region 6-3A, the Lady Raiders were 8-2 in their sub-region, with their only two losses coming to state runner-up Lakeview Fort-Oglethorpe.

"That group of girls are unbelievable," McDonald said of his team, which included his daughter, Brooke, a senior. "By far the best group I've worked with, period."

Southeast athletic director Scott Ramsey said the school will use its standard hiring procedure to find a replacement, which includes posting a job notice for two

weeks, interviewing a field of candidates and bringing the selection before a committee. Ramsey said the process, which started last week, should be completed within a month.

"This is very unfortunate," he said. "The girls went 8-2 in the sub-region and the main core is coming back. But in this situation, health has to come first and I understand that. But I hate for him to have to give it up this way."

McDonald said he plans to continue teaching at Southeast and will still be involved with the basketball program.

Area: Green earns shutout

> Continued from page 1B

minute, the second on an assist from Hannah Maloney in the 82nd minute — and Kathryn Green had seven saves as she earned the shutout in goal.

Weather changes

■ Among the day's postponements were Dalton's baseball game vs. Russell County, Ala., at Hixson's tournament in Tennessee. Instead of making up that game, the Cats will play Soddy-Daisy at 3:30 p.m. today at Chattanooga Central.

Dalton was able to pick up its first win of the season in a game that finished late and in interesting fashion on Friday night.

The Cats won, 7-5, in a rain-soaked contest that ended after three innings

when Chattanooga Christian's coaches forfeited due to the weather.

Dalton (1-2) overcame four errors behind the pitching of John Erwin, who allowed five runs — none earned — on three hits and a pair of walks while striking out five in three innings.

At the plate, Colton Kinnamon had a triple and drove in three runs, Carter Crutchfield had a double and an RBI and Garren Palmer had a hit and an RBI.

Other postponements on Saturday included Murray County's boys and girls varsity soccer against visiting Cass, Murray County's baseball doubleheader against visiting Fannin County and Northwest Whitfield's freshman and junior varsity baseball games at Gordon Lee. The

meet Northwest's girls track and field team was scheduled to participate in, the South Paulding Invitational, was canceled.

Murray County will make up the Region 7-4A soccer matches with Cass on March 24 at 5:45 p.m.

MS baseball

■ Dalton 9, LaFayette 2: In a game played on Friday, Grant Sane went 2-for-3 and drove in a pair of runs. Saul Lara, Will Erwin, Michael O'Brien and Brandon Potts each added two hits for the Cougars (2-0).

O'Brien also picked up the win, allowing one earned run on six hits and a walk while striking out two in five innings on the mound. Lara finished the job in relief, allowing no hits and striking out one.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Where's all the people?

Attendance down at postseason tourneys

BY PAUL NEWBERRY

Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA — Bob Donohoe had not even considered trying to get tickets to this year's Atlantic Coast Conference tournament. Those are usually handed down like family heirlooms.

Then, a couple of weeks ago, he heard the ACC was putting seats up for sale just like any other event. So he doled out more than \$1,000 for three ticket books, drove to Atlanta from Winston-Salem, N.C., and — voila — there he was watching from a seat in the third deck of the Georgia Dome alongside his wife and daughter.

They had an entire section to themselves. "We've even got our own toilets," Donohoe quipped.

This may be March Madness, but the struggling economy has clearly taken a toll on attendance at most league tournaments. The ACC sold tickets to the general public for the first time since 1966. There were thousands of empty seats at the Southeastern Conference tourney in Tampa, Fla. The Big Ten, Pac-10, Big 12 and Conference USA also reported drop-offs from previous years.

Only the Big East, which again sold out Madison Square Garden after inviting all 16 teams for the first time, managed to avoid a slide.

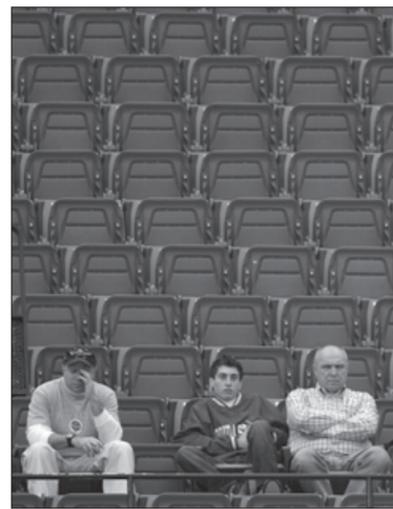
"When you look at everything going on in the economy, people can't afford certain things," Georgia Tech guard Lewis Clinch said after his team was eliminated in the quarterfinals. "We're thankful for what we did have here."

The ACC was caught in a two-sided predicament. Not only has the financial meltdown forced nearly everyone to tighten their belts, this year's tournament was held at a domed football stadium capable of holding some 36,000 fans even when half the building is curtained off — about 13,000 more than the event's regular home in Greensboro, N.C.

The league sold 26,352 tickets, each costing \$363 for an 11-game book, more than any other postseason tournament but still far short of the record attendance set in 2001 when the event was last held at the Georgia Dome. That year, the ACC averaged 36,505 per session, with a high of 40,083.

"All the fans were great," Clinch said. "It was a great atmosphere. That hasn't tapered off just because we don't have 36,000 people here."

In Tampa, the SEC averaged 11,612 for the opening round and 13,717 for the quarterfinals at the 20,500-seat St. Pete Times Forum. It didn't get any easier to pump up attendance when Kentucky and Florida, the



AP PHOTO

Empty seats surround fans at the Georgia Dome on Friday during the Atlantic Coast Conference men's college basketball tourney quarterfinals.

two best draws, were both eliminated before the weekend.

Only 10,387 showed up for Saturday's semifinals.

"I don't think you're turning on the TV and seeing sold-out conference tournaments or conference tournaments at complete capacity anywhere," said Rob Higgins, executive director of the Tampa Bay Sports Commission. "There's not a lot of expendable dollars out there."

Attendance at the Big Ten tournament in basketball-mad Indianapolis was down nearly 10,000 through the first four sessions compared to 2008. At the end of Saturday's semis, they announced that tickets still remained for Sunday's championship game at Conoco Fieldhouse.

Penn State fans Dan Ward and Christina Davies drove 8 1/2 hours from State College, Pa., but they had an advantage over fans who doled out \$250 for an all-session ticket.

"I actually work for the athletic department, so the tickets were free," said Ward, a recent Penn State graduate. "It's probably the only reason I came. If I couldn't get free tickets, I probably wouldn't have come."

The Big 12 tournament in Oklahoma City averaged 15,672 through the first four sessions, on pace to be the fourth-lowest average in the event's 13-year history. That's also a significant slide from the average of 18,879 two years ago, the only other time it was held at the Ford Center.

Out West, the Pac-10 tournament has a pair of hometown teams, USC and UCLA, but there was still a dip in attendance at the 18,997-seat Staples Center in Los Angeles.



Northwest Whitfield's Jasmine Thornton glides past Southeast's Ashley Strong on her way to the basket during Saturday's Make-A-Wish All-Star Game at Christian Heritage School. Thornton and the North girls beat the South, 57-40.

MATT HAMILTON
The Daily Citizen

Charity: North gets sweep

> Continued from page 1B

degree that the South team had just one representative — Southeast's Brooke McDonald.

As a last resort, McDonald's father Jeff, the South's coach — he also coached Southeast the past two seasons before recently resigning — called Southeast sophomores Briana Sosebee, Ashley Strong, Shelby McFarland and Mallory Edgeman in to play, making all five of the South players from the Lady Raiders.

McDonald said he referred to GHSA rules before calling the underclassmen to make sure they didn't commit any violations that would jeopardize

their eligibility for next season.

The North girls also relied on underclassman help from Christian Heritage's Maggie Peoples, a freshman, and Meg Crawford, a sophomore. The adverse circumstances created an ideal way for McDonald to end her high school career.

"I don't like to get sentimental, but they're like my sisters," an emotional McDonald said of her teammates. "I felt very honored to play with them one more time."

The North girls won 57-40, with Northwest's Callie Thomas earning most valuable player honors after scoring 16 points. Peoples led the team with 17. The South girls were led by

McFarland's 17, with lone senior McDonald finishing with six.

The North also won the boys game, 94-65, with Northwest's T.J. Bryant leading his team with 20 points in the winning effort. Dalton's David White led all scorers with 21 points to earn MVP honors.

"It was good coming out here and playing with all the seniors from the year '09," White said. "It was a long season that ended too short for (Dalton), but it was fun getting to do this."

The event also included 3-point and dunk competitions, with a pair of area players — Northwest's Tanner Reno (3-point) and Dalton's Caz Cole (dunk) — picking up the honors.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Carrollton avenges to claim state title

MACON — Karisma Boykin scored 13 points and held Lakeview-Fort Oglethorpe's leading scorer, Kayla Weaver to two points in the second half to give Carrollton a 51-31 win in the Georgia High School Association's Class 3A championship on Saturday.

Trailing 24-23 at half-time, Carrollton opened the second half on an 11-0 run.

Michelle Morgan led LFO with nine points and Weaver chipped in eight. Carrollton (32-2) held Lakeview (20-4) scoreless for the entire third quarter.

LFO beat Carrollton by six points in the championship game of the Region 6-3A tournament.

Sterling welcomes self with a victory

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Brett Sterling scored the deciding goal in a shootout hours after he was called up from the minors, lifting the Atlanta Thrashers to a 4-3 victory over the Buffalo Sabres on Saturday night.

Todd White forced overtime for Atlanta, scoring with 3.5 seconds remaining in regulation. He swatted in a rebound after Buffalo goalie Patrick Lalime could not control Ron Hainsey's slap shot from the high slot.

Slava Kozlov and Marty Reasoner also scored for Atlanta, which matched a season best with its fifth straight win.

Kari Lehtonen stopped 34 shots for Atlanta, who played without star left wing Ilya Kovalyuk because of an upper-body injury.

Peterson too much; dealt by Seahawks

DETROIT — The Detroit Lions need linebackers, and the Seattle Seahawks had one to spare.

Detroit acquired Pro Bowl linebacker Julian Peterson on Saturday from the Seattle Seahawks for defensive tackle Cory Redding and a fifth-round pick in next month's NFL draft.

The Seahawks gave Peterson a \$54 million, seven-year contract three years ago after their Super Bowl appearance in Detroit. An expensive asset, Peterson became expendable in Seattle a few days ago when the Seahawks asked him to reduce his \$6.5 million salary for 2009 and he refused.

Pedestrian dead; hit by Stallworth

MIAMI — Cleveland Browns wide receiver Donte Stallworth hit and killed a pedestrian with his Bentley on Saturday morning on a busy causeway linking Miami and Miami Beach, police said.

Stallworth was headed toward the beach when he hit Mario Reyes, 59, around 7 a.m., said Miami Beach police spokesman Juan Sanchez.

Reyes was taken to a nearby trauma center, where he was pronounced dead about an hour later. He was near a crosswalk but it's not clear if he was crossing legally.

Stallworth, 28, was cooperating and no charges have been filed, Sanchez said.

Davidson's wife to take over Pistons

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — The wife of Bill Davidson is expected to succeed her husband as owner of the Detroit Pistons.

Pistons president Tom Wilson said Saturday that Karen Davidson will fill the ownership role following the death of the longtime owner Friday at 86. Davidson, a Basketball Hall of Fame inductee, also owned the WNBA's Detroit Shock.

Davidson was chairman and president of Guardian Industries Corp., a major manufacturer of glass products. The Auburn Hills company says its leadership will follow a transition plan established more than 10 years ago.

— The Associated Press

GOLF: PGA TOUR

Company at top for Lefty Watney makes charge

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DORAL, Fla. — Phil Mickelson learned a little about Nick Watney during his trips to Las Vegas in the offseason while working with Butch Harmon, the swing coach for both of them.

He got to know Watney a lot better Saturday in the CA Championship and was even more impressed.

Watney overcame a two-shot deficit with three straight birdies early in the third round and had three strong par saves on the back nine for a 5-under 67. Mickelson answered with three straight birdies late in the afternoon during a splendid display of driving and irons and shot 69. They wound up tied for the lead at Doral.

Even though Mickelson longed for another duel with Tiger Woods, he realizes he still has his hands full with Watney.

"There's really not any weaknesses in his game," Mickelson said. "He's already won this year and

played tough down the stretch in that win, and he's a tough competitor."

They were at 16-under 200, four shots clear of anyone else.

Watney, who birdied two his last three holes to win at Torrey Pines last month, ended his streak of bogey-free golf on the Blue Monster after 46 holes and still has made only one in the tournament.

"I just wanted to go out there today and really get into my round and not worry too much about the scoreboard or playing against Phil directly," Watney said. "So I'm pleased with the way I handled it."

Watney has not played in a final group before so many fans, but he has seen what it is like. He was a rookie in 2005 when Doral resembled a rock concert with Woods and Mickelson in the last group, and Woods rallying to win.

"I would love to have that opportunity," Watney said. "Maybe I'll get that shot tomorrow."



AP PHOTO

Nick Watney celebrates after making a birdie putt on the 16th green during the third round of the CA Championship on Saturday. Watney shot a 67 and is tied with Phil Mickelson for the lead.

Woods won't be part of the equation. In his first stroke-play event since winning the U.S. Open in June a week before knee surgery, Woods was thrilled with how he hit the ball, disgusted with how he putted. He managed only a 68 and was nine shots behind.

"The best I've hit it in a long time," Woods said. "Granted, I haven't played in a long time, but still."

Mickelson, the best player to have never won a World Golf Championship, is not ready to consider Sunday another duel at Doral. Jeev Milkha Singh (68) and Camilo Villegas (69) were at 12-under 204, while the group another shot behind included former Doral winner Jim Furyk (69), Kenny Perry (71) and Alvaro Quiros (69), a big hitter from Spain.

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SCOREBOARD

Table with columns for team names and scores. Includes Buffalo, Toronto, Ottawa, Washington, Carolina, Florida, Atlanta, Tampa Bay, etc.

Table with columns for team names and scores. Includes San Francisco, Arizona, New York, Colorado, Philadelphia, San Diego, Houston, etc.

AUTO RACING

NASCAR Sprint Cup

Schedule and Standings
Feb. 7 — x-Budweiser Shootout, Daytona Beach, Fla. (Kevin Harvick)
Feb. 15 — Daytona 500, Daytona Beach, Fla. (Matt Kenseth)
Feb. 22 — Auto Club 500, Fontana, Calif. (Matt Kenseth)
March 1 — Shelby 427, Las Vegas. (Kyle Busch)
March 8 — Kobalt Tools 500, Hampton, Ga. (Kurt Busch)
March 22 — Food City 500, Bristol, Tenn.
March 29 — Goody's Fast Relief 500, Martinsville, Va.
April 5 — Samsung 500, Fort Worth, Texas.
April 18 — Subway Fresh Fit 500, Avondale, Ariz.
April 26 — Aaron's 499, Talladega, Ala.
x-non-points race

Driver Standings

- 1. Jeff Gordon, 634
2. Clint Bowyer, 591
3. Kurt Busch, 588
4. Carl Edwards, 547
5. Matt Kenseth, 546
6. Tony Stewart, 521
7. Kyle Busch, 514
8. Kevin Harvick, 511
9. Casey Kahne, 484
10. Greg Biffle, 480
11. Brian Vickers, 477
12. Denny Reutimann, 475
13. Jimmie Johnson, 457
14. Denny Hamlin, 456
15. Jeff Burton, 437
16. Michael Waltrip, 434
17. Elliott Sadler, 427
18. Jamie McMurray, 423 (tie)
19. Martin Truex Jr., 423
20. AJ Allmendinger, 417

AP SPORTLIGHT

March 15

1869 — The Cincinnati Red Stockings, the first pro baseball team, is organized by George Ellard and Harry Wright.
1940 — Colorado, led by Bob Doll's 15 points, beats Duquesne 51-40 for the NIT championship.
1985 — Larry Holmes scores a 10th-round knockout of David Bay in Las Vegas to retain the world heavyweight title.
1987 — Don Pooley aces the 192-yard 17th hole at the Bay Hill Classic in Orlando and wins \$1 million. Pooley receives half and the other half is donated to the Arnold Palmer Children's Hospital.
1997 — North Carolina's Dean Smith becomes the career victory leader when the Tar Heels beat Colorado 73-56. Smith, with 877 victories, passes Kentucky coaching legend Adolph Rupp.
2001 — The NCAA men's basketball tournament opens with a series of close calls and upsets, with 15th-seeded Hampton beating second-seeded Iowa State 58-57 in the biggest surprise of the day.
2004 — Alexander Mogilny has three assists in Toronto's 6-5 overtime victory at Buffalo, becoming the second Russian to reach the NHL's 1,000-point plateau.

PRO BASEBALL
New arm struggles in defeat

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JUPITER, Fla. — The Atlanta Braves' big-ticket Japanese import scuffled for the first time.

Kenshin Kawakami, signed to a three-year, \$23 million deal in January, was disappointed after giving up seven hits and both runs in 4 2/3 innings of a 2-1 loss to the St. Louis Cardinals on Saturday.

The 33-year-old right-hander entered as the only NL pitcher in the Grapefruit League with two wins and a 0.00 ERA, although he minimized the damage when the Cardinals had four hits in the second but left the bases loaded.

"I felt like I could have done better pitching from the stretch," Kawakami said through a translator. "It was kind of a shame."

Wainwright allowed a run and six hits in five innings with four strikeouts and no walks. It was a huge improvement over his first two outings in which he yielded nine hits and six runs, three earned, in 4 2/3 innings.

The Braves' Jeff Francoeur was 2-for-2, his third straight two-hit game, and is batting .333 after a 3-for-20 start. He has yet to strike out in 28 at-bats after fanning 111 times in 2008.

LOCAL

Prep Schedule

Monday
Varsity baseball
Pope John Paul vs. Northwest Whitfield at Heritage-Catoosa, 5
Varsity tennis
Murray County at Southeast, 4
Christian Heritage at LaGrange Academy, 5
JV baseball
Dalton at Fannin County, 4:30
JV soccer
Northwest Whitfield at Dalton, 4:30
Gilmer boys at Murray County, 5:30
Middle school baseball
Dalton at McCallie, 4:30
Christian Heritage vs. St. Jude at Dupont Park, Chattanooga, 5:30
Middle school baseball
Dalton JV at McCallie, 5
Middle school soccer
North Whitfield at Christian Heritage, 4:30
Middle school tennis
TCPS vs. Christian Heritage at DGCC, 4:15

Tuesday
Varsity baseball
Murray County at Gordon Lee, 4:30
Ringgold at Northwest Whitfield, 5
Dalton vs. Heritage-Catoosa at AT&T Park, Chattanooga, 5:55
Pope John Paul, Tenn. at Southeast, 6
Christian Heritage at Harvester

Varsity golf
Dalton, Northwest Whitfield boys at North Georgia Invitational at Barseley Gardens, 3
Dalton, Murray County, Northwest Whitfield, Southeast girls at Indian Trace, 4

Varsity soccer
Northwest Whitfield at Gordon Central, 5
Southeast at Ringgold, 5
Christian Heritage boys at King's Ridge Christian, 6

Varsity tennis
Northwest Whitfield at Notre Dame, 4
Ridgeland at Southeast, 4
Varsity track and field
Northwest Whitfield, Heritage-Catoosa at Baylor, 4
Dalton at Murray County

JV baseball
Murray County at Gordon Lee, 6:30
Ringgold at Northwest Whitfield, 7:30

JV golf
Dalton vs. Murray County, Spring Lakes, 3:30
Middle school baseball
Rome at Dalton, 4:30
New Hope at North Whitfield, 4:30
Valley Point at Eastbrook, 4:30
Gladden at Westside, 4:30
David Brainerd vs. Christian Heritage at Lakeshore Park, 6:30

Middle school soccer
Eastbrook at Valley Point, 4:30
North Whitfield at New Hope, 4:30
Gladden at Westside, 4:30

Wednesday
Varsity soccer
Murray County at Southeast, 6
Calhoun girls at Northwest Whitfield, 6:30
JV soccer
Calhoun girls at Northwest Whitfield, 5
Murray County at Southeast, 4

Thursday
Varsity baseball
Northwest Whitfield at Southeast, 5
Murray County at LaFayette, 5
Varsity golf
Dalton, Northwest Whitfield boys at North Georgia Invitational, The Farm, 3
Southeast vs. Ringgold at Windstone, Ringgold, 3:30

Varsity soccer
Gilmer girls at Murray County, 5
Rome girls at Dalton, 5:30
Varsity tennis
Dalton at Northwest Whitfield, 4
Southeast at LFO, 4
Murray County at Rome, 4:30

Varsity track and field
Northwest Whitfield, Pepperell, Chattooga at Gordon Central, 4
Southeast at Dalton, 4
JV baseball
Murray County at LaFayette, 7
JV golf
Murray County, Heritage-Catoosa, LFO boys, Battlefield, 3:30
Murray County, Heritage-Catoosa, LFO girls, Spring Lakes, 3:30

JV soccer
Dalton boys at Rome, 6
JV tennis
Northwest Whitfield at Dalton, 4

Freshman baseball
Northwest Whitfield at Southeast, 7:30
Middle school baseball
Gladden at New Hope, 4:30
North Whitfield at Eastbrook, 4:30
Westside at Valley Point, 4:30
Middle school soccer
Eastbrook at North Whitfield, 4:30
New Hope at Gladden, 4:30
Eastbrook at North Whitfield, 4:30

Friday
Varsity baseball
LaGrange Academy at Christian Heritage, 4
Dalton vs. Science Hill, Red Bank at Red Bank, 4
Darlington at Murray County, 6
Varsity soccer
Christian Heritage girls at LaGrange Academy, 5
Northwest Whitfield at Rome, 5:30
North Hall at Dalton, 5:30
LFO at Southeast, 5:30
Murray County at Woodland, 5:30
Holy Spirit Prep boys at Christian Heritage, 5:45

Varsity softball
Christian Heritage at David Brainerd, 6
Varsity tennis
Christian Heritage at Griffin Christian, 4
Dalton at Cass, 4

Freshman baseball
Northwest Whitfield at Heritage-Catoosa, 5:30
Middle school baseball
Christian Heritage at Dalton, 5:15
New Hope at Valley Point tournament
Middle school soccer
Gladden at Christian Heritage, 4
Middle school softball
Christian Heritage at David Brainerd, 4:30
Middle school tennis
St. Jude vs. Christian Heritage at Lakeshore Park, 4:15

Saturday
Varsity golf
Dalton, Northwest Whitfield boys at Warrior Invitational, Mossy Creek GC, Cleveland, 1
Varsity soccer
Sequoyah at Northwest Whitfield, 1
Christian Heritage girls at LaFayette Christian, 2
Osborne at Dalton, 6
JV baseball
Dade County at Northwest Whitfield, Noon
JV golf
Northwest Whitfield at Warrior Invitational, 1
JV soccer
Woodland at Murray County, noon
Freshman baseball
Dade County at Northwest Whitfield, 2
Middle school baseball
New Hope at Valley Point tournament

TELEVISION

On Today

AUTO RACING
3 p.m.
ESPN — NHRA, Gatornationals, final eliminations, at Gainesville, Fla. (same-day tape)
BASEBALL
4 p.m.
ESPN2 — World Baseball Classic, round 2, South Korea vs. Mexico, at San Diego
7:30 p.m.
ESPN2 — World Baseball Classic, round 2, Venezuela-Netherlands loser vs. Puerto Rico-United States loser, at Miami
11 p.m.
ESPN2 — World Baseball Classic, round 2, Cuba vs. Japan, at San Diego
CYCLING
5 p.m.
VERSUS — Paris-Nice, final stage, at Nice, France (same-day tape)

GOLF
10:30 a.m.
TGC — Nationwide Tour, New Zealand Open, final round, at Queenstown, New Zealand (same-day tape)
3 p.m.
NBC — PGA Tour/WGC, CA Championship, final round, at Doral, Fla.
7:30 p.m.
TGC — PGA Tour, Puerto Rico Open, final round, at Rio Grande, Puerto Rico (same-day tape)
10:30 p.m.
TGC — Champions Tour, AT&T Champions Classic, final round, at Santa Clarita, Calif. (same-day tape)

Friday's Scores
Columbus 5, Chicago 3
Vancouver 4, Los Angeles 2

Saturday's Scores
Boston 2, N.Y. Islanders 1
Philadelphia 4, N.Y. Rangers 2
Detroit 5, St. Louis 2
Ottawa 4, Pittsburgh 3, SO
Atlanta 4, Buffalo 3, SO
New Jersey 3, Montreal 1
Toronto 8, Calgary 6
Washington 5, Carolina 4, SO
Tampa Bay 4, Florida 3, SO
Minnesota at Dallas, late
Los Angeles at San Jose, late
Colorado at Edmonton, late
Nashville at Phoenix, late

Today's Games
Philadelphia at N.Y. Rangers, 12:30 p.m.
Boston at Pittsburgh, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Chicago, 3 p.m.
Detroit at Columbus, 5 p.m.
Minnesota at St. Louis, 6 p.m.
San Jose at Anaheim, 8 p.m.
Colorado at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

Men's College Basketball
1 p.m.
CBS — National coverage, Southeastern Conference, championship game, teams TBA, at Tampa, Fla.
ESPN — Atlantic Coast Conference, championship game, teams TBA, at Atlanta
ESPN2 — Southeastern Conference, championship game, teams TBA, at Katy, Texas
3:30 p.m.
CBS — National coverage, Big Ten Conference, championship game, teams TBA, at Indianapolis
6 p.m.
CBS — Men's NCAA Division I tournament Selection Show, at Indianapolis

NBA
3:30 p.m.
ABC — Dallas at L.A. Lakers
9 p.m.
ESPN — Phoenix at Golden State
NHL
12:30 p.m.
NBC — National coverage, Philadelphia at N.Y. Rangers, Detroit at Columbus, or Boston at Pittsburgh

RODEO
8 p.m.
VERSUS — PBR, Birmingham Invitational, at Birmingham, Ala. (same-day tape)

Women's College Basketball
1:30 p.m.
FSN — Big 12 Conference, championship game, teams TBA, at Oklahoma City
9 p.m.
FSN — Pacific-10 Conference, championship game, teams TBA, at Los Angeles

PRO BASKETBALL

NBA Eastern Conference table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes y-Boston, Philadelphia, New Jersey, New York, Toronto.

NBA Southeastern Conference table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes y-Orlando, Atlanta, Miami, Charlotte, Washington.

NBA Central Division table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes x-Cleveland, Detroit, Milwaukee, Chicago, Indiana.

NBA Western Conference Southwest Division table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes San Antonio, Houston, New Orleans, Dallas, Memphis.

NBA Western Conference Northwest Division table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes Portland, Denver, Utah, Minnesota, Oklahoma City.

NBA Western Conference Pacific Division table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes x-L.A. Lakers, Phoenix, Golden State, L.A. Clippers, Sacramento.

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Friday's Scores
Orlando 112, Washington 103
Philadelphia 104, Chicago 101
Houston 91, Charlotte 86
Detroit 99, Toronto 95, OT
Atlanta 101, Indiana 87
Boston 102, Memphis 92
New York 102, Minnesota 94
New Orleans 95, Milwaukee 86
Portland 109, New Jersey 100
Cleveland 126, Sacramento 123, OT
Golden State 119, Dallas 110

Saturday's Scores
Miami 140, Utah 129, 3OT
Charlotte at Minnesota, late
New Orleans at Chicago, late
San Antonio at Houston, late
L.A. Clippers at Denver, late
Oklahoma City at Phoenix, late

Today's Games
Indiana at Toronto, 12:30 p.m.
Boston at Milwaukee, 1 p.m.
Miami at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Portland at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
Memphis at Detroit, 1 p.m.
Dallas at L.A. Lakers, 3:30 p.m.
Utah at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Sacramento at Washington, 6 p.m.
New York at Cleveland, 6 p.m.
Phoenix at Golden State, 9 p.m.
New Jersey at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL

NHL Eastern Conference Atlantic Division table with columns for team, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA. Includes New Jersey, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, N.Y. Rangers, N.Y. Islanders.

NHL Eastern Conference Northeast Division table with columns for team, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA. Includes Boston, Montreal.

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss or shootout loss.

Friday's Scores
Columbus 5, Chicago 3
Vancouver 4, Los Angeles 2

Saturday's Scores
Boston 2, N.Y. Islanders 1
Philadelphia 4, N.Y. Rangers 2
Detroit 5, St. Louis 2
Ottawa 4, Pittsburgh 3, SO
Atlanta 4, Buffalo 3, SO
New Jersey 3, Montreal 1
Toronto 8, Calgary 6
Washington 5, Carolina 4, SO
Tampa Bay 4, Florida 3, SO
Minnesota at Dallas, late
Los Angeles at San Jose, late
Colorado at Edmonton, late
Nashville at Phoenix, late

Today's Games
Philadelphia at N.Y. Rangers, 12:30 p.m.
Boston at Pittsburgh, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Chicago, 3 p.m.
Detroit at Columbus, 5 p.m.
Minnesota at St. Louis, 6 p.m.
San Jose at Anaheim, 8 p.m.
Colorado at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Tourney Schedules

Atlantic Coast Conference
At The Georgia Dome
Atlanta
First Round
Thursday, March 12
Virginia Tech 65, Miami 47
Georgia Tech 86, Clemson 81
Maryland 74, N.C. State 69
Boston College 76, Virginia 63

Quarterfinals
Friday, March 13
North Carolina 79, Virginia Tech 76
Florida State 64, Georgia Tech 62
Maryland 75, Wake Forest 64
Duke vs. Boston College, late

Semifinals
Saturday, March 14
Florida State 73, North Carolina 70
Duke 67, Maryland 61

Championship
Sunday, March 15
Florida State vs. Duke, 1 p.m.

Southeastern Conference
At St. Pete Times Forum
Tampa, Fla.
First Round
Thursday, March 12
Kentucky 71, Mississippi 58
Mississippi State 79, Georgia 60
Alabama 82, Vanderbilt 75
Florida 73, Arkansas 58

Quarterfinals
Friday, March 13
LSU 67, Kentucky 58
Mississippi State 52, South Carolina 68
Tennessee 86, Alabama 62
Auburn vs. Florida, late

Semifinals
Saturday, March 14
Mississippi State 67, LSU 57
Tennessee 94, Auburn 85

Championship
Sunday, March 15
Mississippi State vs. Tennessee, 1 p.m.

Saturday's Scores

Tournament
America East Conference
Championship
Binghamton 61, UMBC 51

Atlantic 10 Conference
Championship
Temple 69, Duquesne 64

Atlantic Coast Conference
Semifinals
Duke 67, Maryland 61
Florida State 73, North Carolina 70

Big 12 Conference
Championship
Missouri 73, Baylor 60

Big Ten Conference
Semifinals
Ohio St. 82, Michigan St. 70
Purdue 66, Illinois 56

Conference USA
Championship
Memphis 64, Tulsa 39

Mid-American Conference
Championship
Akron 65, Buffalo 53

Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference
Championship
Morgan St. 83, Norfolk St. 69

Mountain West Conference
Championship
Utah 52, San Diego St. 50

BASEBALL

MLB Spring Training

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct. Includes Los Angeles, Kansas City, Minnesota, Oakland, Toronto, Tampa Bay, Chicago, Baltimore, Seattle, Texas, New York, Boston, Cleveland, Detroit.

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct. Includes Atlanta, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Los Angeles, Cincinnati, Washington, Florida, Milwaukee, Chicago.

TRANSACTIONS

Saturday's Moves

BASEBALL
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Sent RHP Chris Tillman, RHP Jake Arrieta, RHP Freddy Deza, RHP Ryan Keefe, LHP Brian Matusz, RHP Chorye Spoon, RHP David Hernandez, RHP Jim Hoey, LHP Troy Patton, C Jose Reyes, C Adam Donachie and INF Craig Brazell to their minor league camp.
National League
NEW YORK METS—Claimed RHP Fernando Nieve off waivers from Houston (NL).
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Optioned INF Jarrett Hoffpauir and OF Nick Stavinoha to Memphis (PCL).
SAN DIEGO PADRES—Agreed to terms with OF Chris Snelling on a minor league contract.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
SEATTLE SEAHAWKS—Traded LB Julian Peterson to Detroit for DT Cory Redding and an undisclosed 2009 draft pick.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
ATLANTA THRASHERS—Recalled F Brett Stirling from Chicago (AHL).
ST. LOUIS BLUES—Assigned F Trent Whitfield to Peoria (AHL).
TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS—Signed F Chris DiDomenico to a three-year contract.
WASHINGTON CAPITALS—Recalled F Keith Aucoin from Hershey (AHL).

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Par Scores
Saturday
At Valencia Country Club
Valencia, Calif.
Purse: \$1.6 million
Yardage: 6,959; Par: 72

Second Round
Joey Sindelar 64-70 — 134 -10
Don Pooley 70-65 — 135 -9
Jay Haas 67-69 — 136 -8
Steve Thomas 71-66 — 137 -7
Tim Simpson 69-69 — 138 -6
Bruce Lietzke 68-70 — 138 -6
Dan Forsman 72-67 — 139 -5
Tom McKnight 71-68 — 139 -5
Ken Green 71-68 — 139 -5
Jeff Sluman 69-70 — 139 -5
Robert L. Thompson 69-70 — 139 -5

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2009 Grants Sporting Goods Big Bass Tour Tournament Trail Schedule

2009 Grants Sporting Goods Big Bass Tour Tournament Trail Schedule

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2. April 19th - Weiss (Hawgs Den)
\$100 Entry Fee - \$1000 Guaranteed for 1st Place, 100% Payback
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COLLEGE BASKETBALL: CONFERENCE TOURNAMENTS

Tigers think of what's next

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Robert Dozier and the Memphis Tigers watched the last 32 seconds tick off the clock, finishing a fourth straight Conference USA tournament championship. No one threw the ball into the air or jumped on a table.

This isn't what these Tigers want to celebrate, not after blowing the national championship against Kansas in overtime a year ago.

"It's just one of our goals we accomplished," said Dozier, a senior. "The next big thing is the (NCAA) tournament. We want to be national champions, so we've got to go get ready."

Tyreke Evans scored 18 points and Dozier added 18 points and 14 rebounds

NATIONAL ROUNDUP

Saturday, leading No. 4 Memphis to a 64-39 victory over Tulsa in the Conference USA tournament final.

The Tigers (31-3) extended the nation's longest winning streak to 25 and won their 61st straight league game. Memphis, last year's national runner-up, hasn't lost since Dec. 20 to Syracuse.

Antonio Anderson added 12 points and Doneal Mack had 11 for Memphis, which padded its NCAA record of wins during this four-year run to 135.

Tulsa (24-10) scored the fewest points ever in a C-USA tournament game.

■ **No. 14 Missouri 73, Baylor 60:** In Oklahoma City, DeMarre Carroll scored 20 points and the Missouri Tigers ended Baylor's surprising run through the Big 12 tournament, grinding down the Bears to win their first postseason conference title in 16 years.

Matt Lawrence added 13 points and his hot shooting helped the third-seeded Tigers (28-6) pull away early in the second half to spoil what would have been an unprecedented run to the title for Baylor.

Baylor made it as far as the finals with a string of three straight upsets that included a quarterfinal stunner against No. 11 Kansas, the three-time defending tournament champion.

Curtis Jerrells scored 16 to lead the ninth-seeded Bears (20-14), who finally ran out of gas in their bid to become the first Big 12 team to claim the tournament title by winning four games in four days.

■ **USC 66, No. 23 Arizona State 63:** In Los Angeles, Daniel Hackett hit the tying and go-ahead free throws with 42 seconds remaining and Southern California held on for the victory over No. 23 Arizona State to win the Pac-10 tournament championship.

Freshman DeMar DeRozan scored 25 points, Hackett added 19 and Dwight Lewis 13 for the sixth-seeded Trojans (21-12), who overcame a 15-point halftime deficit.



AP PHOTO
The Memphis Tigers' Wesley Witherspoon cuts down the net after his team beat Tulsa, 64-39, for the Conference USA tournament title on Saturday in Memphis, Tenn.

Vols, Miss. St. face off today

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TAMPA, Fla. — Wayne Chism signed with Tennessee thinking he would get a chance to play in multiple Southeastern Conference championship games.

His first two league tournaments ended in disappointment, with the Volunteers failing to get past the second round. Now, he will get his chance.

Chism scored a career-high 27 points, Tyler Smith added 23 and Tennessee beat Auburn 94-85 Saturday to advance to its first SEC championship game in 18 years.

"I've played in the tournament three times and came up short a lot," Chism said. "To finally play on a Sunday, that's very good."

The headband-wearing Volunteers (21-11) will face surging Mississippi State in the final today. The Bulldogs are 7-1 against teams from the conference's Eastern Division, with the one loss coming at Tennessee in late February.

The Vols can only hope to play as well as they did against Auburn, especially in the first half.

Tennessee shot 62 percent from the field and 58 percent from 3-point range in the first 20 minutes and opened up a 14-point lead. The Tigers (22-11) cut it to 55-

SEC TOURNAMENT

50 early in the second half, but the Vols pulled away down the stretch with dunks and free throws.

Coach Bruce Pearl's team has now won five of six, four of them away from home, and is starting to look like the group everyone expected to see when the season began.

"We're coming together as a team and that's the biggest thing we need to be focusing on," Chism said. "We're staying together and playing with passion out there."

Auburn had been the league's hottest team, having won nine of its last 10 games and making a strong case for an NCAA tournament bid. But the Tigers, coming off a late-night victory against Florida, were overmatched against the bigger, more athletic Volunteers.

Korvotney Barber led Auburn with 24 points and nine rebounds. Rasheem Barrett added 18, and Tay Waller chipped in 17. The Tigers found plenty of ways to score, but they had a tough time rebounding against the Chism and his teammates.

The Vols finished with a 44-26 advantage on the boards, which helped offset 19 turnovers.



AP PHOTO
Tennessee's Wayne Chism dunks in front of Auburn's Korvotney Barber during the Volunteers' 94-84 victory in the semifinals of the Southeastern Conference tournament in Tampa, Fla. on Saturday.

■ **Mississippi State 67, No. 20 LSU:** Jarvis Varnado scored 19 points and Barry Stewart added 17 Saturday to lead surging Mississippi State to an upset of LSU.

The Bulldogs (22-12) began the week needing to win two or three times to improve their chances of getting a spot in the NCAA tournament. Now, they're in a position to claim the SEC's automatic berth with their first conference tournament title since 2002.

LSU (26-7) beat Mississippi State twice during the regular season, but were no match this time with SEC Player of the Year Marcus Thornton scoring 14 on 5-for-19 shooting and the Tigers shooting 31 percent overall.

The victory was the fifth straight for Mississippi State. LSU has lost three of four since clinching the SEC regular-season title.

The Bulldogs, the league's best 3-point shooting team, were 3-for-16.

Upset of UNC brings a first for FSU

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — The last time North Carolina came down to the wire against Florida State, Ty Lawson bailed out the Tar Heels.

This time, all he could do was watch as two teammates missed.

ACC TOURNAMENT

Toney Douglas outshined reigning national player of the year Tyler Hansbrough, scoring 27 points including the go-ahead free throws, as the No. 22 Seminoles ended top-ranked North Carolina's quest for a third straight Atlantic Coast Conference championship with a 73-70 upset in the semifinals Saturday.

Florida State (25-8) advanced to its first ACC final in school history. The Seminoles will meet Duke today.

As for the Tar Heels, it's time to start focusing on a national championship. Despite the loss, North Carolina (28-4) is still likely to get a top seed in the NCAA tournament, especially after No. 2 Pittsburgh and No. 3 Connecticut both lost in their opening games at the Big East tournament.

"We understand," said Hansbrough, who had 22 points and 12 rebounds but fumbled away the ball in the lane with about 20 seconds remaining. "We lose now, it's over."

During the regular season, Lawson hit a running 3-pointer as time expired to give the Tar Heels an 80-77 victory over Florida State. He watched this ending from the bench, missing his second straight game because of an injured toe.

The Tar Heels had a couple of chances to force overtime. Wayne Ellington, who led North Carolina with 24 points, missed from beyond the arc. Danny Green chased down the rebound and fired up another 3 at the buzzer. It came up short, and the Seminoles erupted in celebration.



AP PHOTO
Florida State's Chris Singleton, left, collides with Tyler Hansbrough of North Carolina during their semifinal game at the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament in the Georgia Dome in Atlanta on Saturday. With a 73-70 win, Florida State earned its first trip to the title game.

■ **No. 9 Duke 67, Maryland 61:** Jon Scheyer scored 22 points and Duke rode a 12-2 second-half run to beat Maryland. Kyle Singler added 14 points for Duke.

Duke (27-6) led only 44-41 before Gerald Henderson's 3-pointer with 8:53 started the 12-2 run. Scheyer and David McClure each had back-to-back baskets in the run, which ended with Duke leading 56-43 with 5:35 to play.

Eric Hayes answered with four straight points for Maryland (20-13), but he missed a 3-point attempt with 2 minutes left after the Terrapins cut the lead to seven points at 57-50.

Hayes led Maryland with 20 points, including 15 after Duke's 12-2 run. He scored 15 of Maryland's final 18 points.

Duke will be trying to win the ACC tournament for the fourth time as a No. 3 seed. The Blue Devils also were No. 3 seeds when winning the title in 1988, 2003 and 2005.

Maryland, playing in its first semifinal since winning the tournament as a No. 6 seed in 2004, was an even bigger underdog as a No. 7 seed this year.

The Terrapins' underdog role was especially obvious against Duke, which swept two games in the regular season, winning by double figures each time.

The Blue Devils crushed the Terrapins 85-44 in Durham, N.C., and completed the regular-season sweep with 78-67 win at Maryland.

The third meeting between the teams was close until late in the game.

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COMMENTARY

Osborne knows just what Nebraska needs

Many observers believe that Nebraska football is coming back. And if the Cornhuskers do return to prominence, Tom Osborne, their Hall of Fame coach, will play a prominent role.

There is an elevated and rose colored buzz in Lincoln now that familiar leadership is in place. Osborne, who claimed three national titles as the Nebraska coach, became athletic director in late 2007 after serving roles as interim coach and athletic director. He hired Bo Pelini to replace Bill Callahan, and that change alone endeared him to his constituency.

It took a failed gubernatorial campaign and Callahan's second losing season in four years for Nebraska to initiate change that has restored confidence among the passionate Cornhuskers.

When Osborne, who holds a doctorate in educational psychology, took over from Bob Devaney, winner of two national titles, there was constancy in performance.

Osborne, who always considered himself a teacher, never fielded a team that won fewer than nine games. However, there was one frustration initially — he had trouble winning a national title, which was expected in Lincoln.

In the 1984 Orange Bowl, his undefeated and No. 1-ranked team lost to Miami, giving the Hurricanes a golden opportunity after Georgia upset No. 2-ranked Texas in the Cotton Bowl (10-9) earlier that day.

Miami moved out front 31-17 in the fourth quarter, but Nebraska rallied, scoring a touchdown with 38 seconds left. With the score 31-30, Osborne didn't hesitate.

From 15 yards away on the Cornhusker sideline, I watched as he chose to gamble for victory.

Had he kicked the extra point, Nebraska, having been ranked No. 1 the entire season, might have won the national championship with a tie.



Lorán Smith

"While I never really gave serious thought to that, I know that I would never have voted for a coach who made that decision," Osborne said recently in a phone conversation. "I couldn't vote for a coach who settled for a tie, one who backed into a championship."

Quarterback Turner Gill's pass was deflected at the last second, but barely. The ball then bounced off the receiver's shoulder pads incomplete, giving Miami an "upset" national title.

Osborne, who played wide receiver in the National Football League for four years, was elected — after 25 years as Nebraska's head coach — to the U.S. Congress for three terms as a Republican. He ran for governor in 2006, but lost.

His congressional district covered 80 percent of the land mass of the state. Osborne said of his Washington experience, "I did my best to try to make life better for all those in my district."

On his role as athletic director, he said, "I go to practice and interact with our coaches and players, which is the thing I enjoy most. I try to understand what is going on. Football is our most important sport and I want to be supportive. When Bob Devaney was athletic director, he was very supportive of our program in every way."

Perhaps Osborne, a historian, knows of the many cases when the football coach became athletic director and made life less than agreeable for his successor.

That won't happen at Nebraska.

You can write to Lorán Smith at loran-smith@sports.uga.edu.

LOCAL SPORTS: CALENDAR

Booster meeting

The Mountaineer Athletic Booster Club for North Murray High will meet at 7 p.m. on March 16 at Bagley Middle.

Registration, tryouts

Nob North Golf Course is taking entries for the 2009 Industrial Golf League, which plays a 10-week schedule and season-ending playoff. Each team plays once a week with matches starting from 5:30 to 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Each team has nine players, with four participating in the weekly competition; entry fee is \$825 per team. Call (706) 694-8505.

The Dalton Parks and Recreation Department is registering teams for adult softball leagues in co-ed, men's, women's and morning (12 games, \$400 per team) and church, Wednesday night and Friday night (eight games, \$325). Managers meetings are scheduled for March 23 (men's B, C and C+ at 6 p.m.; women's and co-ed at 7 p.m.) and March 24 (morning at 10 a.m.; Wednesday night, Friday night and church at 7 p.m.). For information, call (706) 278-1057.

The Lakeview Lookouts are holding tryouts for their 17-under basketball team from 6-7:30 p.m. on March 24 at Lakeview-Fort Oglethorpe High School. For information, contact Mark Oliver at (706) 280-8121 or moliver.lfo@catoosa.k12.ga.us.

Whitfield County Parks and Recreation is forming a Dixie Boys baseball league for ages 15-19 and a Dixie Girls softball league for ages 13-18. An organizational meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. on March 30 at the Whitfield County Recreation Department. Meeting is open to the public, including middle school and high school coaches. For information, call (706) 226-8341 or write jmanis@whitfieldcountyga.com.

The North Georgia Bulldogs, a semi-pro football team based in Calhoun, are still looking for linemen to fill out their 50-man roster. The Bulldogs will hold preseason games in May and open on June 13. Anyone interested in trying out for the positions can write to co-owner Kacee Smith at northgeorgiabulldogs@hotmail.com. The Bulldogs will hold preseason games in May and open on June 13.

The Whitfield Reds are looking for one 8-year-old boy to play travel baseball. Call Ricky Chumley at (423) 593-5020.

Clinics, camps

Dalton Parks and Recreation Department will host a clinic by the Doyle Academy's baseball and softball school from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on March 21 at Lakeshore Park. Groups will be divided by ages (6-8, 9-10, 11-12 and 13-older). Fee is \$65. Participants should bring their own bat and glove, tennis shoes for indoor use and a lunch. Call (706) 281-1223.

Advantage Basketball Camps is accepting registration for its spring break camp on April 4-6 and 10-12 at Trinity Chapel Academy in Powder Springs. Camp will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. For information, visit advantagebasketball.com or call Charles Overall at (404) 425-0890.

Dalton High will hold the Catamount Football Camp for ages 7 through rising eighth graders on June 22-24 from 9 a.m. to noon each day. Camp will focus on fundamentals and basic skills and techniques of football, and campers will receive individual attention with encouragement to improve their game, sportsmanship and football knowledge. Motivational speakers, competitions and awards will also be part of the camp. Cost is \$50; campers will receive a T-shirt and camp picture. Registration will be available the day of camp. Contact Chad Jordan at (706) 217-5577 or chad.jordan@dalton.k12.ga.us.

Ten Star All-Star Basketball is accepting applications for its invitation-only summer camp for boys and girls ages 10-19. Past participants include Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Antawn Jamison, and players from all 50 states plus 11 foreign countries attended last year's camps. Camp locations include Gainesville, Ga. and Lebanon, Tenn., as well as other sites. A camp for ages players ages 9-18 of all skill levels is also available. For a free brochure, call (704) 373-0873 before April 15.

Tournaments

USFA girls fastpitch tournaments are scheduled for March 21-22 at Heritage Point in Dalton; March 28-29 at Warner Park in Chattanooga; April 4-5 at Cleveland (Tenn.) Industrial Park; and April 11 at Heritage Point. All teams from 8-to-18-under are invited. Contact Garry Headrick at Garry_Headrick2001@yahoo.com or (706) 483-1346.

The fourth Youth March Madness basketball tournament for boys and girls grades 1-12 will be held at various gymnasiums in the Dalton area on March 20-22. Entry fee is \$150. Contact Stacy Pardee at by e-mail at spardee@whitfield.k12.ga.us or (706) 483-7246.

The Spring Place Ruritan Club's 10th fundraising golf tourney is scheduled for March 21 at Indian Trace. Proceeds will support the club's service projects in the Murray County area. Tourney is four-man select shot format and will start at 8:30 a.m. Cash prizes will be presented to the top three teams and other awards given for closest to pin and longest drive winners. Lunch will be served to participants. For information on the tourney, call Jerome Parrott at (706) 278-4959, Carol Parrott at (706) 695-9760 or Carlton McDaniel at (706) 695-2110.

The Northwest Whitfield Dugout Club will host a fundraiser golf tournament with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. on March 22 at Indian Trace Golf Course in Chatsworth. Format is two-person select shot and cost is \$75 per person. Contact Ricky Darnell at (706) 217-9338 or Kip Allen at (706) 260-9664.

Add your news

If you have a tournament, registration, camp, meeting or other local sports event you'd like to have listed, we're happy to include it in our sports calendar. E-mail the details to larryfleming@daltoncitizen.com or send a fax to (706) 275-6641.

UT receiver injures neck; expected to be OK

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A frightening injury put a damper on Tennessee's highly anticipated first practice in full pads under new coach Lane Kiffin on Friday.

Wide receiver Ahmad Paige suffered an undisclosed neck injury when he

ran into a brick wall in the corner of the end zone at Neyland Stadium late in the Volunteers' practice, silencing a crowd of about 2,000.

Later in the evening, Tennessee head athletic trainer Jason McVeigh said Paige was taken to UT

Hospital and that all tests returned normal.

Kiffin said Paige was able to talk and had movement in his arms and legs, but he was placed on a backboard and transported to the emergency room as a precaution.

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COLUMN

Things happen for a reason

People say things happen for a reason. But sometimes it's hard to say what the reason is.

I had a big fight with my sister. She called late one night driving home after she'd had a big fight with our brother.

Joe is blind and barely walks. He has other prob-

lems, too, none the least of which is his stubbornness and the fact that he had to leave his apartment



Sharon Randall

spend the winter smoking his pipe on our sister's porch with a stocking cap pulled down over his nose.

I wish you could've seen him.

After five months of sharing a bathroom, they were both glad when he could move back to his own place. The nasty weather didn't stop them — freezing rain, black ice on the roads — and my sister was fit to be tied.

Before I tell you what she said, let me just say this. The woman is crazy about Walmart. She loves Walmart a lot more than she loves me. Once, when I went to visit her for a week, she stopped by Walmart to "get a few things" and left me sitting in the parking lot for two hours.

I am not making that up. Ask Joe. He was there, too, standing by the car smoking his pipe with his stocking cap over his nose. People passing by kept a wide berth around us.

Anyhow. After settling Joe in his apartment, she went to Walmart, she said, to "get a few things" Joe needed. Two hours later, she was about to check out when the store made an announcement: They were closing due to an emergency generator shutting down.

No, she was told, she could not pay for the items in her cart. And yes, they were sorry about her blind brother, but she could not take the items for free.

She had to leave Walmart, hopping mad, find a grocery store and start all over.

To top it all, she said, after she finally lugged the stuff into Joe's kitchen, he had the nerve to ask, "What? You only got one-half gallon of milk?"

"The little cuss doesn't even drink milk!" she said. "I love him to death, I'd give him an eye, but I could strangle him!"

"I wouldn't," I said. "Wouldn't strangle him?"

"No," I said. "I wouldn't give him an eye. The doctors said it wouldn't help, remember?"

She got quiet, possibly trying to swerve back onto the road.

"If I give him an eye," she said, "you have to give him something. Maybe a kidney?"

"He doesn't need a kidney."

"Well, he doesn't need an eye, either, or I wouldn't offer mine! It's the principle of the thing!"

"OK, I'll give him a kidney. At least kidneys don't show."

"You could get a glass eye."

➤ See RANDALL, 2C

Nashville on the cheap

By JOE EDWARDS
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE — There is no beach. No theme park. No casinos. No Super Bowl. No Mardi Gras. No World Cup.

Nashville is the city that tore down its theme park to build a (gasp) shopping mall.

Yet this Middle Tennessee city, famous worldwide for its records and rhinestones, is a worthy destination for tourists pinching pennies — recession or not.

There's plenty of free music plus educational and cultural attractions to fill up a few days without lightening the wallet. You can stay, eat and be entertained at less cost than in many comparable cities.

"We look at it as a value destination," said Butch Spyridon, president of the Nashville Convention & Visitors Bureau. "You can have an instant vacation at minimum expense."

MUSIC: Nashville has built much of its reputation on fiddles and fringe, marketing itself as "Music City USA."

So check out the cluster of a dozen or so honky-tonks along a three-block stretch of downtown Nashville near the Cumberland River. The beer is cold, the music is loud and the admission is free. The joints stand together like sturdy soldiers in formation, awaiting the jean-clad, cowboy-hat wearing patrons with well-worn boots on their feet and anticipation in their throats.

Just walk in, find a table (if there is one), order a brew and have a good time. The only concession to revenue is a tip jar passed around periodically. The especially savvy bars leave it near the door to signal customers coming or going.

"It's an experience that can't be duplicated anywhere else," Spyridon said.

These aren't just a collection of bars run by fly-by-night rubes. Most have been in business several years. Tootsie's, one of them, even has a public relations firm.

"You get to partying, and pretty soon you're dancing on the bar," Steve Smith, Tootsie's owner, said in describing a typical visit.

The most upscale of the businesses is the Wildhorse Saloon, though its Web site doesn't describe it as a honky-tonk. It's referred to (sniff, sniff) as "a mecca of entertainment."

It has three levels, 66,000 square feet and has sold around 10 million bottles of beer since opening in 1994.

It's \$4 to \$8 to get in, and there are three dance instructors on staff giving free lessons nightly except for Monday when the club is closed — possibly to give all involved a chance to recover.

Beer specials at the honky-tonks are as little as \$2.50.

At a Nashville shrine, in the heart of the downtown entertainment district, you can request your favorite country song and hear it from a friendly guitarist — for free.

David Andersen performs daily at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, strolling throughout the atrium before patrons pay their \$17.95 to enter the museum area.

On his 15-year-old Epiphone wireless guitar, he'll play just about anything you want to hear: "You Are My Sunshine," "I Can't Help Falling in Love," "Spanish Eyes."

Andersen will politely ask you to sign his journal — and it's helped him



AP PHOTO

People walk among the honky-tonks on Broadway in Nashville, Tenn. Many of the bars feature live music, and the Ernest Tubbs Record Shop is home to the Midnite Jamboree every Saturday night in addition to selling many hard-to-find albums.

keep track of the people he's met. He claims it's more than 1 million.

"I just really enjoy playing these songs and meeting so many people," he said.

Tickets for the Grand Ole Opry, Nashville's legendary country music show, are \$38 to \$53 for around 2 1/2 hours of performances.

For nightowls, the Ernest Tubbs Midnite Jamboree is held every Saturday night (actually early Sunday mornings) at a theater near the Grand Ole Opry House northeast of downtown. Entertainment is free with performers like Michael Martin Murphey, Charlie Louvin and Jack Greene. Gospel music great Dottie Rambo made one of her final appearances on the show last May before she was killed in a bus wreck.

CHEAP EATS: Nestled between the honky-tonks sits Jack's BarBQue — and tourists must get some Southern pork barbecue or they'll remain virgin visitors. A pork shoulder sandwich, baked beans, cole slaw and tea or a soft drink cost just \$8.66. A slice of chess (a custardy pie) or chocolate fudge pie is \$2.50.

A few miles away, for another traditional Southern meal, the At The Table cafeteria offers fried chicken, collard greens, sweet potatoes and hot water cornbread for a mere \$7.25.

Throat need a jolt? Prince's Hot Fried Chicken Shack 15 minutes north of downtown has been burning mouths since 1945 with its 500,000-volt chicken fried in cast iron skillets and served with white bread and pickles. Add a couple of sides and you can

still leave (likely steaming) for around \$10.

HISTORY AND CULTURE: Feeling guilty about honky-tonkin' and want to get a little culture? The Hermitage, antebellum home of President Andrew Jackson, is open daily, 12 miles east of downtown. Tours cost \$17 for adults, \$11 for students 13-18 and \$7 for children 6-12.

Jackson would certainly welcome the common man to his 190-year-old home. But don't insult the place! Jackson, a feisty geezer in his day, might rise from his grave on the grounds and challenge you to a duel.

In Nashville's midtown area, across from Vanderbilt University in Centennial Park, is The Parthenon, a replica of the original Parthenon in Athens. Inside is a re-creation of the 42-foot statue Athena and an art museum featuring 63 paintings by 19th and 20th century American artists. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$3.50 for children. But if you don't go in, you can still get close to the structure by driving through the 91-acre park. There's a small lake in the park with reasonably friendly ducks, two free craft fairs a year and free musical entertainment on most summer weekends.

"Our arts and cultural offerings are our best-kept secrets," Spyridon said.

For those who like history, the city also offers the civil rights room at the Nashville Public Library, a Grand Ole Opry museum, the Tennessee State Museum, the Tennessee Agricultural Museum and self-guided tours of the

150-year-old state Capitol — all free.

A short walk from the honky-tonks is the elegant Union Station Hotel, which opened as a train station in 1900 and became a hotel in 1986. The Richardsonian-Romanesque design structure has a 65-foot, barrel-vaulted lobby ceiling featuring gold-leaf medallions and 100-year-old original luminous prism stained glass.

At each end of the lobby are two bas-relief panels of a steam locomotive and horse-drawn chariot. The structure became a National Historic Landmark in 1977.

Enjoy the free walk through the lobby because to spend the night, the rate posted on the hotel Web site is \$206 to \$279 for two adults for one weekend night in April.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Northeast of downtown is the Gaylord Opryland Resort Hotel & Convention Center — a little town all its own. It has about 2,900 rooms, nine acres of indoor gardens, cascading waterfalls, a free dancing waters show nightly and an indoor river with its own delta flatboat. You can spend half a day just walking around this site, but the cost to park is \$18 (\$25 for valet). It's \$9 to ride the flatboat.

Opry Mills, next door to the hotel, has 1.2 million square feet on the former site of the Opryland USA theme park, which was torn down in 1997. It has more than 200 places to shop, eat or play.

For other shopping, there's an outlet mall 30 minutes east of Nashville on Interstate 40 with more than 40 stores. There's a free flea market every weekend at the Farmer's Market near the state Capitol, and a much larger free one on the fourth weekend each month at the Tennessee State Fairgrounds. This one boasts of dealers and vendors from 30 states and patrons by the bus load. Parking is \$4.

A 90-minute drive southeast of Nashville, via either I-24 or I-65, is the Jack Daniel Distillery in Lynchburg. Tours are free and lively. How many people work there? "Oh, about half," guides like to say.

Also away from the blazing fiddles and rhythm guitars is the quiet, picturesque Natchez Trace Parkway, which can be accessed just south of Nashville. There are no tolls, and for the adventurous, it goes 444 miles south through Alabama and into southern portions of the Mississippi River. You may find dulcimer demonstrations along the way.

Staying on the quiet, outdoor side, fishing in the Nashville area is extraordinary. Bass (and others) is waiting to be caught at J. Percy Priest Lake and Old Hickory Lake. A one-day fishing license is \$5.50.

Elsewhere, a half dozen wineries are within an hour of Nashville.

LODGING AND GETTING AROUND: The Courtyard Nashville Downtown is \$109 a night and you can walk to all the downtown attractions. A Red Roof Inn off I-65 15 minutes south of downtown averages \$47 a night.

Parking downtown is up to \$12 a night. Taxis cost around \$10 for a downtown ride and twice that for transportation from outlying areas to the center of town.

The city normally has 11 million visitors a year, but expects a 5 to 8 percent decline until the economy improves.

The Nashville Convention & Visitors Bureau is offering discounts of up to 50 percent at www.visitmusiccity.com/visitors/TotalAccess.

Hoola hooping: Total fitness for mind, body

By STEPHANIE HAYES
St. Petersburg Times



SHNS PHOTO

Hooping begins at the core, but as you get more advanced the hoop moves all over the body, as demonstrated by Kelly Schiller, a hoop dancer with Hoola Monsters.

Q: This isn't Alvin and the Chipmunks stuff?

A: The Hula Hoop has been around since the 1950s, but those were intended for children. They were plastic hoops found in toy stores. Ours are heavier and more durable, and they move slower because of the size and weight. They're meant for adults.

Q: So do you just stand there and spin?

A: It's a full range of motion. We're doing jumps and throws and leaps, and we're tossing it around our body and off our body. After you get comfortable moving around with the hoop, you're able to add your own elements, like flairs of belly dance or hip-hop.

Q: Are people surprised when they try it?

A: People pick up a hoop and

A kicky fad of yesteryear is circling back around.

It's hoola hooping, but probably not like you remember. Michelle Obama was snapped hooping at her daughter's birthday. Marisa Tomei recently visited the set of "Ellen," snaking her lithe body through a pink and silver circle.

A troupe called Hoola Monsters rules the local hoop scene. They perform at drum circles, on stage and at the beach, spreading the hoola message — total fitness for the mind and body.

Hoola Monsters founder Abby Albaum, 29, said hoop dance helped bring her out of a depression and tone up. Since picking up a hoop almost two years ago, she's never looked back.

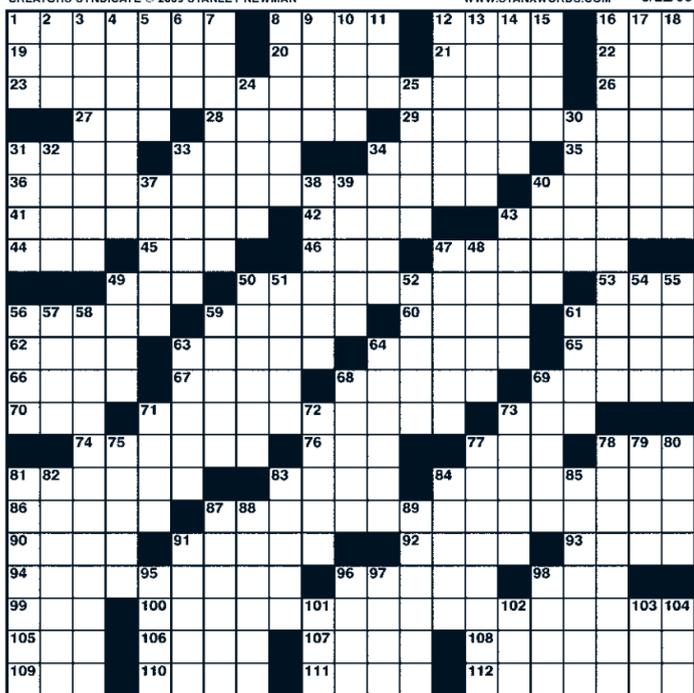
We chatted with Albaum to find out how to loop-the-loop.

➤ See HOOPING, 3C

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
 NO "I" IN PUZZLE: Not in English, anyway
 by Merle Baker

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| | | 62 Bowl over |
| | | 63 Be behind |

Reach Stan Newman at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, or at www.StanXwords.com

Randall

> Continued from page 1C

"I don't want a glass eye."
 "Fine, give him a kidney!"
 "Fine," I said, "I will."
 We got quiet. I thought of my brother in his dark apartment and my sister driving home dodging black ice. I could hear her windshield wipers slapping out a tune, an old hit by Aretha Franklin ("You better think," slap, slap. "Think about what you're tryin' to do to me!")
 "Sissy?" I said. "Did you run off the road yet?"
 "No," she said. "I'm here."
 So I cleared my throat and found the voice that I use when I want to be sure I am heard.
 I told her she's been a saint looking out for our brother, always being there when we need her, and how very much it would mean to our mother.
 "When you get to heaven," I said, "God will run out of stars trying to fill up your crown."
 She didn't seem to know what to say to that. So I said, "Things happen for a reason. Do you know why that generator shut down on you at Walmart?"
 "No," she said, "why?"
 "Because you left me in that parking lot for two hours."

Sharon Randall can be contacted at P.O. Box 777394, Henderson NV 89077, or at www.sharonrandall.com.

ANSWERS ON 4C

Hooping: Body and mind health

> Continued from page 1C

they're able to use it right away, even when they weren't able to as a child. I can't use a children's hoop, and I'm a professional hoop dancer.

Q: How does hooping make you feel?

A: I believe it can be the new yoga. The benefits are amazing. It's a great workout and you're getting in shape, but it's also mental. The rocking sensation is like a baby rocking in its cradle. It's soothing and has a lot of the same qualities and principles that go hand in hand with yoga.

Q: Is it hard to get snazzy at hooping?

A: You have to teach your muscles to move in a certain way. It's not a matter of how good you are; it's how good you feel when you do it. That's the way we teach. It's not about doing tons of tricks. It's about feeling good and feeling accomplished.

Q: It seems like your whole body probably gets a workout.

A: Each time you practice, it's almost like a new discovery takes place. You might be sore in a different place each time. I've always had a problem toning my arms. That was the thing I noticed improve. People always think it must be great

for the core, but the more experienced you get with the hoop, the less it stays on the core.

Q: What if we're intimidated to hoop?

A: One of the main things I enforce in my class is that dropping the hoop is never anything to be embarrassed or ashamed of. It means you're learning and trying something new. It just depends on what you make of it. My mom will hoop while she's watching TV. It can be as advanced as you want it to be or it can be simplistic.

Q: Why hooping vs. treadmill?

A: If a person enjoys their activity, they're much more likely to stick with it. I've never felt like, "Oh no, I have to go home and hoop now." It feels like 15 minutes go by and it's an hour and a half. This is almost like the perfect form of exercise. You'll be driving in your car and you'll hear a song and it's like, "Oh, I've got to hoop to this."

For more information, visit hoolamonsters.com or call 813-777-7720. There are many more hooping resources on the Web, including YouTube, hooping.org, hooping.tribe.net and hoopnotica.com.

Air Force Airman James D. Brown Jr. has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, core values and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate in applied science degree relating through the



Brown

Community College of the Air Force.

He is the son of Sandra and Dewayne Wood of Cohutta and a 2007 graduate of Northwest High School.

IN SERVICE

Ask the Fool

Much Ado About EPS

Q: Are stocks with high earnings per share (EPS) better than ones with lower EPS? — S.K., Syracuse, N.Y.

A: In many ways, the earnings per share amount is meaningless, by itself. Here's why. Imagine that Home Surgery Kits Inc. (ticker: OUCHH) has total net income of \$10 million this year. If it has 10 million shares of stock outstanding, then its EPS is \$1 (\$10 million divided by 10 million is 1). If it issues more stock and suddenly has 12 million shares outstanding, its EPS will be lower, at \$0.83 (\$10 million divided by 12 million is 0.83).

You could be looking at two terrific, healthy, growing companies, each of which sports the same net income amount. If one has half as many shares as the other, its EPS will be twice as big. That doesn't mean that it's a better or worse company, and there's no perfect number of shares for a company to have. Some companies have billions of shares, and some have millions.

It's better to just check that the EPS has been rising over time and to examine many other numbers, too. Also, keep in mind that even net income isn't always as meaningful as you might think, since a company's earnings can be manipulated legally via various accounting maneuvers.

Q: How can I look up a company's ticker symbol? — I.O., Elkhart, Ind.

A: One easy place to look is on your computer. Type the company name into a search box at any major financial Web site, such as <http://finance.yahoo.com>, <http://finance.google.com>, <http://caps.fool.com> or www.morningstar.com, and you'll get the symbol. At such sites, you can look up all kinds of information on a company.

Got a question for the Fool? Send it in — see Write to Us



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ETFs Demystified

Consider adding exchange-traded funds (ETFs) to your portfolio. More than \$500 billion is already invested in them (which still pales next to mutual funds' trillions).

ETFs are kind of like mutual funds that trade like stocks. Many are index-based. Invest in one, and you'll instantly be invested in the companies that make up that index. Here are the ticker symbols (and some nicknames) for a few ETFs of major indexes: S&P 500 (Spiders, SPY), the Nasdaq 100 (Cubes, QQQQ), Total Stock Market (Vipers, VTI), Dow Jones industrial average (Diamonds, DIA), Russell 2000 (iShares Russell 2000, IWM), iShares MSCI Japan Index (EWJ).

Often sporting very low fees and tax-efficient infrequent trading, ETFs offer easy diversification into groups of businesses. They're also among the least time-consuming of all investing strategies. If you want to manage some or all of your money passively (not cherry-picking individual stocks), ETFs can provide significant advantages.

Like stocks, ETFs can be shorted,

optioned and margined. This isn't necessarily a good thing. ETFs are almost too easy, and as a result, they have been used extensively as short-term investments, the complete antithesis of index investing. John Bogle, the father of index investing, once likened ETFs to a shotgun, saying, "They can be used for self-defense, or they can be used for suicide." Trading in and out of ETFs eats up any cost benefit by racking up trading costs. (Trading in and out of any stocks rapidly can also hurt your performance.)

ETFs are also not ideal for those who dollar-cost average, investing small sums systematically to build up a portfolio. Since you invest in ETFs like stocks, through your brokerage, you pay trading commissions to do so. Thus, dollar-cost averaging with small sums can be costly. Still, if you want to invest a modest sum in a broad index, you can buy a few shares of it via an ETF.

Before buying any ETF, read up on it to understand exactly what its holdings and fees are.

To learn more about these interesting beasts, click over to www.fool.com/etf/etf.htm or www.morningstar.com/Cover/ETF.html.

Name That Company

Born in 1995, I'm a Seattle-based Fortune 500 online retailer, boasting "Earth's Biggest Selection." My 42 product categories offer everything from books to fresh flowers to jewelry to cameras. One of my newest offerings is the Kindle electronic reader, and I recently introduced "Frustration-Free Packaging." I'm behind the scenes powering the e-commerce at the Web sites of many retailers, such as Target. And other retailers, such as Lands' End and Macy's, simply sell many items through my store. I own imdb.com, too. I get high marks for customer satisfaction and I rake in some \$19 billion annually. Who am I? Know the answer? Send it to us with Foolish Trivia on the top and you'll be entered into a drawing for a nifty prize!



My Dumbest Investment

Didn't Capture the Gain

My biggest failures have involved refusing to capture big gains. Take Sun Microsystems, where I was working in 2000. It was on a tear, and dot-coms were booming. I was flush with gains and thinking, "Jeez, the taxes I would have to pay if I sold." Well, all told, I missed \$200,000-plus in unrealized gains. The stock plunged when the Internet bubble burst, and I ended up with pennies of gains instead of cashing out a big winner. Coulda, woulda, shoulda. My take-away here is that you must sell when one stock represents a large percentage of your portfolio. Paying taxes means you're making money. All wasn't lost though. I did buy Apple at \$20 and sold for my down payment to purchase my home. — Fred M., Reston, Va.

The Fool Responds: There are different schools of thought on this. Some say to let your winners run, while others recommend selling after a certain gain. If a stock is way overvalued, selling is right. If you're not sure, you might compromise and sell a portion of your holding, to lock in some gains.

Do you have an embarrassing lesson learned the hard way? Boil it down to 100 words (or less) and send it to The Motley Fool c/o My Dumbest Investment. Got one that worked? Submit to My Smartest Investment. If we print yours, you'll win a Fool's cap!

The Motley Fool Take

Leaner Medtronic

Medical equipment maker Medtronic (NYSE: MDT) recently reported respectable third-quarter earnings, despite our ailing economy. Sales of cardiac rhythm disease management devices, including pacemakers and implantable cardioverter defibrillators (ICDs), fell 4 percent. The division is still suffering from the fallout of a 2007 recall of one of its ICDs, which helped competitors Boston Scientific and St. Jude Medical grab market share last year (both increased their ICD sales by 8 percent year over year in their most recent quarters).

Medtronic's biggest boost came from a 10 percent increase in sales of cardiovascular products, thanks to sales of its drug-eluting stent, Endeavor, which wasn't on the U.S. market in the year-ago quarter. The company recently launched a new delivery system for the stent that doctors prefer, which should help Medtronic fend off a push from Abbott Labs and Boston Scientific as they try to continue taking market share.

Combined sales were up just 2.6 percent. But the company did cut costs, helping it boost adjusted earnings per share by 13 percent. Meanwhile, Medtronic increased spending on research and development while still increasing operating margins.

The company won't be able to cut forever, but the leaner Medtronic is easier to love, and stronger revenue growth should return as the company continues to launch new products.

LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

Born in 1902 and based in Decatur, Ill., I'm one of the world's largest processors of food and operating more than 230 domestic and international plants. I convert corn, oilseeds, wheat and cocoa into products for food and animal feed, and chemical and fuel uses. I run the world's premier crop origination and transportation network, connecting crops and markets in more than 60 countries via 2,100 trailers, 2,200 barges and 23,800 railcars. I make flour, oils, sweeteners, chocolate, fiber and protein supplements and more. My annual sales top \$70 billion. I feed the world. Who am I? Last week: Archer Daniels Midland

Write to Us! Send questions for Ask the Fool, Dumbest (or Smartest) Investments (up to 100 words), and your Trivia entries to Fool@fool.com or via regular mail c/o this newspaper, attn: The Motley Fool. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

INVESTING IN GIRL SCOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Girl Scout Daisy Troop 8010 held an investiture ceremony recently at Tunnel Hill United Methodist Church. The ceremony centers around the girls showing they are investing in Girl Scouts. Members sang songs and recited the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Shown from left are Morgan Bellflower, Madison Cook, Chloe Hutchison, Reese Brown and Emily Cook.

SUNDAY LUNCH



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Friendship House will have a fundraiser Sunday lunch March 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Oakwood Café in Dalton. Plates are \$8 and include fried chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, green beans, a roll and a drink. For carryout, call (706) 529-9663. Above are board members Ken Renz holding Ty and Lynsey Bethel holding Jaslyn in the Friendship House nursery. The Oakwood Café is at 201 W. Cuyler St.

PET OF THE WEEK



Buffy

Buffy needs a new home

Buffy is a flame point Siamese mix about 1 year old. She loves to be held and petted. She has been vet checked, tested negative for feline leukemia and FIV, was fully vaccinated and has been spayed.

For more information about this pet, call the Humane Society of Northwest Georgia at (706) 226-5002 and press "2" to leave a message. To

see other adoptable cats, kittens, dogs and puppies, visit www.hsnwga.org or write HSNWGA, P.O. Box 3946, Dalton, GA 30719. The next Humane Society meeting is Monday at 6 p.m. at the Dr. Charles and Evelyn Wade Adoption Center, 1703 Cleveland Highway in Dalton.

The public is invited. Adoption days at the facility are on Saturday from noon to 4 p.m.



DR. SEUSS WEEK

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Friendship House celebrated Dr. Seuss Week March 6 with a special reading by Tom Bartley, coordinator of the Success by Six program, dressed as "Cat in the Hat."

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar runs in the Living section each Wednesday and Sunday on a space-available basis. To announce your meeting, simply e-mail the information to larahayes@daltoncitizen.com or send by fax to (706) 275-6641. Please send your item at least two weeks in advance and include a telephone number to contact for more information.

March 16

The Humane Society of Northwest Georgia will have its monthly meeting March 16 at 6 p.m. at the Wade Adoption Center. The Center is at 1703 Cleveland Highway in Dalton. The public is invited.

March 17

The Coosa Valley Regional Development Center Area Agency on Aging's GeorgiaCares program and the elder law practice of David McGuffey will host a free lunch and learn March 17 at 10 a.m. in the First Baptist Church fellowship hall. Dr. Mark Elam will discuss effective communication with your doctor. Service and resource providers will also be available with information on resources available to area seniors. The church is located on Thornton Avenue in Dalton. RSVP to (706) 428-0888 by March 13.

March 19

The Dalton-Whitfield Chamber of Commerce will offer Season Tickets March 19. There will be two classes offered. For more information call Talk, Listen, Communicate at (423) 622-TALK. Mention code DWC for special pricing.

March 26

The regular monthly meeting of the membership of the Legionnaires and Ladies Auxiliary of American Legion Post 112 in Dalton will be held March 26 at 6 p.m. at the Post. For membership information, call the Post at (706) 226-5120 or Lisa Elliott at (706) 259-5423 or (706) 264-3897.

March 28

"Strut Your Mutt" will be March 28 at 10 a.m. at Edwards Park on Cleveland Highway. Early registration before March 20 is \$25; after and on the day of the event is \$30. The fee includes con-

test(s) entry, the walk, a T-shirt and goody bag. Merchants and vendors who are interested in setting up are asked to call the Humane Society of Northwest Georgia at (706) 226-5002.

March 29

The Oakwood Café will host a fundraiser Sunday lunch March 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to benefit Friendship House. Plates are \$8 and include fried chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll and drink. For carryout, call ahead at (706) 529-9663. The Oakwood Café is at 201 W. Cuyler St. in Dalton.

The family reunion of Walker County's eight Stephenson brothers will be held March 29 from 1 to 4 p.m. in the WoodStation Baptist Church fellowship hall in Catlett. Please bring family, photos and memorabilia to share. For more information, call Bernice at (706) 866-1991 or Pam at (706) 517-6260.

April 11

The newly formed group "Southeast Raiders Ladies of the Eighties" will meet for the first time April 11 at 11 a.m. at Shoney's on Walnut Avenue for an Easter egg brunch. The meal will be Dutch treat. A group photo will be taken. All female 1980-1989 graduates from Southeast High are invited. To RSVP or for more information, contact Valerie Goswick Hegwood (Class of 1985) at ladies80s@gmail.com.

May 1-2

The East Armuchee-Villanow community yard sale will be held May 1-2 at the Villanow ball field and fire hall. There is no fee for setup. For more information, call (706) 397-2495.

May 8

The 16th annual Golden Gaiters walk and sacked supper will be held May 8 at 5 p.m. at the Rotary Pavilion at Heritage Point Park in Dalton. Check-in begins at 4:30

p.m. There will be door prizes and all participants who preregister by April 28 will receive a T-shirt. Entertainment will be provided by the Mar-Sel Tap Dancers from the Dalton-Whitfield Senior Center. All area seniors ages 50 and up are invited to participate.

May 16

The Dalton Junior Woman's Club Mother Daughter Tea to benefit the Northwest Georgia Family Crisis Center will be held May 16 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Dalton Golf and Country Club. The Center provides housing and other assistance to battered women and their children. Donations for a silent auction and raffles are needed and may be dropped off at Rhett Orr's Allstate Insurance at 1209 W. Walnut Ave. Suite 9 or Big Brothers Big Sisters at 101 E. Crawford St. Suite 400. For more information, call Amy Sampson at (706) 529-7700.



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Ask Mr. Bartley

Sexual abuse happens too often

By TOM BARTLEY

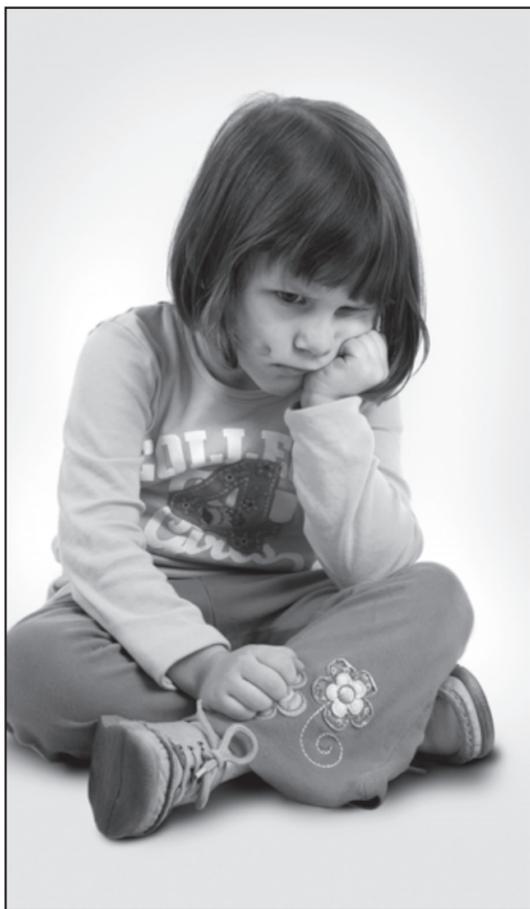
April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, so this month and next my columns will deal with a couple of different kinds of child abuse. This month I am discussing sexual abuse. This column may be difficult for some people to read; but, as unthinkable as it is to imagine that anyone could sexually abuse a child, tragically it is happening all too often. The statistics for sexually abused children are shocking and grim. Much of the following information is from Kids' Health and Darkness to Light.

One in four girls is sexually abused before the age of 18, and one in six boys. One in five children are solicited sexually on the Internet. Nearly 70 percent of all reported sexual assaults occur to children ages 17 and under; and almost a third of those are to children 6 and younger. There are an estimated 39 million survivors of children sexual abuse in America today. Nearly 50 percent of all victims of forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object, and forcible fondling are children under 12.

The tragedy is that even within the walls of their home, children are at risk for sexual abuse. Up to 40 percent are abused by a family member. Another 50 percent are abused by someone outside the home whom they know and trust. Approximately 40 percent are abused by older or larger children whom they know. Therefore, only about 10 percent are actually abused by strangers.

When we hear these statistics, we are horrified; and we immediately calm our fears by convincing ourselves that sexual abuse couldn't happen to our child. After all, we are loving, caring parents with a constant eye out for our child's welfare. But it CAN happen to anyone. Sexual abuse is relentlessly democratic — it doesn't matter where you live, what religion you are, or what race you happen to be.

Evidence of child sexual abuse is not always obvious. Most children don't tell even if they are asked; and 90 percent never disclose their abuse in childhood. Over 30 percent never disclose the abuse to ANYONE. Young victims may not even recognize their victimization as sexual abuse. Of those children



MCG PHOTO

Next month is Child Abuse Prevention Month.

who do disclose, about 75 percent disclose accidentally. In addition, 20 percent of those eventually recant even though the abuse actually occurred.

Sexual abuse has reached epidemic proportions in our country, and it is the root of many of our social problems. Abused children often exhibit inappropriate behavior in school and relationships. As a society, we feel the effects as we struggle to deal with kids and adult survivors who are at an increased risk of drug and alcohol abuse, depression, eating disorders, suicide, sexual promiscuity, teen pregnancy and violence. More than 75 percent of teenage prostitutes have been sexually abused. Nearly 50 percent of women in prison suffered sexual abuse as children. Among male survivors, more than 70 percent seek psychological treatment for issues such as substance abuse, violent acts, depression and suicide. Over 75 percent of serial rapists report they were sexually abused as youngsters. Abuse victims are six times more likely to abuse their own children.

The following actions

can be considered sexual abuse: fondling, touching or kissing a child's sex organs; making a child touch someone else's sex organs; having sex with a child; showing a child pornography; forcing a child to have sex with someone; making a child pose or perform for pornography; and telling a child "dirty" stories.

Children should know about the different kinds of abuse and how to spot it. The issue is helping kids identify what other people can do and cannot do and what's okay and not okay, and helping them know who they can go to if they have concerns. Parents should educate their children at home. Preschool is not too early to talk to kids in a very basic way. Some preschools and schools have programs such as Good Touch Bad Touch, and all second- and third-grade students in the three local school systems have the Kids on the Block Puppet Show each year which deals with issues of abuse. Programs like these are helpful because research shows that kids are less likely to be abused if they "know the facts" at a developmentally, age-appropriate

level. This information is best, I think, learned at home; but, unfortunately, all parents do not talk to their children about these kinds of things.

Spending time with our children and keeping the lines of communication open are excellent ways to encourage our children to share with us what is happening in their lives. If our child expresses fear of a person or a place, we need to pay attention and ask them why. Sometimes we might be tempted to dismiss what seems to be irrational fear, but we need to check it out to see what our child might be trying to tell us. We need to give our children permission to heed these internal warnings, so that if they find themselves in an uncomfortable situation, they have learned that they can trust their instincts and can take steps to keep themselves safe.

Knowing how to respond to a child who discloses abuse to us is of the utmost importance. When a child tells us that they have been sexually abused, they come to us because they trust us. They need our help. If you suspect any child is being abused in any kind of way, you have an obligation to call DFACS, the sheriff's department, the police department, or 911. You can also call the Prevent Child Abuse Georgia hotline, 1-800-CHILDREN (244-5373), from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Sometimes children do tell. And once abuse is disclosed, intentional or accidental, research has taught us that the single most important factor in a child's doing well after being abused is the emotional support a child receives from his/her parents or guardians. Counseling with a qualified person trained in sexual abuse will be necessary. The good news is that sexually abused children can and do benefit from early intervention by trained professionals.

Tom Bartley is a retired educator and currently is the Director of Success By 6 at the Family Support Council, 1529 Waring Road. He can be reached at P.O. Box 1707, Dalton, GA 30722; (fax) 706-275-6542; or successby6@email.com. For a copy of this article and more information about The Family Support Council, visit www.family-supportcouncil.org.

DEAR ABBY

Woman begins to question boyfriend's protectiveness

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend, "Josh," won't leave me alone. We have been living together for almost a year, and he is the ultimate overprotector. When I start to leave the house to run errands or anything, he stops me and asks, "Where do you think you're going?" When I tell him, he will then follow me to the location.



Jeane Phillips

I love Josh and would never want to hurt his feelings, but I think he's a little too worried about me. I'm an adult, and I can take care of myself. Is Josh being too overprotective, or am I just crazy? — **OVERPROTECTED IN OREGON**

DEAR OVERPROTECTED: You're not crazy. Josh's behavior is over the top and is less about your safety than his own insecurity and lack of trust. Every year or so, I print the warning signs of an abuser. Please review them carefully. If any of the signs in addition to No. 3 apply to you, you should end the relationship immediately. Read on:

1. PUSHES FOR QUICK INVOLVEMENT: Comes on strong, claiming, "I've never felt loved like this by anyone." An abuser pressures the new partner for an exclusive commitment almost immediately.

2. JEALOUS: Excessively possessive; calls constantly or visits unexpectedly; prevents you from going to work because "you might meet someone"; checks the mileage on your car.

3. CONTROLLING: Interrogates you intensely (especially if you're late) about whom you talked to and where you were; keeps all the money; insists you ask permission to go anywhere or do anything.

4. UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS: Expects you to be the perfect mate and meet his or her every need.

5. ISOLATION: Tries to cut you off from family and friends; accuses people who are your supporters of "causing trouble." The abuser may deprive you of a phone or car or try to prevent you from holding a job.

6. BLAMES OTHERS FOR PROBLEMS AND MISTAKES: It's always someone else's fault if something goes wrong.

7. MAKES OTHERS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS OR HER FEELINGS: The abuser says, "You make me

angry," instead of, "I am angry," or says, "You're hurting me by not doing what I tell you."

8. HYPERSENSITIVITY: Is easily insulted, claiming hurt feelings when he or she is really mad. Rants about the injustice of things that are just a part of life.

9. CRUELTY TO ANIMALS OR CHILDREN: Kills or punishes animals brutally. Also may expect children to do things that are far beyond their ability (whips a 3-year-old for wetting a diaper) or may tease them until they cry. Sixty-five percent of abusers who beat their partner will also abuse children.

10. "PLAYFUL" USE OF FORCE DURING SEX: Enjoys throwing you down or holding you down against your will during sex; finds the idea of rape exciting.

11. VERBAL ABUSE: Constantly criticizes or says blatantly cruel things; degrades, curses, calls you ugly names. This may also involve sleep deprivation, waking you up with relentless verbal abuse.

12. RIGID GENDER ROLES: Expects you to serve, obey, remain at home.

13. SUDDEN MOOD SWINGS: Switches from sweet to violent in a matter of minutes.

14. PAST BATTERING: Admits to hitting a mate in the past, but says the person made him (or her) do it.

15. THREATS OF VIOLENCE: Says things like, "I'll break your neck," or "I'll kill you," and then dismisses them with, "Everybody talks that way," or "I didn't really mean it."

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeane Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

HOROSCOPE

Happy Birthday: This is your year to excel financially, personally and emotionally. You will be able to think big, yet do things on a shoestring — getting the most bang for your buck.



Eugenia Last

Ingenuity and common sense, mixed with originality and desire, will help you attract the help and attention required to be successful. Your numbers are 5, 16, 18, 25, 31, 43, 45

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep your thoughts a secret, especially if they have to do with financial moves. You have been helping too many for too long and it's time to help yourself for a change. Don't give in to what someone else is pushing on you. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Emotional matters will surface, giving you plenty to think about. You are better off not making a move until you feel things have settled down around you. Avoid excess of any kind. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Work hard and don't give in to temptation. You may have to ward off a few people who are trying to get you to take on responsibilities that don't belong to you.

Choose your projects with care. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You can make some fancy moves, alterations and decisions that will help you shape your future in a positive manner. You will start to see everything fall into place. This is your time to get

ahead personally, financially and professionally. 5 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may feel as if everyone is against you or that things aren't going your way. Don't overreact, overdo or overindulge. It will not help you balance your life or build your future. 2 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You may have a hard time figuring out how to deal with all your relationships. Give some thought to what you have to offer that doesn't cost financially but can be effective in more important ways. Offer services or your time. 4 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Have fun with friends. Something very puzzling about your direction may make you question if you are on the right path. Consider all your talents and what you enjoy and incorporate those factors

into how you can earn a living. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't let your personal feelings interfere with work. There is no time to waste and getting all worked up over something you can do nothing about will not help matters. Stick to your goals and you will stay on track. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may be misinterpreted or given false information if you aren't specific about your needs. Someone in a position to stand in your way will make an effort to do so. Know your boundaries. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You are the one in control, so make your moves and state what it is you expect or want from others. You set the goals and the budget. You will gain respect, achieve what you want and impress someone who has something to offer in return. 4 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't let the little things people say get to you. You can find love or enhance a relationship you are already in if you are

open about the way you feel. A physical alteration or new look will bring compliments. 2 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Let the past go and stop worrying so much about what others think. Strive to master your skills and offer your services with pride. Be strong: It's a new day and you can have it all if you put your mind to it. 3 stars

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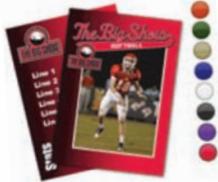
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REAL ESTATE

Sunday, March 15, 2009

THE DAILY CITIZEN

REAL ESTATE WATCH

Many who get foreclosure help slipping behind

By MARILYN KENNEDY MELIA
bankrate.com

You've finally reached someone at your mortgage company who has the authority to change your loan terms and offer relief from the payments you've been struggling to pay.

Congratulations. If you've landed a second chance with your mortgage lender, you've already accomplished more than the thousands of other homeowners, who go straight into foreclosure.

Unfortunately, though, research shows that substantial numbers of distressed homeowners who had their mortgages modified last year fell behind on payments again.

Getting a mortgage "fixed" only to fail again is another sad twist in this already heart-rending housing situation. But experts offer this hope: As the crisis unfolds, the government and lending companies are learning what works to give homeowners a bona fide second chance. Moreover, experts say consumers can also use some strategies

to help negotiate realistic loan terms for themselves.

It's really not surprising that homeowners thrown a lifeline down in debt quickly again, contends Alan M. White, professor at Valparaiso University School of Law. White studied subprime and near-subprime loans modified last November and found that in slightly more than half of the cases, the borrower's monthly payment remained the same — and in some instances increased — from what it had previously been. Because late fees and missed payments are tacked onto the loan amount and recalculated in new payments, borrowers often don't see a reduction in what they owe each month.

The new mortgage plan announced by the Obama administration Feb. 18 aims to keep monthly housing payments, which includes mortgage principal and interest, the monthly property tax allotment and monthly homeowner insurance, at 31 percent of the borrower's pre-tax household income.

That 31 percent allotment may become a benchmark in modifica-

tions, regardless of whether a borrower receives a modification under the new plan, says Geoff Smith, vice president of the Woodstock Institute, a Chicago nonprofit that studies housing issues. "Hopefully, this will make a difference," he says.

But mortgage payments even more modest than 31 percent of income won't work for many individual families, says Michael van Zalingen, director of homeowner services at Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago. "A lot of the families we counsel are working-class, making between \$25,000 and \$50,000 per household. Often, they are behind on their mortgage payment even when that payment is just 25 percent of their income. There is so much other debt, like credit card and car loans," he says. That debt causes them to fall behind on all their bills.

Some households simply have too little income and too big a mortgage balance, adds Smith. Even if the interest rate or principal owed were cut, payments would still be too high to pay comfortably.

The best tactic for borrowers looking for a modification they can live with is to provide an accurate picture of their total expenses and income, and even suggest a payment that they think they can live with, White says.

"That's exactly what we are asking people to do," confirms Ed Delgado, senior vice president of government relations at Wells Fargo Home Mortgage. "That's how we can help them with a solution that might be best to their personal situation."

Bankrate suggests a step-by-step plan when seeking help from a mortgage company, including a list of what paperwork you will need before calling. Delgado says that Wells Fargo's Web site also lists what consumers should gather to document their budgets: wage receipts, recent tax returns, bank and financial statements, and information about any other liens that may be on the home. Similar information as well as a basic primer on the new modification plans aiming at a 31 percent payment is on The White House Briefing Room

online.

Most mortgage rates fell slightly this week, although the 30-year jumbo jumped much higher.

The average 30-year fixed-rate slipped 4 basis points, to 5.37 percent. A basis point is one-hundredth of a percentage point.

This week's average 15-year fixed — a popular option for refinancing — fell 6 basis points, to 4.88 percent.

In contrast, the average jumbo 30-year fixed jumped 22 basis points, to 6.99 percent.

Adjustable-rate mortgages were split this week. The one-year adjustable-rate mortgage rose 15 basis points, to 5.58 percent. The popular 5/1 ARM fell 5 basis points, to 5.34 percent.

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1896 Summit House Drive Unit #234 \$139,900 SPACIOUS 3 BR CONDO. All on one level located across from clubhouse and pool at North Oaks Condos. Large greatroom w/9-ft ceiling, fireplace w/gas logs. Huge kitchen w/beautiful wood cabinets and large pantry. 3 large BR and 2 BA. Large master suite w/walk-in closet. Nice Gazebo w/screen door on patio. Very private end unit. Suzanne Hill: 706-483-2261. N on Cleveland Hwy, Lft into N Oaks Dr., at 4 way stop turn Rt on N Summit, go to top of hill to left on Summit house, go to end of street, condo on Lft across from Clubhouse. For additional photos and listings go to www.kinardrealty.com. MLS# 91536



5005 Village Drive \$224,900 YOUR OWN PRIVATE RETREAT! This beautiful home on 2.25 acres features 3 BR, 2 BA, cozy LR w/huge rock gas fireplace perfect for those cold nights. Huge MBR and MBA w/garden tub & separate shower. Gorgeous kitchen has solid wood cabinets & hardwood floors. Large screened back deck/rocking chair front porch. Unfinished basement that is studded, plumbed, & wired ready for finishing. Great for Mother-in-Law suite or teenage quarters. Huge workshop area. 4 car garage. 20x20 Barn ready for horses. Bridal, walking, riding trail - perfect for horse lovers. Sherry Southerland 706-537-0301. 1-75 to exit 336, Hwy 201 to Varnell, Lft on Hwy 2, Rt. on Kinnamon Dr. Continue to Village Dr. Home on Lft. At top of hill. For additional photos and listings go to www.kinardrealty.com. MLS# 91476



1701 Pin Oak #145 \$127,900 EASY LIVING CAN BE YOURS IN THIS SPACIOUS CONDO. 4 BR and 3 BA, master on main or upper level with jetted tub and separate shower also has walk-in closets. Large attractive kitchen with island and pantry, combination dining. Patio completely fenced. Great amenities are walking path around lake, club house, pool and tennis court. Sandy Duncan 706-217-9339. N on Cleveland Hwy, L on North oaks Dr., R on Pin Oak, Unit 145 Look for sign. For additional photos and listings go to www.kinardrealty.com. MLS# 91062



1903 Wycliffe \$459,000 WONDERFUL WINDEMERE! Lovely 2 story with full finished basement in popular family neighborhood. This beautiful home has recently been redone on the exterior with cedar shakes and stone. It features 6 BR and 4.5 BA, beautiful hardwood floors on main level and in all the upstairs BRs. The basement has a large rec room, BR, BA and study, 2-story foyer and den w/ crown molding throughout! Judy McCamy 706-218-7633. N Bypass to Haig Mill Rd., L on Coventry, R on Chatham, R on Wycliffe, house on L. For additional photos and listings go to www.kinardrealty.com. MLS# 91890



1514 Thornebrooke Circle \$285,000 SEE THIS ONE! Fantastic condo at Thornebrooke. So close to everything. Features 3 BR, master on main with sitting area, sep. bath vanities, large walk-in closet. 2 BR upstairs w/large open space for office or library. Great walk-in storage area. New kitchen w/granite countertops & walk-in pantry. Enjoy this set up with pool & landscaping amenities. Easy living! Alice Squillario 706-264-6613, hosted by Joe Swanson 706-313-9531. N Thornton Ave, past hospital, lft. Moice Dr, rt. Thornebrook Cr, unit on rt. For additional photos and listings go to www.kinardrealty.com. MLS# 91788

Visit our website @ www.kinardrealty.com

On the Market . . .



THIS PROPERTY is eligible for HomePath Renovation financing. \$1000 earnest money made out to listing broker. Addendums required. Call listing agent. Privacy on 1.46 acres. Home with lots of space. Home needs some TLC. \$109,250 (92022)
Marylee Williams
706-271-6660
Century 21 Belk Realtors
706-278-6800
for more information go to www.c21belk.com



WOULD YOU BELIEVE over 2200 sq ft of heated floor space in a brand new home for only \$149,900? Three BRs, two BAs, bonus room, large living room, pretty kitchen, special financing available for qualified buyers. One owner is licensed by GREC. (92025) Call
Larry Cochran
706-260-6005
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706-278-6800
for more information go to www.c21belk.com



LOTS OF POTENTIAL here. Studded rooms in basement. could be completed for 2 additional bedrooms and powder room. Huge fenced backyard for kids or pets . 3 bedrooms, 2 bath home. \$99,900 (92033)
Marylee Williams
706-271-6660
Century 21 Belk Realtors
706-278-6800
for more information go to www.c21belk.com



A SPACIOUS HOUSE for a tiny price. 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths with carport. Close to mills and shopping. Priced to move! \$54,500 (92035)
Marylee Williams
706-271-6660
Century 21 Belk Realtors
706-278-6800
for more information go to www.c21belk.com



ROOMY OLDER HOME in heart of Dalton. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath .Storage building on back. Celler under part of house. Good investment property. \$37,500 (92034)
Marylee Williams
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Century 21 Belk Realtors
706-278-6800
for more information go to www.c21belk.com



HUD ACQUIRED! NORTH END MURRAY-CRANDALL Beautiful rancher. Selling price \$108,000. \$1,000 earnest money. Payment \$579.77 P.I. Call
Peggy Holmes Realty
at
706-278-5000



HUD ACQUIRED! DUG GAP AREA! 4 bedroom, 2 bath home with inground pool. Needs TLC. Selling price \$55,000. Call
Peggy Holmes Realty,
706-278-5000



HUD ACQUIRED! NORTH DALTON! 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Selling price \$101,700. \$1,000 earnest money. Seller paying 3% closing cost. Payment \$545.95 P.I. Call
Peggy Holmes Realty,
706-278-5000



HUD ACQUIRED! DUG GAP AREA! 4 bedroom, 3 bath home. Selling price \$86,400. \$1,000 earnest money. Seller paying 3% closing cost. Payment 463.81 P.I. Call
Peggy Holmes,
706-278-5000



HUD ACQUIRED! COHUTTA AREA! Selling price \$72,000. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home. \$1,000 earnest money. Seller paying 3% closing cost. Payment \$397.59 P.I. Call
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706-278-5000

To place your listing On The Market Call

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(706) 272-7711
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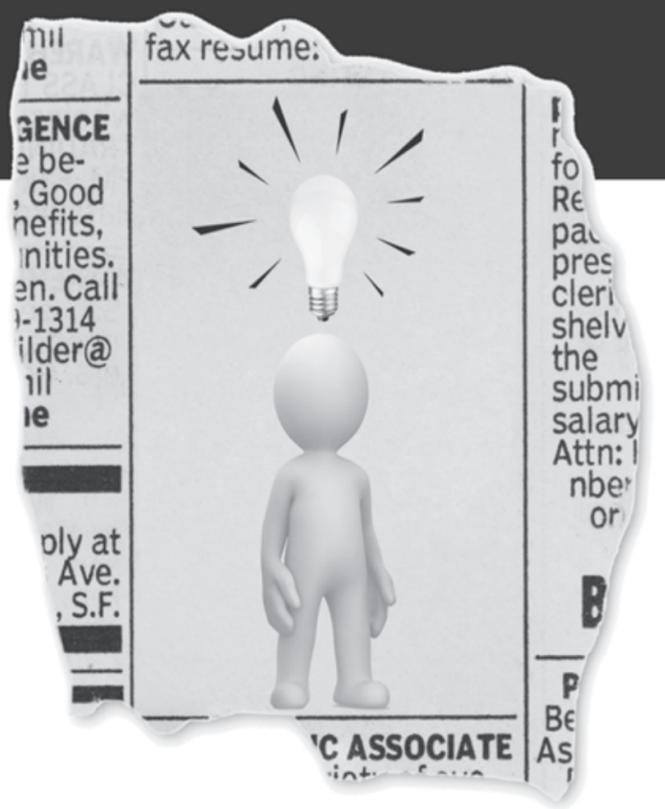
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751 Apartments

Efficiency apartment in city ALL utilities incl. TV cable Furn. No pets. 1200 James St. \$70/dep. \$70/wk. 706-217-2388 until 9p

Efficiency apartments, all utilities paid. \$100 week, \$125 deposit. 706-581-8192 or 706-463-0704

Efficiency bachelor apt in city All utilities incl. TV & cable furn. No Pets 801 N. Selvidge St. \$65 dep. \$65/wk 278-3729 8a- 8pm.

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Motel Rooms For Rent: 2107 S. Dixie Hwy. 41. Standard - \$95/wk. Lg.- \$125/\$135wk. Dep.= 2 wks. rent. Furnished + TV, basic cable, private phone. 706-279-1380 wkdys 9-5:30

MOVE RIGHT IN, 1 & 2 BD efficiency apts, furnished, all util's, w/d furnished, TV, In Chats., & Dalton, near hospital. 706-313-1733 or 695-0625

Reasonable Rates! Move-in Special!
1 & 2 BR apts. available in Chatsworth, Spring Place & Eton. Call now 706-695-4880.

Secluded Townhouse 2br/1.5ba, off Hwy 2 between Dalton & Ringgold. No pets, \$450 mo \$250 dep 706-581-2062.

STAY LODGE
Effic. Apt. with kitchen. Furn w/all utilities. Laundry fac., basic cable. Private phones furn. Starting at \$129.99/wk plus tax **Suite Deals** 1BR \$175.00 per week. Call 706-278-0700

STAYLODGE - WILLOWDALE
MOVE IN SPECIAL
1st Week \$100.00
706-278-0700

STRAWBERRY COMMONS:
All utilities included w/washer & dryer hookup. 1 & 2 bd apts. \$550-625 *\$100 off off-1st months rent. (706) 271-0020

UNDERWOOD LODGE
Furnished Efficiency with kitchenette. All Utilities & Cable!! Laundry Facility Available.
Move In Specials \$70-\$90 for first week!
706-226-4651

Furnished
Furn'd garage Apt. in quiet city west neighborhood. Utilities & cable, internet included. \$450/mo. Dep. & ref. req'd. No pets. 706-278-5915 or 706-313-6603

752 Homes For Rent

! Newly Listings Spotted!! 2-4 bd rental / rent to own homes in Dalton, Cohutta, LaFayette, Jasper, Resaca & more. Full details and pictures! therentalspot.net

ATTENTION!
Winter Special- 1st wk. FREE - 1 yr. lease - Sweetwater Rd. 3 BR 2 BA, \$145wk, \$290dep. So. end of Murray Co off Hwy 225 S 1/2 + acre lots, beautiful country setting. Several to choose from. Sweetwater Rd., Chatsworth Hwy, 225 Fm Chats Hwy. Take Hwy 225 S 13 mi. Fm Calhoun, take Hwy 225 N, 6 mi past Elks Golf Course, 1 mi N. of 4-way at Nickelsville. 706-279-1380 wkdys 9-5:30

For Lease, 2-story house, Quiet country setting. 5 minutes from Mall. living rm, dining rm combo, kitchen,bdrm, bath, & 2 full porches, main floor. 2BR, bath, utility room & full porch down stairs. Large yard, quiet street. \$500/dep \$750/mon. 278-8130 or 278-3631, for appoint. & application.

3br/3ba Beautiful Ft.Mtn home w/ Gorgeous views! Easy drive, not past the park. 2500sq/ft. All new kit and new lrg Mstr Suite! 2 car gar. A deal @\$1100/mo w/ \$260/mo extras (706)537-6523 www.ftmntrentals.com

Remodeled 2 & 3 bdrm homes. Murray & Whitfield Co. start \$350 month. Rent or sale ready. Now new ones each wk. 706-280-0300 or 706-259-8170. We owner finance

752 Homes For Rent

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Se Habla Español

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www.picksimple.com

FOR RENT
**LAFAYETTE - 404 Glenn St. 2 Br 1.5 BA \$400 Dep \$595 a Mth
**COHUTTA - 2 BR / 1 BA Duplex \$100 Deposit \$100 Wk. or \$160 a Wk w/ Power-Water
**TUNNEL HILL /VARNELL 3971 Lake Kathy Rd. 3 BR / 1 BA Mobile \$230 Dep. \$115 wk

RENT TO OWN
**COHUTTA - 4036 Parliament Dr. 5 BR / 3 BA \$2500 Down, \$1200 a Mth \$160,000.
**ROCKY FACE - 208 Ina Dr. 3 BR / 2 BA \$2500 Down, \$950 a Mth, \$130,000
**DALTON - 704 Chattanooga Ave. 2 BR / 1 BA \$1000 Down, \$625 a Mth. \$88,000
**LAFAYETTE - 404 Glenn St. 2 Br 1.5 BA \$1000 Down \$625 Mth
**CHATSWORTH - 30 Sun Mtn Spur. 2 BR / 1 BA Vacation Rental / Lake Home \$1200 Deposit, \$1200 A Mth.

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2 bedroom 1 bath home for rent in Westside, \$150 week or \$550 month, \$300 deposit. Call 706-673-2957

2 bedroom, 1 bath Duplex. 212 Ezzard Ave. \$395/mo. + Deposit. 706-463-2332 706-397-2087

2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$450/month or \$105/week, \$500/dep. Call: 706-259-4334 or 706-264-4452

3 bedroom 1.5 bath home for rent, 1 mile off I-75 in Tunnel Hill. \$685 month, \$300 deposit Call 423-580-9454.

3 bedroom 2 bath home in S. Whitfield area on 2 acres. New carpet & paint. 706-217-7233

752 Homes For Rent

3 bedroom only \$220 month. Buy 5% down, 30 yrs at 8% APR. For listings 800-536-8517 ext R200

3 br., 2 ba., 2 car garage, deck, laundry rm., walk-in closets, microwave, jet tub. \$850/mo, and \$885/mo. 706-581-8634

Dawnville Community. If you are looking for a nice 3 BR 2 BA home, give us a call!! 2BR apts avail. also. 706-226-7526, 706-483-2891 or 706-272-0065

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Newly Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath country setting between Dalton & Ringgold. W/D hookup. Garden spot. \$250/dep., \$140week. (706)673-4410

Real nice 3 bdrm 1 ba home in nice area \$595 per mo w/ \$300 Dep We have more at: www.affordableofdalton.com or call 259-8170

Rocky Face, behind Foodlion. 3 bdrm CHA, appl. Water & lawn svs furn. \$175 wk, \$300 dep. 1-706-363-7360 -706-463-2270

753 Condos For Rent

2 bd, 2.5bath Condo in Dalton city. Hardwood & ceramic floors., fireplace, appliances furnished. \$695/mo \$300/dep. Also, 2bdrm w/garage \$750 mon. \$350 dep. 1-706-397-9987 or 706-264-2976

Lease or Lease Purchase. New condo's. N. Summit. 2 & 3 bdr, single level w/garage. Gas fireplace, hardwood floors, pool, clubhouse, fenced yard. \$850 - \$1050/mo. \$800/dep. 706-463-1139 or 706-463-3392.

New Condos in Hammond Creek, lease w/option to buy. 2 bd, 2.5 bath. Gated community & swimming pool. Starting \$900 mon (includes monthly fees) daltoncustomhomeconstruction.com 706-673-2121 or 706-581-2778

Remodeled 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath in Brookwood. Pool, new floors, no pets. \$600/ mo. plus deposit. 678-848-5712

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776 Mobile Homes For Sale

5 bedroom, 3 bath, modular home on 1 acre. \$60,000. or best offer. Chatsworth. Call (706)280-4677

778 Mobile Homes For Rent

*House, Mobile Homes water & garbage serv. provided, off S. Bypass between Chatsworth Hwy & Riverbend Rd., wkly or mthly rates. Ref. & dep req'd. 706-260-6097. No calls after 8:30pm or 278-8130

1 & 2 bdrm mobile homes & Apartments in Whitfield & Murray Co. \$85 per week & up. Utilities furnished. 706-278-4048

1st week free! 3 bdrm 2 bathNorthwest High area. Water furn.. \$150 wk \$300 dep. 706-280-7009

2 BR 1 BA 2012 -1 Abutment Rd. 2 BR 2 BA - 2111 B Dixie Hwy. \$120 wk, \$240 dep. 706-279-1380 wkdys 9-5:30.

3 br 2 ba mobile home. Beaverdale area on Dantzier Cir. \$500 mon. \$300 dp. 706-278-1528 - 706-259-8480 6-9

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Owner Finance. Flexible down payment. \$650/mo. 3 bdrm 2 bath, 1 acre lot in Tunnel Hill. Call Steve 706-270-1342.

Owner Finance: Lease purchase or rent. 3 bd 2 ba, doublewide on 1 acre. Good area in Chatsworth Steve 706-270-1342

Rent / Rent to Own. \$450 and up. 2 & 3 bedroom. Ashley Brooke. S. Hwy 41. Clean and safe! Call 706-279-1553

Westside Area: 1 and 2 bedroom mobile homes. Call 706-673-4000

443 ACRES IN GORDON COUNTY FAIRMOUNT, GEORGIA

Property is in 2 tracts; 137 acres and 306 acres, with approximately 1/2 mile double road frontage. The property has gently rolling topography with timber, deer and turkey.

Owner has installed a steel bridge over Salacoa Creek which runs on the property. Conveniently located 10 minutes from Highway 411 and I-75. This property could be a real hunters' paradise or a timber farm. *Call for directions and a plat.*

Owner / Agent
770-401-4256
\$4,750 per acre

ON THE MARKET



Awesome view of mountains. Private but close in. Several home sites on property. Zoned suburban residential. Spring and stream on property. Rectangular size. Located on easement road. 3 acres adjacent property also for sale. \$125,000



4 beautiful acres! 400' road frontage. Zoned SR, but has several driveways and could have 2-3 homes per land management if property perc test allows. PROPERTY NOW APPROVED FOR MOBILE HOME. \$32,000



3 bedroom, 1 bath with new heat pump, roof three years old. Beautiful setting, secluded, very private, tranquil. Lots of possibilities. Very large bedrooms and home comes with over 2 acres! \$82,500



3 BR, 2.5 BA country home on 5 acres with fantastic interior. Hardwoods throughout, granite counter tops, lots of cabinets, gas logs FP in great room with large master BR with walk-in closet; master bath has separate shower, garden tub, double vanities, walk-in closet. views of both Grassy and Fort Mountains. Sunroom on back, great for enjoying the view. Quiet and peaceful, sits at end of road. \$299,000



Eleven acres on the Conasauga River. Great place to build a home or use as a great recreation spot. Owners currently have a hay field next to the river and harvests several times a year. Also a perfect picnic place under a big black walnut tree at river's edge. \$159,900.



2 bedroom, 2 bath sits off road for privacy, pool area fenced in. Sunroom on back with deck leading to pool area. Workshop just built last year and has power. Storage building next to pool. Lots of storage space in home. \$169,000



3 bedrooms, 2 bath rancher, 2-car garage, heat pump, master suite with shower & tub combo. Living room / dining room combination. Walk-in closets. \$100,000



Murray county acreage, mostly level. Barn. Public water available. Mostly cleared, some wooded, view of mountains. Adjacent land available. Cable TV and electricity available. \$320,000



2 bedrooms, 1 bath, separate dining room. Some renovations begun on this older home. Real hardwood floors, one closet cedar lined, fronts two streets. Security system. Lot of possibilities and a great price. Porch enclosed as sunroom. \$35,000



4 bedroom, 3 bath, rancher in nice subdivision. 2-car garage, porch, fireplace in den, formal dining room, master suite has double vanities and a jetted tub. \$199,900

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parkcanyon@optilink.us

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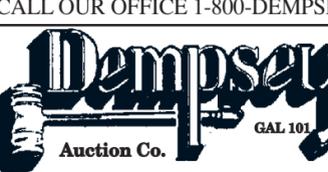
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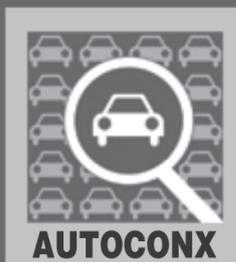
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304 Computer

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programming will be done in a
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and .NET. The program utilizes
an Oracle database on the back
end.

Qualifications include four years
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applications with Visual C++ / C#
/ .NET, knowledge and
experience with Windows XP,
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problem solving skills. Excellent
communications skills a must.
Experience with Oracle and SQL
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310 General

2 people to live on chicken farm.
Husband & Wife preferable. Pick
eggs 7 days a week. 706-629-
2636 - 706-217-5690 before
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Person to run small snack bar off
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310 General

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Job opening April 1st. Basic
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engine experience required,
electrical and hydraulic
experience a plus. Hours are
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weekend rotation. Other,
qualified part time candidates
will also be considered. \$10.00
an hour.
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Maintenance facility.

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application process, please call
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with some Sat. Reliability and
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423-622-0614

Service Technician - HVAC &
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resume to 423-698-3353

WANTED: Retired person or
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w/free rent and utilities with
service rendered. 706-537-5137

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the offer process.
Excellent computer skills,
including internet research is a
must. Exceptional
communication skills to include
verbal,
written, interpersonal and
presentation are required. You
will be working with a dynamic
new team whose goal will be to
take the company to a new level
of recruiting. Interested
candidates should email
resume to
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EOE/DFW

Teacher needed for 4 year old
classroom. Flexible hours M-F.
CDA required with previous
experience. Fax resumes to:
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dmrector@optilink.us

311 Health Care

DENTAL ASSISTANT: No
Experience? We can refer you to
a 10 week Saturday program
taught in an actual dental office
for training in this exciting field.
Begin your new career in this
rewarding profession. Call North
GA School of Dental Assisting at
706-639-3422 or visit us at:
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Dental office in Dalton looking
for **Front Office Person**.
Full time position available for a
personable, energetic &
motivated individual with
outstanding service skills.
Medical experience required,
dental experience preferred.
Send resumes to:
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Looking for experienced CNA's /
PSA's to provide services for the
disabled and elderly in their
homes in Whitfield and Murray
Counties. Duties include
personal bathing care, light
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Evening and weekend hours
available. Competitive pay rates.
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county you want to work in) At 1-
888-948-1919 ext. 401, or you
may us at www.homenurse.net

311 Health Care

LPN INSTRUCTOR. BSN
required with current Georgia
licensure and 3 years recent
acute care nursing experience
(within the past 7 years). College
teaching experience preferred
and teaching demonstration
required. Position available
Summer Semester 2009.
Please submit a letter of interest,
current vita, official transcripts of
all college work, and three
current letters of reference.
Applications will be accepted
until 4/1/09. Send all materials
to Mrs. Susan D. West, Chair,
Health Occupations, School of
Technology, Dalton State
College, 650 College Drive,
Dalton, GA 30720, (706) 272-
2605. University System of
Georgia policy requires a
background check to be
processed for any candidate to
whom an offer of employment is
made. www.daltonstate.edu
AA/EEO

PART-TIME CLINICAL NURSING INSTRUCTOR. RN
with current Georgia licensure
and 3 years acute care nursing
experience (within the past 7
years) to supervise and evaluate
PN students. Position available
Summer Semester 2009. Please
submit a letter of interest,
current vita, official transcripts of
all college work, and three
current letters of reference.
Applications will be accepted
until 4/1/09. Send all materials to
Mrs. Susan D. West, Chair,
Health Occupations, School of
Technology, Dalton State
College, 650 College Drive,
Dalton, GA 30720, (706) 272-
2605. University System of
Georgia policy requires a
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MAKE IT A CAREER



UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

					6			
		7	5		8			4
			9		8			
	4	9	1					2
2		8				1		3
	1				3	4	6	
			4		9			
8		6			1	3		
		4						

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★
Look for the solution to today's Sudoku Puzzle
on page 5D of the classifieds.

The Daily Photo

Submitted by:
Crystal Taylor of Dalton, GA
To submit your photo, email photo, name
and city to: lauramartin@daltoncitizen.com

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We are currently screening applicants for additions to our working family in our Tufting and Extrusion Divisions. If you have experience in any of the following positions please stop by to apply:

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FAX (706)260-2798
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Regency Park • Wood Dale • Ridgewood Manor • Quinton Memorial
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Email: mclayton@ethicahealth.org
Call: Mary Harris 706-226-1285
RCC/RN: M-F 7am-3pm
CNA: Sat & Sun 7pm-7am

Regency Park:
1212 Broadrick Drive
Dalton, GA 30720
Email: mclayton@ethicahealth.org
Call: Andrea Phipps 706-270-8008
LPN: M-F 3pm-11pm
M-F 3pm-11pm

Quinton Memorial:
1114 Burleyson Rd • Dalton, GA 30720
Email: mclayton@ethicahealth.org
Call: Wendi Farris @ 706-226-4642
LPN: M-F 3pm-11pm

Ridgewood Manor:
1110 Burleyson Rd • Dalton, GA 30720
Email: mclayton@ethicahealth.org
Call: Brenda Dempsey @ 706-226-1021
Dietary Aide: Part-time, 20 hrs/wk
Must be flexible with hours

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315 Office & Clerical
PROGRAM ASSOCIATE at the North GA Hlth District, Infectious Disease Program, in Dalton, to maintain billing records, update contracts, report disease record keeping and order supplies. Must have a HS diploma or GED & 2 yrs of related exp OR 1 yr at a Program Assistant or at an equivalent position OR 2 yrs of college or Associate degree. Full time, state benefits. Minimum salary \$1,839.83/mo. To apply fax resumes to Amber Coley at 706/272-2221. www.nghd.org/jobs EOE

316 Part-Time Employment
Needed: Part time cook. Must have experience in southern style cooking. Apply in person to Morning Pointe Assisted Living, 660 Jolly Rd NW Calhoun, GA. Or fax resume to 706-629-0787. EOE Drug Free Workplace

Seeking a full time employee for a growing orthodontic office. Must multi task and have excellent people and communication skills. Telephone and computer experience required. Call Tuesday 10am-2pm 706-226-2200

322 Sales

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•Place a classified ad in this newspaper to attract more people. Remember to check the publication's deadline date.
•In your ad, give lots of details. Include the address, day(s) and time of your sale. List major items such as a "table saw" or "lots of kid's clothes".
•Give directions from major roadways or landmarks.

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502 Free Pets

Female Chihuahua free to a good home. Call 706-259-2377

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Free to a good home. Full blooded Lab puppy. 8 wks old. Named Molly. 762-201-5078

504 Pet Services

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ITEMS FOR SALE

605 Computers

Used DELL Laptops \$399
Used Dell PCs \$195
New PCs w/XP \$429
706-858-5888 or 423-499-1975

611 Misc. Items For Sale

50 gallon aquarium with stand. \$50. Call: 706-537-9637 or 706-581-7544

Eight Bristol Tickets for Fri., Sat. & Sun., March 20, 21 & 22. Four on isle, Row 12 & Four on isle, Row 11. Pearson Terrace I. Face value or below. Call 706-226-0989.

Misc. Baby items for sale. \$2.00 to \$5.00. 706-537-9637 or 706-581-7544

WANT TO BUY

651 Want to Buy

I WANT TO BUY Rug / Carpet Equipment.
EX: Sergers, binders, carvers, air table, cut table, pass machines. **706-313-2825**

801 Antiques & Classics

1968 Dodge Charger, Vibrant Red, Completely Restored, 454 High Perf. Engine, Very Sharp \$29,500. Call 706-618-7899 or 706-695-8643.

806 Domestic Autos

1997 Ford Taurus with V-6, automatic, power windows and locks, power seas, cd player. This car looks and runs great. Asking \$1,900 or best offer. 706-218-8021



2001 Ford Taurus, automatic, V6, power windows & locks, power seats, CD player, and also has new tires. This car looks and runs great. Asking \$2,900. Financing is available. Call 706-218-8021

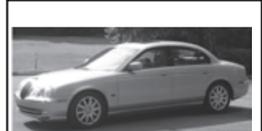


2006 Cadillac STS, 6 cycl, nav. sunroof, heated & cooled seats, fully loaded, white diamond. 29,000 miles. \$19,900. 706-277-3729

807 Import Autos

1991 Mercedes Benz 420 SEL white w/ Lt. gray int., sunroof, Michelin Tires, Fully Loaded. Excellent Cond. Great Price. \$3950. OBO. Call: 706-264-1932

2000 Mercedes Benz E320. Silver, auto, leather, clean condition, like new. Great on gas. 35K miles. \$10,500. 561-512-7521.



2001 - Jaguar, 4.0, S-Type. 67,458 Miles. \$ 12,200. Call: 706-217-8171

2006 Suzuki Foreza Station wagon. Automatic. Power windows, cassette/CD, new tires & brakes. 116k. Excellent transportation \$4,500. OBO 706-581-1837 anytime.

807 Import Autos

2005 BMW M3 Cabriolet, 36k miles, 6 sp., still under factory warranty, carbon black on black, Harman/Kardon sound, navigation, heated seats, xenon headlights, garage kept, one owner, asking \$43,000. Call: 706-260-1673



2005 Super Charged Mini Cooper. 6 speed. Convertible. Premium Sport Package. One owner, 40,000 miles, Harman/Kardon parking sensors, cruise control, auto air. Price \$21,000. Call: 706-313-1119.

Mercedes Benz 1999, Mint condition. Very clean. Model S320, black. \$7,500. 561-676-3335 or 706-370-4649.



Reduced. **2006 Honda Accord EXL**. Like new. Gray. Full warranty, 36k miles. Loaded. Leather seats, XM radio, sunroof, 34mpg. Like new. Great Cond. Must sell! No tax! \$17,999. obo. 706-614-7719

807 Import Autos

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Well Maintained! Local Car!
2004 Mercedes CLK 320 Coupe with 80,000 miles. Black ext., Beige int., 2DR, Semi-Automatic, Rear WD, 6 Cylinder, Sunroof, 6 Disc Changer, Push Button Start/Stop, ASKING: \$21,000/obo. Call 706-463-1561

808 4-Wheel Drive

1989 Ford Bronco XLT. Red and white two tone. 4x4. Very clean. \$3,300. New BFG tires. Call 706-260-6547

809 Trucks

1999 Dodge Ram 3500 flat bed. Diesel. \$7,500. Call: (706)673-4410



2006 GMC 16 ft box truck Yellow. 6.0 V8 Unleaded engine w/ 300 hp. Auto. Transmission, A/C, ABS brakes, Power Steering, 2 Bucket Seats, AM/FM radio, 10 ft loading ramp w' 1000lb capacity. Mileage ranging from 40,000 - 75,000 miles. Sale price is \$12,000 - \$14000. Only method of payment accepted is certified check or money order. Sorry no financing Contact Josh Hall @ Penske, Day- 706-277-9477, Night- 423-304-6669

SOLUTION:

4	8	1	3	7	2	6	9	5
9	2	7	5	1	6	8	3	4
6	5	3	9	4	8	2	7	1
3	4	9	1	6	5	7	2	8
2	6	8	7	9	4	1	5	3
7	1	5	8	2	3	4	6	9
1	7	2	4	3	9	5	8	6
8	9	6	2	5	1	3	4	7
5	3	4	6	8	7	9	1	2

809 Trucks



2003 F-250, 4 door- crew cab. 6.0 diesel, 94k miles. 4x4. Automatic, Excellent condition. Asking \$18,500. 706-264-7883 or 706-629-4000.



2006 GMC 16 ft box truck Yellow. 6.0 V8 Unleaded engine w/ 300 hp. Auto. Transmission, A/C, ABS brakes, Power Steering, 2 Bucket Seats, AM/FM radio, 10 ft loading ramp w' 1000lb capacity. Mileage ranging from 40,000 - 75,000 miles. Sale price is \$12,000 - \$14000. Only method of payment accepted is certified check or money order. Sorry no financing Contact Josh Hall @ Penske, Day- 706-277-9477, Night- 423-304-6669

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- Strong organizational, analytical and written/verbal communication skills
- The ability to quickly understand the organization's business drivers, and operational needs
- A highly disciplined approach to financial reporting and forecasting
- Excellent computer skills
- Newspaper or media industry experience is a plus but not necessary

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Serve as a key business partner with the Publisher and Department Heads
- Provide sound leadership in contingency planning
- Review financials with the Publisher and each Department Head
- Complete monthly product profitability reporting and analysis
- Provide support for accounting issue resolution as needed, among other duties
- Prepare month end journal entries and reconciliations.
- Generate all monthly, quarterly, and annual reports for the Publisher and other location management.
- Prepare the company's annual budget with assistance from Department Heads and Publisher
- Complete financial projections and variance reports.
- Oversee and direct accounting staff in day to day duties and complete timely reviews of the staff.
- Maintain credit policies to ensure the company's receivables are within acceptable levels working closely with both the Advertising Director and the Circulation Director.
- Maintain necessary financial and payroll records based on CNHI standards.
- Ensure weekly accounts payable invoices and biweekly payroll are processed and all benefit-related items are addressed on a timely basis.
- Provide requested data and analyses as requested by the Publisher or executive management.
- Ensure compliance with all policies and procedures in the daily operation and functions of the accounting department as outlined in the CNHI Employee Handbook and the CNHI Accounting Policies and Procedures Manual.
- Responsible for our on-site HR coordinator and Safety team coordinator.

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The successful candidate will have minimum of a B.S. degree in Accounting or Finance, and a minimum of three years of progressively responsible positions within accounting and finance areas. Experience managing and leading other associates is preferred.

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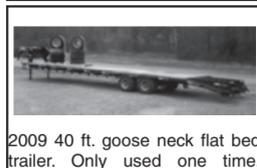
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2006 FORD Expedition - Eddie Bauer 2WD, leather, 3rd row power fold down, 6 disc CD changer, 22K miles, like new, Excellent condition. \$24,900. 706-422-8617 - 706-260-1029

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851 Boats



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856 Motorcycles & Bikes



2004 Kawasaki Vulcan 2000. Fully loaded, Maroon, 1 owner, garage kept, 10K miles. 5 helmets, extra back seat & road pegs. New tires. Price Reduced \$500. to \$7,500 obo. 706-218-9183

856 Motorcycles & Bikes

2006 CBR 600 F4i, blue. 5,300 miles, jardine slip on pipe. 2 years warranty remaining. Never been laid down. Excellent condition. \$5,400 or best offer. Call: 706-508-3955

2006 Honda CRF230, electric start, excellent condition, like new, rode very little, Aftermarket pipe and stock pipe. \$2,100. Call day 706-673-3500 or evening 706-259-9584.

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